

Ideas for LWML Districts to Support, Encourage, and Care *for Church Workers*



The following are ideas on how LWML districts can support, encourage, and care for the church workers.

Reach out to the church workers in the following ways:

- Have LWML district presidents speak at circuit meetings and LCMS district conventions in person or via Zoom. Include the district pastoral counselors.
- Encourage district pastoral counselors to send a letter or an email to all new church workers, inviting them to learn more about LWML nationally and in their district.
- Sponsor a new graduate from seminary to attend the LWML district convention.
- Invite a church worker to speak at the LWML district convention.
- Send out LWML resource samples to pastors.
- Put a LWML district link on the LCMS district website.
- Put <https://www.lwml.org/church-workers-in-mission> link on the LWML district website.
- Have a Church Workers in Mission booth at the LWML district convention with materials (e.g., brochure, video, etc.) to encourage LWML women to support church workers.

Advertise on the LCMS district website:

- Link to your LWML district's mission grant guidelines and application.
- LWML district convention invitation to all church workers on the LCMS district website.

Invite your LCMS District President:

- To be a guest speaker at the LWML district convention.
- To participate in the mission grant selection process as outlined in your LWML district guidelines.

Involve pastors/church workers in the LWML district convention:

- Invite all pastors to the district convention.
- Offer free or discounted registrations to pastors to attend the district convention.
- Invite pastors and other church workers who have received mission grants to hold an information/breakout/interest session at the LWML district convention on how mite offerings impacted their mission work.
- Hold a Church Workers Meet and Greet at the LWML district convention. Invite new church workers to introduce themselves and tell where they will be serving God.
- Have a Church Workers in Mission information session at your LWML district convention.

Encourage district, zone, and local LWML members to:

- Encourage and support LCMS seminaries and Concordia colleges to continue the proclamation of the Gospel.
- Use resources on the Church Workers in Mission webpage to encourage and support church workers. <https://www.lwml.org/church-workers-in-mission>.
- Engage and support their church workers by expressing their appreciation and concern for their well-being.
- Invite church workers/missionaries suited to be a Mites in Action speaker at LWML events or send in their story to be published on the Church Worker in Mission webpage.
- Be aware of current articles/devotions on church workers wellness on social media. <https://resources.lcms.org/tag/church-worker-wellness-devotions/>.
- Be informed about current trends/concerns in the church by subscribing to *The Reporter* at [lcms.org](https://www.lcms.org).
- Provide local support for the pastor's travel and housing at the LWML district conventions.
- Provide district and local scholarships for Doxology Retreat Travel.
- Celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week in October and use the Teacher Toolkit on the LWML website, <https://www.lwml.org/posts/kit-ideas/teacher-kit>, for ideas to support teachers and other Lutheran school staff.
- Celebrate Church Worker Appreciation Month by looking at the resources on the LWML website, <https://www.lwml.org/church-workers-in-mission>.

Learn about:

- **Post Seminary Applied Learning and Support (PALS)**
Since 1998, PALS has assisted hundreds of new seminary graduates and their wives during their first three years of congregational life. PALS is a positive program for new pastors and the congregations they serve. Learn more at <https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/education/pastoral/post-seminary-applied-learning-and-support>.
- **Set Apart to Serve** seeks to encourage young people to consider church work vocations primarily through their continued and faithful involvement with their congregation. Learn more at <https://www.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve>.
- **DOXOLOGY**, a charitable nonprofit 501(c) 3 corporation and Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, offers “Take Heart Respite Retreats” held for commissioned ministers with all costs covered except transportation to and from retreat. Find more information at <https://www.doxology.us/resources/>.

Church Workers in Mission Committee
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