

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE - IOWA EAST DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 9, 2025 - Zion Lutheran Church, Hiawatha, IA

OPENING WORSHIP - Pastor Vesey

CALL TO ORDER - President Martha Hartwig called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - Secretary Sheryl Zinda was absent attending a funeral. Pres. Hartwig appointed Patti Christiansen to serve as secretary today - Nancy McHone moved to accept the appointment, seconded and approved. The May BOD minutes were not posted on the district website so they will be approved at the next meeting.

TREASURER - Report stands as submitted and will be filed for review.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Report stands as submitted.

VP OF CHRISTIAN LIFE - Report stands as submitted. The committee would like to clearance store items left - they are requesting to lower the prices to help sell them. Jeanette Kreutner moved to lower the prices as the committee sees fit, seconded and approved.

VP OF COMMUNICATION - Report stands as submitted. Becky Gluesing reported that Hannah Raebel has resigned as G Suite administrator. It was suggested to talk to Daniel Sanchez and have zone presidents search for possible candidates to fill the position.

The position of Historian/Archivist will be filled by Jan Brown. Jeanette Kreutner moved to appoint Jan Brown to this position, seconded and approved.

Alive submissions are needed by August 9th. Webmaster Kim Davis has removed contact information including email addresses from the Alive for security purposes. Anyone wanting contact information will need to request it.

VP OF GOSPEL OUTREACH - Report stands as submitted. Jeanette Kreutner asked zones to encourage mite submissions at their fall rallies to timely fund the \$17,500 in current grant requests. Jeanette moved to accept the student aid committee recommendations of \$2400 each to the 3 seminary students, \$1800 each to the 4 undergraduate students, and \$600 for the one graduate student for a total of \$11,100. Motion approved. Endowment funds will be distributed in the amount of \$400 to the graduate student and \$740 to the other 7 students. Societies are encouraged to support these students financially and spiritually. Patti Christiansen and Jo Johnson are working on a guide for future members of the student aid committee.

VP OF ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES - Report stands as submitted. Member Development report stands as submitted.

VP OF HUMAN CARE - Report stands as submitted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Report stands as submitted.

ZONE PRESIDENT'S REPORTS - Reports stand as submitted.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Lutheran World Relief - As Dori Stanek has resigned from this position and LWR is no longer a recognized RSO of the LCMS, discussion was held if this position needs to be filled. No action was taken.

Short Term Mission Coordinator - Gretchen Rasmussen has a submitted report on the upcoming mission trip to Belize.

Meeting Manager Bonnie Thompson reminded the Dubuque and Eldora zones to provide treats for the November BOD meeting. This will be on the first Saturday, not the second as usual.

The Christian Life Committee performed the skit "Where Are they?", reminding us about welcoming new members to our societies.

Pastor Vesey led the Bible study - Life "Out of Control".

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Misty Lutz reported that the additional cost of securing a bus for the 2025 national convention has been covered by donations. She will work on a document to guide volunteers on the process of securing a bus for future conventions.

2026 District Convention: Convention speaker will be Rev. Dien Ashley Taylor. Plans have been made for music, Mites in Action speakers, and entertainment. Registration will be available by paper or online.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Patti Christiansen
Appointed Secretary



LWML Iowa East District Board of Directors Report

MEETING DATE: August 9th, 2025

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

IED LWML PRESIDENT: - Martha Hartwig

Prepared agenda and led June EC meeting

Prepared reports for Presidents Assembly

Prepared for and led IED Caucus

Tried to take care of all details to facilitate IED YWRs needs

Prepared delegate name tents and materials

Noted possible Mites in Action Speakers for IED 2026 Convention

Prepared agenda and called meeting of Executive Committee

Called 2 meetings of IED 2026 Convention Committee and attended meetings

V.P. ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES: - Margaret Kistler I have received many good comments about our District Prayer Calendar. Thank you to all. I was asked at a previous meeting to send the calendar out earlier so it can go into the church newsletters. I thought I could fit that into my routine, but have not been able to do so. If you have any ladies in your zones that might like to take this on for the future, please let me know. 2 or 3 people working together through emails and text messages could easily take care of this.

The structure committee will be getting together during this upcoming quarter to have proposed changes to the By-laws and the Procedure Manual ready for review at the November meeting. Please let me know of anything you feel needs to be looked at, updated or changed. Thank you.

V.P. CHRISTIAN LIFE: - Elizabeth Roberts Most items in the District LWML store are located on the website. We sold a few items at the retreat. We are trying to eliminate the store. 1 new Christian Life Committee member is needed in November as Jan Brown has served her term. Please share names of individuals that would be interested. Thank you Jan for your service on the committee and taking care of the inventory of the LWML store! You will be missed. CPH has Bible Studies from Deb Burma and Donna Snow. They were both at the convention. Very interesting BibleStudies.

V.P. COMMUNICATION: - Becky Gluesing

Historian/Archivist-Vacant

ALIVE Newsletter Editor Annette Raebel

Webmasters - Jeanette Kreutner Kim Davis did a lot on the website and posted many things to the website

Registrar-Betty Borchardt There have been ten new email addresses added to the Alive mailing list. Starting next week, I will be sending out invoices by email to all societies that have ordered Quarterlies for the 2025-2026 subscription period. This will inform each society the status of their Quarterly account (either paid in full or the amount owed).

V.P. GOSPEL OUTREACH: - Jeanette Kreutner

We have three mission grants who have requested funds that amount to 17,500.

MISSION GRANTS COMMITTEE: - new grant application is out Deadline is 10/16/25. The maximum grant amount accepted will be 7500.

STUDENT AID COMMITTEE: - Met to approve scholarship applicants

We have 3 seminarians, 4 undergraduates, and one graduate student applicant. We voted to recommend the following 3 seminary students at 2400 each, 4 undergraduate students at 1800 each and one graduate student at 600. The students are from Cedar Rapids (3), Clinton (2), Davenport (1) and Williamsburg (2). This means we would pay 11,100 this fall.

The money from the Endowment fund would be \$400 to the graduate student, and 740 to each of the other 7 students.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE: -

V.P. HUMAN CARE: - Kay Berry - I was asked to look into the following Missions. The ones I checked out were: Organization of International Missions (international.lcms.org/projects), Orphan Grain Train (ogt.org), LCMS World Relief and Human Care (lcms.org/disaster/response), Lutheran Family Service (lutheranfamilyservice.org), Seminaries: St. Louis (www.csl.edu), Fort Wayne (www.ctsfw.edu). There is a Seminary Guild at Fort Wayne that helps students. All of these have many projects and areas anyone can look at and choose depending on interest. The next Gift of the Heart will be gift cards for the scholarship students.

RECORDING SECRETARY: - Sheryl Zinda - Thank you to Patti Christensen for taking minutes today as I attend a funeral in Michigan.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: - Jennifer Determan

Since the May 3, 2025, board meeting I have been receiving the societies' mites, memorials, and also several convention bus payments. I have made the following deposits:

DEPOSITS: (Mites, Memorials, Periodicals, Convention Offerings, Bus Payments, Misc.)

June 2, 2025	\$ 6,115.34
June 23, 2025	\$ 4,177.82
July 30, 2025	<u>\$ 6,097.97</u>
TOTAL -	\$16,391.13

Thank you for all of your mites and offerings - To God be the Glory!

Jennifer L. Determan
LWML IED Financial Secretary

TREASURER: - Marna Mohr

LWML - Iowa East District financials as of June 30, 2025 are summarized below. The full financial report and the 2024-2026 Biennium Financial Report are available in the password-protected section of the LWML IED website.

The 2024-2026 mission grants approved came to a total of \$103,500. This includes \$30,000 for student scholarships in which \$15,000 has been sent towards that goal. We have fully funded 5 of our mission grants. They are \$3000 to Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, \$7500 to Eastside Mission, \$7500 to Mission Central, \$2000 to College Hill Conservatory, \$7500 to MOST Ministries (Belize trip), \$6000 to Community Lutheran School (Science Grant). We have partially funded Lutherans for Life \$4000 and King of Kings \$4500. So \$57,000 of our 2024-2026 mission grants have been paid. We will be paying our scholarships in August which is around \$10,000. We are at about 50% of our goal. Please keep those mites coming in!!

Current financial report stand as follows:

Balance on hand as of	04/01/2025		\$ 1,154.85
Income received since	04/01/2025	+	\$30,280.59
Less expenses since	04/01/2025	-	<u>\$25,765.25</u>
Balance on hand as of	06/30/2025	=	\$ 5,670.19

The LWML IED Student Aid Endowment Fund balance at the LCMS Foundation stood at \$113,708.78 as of 06/30/2025 (most recent statement).

The LWML IED Joyful Response Steward Account balance at the Lutheran Church Extension

Fund stood at \$2,907.37 as of 06/30/2025 (most recent statement).

COUNSELOR (JR.): - Rev. Mathew Vesey

COUNSELOR (SR.): - Rev. Jon Ellingworth

ZONE PRESIDENTS

Fall Gathering Information

Benton zone- Thursday September 18 St. Johns Newhall 9am

Cedar Rapids zone-Saturday, October 11, Zion, Hiawatha

Clinton zone Immanuel, Charlotte, date to be determined

Davenport zone - Saturday, October 11, Risen Christ, Davenport, IA

Dubuque zone Date to be determined

Eldora zone

Marshalltown zone- Saturday, September 20, Trinity, Knoxville, IA

Mt. Pleasant zone-Saturday, October 25, Immanuel, Fairfield, IA

St. Ansgar zone - Saturday, October 18, St. Peter's, Riceville, IA

Waterloo zone - Saturday, October 25, Faith, Waterloo

Westgate zone-Saturday, October 18th, Our Redeemer, Independence, IA,

Williamsburg zone-Thursday, October 2nd , St James, Victor, Ia

Nomination Committee

Benton zone

Cedar Rapids zone

Clinton zone Sheryl Zinda

Davenport zone - Tammy McKay, Risen Christ, Davenport

Dubuque zone Joann Nesteby, Our Redeemer Dubuque

Eldora zone Linda Allan

Marshalltown zone-none, will ask for a volunteer at August zone board meeting.

Mt. Pleasant zone

St. Ansgar zone - Betty Borchardt

Waterloo zone - Judith Fink

Westgate zone-Barb Forsyth

Williamsburg zone

BENTON: - **Connie McQuiston** - Attended 3 Women In Mission meetings. Attended 2 zoom 2 in person 2026 IED Convention planning meetings. Attended National Convention in Omaha as Benton Zone delegate. Presided over Benton zone Fall Executive Board Meeting and Fall Rally Planning Meeting. Attended Fall Retreat on Saturday..

CEDAR RAPIDS: - **Ginny Boyer**- Member of the Convention Planning Committee and attended those meetings. The CR Zone Board Meeting will be September 6th, 9:00 AM at Zion and the CR Zone Event will be October 11th with registration at 8:30 AM at Zion. Our speaker will be Jerry Mays lay missionary to Tanzania; the theme verse is "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28: 19a

CLINTON: - **Patti Christiansen**

The Fall Rally will be held at Immanuel, Charlotte at a date to be determined. No other information is available at this time.

DAVENPORT: - **Lois Kundel** - Spring Rally, Be Bold, was held at Trinity Davenport. The guest speaker/musician was Wendysue Fluegge. She was full of energy and shared her topic on witnessing our faith and being bold about it. Two young gals shared their faith and how they shared it in high school and 5th grade. Our 5th grader also shared about Thrinity's Mission Kids Club. Our Fall Rally will be held at Risen Christ on Saturday, October 11. The speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Andrew Watkins, Eastside Mission, and the ingathering will benefit the Mission.

DUBUQUE: - **Diane Torrey**- Served as the zone delegate for the Dubuque Zone at the Omaha Convention . Approved by law changes and voted to increase Mites to fully fund the 33 Mission grants.

ELDORA: - **Joy Reinert**

The Spring Rally was held on May 10 at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Latimer. The topic was Lutheran education based on the theme Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it." The speaker was Cody Collier a teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran School. The Ingathering was for the school. The school and church held a special Service on Aug. 3 to celebrate the school's 100 year anniversary and the church's 130 years. The LWML held a Zone Event on July 14 featuring Grace O'Neal. She was a former teacher at St. Paul Lutheran High School Missouri. Grace is preparing to become a missionary in Germany with Mission of Christ Network, a registered Service Organization of LCMS. Placing and rolling personal items in a towel was done as a project for Orphan Grain Train.

MARSHALLTOWN: - **Tammi Christensen** 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 Zone President plans to also attend the Fall Rally at Immanuel, Fairfield.

MT. PLEASANT: - **Becky Ernst** . There were 5 ladies and 1 husband from our zone who traveled to Omaha in June. We have set October 25th 2025 as the date for our Fall rally. We will be meeting at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Fairfield starting at 9am. In our zone we have 4 active societies ; because of that we will be discussing whether we should proceed as we are or split and join different zones. We would like a person from the Marshalltown zone to come to our rally. Rev Brase from Immanuel , Fairfield has retired.

ST. ANSGAR: - **Betty Borchardt** - There were ten ladies from the Zone that attended the LWML Convention in Omaha. The Zone Summer Board meeting will be held on August 17th. The Fall Event will be held at St. Peter's in Riceville. The proposed date is October 18th.

WATERLOO: - **Nancy McHone** - Fifteen people from Immanuel, Cedar Falls, will be going on a 2 week mission trip to Kenya in August. They will be working with Pastor Onsase in Kisii and Kisumu. During the 2 weeks they will be painting classrooms at Kibos Hope Academy and distributing school kits, toys and soccer balls. They will also work with 130 widows giving them bean and maize seeds and a jembe(hoe) to learn gardening and farming skills during farming and garden clinics. The Waterloo Zone has two new pastors! Matthew Baker has been ordained and installed at Our Redeemer in Cedar Falls. Jesse Schlie was installed at St. John, Denver. Valley Lutheran School has been blessed with 6 new teachers: Katie Pahlkotter, Scott Fischer, Holly Carolus, Angie Oberbroeckling, Carmen Wipf and Hannah Mulford. We feel truly blessed in our zone!!

WESTGATE: - Barbara Forsyth- Westgate Zone Fall Rally will be held, Saturday, October 18th at Our Redeemer, Independence, IA. (Times have yet TBD) Our Fall Rally will be hosted by Our Redeemer LWML and Peace, Oelwein, SONshine Circle. In support of the upcoming IED MOST Ministries Mission Trip to Belize, the WZ will be holding a Sew/Servant Event on Tuesday, September 2nd at the Klinger Commons. We plan to gather together at 9am and sew eyeglass cases and assemble "Crosses for Benny" for the Forged By Fire Mission Grant Recipient to hand out to those they serve meals to during natural disasters. We welcome Pastor Grant Tapken and family to the Westgate Zone. Pastor Tapken was ordained and installed in June and will be serving St. John, Fairbank and Grace, Jesup. I attended the LWML convention in Omaha with three ladies (and a family) from Westgate zone - one gal being a convention "first-timer"! Two former WZ President's came to join in the IED caucus.

I attended the Summer Retreat on Saturday.

WILLIAMSBURG- Jo Johnson-Our fall rally has been set for Thursday,October 2nd at St James Lutheran in Victor. Registration will start at 8:30am with breakfast at 9 with pancakes, scrambled eggs, and sausage. Our guest speaker will be Barbara Hoffmeier with Most Ministries and will be leading the IED LWML group going to Belize. We welcome Pastor Thomas VanHemert and family to the Williamsburg Zone where he will be installed at St John's Lutheran in Marengo.

APPOINTED PERSONNEL

MEETING MANAGER: - Bonnie Thompson

ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN :

PARLIAMENTARIAN: - Judy Westergren.

SPEAKERS BUREAU COORDINATOR: - Linda Allan

WORLD RELIEF COORDINATOR: -

LWML CONVENTION BUS COORDINATOR: Misty Lutz

SHORT-TERM MISSION COORDINATOR: - Gretchen Rasmussen - Preparations are underway for the IED LWML eyeglass mission trip to Belize with MOST Ministries! The mission team met (virtually) for the first time July 13th, with additional online meetings scheduled through our departure date in November. An in-person workshop will be held at Zion, 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! There is still time to donate toward our trip! Please route all donations to a team member by September 30. Contact me (Gretchen Rasmussen) for more information.

YOUNG WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES 2025-2027: - Anna Davis (from Cedar Rapids zone) and Mary Dubke (from Waterloo zone)

2025 RETREAT CO-CHAIRS: - Tammi Christensen and Tammy Van Haaften

Thank you to all who attended the IED Retreat in July at Camp IoDisECa. Thank you to Annette Raebel, editor of the *Alive* for the wonderful Retreat Invitation issue and the Retreat Recap issue as well. Many thanks to Carolyn Zimmerman for creating the online registration process. We appreciate all the preparations of the Pastoral Counselors, camp staff, retreat committees and speakers.

IED CONVENTION CO-CHAIRS: Ginny Boyer and Sheryl Dermody

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: - Annette Raebel -

Thank you to all the wonderful articles and pictures from the convention and the retreat You helped make them wonderful issues!

The Fall Issue of *Alive* Theme: *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).

[Submission deadline is August 10, 2025]

ASSISTANT NEWSLETTER EDITOR: - Loretta Wuerdeman

G SUITE ADMINISTRATOR: -OPEN

NEW CHURCH WORKERS WELCOMING COMMITTEE: -Tammi Christensen

Welcome packets were sent to Vicar Andrew Vought, Deaconess Leva Russell, Rev. Noah Russell, Vicar Ethan Hartkemeyer, Vicar Hunter Kinnison, Matthew Baker and Rev. Zachary Johnson on June 9, 2025. Welcome packets were sent to Rev. Grant Tapken, Rev. Daryn Bahn, Principal Karen Bahn, Teacher Aaron Huesmann, and Preschool Director Lynn Casselman on July 30, 2025. If you have a new church worker at your church or school please contact me with their name, address, and the name of the congregation or school where they are installed or serving.

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: - Karen Boehme, Misty Lutz, Hilary Weiss

Karen and Misty attended the LWML convention in Omaha. IED was blessed with two YWR's –Anna Davis and Mary Dubke representing our district! There were 79 YWR's at this convention learning about and experiencing LWML - thanks and praise to God!

Karen attended the Summer Retreat.

Karen sends out a monthly devotion and LWML Mailbox Newsletter to our past and present YWR's.

LWML has the 2025-2027 planner “**Seek, Pray, Serve**” ready to use to help plan meetings with devotions, skits, etc. Go to LWML.org

LWML is creating resources for the **2025-2027 Mission Grants**. Available will be monthly bulletin bytes, devotion, prayer, video and flyer to use at meetings or share with others. This will be found at LWML.org

“Mission:Impossible” (formerly “September to Remember”) will be September 16, 2025. LWML.org

A reminder of **Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday** or month (October). LWML/ CPH has lots of free (you need to pay postage) printable flyers, pamphlets, 2025 Mission Sunday materials plus much more! The 2025-2027 Mission Grant bookmarks are ready. All at LWML.org

The **IED convention** *“Rooted in Christ”* will be June 11-13, 2026. Please start looking and praying for a YWR from your zone.

STRUCTURE COMMITTEE: -

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMITTEE: -