

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  MISSOURI SYNOD

• THE •
IDEA

Iowa District East



Alive

VOLUME 59

Ogden, Iowa 50212, December 2010

NUMBER 4

*This newsletter is dedicated to
the memory of Mabel Schmidt*



*for her loving service to the Lord and our
District LWML as President
from 2006-2010.*

President's Message



Dear Sisters in Christ

As I write this message, we are well into a new year but it still feels new to me as I struggle to write the correct year on various things requiring a hand written date. This newness makes me consider where we have been in the past and where we would like to go in the future. As we travel though each day of the new year, mercies given to us in our Baptism are refreshed on a daily basis. Just think, new each morning! Sister in Christ, as we go through the year day by day, let us keep focused on the message as we serve God by serving others.

Several things come to mind as I complete my first six months as your president. A big THANK YOU goes to all of you for the way you responded to the request to check names and EIN's on bank accounts and contracts and then change what needed to be changed. The complexity of accomplishing this was amazingly different for different groups and at times, seemed to become a distraction from the work we have been called to do. I am so glad it is done so our focus and energy can be re-directed to the mission and goals of the LWML.

"Mite Marathon to the Finish" is the name given to the final push to the end of this national biennium when the books will be closed (March 31 per bylaws). The goal we committed to in Iowa East (which has another year and one half) is on track, but on the national level, the goal is far from being completed. Please submit your gifts soon. If you send mites monthly to Financial Officer Helen Huedopohl, Treasurer Pat Ehler will have more funds to forward to national. I am sure you know that 25% of our district mites goes to national? You can keep informed of progress on grant payments by checking the LWML and IDE LWML web sites.

Keep in mind also that special gifts are encouraged and very welcome! Wouldn't it be a great problem for us to have that we have so much excess in mites that we have to find more grants to fund?

2010 - included a great convention in Davenport, rallies (24 to be exact) in many places and a retreat at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. The many blessings that we have experienced at these activities are too numerous to list and many more will be ours as we participate in the meetings and rallies and the retreat of 2011. "Being With Jesus - Living on the Edge" is the theme for the national convention to be held this year in Peoria. I hope you are planning to attend. It will not only uplift you, but the people and worship and meetings and so many other parts of a convention will give you wonderful enthusiasm for the service you have been given to do. Registration and hotel forms can be found in the winter Quarterly and on the LWML website.

Joy and fun and inspiration came into our lives in 2010, but there was sadness also as we mourn the loss of our Sister in Christ, Mabel Schmidt. It is fitting that this issue of the IDEA is dedicated to her memory. I miss her - she was not only a mentor and a friend to myself and to many of you, but she mirrored a wonderful example of how Christ wants us to conduct our lives. She had a heart for people everywhere and worked tirelessly through the LWML and in many other ways to encourage and help them in their pilgrimage through this life. As my immediate predecessor as President of Iowa District East LWML, Mabel gave me invaluable help in getting started in this position. We met several times, traveled to Mission Central together, emailed frequently and talked on the phone numerous times. She also hosted me overnight in the Schmidt home. I feel so blessed to have known Mabel, a fellow redeemed child of God who dedicated her life to His service. "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord..." Rev. 14:13a

Janice Johnston
President IED LWML



Counselor's Corner

Mabel apologized but didn't need to. "I'm so sorry, Pastor Greg. I thought they'd pick you." They didn't, which is fine. Mabel called last spring to see if she could put my name in nomination for national LWML Pastoral Counselor. She was 'beating the bushes'. Since my name made it through Round One, an interview was scheduled last September. Diane, from South Dakota, called later to say, "Thank you but you were not chosen." The next day, Mabel apologized.

Months later, when the text message arrived announcing Mabel's condition, that pleasant memory came flooding back. One of the cheerleaders in my life was sincere in her desire to have me "serve the Lord with gladness". As far as she was concerned, I'd 'get' it. Monday morning's sadness included absorbing the possibility that one of the servants of the Lord could go home ~ that day. I decided to be depressed over the loss of this Barnabas. I'd stay home (on my day off), pet the dog and do nothing. Stare at the walls. Just sit. I was going to be sad about Mabel.

Fifteen minutes later, with my head on a pillow, I imagined our dear servant, walking toward me. She'd shake her finger at me and say, "Now, Pastor Greg, don't just lie there. Get up! Isn't there someone out there who needs to hear the Good News today? I might see my Savior face-to-face today. Don't just lie there. Get up!" Which I did.

Mabel's picture, from the service folder, is pinned to our entryway corkboard. Not as a shrine but as a reminder of a servant's heart; a Barnabas who wanted the best for me. Her life encouraged me to tell 'em the Good News. I step out because of the Savior's command but, from

(continued on page four)

time to time, I'll remember Mabel, too. "Don't just lie there. Get up."

I am and I will. Stand up, stand up for her Savior. As newly appointed Junior Counselor, I hope to remind you, IED LWML, to get up. There is only One Name under Heaven by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12).

Thank you, Lord, for all Mabel Marie Schmidt meant to me. And to you!

Peace,

Pastor Greg Williamson

CHRISTIAN LIFE

DOES GOD MAKE DEALS?

Over the holidays we had two 2 year old grandchildren in our home. As we watched their activities and antics with joy and laughter I couldn't help but notice the number of times "deals" were made. Here's the deal -- "Sammy can ride on the rocking horse for a little while and then Cole gets to ride", "5 more minutes and then it's time to put the toys away", or "2 more books and then it is bedtime" – parents making "deals" with the little ones. You do this and then I'll do that.

Do you ever make "deals"? I do. I say to myself-- if I dust and vacuum the house, I can sit and read for awhile. Or you say to your husband, I'll make dinner – you do the dishes. We like to make sure we get something in return for what we do. We might even try to "make deals" with God. We might say to God, "if you will make my loved one well, I'll go to church every Sunday, or"



When God created the world, He made everything perfect. Then He said to man – here's the deal. "You are free to eat from any tree in the

garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Gen. 2:16-17) But man, tempted by the devil and wanting to be like God, disobeyed and ate from the forbidden tree.

Because Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they had to suffer the consequences. They now knew the difference between good and evil. So God said, "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." (Gen. 3:19) They were now mortal and so would die. That was the deal.

Does God "make deals"? Yes, God did make a deal, but He does not negotiate. God tells us what He will do and what we are to do--period. Man disobeyed God and was punished. But God still loved mankind and had compassion on him. God made the promise of a Savior with the first great act of His grace in Gen. 3:15b, "he (Jesus) will crush your head, and you will strike his heel".

A Savior will come to save us from eternal death. Luke 2:11b tells of the fulfillment of that promise—"a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. In Acts 16:30a-31 a jailer asked "... what must I do to be saved?" Paul answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household." In John 14:6-7, Jesus said: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

So what's the deal? God's deal is -- "believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will have eternal life" – there is no other way. There is no compromise or negotiation, just the deal God made with mankind! Believe and you will be saved! What a deal!

Sharon Akers,
Vice President of Christian Life



GOSPEL OUTREACH

The Iowa East District LWML Gospel Outreach Committee is pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications for Student Aid Grants for the 2011-2012 school year. Applications can be found online at [www. ide-lwml.org](http://www.ide-lwml.org) by clicking on the 'LWML Student Aid' tab in the purple box on the left side of the home page. There you will find the eligibility requirements, the outline of the application procedure, and the links to the application and financial condition forms. The application deadline is May 1, 2011. Recipients will be notified by June 15th.



The Gospel Outreach Committee is also pleased to report that mite goals are being paid as mite gifts are received. It is evident how God uses our mites to accomplish HIS purpose of shining the light of our Savior, Jesus, on those living in darkness. Following is a table of our financial progress for the 2010-2012 biennium.

2010 - 2012 IDE LWML GRANTS	GRANT	AMT PD	DATE PD	BALANCE
IDE SEMINARY Scholarships	\$7,500	\$3,750	8.15.10	\$3,750
IDE STUDENT Scholarships	\$11,000	\$5,500	8.15.10	\$5,500
CAMP IO-DIS-E-CA Camperships	\$5,000	\$2,500	1.4.11	\$2,500
MISSION CENTRAL Pastor Train Proj., Africa	\$4,000	\$4,000	1.4.11	\$0
LCMS WORLD RELIEF Human Care Disast Relief Kits	\$3,500	\$3,500	1.4.11	\$0
LCMS Joint Seminary Fund	\$5,000	\$2,500	11.05.10	\$2,500
LUTHERAN BLIND MISSION Publish Today's Light	\$4,000			\$4,000
LCMS WORLD RELIEF Palanga Lithuanian Lutheran	\$5,000			\$5,000
LUTHERAN DEAF MISSION Deaf Training Mtg.	\$6,000			\$6,000
LCMS WORLD MISSIONS Chapel Roofs - Africa	\$5,000			\$5,000
LCMS WORLD MISSIONS				
Emergency Medical Evacuation - Papua, New Guinea	\$4,000			\$4,000
DAGO Women's Resource Center	\$5,000			\$5,000
LAMP US Morning Star Mentoring Program	\$5,000	\$5,000	8.10.10	\$0
MISSION CENTRAL India Church	\$5,600			\$5,600
Planting Training Program				
LCMS WORLD MISSIONS Wittenberg Project	\$5,000			\$5,000
GRACE PLACE For IDE Church Workers	\$3,450			\$3,450
MISSION CENTRAL India School Mission Project	\$3,450			\$3,450
TOTAL GRANTS	\$87,500	\$26,750		\$60,750

Sharon Andresen
VP of Gospel Outreach

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

A TASTE OF LWML

What is LWML? There are members of your congregation who do not know the answer to that question. Some of those women even attend your monthly LWML meetings! It is difficult to encourage women to feel part of an organization they do not understand. So what can we do to help them know about LWML? Have you considered setting aside one meeting a year to simply gather together women from your congregation and share a bit about LWML? Plan a little activity for fun, include some tempting treats and talk about LWML.

The LWML website is full of information about programs and materials and mission outreach opportunities and current grants and so much more. There are free or inexpensive materials available at the LWML store which can help you share the mission and vision of LWML. We are part of an amazing group of women dedicated to sharing the Gospel, being in the Word and walking with our Lord.

If you would like program ideas, my contact information is included in the officer information of the IDEA. I'd be happy to help you give your group a taste of LWML.

Martha Hartwig



Officially, the name of our LWML district has changed

– it is now the LWML Iowa East District (LWML IED).

This change was handled at the national level,

and it is our official name for tax purposes.

All “official” changes have been made.

So when you see IED – it’s not a typo.

Judy Westergren

Editor

MISSION MINISTRY VISION (MMV) NEWS



In 2005 the IDE board sent me to a MMV training conference. I have since consulted with many societies and zones, sharing ideas for keeping our mission and vision alive. I have had very little feedback regarding the implementation of the suggestions and ideas following these MMV presentations.

Please ask your society and/or zone to respond to the following three questions:

1. What did you try to do after your MMV consultation, and how did you do it?
2. Describe any successful outcome following the MMV challenges presented to you.
3. What suggestions do you have for improving the MMV program (presentations, follow-up consultation, etc.)?

Please send your responses to Kathy Schweer, 2332 E. Washington Street, Iowa City, IA 52245 or to kdschweer1@msn.com.

"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 enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world." Help keep the mission of LWML alive in Iowa District East!

Kathy Schweer,
MMV consultant

SOCIETY NEWS

St. Stephen's Ladies Society, Atkins, member of the Benton Zone, entertained the second/third grade students from Central Lutheran School, Newhall. Other guests included were the Nimble Fingers Quilters, Altar/Flower & Service Committees and our members. This was held on Wednesday, December 15, at 12 noon with forty-two guest and members in attendance.

After a delicious dinner, the students entertained those present with music and instruments under the direction of Karen Woltemath. Pastor Woltemath led us in devotions, reading portions of the Christmas story with scripture and singing of carols. A day of FOOD-FUN-FELLOWSHIP was enjoyed by all.

St. Stephen's Ladies Society
Atkins, IA





As we approach the 2015 Convention I can't tell you enough how I admire your dedication to your Lord and LWML in continuing to raise funds through this recycling program. Each quarter as I compile the figures and see the work you've done I'm so thankful to be working with you ladies. Below you will see a

chart recording the work so far:

2015 Convention Receipts 12/31/2010.

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	TOTAL
MLC RECYCLING	\$ 3,471.23	\$ 4,395.25	\$ 6,345.24	\$ 14,211.72
DONATIONS	\$ 1,269.35	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,255.05	\$ 2,824.40
INTEREST INCOME	\$ 53.52	\$ 153.20	\$ 186.64	\$ 393.36
TOTAL	\$ 4,794.10	\$ 4,848.45	\$ 7,786.93	\$ 17,429.48

OF SHIPMENTS SENT

2008 = 105

2009 = 123

2010 = 105

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

Susan Bishop

District Facilitator IED

WANT A NEW ADVENTURE?

Consider taking a bus trip to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, KY from June 13-16, 2011. For information call or email Ellen Bauer Ellen.bauer@mchsi.com
319-352-5435.

**Check out
our district
web-site**

www.ide-lwml.org

PLEASE NOTE:
REGISTRATION
INFORMATION
IS IN THE
QUARTERLY FOR
THE LWML
CONVENTION

THANK YOU!!



A big **THANK YOU** to the LWML sisters attending the fall retreat at camp Io-Dis-E-Ca who contributed to my second WR-HC medical mission trip to Madagascar. This mission trip was indeed a “God thing and a good thing” as we were able to witness and assist the Malagasy people when the Orphan Grain container arrived on October 10th. The 60 foot container arrived with much needed medical supplies just in time. It was gratifying to be able to see all the hard work my fellow LWML sisters do throughout the year; boxing and shipping supplies to the underprivileged all over the world. It was so gratifying to see the joy on their faces as we worked together unpacking the medical equipment and supplies. Once the water proof container was unloaded, LW-HC officials cut out windows and a door and then transported it to a remote village where it will serve as a medical clinic in the future. To God be all the glory.

In his service,

Helene Kuempel

Rev. Larry and Mabel Schmidt frequently sent memorials and honorariums to the work of the Lord through LWML. It is fitting that her work for the Lord continues in the many donations given in Mabel's memory. The sizable bequest from Ruth Noack's estate is a blessing to the Lord's work. Other blessings in the last months include: \$100 and \$500 checks for mites from individuals, \$235 received for Short Term Mission Trip fund, \$1000 "Christmas gift for mites" from one society, societies sending "extra income" from their zone rally for mites, special "Christmas Stocking" collection from another society, and societies sending a percent of "Graceful Harvest", "Mites for Muffins", and other local fund raisers. Please do not worry about changing how you address or sign your checks because of the EIN letter request. You may continue sending mites, memorials, and quarterly subscriptions to IDE - LWML Financial Secretary as always.

Serving Him with you,

Helen Huedepohl



**ZONE RALLIES:
2011 SPRING ZONE LWML RALLIES**

Benton	Thurs, April 28th	9:00 a.m.	Trinity Lutheran	Vinton
Cedar Rapids	Sun, April 10th	12:00 p.m.	Concordia Lutheran	Cedar Rapids
Clinton	Sat, April 2nd	8:30 a.m.	Immanuel Lutheran	Grand Mound
Davenport	Sat, April 9th	8:30 a.m.	Risen Christ Lutheran	Davenport
Dubuque	Sat, April 9th	8:45 a.m.	Our Redeemer Lutheran	Dubuque
Eldora	Sat, April 30th	10:30-2:30 p.m.	Mission Central	Mapleton
Marshalltown	Sat, March 26th	9:00-3:00 p.m.	St. John Lutheran	State Center
Mt. Pleasant	Sat, April 9th	9:00 a.m.	Immanuel Lutheran	Fairfield
St. Ansgar	Sat, April 30th	9:00-1:00 p.m.	Bethlehem Lutheran	Mason City
Waterloo	Sat, April 9th	9:00 a.m.	Immanuel Lutheran	Waterloo
Westgate	Sat, April 9th	8:30 a.m.	St. Paul's Lutheran	Fredericksburg
Williamsburg	Tues, April 5th	11:30 a.m.	St. John Lutheran	Homestead

May 1, 2011 – LWML Convention Registration Deadline, Peoria

June 13-16, 2011 - Creation Museum Bus Trip

June 23-26, 2011 – LWML Convention, Peoria, Illinois

June 27-30, 2013 – LWML Convention, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

June 25-28, 2015 – LWML Convention, Des Moines, IA