



## Taking Care of God's Children in Detroit: The Luke Clinic

Detroit has an infant mortality rate almost triple the national average. The Luke Clinic Executive Director Penny Armbruster believes that establishing a trusting, caring relationship with mothers-to-be in their environment is the key to



providing long term prenatal and infant care. A partnership with the Family of God congregation in Southwest Detroit and the Michigan District-LCMS enables the clinic to meet the needs of the most vulnerable mothers and babies in Detroit. Penny was instrumental in the visioning and start up of the clinic 5 years ago and is passionate about providing a safe and loving environment for women to find support, encouragement and excellent medical care during their pregnancies.

Penny will share stories of struggle and hope at the **Council's spring meeting on Monday, April 29th at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Northville** (behind Kroger grocery store).

Check-in for the Spring meeting begins at 9:15 a.m. with opening devotions at 9:45 a.m. The business meeting includes election of officers and updates from CLW committees and member inter-congregational organizations. Lunch at noon (free-will offering) and the speaker's presentation follow the meeting.

Please encourage your congregation to join you in supporting The Luke Clinic with financial gifts and donating ingathering items for our mission partners (see [www.clwmichigan.com](http://www.clwmichigan.com) under Opportunities for Participation tab).



## Thirty-nine Women of the Year Honored at Annual Luncheon

The Mirage in Clinton Township played host to the 60th Council of Lutheran Women Annual Luncheon this year where 535 women and their guests enjoyed warm fellowship, tasty food and wonderful entertainment. CLW Historian Pat Schultz and WOY Coordinator Joan Monson introduced 39 Women of the Year and highlighted activities of the honorees in their churches and communities. Proceeds from this year will fund scholarships for seminarians and two CUAA church work students in Fall 2024.

Musicians Elroy and Tammie Kosters, known as Living Truth<sup>2</sup>, brought hymns and worship songs to life with a variety of instruments. Past scholarship recipients and luncheon prayer leaders Rev. Asaph James from East Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Detroit, Rev. Dan Howard from Hope Lutheran Church in Warren, and Rev. Matt Heise from Lutheran Heritage Foundation in Macomb recalled their encouragement from scholarships, cards and notes from CLW while attending the seminary. Students from St. John Lutheran School in Fraser helped to receive and organize donations for all ministry partners.

**Mark your calendars for the 2025 Council of Lutheran Women Annual Luncheon on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.**

Ministry partners accept donations and CLW accepts in-kind and cash donations for the food bank, layettes, and seminarian scholarships throughout the year. Find Information on the CLW website ([www.clwmichigan.com](http://www.clwmichigan.com)) under the Opportunities for Participation and Support Us tabs.



## Browse the CLW Website and Facebook Page for Publicity and Project Ideas

The **organizations and projects supported** tab lists CLW-sponsored activities that are part of our ongoing mission to strengthen our Lutheran and civic communities. The Council supports seminarians from member congregations with financial gifts, prayers and cards of encouragement. Operation Layette volunteers assemble layettes for distribution to local organizations twice per year. A CLW-sponsored food bank at a Detroit congregation is open year-round to serve the local community. The Council also provides guidance on issues and

actions that give us an opportunity for Christian witness.

A **photo gallery** tab on the CLW website and the photo tab on the Council of Lutheran Women Facebook page contain photos from events and scholarship recipients that you may use for promotion of CLW in your church publications and social media.

The **Council of Lutheran Women Facebook page** is updated regularly with events and registrations, seminarian news, and spring/fall meeting information.

### CLW Spring 2024 Meeting: Registration information

The Spring meeting will be at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 201 Elm St., Northville, MI 48375. Register through Eventbrite on the CLW website ([www.clwmichigan.com](http://www.clwmichigan.com)) by April 22, 2024 or call Candie Sionkowski at (734) 323-8008 for assistance.