

**Southern Illinois District  
Lutheran Women in Mission**



# Missionette

**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**

**Volume 59 No. 1**

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**USPS-353-760**

## *LWML*

### *Calendar....*

Sept. 19—Board Meeting  
Sept. 19-20—District Con-  
vention, Collinsville  
Oct. 16—Board Meeting  
June 25-28—National Con-  
vention in Portland

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**Mission Statement:** *The Mis-  
sion of the Southern Illinois  
District of the Lutheran  
Women's Missionary League  
is to encourage each woman  
in the district to grow spiritu-  
ally and to use her God given  
gifts to praise God and serve  
people.*

## Convention at Good Shepherd

“Witness to the Rock of Salvation,” is the theme for the 2008 SID LWML Convention set for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 19 and 20, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School in Collinsville.

This year the convention will start on Friday evening with a communion service. Spouses and families are invited to participate. A reception and activities sponsored by the YWRs will be held afterward.

Deb Wolf, wife of Rev. Blake Wolf at Christ Memorial, St. Louis, will be the keynote speaker. Her presentation will focus on “giving up our strongholds to be the women God created us to be.” She is a speaker/writer, pastor's wife, mom and gram—who is looking at life and laughing out loud! She said, “I am a girl who likes to have fun! I love to talk. I suppose that is why I love to present at retreats and conferences. I adore my family. I am blessed to have many wonderful friends and days filled with blessings and joy. God is so good, and I pray to fill every day with service and praise forever and ever.” She is in the process of finishing her book which is due out this fall.

Among the events on Saturday will be Bible Study led by Rev. Paul Hemenway, associate pastor of Good Shepherd, Collinsville, Mission Moments from several previous grant recipients, the Mission Grant presentation, officer reports, the election of officers, vote on by-law changes, keynote presentations, booths, music and pur-plemericals. Both days will be filled with Christ's love and fellow-ship!

The national LWML representative will be Eloise Kuhlmann, Vice President of Servant Resources, and she will present a report on what is happening at the national level.

Turn to Page 8/Convention

## From Brenda...

### President Brenda Schoenbeck

*The purpose of the president is to provide Christ centered leadership, using His wisdom and provision to seek opportunities in helping our LWML sisters use their gifts in service to the Lord.*

## Pressing On

*Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14*

Convention time is here. Soon we will be at the beginning of a new biennium - new mission grant goal, new board members. It is time to reorganize and start moving again. Are you ready? There is much to do at the beginning of the new biennium. New officers receive instructions from their predecessors, job training, so to speak. I must make appointments to the board and find people willing to serve on the district committees. Are you willing to serve in an appointed capacity? There are openings available.

For example, our treasurer serves as an appointed member of the board. This is the only appointed position for which persons must submit applications, listing their experience and qualifications. This is a four-year commitment. If you would like to apply for the job, you can get the application from our Financial Secretary, Donna Janneke, who also serves as the chairman of the Financial Review and Appointment Committee. You can also get the form from me.

If you would like to try your hand at merchandising, we have an opening for Public Relations Director, which means you are in charge of the District LWML Store, keeping its inventory and setting up the store at district functions such as retreats and the convention. You can contact me if you are interested in taking on this position.

We need someone who likes working with the young women in the district to assume the position of the Young Women Representative (YWR) Coordinator. The young women in the district have taken on the planning and leading the spring retreat and also serve a vital role at the convention. The young women are the future of this organization and should be encouraged to participate. If you are the person for this job, or if you would like to serve on the YWR committee, please let me know.

Each of the vice presidents has a committee, and in some cases more, to help her accomplish the work of her position.

Those committees include:

- Leader Development and Structure Committee – leads training sessions for members and updates the bylaws and standing rules, if necessary. (Vice President of Servant Resources).
- Christian Life Committee – sets up program for district events, such as the fall retreat and the district convention (Vice President of Christian Life).
- Human Care Committee – provides for the collection and distribution of ingathering items collected at district events, such as retreats and convention (Vice President of Human Care).
- Gospel Outreach subcommittees (Vice President of Gospel Outreach).
- Scholarship Subcommittee – receives scholarship applications and determines amounts to be awarded.
- Resolutions Subcommittee – is responsible for resolutions to be presented to the district convention.
- Mission Grants Subcommittee – receives, reviews and presents mission grant proposals to the District Board for ballot consideration at convention.



#### MISSIONETTE (USPS-353-760)

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Each committee or subcommittee needs at least two people (in some cases more) in addition to its chairman and one pastoral counselor. If you are interested in serving on a committee, again, let me know; we welcome you and are grateful for your willingness to serve.

As you can see, it takes a lot of people to run the district, in addition to the officers. We are women on a mission in service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Remember, God doesn't just call the equipped; He equips the called.

*If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously without finding fault, and it will be given to him. James 1:5.*

Your sister in Christ,  
Brenda Schoenbeck

**Counselor's  
Corner  
Rev. Cliff Adair**

***“You Have a Mission”***

In the Book of Acts, we are told by the risen Christ: *“You are my witnesses”* (Acts 1:8).

Of course, the risen Christ first spoke these words to the apostles and other believers who were gathered with Him on the Mount of Olives as He prepared to ascend to His Father in heaven. Nevertheless, we must not forget that He speaks these words to us, too, saying: *“You are my witnesses!”*

By these words, Jesus is telling each person who believes in Him: *“You have a mission! And this mission was given to you at your baptism.”*

As your pastor spoke the words, *“(Name,) I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”* while sprinkling water on your head, the old Adam in you was drowned, and a new person, created in Christ Jesus, came forth and arose to stand before God in righteousness and empowered to serve Him in purity forever.

At the baptismal font, you truly became an adopted child of God, with the full rights of sonship, and He personally told you: *“I love you! I redeemed you! And you have a mission as my child!”*

Truly, the mission field around us is great and grows greater every day. Every minute 148 people enter this world and 83 others leave without Christ.

And so, we are called by the risen Christ to be His witnesses in our homes, work places, and neighborhoods. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit, working through the Means of Grace, to encourage those burdened by sin, befriend widows and orphans, and confess the gracious things Christ has done for all people, so that some might come to faith and not depart this life without trusting in Him as their personal Savior from sin.

It is in our everyday lives, our vocation as wives and husbands, mothers and fathers, students and teachers, farmers and factory workers, that we serve our neighbors in Christian love and befriend them as servants of the crucified and risen Lord.

You, the members of the LWML, are able to accomplish this sacred trust in your life, and speak of

## Celebrate LWML Sunday

The first Sunday in October is the Celebration Sunday for LWML, but it can be observed any Sunday to fit into the worship schedule.

This year's theme is *“Opened Eyes...Hearts Ablaze!”* A number of items are available to help with the celebration.

Some suggested activities include:

Show the LWML video clip that shares about LWML and its ministry before/during/after the worship service.

Order Mite boxes to encourage mission grant support.

Collect a door offering on that day that will go toward Mites.

Order LWML Kid's Mite Boxes to give to the Sunday School students.

Have LWML members serve as ushers/greeters, wearing LWML purple shirts or purple apparel and LWML pin.

Ask your pastor to recognize all LWML members and Teen LWML groups as well.

Order the LWML Purple Mission Awareness Bands to give to the teens and older kids as a reminder to *“Serve the Lord with Gladness.”*

Give away pencils with the Children's Sermon on that day.

Hand out LWML pencils, book marks, Mustard Seeds, Master's Cards or Quarterlies.

Purchase the large LWML Liquid Glass Cross for your pastor.



Jesus and His bloody cross to others, because as St. Peter declares: *“You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy”* (1 Peter 2:9-10).

Rejoice! As a part of the priesthood of the baptized, you are God's redeemed child! And you have a sacred mission!

# Vice President of Gospel Outreach

## Vicki Huddleston

*Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious!* Psalm 66:1-2

Dear faithful followers and workers in the harvest fields, let us thank the Lord and sing His praise! It is your love for the Lord that goes forth throughout the world spreading the good news! All your faith, hope and love helped us reach our Mission goal of \$58,335 and bring this biennium to a close. The two remaining grants Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School, \$3,500 and the Seminary Student Scholarship Fund, \$4,000 received their funding in June.

The funding you provided to further the ministries for the 10 chosen mission grants are: Lutheran Blind Missions, \$3,000; SIUE Lutheran Campus Ministry, \$4,000; Armed Forces Ministry by Mail, \$5,000; Deaconess Prison Ministry, \$5,335; Holy Trinity and St. Matthew, \$6,000; Unity Lutheran School-E. St. Louis, \$6,000; Christ Our Rock Lu-

theran High School-Centralia, \$7,000; Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School, \$7,000; Prison Ministry, \$7,000 and Seminary Students Scholarship Fund, \$8,000.

The Seminary Student Scholarship Fund of \$4,000 plus \$350 from designated gifts and \$350 carried over from Student Assistance Fund gave us a total of \$4,700 to disburse among eight applicants. Richard Rikli and Nicholas Tieman are on vicarage and each received \$450. Todd Liefer and Gail Heingartner both second year students received \$1,000. Dean Herberts, Kory Janneke, Michael Musegades and Michael Nielson are first year students and each received \$450.

The gifts received from the "Alleluia" cards (in honor or in memory of) went into the Student Assistance Fund. This fund was created to help support students who attend synodical schools and have chosen careers in ministry. This year scholarship funds of \$3,150 were given to 12 students. Three fourth year students, Ryan Ballard, Director of Christian Education (DCE); Traci Guinzy, Lutheran Elementary teacher; and Lauren Herberts, Special Education teacher, each received \$400. Four third year students, Jonathan Grotefendt, pastor; Matthaus Harre, pastor; Jonathan Laufer, teacher; and Timothy Schaeckel, pastor, each received \$300. Two second year students, Eric Gra-

menz, teacher and Timothy Thomack, teacher each received \$200.

I want to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve you on the Southern Illinois District board these past eight years. It has been a learning and growing experience which reinforces our mission statement and means a great deal to me "The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enable to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world."

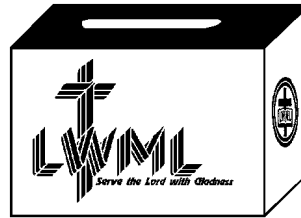
When I attended my first meeting in the spring of 1980, I had no plans of joining LWML, because I was too busy just having my second son a few weeks before; but God had another plan, thank goodness! There have been trials and tribulations through the years, but the Lutheran Women's Missionary League has remained steadfast in my life. It has been your mentoring,

encouragement, love, support and fellowship that lifted me up and gave me the best times of my life. I continue praying for us all to begin each day in the word of God and prayer. Lord, teach us

your ways so we may follow your path. Amen.

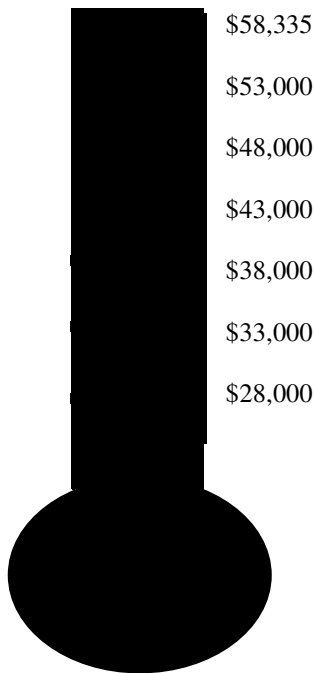
At this time I want to give special thanks to the gifted women who volunteered their time and talents to serve on my Gospel Outreach committees, Ruth Ann Brinkmann, Jan Endres, Elena Howarth, Julie Keck, Carol Small and also board members, Ruth Ann Arbeiter, Mary Sachtleben and Rev. Cliftord Adair, Pastoral Counselor. With God all things are possible and he brought me you.

As Paul writes in Philippians, I too "thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:3-6



### Praise the Lord!!!!

### The Mission grant goal was completed



*The purpose of the Office of Gospel Outreach is to use scripture and information about our grants to uplift each woman of the SID LWML so her life serves as a witness to both Christians and non Christians and so she gives abundantly of her talents and treasures for the glory of God and the service of mankind.*

## Vice President of Servant Resources

### Mary Ann Sachtleben

*The purpose of Servant Resources is to provide leadership development and maintain structure to equip the members of the SID LWML to follow in the footsteps of Christ, our true leader and guide.*

***I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.***  
Philippians 3:14

It's finally summer! The rain has stopped (at least at this writing) and the heat is on! Summer means different things to different people. As a teacher, August through May have other priorities, but June and July are reserved for catching up on cleaning of closets and other household chores.

While going through my youngest son's closet, I found his confirmation banner. During his eighth grade year he, as I'm sure a lot of eighth grade boys are, was a basketball fanatic. He ate, slept, played and lived for basketball. So it really didn't surprise me when he picked Philippians 3:14 as his confirmation verse. Pressing towards the goal during the game was his "thing" in basketball, and this choice seemed to be a perfect fit for him. It had been several years since I saw his banner, and those precious elementary and high school memories came flooding back to me bringing a tear or two with them.

Now as I think about this scripture, I hold it in a completely different light. I see how important it is to daily press on towards our goal of heaven through Jesus Christ. The years fly by so quickly, and there is so much work to be done here on earth before we are called home. We must truly press on to witness and mission to all those who do not know the love and grace of God through His only Son.

The SID district board members are getting ready for our convention. Everyone has jobs to do and goals to meet. We are pressing towards Sept. 19 and 20 to ensure that everything is completed for a wonderful convention. I have completed the bylaws that will be adopted with revisions; district officers will be voted in; and most importantly mission grants will be adopted. Through this convention we will continue the work of the LWML because we are called by God to win the prize of heaven for Southern Illinois and beyond!

**MITEY IDEA**—Mrs. Cook brought back an old tradition at Bethel Lutheran Church, DuQuoin. She has a list of all the birthdays of those who attend Youth and Adult Sunday School. Every Sunday at the end of the Sunday School opening, the Pastor (Rev. Mark T. Buetow) asks if there are any birthdays. We are to bring in pennies for the LWML mite box for our new age. Some of the adults who turned 30 plus wanted to cheat and bring quarters, etc. But for the fun, they have stuck to the pennies, and the children love helping the adults put in all those pennies. It has been a fun way to fill up some MITE boxes. Helping Mrs. Cook is Emily J. Buetow.



**See you at the Convention  
Sept. 19 and 20 at  
Good Shepherd, Collinsville**

## Vice President of Human Care Debbie Wudtke

*The purpose of the Human Care Committee is to sensitize women toward those who are hurting or in need and to enable them to compassionately reach out with knowledgeable, Biblical, hands-on caring.*

*Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning. Proverbs 9:9*

Another school year is underway, and we are slowing settling back into that familiar routine. Homework is now the main event at our house. Are you back at school? Your formal education days may be over, but you can still benefit by learning something new. Perhaps a new Bible study is starting at your church or you want to learn a new skill. A quick search of the Internet found many different kinds of classes offered in our area. Cake decorating, flower arranging, foreign languages, basket weaving, kick boxing, landscaping, computer classes, ballroom and Latin dancing, financial seminars and many more are all available for minimal fees. Your local craft store, community college or recreation department may have just what you're looking for. Invite a friend to attend with you and grow your friendship while you learn something new.

Our brains are designed to keep building up new knowledge, making new connections. Research shows that challenging ourselves to learn something new each day may protect us from Alzheimer's disease. Jesus did a lot of teaching when he walked on this earth, and many people followed Him so they could learn more about God's plan for them. Today we have many opportunities to continue growing our faith. We should always be looking to spend more time in God's word whether individually or in group study. Expand your knowledge, keep your brain active, and enjoy the abilities God gave you. If you find a really great class let me know!

Check out the Southwestern Illinois College site for great community classes. [www.swic.edu/community](http://www.swic.edu/community)

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville also offers fun classes. [www.siue.edu](http://www.siue.edu) search for leisure learning classes.

## Past officer called home

JoAnn (Hansen) Dietiker, 80, of Staunton was called to her eternal home on June 24, 2008. She was elected as a board member on the Southern Illinois District LWML Board of Directors in 1980 and in 1986 was elected as financial secretary. Over the years, she was a dedicated LWML member and attended most of the events sponsored by the district.

Her funeral was June 28 at Zion Lutheran Church in Staunton with Rev. Nathan Meador officiating. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery in Staunton.

## Items for ingathering

You can be a witness through your donation to the SID LWML 2008 Convention Ingathering!

We are collecting items for Phoenix Crisis Center—a refuge house for battered women and children in Granite City.

Items suggested are: Paper Products—Paper Towels; Napkins; Toilet Paper; Big 33 Gal. Trash Bags; Cleaning Supplies

\*Laundry Detergent; Dish Soap; Floor Cleaner; 409 or Similar

\*Personal Hygiene—Toothbrushes; Toothpaste; Hairbrushes; Deodorant; Shampoo/Conditioner

\*Office Supplies—Copy Paper; Black Pens; Spiral Notebooks; Lexmark #28 ink cartridges

\*Clothing—All sizes women and children; Underwear; Socks; Bras

\*Baby Items—Diapers; Lotion; Wipes; Shampoo; Blankets

\*Other Items—Dishcloths/ Washcloths/ Kitchen towels; 13 Gal or larger Rubbermaid containers; Plates and Bowls; Pots and Pans

## Convention in Portland

Plan now to attend the LWML 33rd Biennial Convention in beautiful Portland, OR, where the host committee will roll out the purple carpet just for you! Set aside June 25–28, 2009, to join your LWML sisters in Christ to “Look to the Hills ... God Reigns.” What better place than Mt. Hood and its scenic surroundings to reflect on God's creation and the assurances we read in Psalm 121:1-2, “*I lift up my eyes to the hills — where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.*” Begin making plans, reserve the date and encourage other LWML/LCMS women (men and families are welcome, too) to journey with you to the beautiful Pacific Northwest. There is more information to come! Visit [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) for details about the convention and the post-convention cruise to Alaska offered by Azumano Travel of Portland. Cabins are limited—book your reservations now!

# Why don't young women join?

By Deb Albers

Well, that is a question we are all asking now, isn't it? First, I guess we need to ask what do you consider a "young" woman to be? What about the age 25, 35, under 40, young at heart? I think any female that has energy and enthusiasm for doing the work of the Lord should be considered a young woman. Age is not really relevant here. We don't necessarily want women to join just because they are young; we want them to love their Lord and enjoy helping, learning and mentoring others.

For me personally, I have some major time commitments, so anything else added to my plate needs to be important to me. I want something that is going to accomplish a task for someone or give me something helpful for myself or my family.

First step...Pray. Ask the Lord to lead you.

I like to be useful! Now I know not everyone is wired that way. That is ok. That is where we need to get personal. By that, I mean to ask ladies some questions, and most women like to talk about themselves. I said most. Invite them to come to a social event that your group or zone is hosting, just to get them around some of the people.

Next step... Pray. Ask the Lord to guide the two of you.

Then, find out what they like to do, what it is that makes them "tick." Ask what they do well or if they like to help others in some way. If so, what do they feel comfortable doing for other people? Do they have time to visit the sick or elderly, or make an extra dessert, or casserole? Maybe they sew, arrange flowers, or enjoy helping with kids. Everyone can do some kind of mission/service work, they may

not think so, but they can, and it is a way to share Christ with someone too.

Next step....Pray. Ask the Lord to grant you and your new friend ways to show His love to others.

Now that you know them a little bit more, look for ways to get them involved. Do not badger them. They are smart creatures! Ask them to help out with something, go small. They don't want to be in charge already or hold an office! We just want them to be involved, and this could be the way to get them there. Asking a simple question like "Can you bring cookies for the VBS activity?" could get them to come again or be involved. It takes time. Remember Moses and Noah, with great faith, didn't want to do the work God had put before them either and God himself was doing the asking! Also, please keep in mind that LWML is not for every lady; however, I believe that 90 percent of the people want to be needed in some way.

Last step ... Pray. Ask the Lord to bless each of you and to help you grow in your faith by doing His will in whatever capacity He has planned for you.

Keep inviting and also invite others. Don't just give up because it didn't work for that one person. You don't know what God's plan is. Plant the seeds and let God do the rest!

Disclaimer: This is the opinion of one LWML woman. This is not necessarily the view of the LWML as a whole. The steps above have been tried and do work; however, they may not work for everyone. You may absolutely alter or copy anything you have read for the sole purpose of bringing LWML into the life of another woman. God bless you!

## Vice President of Communication

Diane Gebhardt

*The purpose of this office is to inform the district of what has happened and what will be taking place in the LWML.*

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: Ecclesiastes 3:1*

As I write this article, it is **time** for our District Board to plan the biennial district convention to be held Friday and Saturday, Sept. 19 and 20 at Good Shepherd in Collinsville. By the time you read this article, it will be **time** for you to have this convention scheduled on your calendar!

We sincerely hope that you will be at Good Shepherd for the Friday night worship service. This activity will include a Communion service, which is an inspiring way to begin our convention. When you arrive in the (large) parking lot, signs will direct you to the worship service. After the service, all will be encouraged to proceed to a brief social activity which will include light refreshments.

Saturday morning we will begin with coffee and pastries. Exhibitors will be set up; all activities are on one floor; singing will begin; friendships will be renewed; and our biennial convention will be on its way. Our convention chairman is Debbie Wudtke. With her ready smile and her organized manner, she will keep us busy while still allowing time for shopping and visiting. If you have questions, feel free to call her or me; our names

and numbers are on the back of this *Missionette*.

Before the convention I hope you find **time** to study the proposed Mission Grants. They are posted on our district Web site which is [www.sidlwml.org](http://www.sidlwml.org) and have also been given to your society delegates in their advance mailing. Prayerfully help your delegates make the best decisions; the proposed Mission Grants all seem to me to be very worthy.

Finally, it is now **time** for me to end my four-year term as V.P. of Communication. I have truly enjoyed this position; I have met so many sincere, hard-working, and dedicated women. I am not leaving LWML, of course, but it is just **time** for another activity in LWML. This Mite Box Lady looks forward to seeing you at Good Shepherd on Sept. 19 and 20.

**If any society has not received its packets for the convention, call Valerie Meyer at 314-768-7562 or email her at this address: [vmeyer@chamberlain.edu](mailto:vmeyer@chamberlain.edu)**

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## Around the District

—Metro Central's Spring Rally featured Rev. Peter and Carla Kirby of Carlinville, former missionaries to Jamaica. Ingatheing was items for the Seminary Food Pantry and preparing Birthday Boxes.

—Upper Kaskaskia Zone members learned about the Orphan Grain Train at their Spring Rally.

—Metro South Zone's Spring Rally featured Rev. John Loum, a native of Gambia and raised in the Muslim religion. He came to the Christian faith in 1960. He currently teaches at Concordia Seminary.

### CONVENTION

Delegates will be receiving their packets prior to the convention, so they can discuss the grants and candidates for office with their societies and be prepared to make decisions.

Don't forget to check the SID web site [www.sidlwml.org](http://www.sidlwml.org) periodically for updated information.

## A Gift of Love

As Christian stewards, we know that God who is the source of wisdom, grace, love and power is not only by our side, but is at work in our hearts when we make a gift to benefit LWML. A planned gift may provide special tax deductions plus a lifetime income for yourself and, possibly, your family. To learn more about this important piece of Christian stewardship, contact LWML Gift Planning Services at 1 (888) 482-8425 or visit [www.lwmlgiftplan.org](http://www.lwmlgiftplan.org).

### Gifts of Love

#### Memorials

John Caupert  
JoAnn Clark  
\*Edna Dietrich  
Anna Mae Foster  
Edith Gerber  
\*Edith Gerber  
Ethel Harve

Roland Kranawetter  
Aurelia Metter  
Renee Morgan  
Elfie Olmann  
Helen Ruehrup  
Melvin Sanders

#### Anniversaries

Don & Ann Schnitker (45)  
Carl & Flo Zschiegner  
(50)

Mother's Day  
Lena Rust

#### Honor

Esther Boehne  
Darlene McKinney

#### Birthday

Audrey Lesemann  
\*Denotes Student  
Assistance Fund

Remember your loved one  
with a gift to the LWML

