

**LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE - IOWA EAST DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

November 1, 2025 - Zion Lutheran Church - Hiawatha, IA

OPENING WORSHIP - Pastor Vesey

CALL TO ORDER - President Martha Hartwig called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m. in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING -Minutes of the August 2025 meeting had been posted on the LWML-IED website for review. Hearing no additions or corrections, Jo Johnson moved to approve the minutes as published, seconded and approved. The May 2025 minutes were also reviewed and hearing no additions or corrections, Margaret Kistler moved to approve the minutes as published, seconded and approved. Pres. Hartwig appointed Diane Torrey and Barbara Forsyth to review today's minutes.

TREASURER - Report stands as submitted and will be filed for review. Marna Mohr reported she withdrew \$2900 from the Joyful Response Steward Account to finish a grant payment - approximately every 2 years money is withdrawn from this interest bearing account. She read thank you notes from Community Lutheran School for the science grant and Concordia Seminary for scholarships. National mites will be paid in November, and approximately \$3900 for scholarships and our Quarterly payment in December also will be due.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Report stands as submitted.

VP OF CHRISTIAN LIFE - Report stands as submitted. The committee has very few items left, and all are priced to sell quickly. Liz handed out a 2 year calendar of meeting aids that can also be found online at lwml.org, along with many other resources.

VP OF COMMUNICATION - Report stands as submitted. Winter Alive submissions need to be to Annette Raebel by Nov. 10. Jeanette Kreutner and Webmaster Kim Davis have requested IED renew the WP Bakery license at a cost of \$60. Betty Borchardt moved to approve the purchase, seconded and approved.

VP OF GOSPEL OUTREACH - Report stands as submitted. Pres. Hartwig appointed Connie McQuiston and Tammy McKay to join Jeanette on the Mission Grants Committee - Becky Gluesing moved to approve the appointments, seconded and approved.

VP OF HUMAN CARE - Kay Berry reported that the in-gathering for today's meeting is cash and gift cards for our scholarship recipients. Contact information for the students will be provided to zone presidents, and names, school, and field of study will be included in the Alive.

VP OF ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES: Margaret Kistler reported that the prayer calendar will be continued for 2026. Bylaws review was done with 2 areas needing attention. Currently, Article 5, section 1 states that zones need at least 7 units (societies). Some zones now have less. After discussion, Margaret moved to amend the bylaws to state that zones should be geographically aligned with the IDE circuit lines as much as possible with approval by the IED-LWML board. Seconded and approved. Discussion was held on expenditures for the district conventions. Barb Forsyth moved to amend the bylaws to pay for the district convention registration of past IED presidents still living in Iowa East. Seconded and approved. Karen Boehme stated the application for YWR's for convention will be on the IED website.

ZONE PRESIDENT'S REPORTS - Reports stand as submitted. Becky Ernst reported for the Mt. Pleasant Zone that 400 Forged by Fire necklaces were assembled at their fall rally. The zone will host the 2026 Retreat on July 17-18 at Iodiseca.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Report stands as submitted. Martha appointed the nomination committee - Sheryl Zinda, chair, Tammy McKay, Joann Nesteby, Betty Borchardt, Judith Fink, and Barb Forsyth. Jo Johnson moved to accept the appointments, seconded and approved.

STANDING COMMITTEES - Reports stand as submitted.

Speaker's Bureau - Linda Allan has forms for those wishing to suggest someone as a speaker for IED events.

LWR - it was decided to not replace Dori Stanek as committee chair as LWR is no longer an RSO of the LCMS. Forms for LWR are on their website if your church still wants to continue to donate.

Short Term Mission Coordinator - Gretchen Rasmussen asked for prayers for the upcoming trip Nov. 15 - Nov. 22. She encouraged everyone to follow the blog of the trip.

Following lunch, the Christian Life Committee performed the skit "A Patchwork of Wisdom".

IED 2026 CONVENTION COMMITTEE - See submitted reports. Registrar

Carolyn Zimmerman reported on the new online registration process - paper registrations will not be used. The committee recommends using GravityForms at a cost of \$159/year to allow online registration, and Stripe Account for credit card payments online. Following discussion, Jo Johnson moved to approve the cost of \$159 for GravityForms to use for the online convention registration - seconded and approved. Barb Forsyth moved to set up a Stripe Account to be owned by the distinct to use as the payment processor for credit card payments - seconded and approved. Registration will begin the first week in March.

Pastor Ellingworth led the Bible study "Reading the Bible Like Jesus".

IED 2026 CONVENTION COMMITTEE, continued - Co-chairs Bonnie Thompson and Sheryl Dermody reported the bags have been ordered, t-shirts are available for ordering, and the menus have been selected. Walk-throughs have been done of the hotel areas to be used. Gifts from the Heart will be cash, and diapers of all sizes for Johnson County Right to Life and Keystone Swaddling Clothes. Nancy McHone approved the Gifts from the Heart donation list, seconded and approved. Amber Bayer will be the music leader.

NEW BUSINESS: Margaret Kistler reported that Camp Iodiseca is looking for groups/organizations to adopt a camp flower bed and arrange for its up-keep - mulch and dirt are provided. Planting in the spring and clean up in the fall are mainly needed. She also suggested a day at camp next spring for LWML members to gather and share what kind of activities and projects they are doing so others can find new ideas. Bring materials along to demonstrate and teach others. Martha offered a zoom meeting in Feb. for those interested to share ideas and plan the in-person gathering.

Pastor Vesey led the closing.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Sheryl Zinda
Recording Secretary



LWML Iowa East District Board of Directors Report

MEETING DATE: November 1, 2025

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

IED LWML PRESIDENT: - Martha Hartwig

Attended six fall gatherings

Attended convention committee meetings

Wrote for Alive

Prepared agendas for EC and BOD meetings

Led EC meeting

V.P. ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES: - Margaret Kistler

V.P. CHRISTIAN LIFE: - Elizabeth Roberts Use the lwml.org website to help in planning meetings, events and staying in the word, in various ways. I'm always looking for new material to share with LWML as either devotions, Bible Studies, or skits.

V.P. COMMUNICATION: - Becky Gluesing

I continue to send out email messages and facebook posts as requested.

I have been working with Daniel Sanchez and have recently gotten system administrator rights. I haven't had a chance to work with it but am confident that I will be able to look into some of the inconsistencies in the two factor authentication information and get them corrected. I can always work with Daniel again to get that accomplished.

Historian/Archivist-Vacant

ALIVE Newsletter Editor Annette Raebel

Webmasters - Jeanette Kreutner and Kim Davis

All the wonderful work has been done by Kim. We would like to renew a WP Bakery license which would cost about \$60. Please approve at the November Board meeting

Registrar-Betty Borchardt To keep all the contact information current for the societies in the district, we ask that each zone and society fill out and return an officer's form to the district registrar every year after elections, even if there were no changes of officers. The forms are available on the district website. Click on Resources and then Zone & Society Resources to find the forms. I have printed out and distributed a copy of the forms for each zone. Zone presidents, please remind the leaders of all the societies

in your zone to submit a society officers form including the inactive societies. There is a place for them to furnish contact information for a Contact Person if they do not elect officers. Zone presidents might want to direct their society leaders to also send copies of the forms to you so that you will also have the latest contact information for each of the societies in your zone.

I have received notification that the subscription rate for the Quarterly will remain at \$8.00 for less than ten subscriptions ordered or \$6.50 each for ten or more subscriptions.

V.P. GOSPEL OUTREACH: - Jeanette Kreutner

We have received 19 grants totaling 119,000. We will start to look at these in early November. We have paid 71% of our commitments. The next grant in line to be paid is Word of Hope--Suicide Prevention for Post-Abortive Women which is for 5,000.

We will be paying 3,991 for scholarships in December.

MISSION GRANTS COMMITTEE: will meet in November

STUDENT AID COMMITTEE: - will meet in November

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE: -

V.P. HUMAN CARE: - Kay Berry -

RECORDING SECRETARY: - Sheryl Zinda - Thank you to Patti Christiansen for taking minutes at the Aug. BOD meeting which I submitted. Took minutes for the EC meeting in October. I presented a program on my trip to Greece and Turkey on a Footsteps of Paul tour at the Clinton Zone Fall Gathering.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: - Jennifer Determan

Since the August 9, 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, Misc.)

August 9, 2025	\$ 6,168.25
August 22, 2025	\$ 2,191.60
September 22, 2020	\$ 5,011.99
October 4, 2025	\$ 3,120.01
November 3, 2025	<u>\$ 5,123.60</u> (mailed on 10-30-25)

TOTAL - \$21,615.45

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

TREASURER: - Marna Mohr

- Iowa East District financials as of September 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 \$26,100 has been sent towards that goal. We have fully funded 7 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), \$5000 to Lutheran Heritage Foundation (Project 72). We have partially funded Lutherans for Life \$4000 and King of Kings \$4500. So \$73,100 of our 2024-2026 mission grants have been paid.

We are at about 71% of our goal. Please keep those mites coming in!!

Current financial report stand as follows:

Balance on hand as of	07/01/2025		\$ 5,670.19
Income received since	07/01/2025	+	\$ 22,395.11
Less expenses since	07/01/2025	-	<u>\$ 23,956.40</u>
Balance on hand as of	09/30/2025	=	\$ 4,108.90

The LWML IED Student Aid Endowment Fund balance at the LCMS Foundation stood at \$112,915.48 as of 09/30/2025 (most recent statement).

The LWML IED Joyful Response Steward Account balance at the Lutheran Church Extension Fund stood at \$384.89 as of 09/30/2025 (most recent statement).

COUNSELOR (JR.): - Rev. Mathew Vesey

COUNSELOR (SR.): - Rev. Jon Ellingworth

ZONE PRESIDENTS

Nomination Committee

Benton zone

Cedar Rapids zone

Clinton zone Sheryl Zinda, Immanuel, Grand Mound

Davenport zone - Tammy McKay, Risen Christ, Davenport

Dubuque zone Joann Nesteby, Our Redeemer Dubuque

Eldora zone- Linda Allan, St. Paul's - Latimer

Marshalltown zone-

Mt. Pleasant zone

St. Ansgar zone - Betty Borchardt

Waterloo zone - Judith Fink

Westgate zone-Barb Forsyth

Williamsburg zone

BENTON: - **Connie McQuiston** - Presided over Fall rally at St Johns Lutheran in Newhall. Attended Tasting at The Graduate in IC. Attended multiple Zoom and in person meetings for the 2026 IED Convention.

CEDAR RAPIDS: - **Ginny Boyer-**

The LWML Cedar Rapids Zone Fall Event was held Saturday, October 11th at Zion Lutheran Church. Rev. Gregory Williamson, retired pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran in Marion, was introduced. He is serving as our Pastoral Counselor this morning and led us in the Opening Prayer. Pastor Williamson also served LWML Iowa East as Pastoral Counselor at the Omaha LWML Convention last summer.

Jerry Mays, a member of St. Paul's, Marion, was our speaker. He served three years as a lay missionary in Tanzania, teaching English to Seminarians and others. The pictures were wonderful.

Pastor Williamson led the Bible Study, "It can happen Anywhere-(And aren't you glad!) based on experiences at the Omaha Convention.

The Ingathering was for His Hands Free Medical Clinic. Used eye glasses were also collected for the Our Redeemer group traveling to Panama through MOST (Mission Opportunities Short Term) ministries. 61 were in attendance.

CLINTON: - **Patti Christiansen**

The Clinton Zone Fall Rally was held on September 27th at Immanuel, Charlotte. Pastor Redhage led the bible study "From Saul to Paul, the Conversion". The speaker was Sheryl Zinda who shared photos and information from her trip to Greece and the surrounding area tracing the steps of Paul. The Spring Rally will be held at St. John, Clinton at a date to be determined.

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DAVENPORT: - **Tammy McKay** -

DUBUQUE: - Diane Torrey-

ELDORA: - Joy Reinert .

The Fall Rally was held on Oct. 4 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Wellsburg. The theme was based on Psalm 98:1 "Sing to the Lord a New Song". Kolleen Hosford from the College Hill Music Conservatory was the speaker. The Conservatory offers private lessons on a variety of instruments seeking "to assist in raising up the next generation of church musicians to give God the glory". Another goal "is to promote the rich heritage of Christian music especially of the Lutheran church". The grant money that they received was used to purchase Lutheran Hymns and liturgies. The Ingathering will be used to purchase more music. St. John's Lutheran Church in Hubbard celebrated 100+years of Ladies Aid with a Ladies Social on Oct. 4.

MARSHALLTOWN: - Tammi Christensen

The Marshalltown Fall Rally was held Saturday, September 20, 2025. The theme verse was, Bear One Another's Burdens and So Fulfill the Law of Christ. Galatians 6:2 The rally was hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church in Knoxville. There were 35 members present along with 2 pastors, 3 guests and 3 children. Rev. Alex Post led Responsive Prayer 2 and the Bible Study, "Blessings and Burdens". Elections were held. Tamra Van Haften was elected as secretary. The program was presented by Dewayne Dierschow, Trisha Adams and Gretchen Hartwig from Orphan Grain Train. We assembled 118 health kits for Orphan Grain Train and a love offering of \$373 was given as well. The spring rally will be hosted by the ladies of St. Paul Lutheran in Lacona.

MT. PLEASANT: - Becky Ernst .

ST. ANSGAR: - Betty Borchardt - The Fall Event was held on October 18th at St. Peter's, Riceville. Registration and refreshments began at 8:15 AM. The opening worship was led by Pastor Matthias Wollberg. The offering was \$419. And there were 35 members, 2 pastors and 4 guests in attendance. Election of officers was held with Betty Borchardt elected for a second term as president and Beverly Haeflinger elected as secretary. Pastor Mark Squire, Immanuel, St. Ansgar led the Bible Study. The Christian Life committee presented a skit, "Where are They ", highlighting what not to do when inviting new members to LWML. The servant event was assembling and packing 60 Student Kits, 60 School kits, 40 Hygiene Kits and 69 Disaster Cleaning Buckets. These kits along with a trailer load of quilts, clothing, additional kits and miscellaneous items were delivered the next Tuesday to the Orphan Grain Train warehouse in Clemons.

WATERLOO: - Nancy McHone - Our Fall Gathering was held October 25th at Faith

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Lutheran. We had a total of 28 in attendance plus 3 pastors. Our speakers were from the UNI Dementia House. The program defined dementia and helped those in

attendance learn to become “dementia friends”. Zone elections were held. Pastor Richter continues as our Pastoral Counselor. Treasurer Gail Noltensmeyer and secretary Celia Simmer consented to another term in their respective offices. The Spring Prayer Service/Gathering will be hosted by Grace Lutheran in Waterloo on Saturday February 21st. Times and particulars TBD.

WESTGATE: - Barbara Forsyth- The Westgate Zone held a Servant Event/Day in September. 16 women from the Zone participated in assembling 525 “Crosses for Benny” to be sent to the LWML Mission Grant recipient, Forged by Fire. We also spent time cutting and sewing eyeglass cases for the upcoming IED Eyeglass Mission Trip to Belize. Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow! - 563 Eyeglass cases, 208 prescription glasses and 277 sunglasses were donated from the churches and societies of the Westgate Zone and were packed by the Mission Team on October 4th. Our Fall Rally, Camping for JOY, was held, October 18th at Our Redeemer, Independence, hosted by societies from Peace, Oelwein and Our Redeemer. Opening Bible Study was led by Pastor J. Weideman, on Proverbs 22:6. Our speaker was Dylan Lampe from camp IODESECA. He informed us of the camp’s programs and upgrades they hope to be working on. Cash donations and items from the camps’ need list were collected and sent with Dylan. Newly elected officers - VPRES. - Karen Schultz and Secretary - Elloha Quigley and Pastor T Post consented to continue as our Zone Counselor. Spring Rally is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 11th, 2026 at St. Paul, Readlyn. Our Grief Support Committee has a Grief Workshop scheduled for Saturday, April 18th, with Pastor Kincaid as the speaker. The workshop will be held at St. Peter, Westgate.

WILLIAMSBURG- Jo Johnson-Our fall rally was held at St James in Victor on October 2nd. Pancake breakfast was served by the ladies. Barbara Hoffmeier was our guest speaker with MOST Ministries. She spoke of the different trips offered by MOST as well as the one coming up in November with the group from Iowa East District. The theme of the day was the story of Jesus healing the blind man from John 9:1-12. Pastor James Preus led us in a bible study. Eyeglasses were collected as well as a cash donation for MOST Ministries. Spring rally will be hosted by St John’s of Victor.

APPOINTED PERSONNEL

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MEETING MANAGER: - Bonnie Thompson

Meetings and Refreshment Cards

ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN :

PARLIAMENTARIAN: - **Judy Westergren.** I answer questions to the best of my ability regarding parliamentary procedure whenever asked.

SPEAKERS BUREAU COORDINATOR: - **Linda Allan:** This chairman enjoyed being a delegate to the Omaha LWML Convention. With plans to attend the November District board meeting, I will bring forms for: 1) referring candidates for Speaker, 2) verification of contact info to be sent to Speakers, 3) the form letter I hope to use making these contacts with Speakers currently and/or referred for the list. Thanks for everyone's patience!

WORLD RELIEF COORDINATOR: -

LWML CONVENTION BUS COORDINATOR: **Misty Lutz**

SHORT-TERM MISSION COORDINATOR: - **Gretchen Rasmussen** - Departure day is only weeks away! The LWML IED Eyeglass Mission Team met in person on October 4 to pack supplies and learn how to conduct an eyeglass clinic. IED ladies responded with gusto to the appeal for new sunglasses and fabric eyeglass cases! We received all the needed supplies for our trip PLUS a surplus of donations to send on to MOST Ministries for use on future trips. To God be the glory! Please keep us and those we will serve in prayer during our time in Belize from November 15 - 22. Visit our MOST Ministries blog <https://donjanlange.wixsite.com/most-ministries-beli> to see pictures from the recent training and follow us for regular updates while we're in Orange Walk, Belize!

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

2026 RETREAT CO-CHAIRS: - **Mt. Pleasant**

IED CONVENTION CO-CHAIRS:

Sheryl Dermody:

Music Leader: Amber Bayer is a graduate of CUNE, Seward with a major in Music Education and member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grinnell where she serves as the church organist. She is currently the K-12 Music Teacher at HLV Schools in Victor.

Convention Song: Choir Selection - "Like A Tree"

T-Shirts: The Convention T-shirts and Full-Zip Hoodie will all be offered in dark purple and have a full-size logo. The Extra Soft t-shirts will be available in short or long sleeves with imprinting on the front. The Extra Soft Hoodie will have imprinting on the back. Early ordering is available today at the IED Board Meeting and will be delivered at the February IED Board Meeting. Ordering will also be available on the Convention Registration.

Bonnie Thompson:

Food

Bags

Carolyn Zimmerman:

Registration

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: - Annette Raebel - Themes for 2026 *Alive* issues are as follows:

- ❖ Spring 2026 -- Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).
- ❖ Summer 2026 -- Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths (Proverbs 3:5-6).
- ❖ Fall 2026 -- But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint (Isaiah 40:31).
- ❖ Winter 2026 -- For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8).

Currently, I use the program "Publisher" to put together the *Alive* issues. I have heard that they will be ending support for that program, but I have also been told that this has been said before as well. I would just like to know if anyone has any other options or suggestions that I could look into. If so, please email me at editor@lwml-ied.org.

Give thanks to God that we currently have 217 members on our *Alive* mailing list and it continues to grow!! Praise be to the Lord!!!

You will be getting an email from me, but just a note that all articles for the next *Alive* issue are due to me by November 10, 2025. Thank you so much!

ASSISTANT NEWSLETTER EDITOR: - Loretta Wuerdeman

G SUITE ADMINISTRATOR: -OPEN

COMMITTEES:

NEW CHURCH WORKERS WELCOMING COMMITTEE: -Tammi Christensen

A welcome packet was sent in August to Rev. Jesse Schlie at St. John, Denver. The following staff at Valley Lutheran also received a Welcome Packet in August: Katie Pahlkotter, Scott Fischer, Holly Carolus, Angie Oberbroeckling and Carmen Wipf. If you know of a new church worker please send me their name, their position, when they will be installed or begin work and the name of their church or school. Thank you!

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

Friendly reminder to pray for YWR's at our District convention next June- and hopefully there will be young women representing your zone! At this time, our webmaster is uploading the application form onto our IED website to share with interested young women. I will bring a printed copy of the application for each zone president when we meet Nov 1. Friendly reminder – the zone YWR representative(s) paid expenses are determined and paid by their zone.

Plus, there are lots of new young pastor wives in IED –consider asking those in your zone to be a “Young Woman in Mission”. Thanks!

STRUCTURE COMMITTEE: -

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMITTEE: -

HUMAN CARE COMMITTEE:

Attendance 11/1/25

Present:

Martha Hartwig, President

Sheryl Zinda, Recording Secretary

Marna Mohr, Treasurer

Liz Roberts, VP of Christian Life

Margaret Kistler, VP of Organizational Resources

Becky Gluesing, VP of Communication

Kay Berry, VP of Human Care

Rev. Matthew Vesey, Jr. Pastoral Counselor

Rev. Jon Ellingworth, Sr. Pastoral Counselor

Judy Westergren, Parliamentarian

Joy Reinert, Eldora Zone President

Diane Torrey, Dubuque Zone President

Jo Johnson, Williamsburg Zone President

Nancy McHone, Waterloo Zone President

Betty Borchardt, St. Ansgar Zone President and District Registrar

Barb Forsyth, Westgate Zone President

Tammy McKay, Davenport Zone President

Becky Ernst, Mt. Pleasant Zone President

Patti Christiansen, Clinton Zone President

Jan Brown, Archivist/Historian

Gretchen Rasmussen, Short-term Mission Coordinator

Loretta Vogt, 2026 Convention Committee Secretary

Loretta Wuerdeman, Alive Assistant Editor

Ginny Boyer, Cedar Rapids Zone President

Connie McQuiston, Benton Zone President

Bonnie Thompson, Meeting Manager and 2026 convention co-chair

Carole Spiehs, Eldora Zone Member Development

Clarissa Spiehs, Eldora Zone Vice President

Karen Kuesel, Christian Life Committee

Linda Allan, Speaker's Bureau

Karen Boehme, Member Development

