



# Women On a Mission

Minnesota South District

www.mnslwml.org

Winter, 2007

## 2006-2008 Mite Goal

The deadline for Mites to be counted for the 2006-2008 Biennium is March 31, 2008. At present there is a balance of \$64,135.25 that remains unpaid. At the convention the Minnesota South LWML was led to pass a mite goal higher than ever before. Now is the time to show that we can reach the goals that we set. All monies need to be turned in the District Financial Secretary Barb Fellersen by March 31, 2008 to count for the 2006-2008 mite goal.

**A retreat for ‘younger’ women ----20ish to empty nesters...**

## Extravagant Love

*The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. Psalm 145:8*

Come experience and learn more about God’s *extravagant* love for you! Discover ways to share that love with others God has placed in your life. This mini retreat has been planned with you in mind. Come relax, enjoy fellowship and retreat into God’s Extravagant Love.

- When????** Friday February 29 and Saturday March 1
- Where????** St. James Super 8 (*a really nice facility!!*)
- Cost?????** \$60 – includes room (2 people per room), Fri. eve snacks, Saturday Breakfast & lunch, and all materials
- Schedule:**

Friday eve: 7:30 – 10:00	Welcome, Session 1, snacks
Saturday am: 9:00 –11:00	Breakfast and Session 2
11:30 – 3:00	Session 3, Lunch & Close

**This retreat is limited to the first 40 registrants.**

For more information contact: Sharon Patrick, 507-399-1905 or 507-238-2558, sharonkay\_1001@yahoo.com

**Send Registration form and \$60 check (to MN South LWML) by January 30 to: Kathy Krumweide, 1114 N North Ave., Fairmont, MN 56031**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

or \_\_\_\_\_ please assign a roommate

A confirmation will be sent in the mail in early February.

### Inside This Issue

Mission Grants	Page 2
Upcoming Events/Deadlines	Page 2
Quarterly Order Form	Page 3
Pastor’s Greetings	Pages 4 & 5
President’s Ponderings	Page 5
Committee Reports	Pages 6 & 7
Memorials	Page 6
Christian Life News	Page 7
YWR News	Page 7
LWML Board of Directors List	Page 8

**Next WOM Deadline: February 9, 2008**



## 2006 - 2008 Gospel Outreach



Name of Grant	Beginning Balance	Previously Paid	Paid This Quarter	Paid to Date	Unpaid Balance
Financial Aid for Full Time Professional Church Workers	\$40,000.00	\$24,777.00	\$4,000.00	\$28,777.00	\$11,223.00
Orphan Grain Train	\$5,000.00	\$3,350.00	\$550.00	\$3,900.00	\$1,100.00
Indonesia Lutheran School Elementary Student Tuition	\$8,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$900.00	\$6,400.00	\$1,600.00
The Dwelling Place	\$10,000.00	\$6,400.00	\$1,100.00	\$7,500.00	\$2,500.00
Scholarships for 7 Lutheran High Schools in MN South District	\$35,000.00	\$22,365.00	\$3,600.00	\$25,965.00	\$9,035.00
Lutheran Special Education Ministries	\$10,000.00	\$6,400.00	\$1,100.00	\$7,500.00	\$2,500.00
Lutheran Blind Mission	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Evangelical Lutheran Church Sudan Africa	\$10,000.00	\$6,400.00	\$1,100.00	\$7,500.00	\$2,500.00
Global Health Ministries	\$16,161.00	\$5,150.00	\$2,370.00	\$7,520.00	\$8,641.00
Bible Faith Lutheran Church India	\$12,000.00	\$7,600.00	\$1,300.00	\$8,900.00	\$3,100.00
Scholarship Support for Students of EIIT and DELTO	\$20,000.00	\$13,574.00	\$2,200.00	\$15,774.00	\$4,226.00
Medical Instruments—Yunnan Providence SW China (partial)	\$1,339.00	\$620.00	\$0.00	\$620.00	\$719.00
<b>Total Mission Grants Projects</b>	<b>\$172,500.00</b>	<b>\$107,136.00</b>	<b>\$18,220.00</b>	<b>\$125,356.00</b>	<b>\$47,144.00</b>
National LWML	\$57,500.00	\$34,435.21	\$6,073.54	\$40,508.75	\$16,991.25
<b>Total Mites</b>	<b>\$230,000.00</b>	<b>\$141,571.21</b>	<b>\$24,293.54</b>	<b>\$165,864.75</b>	<b>\$64,135.25</b>

### **A New Look for mnslwml.org**

The Minnesota South District LWML will be getting a new look in the next few months. Check back often to see what changes have been made as well as for the latest news.

### **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

- Jan. 1, 2008: Mission Grants Proposal Deadline
- Jan. 1, 2008: Officer Nominations Deadline
- Jan. 30, 2008: Deadline to sign up for Extravagant Love retreat
- Feb. 1, 2008: Banner Design due to President Nancy Kohrs
- Feb. 1, 2008: YWR Applications due to Zone Presidents
- Feb. 9, 2008: WOM Deadline (Spring issue)
- Feb. 16, 2008: District Board of Director's Meeting
- Feb. 29-Mar. 1: Extravagant Love Retreat, St. James
- Mar. 1, 2008: Quarterly Orders Due To Roxanne Pieper  
Registration opens for Convention
- Mar. 15, 2008: YWR Names dues to YWR Committee
- May 17, 2008: Registration deadline for Convention
- June 20, 2008: Christian Life Day in Rochester
- June 20-22, 2008: 22nd Biennial Convention in Rochester

#### **The WOMEN ON A MISSION (WOM) STAFF**

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**ATTENTION: Society PRESIDENTS and Society TREASURERS!!!**

**It is time to RENEW your Quarterly Subscription!**

I've often heard people say, "the older I get, the faster time flies!" Could it be true? It seems like just a few months ago we submitted the Quarterly order form for the upcoming subscription year! Well, it's that time again - time to renew your society's ***LWML Quarterly!*** PLEASE, PLEASE, do not ignore this notice – it is the only notice you will receive, and again, a late penalty applies for orders postmarked after March 1.

Subscriptions rates will remain the same as last year! It is very important that you calculate the amount due correctly. The cost is \$4.00 per subscription when 10 or more are sent to one address; if less than 10 are ordered, the cost is \$5.50 per subscription. It is also extremely important that you include all society information **AND** sender information on the order form so we may track your order properly or in the event we need to contact you regarding your order.

**This is the only notice you will receive** regarding your Quarterly subscription, so please take a moment now to order. **Please note that a \$5.00 late fee will be incurred on orders postmarked after March 1, 2008.** Additional first-class postage charges may also be imposed by the publisher if your order is placed too late to be included in the bulk mailing. This subscription period covers the Summer 2008 through Spring 2009 issues which you will receive in June, September and December, 2008; and March, 2009.

All Quarterly orders or questions regarding your subscription should be directed to the MN South District LWML Corresponding Secretary and Quarterly Chairman, Roxanne Pieper. Please do not mail your Quarterly renewal check with your Mites or to the national office. Roxanne's contact information is printed on the back of this WOM.

<p><b><u>QUARTERLY ORDER FORM DUE MARCH 1, 2008.</u></b>                  (Please Print – and COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ITS ENTIRETY!!)</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SOCIETY INFORMATION</u></b></p> <p>Society Name: _____</p> <p>Church Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____                  _____</p> <p>City: _____</p> <p>State: _____ Zip: _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SENDER INFORMATION</u></b></p> <p>My Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____</p> <p>State: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>Phone Number: _____ - _____</p> <p>E-Mail: _____</p>
<p>1 to 9 subscriptions @ \$5.50 per subscription: _____ # ordered x \$5.50 = \$ _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">--- OR ---</p> <p>10 or more @ \$4.00 per subscription: _____ # ordered x \$4.00 = \$ _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Add \$5.00 Late Fee if order is placed after March 1, 2008:</b> \$ _____</p> <p><b>TOTAL ENCLOSED:</b> ..... \$ _____</p>	
<p>Please send this <b><u>COMPLETED ORDER FORM</u></b> and a <b><u>CHECK FOR THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</u></b> (made payable to <b><i>MN South District LWML</i></b>) to:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Roxanne Pieper                  MN South District LWML                  8485 County Road 52                  Carver, MN 55315-9622</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Please copy this form as needed.</b></p>	

## “All My Heart Again Rejoices”

The Lutheran church, being a liturgical church, looks forward to the start of another new church year with the season of Advent leading to Christmas. We sometimes want to hurry through the four weeks of Advent, but should recall that the Virgin Mary went through a nine-month Advent as she awaited the birth of her firstborn Son. The joyful day of Christmas has always held a special place in the Lutheran church. Many of Luther’s best sermons were preached on Christmas. He also wrote a hymn just for children (“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”), catching the young imagination by placing these little Christians within the conversation of the angels and the shepherds on Christmas night. The Christmas section of the hymnal is filled with excellent Lutheran hymns for that holy time of the church year. Just as your holiday celebration would not feel quite right without family traditions, so also the Lutheran church would not be complete without the singing of solid Lutheran hymns.

In this article I would like to highlight one such Lutheran Christmas hymn, “All My Heart Again Rejoices” by Paul Gerhardt. This year is the four hundredth anniversary of Gerhardt’s birth. We want to make use of solid Lutheran hymns in our congregations and homes for a number of reasons. One reason is that it connects us historically with what the Lutheran church has believed and sung in the past. Another reason is that Lutheran hymns, in both words and music, are profoundly appropriate to the given liturgical celebration. Gerhardt’s hymn is a good example of how both words and music convey the joy, amazement, and reverence of the Christian heart at the birth of the Son of God. Gerhardt, a pastor in Berlin, wrote the words of our hymn, while Johann Crüger—the organist at that congregation—wrote the music.

The first verse is a wonderful introduction to the hymn. *“All my heart again rejoices as I hear far and near sweetest angel voices. ‘Christ is born!’ their choirs are singing till the air everywhere now with joy is ringing.”* Singing is clearly a sign of joy, and here the angels themselves are seen to be singing a happy song at the birth of Christ. The picture Gerhardt paints here is one that we might find on a Hallmark card or television special. But the real power, and the specifically Lutheran way of understanding the birth of Christ, is found in the next verse, where we go from a sweet picture to a dreadful fight.

*“Hear! The Conqueror [Christ, the infant boy] has spoken: ‘Now the foe, sin and woe, death and hell are broken!’ God is man, man to deliver, and the Son now is one with our blood forever.”* One of the most intriguing features of solid Lutheran hymns is that they sing ever so beautifully about things like God’s wrath, Satan’s fury, and the looming power of death—only faith can sing about these kinds of things in this way. The last line of this verse summarizes the Incarnation (“God is man”), the reason for this miracle (“man to deliver”), and the high dignity and bright future that is ours as a result (“the Son now is one with our blood forever”). As you sing your Christmas praises, you know that Jesus is no longer a little babe in a manger but is instead the crucified and Living Man on the throne of God.

Christmas and our salvation both have their origin in the heart of God the Father, as seen in verse three. *“Should we fear our God’s displeasure, who, to save, freely gave His most precious treasure? To redeem us He has given His own Son from the throne of His might in heaven.”* The life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ are given to us in the preaching of the Gospel and in the holy Sacraments. Just as proud parents want to tell everyone about the birth of their child, the Christian Church wants to announce to all the world that the Savior is born and has suffered and died for their eternal salvation. *“See the Lamb, our sin once taking to the cross, suffering loss, full atonement making. For our life His own He tenders, and His grace all our race fit for glory renders.”* Just as an infant is born so that they might grow up into a full, mature, and fruitful adult life, so also we Christians are born in Baptism so that we might, in the resurrection of the dead at the end of the world, stand before God in full dignity, power, and glory by His grace alone.

In the next to last verse, Gerhardt puts soft and comforting words in the mouth of the newborn baby boy. Of course a baby can’t talk. But if you stop and think about it, the very presence of God as a lowly and humble little baby says everything in and of itself! *“Softly from His lowly manger Jesus calls one and all, ‘You are safe from danger. Children, from the sins that grieve you, you are freed; all you need I will surely give you.’”* To God all praise and glory!

Nothing in the secular celebration of “Christmas” can even hold a candle to this hymn. Sadly, even

(Continued on page 5)

## **Change – getting from *here* to *there***

A second grader came home from school and told her grandmother that they had learned how to make babies that day. The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool and said, “Well that’s interesting. How do you make babies?” “It’s simple,” replied the girl. “You just change the ‘y’ to ‘i’ and add ‘es’.

If only all changes were just that simple. But change usually gets a bad rap and makes us think that what’s happening now isn’t right or good enough. While change often makes things better, it always makes things different and that’s what we struggle with. Our comfort zone is about what’s familiar and known to us. Change brings the unknown and unfamiliar.

The District Board has taken some bold steps of change for MN South LWML that we believe will enhance the future of our organization. The realignment of our zones will be a significant change for some while very minor for others. Our bylaws state that our zones “shall conform to the LCMS circuit lines as nearly as possible.” This change was approved by the Board of Directors and will be implemented along the same timeline as the circuit realignment in 2009 and 2010.

The restructuring of the Board is a proposed change to our bylaws that will come to the delegates for a vote at the 2008 convention and if adopted, will be effective following the 2010 convention. Numerous officer changes are proposed to spread the responsibilities and bring about more direct communication to the local groups.

Two changes already underway are the District Convention site and dates. We’re excited about gathering you together in Rochester at their convention facilities and hotels. Mark your 2008 calendars for June 20-22 and you’ll see that it’s Friday, Saturday and Sunday. With these changes, our convention will be more available for working women and moms of small children to join us in LWML fellowship.

So change gets us from here to there - it’ll be up to all of us to see the possibilities and move eagerly forward. As always we pray that the Lord will take our best efforts and perfect them to His glory.

President Nancy Kohrs

## **Servant Events at Convention**

Plans for servant events at convention are in the works. You will have the opportunity to donate blood, sign up as an organ donor or help out at the Interfaith Hospitality Network or the Bethesda Resale Shop. Visiting residents at the nearby nursing homes will also be a serving option. Displays of Human Care projects from various societies will also be on display with the details on how to get started.

Watch for the Servant Event sign-up on the registration form. There is no charge for these events but we encourage you to order a t-shirt. Let’s make LWML visible in Rochester.

## **Convention Banner Designs Needed**

Banner designs for the Convention to be held in Rochester June 20-22, 2008 are being sought by President Nancy Kohrs. The deadline for submission is February 1, 2008. The theme is “Grounded in His Love” with the scripture being 1 John 1:3 NKJV “Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called the sons of God.” The convention colors are red and white. Typically a banner is 3 x 5 feet. It has been suggested that the banners be made as crib quilts, eliminating the need for storage.

**“All My Heart Again Rejoices”** (continued from page 4)

many churches romanticize the holy day and don’t even scratch the surface of the true meaning and theological power of the event. A genuine Lutheran hymn, like the one written by Gerhardt, will place before our minds and hearts (and onto our lips) the full reality of what God has done for us in Christ. I did not comment on the closing verse of the hymn because I urge you to take a look at the entire hymn yourself (LSB 360). Gerhardt’s hymn is certainly one to ponder and pray. As you do, thank God for all the gifts He gives us in Christ and for strong Lutheran hymns that so beautifully remind us of what God has done for us.

Pastor Matthew Johnson

## Bylaws News

Take a good look at your bylaws before you begin revising them. Are there parts that are working well for you? What doesn't work anymore? Make improvements using clear, easy to understand language. Avoid complicated sentences and stick to plain talk as you do your re-vamping.

To be sure of good form, use the Haren Guidelines to set your material up in a logical, useable manner. Your zone president or conference vice president has a copy of this helpful document. If all else fails, contact your bylaw committee chair, Eunice Bremer. You will find her contact information on the back page of the WOM.

Eunice Bremer, bylaws chair

### PARLIAMENTARY PAUSE



Writing or amending Bylaws? Once bylaws are adopted, there are basically two ways to change them; by amendment or by revision. Adopting the original bylaws need a majority vote and is done once to create the original. Amendment is used most often to fix a problem or make change and usually requires a two-thirds vote with notice. Revision or a complete rewrite is seldom used with the same two-thirds vote required with notice.

Myrna Behrens  
Parliamentarian

## New Pastors

If you know of a Pastor new to the Minnesota South District, please notify the Communication committee, Beth Schuster (contact information on the back of the WOM) to send out a Pastor's folder introducing him to the District LWML.

These folders contain greeting letters from president Nancy and the Pastoral Counselors, a list of the current district and national mission grants, the current issue of the WOM, the district LWML brochure, a mite box and "all about LWML mites" flyer, and an LWML catalog.

## Our Mighty Mites

**The Dwelling Place:** A grant of \$10,000 will help support this shelter for women and children experiencing domestic abuse, offering assistance with food and clothing, advocacy, education in the areas of relationships and parenting, providing curriculum materials, transitional assistance and healing through Jesus Christ to end the cycle of generational abuse in their families.



Owatonna Conference VP Diane Hukriede presenting Mission Grant funds to Diane Anderson, Dwelling Place director, along with Zone Presidents: Austin Zone, Donna Bailey, Faribault Zone, Betty Velzke and Waseca Zone, Sue Barbknecht.

**Bible Faith Lutheran Church, India:** The Moriah School offers quality education, as well as daily instruction of God's word, to children primarily poor Hindu and Muslim families. The school has recently seen an extremely high growth in its number of students. This grant of \$12,000 will help support rental of an additional building and its operating costs so they may continue its mission.

We ask you dear Heavenly Father that you would bless our mites as we give them, along with our prayers that they extend your kingdom. Be with the women and children, who are victims of abuse that they receive healing through Jesus Christ. We thank you for the growth of Moriah Lutheran School in India and pray they may continue its mission, through God's grace to share the Good News of Jesus. Amen.

## Memorials

Received August 1—October 31, 2007

Verna Schmidt	Hazel Rannow
Ruben Schumacher	Earl Brinkman
Elaine Roschen	Warren Phipps
Malinda Gruenhagen	Lurene Horstmann
Virgil Goetz	Fred Klingerman
Allen Brown	Don Carnahan
Eleanor Schmiedeberg	Gladys Lovall
LuVerne "Dick" Hagel	Virginia Lestico
	Lucille Obermoller



## Making Christ's Love Known

Jesus Christ came to help all people - those hurting from illness or disappointment; those broken from loss of loved ones or natural disasters. Are you equipped to handle what this earthly life and world puts before you? Are you able to share that love with others?

These are just some of the issues that will be studied during the Christian Life Day which is a day of Bible study that will precede the 2008 Minnesota South District LWML Convention June 20 – 22, 2008 in Rochester, MN.

The Christian Life Committee is working on the details to present to you a day of Bible study based on the theme **“Making Christ's Love Known”** and the Human Care committee is working on Servant Event options within the Rochester community to end the afternoon.

*“Dear children let us not love in words or tongue but in action and in truth.”* 1 John 3:18 NIV is the text that will be the basis of the Bible studies. With the move of the convention to Rochester, we indeed will have an opportunity to show Jesus' love in action.

More information will be coming your way, but mark your calendars and plan on joining us at 9 AM on June 20, 2008 for a study of scriptures so that we may further know Christ's love and be equipped to share His love with others.

Irene Mensing, Christian Life Chairman

## Young Women Wanted

The Committee on Young Women is looking for young women to apply to be Zone Young Women Representative for the District Convention this summer in Rochester, June 20-22, 2008. This will be a great time to grow in your faith and learn more about the LWML.

All Zone Presidents, Conference VPs and the Committee on Young Women have applications for those young women interested in applying. Completed applications should be returned to the young woman's Zone President by February 1, 2008. They will be looking for young women willing to attend all sessions of the convention, are able to be away from work and home, and committed to be active in their society and Zone.

For more information please contact Joy Anderson or Leah Olson, Committee on Young Women Co-Chairmen.

Joy Anderson  
651.994.7872  
spitjoy@hotmail.com

Leah Olson  
507.830.0532  
leaholson@yahoo.com

## Wonderful Opportunity!

Available now. Lasting for four years. Benefits: joy, new friends, and a closer walk with God. Qualifications: a willingness to serve and a sense of God's call. He equips those He calls.

What is this opportunity? To serve as Executive Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Pastoral Counselor, Nominating Committee and Conference Vice Presidents for Lyndale, Owatonna, South Central and Whitewater Conferences in the Minnesota South District LWML.

Names of possible nominees for the election to these offices are needed now! LWML wants you!

Nomination forms were in the Summer issue of the WOM. Additional forms can be gotten from Gloria Pitschka. Her contact information is on the back of the WOM.

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**District Coordinator**

To be determined

**Nominating Committee Members:**

- RoxAnn Lauer
- Sherri Droll
- Lydia Volz
- Lois Gahler
- Counselor Reed

**CONFERENCE VICE PRESIDENTS & CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

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