

## LWML NID

A COMMUNICATION FOR  
WOMEN OF THE  
NORTHERN ILLINOIS  
DISTRICT OF LUTHERAN  
WOMEN IN MISSION

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# NID-Bits

## Featured Grant:

**Lutheran Indian  
Ministry  
Youth Night**

*See Story page 5.*



## Spring and New Life



*by Janice Gerzevske, LWML NID President*

Spring brings new life to the world around us—trees get their leaves, flowers bloom—life returns to bulbs, trees and bushes which appeared to be “dead” during winter.

As a Christian new life means resurrection--the rising of Christ from

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the dead on the third day. Easter is the time of year when we celebrate Christ's "new life." For the Christian our new life began when we were baptized—our old man was drowned in the water of holy baptism and the new man resurrected. That new life is available to us only because of the death of Christ on a cross outside Jerusalem.

Our new life provided through the suffering and death of our Savior provides each of us with the opportunity to serve our Savior—to be his hands and feet in the world. Serving the least of these can be as simple as being a prayer warrior praying for others, sending a greeting card to someone who is sick, has suffered a loss or just needs a friendly reminder that someone is thinking of them, it may be working in a food pantry or going on a mission trip or sewing Dignity4Girls kits.

Showing Christ's love to our friends, family and neighbors reminds us that it is only because of God's grace and mercy that we can celebrate our "new life" clothed in Jesus' robes of righteousness.

## Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*(Go ahead and say it. You know you want to.)*



*Pastor Swanson  
Senior LWML NID Pastoral Counselor,  
and Pastor of King of Glory Lutheran  
Church in Elgin, IL*

I just love hearing those words come Easter Sunday. As I sit down to write this it is not Easter Sunday yet. It's

Wednesday of Holy Week and there is still much to be witnessed in this Passion week. Tomorrow Jesus will gather his disciples in an upper room to celebrate the Passover and there He will institute something new. A sacrament like none other, one we will come to refer to as The Lord's Supper among other things. Before we can get to the "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" we'll step through the darkness of Good Friday. After all, resurrection can't come before death and the grave. But then finally, it will happen. The dawning of Easter morning. The sun just peeking over the horizon breaking the darkness with those first rays of light. Astonishment awaits the women as they make their way to the tomb, prepared to anoint the dead body of Jesus but then the unexpected happens. What was foretold but not understood became

### A Look at **Lenten Inspiration 2019**



*Past LWML NID District Presidents: Barb Belanski (left) selling and Jan Mauer (right) buying*



*Chatting before worship . . . as we do!*



*Coffee and . . .*

**More on page 8**

a reality. The stone was rolled away. The tomb was empty. Jesus was not there and so...(wait for it.)

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN, INDEED! ALLELUIA!

As many times as I've heard that, as many times as I've said that, it never grows old. Nor should it, after all, a risen Christ changes everything. The Apostle Paul captures the gravity of this moment with all of its ramifications as he writes the church in Corinth. "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins...But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by one man came death, by a man has come the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive (1 Cor. 15:17, 20-22)."

By the time you read this Easter Sunday will have come and gone. All the special music, the flowers, the Easter breakfasts will once again be a thing of the past but not so with Easter itself. Let us never forget that everyday is a little Easter. Everyday is a day to celebrate the gift of life we have in Christ and the hope we have in the resurrection. Each of us was once dead in our trespasses and sin but by the grace of God you are now made alive in Christ. Could it be that each day we lift our voices to proclaim this life changing truth...Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

**Say Yes!** *By Lauren Olsen, Nominating Committee Chairman* [nominatingcommchair@lwmlnid.org](mailto:nominatingcommchair@lwmlnid.org)

LWML NID Convention 2020 will be here before you know it! Now is the time to begin thinking about our slate of officers and who will serve in a variety of positions. Could that be you? You have talents that you can share in a special way through LWML NID!

We are looking for candidates for the following positions: Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Convention Chairman, and Nominating Committee from North, South, East, and West Regions. Please feel free to read the descriptions of each position in our bylaws <https://www.lwmlnid.org/wp-content/uploads/LWML-NID-bylaws.pdf>.

If after prayerful consideration you would like to be considered for one of these positions, please fill out the Nomination Form at <https://forms.gle/QgkJ4XdyuHPimNxbA>. If you prefer to have a paper form mailed to you, please contact me at 815-353-9414 and I will be glad to send you a form.

"The LWML is focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions." What better way to accomplish that than to serve as an elected officer of the LWML NID! If you know of someone who would be great in one of these positions, please contact them and encourage them to complete the nomination form. Sometimes it takes the encouragement of a friend to point out our talents and abilities.

# WANTED

## Committee Members.....

.....for the:

**Convention Committee**, contact **Beverly Bayes**, Convention Chair  
[conventionchairman@lwmlnid.org](mailto:conventionchairman@lwmlnid.org), 630-289-4505

**Gospel Outreach**, contact **Dianna Maanum**,  
VP Gospel Outreach, [vpgospeloutreach@lwmlnid.org](mailto:vpgospeloutreach@lwmlnid.org),  
708-337-0060

**Special Focus Ministries**, contact **Barb Platter**,  
VP Special Focus Ministries, [VPSFM@lwmlnid.org](mailto:VPSFM@lwmlnid.org),  
630-213-7362,

**Organizational Resources**, contact **Diane Kettelson**,  
VP Organizational Resources, [vporesources@lwmlnid.org](mailto:vporesources@lwmlnid.org)  
815-577-3153

**Cross Culture Committee**, contact **Hellena Hopkins**,  
Committee Chair [crossculturalcomm@lwmlnid.org](mailto:crossculturalcomm@lwmlnid.org),



**Diana Maanum,**  
LWMLNID Vice  
President of Gospel  
Outreach

## Lutheran Indian Ministries

(an update on Vicar Ben and the ministry at Neah Bay)

Neah Bay is a community in transition. Like so many Native communities, Neah Bay has issues with sexual and physical abuse, drugs, alcohol, and suicide, especially among its young people. For this reason, Vicar Ben encourages the young people through music and Bible study, working to create a safe environment where they can grow in the love of Christ and where healing can begin with them - to make an impact on future generations.

With the recently finished Cultural Arts Center (CAC), the youth now have their own space to meet. As Ben says "Having kitchen cabinets, countertops, sink and dishwasher installed, along with a refrigerator full of food are all good things when you're working with teens who always seem to be hungry." The moveable center island (which splits in the middle) offers great flexibility. Thank you NID for being a partner in this Native Outreach!

Adults and youth from Neah Bay, along with volunteers from Michigan and Washington, congregated to haul, assemble and work together to create an inviting area for youth to gather. An air hockey table, comfy furniture and other accessories help make this an attractive, fun and safe place for youth to hang out. With additional space, recovery groups (AA, Celebrate Recovery), can meet simultaneously at the church, making it more harmonious for everyone. Through working together, a sense of ownership, pride and camaraderie has developed.

While the youth meet weekly to eat, play games, "jam" and study Scripture, they also hold special events. On New Year's Eve, over 40 youth came to the CAC and recently they hosted an April Fool's Bar-be-que. The purchase of drums, guitars, mixer and speakers, along with musical stands, are creating opportunities for youth and adults to share their gifts in Sunday worship. All this happens in a safe and welcoming place. Clothed in the armor of God, enveloped with fervent prayer, the spiritual battle continues for the hearts and minds of those young and old Christ.



*Lutheran Indian Ministries - Back to School*



*Lutheran Indian Ministries - Youth Night*

## 2018-2020 Grants Update May 2019

Mites designated for mission grants - \$120,000	Amount	Paid	Remaining
1. Equipping the Church to Reach People with Disabilities	\$17,474	5,468.56	12,005.44
2. Life for St. Matthew, Saving a Historic House of Worship	\$18,000		
3. Haitian Feeding Program, Trinity/HOPE	\$ 2,500		
4. Post Abortion Crisis Hotline Expansion	\$10,000		
5. Grace Lutheran School, Grace Christian Academy, Chicago	\$18,000	12,178.95	5,821.05
6. Food & Clothing Co-op, Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne	\$10,000		
7. Exterior Cabin Renovations, Walcamp	\$14,562.35		
8. <a href="#">Native American Youth Program,</a> <a href="#">Washington's Olympic Peninsula, Lutheran Indian Ministries</a>	<a href="#">\$18,000</a>	<a href="#">13,566. 91</a>	<a href="#">4,433.09 *</a>
9. Reaching Visually Impaired Inmates with God's Love, Lutheran Braille Workers	\$8,000		
10. Haiti Lutheran Mission Society (partial funding)	\$3,463.65		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>		
<b>PAID</b>		<b>\$31, 214.42</b>	

\* Highlighted in this issue on page 5.

## Spring Rally Bits

*a collection of tid-bits for the NID-Bits*

**Zone 7** held their Spring Rally at Friends in Christ in Morris on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Nicole Boeder, great, great granddaughter of Clara Schmidt, the founder and first national president of the LWML was the speaker. She told about her two years as a missionary in Middleburg South Africa.

Spring Rally for **Zone 8** was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Genoa on May 4. Speakers were Ken and Juanita Mundy, volunteers with Christian Senior Ministry, who do a weekly Christian service for seniors living in two nursing homes.

The featured speaker at **Zone 10** on March 30 held at Immanuel, Freeport was Pauline Feliksik who spoke about Dignity4Girls using a power point to provide pictures of the steps in creating a hygiene kit for shipment to various areas in Africa.

The speaker for the joint Spring Rally of **Zones 11 and 12** was Lana Gibbons who lead a joy filled bunch of women through many songs that she herself had written that punctuated the highs and lows of her life. Other favorites were also sang.

**Zone 16** met at Good Shepherd in Frankfort, IL on May 4 and heard from Stefani Mullin of Aid for Women Pregnancy Care Center.

**Zone 18** spring rally was held at St Paul, Kankakee hosted by Trinity, Goodfarm Dwight and Zion Bonfield on Saturday, April 6. The speaker was Beth Rockert representing Fortitude Community Outreach which builds relationships with struggling individuals in Kankakee County by meeting them where they are, providing for physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, and connecting them to community services.

# Pictures from Lenten Inspiration 2019



Rev. Matthew Troester, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Matteson, IL, speaks on the "Least of These".



Rev. Bo Graham, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Mt. Prospect, IL speaks on their ministry to families with babies and small children and the impact to their church and community.



Thank you to Zone 16 President Jackie Genius (far left) and all of Zone 16 for hosting the Lenten Inspiration at Christ Lutheran Church in Orland Park, IL



A well attended Lenten Inspiration at Christ Lutheran Church in Orland Park, IL

Below: A sign we see everywhere we go. Thank you, men, for your hospitality!

**Ladies can use both bathrooms**



**Men please use office bathroom.**



The auction raised money for mites. Thank you to those participating in the auction.

Raised \$493.57 for MITES from baskets auctioned.



Beverly Bayes shows off a basket.

# Calendar

- *June 20-23, 2019 — **LWML Convention** in Mobile, Alabama*
- *Sept 28th (Saturday) — **LWMLNID Fall Gathering** at Holy Cross in Cary - SAVE the date!*
- *June 24–27, 2021 — **LWML Convention** in Lexington, Kentucky*

# Announcements

- *Zones can send meeting announcements to be posted on Instagram and Facebook to Teena Dorn at [vpcommunications@LWMLNID.org](mailto:vpcommunications@LWMLNID.org) for distribution.*
- *Make sure you are signed up and encourage your Zones to sign up for Facebook and Instagram accounts so they may receive these notices and the latest happenings in the district! Instagram: LWMLNID, Facebook: [www.facebook.com/LWMLNID/](http://www.facebook.com/LWMLNID/) OR you can reach the LWMLNID facebook page through the icon on the [www.LWMLNID.org](http://www.LWMLNID.org) website.*
- **Tech Notes** — *Feed back is always appreciated and can be sent to [webmaster@LWMLNID.org](mailto:webmaster@LWMLNID.org) or [vpcommunications@LWMLNID.org](mailto:vpcommunications@LWMLNID.org)*

**Attached: Fall Gathering - Save the Date**

*You can reach NID-Bits Editor, Teena Dorn at [VPCcommunications@LWMLNID.org](mailto:VPCcommunications@LWMLNID.org)*