

MICHIGAN WOMEN IN MISSION

INVITATION TO CONVENTION

While preparing to speak at a rally I marveled at similarities between the national convention verse, Hebrews 12:1-2 and the verse the zone had chosen.

Last week my son was in a musical. Before the performance he mentioned something about kids "running a race." Vaguely I knew the title was "The Great Race," but I was preparing for the rally and was distracted. But imagine my surprise when I entered the auditorium and saw the students buzzing around with **12:1-2** printed on the front of their "race" t-shirts.

They were running the race too! Wow!! We, too, are running the race....looking to Jesus! I am really hoping to see you in Kentucky this June. Let's run the race together!!!!



GIFTS FROM THE HEART

Four organizations will be the beneficiaries of the Gifts from the Heart collected in Lexington. They include Assurance for Life, based in Lexington; Food Bank Support — Concordia Seminaries, Fort Wayne and St. Louis; and MOST Ministries. Check lwml.org to see the list of items. Now is the time to start gathering your items!

OPENING WORSHIP

A highlight of the upcoming convention, the opening worship service, will be held on Thursday, June 24, at 7 p.m. with proclaimer Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier, LCMS Michigan District President, who is looking forward to celebrating the gracious, loving, all-merciful God we have!

Remembering the convention Scripture, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1-2), we look forward to his message of hope and joy.

LIVESTREAMING IN LEXINGTON

The LWML will, once again, livestream all convention sessions in the Rupp arena. For those watching the convention at home, make plans to have a livestreaming party and invite the women in your congregation to watch it together.

You will be able to participate in the convention's Bible study, hear the grateful and inspiring mission grant speakers, and be there when the new biennium's mission goal and mission grants are announced. Watch for information and directions coming soon to the LWML website (lwml.org).

Upcoming Events & Deadlines:

- May 23-29 - Delegates Electronic Voting for Mission Goal and Mission Grants
- Jun 23-27 - LWML Convention in Lexington, KY
- Aug 7 - Assembly of Committees
- Sep 10-11 Retreat & Board Mtg - More info to come!

Mite Report

As of March 31, 2021

National

Goal: \$2,100,000

\$ Received: **\$2,204,725**

As of April 30, 2021

Michigan District

Goal: \$348,438

\$ Received: \$123,253

Send your mites to:

Carol Swenson
Financial Secretary
PO Box 474
Fenton, MI 48430

For information call:

810-714-0405

RUNNING THE RACE... OR RIDING THE RACE

Some of us can't run... but we can ride a bike ...to Lexington.

One of our own Zone presidents (Land of Lakes), Carla Elenz, has committed to riding a bike to Lexington from her home in Gaylord to raise funds for mites. The ride is called "Miles for Mites" and she is asking you to contribute to mites in honor of her ride. She will be leaving Gaylord on June 11 and arrive in Lexington on June 23, in time for the convention. The total distance is about 550 miles and she will be riding about 50 miles a day. Along the way she will be staying with LWML host families and is



looking forward to meeting other LWML sisters.

Carla is asking you, first, to be prayer warriors and lift her up each day while she is on the road.

Then you can follow her adventure virtually, if you use Facebook, at www.facebook.com/groups/milesformites. Click "Join Group". She is posting about training now, and will post daily updates and pictures during the ride.

If you would like to support Carla's effort to raise money for mites, you can make a donation to mites in honor of her ride. You can do it online at www.lwmlmichigan.org donate and under FUND, select "Miles for Mites."

BIBLE STUDY LEADER

Leading us through our Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) 2021 Convention Scripture will be Deaconess Heidi Goehmann. She is a licensed clinical social worker and mental health care provider, deaconess, writer, speaker, wife, mom, and advocate.



Her website opens with "writings on mental health, relationships, and hope." Heidi's work of helping to restore broken lives is centered on the hope that comes from God's promises. She has written 10 books and/or studies, all incorporating her faith into her vocation.

Her Bible studies at the convention are on Friday and Saturday, June 25 and 26. If you are unable to attend, you can participate via live-stream.

VIRTUAL MISSION WALK

If you are unable to attend the convention but would like to be a part of the Mission Walk, you are invited to join in with a Virtual Photo Finish Mission Walk and collect pledges for Mites.

Take your walk anywhere — around the neighborhood, your church, or in a park. Gather your LWML group together or walk individually. Publicize the walk in your church bulletin, and make it a whole congregation event as you walk to support LWML missions.

PAST PRESIDENT LINDA REISER TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

LWML Past President Linda Reiser will be the keynote speaker at the 39th Biennial LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky. Speaking on Friday afternoon, Linda, who served from 2003–2007, will share her faith, joy, and experiences as an LWML Past President.



In her spare time, Linda plays golf and is a big supporter of the Tee Up 4 Mites Golf Outing at national LWML conventions. The golf tournament is the first convention event to raise funds for the new Mission Goal at each LWML convention.

Studying God's Word is her favorite activity. Reading His Word allows Him to shape her and use her for His purposes. Linda believes God has called each of us for a purpose, and she prays that women find that purpose by serving as Lutheran Women in Mission.

CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS

The Host Committee for the convention still needs volunteers to work at the convention. If you are available and want to work, please fill out a Call for Workers form found on the website, lwmlmichigan.org/conventions/national. You can indicate where you'd like to work. Hope to see you in Lexington!