

## 37th Biennial LWML Kansas District Convention

April 20-22, 2018 in Hutchinson, Kansas

### POST CONVENTION NEWS RELEASE

“Beautiful Feet“, taken from Isaiah 52:7, was the theme for the 37<sup>th</sup> Biennial Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) Kansas District Convention, that met at the Atrium Hotel and Conference Center in Hutchinson, Kansas, from April 20-22, 2018. LWML members and guests numbering 370 from all over the state of Kansas were in attendance for the three day event and to celebrate the organization’s 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; the attendance included thirty-five first timers and fourteen Young Woman Representatives. The convention hosts were members of the Hutchinson, Northwest, and Southwest Zones, with Mary Schmidt, Relda Galli, and Corrine Adams serving as Convention Chairmen.

Friday events included Round Table Bible Study Sampler sessions, Leadership Development sessions, a Prayer Labyrinth and Scripture Journaling. Brenda Piester, LWML Kansas District President from Coats, Kansas, officially opened the convention on Friday evening, followed by the Opening Worship Service with Holy Communion and a 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration reception. Saturday morning events began with the Opening Procession of banners, featuring banners from each of the twelve zones in the LWML Kansas District. Bible Study was led by Deb Burma of Columbus, Nebraska. The national LWML was represented by Carol von Soosten, LWML Strategic Plan Facilitator, from Centralia, Illinois. During the business meeting, delegates voted on bylaws revisions, new officers, and Mission Grants and God’s Gracious Gift Fund Grants. Convention delegates also adopted a total mission goal of \$155,700 for the 2018-2020 biennium.

Saturday afternoon, convention attendees enjoyed the Mission in Action presentation by Tim Young Eagle of Lutheran Indian Ministries. Reports were also heard from Sherri Rose, the Heart to Heart Sister District Leader, and the three YWRs who attended the 2017 Albuquerque national convention. Convention attendees also participated in various Interest Sessions. The Servant Events included making witness bracelets for MOST Ministries, tying fleece blankets for Phil’s Friends cancer care packages, packaging dried beans/rice for an Olathe food pantry, decorating lunch sacks for the homeless in Kansas City, and working on plastic sleep mats for Orphan Grain Train. The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Banquet included the introduction of the Young Woman Representatives and the Executive Committee, followed by the delightful and humorous Jan Struck, portraying one of her characters, Miss Pearl Van Even Odd Hoven, and sharing the history of the LWML in Kansas.

The Christian Life Breakfast was held on Sunday morning, with Deaconess Elizabeth Ahlman of Houston, Texas, as the speaker. Following singing on Sunday morning, Bible Study was again led by Deb Burma, followed by election results, the closing worship service, new officer installation, and the convention highlights video. The convention ingathering included many items donated to the Hutchinson Christian Soup Kitchen Ministry, the Food Pantry at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, eyeglasses for MOST Ministries, materials for the Lutheran Laymen’s League booth at the Kansas State Fair, and trimmed stamps for the Texas District Stamporee project.

The next LWML Kansas District Convention will be held in Topeka, Kansas, April 17-17, 2020, with the theme “Be Thou My Vision”, based on the Bible verse from Hebrews 12:2 (NRSV) “...*looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God.*” The rationale for this choice is because the year of the convention is 20/20, and the theme idea centers around vision.

Those in attendance from this area at the recent Hutchinson convention were \_\_\_\_\_

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