

What's Your Superpower?

Yes, you, Miss, Mrs., or Ms. LWML member. Have you thought about it? So, maybe you can't leap tall buildings in a single bound, but I'll guarantee you've been able to cross a room in a nanosecond when you see a child in distress. Or maybe you're not faster than a speeding bullet, but, hey, you're the first to volunteer when someone is in need. And that powerful locomotive has nothing on you – HAH! - you wield the power of prayer! Oh yeah, you're a superhero!



But from whence do your superpowers come? Well, of course, your superpowers are the gifts from the Holy Spirit working in you. Let's take a closer look at these superpowers that God gives us shall we?

First, we learn that the gifts of the Spirit are given to us for the common good. So, you need to share your superpowers!

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good
(1 Corinthians 12:7).

Next, we learn that we don't get to pick our superpowers. Sigh. But the Holy Spirit knows best, and He hands out spiritual gifts to exactly the right people.

All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills
(1 Corinthians 12:11).

Finally, and this is the IMPORTANT part, we are expected to USE our superpowers!

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness
(Romans 12:6-8).

And how are we supposed to use our superpowers? Joyfully!

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing (Psalm 100:2)!

You may recall that in the previous issue of this publication, I wrote about how we are expected to heed God's call to service and how He equips the called, as opposed to calling the equipped. Well, here you go. YOU are equipped with superpowers!

Please prayerfully consider the gifts God has given you and how you might use those gifts in service to Him through the LWML. Examine the gifts the Lord has given you and consider putting them to use in a position on the board of directors. We are still in need of candidates for elected offices, and we are always in need of people to accept appointed positions. If the Holy Spirit moves you or if you just have questions, please feel free to contact me at president@midsouthlwml.org.

Love in Christ Jesus,
President Candy
[Email](#)



Saving the best for last...

I read my email from the L.L. Editor reminding me that it was my turn to write for the newsletter, and that this would be my last entry as serving as your counselor, my heart sank. Has it been four years already, I know that in the midst of all things we had to deal with video calls and conferences as we erred on side of caution. I still cannot believe that my time serving, this time around, is coming to an end. I look forward to seeing you all at the convention in June in Clarksville, if you are able to be there. If you are not, I want to say thank you, thank you for allowing me to walk beside you and share in ministry with you over the past years. It has been an eye opening, life changing, encouraging endeavor that I look forward to doing again one day in the future as God allows. I am not good at good bye, so let's just leave it as until we see each other again.

But, anyway, enough of the personal emptying myself stuff, and let's get our hands dirty, as we shake the cobwebs off our lives and begin to look at what is yet to come. So as I began to prepare for this last offering to you, I was torn between sharing a couple of the texts that I have been studying lately. And as I went over the texts again, I was drawn to Luke fifteen, and the Prodigal Son. Now I know that we have all heard this read and most likely preached upon time and time again, but for me it never gets old, and every time that I read it and study it, something else comes to light for me. I guess what I want to lead us to think about is the fact that we, as hard as we try from time to time, whether we are aware of it or not, we daily dance on the edge of being like this Prodigal Son. We struggle in our every day lives, and we become frustrated, and concerned because things are not going our way, our plans are not being fulfilled in the manor that we had expected or thought that they might. So, what do we do, we take our things and we leave seeking greener pastures, better lives, what ever that might be. We see it being played out in our lives in so many ways, in our employment situation, within the circle of friends that we surround ourselves with, and if I might be so bold, we even see it in the church, as people jump from church to church looking for what is already there.

We give up on what we have been taught and know and understand to search for the unsearchable, because we lose our focus. We become like the Prodigal Son, who gives up all that he has falling victim to the ways of the world, and the ways of man. We at our church, in our men's group years ago shared in a study, and one of the things that stuck out to me is that the presenter said, "The grass might be greener on the other side of the fence, but it still needs to be cut." Some words for thought. Do not allow the ways of the world to remove you from what you know and love, from what brings you joy and peace. This world is quick to jump on us during our weakest times, so stand strong and stand firm, trusting in the truth of Scripture, and the gift we received through the empty cross and tomb.

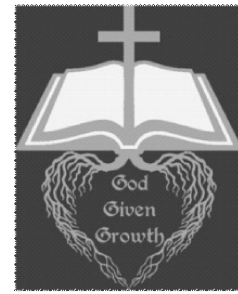
Ladies, and brother editor... thank you for allowing me to be a part of all that you are becoming and striving to me. I have truly been blessed. God is there waiting and watching for us to return to Him, His arms are open wide to receive and welcome us home.... Run to Him.

God bless you all

Pastor Bill
[Email](#)



**LWML Mid-South District
27th Biennial Convention
June 10-12, 2022
TownePlace Suites by Marriott
Clarksville, Tennessee**



“Planting Seeds of Faith”, 1 Corinthians 3:6.

The web site for the convention is: www.midsouthlwml.org

Click on the links below to find out everything you need to know about the convention!

- [Registration](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Delegate Information](#)
- [Special Guests](#)
- [Seminars](#)
- [Offering Recipients](#)
- [Gifts from the Heart](#)
- [Schedule Overview](#)
- [Opening Worship](#)
- [Publicity Helps](#)
- [Young Woman Representatives](#)
- [Exhibitors](#)
- [FAQs](#)

Keynote Speaker – Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Currently the Executive Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington DC, encouraging and equipping L C M S members and organizations to take informed action in support of marriage, life and religious freedom.



**Song Leader and Banquet Entertainer –
Wendysue Fluegge**



Wisconsin based touring artist, professional singer/songwriter, and worship leader, Wendysue Fluegge, is a pianist, guitarist, and gifted vocalist with a love for Jesus and an energetic personality that will entertain and inspire us.

Updates from the Department of Administration

I am so excited that in a few short months, I will be able to see and visit with my Lutheran Women's Missionary League sisters at our district convention! I am always inspired by the work done to help spread God's Word through the mission grants and other activities we are involved in through LWML.

The Nominating Committee is still hard at work trying to find women to run for offices. We still need women to run for the treasurer and nominating committee positions. If you are interested, please email me through the district website. The Budget Committee has developed the next biennium's budget for approval by the convention body. The Endowment Fund now has funds to distribute, and the committee has developed a form to fill out if you are interested in applying for these funds. The Structure Committee is in the final stages of editing the LWML Mid-South District Directives.

Thank you to President Candy for all your support and guidance these past two years! It has been a team effort to accomplish every task set before each committee. If you ever have a chance to work on one of the committees, it will be an amazing and worthwhile experience!

For the body does not consist of one member but many (1 Corinthians 12:14, RSV).

Sincerely,
Jane Hubsch
1st Vice President

[Email](#)



Spring has sprung! New Life has begun!

The daffodils are blooming in my yard. The redbuds are showing off their beautiful blooms. The days are getting warmer and longer. After the cold and dark of winter, I look forward to the brightness of days and the beauty of new growth. Each coming of spring is a reminder of how we are brought to new life in Christ from darkness and sin. We have celebrated Ash Wednesday, will remember Good Friday, and are looking forward to the glory of Easter. He is Risen! Alleluia!

Hebrews 10. 22-25 *Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

We have the assurance that Jesus Christ washed away our sins and has clothed us with His righteousness. We have the hope that He is faithful to forgive us and lead us. We share with each other the hope planted in us. We encourage one another. I think that sounds like cleaning and cultivating! I remember all the spring cleaning my mother would do. And all the work that was done in the garden to prepare the soil for the seeds to be planted. Maybe this spring, we need to do some cleaning and cultivating in our lives to produce fruit!

How are you cultivating your spiritual life? Is your day so cluttered that you don't have time to study God's Word? Did you know: You can receive a daily Mustard Seed devotion in your inbox? Your group may be beginning a new Bible study, or you can start one! There are so many resources online (lwml.org). You can attend a Christian Life Workshop and cultivate your heart with other sisters in Christ.

Are you attending the Mid-South LWML District Convention in Clarksville, TN June 10 – 12? We will be planting seeds (spiritually), and watering (singing, Bible studies, and guest speakers) and thanking God for growing us.

I have been blessed to serve as your second vice president these four years. I am thankful for the new friendships I have made and for the joy in serving. Consider where you can share your fruit; in your group, your church, your zone, or the district!

Serving Christ joyfully with you!

He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Becky Grese
2nd Vice President

[Email](#)



Mission Accomplished

I am glad to report that all Mission Grants that were chosen for the 2020-2024 biennium have been paid except for two grants that were withdrawn. The withdrawn grants were "Healing Hearts with the Gospel - Japan Earthquake & Tsunami Ministry 10 Years Later (Partial Funding at \$6,600)" and "New Beginnings - Children with learning needs - (Requested \$5,000)" which had been extended from the 2018-2020 biennium. We were able to use surplus funds to pay out the only mission grant that was not funded for the 2020-2022 biennium which was "Transforming Churches Network - Funds for annual Discipleship Conference for \$4,000". Praise God that we were able to pay for all the viable Mission Grant requests from the 2020-2022 biennium!

The Mission Grants Committee (Dorothy Edwards, Mitzi Dixon, and Rebecca Robinson) met via Zoom in February with a follow-up meeting in March also attended by President Candy Habich. During these meetings we discussed the 24 Mission Grant applications that were received. It was decided that all but one be placed on the ballot. This makes a total of 23 Mission Grant applications that will be voted on in Clarksville.

I look forward to seeing you all at the LWML Mid-South District Convention in Clarksville, TN from June 10-12, 2022.

Blessings

Sandra Arnold
Third Vice-President

[Email](#)



Amount Requested	Recipient	Zone	Req. Seq.	Date(s) Paid
15,000.00	Financial Aid for Professional Church Workers (4 installments)	Mid-South District	0	Oct-2020 Feb-2021 Oct-2021 Jan-2022
7,400.00	Camp Scholarships - Camp Petit Jean	Mid AR	1	Oct-2020
0.00	Healing Hearts with the Gospel - Japan Earthquake & Tsunami Ministry 10 yrs Later (Partial Funding at \$6,600) - WITHDRAWN	Mid AR	13	
6,000.00	Pregnancy Resource Center - Medical and Program Services	East TN	3	Dec-2020
5,000.00	Oasis Women's Ministry - Renovating an area for Bible study - Furniture, cabinets, Bible St prog	East TN	10	Oct-2021
4,500.00	Paradox Teen Center - Trips to Christian venues: Ark Encounter, Creation Museum, etc	East TN	2	Nov-2020
10,000.00	The River Ministry - Women and Children - Replace 6 washers and 6 dryers, service contract (2 installments)	East TN	7	Apr-2021 May-2021
6,000.00	Faith Lutheran Child Care & Preschool - Flooring for renovated house /Sun shade or Sail for playground	Mid TN	8	Jul-2021
5,000.00	Inspiritus - Building Healthy Families - Purchase program supplies, caring closet items, meeting meals	Mid TN	9	Sep-2021
6,500.00	"Last Call" Radio Ministry - Proclaiming the Gospel by "daily devotion" radio thru south middle TN	Mid TN	5	Jan-2021
7,500.00	Trinity Lutheran Childcare Ministries - Purchase of playground equipment to meet new DHS guidelines	Mid TN	11	Dec-2021
1,000.00	Concordia Seminary Ft. Wayne - Financial Support for the Food Co-op to purchase food	Lutheran Org.	12	Dec-2021
6,000.00	Concordia Seminary St. Louis International Graduate School Students' Support	Lutheran Org.	6	Mar-2021
4,500.00	Lutheran Heritage Foundation - Witnessing to the Ethiopian: Catechisms and Devotions	Lutheran Org.	4	Jan-2021
0.00	New Beginnings - Children with learning needs - (Requested \$5,000) EXTENDED BUT WITHDRAWN			
4,000.00	Transforming Churches Network - Funds for annual Discipleship Conference - FUNDED FROM SURPLUS	Lutheran Org.		Mar-2022
	Original requests totaled \$96,000 budgeted amount for Mission Grants. Amount paid after 2 withdrawn and final requestor added is \$84,400			

[Click for printable copy](#)

What's Your 80?

In celebration of 80 years of God's Grace, 17 ladies of **Faith, Collierville** made 80 Chrismons to replace the much loved ones the church currently has and 80 Scripture Tags ("In Time of Loss", "Hope in the Lord" and "Thoughts of Joy"). A special "thank you" to Thrivent Action Dollars for supporting this project.



The Sound Of Silence

So many wonderful things to be thankful for that sometimes I just don't know where to begin. I feel so blessed to be a part of the LWML. The grants that we fund, the sisters we meet, the ministries we feel so strongly about, are some of the reasons that I love this organization.

I am so thankful that LWML decided to reach out and include our deaf/hard of hearing sisters. There are many people that are affected by hearing loss. Intentionally including these sisters is an awesome thing because one of the hard parts of being deaf or even hard of hearing is simply not being included. It becomes an awkward situation at times and most of us don't have the training to know how to respond so we just turn away.

It is my goal as your deaf ministry liaison to make you more comfortable so, that if you are ever in a situation that you will react with compassion and some knowledge. Learning ASL is actually fun and increases your idle brain cells – just like puzzles do. I am a student just like you and it takes practice like most everything else.

There are Youtube videos that are very good that I use for practice. I like simple easy stuff so these two videos are just that. Google's "[ASL for Kids](#)" and find "[Superhero/Sign language for kids](#)". Any of the little songs, phrases, etc., is good to watch and learn. My grandson who is four loves them. Also "[takelessons.com](#)" is a great site. It shows 12 Basic ASL Phrases and words and if you scroll down the page a bit there is a lady named Victoria that will teach you some phrases and how to answer them as well.

The ASL alphabet is a must and a good place to start. This way you can hand spell anything if you don't know the sign for it. It is available when you search for [ASL alphabet](#).

Just give it a try and see if you can learn a few phrases, words or the alphabet. Set a goal and learn a few a week. Use them with your family and friends until you are comfortable. Make it fun. Kids love doing this so it makes a good family activity with your own kids or grandchildren. Make a game out of it, kind of like, name that sign! If your church has ladies that are deaf that could be included in your LWML events, please let me know. I will do all I can to help them get involved.

I pray for the deaf and pray that they find LWML to help them navigate some friendly waters. I ask that you pray for me to be led by the Holy Spirit to minister to those God has ready for me to meet. Blessings to you as we learn together!

Vicki Eubanks
West Tennessee Deaf Ministry Liaison
[Email](#)

Trust God in spite of your fears

We all have leadership roles somewhere and sometime in our lives. It may be at work, church, in the community or even in our homes.

Every organization needs a leader. The leadership role should NOT stand above anyone. She stands shoulder to shoulder with the rest of the group to guide them and to help meet goals. All members of the group or family must use their God-given talents to the best of their ability to fulfill their role.

Then the leader should step up to equip and empower her fellow members to use their gifts to accomplish the goals set before them. A great leader does not do this alone. First and foremost the leader should seek God's help in any of the decisions that are to be made. Reach out to God in prayer.

You may feel overwhelmed and see your leadership as something too difficult for you. God has put you where you are. Trust God in spite of your fears. Your group needs you to love them, to listen to them and to point them to Jesus!

4th Vice President
Shirley Piepenbrink
[Email](#)



WHAT'S YOUR 80?

Immanuel Memphis has collected 80+ baby items to be given to Life Choices of Memphis. Life Choices is a Christian organization that is a safe, confidential, and FREE pregnancy help medical center offering factual information about all the client's options so that they can be educated and empowered to make the best decisions for their life.



Trinity Lutheran LWML, North Little Rock

This is what our small group did for the Care Van this past November.

We were able to collect 32 Personal Care Kits. This was the most successful we have been in collecting kits for the Care Van. We have been truly blessed to have started a LWML that has grown over the past year.

We started to meet in the evenings for convenience but night driving was difficult for some of our members so we have now started meeting on a Saturday morning once a month.

We have been blessed this past year and look forward to continuing to stay active in our mission work through LWML.

Blessings,
Esther Mahnken



ENDOWMENT FUND READY FOR FUND REQUEST APPLICATIONS



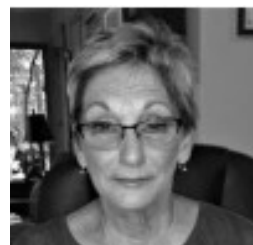
The LWML Mid-South District Endowment Fund is officially only a little over a year old and we are already able to make distributions from the Fund to provide scholarships to ladies of the LWML Mid-South District and encourage future leaders of the LWML-MSD. The Endowment Fund Committee met in March to review and approve the process and application request form to apply for a grant from the Fund. Please go to our website at <https://www.midsouthlwml.org/endowment-fund> to see the form, instructions, and an example. Praise God for the generous donors who allowed us to arrive at this place in such a short amount of time!

Work on the fund began in 2018 and was formally approved by the delegates to the LWML-MSD Convention that was held virtually in 2020. It was at that point I was asked to chair the committee that would complete the work on creating the Fund. It has been an honor for me to be involved in this along with all the others that have been instrumental in the creation of the Endowment Fund.

Treasurer Mary Pruitt will be providing the financial results of the Endowment Fund for the first time at the 2022 LWML-MSD Convention at Clarksville, TN and I will speak to you about all the LWML-MSD Endowment Fund non-financial news and information. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Convention.

Sincerely,
Erin M. Foster

Chairman
Mid-South District
LWML Endowment
Committee



Gifts Of Love Ministry

The truth is, no matter how much we plan, we always need to be willing to adjust those plans. We are not like God, who can see all of time in one glance and knows everything. As a result, with all the twists and turns of life, we must be willing to periodically analyze our plans and to align them with reality, in paths the Lord has chosen for us.

This is true about our estate planning work as well. An estate plan is not a "one and done" proposition. It keeps evolving through life. Things change. Are you still at the same congregation when you made a will and designated a donation to continue that ministry? Does your current will provide for young children who are now grown? Do you want to provide an inheritance to your children and grandchildren?

We want to make sure that our legal and financial goals set out in wills, trusts, and beneficiary designations align with the reality of life as God has shown it to be today. Reviewing our plans gives us the joy of counting past blessings and looking forward with faith to avenues of grace to which our Heavenly Father is leading us. Is it time to do some reflecting?

Our LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you start the process. Contact Linda Gage at linda.gage@lfnd.org or 800-741-4138, Ext. 1. Diane Reimold, Gifts of Love Advocate for the Mid-South District, has gone through this process and would be happy to answer any questions. Contact Diane at giftsoflove@midsouthlwml.org.



The LWML of Christ the King, Memphis has been busy!

On Feb.6th, we sold soup for our annual "Souper Bowl Sunday" to our congregation before and after our three services and sold out of all soup! The proceeds will be used to make Easter baskets for our homebound church members.

Then on March 9th, we served homemade soup as we hosted our church's Lenten soup supper. The next project for our group will be putting together the Easter baskets on April 2nd to be delivered the week before Easter. We are so blessed to be able to serve the Lord with gladness!

Two of our group members, Pat Paavola (L) and Wendy Arth (R) serving at our Lenten soup supper.



Immanuel Memphis LWML -

enjoyed fellowship time with each other over brunch and game time. It's a JOY when we can just have fun and enjoy each other's company.



Come to the Munch Bunch!

Join us for Bible Study & Fellowship

Thursday, May 19, 2022



Joining instructions are below. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us [HERE](#).

Topic: LWML Mid-South District Munch Bunch #6 – Ministry to Hearing Impaired
Time: May 19, 2022 - 8:00-9:30 PM Eastern / 7:00-8:30 PM Central

Our special guest will be Vicki Eubanks, LWML Mid-South District Deaf Ministry Liaison.

Join Zoom Meeting – You should be able to just click on the link below. Be sure your computer or other device camera is ON and your microphone is MUTED. Once you are in the Zoom meeting you may want to open your “chat” window to see and/or respond to comments posted by other attendees.

Topic: LWML Mid-South District Munch Bunch #6 – Ministry to Hearing Impaired
Time: May 19, 2022 08:00 PM Eastern Time / 07:00 PM Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87036776353?pwd=ZnZVdVdXeHJNcXdIdXFjcDVuVGxwdz09>

Meeting ID: 870 3677 6353

Passcode: 160689

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,87036776353#,,,,*160689# US (New York)

+13017158592,,87036776353#,,,,*160689# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 720 707 2699 US (Denver)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 870 3677 6353

Passcode: 160689

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kd7g7ULwxa>

St. Paul, Sevierville, On A Roll

St Paul Sevierville has been busy spending the money made at last year's rummage sale in support of our local community.

In addition to using some of our wonderful carpenter husbands to build much needed shelves for a local elementary school (to get many, many boxes of files off the floor and off each other) we gathered all sorts of items requested by our friends in need.



We provided life size baby dolls to a local health care group for use by Alzheimer patients. We filled multiple angel tree requests at our Senior Center and local rehab facilities. We provided needed items at our local Women's Care Center, the local Rescue Mission, the family resource center, special Olympics and many more. It was a busy year. We're excited to be planning next year's rummage sale now.



LWML leads the program but has encouraged all the church to collect plastic tops (such as water bottle lids, or any plastic lid) for use by the local DAR chapter. They provide the lids to a local special needs elementary school where the children sort them by color and then forward them on to become colorful (safe) benches and tables for school grounds.



We also had the privilege of hosting the Zone Board meeting in our fellowship hall in January. It was a thrill to have it open and active again after COVID kept us away from each other for so long. We have recovered and are looking forward to a busy God centered, productive year in 2022.

Next issue in **July**. Send your material to the editor by
JUNE 26 -
George Allen
webmaster@midsouthlwml.org

Girls Can Tie Quilts Too

The Quilters at **Grace, Knoxville**, had the opportunity to have 5 young girls, ages 8-12, learn to tie quilts. They came on a recent Saturday to do a service project for their "homeschooling" and really enjoyed getting acquainted. Even though they all attend Grace, they did not really know each other. They learned how to thread a needle and tie a square knot, too. The two quilts that they finished were specially chosen to be appreciated by other children around the world through Lutheran World Relief. Now these girls may be the next generation of Quilters!



Messiah, Memphis' LWML ladies had their first Military Bible Stick rummage sale March 5th. \$3,323. was raised and sent to the Faith Comes By Hearing organization. There were 189 customers and 23 prayer requests.

Ounce again Thrivent Action Team funding covered all expenses.

2021 report:

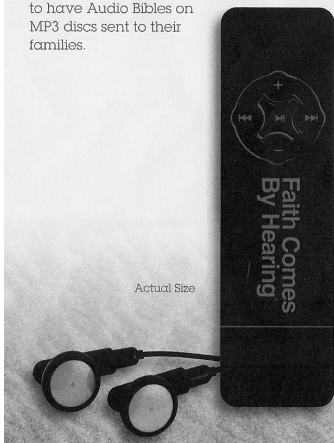
Number of shoppers - 920

Number of Prayer Requests - 87

Amount Raised for Project - \$18,266

Total value with matching funds - \$36,523

- A portable, digital audio player, pre-loaded with the complete Audio Drama New Testament
- Matte black design and low-light ensure safe use in the field
- Pocket-sized
- Military tough – withstands bad weather
- No beeps or bright lights
- Includes a response card for service members to have Audio Bibles on MP3 discs sent to their families.



Make
time to
slow
down
and
RELAX

