

35th Biennial LWML Kansas District Convention

March 28 - 30, 2014

Wichita, Kansas

POST CONVENTION NEWS RELEASE

“On Wings, Like Eagles”, taken from Isaiah 40:31, was the theme for the 35th Biennial Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) Kansas District Convention that met at the Marriott Hotel in Wichita, Kansas, from March 28 – 30, 2014. LWML members and guests numbering 363 from all over the state of Kansas were in attendance for the three day event; the attendance included thirty-eight first timers, sixteen Young Woman Representatives, and two teens. The convention hosts were members of the Wichita and Southeast Zones, with Jean Wellner, Elaine Engelman, Carol Nix, and Kathryn Richard serving as Convention Co-Chairs.

Karen Morrison, LWML Kansas District President from Wichita, Kansas, opened the convention on Friday evening at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, beginning with a pre-service organ concert by Brent Valiant, followed by the communion worship service processional featuring banners from each of the thirteen zones in Kansas. On Friday afternoon, convention attendees enjoyed participating in round-table Bible Study samplers, the Mission Walk, and Prayer Labyrinth. On Saturday morning, the Christian Life breakfast featured speaker was Donna Pyle of Spring, Texas, followed by convention business and voting. Saturday and Sunday morning Bible studies were led by Pastor Kris Whitby from Mt. Prospect, Illinois. Convention attendees attended their choice of interest sessions on Saturday afternoon, hearing from many informative speakers about their mission and ministry to people of the world. Women also used their hearts and hands during the Servant Events by tying twenty quilts, assembling five Braille books of 2nd Chronicles, decorating 440 lunch sacks for the homeless, and assembling 329 hygiene kits for homeless shelters. The ingathering donations that were collected for food pantries in southeast Kansas totaled over fifty large boxes of boxed, bagged, and canned food items.

Mission speakers gave insight into all areas in which the LWML contributes “mites” (offerings) as their service to the Lord both locally and nationally. Convention speakers included Rev. Jim Bender and family from Faith Lutheran Church in Topeka, who traveled to Guinea, Africa, in 2013, to serve a medical clinic ministry. Convention delegates also chose the following mission projects totaling \$40,000 for the 2014-2016 biennium: Kansas Division of Orphan Grain Train, Concordia Seminary Food Bank in St. Louis, Children’s Christian Concern Society, The Lutheran Student Center at WSU, Lutheran Braille Workers, Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Family Shield Ministries Radio Stations in Kansas, Holy Cross Lutheran Braille Work Center in Wichita, St. Paul Christian Preschool in Fairview, Bethany Lutheran Church Family Ministry in Wichita, and Christ the King Lutheran Church Praise Band in Salina. In addition to the mission projects, \$40,000 will be given for student financial aid and \$35,000 to national LWML mission projects. The total mission goal adopted in support of these projects, as well as student financial aid and other expenses, is \$152,750.

Balloting for officers resulted in the following elections: VP of Christian Life Elaine Engelman from Benedict, VP of Gospel Outreach Bernie Reetz from Garden City, VP of Special Focus Ministries Sherri Rose from Linwood, Treasurer Kim Burdett from Olathe, and Pastoral Counselor Rev. Jay Hobson from Hepler. The next LWML Kansas District Convention will be held in Manhattan in April of 2016 using this theme: For Such a Time as This, based on Ephesians 2:10.

Those in attendance from our area were _____
