

Ideas for Zone Activities

- Advent by Candlelight- During Advent, invite women from area churches to a special evening. Have a volunteer or appointed hostess for each table (long or round, seating 8-10). The hostess can decorate her table with good china, fancy decorations, and candlelight. The evening can include entertainment (Advent or Christmas devotion, special music- singing, handbells, choir), reading of scripture or poetry, and a short skit or drama. Then the hostess serves tea, coffee, and a dessert. There will be a time of fellowship at each table. Close with singing and prayer.
- Multicultural idea- Take above (Advent by Candlelight) activity and assign a different culture from which to either decorate their table, serve pertinent desserts, or discuss customs.
- Hold a “Luther & Katy Day” – Celebrate Katherine Luther’s birthday. January 28, 1499
- Have a Mission Fair- Utilize resources from LWML and/or LCMS World Mission. Invite youth groups and have each group host a different country. If possible, invite a missionary, former missionary, or short-term mission worker as your speaker.
- Using a “Mission” theme, designate the offering for a specific mission and invite a speaker from that area or mission. Consider inviting a parochial school to come and listen also.
- “Everybody Eats Rice” Multicultural Event- Tell how each cultural group prepares their rice and have samples! This could also be done with different kinds of breads. The program could be expanded or changed to include different types of celebrations, homes we live in, how feasts or holidays are celebrated, or how different languages look written down.
- Plan and hold a Zone Garage Sale (Flea Market, Tag Sale) and donate the money to mission projects or establish a scholarship fund for LWML conventions, retreats, etc.
- Use a “Prayer” theme- Split into groups and write topical prayers on 3x5 cards and assemble them as take-home “favours.” Some topics could include personal challenges: depression, fear, loneliness, illness; social challenges: unemployment, right-to-life, homelessness, and other pertinent topics. The group as a whole could decide on the topics and then break into groups to work on the prayers.
- Gardening theme- Invite a speaker from a county extension service, a local garden club, or someone from one of the churches with a “green thumb.” As a reminder of

the day, small plants, labeled with appropriate passages from Scripture, could be given to attendees to take care of and nurture as we must our spiritual lives.

- Have a special presentation on flower arranging. It could be about altar flowers, different ideas on flowers for the church, or flowers from the Bible.
- How about a morning/afternoon of “Do it Yourself” Hints? Include home how-to’s and automobile repair tips with local speakers (county extension services, local businesses, vocational school teachers). A sampling of helpful books could be displayed.
- Plan and invite speakers on retirement planning. The fraternal companies are good sources for speakers and materials on this topic. Devotions and Bible Studies can easily be tied into the topic. Be sure to include “A Light That Endures.” Contact your LWML District for information.
- Rubber Stamp Party- Invite persons to bring rubber stamps. Have someone demonstrate how they could be used to share the Good News with children, adults, and shut-ins by making cards or gifts.
- Mentoring Day- Personally invite some of your more “seasoned” ladies who love to tell stories. . . of their earliest memories of LWML, of the most interesting changes over the last 40 years, of the influential women in the formation of the zone, or some early activities of the zone. Then as a group brainstorm on where you’ll be in 10 or 20 years. Be sure to keep things on the panel moving. Hint: Give the women on your panel some questions ahead of time with specific time allotments noted so your program doesn’t get too long!
- Try a zone mentoring activity where a new multi-cultural ministry group is invited and encouraged to start women’s groups. Provide Quarterly’s and other resources for them. Continue to pray for them and encourage them with notes and future invitations.
- Sponsor a mini-VBS for an afternoon, inviting children from the church and community.
- Make placemats for local nursing facilities out of Christmas cards and/or greeting cards.
- Christmas Carol in October at long-term care facilities and/or hospitals.
- Hold your zone event at a long-term care facilities or retirement home.
- Explore “spiritual gifts” by discovering each attendee’s own gift using a spiritual gift survey.

- Sponsor an LWML Resource Display- have an area/table for each department for which you have available resources ordered from the LWML catalog. Divide the group among the areas and using the resources, have each come up with a presentation for the whole group. Resources could be creatively dispersed to all participants to take home and use in their societies.
- Using a Bible study as your theme, sponsor a CPH Bible Study resource day. Contact CPH and obtain a display/selling kit of their newer Bible studies. Invite a CPH resource person to be your speaker.
- If you are close to college campuses, check into a presentation by their drama or choral group for a special evening (matinee?) out. Set your gathering up like a dinner theatre- tables with candles, etc.
- Hold a coffee house gathering! Same ideas as above but more casual with some Christian groups performing and light refreshments.