Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Credential Committee Report
3. Convention Business Meeting Standing Rules
4. Membership Report
5. Minutes of the 2019 Convention
6. Correspondence
7. Treasurer's Audit Statement
8. Audit Report
9. President's Report
10. Spiritual Growth Report
11. Central Office Report
12. Committee Reports
13. Bylaws Committee
14. Communication Committee
15. LWMS Awareness Committee
16. Historian Report
17. New Business
18. Introduction of Nominees
19. Ballot Results
20. Recommended Bylaws Change
21. Bylaw Vote
22. Old Business
23. Announcements
24. Adjournment

LWMS Membership Report
May 21, 2019-June 15, 2020

The total membership stands at 811 member congregations and 11 individuals.

New Members	City and State	LWMS Circuit
St. John	Westland, Michigan	Alpha
Immanuel	Elgin, North Dakota	Central Dakota
Shepherd of the Hills	West Bend, Wisconsin	Dodge-Washington
Beautiful Savior	Everett, Washington	Evergreen
Grace	Flint, Michigan	Flint Area
Abiding Word	Orleans, Ontario, Canada	Freedom
River of Life	Goodyear, Arizona	Grand Canyon-West
Living Hope	Midlothian, Virginia	Heritage
Epiphany	Racine, Wisconsin	Lake Shore
St. Peter	Dorr, Michigan	Lighthouse
The Vine	Joplin, Missouri	Mid-America
Faith-Harrison	Clare, Michigan	Mid-Michigan
Zion	Mount Pleasant, Michigan	Mid-Michigan
Ascension	Mitchell, South Dakota	Minnekota
St. John-Rural Boyd	Boyd, Minnesota	Minnekota
Risen Savior	Mansfield, Ohio	Ohio
Calvary	Abrams, Wisconsin	Paperland
St. John	Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin	Paperland
Crown of Life	West St. Paul, Minnesota	St. Croix
Immanuel	De Pere, Wisconsin	Shoreline
Intown	Atlanta, Georgia	Southern Hills
Linda Pretzer	St. Charles, Michigan	Individual
Patricia Werrell	Hubert, North Carolina	Individual
Wendy Hellwig	Brooklyn, Wisconsin	Individual
Joyce Lorfeld	Oshkosh, Wisconsin	Individual

Reinstated Members	City and State	LWMS Circuit
Grace	Tecumseh, Michigan	Alpha
Gethsemane	Tigard, Oregon	Cascade
Peridot and Grace	San Carlos, Arizona	Grand Canyon-East
Friedens	New Prague, Minnesota	Minnesota Valley
St. John	Minneapolis, Minnesota	St. Croix

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
56th Annual Convention
Iowa Events Center – Des Moines, Iowa
Friday, June 28, 2019

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

President Emily Kom called the annual business meeting of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) to order at 12:40 p.m. on Friday, June 28, 2019, at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

Pastoral Advisor James Douglas opened the meeting with prayer.

The Credentials Committee reported that 183 delegates and 42 alternates were in attendance which created a quorum. The voting body was established.

Jill Doering, chair of the Bylaws Committee, served as parliamentarian. Jill read the standing rules and moved for their adoption. More than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the motion carried.

NEW MEMBERS

Secretary Donna Kuehl stated that as of May 30, 2019, membership was 821 member congregations and 11 individual members. The Membership Report was included in the convention binder on page 14. Secretary Kuehl read the list of 11 new members and noted that there were five reinstated members.

President Kom asked the delegates to approve the confirmation of the new members. More than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the new members were confirmed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the 55th Annual Convention business meeting were mailed to the delegates of that convention and approved via mail. There were no requests to have the minutes read.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Kuehl read excerpts from letters from Pastor Keith Free, administrator for WELS Board for Home Missions, and from Pastor Larry Schlomer, administrator of WELS Board for World Missions, thanking LWMS for the following gifts:

- Mission offering gift to the Caribbean Scholarship Fund for financial assistance for students from our West Indies missions training to be pastors and teachers
- Mission offering gift to the First Public Service Assistance Fund to assist missions with publicity and other costs for their grand opening worship service
- Mission endowment distribution for Tools for Outreach
- Mission offering gift for Cameroon to support a church that operates in a section of Africa experiencing staggering civil unrest
- Mission offering gift to Academia Cristo to help bring the gospel into the homes of millions
- Mission endowment distribution for the Apache Christian Training School
- Mission kids c.a.r.e. gift for Nepal to help feed Jesus' lambs

Secretary Kuehl noted that copies of the complete letters are available through the Central Office.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Robin Christopher gave a brief overview of the Treasurer's Report as it appeared in the convention binder on pages 15-24. She noted errors that were reported in the binder and stated that delegates would be sent corrected pages. She presented updated mission offering monies to be disbursed as follows:

- Board for World Missions - $41,203.98
- Board for Home Missions - $41,203.99
- Board for Home Missions (kids c.a.r.e.) - $49,938.41

Treasurer Christopher pointed out that the Missions and Ministry Endowment Fund was renamed to be the Working Fund Endowment Fund. The Legacy Fund received $25,000 of the original fund. The remaining balance was left in the Working Fund Endowment Fund. The Working Fund Endowment Fund will be allowed to build for future administrative expenditures.

Delegate #357, Linda Haberman, Rock River Circuit, questioned the convention expenses on page 15. Treasurer Christopher explained that the expenses cover 50 percent of board expenses during the year, a site visit, audio visual, missionaries and other convention expenditures with convention meals being a big cost. Also, since the group has grown, a convention center is needed to host the convention rather than a hotel which significantly increases costs.

Fiscal Year January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018 Statement of Fund Activities

Summary of Funds		**Summary of Accounts**	
Convention	$144,066.74	Checking Account - BMO Harris Bank	$45,539.04

Missions Offerings	.00	Money Market Account-BMO Harris Bank	$140,835.56
Working Fund Endowment	$67,869.06	WELS Church Extension Fund	$87,664.18
WELS Foundation Legacy Endowment	$128,958.39	WELS Investment Fund–Working Fund Endowment	$67,869.36
WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment	$83,291.18	WELS Foundation Legacy Endowment	$128,958.39
Promotion and Visibility	$18,840.48	WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment	$83,291.18
Special Gifts and Memorials	$21,907.28	WELS Investment-Working Fund	$48,830.01
Working	$82,570.77	Deferred Income-Missions Offerings	($54,487.00)
		Payroll Liabilities	($996.82)
Total	**$547,503.90**	**Total**	**$547,503.90**

AUDIT REPORT

An audit was performed on the LWMS financial records for the year ending December 31, 2018. Secretary Kuehl read excerpts from the audit report completed by James A. Freesmeier, senior accounting manager. The full report is available through the Central Office. The audit showed that financial statements were presented accurately as of December 31, 2018 and that the organization's accounting procedures and related internal controls operated effectively.

President Kom asked the delegates to adopt the audit report. More than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the audit report was adopted.

REPORTS

President Kom directed the delegates to the President's Report, Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Committee Report, Central Office Report, and Committee Reports in the convention binder on pages 25-33. From the President's Report, she highlighted the technology upgrades which included remote access for board members and the mission trip to Russia by board members Emily Kom and Sheila Frey, and the mission trip to Nepal by board member Ruth Schmitzer. She encouraged the delegates to request presentations by Emily, Sheila, or Ruth for their rallies. She also noted the change in the Befriend a Mission program to switch the focus from the mission to the missionary.

President Kom continued to highlight the other reports and introduced the members of each committee and the staff from the Central Office.

BALLOT NOMINATIONS

President-elect Cynthia Natsis introduced and thanked the candidates for allowing their names to appear on the ballot. The candidates and mission projects were as follows:

- President-elect: Patty Hirthe and Patsy Kramer
- Treasurer: Rebecca Jungwirth and JoAnn Maedke
- Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Coordinator: Carol Gibson and Sophie Korte
- Pastoral Advisor: Pastor James Douglas and Pastor Jonathan Zietlow

- Home Mission Projects:
    - #HM-2018-09: College Student and Campus Pastor Conferences
    - #HM-2018-25: Sudanese Leadership Training Project

- World Mission Projects:
    - #WM-2018-01: Mission Journeys
    - #WM-2018-14: Chinese Outreach Project

ELECTION RESULTS

President-elect Natsis announced that Patsy Kramer, president-elect; Rebecca Jungwirth, treasurer; Sophie Korte, spiritual growth-mission awareness coordinator; and Pastor Jonathan Zietlow, pastoral advisor were elected. The mission projects chosen were #HM-2018-09: College Student and Campus Pastor Conferences and #WM-2018-14: Chinese Outreach Project.

Delegate #551, Mary Jo Barnes, Golden West Circuit, made a motion to destroy the ballots. Delegate #472, Marie Lingham, Grand Canyon-East Circuit, seconded the motion. More than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the motion carried.

BYLAWS CHANGE

Jill Doering, chair of the Bylaws Committee, read the proposed amendment to revise LWMS Bylaws Article VIII.C.3. to allow consideration of time spent on a standing committee separately from time served on the Board of Directors when determining term limits.

Delegate #394, Donna Cook, Mid-America Circuit, made a motion to approve the bylaws amendment for Article VIII.C.3 as proposed. Delegate #837, Lynnette Hupman, Heritage Circuit, seconded the motion. Following discussion, more than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the motion carried.

Jill Doering then read the proposed amendment to revise LWMS Bylaws Article X. and Article X.D. to clarify that the determination of the distribution of the mission endowment monies would be made by the Board of Directors.

Delegate #370, Judith Weigand, Dodge-Washington Circuit, made a motion to approve the bylaws amendment for Article X. and Article X.D. as proposed. Delegate #3185, Mary Fischer, Non-Circuit, seconded the motion. Following discussion, more than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the motion carried.

Jill Doering then read the proposed amendment to revise LWMS Bylaws Article III.B. to remove the amount of dues from the bylaws and to give the Board of Directors the option to adjust dues up to but not exceeding 3 percent per year. Any amount greater would require approval of the membership.

Delegate #886, Patricia Miragliuolo, Freedom Circuit, made a motion to approve the bylaws amendment for Article III.B. as proposed. Delegate #719, Jan Ross, Shoreline Circuit, seconded the motion. Following discussion, more than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no further business.

Delegate #557, Samantha Taki, Rocky Mountain Circuit, made a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Delegate #292, Ramona Czer, Minnesota Valley Circuit, seconded the motion. More than two-thirds of the vote was in the affirmative and the motion carried.

The business meeting of the 56th LWMS Annual Convention adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Kuehl

Donna Kuehl, secretary
LWMS Board of Directors

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
Financial Statement
Fiscal Year January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019
Statement of Fund Activities

	Beginning Fund Balance	Total Receipts	Total Disbursements	Net Income/(Loss)	Ending Fund Balance
Convention Fund	$ 144,066.74	$ 233,481.63	$ 263,171.32	$ (29,689.69)	$ 114,377.05
Mission Offerings Fund	$ 0.00	$ 132,846.38	$ 132,846.38	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Working Fund Endowment Fund	$ 67,869.06	$ 13,284.03	$ 0.00	$ 13,284.03	$ 81,153.09
WELS Foundation Legacy Endowment Fund	$ 128,958.39	$ 28,602.65	$ 3,665.94	$ 24,936.71	$ 153,895.10
WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment Fund	$ 83,291.18	$ 37,478.82	$ 3,142.94	$ 34,335.88	$ 117,627.06
Promotion and Visibility Fund	$ 18,840.48	$ 100.00	$ 10,422.03	$ (10,322.03)	$ 8,518.45
Special Gifts and Memorials Fund	$ 21,907.28	$ 1,512.71	$ 2,763.51	$ (1,250.80)	$ 20,656.48
Working Fund	$ 82,570.77	$ 110,637.71	$ 107,077.35	$ 3,560.36	$ 86,131.13
Total	**$ 547,503.90**	**$ 557,943.93**	**$ 523,089.47**	**$ 34,854.46**	**$ 582,358.36**

Account Balances as of December 31, 2019	
BMO Harris Bank - Checking	$ 12,822.38
BMO Harris Bank - Money Market	120,066.04
WELS Church Extension Fund	87,664.18
WELS Investment Fund - Working Fund Endowment Fund	81,153.09
WELS Foundation Legacy Endowment Fund	153,895.10
WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment Fund	117,627.06
WELS Investment Fund - Working Fund	58,351.29
Deferred Income - Mission Offering	(48,266.78)
Payroll Liability	(954.00)
Total Account Balances	**$ 582,358.36**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal Year January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

Convention Fund

This fund is used for all convention receipts and disbursements, including one-half of the expenses for each board meeting.

Balance of Convention Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 144,066.74
Receipts		
During the Year	$ 183,210.89	
Convention Service Offerings	48,619.92	
Interest Income	1,650.82	
Total Receipts		233,481.63
Disbursements		
2019 Convention Expenses	$ 191,957.64	
2019 Offerings to Home Missions		
#HM-2018-25: Sudanese Leadership Training Project	24,309.96	
2019 Offerings to World Missions		
#WM-2018-01: Mission Journeys	24,309.96	
2020 Convention Expenses	13,242.09	
2021 Convention Expenses	9,351.67	
Total Disbursements		(263,171.32)
Balance of Convention Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 114,377.05**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal Year January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

Mission Offerings Fund

Mission offerings are received throughout the year. They are disbursed each year at the annual convention, one-half to a WELS Home Missions Project and one-half to a WELS World Missions Project. Income received after the cutoff date is deferred to the following fiscal year, so the beginning and ending balances of this fund are zero each year.

Balance of Mission Offerings Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 0.00
Receipts		132,846.38
Disbursements		
Home Missions:		
#HM-2018-09: College Student and Campus Pastor Conferences	$ 41,203.99	
World Missions:		
#WM-2018-14: Chinese Outreach Project	41,203.98	
World Missions (kids c.a.r.e.):		
#HM-2018-07: Kids Summer Bible Camps	49,938.41	
Directed Individual Mission Gift	500.00	
Total Disbursements		(132,846.38)
Balance of Mission Offerings Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 0.00**

Working Fund Endowment Fund

In 2018, the Board of Directors designated a portion of the former Mission and Ministry Endowment Fund as the Working Fund Endowment to support the operations of LWMS. The remainder of the original fund was moved to the Legacy Endowment Fund for missions. The Working Fund Endowment is an unrestricted fund, and all proceeds are currently being reinvested. The accumulated balances can be distributed for large capital, operating, or administrative projects as may be identified periodically by the Board of Directors. Additional contributions are welcome.

Value of Working Fund Endowment Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 67,869.06
Receipts		
Contributions	$ 50.00	
Investment Earnings and Change in Investment Value	13,234.03	
Total Receipts		13,284.03
Disbursements		(0.00)
Value of Working Fund Endowment Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 81,153.09**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Fiscal Year January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment Fund

The Rakow Endowment Fund was established by a donation in December 2016. This fund honors Frieda Carow (nee Rakow) and Irene Cudworth (nee Rakow) as a restricted endowment held by the WELS Foundation to ensure the long-term support of WELS Home and World Missions through LWMS. Additional contributions are welcome. Each year a foundation-determined-percent (currently 4%) of the average recent quarterly values of the fund is contributed to project(s) from the *LWMS Home and World Missions Projects* booklet.

Value of WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 83,291.18
Receipts		
Contributions	$ 18,665.00	
Investment Earnings and Change in Investment Value	18,813.82	
Total Receipts		37,478.82
Disbursements		
World Missions:		
#WM-2018-03: International Missionary Wives Conference	$ 3,142.94	
Total Disbursements		(3,142.94)
Value of WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 117,627.06**

WELS Foundation LWMS Legacy Endowment Fund

This fund was established by the LWMS Board of Directors in 2015 from the Mission and Ministry Endowment Fund to be a restricted fund held by the WELS Foundation to ensure the long-term support of mission fields. Additional contributions are welcome. Each year a foundation-determined-percent (currently 4%) of the average recent quarterly values of the fund is contributed to project(s) from the *LWMS Home and World Missions Projects* booklet.

Value of the WELS Foundation LWMS Legacy Endowment Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 128,958.39
Receipts		
Contributions	$ 475.00	
Investment Earnings and Change in Investment Value	28,127.65	
Total Receipts		28,602.65
Disbursements		
World Missions:		
#WM-2018-03: International Missionary Wives Conference	$ 3,665.94	
Total Disbursements		(3,665.94)
Value of the WELS Foundation Legacy Endowment Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 153,895.10**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Fiscal Year January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

Promotion and Visibility Fund

This fund was created by a special donation and is used by the International Board of Directors and others to visit the circuits and to engage in other activities to help build up membership and create awareness of LWMS.

Balance of Promotion and Visibility Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 18,840.48
Receipts		
Contributions	$ 100.00	
Total Receipts		100.00
Disbursements		
Circuit Visit Expenses	$ 6,349.92	
Publicity and Communication	1,850.65	
Represent LWMS	2,221.46	
Total Disbursements		(10,422.03)
Balance of Promotion and Visibility Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 8,518.45**

Special Gifts and Memorials Fund

This fund is used for receipts not designated for any other fund. Disbursements from this fund are not used for day-to-day operations of the organization, but for major needs of the office, such as office equipment.

Balance of Special Gifts and Memorials Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 21,907.28
Receipts		
Gifts and Memorials	$ 1,100.00	
Interest	412.71	
Total Receipts		1,512.71
Disbursements		
Lease on color copier	$ 2,763.51	
Total Disbursements		(2,763.51)
Balance of Special Gifts and Memorials Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 20,656.48**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal Year January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

Working Fund

This fund is used for the day-to-day operations of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society.

Balance of Working Fund, January 1, 2019		$ 82,570.77
Receipts		
Central Office Sales	$ 16,958.48	
Contributions	15,860.29	
Membership Dues	67,120.00	
Thrivent Choice	787.00	
Investment Earnings and Change in Investment Value	9,521.28	
Interest	390.66	
Total Receipts and Adjustments		110,637.71
Disbursements		
Bank Fees	$ 6.24	
Board President - LWMS Representative	0.00	
Board Administration	13,218.70	
Committee Administration	117.53	
Cost of Central Office Sales	10,456.79	
Credit Card Service Charges	87.96	
Equipment	288.75	
Flags	286.70	
Gifts and Memorials	225.00	
Insurance - General	1,759.00	
Office Supplies, Education Expenses	1,807.19	
Payroll Expenses	48,205.16	
Payroll Fees	69.74	
Postage and Shipping	5,182.78	
Printing and Reproduction	8,235.06	
Publicity and Communication	857.95	
Rent - Office	7,878.00	
Repairs and Maintenance	0.00	
Seminary and Martin Luther College Dinners	3,492.11	
Staff Vehicle Expenses	195.15	
Technology - Non Equipment	1,544.09	
Telephone and Communication	1,855.20	
Utilities	1,308.25	
Total Disbursements		(107,077.35)
Balance of Working Fund, December 31, 2019		**$ 86,131.13**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Period May 26, 2019 – May 25, 2020

Mission Offerings - Circuits

Circuit	05/26/19 - 12/31/19	01/01/20 - 05/25/20	Total
Alpha Circuit	$ 468.31		$ 468.31
Beaver Dam Circuit		$ 2,293.78	2,293.78
Black Hills Circuit		485.50	485.50
Capitol Circuit	832.83	377.50	1,210.33
Cascade Circuit	230.95	190.85	421.80
Central Dakota Circuit			
Chicago Area Circuit	790.16	803.66	1,593.82
Crow River Circuit	499.19	349.00	848.19
Dodge-Washington Circuit	990.62		990.62
Evergreen Circuit	552.10	497.62	1,049.72
Flint Area Circuit	449.19	266.25	715.44
Florida Sun Coast Circuit	308.08	312.58	620.66
Freedom Circuit	362.45	500.94	863.39
Golden West Circuit		1,698.61	1,698.61
Grand Canyon-East Circuit	406.50	251.25	657.75
Grand Canyon-West Circuit	913.11	611.88	1,524.99
Great River Circuit	120.00	287.50	407.50
Hannah Circuit	588.00		588.00
Heart of Texas Circuit		274.87	274.87
Heartland Circuit	450.10	486.74	936.84
Heritage Circuit	837.59	908.40	1,745.99
Hiawatha Valley Circuit	825.00	373.88	1,198.88
Lake Shore Circuit	824.02	448.25	1,272.27
Lake Superior Circuit	1,025.98	838.41	1,864.39
Lighthouse Circuit	1,554.98	1,628.97	3,183.95
Mid-America Circuit		624.57	624.57
Mid-Michigan Circuit	374.70	292.50	667.20
Milwaukee Metro-North Circuit	2,431.40		2,431.40
Milwaukee Metro-South Circuit	1,219.97	1,184.26	2,404.23
Minnekota Circuit	709.88	594.44	1,304.32
Minnesota Valley Circuit	930.00	838.00	1,768.00

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Period May 26, 2019 – May 25, 2020

Mission Offerings - Circuits

Circuit	05/26/19 - 12/31/19	01/01/20 - 05/25/20	Total
Missouri Valley Circuit		447.75	447.75
Nebraska Central Plains Circuit	365.37	462.35	827.72
Nebraska-Iowa Circuit			
North Florida Circuit	854.16	710.15	1,564.31
Northwest Wisconsin Circuit	478.76	359.61	838.37
Northwoods Circuit	1,332.53	875.50	2,208.03
Ohio Circuit	434.25	354.12	788.37
Pacific Southwest Circuit	401.13	309.25	710.38
Paperland Circuit	2,208.32	1,785.23	3,993.55
Red River Circuit			
Redwood Circuit	1,028.51	488.16	1,516.67
Rock River Circuit	1,679.10	1,115.12	2,794.22
Rocky Mountain Circuit	444.93	839.82	1,284.75
Rosebud Circuit	433.00	256.25	689.25
Scenic Coulee Circuit		719.43	719.43
Scenic South Central Circuit	484.50	362.87	847.37
Shoreline Circuit	933.40	364.30	1,297.70
Southern Hills Circuit	599.08		599.08
Southern Lakes Circuit	737.55	696.85	1,434.40
St. Croix Circuit		1,175.85	1,175.85
Tampa Bay Circuit	193.30	114.12	307.42
Texas Gulf Coast Circuit	785.09	655.46	1,440.55
Thumb Circuit	204.67		204.67
Upper Mississippi Circuit	184.91	317.00	501.91
Wild Rose Circuit	282.87	81.25	364.12
Winnebago Circuit	1,055.59		1,055.59
Winona Circuit	1,103.08	695.02	1,798.10
Wisconsin River Valley Circuit	937.84	429.00	1,366.84
Wolf River Circuit	1,069.29		1,069.29
Totals	**$ 36,926.34**	**$ 31,034.67**	**$ 67,961.01**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
For the Period May 26, 2019 – May 25, 2020

kids c.a.r.e. - Indonesia: Early Childhood Education

Name	05/26/19-12/31/19	01/01/20-05/25/20	Total
Abiding Peace - Simpsonville, South Carolina		$ 377.72	$ 377.72
Bethel Lutheran School - Sioux Falls, South Dakota		216.00	216.00
Bethlehem - Manassas, Virginia	$ 378.97	130.38	509.35
Paula Bilitz - Hayward, Wisconsin		10.00	10.00
Christ - Denver, Colorado	63.30		63.30
Christ - Lodi, California		133.50	133.50
Christ Alone - Dardenne Prairie, Missouri		522.00	522.00
Christ Lutheran Church & School - Zumbrota, Minnesota	379.34		379.34
Christ Lutheran School - Eagle River, Wisconsin		471.91	471.91
Christ Our Redeemer - Gillette, Wyoming		181.65	181.65
Christ the King - Tulsa, Oklahoma		35.00	35.00
Christ the Lord - Brookfield, Wisconsin		250.00	250.00
Concord Lutheran Academy - Temecula, California	105.00	208.12	313.12
Cross of Glory - Peoria, Arizona		264.66	264.66
Crown of Life Christian Academy - Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin	2,304.26		2,304.26
Darlington Luth. Church & Women's Association - Ann Arbor, Michigan		218.90	218.90
Eastside - Madison, Wisconsin		150.00	150.00
Emmanuel - Owatonna, Minnesota		476.49	476.49
Faith - Pittsburg, Kansas		200.00	200.00
Faith Lutheran Church Altar Guild - Reedsburg, Wisconsin		293.00	293.00
First Lutheran Church & School - Elkhorn, Wisconsin		208.03	208.03
Friedens - Randolph, Wisconsin		150.22	150.22
Friedens Lutheran School - Kenosha, Wisconsin		534.27	534.27
Good Shepherd Lutheran Academy - Downers Grove, Illinois		47.43	47.43
Good Shepherd Lutheran Ladies Circle - Phoenix, Arizona		100.00	100.00
Grace - Burke, South Dakota		68.00	68.00
Grace - Milwaukee, Wisconsin		288.15	288.15
Grace - Oshkosh, Wisconsin		76.39	76.39
Grace and St. Peter's - Goodhue, Minnesota		435.77	435.77
Grace Lutheran Church Ladies Aid - Dalton, Wisconsin	50.00		50.00
Grace Lutheran School - Glendale, Arizona		576.57	576.57
Hope - Spearfish, South Dakota		533.51	533.51
Immanuel - Hutchinson, Minnesota		300.00	300.00
Immanuel - Mosinee, Wisconsin	129.58		129.58
Immanuel - Waupaca, Wisconsin		500.00	500.00
Immanuel - Woodville, Wisconsin		400.00	400.00
Immanuel Lutheran School - Greenville, Wisconsin		1,226.84	1,226.84
Jesus' Lambs of Grace Preschool - Manitowoc, Wisconsin		38.04	38.04
Lincoln Heights - Des Moines, Iowa		314.38	314.38
LWMS Crow River Circuit - Minnesota	98.56		98.56
Mount Olive Lutheran School - Appleton, Wisconsin	7.00	700.00	707.00
Mount Zion - Ripon, Wisconsin		547.00	547.00
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church & School - Overland Park, Kansas		2,973.24	2,973.24
Mt. Olive Lutheran Olive Blossoms - Iron Mountain, Michigan		275.00	275.00
Joyce Nordness - Milwaukee, Wisconsin		25.00	25.00
Our Savior - Strongsville, Ohio		382.50	382.50
Our Savior Lutheran School - Grafton, Wisconsin		319.95	319.95
Peace Lutheran School - Hartford, Wisconsin		1,239.17	1,239.17

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
For the Period May 26, 2019 – May 25, 2020

kids c.a.r.e. - Indonesia: Early Childhood Education

Name	05/26/19-12/31/19	01/01/20-05/25/20	Total
Redeemer - Rice Lake, Wisconsin		150.00	150.00
Rock of Ages - Madison, Tennessee	1,189.65		1,189.65
Shepherd of the Hills - Tucson, Arizona		756.34	756.34
St. John - Fairfax, Minnesota		80.00	80.00
St. John - Kaukauna, Wisconsin		500.00	500.00
St. John - Rock Springs, Wisconsin		200.00	200.00
St. John's - Jefferson, Wisconsin	1,242.64		1,242.64
St. John's - Markesan, Wisconsin		111.25	111.25
St. John's - Mequon, Wisconsin	20.28		20.28
St. John's - Newburg, Wisconsin		96.67	96.67
St. John's - Oak Creek, Wisconsin		23.12	23.12
St. John's Ladies Fellowship Guild - Hillpoint, Wisconsin	200.00		200.00
St. John's Lutheran Ladies Aid - Witten, South Dakota	845.16		845.16
St. John's Lutheran School - Fox Lake, Wisconsin		189.93	189.93
St. John's Lutheran School - Lake City, Minnesota		871.90	871.90
St. John's Lutheran School - Lannon, Wisconsin		649.73	649.73
St. John's Luth. School & Little Lambs Learning Center - Montello, Wisconsin		1,012.59	1,012.59
St. Luke's - Watertown, Wisconsin	292.00		292.00
St. Luke's Lutheran School - Vassar, Michigan		402.37	402.37
St. Mark - Normal, Illinois		72.75	72.75
St. Martin's Lutheran School - Watertown, South Dakota	605.63	570.81	1,176.44
St. Matthew - Appleton, Wisconsin		103.39	103.39
St. Matthew - Port Washington, Wisconsin		72.00	72.00
St. Matthew's - Oconomowoc, Wisconsin		75.85	75.85
St. Paul - Amherst, New Hampshire		31.34	31.34
St. Paul Lutheran Church & School - Appleton, Wisconsin	822.53		822.53
St. Paul Lutheran School - Lake Mills, Wisconsin	633.31	628.33	1,261.64
St. Paul's - Algoma, Wisconsin		53.00	53.00
St. Paul's - Brownsville, Wisconsin		76.00	76.00
St. Paul's - Cannon Falls, Minnesota	20.72		20.72
St. Paul's - Manchester, Wisconsin		400.00	400.00
St. Paul's - North Freedom, Wisconsin		29.04	29.04
St. Paul's First Lutheran School - North Hollywood, California		511.35	511.35
St. Paul's Lutheran Girl & Boy Pioneers - St. James, Minnesota		115.00	115.00
St. Paul's Lutheran School - Cudahy, Wisconsin		338.21	338.21
St. Paul's Lutheran School - Mount Calvary, Wisconsin		864.48	864.48
St. Paul's Lutheran School - New Ulm, Minnesota		740.11	740.11
St. Paul's Lutheran School - Saginaw, Michigan	118.21		118.21
St. Paul's Lutheran School - Wonewoc, Wisconsin		579.05	579.05
St. Paul's - Bloomer, Wisconsin	65.87		65.87
St. Peter's - Chaseburg, Wisconsin		162.12	162.12
St. Peter's Lutheran School - Helenville, Wisconsin	125.00		125.00
St. Stephen - Adrian, Michigan		388.62	388.62
St. Stephen Lutheran School - Adrian, Michigan		1,213.39	1,213.39
St. Stephen's Lutheran School - Beaver Dam, Wisconsin		321.36	321.36
Trinity - Lake City, Minnesota		188.00	188.00

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
For the Period May 26, 2019 – May 25, 2020

kids c.a.r.e. - Indonesia: Early Childhood Education

Name	05/26/19-12/31/19	01/01/20-05/25/20	Total
Trinity - Minocqua, Wisconsin		38.00	38.00
Trinity - Woodbridge, Virginia		456.98	456.98
Trinity Lutheran School - Marinette, Wisconsin		104.78	104.78
Trinity Lutheran School - Neenah, Wisconsin	565.36		565.36
Zion - Clatonia, Nebraska	250.00		250.00
Zion - Kingston, Wisconsin	48.07		48.07
Zion Lutheran Church Women - Almena, Wisconsin		50.00	50.00
Zion Lutheran Preschool - Mobridge, South Dakota		200.00	200.00
Zion Lutheran School - Rhinelander, Wisconsin		302.47	302.47
Zion - Mercer, Wisconsin	190.00		190.00
Totals	**$10,750.44**	**$30,129.12**	**$40,879.56**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Period May 26, 2019 – May 25, 2020

Mission Offerings - Other

Special Mission Offerings	05/26/19-12/31/19	01/01/20-05/25/20	Total
Circuit Member Congregations:			
Holy Scripture - Fort Wayne, Indiana	$ 50.00		$ 50.00
Holy Trinity - Des Moines, Washington		$ 160.00	160.00
Lord of Love - DeForest, Wisconsin		250.00	250.00
St. Jacobi - Greenfield, Wisconsin	20.00		20.00
Non-Circuit Congregations:			
Hope - Indian River, Michigan		270.00	270.00
Peace - Kokomo, Indiana		500.00	500.00
Individuals:			
Carol Lemke - West Saint Paul, Minnesota		1,000.00	1,000.00
JoAnn Maedke - Eden, Wisconsin	450.00		450.00
Mary Lou Schmidt - Oconomowoc, Wisconsin	50.00		50.00
Amanda Taticek - Madison, Wisconsin		194.85	194.85
Anonymous	20.00		20.00
2020 Convention Refunds Donated to Ballot Projects		11,309.25	11,309.25
Totals	**$ 590.00**	**13,684.10**	**14,274.10**

Total Contributions for Missions	05/26/19-12/31/19	01/01/20-05/25/20	Total
Circuits	$ 36,926.34	$ 31,034.67	$ 67,961.01
kids c.a.r.e.	10,750.44	30,129.12	40,879.56
Special Mission Offerings	590.00	13,684.10	14,274.10
Total Mission Offerings 05/26/2019-05/25/2020	**$ 48,266.78**	**$ 74,847.89**	**$ 123,114.67**

To Be Disbursed:

Board for World Missions		$ 41,117.56
Board for Home Missions		41,117.55
Board for World Missions:	*kids c.a.r.e. - Indonesia: Early Childhood Education*	40,879.56
Total		**$ 123,114.67**

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
For the Period May 26, 2019 – May 25, 2020

Special Gifts and Memorials

Special Gifts and Memorials	05/26/19-12/31/19	01/01/20-05/26/20	Total
Carolyn Adams Memorial		$ 250.00	$ 250.00
Floyd Bartel Memorial	$ 20.00		20.00
Vera Geiger Memorial		250.00	250.00
Rosemary Geisert Memorial	60.00		60.00
Margaret Griep Memorial		10.00	10.00
Bernice Knutzen Memorial	20.00		20.00
Todd Kuepper Memorial		45.00	45.00
Ruth Lemke Memorial	100.00		100.00
Linda Martens Memorial	20.00		20.00
Rachel Martin Memorial		50.00	50.00
Verna Witt-Zarling Memorial	45.00		45.00
In Honor of Kenneth & Jan Schuman's 50th Wedding Anniversary	50.00		50.00
In Honor of Silvia Wilm	50.00		50.00
Total	**$ 365.00**	**$ 605.00**	**$ 970.00**

Endowment Fund Donors

Special Donations Received May 26, 2019 - May 25, 2020

Dan and Frieda Carow
Robert A. Doneff and Lynn I. Doneff Foundation
Kent Meyer
Gifts in Memory of Rosemary Geisert by Family and Friends
Gifts in Honor of Kenneth and Jan Schuman's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Endowment Fund Distribution in 2019	Total
World Missions: #WM-2018-03: International Missionary Wives Conference:	
From WELS Foundation LWMS Legacy Endowment Fund	$ 3,665.94
From WELS Foundation Rakow Endowment Fund	3,142.94
Total	**$ 6,808.88**

President's Report 2020

"We live by faith not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). When the LWMS Board of Directors and the convention committee of the Southern Hills Circuit, chose this Bible passage for the 2020 convention, we thought it was a clever, obvious choice—about our faith, 20/20 sight, and our "Vision for Missions." The Classic Center in Athens, Georgia, that was selected for the convention is one of the most beautiful venues I have ever seen. We thought we were all set to share this convention with everyone and gather around the Word while we enjoyed learning about our WELS missions. However, God had other plans.

The world changed and we were led by the Holy Spirit to change with it. The convention committee and the board have been busy this spring adapting to a joint venture with the WELS Missions Office. A good portion of our convention will take place online, and many people have worked hard to bring Taste and See to life.

I want to thank all the members of the board for their tireless commitment to their roles and to their service to our organization. LWMS is special to each of us, and it really showed when we had to switch gears. The Central Office staff and the Board of Directors have, in essence, planned two conventions this past year. Thanks also to the many members and former board officers who reached out with encouraging words and prayers.

I would like to thank our outgoing board members for their tireless work. Sheila Frey has been an outstanding vice president. She guided the spiritual growth side of LWMS with grace and humor, reminding us that we work for Christ and his kingdom. Many of you use the Prayer Calendars that Sheila mentored. She totally reorganized the convention flag presentation to make it even more meaningful than before. Just give her a task and she's on it! Thank God for Sheila!

As secretary, Donna Kuehl recorded all our board meetings, the LWMS membership, and our correspondence. Donna's notes were meticulous and were a valuable resource as we worked our way through planning and conducting the annual missions convention. Donna didn't even let a shoulder injury get in the way of serving our Savior. Thank God for Donna!

Trish Babler has been our tech-savvy communications coordinator. She served on the committee before being elected to lead it. She has put in ten years (!) getting our LWMS message out in the most creative ways. I could always ask Trish about the technology and she would know. Thank God for Trish!

My predecessor told me that God would give me the board I'd need for the time I'd lead. I am grateful to our Lord for these three wonderful women.

I would also like to say a special thanks to our retiring Central Office assistant, Vicki Behringer. For the past nine years Vicki has worked closely with the Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Committee, especially with the production of the Prayer Calendar,

and also the Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Coordinator to assist with the BAM program. In addition, Vicki has updated handbooks, helped make arrangements for board meetings and the senior dinners at Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, and kept us all on our toes when it came to our published message. She has brought proofreading to a new level since she was hired. Vicki has always had the mission field as her main focus, and she will be missed. Happy retirement, Vicki. Thank God for Vicki!

Along with all these goodbyes, I would like to welcome Sallie Draper as the new member of our Communications Committee. Sallie will be our social media liaison. We will be asking Sallie to help us get the LWMS news out across social media platforms. This exciting tool can be used to share the love of missions with others. Welcome, Sallie!

My other big news is that later this year the board will finish visiting every circuit twice. We were given a special grant for LWMS promotion and tasked with visiting every circuit two times to spread the team spirit about LWMS. Many boards have been engaged in this effort in the past, and I am happy to say that it will be complete in the fall of 2020. Speaking for all of us on the board, I must say that this task was one of our favorite LWMS jobs. We got to meet you in your circuits and see your love for the Savior up close and in person. What a joy!

As I wrap up my report, I would like to highlight the Mission for the Visually Impaired (MVI). This division of WELS Special Ministries was one of the first projects that LWMS started many years ago. As they celebrate their anniversary, we at LWMS wish them God's blessings. Bringing the gospel to individuals with vision challenges is an evolving field. Please click on their anniversary message on the Taste and See website to witness the wonderful work being done at MVI.

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8). I started this report with one Bible passage about faith and sight that guided our 2020 convention. I am ending it with the verse that shaped our online event. Focusing on missions and spreading God's Word is always the goal of LWMS. I know it is your goal too. Thank God for you!

United to Serve Jesus,

Cynthia Natsis
LWMS president

Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Committee

2020 Report

Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth, . . . Let the people of Sela sing for joy; let them shout from the mountaintops.
Isaiah 42:10, 11

As I conclude my last term as vice president, I wonder how the time went by so quickly. What a great four years it has been, filled with many blessings!

When reading verses 10 and 11 from Isaiah 42, I immediately thought how LWMS has been eagerly shouting God's praises from the mountaintops for many years. You don't have to look very hard to find the recurring theme of encouragement to support missions. Besides the *2020-2021 Home and World Missions Projects* book, each of the LWMS Prayer Calendar pages, the monthly Notes, and the LWMS newsletters provide ample opportunities to read how people are singing God's praises and sharing the good news both here and throughout the world. The annual convention speakers and various workshop presenters also tell how the love of Jesus is spread to the ends of the earth.

The popular Message a Missionary display where women can write messages to missionaries at the convention and have the vice president mail them will be available at the virtual Taste and See event, under the Activities tab. As mission-minded women, please don't forget to encourage these dedicated workers. Continue to write to them and let them know they are in your prayers.

The Resource Catalog, easily found on the LWMS website, has many LWMS logo items for sale as well as a multitude of ideas to use at your local circuit rallies. This year a new flyer called LWMS 101 is being added to the catalog. It gives an overview of our organization and can be used in as many ways as your creativity allows!

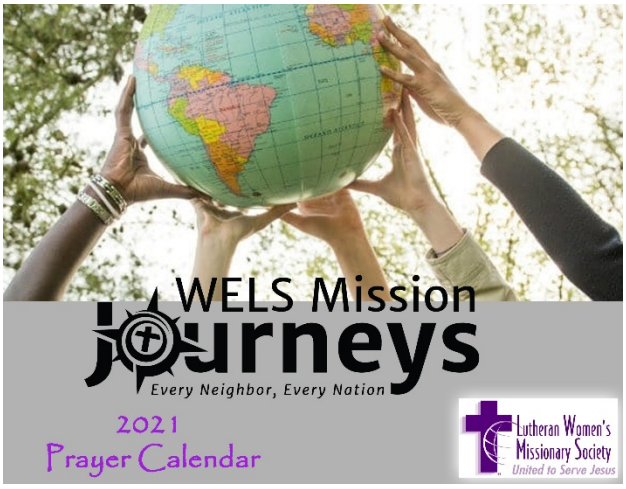
As my term on this amazing board concludes, I thank God for giving me the opportunity to grow in faith and service to the Lord.

United to Serve Jesus,

Sheila Frey
LWMS vice president

2021 LWMS Prayer Calendar

Have you ever wondered what being a home or world missionary is like? As LWMS mission-minded women, we pray for our missionaries, we encourage them, and we support them with our gifts, cards, and financial gifts. But, as you send that support, have you ever really tried to put yourself into the missionary's situation? The 2021 LWMS Prayer Calendar features groups who have done just that.



Focusing on the relatively new Mission Journeys program, the calendar features 12 different mission locations where volunteers became "lay missionaries," helping the established missionary and his congregation reach out to communities with the life-giving gospel. From Tennessee to East Asia, from Florida to Colorado, from California to Ukraine, and locations in between, you have the opportunity to read all about Mission Journeys experiences. It is our prayer that by reading these inspiring articles, you may decide to use your God-given talents on a mission journey of your own!

In addition to the monthly articles, the authors have submitted photos of their specific Mission Journeys teams, included prayer requests that relate to their articles, and provided Bible passages that have been an inspiration to them. You will also find a listing of the missionary birthdays for each month, which allows you to remember them on those special days with cards, letters, or gifts. On the back pages of the calendar you will also find more contact information for all WELS home and world missionaries.

The calendars make wonderful gifts for the called workers in your congregation, your congregation's prayer group, shut-ins, friends, relatives, and anyone who has a love for missions. They also make great door prizes at women's events and Christmas parties. Be creative in using them!

2020-2021 kids c.a.r.e. Project

Are the children in your care learning about mission projects? This program encourages children of all ages to take an active part in sharing the Word. The project for 2020-2021 is Children's Ministry Outreach. From birth to age three is a critical time in a baby's brain development. Research shows that children who attend quality preschools have higher math and reading skills, are better prepared for kindergarten, behave better in class, and are more likely to graduate from high school and go on to college. The goal of this new project is to provide training and materials to establish a childhood education program that will build a natural bridge to bringing the good news of Jesus to families with young children. We pray that this project inspires children to be mission-minded for life, to grow up. sharing the Word with others, and to give generously to missions all their lives. We also pray that through the experience children will consider becoming full-time servants of the Word as staff ministers, pastors, teachers, and missionaries. Will you partner with us in this endeavor? All the materials you will need to carry out your lesson projects can be found at lwms.org. Tap on the kids c.a.r.e. icon and all the information you will need to carry out this fantastic project will be available to read and/or print out.

Central Office Report

The LWMS Central Office is located in West Allis, Wisconsin. Besides being the business office of LWMS, our suite serves as the storage room for LWMS items, such as displays, flags, resource materials, handbooks, and historical information. It also serves at the meeting place for the August Board of Directors meeting.

Personnel
We are staffed with three part-time employees. The office is normally open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Hours have been reduced during the pandemic.

The administrator, Beth Taticek, has been with Central Office since 1995. Assistants Lois Miller and Vicki Behringer joined the staff in 2011. Lois is in charge of processing membership renewals, new member applications, reporter/pastor changes, circuit officer updates, convention registrations, and handling all deposits of mission money and donations. Vicki works closely with the board to update handbooks and prepare resource items like the Prayer Calendar, makes preparations and arrangements for board meetings and other events, and performs other duties as directed by the Board of Directors. Vicki Behringer plans to retire in July. Beth is responsible for supervising the office, answering e-mails and questions, preparing mailings, and posting and updating the LWMS website and social media platforms.

Mailings
This year we processed 19 mailings and mailed out over 6,801 pieces of mail. Our major mailings to reporters and circuit officers are done in August and January with additional mailings to reporters in March and October. We use a direct mailer to print and mail our newsletters directly to addresses posted on our mailing list. Due to state ordered closures all mailings after March 17, 2020 have been done by email whenever possible. Links to all reporter mailings can be found on the Members page of the website.

LWMS sends out colorful monthly e-mails highlighting current LWMS topics using a program called Constant Contact. If you would like to receive these emails, sign up on the website home page.

If you are a reporter or circuit officer and plan to have your mail forwarded at any point in the year, please contact Central Office with your forwarding address since the post office will not forward bulk mail and you will not receive the materials you need. Also, if you wish to have a substitute reporter during those months, please contact Central Office: call 414-321-6212, e-mail Lois at lois@lwms.org or write to 11200 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214.

Equipment and Office Improvements
The updated technology purchased last year and IT support made working from home during the shut-down period possible.

As predicted, the rent on the Central Office greatly increased when we reached the end of the lease period. The current owner is not allowed to offer below-market-value rent for the next lease. Central Office has a signed lease that covers the next five years.

Volunteers and Donations
We would like to thank everyone who has volunteered their time to help us this past year helping at the convention booth, preparing mailings, transporting items, and other tasks as needed.

Material Orders
We continue to supply our members with mission and LWMS related materials. No new items were added this year, but we have a supply of mission photo cards, LWMS socks, mouse pads, notebooks, pens, blankets, pop sockets, and umbrellas available for sale through the Resource Catalog. Below is a listing of selected items sold by Central Office in the past year.

Item	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018	2016-2017
Prayer Calendar	1,118	1,179	1,140	1,050
Mission Boxes	1,190	1,920	1,060	1,588
Mission Envelopes	3,450	3,506	3,340	4,903
LWMS Stickers (round)	89	161	65	62
LWMS Stickers (small)	19	29	10	34
LWMS Stickers (large)	4	35	7	16
LWMS Stamped Pins (Gold & Silver)	42	108	158	57
Note Cards	30	67	31	47

Central Office Contact Information
11200 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214
Phone: 414-321-6212

Beth – centraloffice@lwms.org or beth@lwms.org
Lois – lois@lwms.org or centralofficebam@lwms.org
Vicki – vicki@lwms.org or centraloffice3@lwms.org

Beth Taticek
Central Office Administrator

2020 Bylaws Committee Report

The Bylaws Committee has the responsibility to help the circuits review and update their bylaws, review and prepare any proposed changes to the organization bylaws, and help with any other bylaws-related questions that arise.

The committee worked with ten circuits to complete their five-year bylaws reviews during this convention year. Four circuits were prepared to vote on changes at their spring rallies, which were unfortunately cancelled. The committee is actively working with two other circuits in the hope that they will be prepared to vote on any changes at their fall rallies. Eleven circuits are due or overdue for a review of their bylaws. We continue to review and make annual updates to the sample circuit bylaws as a resource to help with this process.

The committee was tasked with reviewing and updating ARTICLE IX of the organization bylaws. The proposed amendment is an updated version, which we felt was more appropriate for the bylaws document. We took out some specific ideas or suggestions and replaced them with clear duties to help define the role of the Reporter. Many of our churches no longer have dedicated LWMS groups, and we felt it was also important that the bylaws did not reflect an outdated structure. The committee would like to thank Vicki Behringer for her help in preparing the proposed bylaws amendment.

We use Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised as our authority when reviewing any questions that relate to the bylaws or LWMS procedure. We were asked about a variety of situations and questions this past year and were happy to provide guidance as we were able. We invite and encourage you to contact us with any bylaws-related questions.

The committee is thankful for the opportunity to serve in LWMS.

Jill Doering (chair), Karin Loftin, Carol Peeper

2020 Historian Report

For the past year, I have continued my project of cataloging and digitally preserving LWMS documents. These documents include both current items and collections from past years. Each year brings new booklets, newsletters, minutes and photos to merge into the collection. I have completed the entire collection of “Topics” booklets. These were used for many years as an informational and devotional booklet for our mission projects.

Currently, I am cataloging and scanning photos from past conventions. As you can imagine, with 56 conventions, there are many, many, many photos. Thank you to everyone who has helped to identify the people in those photos.

We have received more donations of documents and photos in the past year. Thank you for these items to round out our collection.

As I work with these files, I see how richly the Lord has blessed the work of LWMS. Thank you for all that you do to promote missions.

Linda Klein, Historian

Communications Committee

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6,7

These last few months leading up to this year's annual convention have been quite a bit different from the usual build-up to the convention. We've all been faced with making decisions and changes we never thought we would have to do and the end result is definitely not the convention we were all looking forward to. The online event that we've planned is a big change from what we're used to. Change is always difficult and can be rather frightening so I had to remind myself more than once that no matter how uncertain things might be, God is watching over us and guiding us. Taking Paul's words to the Philippians to heart helped me to remember that all of our choices were most certainly guided by God.

Another year has gone by and the Communications Committee has grown by one more member. The board approved adding a person to manage social media content for LWMS and we are excited to welcome Sallie Draper to the committee. We put Sallie to work immediately. You can thank her for all the great Facebook updates and reminders you've been seeing lately. If you haven't already liked us on Facebook, be sure to do so, as it's a great resource for keeping up to date with what's happening in LWMS.

Over this past year, we have produced the following pieces:

- LWMS Fall, Spring, and Convention Newsletters
- 2020 Convention Binder and Worship Folder
- LWMS 2021 Prayer Calendar cover design
- Mission projects and kids c.a.r.e. PowerPoint presentations, which may be found online this year
- kids c.a.r.e. poster design, lesson plans, and materials to be posted on the LWMS website
- LWMS Notes email newsletters
- Facebook updates

This year marks the end of my second term as Communications Coordinator. Ten years ago, I accepted a position on the Communications Committee. I was new to LWMS but trusted in God to direct me and give me the courage and skills I would need to do the job I was asked to do. In the final year of my second three-year term on the Communications Committee, I was asked if I would be willing to be on the ballot for a board position as the Communications Coordinator. Once again, I said yes, trusting that God would guide my path. I am so very grateful for everything I've learned along the way, the wonderful friends and beautiful ladies I've met, but most importantly, learning about mission work and what an important thing it is we do to support the mission work of the WELS.

It will feel strange next year, when we meet in Ohio, to be there as just a "regular" attendee and not have specific jobs to do, but then hopefully I'll have a few minutes to spare for more hugs and selfies!

Thank you all for your kind words, support, and prayers.

Trish Babler

Communications Committee:
Patty Hirthe
Cindy Hanisch
Kristie Schroeder
Ramona Czer
Joan Meier
Sallie Draper
Trish Babler, Communications Coordinator

LWMS Awareness Committee

The LWMS Awareness Committee (LAC) initiates programs and ideas to assist you, our members, in raising LWMS awareness within your own congregations and circuits.

At the 2018 annual convention, LAC introduced the IGNITE initiative during three extremely well attended workshop sessions. After that convention, a number of women asked if we could present IGNITE at their upcoming rally. The Board of Directors approved the request and between the fall of 2018 and 2019 we took IGNITE on the road to 17 circuits. We learned a lot from our time with you and as a result we proposed to the board a series of three workshops to be given at upcoming conventions. The IGNITE @Convention workshop series was approved with the first of the workshops entitled “Refreshing Your Rallies.”

This past October LAC created the first edition of the IGNITE Reporters bi-monthly email. If you are a reporter and do not receive this newsletter in your inbox, please make sure the Central Office has your current email address. “LWMS ♡ Our Reporters” arrives on the 15th of every other month and is filled with encouragement and ideas on how you can raise LWMS awareness in your own congregation.

LWMS is privileged to do incredible work to help advance WELS missions work throughout the world. Together with you, we can ignite a heightened awareness and a purposeful passion for missions with more women (and men), of all ages, in our WELS congregations.

In joyful service with you,
Karen Goetzinger, chair
Amelia Flunker
Leigh McGrath
Jennifer Vik
Patsy Kramer, board liaison

ignite
passion for missions

CANDIDATES for LWMS Board of Directors

Communications Coordinator

- Patty Hirthe, Kaukauna, Wisconsin ~ Paperland Circuit
- Ardis Tobison, Ellsworth Township, Minnesota ~ Crow River Circuit

Secretary

- Mary Jo Barnes, Torrance, California ~ Golden West Circuit
- Dee Shepherd, Aurora, Colorado ~ Rocky Mountain Circuit

Vice President

- Ginger Olson, Warren, Michigan ~ Alpha Circuit
- Kris Olson, Des Moines, Iowa ~ Wild Rose Circuit

Pastoral Advisor

- Pastor Jeffrey Schmidt, Flint, Michigan ~ Flint Area Circuit
- Pastor Paul Schulz, Safford, Arizona ~ Grand Canyon West Circuit

MISSION OFFERING PROJECTS

June 2019-June 2020

Home Missions

Project #HM-2018-16: Hmong Evangelist Training
Project #HM-2018-23: Hispanic Outreach (general)

World Missions

Project #WM-2018-11: Philippine Project
Project #WM-2018-24: Mexico Project

Project numbers are taken from the 2018-2019 Home & World Missions Projects booklet.

June 2020-June 2021

Home Mission Projects

Project #HM-2020-01: First Public Service Assistance

The Board for Home Missions authorizes the start of new missions. After those missions receive a pastor, planning takes place for the first worship service. Advertising materials and mailings need to be completed and service folders and welcome signs produced. Creative ways to get the word out may have additional costs. New mission congregations want the first service to be well received and want to promote a warm invitation to their community. Your gifts will fund these needed preparations and encourage those who will expend countless hours of effort.

Project #HM-2020-17: Cross-Cultural Mission Conferences and Training

This project assists Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) graduates and current PSI students to gather for growth in God's Word and for training in ministry. Your gifts will allow various cross-cultural and people-group ministries to gather for training conferences and be encouraged to faithfully serve in gospel ministry.

World Mission Projects

Project #WM-2020-08: Africa Theological Education

WELS offers financial support for the seminaries in Zambia, Cameroon, and Nigeria and the preseminary facility (Lutheran Bible Institute) in Malawi. In addition to supporting WELS and national professors, teachers, and workers, funds are required for campus infrastructure improvements including classroom and library expansions. These updates will accommodate theological training to meet the growing demands for training parish pastors and offer continuing education for existing pastors.

Project #WM-2020-13: Hmong Outreach in Vietnam Project

In 2011, a leader of the Hmong Fellowship Church (HFC) in Vietnam reached out to Rev. Bounkeo Lor, a Hmong WELS pastor in Kansas City, Kansas, with a request for theological training. Lor began making trips in 2012 to train 60 leaders of the HFC in the truths of the gospel. Since training began, the HFC has grown from 55,000 to more than 120,000 members and the message of grace has brought peace to their church body. The Communist Vietnamese government noticed this positive change and invited WELS to build a theological training facility in the capital city of Hanoi in 2017. A synodwide campaign has brought in the funds necessary to buy the land and build the training facility, but additional funds will be needed on an annual basis to pay for the continued training and operation of the facility. Your gifts will support the ongoing Hmong training in Vietnam and, with the Lord's blessing, outreach to the 2 million Hmong living in Vietnam and the surrounding countries of China, Laos, and Myanmar

LWMS Wish List

The LWMS Board of Directors is seeking financial support for the following projects to promote and enhance the organization. Some of these projects will be carried out using the Working Fund if funding is not procured through the Wish List.

- The dinner event for the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary senior class. This event is used to inform future WELS pastors and their spouses of the purpose and programs of LWMS. $2,000

- Stipends for the Annual LWMS Convention registration. This would allow the Board of Directors to provide an opportunity for someone to attend a convention that otherwise may not be able to. $200/each

- Standing and Ad Hoc Committee meetings on the day prior to the convention at the convention site. This is the only opportunity the committees have to meet with the Board of Directors throughout the year. It also gives the committees an opportunity to meet face-to-face to discuss any items for the upcoming year. $3,000

- LWMS Awareness Committee publications (brochures and kits). These materials are sent to member and nonmember congregations, colleges, universities, and women's retreats. The materials promote this amazing organization, but more importantly promote the support of missions around the world. Let us rejoice! $700

Send funding for Wish List items to:
Lutheran Women's Missionary Society
11200 W Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214-2240

Please make checks payable to LWMS, and note which Wish List item you are supporting. The full amount is not necessary. Partial support can be given to any of the projects.

Request for Board of Directors Candidates

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society is privileged to have women and pastors blessed by God with varying talents and abilities. Each one of us possesses gifts to be used to give glory, praise, and thanks to God. You or someone you know are blessed with skills that could be used to serve on the Board of Directors. Please consider how you could serve or who you could encourage to serve in this way.

Among the duties of the president elect is finding interested, mission-minded people—like yourself—who are willing and eager to support the work of LWMS and the home and world missions of WELS. God is good and he has blessed the efforts of the many people who have faithfully served this organization for more than 50 years. While it is hard work, it is also amazing fellowship—a once in a lifetime experience to see his work through the women of LWMS. Please let me know if you would like to be nominated for a position by filling out the information below. This is not an obligation or commitment yet, but a statement that you are willing. I will follow up with you in fall to talk more and would welcome any questions you have in the meantime.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration,

Patsy Kramer, president-elect
LWMS Board of Directors
presidentelect@lwms.org
605-351-5118

The following positions will be open for election and voted upon in Spring 2021:

President-Elect - The president-elect shall perform the presidential duties in the absence of the president. She shall share in the duties of the president during her two years as president-elect as directed by the president. She shall chair the Nomination Committee and the Ballot Committee. She shall assume responsibility for the management of the organization in her third year. She shall perform other duties as assigned by the president or board. (Bylaws, Article V, Officers, E. Duties of Officers) This position requires an ability to build a team and delegate tasks as well as a willingness to serve at all levels. A thorough knowledge of the organization, WELS, and missions is important. Successful candidates will value the historical role of the organization while balancing the needs of sustainability for the organization.

Treasurer – The treasurer shall receive and record all mission offerings and other income and make disbursements according to the resolution of the annual convention and the board. She shall chair the finance committee. She shall perform other duties as assigned by the president or board. (Bylaws, Article V, Officers, E. Duties of Officers) This position does not require a particular degree, however, accounting experience is preferred.

Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Coordinator – The spiritual growth-mission awareness coordinator shall serve on the Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness Committee and be responsible for carrying out the committee's purpose and objectives. She shall perform other duties as assigned by the president or board. (Bylaws, Article V, Officers, E. Duties of Officers) This position requires an ability to synthesize and glean information and communicate it clearly in writing and e-mail correspondence.

Pastoral Advisor – The pastoral advisor serves as the spiritual advisor and general counselor in all matters. During his two-year term he is a member of the Spiritual Growth-Mission Awareness, Membership, and Nomination Committees. He will review website devotions, lead Bible studies, and assist in coordinating convention speakers and services. He must have computer skills.

GENERAL NOTE: Each position excluding president-elect, is elected to a two-year term, eligible for re-election to one consecutive term.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Have interest in missions
- Membership and involvement in local LWMS circuit
- Willing and able to devote many hours of time
- Ability to lead in many different capacities
- Do general correspondence and have computer and e-mail skills
- Able to travel to meetings (August–Milwaukee, Wisconsin; November–convention site; January–conference call; April–Milwaukee, Wisconsin; June–convention site)
- All travel expenses are reimbursed

POSITION: _____
Name:_____
Address: _____
Phone: _____E-mail: _____
Church: _____ Circuit: _____

POSITION: _____
Name:_____
Address: _____
Phone: _____E-mail:_____
Church: _____ Circuit: _____

SUBMITTED BY:
Name: _____ Phone: _____
Circuit: _____ E-mail: _____

Talent and Time Questionnaire

We know you have Talents! Will you make Time to share them?

God has given each of us gifts to use in his name. The list is endless—caring, encouraging, loving, praying, teaching, singing, listening . . . All that we have and all that we are come from our gracious heavenly Father. Out of praise and thanks for his greatest gift—Jesus—we look to use our time and talents to serve, praise, and thank him.

LWMS is a great opportunity for service! We need women to serve as resources for our organization, to serve on standing committees, and to assist in the joyful work the Lord has given us in so many other ways. Please consider where you have experience and expertise and would be willing to serve, and also if someone you know is gifted and looking for a place to put her gifts to use. Please fill out the form below and send it to the LWMS Central Office, 11200 West Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214

Indicate any areas of interest to serve:

___ Bookkeeping/Accounting
___ Editing
___ Grant Writing
___ Graphic Design/Desktop Publishing
___ Marketing/Communications
___ Parliamentary Procedure Experience
___ Social Media Management
___ Software/Technology Skills
___ Video Editing
___ Web Design
___ Other: _____

Filling out this form is not a nomination, but simply allows LWMS to build a bank of resource names to call upon for future assistance. If you are submitting someone else's name, please be sure you consult with her and include your contact information as well as her information. Thank you!

Contact Information:

Name _____
Address _____
_____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Church _____

Submitted by:

Name _____
Address _____
_____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Church _____

Please use the other side of this page to tell us about the gifts and experience that you are willing to share with us.