



*In the same way,
let your light shine
before others, so
that they may see
your
good works and
give glory to your
Father who is in
heaven (Matthew 5:16).*





UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

- **October 21, 2025** -- EC (Executive Committee) Zoom Meeting
- **November 1, 2025** -- BOD Meeting, Zion Lutheran, Hiawatha
[Refreshments by Dubuque & Eldora Zones]
[Gifts From The Heart - Cards for the Scholarship Students]
- **November 10, 2025** -- Article Submission Deadline for *Alive's WINTER issue*. Submit articles to Editor at editor@lwml-ied.org
- **Nov. 15-22, 2025** -- Belize Mission Grant Trip with
MOST Ministries

Orphan Grain Train +

Central Iowa Branch

Website: www.ogt.org/branches/central-iowa

Mailing Address: PO Box 120, Clemons, IA 50051

Warehouse Location: 302 Bevin Street, Clemons, IA

Hours of Operation: Tuesdays from 8:00-Noon

Donations are always accepted. Please feel free to join them to bring a donation, see the facilities, help in some way, or have coffee (and a treat from 10-10:30am) every Tuesday morning.

Lutheran World Relief ~ Drop Off Sites

October 18, 2025 ~ 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. ~ Trinity Lutheran Church,
1363 1st Ave SW in Cedar Rapids

October 18, 2025 ~ 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. ~ Grace Lutheran Church,
5201 Urbandale Ave in Des Moines

October 25, 2025 ~ 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. ~ Olson Explosives Inc,
1837 Trout Run Road, Decorah



LWML IED President ~

Martha Hartwig

If asked “What color is the sky?” most people would answer blue. We all know the sky is a beautiful blue on a clear day. Did you ever wonder why the sky is blue? When God said “Let there be light,” He created something much more than simply light and dark. The light we see is made up of energy of different wavelengths, or strengths. When light from the sun enters earth’s atmosphere, the blue and violet wavelengths are more easily scattered. They are the ones we see most often. We know the sky appears different colors at different times. The morning sky can be shades of pink and purple with the blue. Sunsets can be beautiful colors of red, gold, and orange. A gray sky may indicate rain is on its way, and if the sky is green, we need to watch for storms. God’s most impressive use of light is the rainbow where we see light’s colors sorted through water in the air. The colors are not only amazing in their beauty, but also an amazing reminder that God keeps His promises. It is this light God wants us to shine so others see His promises. He promises to take us to heaven where a place has been prepared for us. He promises to be with us always. He promises to hear and answer our prayers. He promises to bring us the peace only found through faith in Him. No matter what color the sky is, let God’s light shine through us.



Mark Your
Calendar

June 12-13, 2026

The **LWML Iowa East District Convention in 2026** will take place June 12-13 [Friday-Saturday] at the Graduate By Hilton in Iowa City. The theme is “Rooted in Christ”! An *Alive* Convention Invitation Issue will be coming out next year with all the details, but for now ... save the date!

Lord, help me serve You with gladness, Amen!

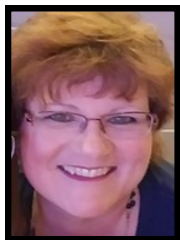


Sr Counselor ~ Rev. Jon Ellingworth

Growing up, I didn't really think much about light. However, when I began preparing for the ministry with serious study of the Scriptures I became absolutely fascinated with light. In Genesis 1:3, God created light by speaking, *Let there be light*, and we are told simply and plainly, *and there was light*. That was the first day. There was no light in the world before that. Light was created by the word of God, out of nothing! That's astounding! Moreover, God didn't create the sun, moon, and stars that we associate with light until the fourth day! More astounding still John 1:5 says, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." That light is the incarnate Son of God, Jesus Christ. It was through the word of God, the Son of God, that light was first created, and it is still through the word of God, the Son of God, Jesus Christ, that light remains in this world. I hadn't really thought about it before I began to prepare for the ministry, but wherever the light shines there is no darkness. I think of walking in the dark with a flashlight; wherever you shine the light, there is no darkness. Likewise, Psalm 119:105 says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Whoever walks according to God's word is not in darkness but in the light. As Christians we are to walk in the light, and we are to be bearers of the light so that others may walk in the light as well, and not in darkness. Our theme verse Matthew 5:16 reads, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Jesus is speaking here of our fruits and works as light that we share with others. In the preceding verse Jesus uses the analogy of a lamp saying, "Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house." We are not to keep the light of God's word to ourselves, but we are to let it shine in and through us into the lives of others so they too may walk in the light of the LORD. In this way God is glorified, when we share His light with others in word and deed.

The best of our hymns are a sung confession of our faith. The hymn "Church of God, Elect and Glorious" confesses our theme well:

"God has called you out of darkness / Into His most marv'ous light; / Brought His truth to life within you, / Turned your blindness into sight. / Let your light so shine around you / That God's name is glorified / And all find fresh hope and purpose / In Christ Jesus crucified" (LSB 646, stz. 2).



VP of Christian Life ~ Liz Roberts

Many times at the LWML Convention in June, you could "let your light shine" to those you came in contact with; leaving them saying...what a delight you are or how kind you are. This is because of Christ's light that shines through us. One story was: A group of LWML ladies were riding a trolley and another group entered wearing pink tops. Curious what it meant the question was asked. A grumpy reply was "church", as one lady stomped to her seat. Beautiful LWML ladies started to sing praises to God filling the trolley with joy. She cheered up {some} but we knew she felt the love. Another incident: I was sitting with friends, talking and laughing, when a young lady came up and asked if she could join us. She said she was drawn to us. It's the light of Christ that makes us stand out and draws others to that light. They want to bask in IT. Praise the Lord!

There are new Bible Studies available through CPH. Donna Snow's "Strong and Courageous" on Joshua and also Deb Burma's "Immeasurably More" are just a couple to inspire you.



VP of Communications ~ Becky Gluesing

Our theme verse this month reminds me of the children's song "This Little Light of Mine." I've always thought of the light mentioned in that song as referring to Jesus, The Light of our world. But it could just as well refer to the light we each have. We all have God given talents, ones we can use to glorify our Lord. Frequently, we don't think we do anything better than others. But do we need to be better than others? Rather, we just need to give credit to God for our talents and accomplishments. "Hide it under a bushel – NO" is how the song expresses it. It is not bragging when we credit God for our abilities, rather than taking the credit for ourselves. Let your light shine!! The other verse I remember is "Don't let Satan blow it out" (although as kids we made a blowing sound rather than saying the word). The devil does not like anything that makes God look good. He'll do anything in his power to diminish God in another's sight. So let your light shine to glorify God.



VP of Human Care ~ Kay Berry

Fun things this summer to remember and knowing how friends let their light shine. In Omaha, I happened to go to the wrong car. As we were laughing, I backed up and toppled to the ground. I wasn't hurt, but all of us were laughing so hard, they couldn't help me up. Eventually, we got me up and enjoyed the rest of the convention. But it reminded me of how helping, a good work, is letting your light shine to others. Even if you're laughing through the entire episode. Smiles, laughing together, being involved, welcoming, helping -- can you name any more? These are all lights shining. People watch what we do. Give glory to God.



VP of Gospel Outreach ~ Jeanette Kreutner

There are so many things to bring you up to date on:
(a) We are now taking applications for 2026 - 2028 IED Mission Grants. Please encourage worthy LCMS organizations to apply. For more information, please see <https://lwml-ied.org/mission-grants-2/>. The deadline is October 16, 2025.

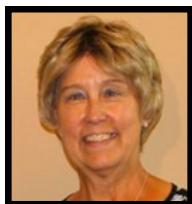
(b) We have selected 8 scholarship applicants who are studying for church work. These include 3 seminarians, 4 undergraduate and 1 graduate student. The money that was sent to the universities for the fall semester in mid-August amounted to \$11,100. [Spring amount = \$3,900.]

(c) We still have several mission grants left to fund for this biennium.

These include:

1. Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF)—Project 72: Jesus Sent Them Two By Two— \$5,000
2. Word of Hope--Suicide Prevention for Post-Abortive Women – \$5,000
3. Lutheran Family Service--Preventing Burnout in Lutheran School Teachers with Christ- Centered Counseling Resources – \$7,500

These three recipients have requested their funds and are waiting for us to keep the promises that we made to them. As your societies restart this fall, please collect and send in those mites. There are other mission grants that remain to be paid, but as of this writing, the funds have not yet been requested. Thank you for your continued support and faithfulness. One last item, as of the next IED convention, my term is up for VP of Gospel Outreach. I would urge you to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit about running for this position. If you have any questions about this, please contact me at vpgospeloutreach@lwml-ied.org.



Secretary ~ Sheryl Zinda

GOD AT WORK! What happens when God chooses to join 9 women randomly for dinner at an LWML Convention? Sheryl Zinda and her Mom, Frances Beer, DeWitt, IA and her Aunt Becky Gluesing, Clinton, IA with sisters: Janelle McPartland, Stuart, FL, Ardi Garnett, Palm Springs, CA and Kathy Skinner, Bellevue, NE; add Mary Maurer and Marjorie Reikofski, Norfolk, NE; then toss in Aletha Voges, Kent WA to make nine.



Standing: Sheryl Zinda, Becky Gluesing, Janelle McPartland, Aletha Voges, Mary Maurer, and Marjorie Reikofski.
Seated: Frances Beer, Ardi Garnett, and Kathy Skinner.

Sheryl and Aletha discussed Aletha's roots which began in Davenport, IA. They found they knew some of the same people. When Aletha's husband, Ethan, spent a year as an Army Chaplain in Korea, she lived in Parkview, six miles from Sheryl. They kept in touch and Aletha handed Sheryl a bookmark with her address on the back. Sheryl excitedly announced that "Aletha is an author!" They got a picture of the two of them, raising their nametags. Janelle, seeing the nametags exclaimed, "Oh my, it's Aletha! I have been looking for you! My cousin, Jeanine, told me to look for you." Aletha had come to Omaha early and spent 3 days with Jeanine. The back story: Jeanine and John Gerety, owned a motel in Klamath Falls, OR during the time when Aletha's husband was the Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church. Fast forward about ten years and the Voges' were visiting the Gerety's. Jeanine was writing a book about her Lange heritage. Her search led her Walcott, IA, just 5 miles from Aletha's home. It was discovered that Jeanine's great uncle, Ernst Lange, married Kate Schroder, who happened to be Aletha's great aunt. Back to the dinner table: Janelle, Ardi, and Kathy are also related to Ernst and Kate, thus, also, to Aletha. We call ourselves "Kissin' Cousins." Further discussions discovered that Mary's husband, Roger, grew up with the sisters, and their mother, Ella Meyer, brought Mary into the LWML. Aletha asked Mary and Marjorie, if they knew Mel and Ardith Warneke from Norfolk. Marjorie replied, "Yes, Mel was the president of Nebraska's LLL." Aletha was a first cousin of Ardith, and she and Mel had introduced Ethan and Aletha to Orphan Grain Train in 2003.

Continued on page 8 ...

... Continued from page 7

Nine women whose lives are forever changed because God placed them together at Saturday's dinner table and let the conversations begin. Moral: Don't ever be afraid to attend a meal alone at an LWML Convention. You never know the plans God has for you. PS: in 2003, in Oklahoma City, I was also dining alone and was placed with a table of women from Iowa West. They "just happened to be from Arcadia." Ethan had been the pastor there before he took the call to Klamath Falls. Needless to say, I am not afraid to go to meals alone.

—Written by: Aletha Voges

"Mission Possible Day" is an LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) event focused on raising funds for mission grants that support various ministries and outreach efforts. It's a re-branded version of the previous "September to Remember" event, emphasizing the LWML's commitment to sharing the Gospel, serving communities, and making missions possible. This year, "Mission Possible Day" is on September 16, 2025, with a matching gift opportunity to double the impact for the first \$10,000 donated.

BIBLE BOOK QUIZ

1. What a person does while performing a play
2. Those who preside over courts of law
3. Sacred songs
4. What a person makes when he/she can't write his/her own name
5. What a person wants while seeking employment
6. "Half" of a moderate temperature
7. Wise sayings
8. Recording of events, past & present
9. The very beginning
10. Monarchs or heads of commonwealths
11. The act of weeping or sobbing
12. A type of mineral
13. What mathematicians work with
14. Citizens of Italy's capital city
15. To go out in a large group
16. Ancient name for a group of Jewish people
17. To receive and interpret a vision

[Source Unknown]

[See answers on page 15]

Treasurer ~ Marna Mohr



Give glory to your Father who is in heaven because we are over 50% of our mission goal!!! We have fully funded 6 of our mission grants. They are Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Eastside Mission, Mission Central, College Hill Conservatory, Most Ministries (Belize Trip), & Community Lutheran School (Science Grant). We partially funded Lutherans For Life & King of Kings. We will be paying our scholarships in August. Please keep those mites coming in! I am happy to share with you a current accounting of our IED 2024-2026 biennium.

BUDGET FOR BIENNIUM 04.01.24—03.31.26

IED Budget

Mites-Outreach	\$145,350
Mites-Inreach	\$ 11,500
Mites-Budget	\$156,850
Reimbursable Items	\$ 38,150
<u>IED Total Budget</u>	<u>\$195,000</u>

Student Aid Budget

Approved	\$30,000
Dispersed	\$15,000
<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>\$15,000</u>

Mission Grant Budget

Approved	\$73,500
Dispersed (2024-2026)	\$42,000
<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>\$31,500</u>

IED Budget Actual

04.01.25 Begin. Bal. **\$1,154.85**

Mite Budget Actual:

Income	\$15,884.29
Expenses-Outreach	\$10,416.45
Expenses-Inreach	\$ 1,838.88
Total Mite Expenses	\$12,255.33

Reimbursable Items Actual:

Income	\$14,396.30
Expenses	\$13,509.92

Total Income Actual: **\$31,435.44**

Total Expenses Actual: **\$25,765.25**

End. Bal. 06.30.25 **\$ 5,670.19**

Serve the Lord with your mites!



Financial Secretary ~ Jennifer Determan

The report below shows all memorials and special gifts from January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

Memorials and special gift donations go towards LWML Mites unless otherwise specified by the donor.

Society Treasurers: If you need remittance blank books, mite boxes, or my address labels, please let me know. Funds should be sent to me in the form of a check or money order and made payable to: LWML Iowa East District or LWML IED.

Send your checks to: Jennifer Determan

5314 Fjord Drive

Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Thank you for sending in your memorials and special gift donations!

LWML IOWA EAST DISTRICT MEMORIAL RECORD January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025

IN MEMORY OF

Jasiel Timm
Jasiel Timm
Jasiel Timm
Jasiel Timm
Terry Arp
Lynn Evans
Lynn Evans
Lynn Evans
Lynn Evans
Lynn Evans
Velma Butt
Dennis Meisgeier
Carl Gaulke
Julie Herboldsheimer
The Faithful Members of
Trinity Lutheran Church

DONOR

Marna Mohr
Victor, St. John's Ladies Aid
Karen Kuesel, Victor
Elizabeth Roberts, Deep River
Helen Huedepohl, Williamsburg
Helen Huedepohl, Williamsburg
Luanne Heitshusen, South Amana
Lynn B. Evans Estate, Effingham, IL
Laurinda Kraft, Williamsburg
Darla Lehmkuhl, Williamsburg
Alden, St. Paul's Ladies Aid
Manchester, Women of Our Savior
Manchester, Women of Our Savior
Mt Vernon, St Paul Priscilla Guild
Davenport, Trinity LWML

Carolyn Kochuyt
 Alfred Cox
 Helen Raabe

 Arvene Doering

 Mary Severson

 Dale Johnson
 Maxine Happel
 Dale Johnson
 Robert Sandersfeld
 Terry Arp
 Ruby Parris
 Velma Butt

Ruby Parris
 Lois Schroeder
 George Steege
 Millie Haack
 Lily Pitts
 Patricia Reed
 Carol Lau
 Carol Lau
 Susan Heine
 Patty Johnson
 Rose Yerington
 Patty Johnson
 Lois Haring
 Carroll Harless

Vera Gienapp

Victor, St James LWML Ladies
 Waverly, St John Dorcas Society
 Belle Plaine, First Lutheran Women
 in Mission
 Hubbard, St John's Lutheran Mission
 Circle
 Iowa Falls, Immanuel Lutheran
 Ladies Aid
 Victor, St James LWML Ladies
 Victor, St James LWML Ladies
 Victor, St John's Ladies Aid
 Homestead, St John's Ladies Aid
 Homestead, St John's Ladies Aid
 Joyce Schanbacher, Atkins
 Stanwood, St Paul's Home Mission
 Circle
 Atkins, St Stephen's Ladies Society
 Clinton, Trinity Ladies Aid
 Clinton, Trinity Ladies Aid
 Clinton, Trinity Ladies Aid
 Clinton, Trinity Ladies Aid
 Clinton, Trinity Ladies Aid
 Fairbank, St John Dorcas Circle
 Readlyn, Immanuel Klinger LWML
 Waverly, St John Dorcas Society
 Wilton, Zion Eventide Society
 Wilton, Zion Eventide Society
 Barbara Jipp, Wilton
 Clinton, Trinity Ladies Aid
 Iowa Falls, Immanuel Lutheran
 Ladies Aid
 Manchester, Women of Our Savior

SPECIAL OCCASIONS REMEMBERED

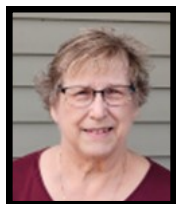
SPECIAL OCCASION

In Honor of Vera Gienapp's 104th Birthday
 Honoring the Baptism of Ezra James

DONOR

Helen Knutson, Manchester
 Davenport, Risen Christ
 Women in Mission

TOTAL MEMORIALS & SPECIAL OCCASIONS MONEY RECEIVED: \$1,254



Member Development ~ Karen Boehme

A friendly reminder about Young Women Representatives (YWRs). The Iowa East District Convention is planned for June 12-13, 2026. It's time to start praying and searching for special young women to represent your zone. She should be a member of one of your zone's LCMS congregations and a YWR is typically around 22-35 ish years old. You may consider asking the wife of those pastors located in your zone. Since there are many new pastors and wives serving in our district, being a YWR at the convention would be a great experience to learn about LWML. A zone YWR is chosen by your zone around the time of your spring rally and you may have more than one young woman serving from your zone. The application form will be available soon.

Contact: Karen Boehme at memberdev@lwml-ied.org.

MOST Ministries - Belize Trip

Matthew 5:16 is a wonderful verse on which to reflect as our LWML IED mission team prepares to travel to Belize with MOST Ministries in November. Team members hail from across eastern Iowa: Riceville to Muscatine, Manchester to Mt. Pleasant, and several communities in between! The mission team met (virtually) for the first time July 13, with additional online meetings scheduled through our November 15 departure date. An in-person workshop will be held at Zion Lutheran in Hiawatha on October 4, during which time the team will learn how to conduct an eyeglass clinic and distribute and pack all the supplies for our trip. MOST Ministries Team Leader Barbara Hoffmeier and her friend Patricia Morley, both from Michigan, will accompany us to Belize. A huge thank you to everyone collecting eyeglasses, non-prescription sunglasses, and fabric eyeglass cases! With the help of Christ, eyeglass recipients will experience His **light** and also **see** His love through acts of mercy. Your prayers, support, and contributions all give glory to our Father in heaven! There is still time to donate toward our trip! All donations (including prescription eyeglasses) that are given to a mission team member by September 30 will be personally delivered to Michigan by Barbara Hoffmeier – saving you and your group postage cost! You can contact me (Gretchen Rasmussen) at ied.missioncoordinator@gmail.com or check out the [LWML IED website](#) for more information on MOST Ministries and our upcoming eyeglass mission trip.

Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday 2025

Traditionally celebrated the first Sunday in October, Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday can be celebrated any time. This year's theme begins a four-year cycle focusing on the LWML Mission Statement – As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. This year we will focus on proclaiming Christ. The Ascension text of “GO” (Luke 24:44-53) is the mission emphasis for Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday 2025.

- Many free downloadable resources for LWML Sunday use are available at: <https://lwml.org/lwml-sunday>
- Free brochures, bulletin inserts about LWML at: <https://lwml.cph.org/supplies>
- New biennium mission grant bookmarks are free (only pay for postage) at: <https://lwml.cph.org/mission-grants-bookmark-pack-of-50>

You can contact CPH (Concordia Publishing House) Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 5:00pm CST by calling 800-325-3040.

ZONE & SOCIETY NEWS

BENTON ZONE --

St. Stephen's Women in Mission hosted an old fashioned picnic on July 20, 2025. Judges tasted the 15 pies that were entered in the pie tasting contest.



CEDAR RAPIDS ZONE --

One of the LWML mission grants for our current biennium was the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. At their June meeting, the Marion St. Paul's Lutheran Church LWML



had the pleasure of a presentation by Linda Medhus, a Sr. Engagement Officer from the Ranch. She was a delightful and informative speaker who told us all about the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. The St. Paul's ladies had made quilts

which they presented to Linda to take back to the Ranch. So often the children come to the ranch with barely any belongings, so the children are given a quilt to call their own to treasure. We are so grateful that there is a Christ-centered residential treatment and educational center for troubled youth and their families.

ELDORA ZONE --



The Eldora LWML Zone held an event at St. John Ev. Lutheran Church in Hubbard July 14, 2025 with sixteen ladies attending. Our guest speaker was Grace O'Neal, who will be a missionary in Germany starting this fall as part of the Mission of Christ Network (an RSO of the LCMS). Grace will be joining

another missionary couple that operate the Kerkemeister Guest House, where travelers and various groups come to rest, study, and stay. She will also be teaching English and building relationships through art and culinary ministry to witness to others. Much of Germany is unchurched. We also played Christian Match Game. We had two contestants and five panelists. The winner won a pair of red Jell-O socks. For our servant activity we made 20 hygiene kits for the Orphan Grain Train.



MARSHALLTOWN ZONE --

The Marshalltown Zone Fall Rally is set for September 20, 2025 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Knoxville. Registration is at 9 am with the rally beginning at 9:30 am. Bible Study, zone business and installation of officers will take place. There will be an offering taken for the zone treasury and a love offering for Orphan Grain Train. We will hear a speaker from Orphan Grain Train and will assemble personal care kits for O.G.T. (The ingathering will be items to place in the personal care kits.)

MT PLEASANT ZONE --



Barb Jipp, Zion's Eventide Society President of Wilton, presented Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca with paper goods and a check from the ingathering held at Mt. Pleasant Zone's spring rally on April 26, 2025.

WESTGATE ZONE --

Westgate Zone Fall Rally information at this time--

Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025

At: Our Redeemer, Independence

Hostesses: SONshine Circle from Peace-Oelwein

Answers to Bible Book Quiz: 1. Acts 2. Judges 3. Psalms 4. Mark 5. Job 6. Luke 7. Proverbs 8. Chronicles 9. Genesis 10. Kings 11. Lamentations 12. Micah 13. Numbers 14. Romans 15. Exodus 16. Hebrews 17. Revelation

LWML - IOWA EAST DISTRICT NEWS ~ *Alive* is published for the Lutheran Woman's Missionary League (LWML) - Iowa East District (IED), through Publisher and available by email, Facebook, or the IED Website. **To receive the *Alive* by email, contact the District Registrar at registrar@lwml-ied.org.**

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*** If no email is provided, please contact the VP of Communications, Becky Gluesing, for further assistance at vpcommunications@lwml-ied.org.