



**Lutheran
Women
in Mission**
NEW ENGLAND
DISTRICT

PASS IT ON

July 2026



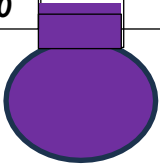
We hope you are enjoying these issues of “Pass It On” -- a tool that you can use to share the latest, most up-to-date information on what is happening in the **Lutheran Women in Mission-New England District (LWML-NED)** and nationally. For more news and information, visit www.lwml-ned.org

LWML-NED Mission Goal

for 2026-2028 is \$87,000

2026-2028 LWML-NED MISSION GRANTS

\$87,000	
\$85,000	MISSION GOAL \$87,000 ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:
\$80,000	\$55,280 for LWML-NED Mission Projects;
\$70,000	\$21,250 for National LWML Mission Projects; and
\$60,000	\$8,700 for LWML-NED District Administration.
\$50,000	
\$40,000	
\$30,000	TOTAL MITE money through June 30, 2026
\$20,000	Is \$9,915.53 and is 11 % of Goal.
\$10,000	



Please **save and remit** your **Mite** donations payable to **LWML-NED**

Our Mission Grants enable us to share the love of Christ locally, nationally, and internationally.

SEND MITES TO: Barbara Lis, Treasurer
LWML-New England District
P.O. Box 932, Niantic, CT 06357

We are now working on the 2026-2028 LWML-NED Mission Grants:

1b	LWML-NED Church Worker Scholarships (Amt funded to-date \$3,445.09)	\$7,000
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PLEASE KEEP OUR MITE RECIPIENTS IN YOUR PRAYERS AS YOU FEED YOUR MITE BOX.

NOTE: TO PRINT PIO WITHOUT COLOR, SELECT “GREYSCALE” WHEN YOU PRINT.

Pass It On July 2026 Lemonade



We have all heard it before: “If you are handed lemons – make lemonade.” And that is exactly what we did earlier this month. Off we went to a cruise on the Elbe River. We were to start in Berlin and end in Prague. But alas --- when we landed in Germany, we were told that due to the lack of rain, the river was too low to cruise on. So, we stayed on the ship but never left the dock. Now this was somewhat upsetting and discouraging to some of the passengers – but we (my husband, sister and I) decided to make lemonade – and we did. We enjoyed all the excursions (albeit - many hours on the bus) and saw all the sites we had intended to.

Life is like that sometimes. Disappointments happen; the unexpected occurs; sickness hits a loved one. The question is - what do we do as Christians? How do we handle things? Does the world know we are believers in Christ by how we manage adversities? Do we show a positive attitude when we are faced with hardship?

Lucky us – we Christians don’t have to do it alone. Christ is there for us 24-7! Reach out to Him. Pray to Him for guidance. He will not abandon us in our time of need.

Hosea 6:2 – “...that we may live in His presence.”

Lemons happen to each and everyone

Eliminating them cannot be done.

Must we take the bull by the horn

On we go - we cannot be forlorn

Never try to do it without God’s hand

As we know He is always in command

Do open your heart – ask the Lord to guide

Everything will be fine with Him at your side.

Yours in Christian Love,

June

Dr. June Rae Merwin; President, LWML-NED

june.merwin@gmail.com; 860-581-0379

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
250TH
Anniversary

HIS Story through History:
★ Faithful Women ★

LWML District 2026-2028 Mission Grants

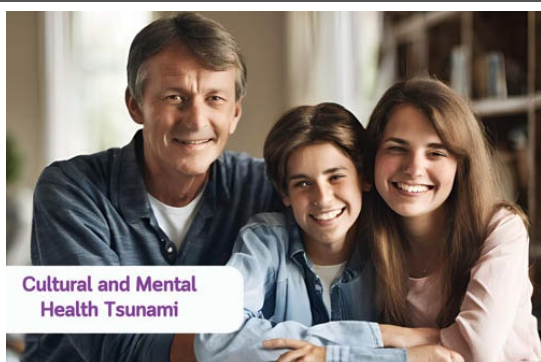
1b. LWML-NED Church Worker Scholarships – \$7000

This funding will provide financial assistance to Lutheran students in our district who are attending LCMS colleges and seminaries, preparing to become pastors, teachers, and other church workers.

LWML National 2025-2027 Mission Grant #11

NOT ALONE: Gospel Help for Families in Crisis

Lutheran Family Service, Iowa | \$92,500



Mental health problems, suicide attempts, gender identity confusion and transition, alienation from family and church ... the number of young people and their parents who are devastated by this cultural and mental health tsunami is rising every day, destroying faith, lives, and families. The number of people who identify as transgender has doubled in recent years. Those who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual are more likely to have mental health problems and suicidal thoughts and attempts.

About This Mission Grant

The number of serious mental health problems, suicide attempts, gender identity confusion and transition, and alienation from family and church is impacting young people and their parents. These cultural and mental health issues are destroying faith, lives, and families. Because of the stigma surrounding these topics, it is often difficult for Christian families to ask for help. They would like care that is scripturally sound, and Gospel-focused.

Lutheran Family Service (LFS) provides teams of LCMS pastors and licensed Christian mental health therapists who bring help through in-person and virtual education events, lead support groups, and provide individualized Gospel-focused care to the increasing number of families facing these mental health issues. Many LCMS parents facing these circumstances feel isolated and alone and are at risk of leaving the church. This grant will fund teams of LCMS pastors and licensed mental health therapists to provide Gospel-focused care for families.

THIS GRANT IS FULLY FUNDED.

LWML History: To date, 84 countries have been touched by LWML Mission Grants. The first mission grant in 1943 was given to Christ Chapel for the Deaf in Cleveland, Ohio. The mission grant total in 1943 was \$15,000 and at the 2025 Omaha convention the total was \$2,622,270. How amazing is it that the Lord has grown our giving throughout the years!





Lutheran Women Fall Gathering

The LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION, **MOUNTAIN LAUREL ZONE** will meet on Saturday, **September 26th** at 10:00AM at Zion Lutheran Church, 235 Pond Hill Road, **Wallingford, CT**. Please **SAVE THE DATE!** Send an email to MtLaurelZone@lwml-ned.org if you have any questions. The Mountain Laurel Zone includes LCMS churches from Ashaway RI, Bantam, Cheshire, Groton, Madison, Meriden, Middletown, Naugatuck, New London, Niantic, Orange, & Wallingford CT. All women are welcome!

The **mountain laurel** is one of America's most beautiful native flowers with its pink and white elegant umbrella-like shape. Its blossoms stand out starkly against the deep green backdrops of **the woodlands** in New England, growing best in acidic soil, shade and cool humid climates. **Mountain laurels** are found along the state's roads and gardens in late spring to early summer, with the earliest sightings dating back four centuries. In 1907, the General Assembly chose the flower after 3,000 women sent its sprigs to lawmakers.

Connecticut shares their official flower with Pennsylvania.





LWML Toolkit Kits are kit suggestions that you can use for **GIFTS FROM THE HEART** in your district, zone, and local groups. Be sure to know where your kits will be given before you start collecting. It is suggested that agencies be contacted to be sure they can take the kits and in what quantity. Different agencies may also request certain items to better serve their clients. These kit lists are simply a "jumping off" point to use as you share God's love and serve the Lord with Gladness.

List found on LWML website

<https://lwml.360unite.com/posts/free-resources/lwml-toolkit-kits>

LWML Tool Kit Ideas for Ingathering's List:

Baptism Kits; Care Giver Kit; College Kit; Construction Worker Treats Kit; First Responder Kit; Homeless Kit; Military Kit; New Mom and New Baby Kit; Orphan Grain Train and Lutheran World Relief Kits; Prison Inmate kit; Shut-In and Nursing Home Kit; Sick or Hospitalized Child Kit; and Teacher Kit.



LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION – NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

2026 FALL RETREAT

NOVEMBER 6-7, 2026



SPEAKER: SHARLA FRITZ



About the author

Sharla Fritz has been described as an amazing eye-opening speaker and author. She helps women who feel they are pulled in a hundred different directions find soul rest by helping them connect to Christ—the Healer of souls. By delving into God’s Word, she helps her readers discover their next step of faith.

Sharla makes her home in the Chicago area where she is also a pastor’s wife, mother, grandmother, musician, and confirmed chocoholic. And if she isn’t sitting at her piano or computer, you might find her stalking fabulous fashion finds at the local resale shop.

THEME: HEALER OF MY SOUL

Retreat will be held at the **Hilton-DoubleTree Hotel at Bradley Airport**
16 Ella T. Grasso Turnpike, Windsor Locks, CT 06096

HOTEL REGISTRATION

Contact the Reservation Desk: 866-627-5171 and **remember** to mention you are with the LWML RETREAT to get the discount room price of **\$ 159.00 plus tax = \$182.85**.

Each Hotel Room can hold up to 4 women. Saturday lunch comes with Registration.

RETREAT REGISTRATION will open at **4:00 PM** on Friday and **7:30 AM** on Saturday.

Friday evening **Program** will start at **7:00 PM**. Dinner will be on your own.

Saturday – **Program** starts at **8:30 AM**. Breakfast will be on your own. Lunch will be a buffet.

Gifts from the Heart:



We will support our three LCMS-New England District Lutheran Schools. Bring any of these items: Gift cards to Walmart/Staples, boxes of tissues, sanitizing wipes, poster board, poster paint, packages of construction paper, colored highlighters, colored pencils, and crayons.

Crafts, etc.: Please donate crafts, appropriate books, jewelry, handwork items, home canned pickles, relishes, butters, etc. All proceeds will support our Mission Grants.

Silent Auction: One wrapped Gift Basket from each Zone will be in the Auction. However, anyone who wants to bring a basket of gifts may join the Auction,



LWML-NED CALENDAR OF EVENTS



DATE	LOCATION	FUNCTION	OTHER INFO
SEPT 26, 2026 10:00 AM	ZION Lutheran Church, 235 Pond Hill Rd Wallingford, CT	FALL GATHERING	Contact: Janine Fagan
NOV 6, 2026 2:00 PM	Hilton-DoubleTree At Bradley Airport	LWML-NED BOARD MEETING	Contact: June Merwin
NOV 6, 2026 Friday 4:00 PM Saturday 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Hilton-DoubleTree At Bradley Airport	2026 FALL RETREAT Speaker: Sharla Fritz Theme: Healer of my Soul	Contact: Delberta Novicki
JUL 8-11, 2027 Thu, Jul 8 th thru Sun, Jul 11 th	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	42nd BIENNIAL LWML NATIONAL CONVENTION "Transformed In Christ" Romans 12:2	Contact: June Merwin

NEW PAPERBACK!



A collection of 20 devotions reflecting on God's continual blessings.

Available at CPH

<https://lwml.cph.org/p-34728-devotions-for-all-seasons>

A NOTE FROM CHRISTINA

FALL RETREAT

Greetings my LWML sisters,

Just a reminder about the craft table at the Retreat in November! We need handcrafted things, like ornaments, and decorations. We could use knitted items, home canned pickles, relishes, butters.

Also, a reminder for the gift baskets from each zone. More than one if the mood strikes you. I would also like appropriate books.

Hope everyone has a wonderful safe blessed summer! See you all in the fall.

May God richly bless you all,

Christina Anop



LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION - NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

2026 FALL RETREAT REGISTRATION

NOVEMBER 6/7, 2026



Speaker: SHARLA FRITZ
Theme: "HEALER OF MY SOUL"



Name:	
Street Address:	
City:	State: Zip Code:
Home Church:	City: State:
LWML Zone:	Phone: (h)
Email:	(c)

REGISTRATION: \$65

NO One-Day Registration.

FIRST TIME ATTENDEE: \$60

Send **CHECK** (payable to **LWML-NED**) and **Registration Form** to:

Patricia Heather at 606 Waverly Road, Middleboro, MA 02346

Registration Forms **must be submitted no later than** **Monday, October 26, 2026.**

RETREAT REGISTRATION STARTS at 4:00 PM FRIDAY and 7:30 AM SATURDAY.

Friday Program starts 7:00 PM. **Saturday Program** starts 8:30 AM. **Check-out** Saturday 11:00 AM.

List food allergies/health issues: _____.

Your Signature _____ **Date** _____

SATURDAY: Breakfast will be on your own. Registration comes with a buffet lunch.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: The retreat will be held at **Hilton-DoubleTree at Bradley Airport**, 16 Ella T. Grasso Turnpike, Windsor Locks, CT 06096. Make your reservations by contacting the **Reservation Desk: 866-627-5171** and **remember** to mention you are with the **LWML RETREAT** to get the discount room rate of **\$ 159.00 plus tax = \$182.85.**

GIFTS FROM THE HEART:  Please support our three LCMS-NED Lutheran Schools. Bring any of these items to retreat: Gift cards to Walmart/Staples, boxes of tissues, sanitizing wipes, poster board, poster paint, packages of construction paper, colored highlighters, colored pencils, and crayons.

SILENT AUCTION:  Each Zone to bring a wrapped Basket of Gifts for the Silent Auction. If anyone wants to bring a Gift Basket to add, you may. There will be **Crafts** tables, proceeds go to Mission Grants!

CHECK HERE IF YOU ARE A FIRST TIME ATTENDEE: _____