Three LCMS Ministries Presented with Mission Grant Checks

Lutheran Women in Mission Vice President of Gospel Outreach, Karen Morrison, presented three mission grant payment checks after the Chapel worship service at The Lutheran — Missouri Synod (LCMS) International Center on March 7. Also present were President Eden Keefe, Sr. Pastoral Counselor Rev. Gary Piepkorn, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Karol Selle, and Executive Director Vanessa Johnson.

LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison and representatives from each ministry received copies of our new mission grant presentation check. The payments presented were:

- MG#10 Set Apart to Serve, full payment of $100,000, received by Rev. Dr. Jim Baneck,
Executive Director, LCMS Office of Pastoral Education.

- MG#09 Equipping Young Leaders, first half payment of $25,000, received by Rev. Mark Kiessling, Director, LCMS Youth Ministry.
- MG#07 Mental Health Outreach, first half payment of $48,250, received by Kristin Freeman, Manager, LCMS Life Ministry.

Watch the Check Presentation Video

Following the check presentation, LWML Board members present joined the representatives from the three LCMS Ministries for a luncheon where they could learn more about each of the ministries that Lutheran Women in Mission are supporting this biennium.

These three LCMS ministries are the mission grants highlighted for the month of April. Check out and share the resources available for each grant at https://www.lwml.org/mission-grants.

Rev. Mark Kiessling, Director, LCMS Youth Ministry presents at the LCMS Ministries luncheon.

Lutheran Women in Mission Host Dinner at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne

Lutheran Women in Mission host an annual dinner at each of the LCMS seminaries for second-year students who will be going on vicarage and deaconess internships the following school year. On March 15, 2024, students, faculty, and special guests joined Deaconess Katherine Rittner, CTSFW Director of Food and Clothing Co-op, LWML Vice President of Organizational Resources Arlene Naasz, and LWML Public Relations Director Debbie Yocky for a reception and dinner at the Katherine Luther Dining Hall on the beautiful Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne (CTSFW) campus.

LWML Vice President of Organizational Resources, Arlene Naasz, sits at a table with students and faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne at the annual dinner for second-year students hosted by Lutheran Women in Mission.
Lutheran Women in Mission has a long history of supporting CTSFW seminary students through prayers, mission grants and donations. LWML districts support the CTSFW Food Co-op with generous monetary donations directly impacting the daily lives of students and their families. These dinners provide an opportunity for the LWML to engage with the faculty and students and to thank them for their service to the Lord.

A short presentation provided an opportunity to share the Lutheran Women in Mission story and highlight the many resources available for use, as well as items for sale in the LWML Shop. Each student received a CPH gift card, and a Lutheran Women in Mission pen. LWML Public Relations Director Debbie gave away a few LWML products. Seminary students, Jonathan Poppe and Noah Dunsmore, provided opening and closing prayers and students Joshua Gerken and Kimberly Bower thanked LWML for the dinner and gifts. Rev. Dr. Paul Grime, Vice President of Spiritual Formation spoke on behalf of the CTSFW faculty.

New Devotional Now Available in the Shop!

Do you like to do puzzles? Does your life sometimes feel like one big puzzle?

Lutheran Women in Mission has just the devotion book for you. *Oh Lord, I’m Puzzled* looks at the times when life is puzzling and will direct you to Scriptures to help you remember that God can take your puzzled life and put you together to shine to His glory.

Current LWML Utah-Idaho District President and author Terri Bentley says, “Life is puzzling. At times it seems as though we are walking through a jumbled maze. When thoughts of our sins
overtake us, we may begin to doubt God's love. Jesus entered our crazy, puzzling world, lived a life of perfection, then willingly went to the cross and absorbed all our sin so we could be redeemed children of God. Puzzling? You bet! That is true love."

Whether you love jigsaw puzzles, or haven't done one since kindergarten, you will find God's love and encouragement in these devotions.

*Oh Lord, I'm Puzzled* may be purchased through the [LWML SHOP](https://lwml.org/shop).

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