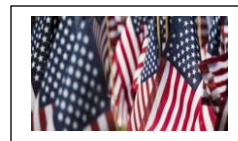




PASS IT ON

May 2021

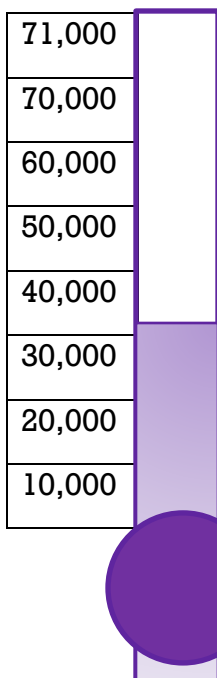


We hope you are enjoying these issues of "Pass It On" — a tool that you can use to share the latest, most up-to-date information on what is happening in the **Lutheran Women Missionary League-New England District (LWML-NED)** * and nationally.

For more news and information, visit www.lwml-ned.org



Mission Goal for 2020-2022 is \$71,000



2020-2022 LWML-NED MISSION GRANT

Mission Goal \$71,000 allocated as follows:

\$46,150 for LWML-NED Mission Projects.

\$17,750 for national LWML Mission Projects; and \$7,100 for Lutheran Womens Missionary League-New England District Administration.

Total Mite Money thru April 30, 2021 is \$23,947.71 ...33.7 % of Goal



Please **continue to save and remit your Mite donations.**

Our Mission Grants enable us to share the love of Christ locally, nationally, and internationally and continues even during COVID-19.

SEND MITES TO: Susan Lastowski, Treasurer
LWML-New England District
P.O. Box 626, Holyoke, MA 01041

This is the Grant we are currently working:

Grant 4	Lydia Comfort Dog Messiah Lutheran Church, Lynnfield, MA (Received to date \$4,366.01)	\$ 5,000
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*The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS). The LWML-New England District (LWML-NED) is a part of the National LWML. Since 1942, the LWML has been encouraging women to use their God-given gifts to serve the Lord with gladness and to support global missions.



FROM OUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT



Dear Sisters in Mission:

Spring is my favorite time of year. What a welcome sight those first purple crocuses are each year as they signal that winter is nearing its end and spring is on its way with its beautiful flowers, warmer temperatures, and longer days. The beautiful flowers always remind me of the words of Jesus from the Sermon on the Mount recorded in Matthew 6: 25-34. In these verses, Jesus teaches us using the examples of the birds of the air and the lilies of the field. We wake in the morning to the birds singing praise to God and watch them as they fly off to find the food the Lord has provided for them. The lilies, through no effort of their own, bloom in splendor more glorious than the royal garments worn by King Solomon. Jesus tells us not to worry about our earthly needs because if God provides for the birds and the flowers, He will provide for us, His beloved children.

If you watch the PBS television show, *Antiques Roadshow*, you know that the worth of an object is what someone is willing to pay for it. How much was God willing to pay for you? You are so loved by God that He paid with the life of His Son to redeem you and give you the free gift of salvation. Satan tries to get you to be anxious about the things of this life so as to take your focus off God. So even during these uncertain times, you need not worry about your life in this world. Do not let Satan steal the joy God gives to you. Today is God's gift to you. Leave in His hands what today and the next day and the next day will bring, trusting in Him. *Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you (Matthew 6:31-33).*

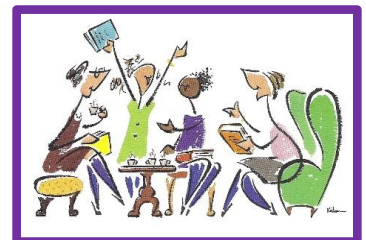
Assured of our salvation and God's providence in this life, we can spend our time in this life carrying out the task Jesus gave us in the Great Commission of sharing the Gospel message. We share the Good News with our friends and families and through our local church with our communities, and through the LCMS and the LWML we share it throughout the country and the world. Sharing the message so others can share in eternal life is why the LWML was founded, and it is still our focus today. Please continue to pray for our mission projects and give as you have been blessed.

This month please also pray for the delegates to the National LWML Convention who will be voting May 23-29 on the mission grants for the 2021-2023 biennium.

Sharon P. Dever

Sharon P. Dever
LWML-NED President

A Lively Bible Study Group



LWML-NED **Current** Mission Project



Lydia Comfort Dog

\$5,000

(Messiah Lutheran Church, Lynnfield, MA)



PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY



"WE ALWAYS THANK GOD FOR ALL OF YOU AND CONTINUALLY MENTION YOU IN OUR PRAYERS." 1 Thessalonians 1:2

Lydia is a trained LCC K-9 Comfort Dog at Messiah Lutheran Church in Lynnfield, MA. She serves every day in the community in which she is placed and is deployed in times of disaster and crisis to bring comfort to all those affected, including first responders and the volunteers who serve them. Lydia is a friend who brings a calming influence and allows people to open their hearts and receive help for what is affecting them. Comfort Dogs are available to visit your church or group.

2019-2021 LWML National Goal met - \$2.1M

2019-2021 **National** Mission Grant 21



LCMS Deaconess Ministry **LCMS Office of International Mission - \$39,523**



Students in South Africa



Students in Philippines with resources purchased by LWML

LCMS Deaconesses are women who are full time professional church workers, trained to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a ministry of works of mercy, spiritual care, and teaching the Christian faith. The LCMS Deaconess Ministry program will provide LCMS students the opportunity to become a church professional, learning and training to understand the diaconal leadership, the work of deaconesses as applied to body and soul ministry. This grant will provide educational and financial support to our partner churches who introduced deaconess training programs within their church bodies like the Philippines, Latvia, Liberia, Indonesia, Malaysia, and India.

A Mission Update from Christina Anop

CIMA FAMILY IN CAMBODIA



This month took an unexpected turn when we received news that



Aimee's mom, Jan, was struggling in her battle with pancreatic cancer. We quickly decided to send Aimee and Isaac to Virginia to be with her mom and dad. They have arrived safely and are just completing their self-quarantine. Jan continues to decline overall, but the situation has stabilized since

last week. Because we were already planning a trip to the US this summer (see below!), and due to the difficulty and expense of quarantine procedures upon re-entry into Cambodia, we thought it best for Aimee and Isaac to remain in Virginia until the girls and I join them in early June. Though the occasion for Aimee's travel is unfortunate, we rejoice that the COVID-19 situation in the US has improved enough that a trip is even possible. Moreover, Isaac will have the chance to go to preschool for several weeks at King of Glory Lutheran Church and School in Williamsburg, VA. Even as infection numbers decline in the United States, the virus is now spreading rapidly in Cambodia. Early in March, all people in Phnom Penh were mandated to wear masks in public areas. By the middle of March, inter-provincial travel was severely restricted. Further, at the end of March, Phnom Penh was placed under curfew orders. All travel is prohibited (save for certain emergency exceptions) between the hours of 8pm and 5am. J.P. and the girls are finding new routines together, including working on more puzzles and other crafts. Moreover, J.P. is afforded a bit more time to wrap up reading for his comprehensive exams. This is by far the longest stretch of time we have been separated as a family, and the complications caused by COVID-19 don't help. But we have full confidence Aimee and Isaac are where they are needed most at this time. The words of 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (below) capture well our feelings during this Holy Week.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Wanna help us impact the people of Cambodia? Give online here, or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 (payable to The Lutheran Church —Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia."

PRAYERS: for Jan as the cancer takes over, that she would experience no pain and take comfort in the incredible Easter hope Jesus has won for her; for Aimee as she helps her dad care for her mom; for Celeste and Bella as they continue in online school; for budding plans for a video teaching series for Khmer church leaders; for J.P.'s upcoming teaching on Hosea (delayed from March by COVID-19).

In Other News:

We are thrilled to maintain connections in Vietnam. J.P. serves on the Board of Trustees for [Concordia International School Hanoi](#) (CISH). Over the past several months, he co-chaired the Search Committee to find CISH's next Head of School. Praise God that [Dr. Doug Grove accepted the call](#) to serve at this beloved school! He will follow Steve Winkelman, Concordia's outstanding founding Head, who has accepted a call as Head at [Concordia in Shanghai](#).

We are coming to the US!

Bella (right) is getting very excited that she, Celeste, and J.P. will join Aimee and Isaac in the US in early June, with the whole family returning to Cambodia in late July. During our time in the US, we are delighted to visit supporting congregations as the COVID-19 situation allows. Please reach out to us if you'd like to schedule a visit!



2

Vol 15 No 3
March '21

**Cima family
Newsletter**

John.Cima@lcms.org
Aimee.Cima@lcms.org

June 24-27, 2021 LWML 39th Biennial Convention

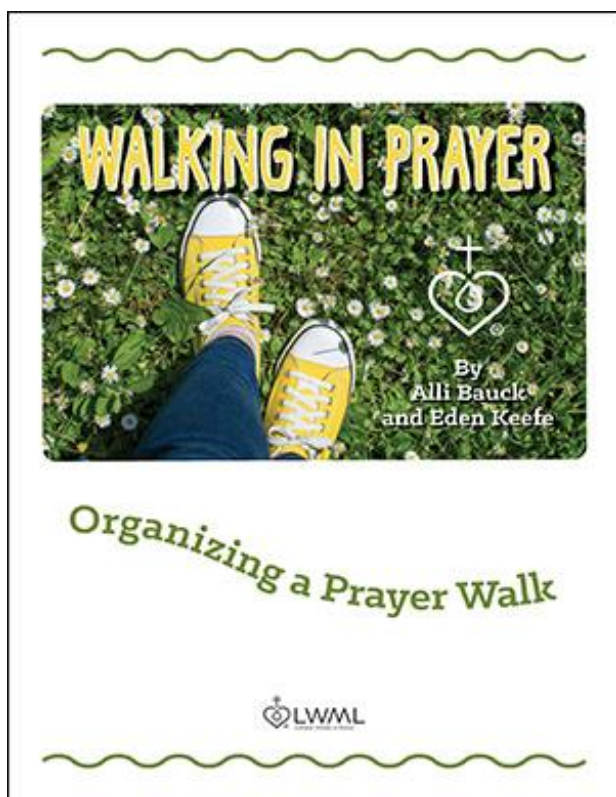
IMPORTATION NOTICE: *Convention Registration Temporarily Closed!*

This is due to Covid-19 venue limits, we expect it to change by June. Those going but **not registered** we suggest you **get online, register, and get on the “waitlist”**.

Plans for convention: Be sure to check the website for updates.

Pray for our women as they prepare to attend convention. May the Lord guide each representative, delegate, convention personnel, and guest as they expedite their respective duties; meet and greet new/old friends; listen and learn; worship together; see Convention Center booths; share their Gifts from the Heart; etc.

Prayer Walk Guide Now Available



Organizing a Prayer Walk with the **women in your congregation** is a great interactive tool to encourage individual prayer time. This new guide to organizing a prayer walk, by Alli Bauck and Eden Keefe, includes a dozen ideas for interactive exercises for use in your Prayer Walk, with participants pausing at several stations to focus on a prayer exercise. The exercises are organized into four different categories: Devotion/Prayer, Interactive Scripture, Mission Service, and Visual Prayer. Guide sheets and links to several additional prayer resources are included. Download your free printable PDF of the [“Walking in Prayer: Organizing a Prayer Walk”](https://lwml.org/Walking-in-Prayer-Organizing-a-Prayer-Walk) from [*lwml.org*](https://lwml.org).



Concordia Publishing House is offering a **special on Arch Books for Convention**. Books will be delivered directly to Lexington. The deadline to place an order is May 23, 2021. Use the promo code **“GFTH”** at checkout to receive the discounted prices. Visit [https:// books.cph.org/lwml-gifts-from-the-heart](https://books.cph.org/lwml-gifts-from-the-heart) and click **“Order Online”** to go directly to the registry and select the books.

“AS LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION, WE JOYFULLY PROCLAIM CHRIST, SUPPORT MISSIONS, AND EQUIP WOMEN TO HONOR GOD BY SERVING OTHERS.”



2021, June 24-27 LWML 39th Biennial Convention

... "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus,"

convention theme based on Hebrews 12:1-2.

Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, Lexington, Kentucky.



RUNNING TO LEXINGTON — The LWML convention, June 24-27, 2021, will host Ruth Reichert Martin, executive director of Mission Opportunities Short-Term (MOST) Ministries. She will share about their grant which supports the recruitment of whole families into mission work, which has a positive impact on the lives of those they serve, as well as on the families themselves. We will be "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus."

2021, November 5-6 LWML-New England District RETREAT



Friday 7:00 PM through Saturday 3:00 PM

"BE THOU MY VISION (In Such a Time as This)"

Bible Study with Donna Snow Pyle, Speaker and Author

Plus, a slide presentation from many of our supported Missions

Double Tree Hotel at Bradley Airport 860-627-5171

www.hilton.com/doubletree

Address questions: Call: June Merwin 860-581-0379; Email: june.merwin@gmail.com

2022, April 29-30 LWML-New England District Convention

"Let there be Light" Genesis 1:3

- Hosted by Eastern Zone; located at Holiday Inn, Taunton, MA 508-823-0430
- Every society can send 2 delegates to vote for Mission Goal and Projects.



Deaf Ministry Outreach

Have you always wanted to learn a new language?

Here is your opportunity! Why not try your "hands" at learning **sign language**?

The LWML recently launched a new outreach to the Deaf community: www.lwml.org/deaf-ministry. The primary focus is to educate, encourage, and connect members of the LWML with our Deaf and Hard of Hearing sisters so we may welcome them as participants at all LWML events.

One of the favorite resources for this ministry on the LWML website is www.asldeafined.com. Just enter a word like "Jesus" or "Bible" in the search box, and a short video will pop up showing you how to sign that word.



Happy Sign-ing!