

KANSAS DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

“Serve the Lord with Gladness” Psalm 100:2 Esther L. Ideker and Judy Carlson, Archivist/Historians
History of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Kansas District 2008-2010

With the adopted focus areas for the 2008-2010 Biennium:

- Building up our Sisters in Christ
- Partnering for Diversity
- Telling the Good News

and under the guidance of the Kansas District **LWML Executive Committee**, those serving during the biennium were:

President: Betty Kruse

Vice-President for Caring Service (Mission Service) Jean Wellner

Vice-President for Member Resources (Mission Education) Tammy Songer

Vice-President of Christian Life (Mission Inspiration) Karen Eskew

Vice-President of Mission Outreach (Mission Projects) Nina Borgstadter

Vice-President of Communications: Karen Morrison

Recording Secretary: Brenda Piester

Treasurer: Becky Schotte

Financial Secretary: Kim Burdett

Pastoral Counselors: Rev. Rick Rostek and Rev. Dale Becker

Planner: Gloria Raab

Meeting Manager: Ella Westendorf

Committee Chairs and Appointed Personnel: (2008-2010)

Assistant to the President: Laura Hunter

Christian Growth: Deb Lehman

Care and Needs: Verna Linderman

Member Development: Shelly Keller

Public Relations: Ramie Schulties

Mission Projects: Fonda Lawrence

Structure: Phyllis Von Fange

Publications Chair: Sonshine Editor: Kathryn Gehrke

Quarterly Distribution Manager: Nadine Stueve

Parliamentarian: Gloria Raab

Spring Mission Tour Coordinator: Janice Russell

Travel Chairman: Ginger Sanders

Archivist/Historians: Esther L. Ideker/Judy Carlson

2010 District Convention Chairman: JoAnn Meyer and Arlyce Klipp

Nominating Committee for 2010 Convention: Marlene Ernsting, Chair

Lutheran Family Retreat: Mary Ginkel, Cheryl and Dan Locke

Young Women Representatives to 2009 International LWML Convention:
Krista Hahn and Karline Mayer

MMV (Mission/Ministry/Vision) Consultants: Eden Keefe and Tammy Songer

Lutheran Family Retreat was held on August 8, 9 and 10, 2008 at Camp Webster with something for everyone: hiking, swimming, canoeing, paddleboats, archery, Frisbee golf, game night, low and high challenge courses, rappelling, climbing wall, zip line, crafts, game room, great food, campfire, devotions, singing, Bible Study and making new friends.

The theme of Kansas Assembly of Leaders held at Camp Webster Conference Center, Salina, was "Joy in Leadership," September 5 and 6, 2008. The Care and Needs Committee collected 80 new and gently used "Handbags for Success" for the Ashby House in Salina. Seventy-three complete kits and 20 partial kits of necessities to carry in these purses were assembled with a Christian devotional booklet for "Moms" included. The Mite Challenge at KAOL added \$958.87 for mission projects for this biennium.

"Opened Eyes...Hearts Ablaze!" was the theme of LWML Sunday 2008 service adapted from "Hearts Ablaze!" by Rev. Mike Zender and "Light from the Darkness," by Rev. B. Steve Hughey, LCMS World Mission.

Vice President of Communications, Karen Morrison, Recording Secretary, Brenda Piester, Planner Gloria Raab, and President Betty Kruse journeyed to St. Louis for a National LWML Assembly of Leaders Leadership Training Conference, "To Everything There is a Season – a Time to Lead," on October 24-26, 2008.

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) pick up across Kansas on October 7, 8, 9 and 10 amounted to 55,692 pounds of kits, quilts, layettes and soap. Muriel and Kenneth Greene continue to make the arrangements for these pick-ups as they have for the past 25 years.

The 2009 Day of Prayer Service offering was designated for the Kansas District Retreat Center, Herington, in the amount of \$2734.83. "Look to the Hills," based on the 2009 Portland Convention theme from Psalm 121, authored by Rev. Larry Miller, LWML Counselor 2003-2007 and Pastor of First Lutheran Church, Helena, Montana.

The Spring Mission Tour speaker was Edie Jorns, Project Director and a founder of the Children's Christian Concern Society, celebrating its 40th year. CCCS is now helping over 13,000 children at 169 sites in 17 countries. Inquiries and requests have come from the countries of Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Eritrea and Brazil. The CCCS was formed by the families of Schepmans, Euhus, Muellers, Schmids and Jorns around their kitchen table while Jim and Edie Jorns were serving in Guatemala. Edie or a CCCS representative presented at Norton, Lakin, Olathe, Atchison, Wichita, Rural Ellsworth, Wheaton, Bremen, Strong City and Topeka.

President Betty Kruse in her Spring Report 2009 announced Project 1 through 5 and Financial Aid for two semesters had been vouchered. Fall Christian Life Retreat will be Nov. 13 and 14, 2009, with Annetta Dellinger presenting “In the Potter’s Hands,” Isaiah 18:16, at Wichita Airport Hilton.

The 33rd Biennial LWML Convention was held in Portland, Oregon, June 25-28, 2009 with the theme: “Look to the Hills...God Reigns.” President Wendorf challenged the over 3300 attendees to be women who are in the Word, of the Word, and walking with the Lord. It was noted on the web site as of July 1, 2009, that the total of four offerings at the Portland Convention was \$117,692.30 with an additional \$52,606.01 for the Mission in Motion Walk. Celebrating God’s provision in exceeding the mission goal for the 2007-2009 biennium, delegates adopted a goal of \$1,825,000 for our 2009-2011 biennium. Nineteen grants were selected to receive funding. At the Kansas caucus and at the photography session, Kansas LWML were in great numbers and were known in the halls by their bright sunflower badges. Young Representatives Karline Mayer and Krista Hahn with their smiling faces and enthusiasm represented our Kansas District well. Karline and her Mother, her mentor, appeared in the Fall Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly convention photo section and in the Convention “Hilltop Proclaimer” at a Servant Event. Other Kansans shown were Julie Keehn and her daughter, Jessica, Jill Lowe’s daughters at Camp Hood and our Judy Carlson, newly elected LWML Recording Secretary. We Kansas LWML sisters and brothers were pleased to have her as an elected National Officer and witnessed the impressive installation service. Thirty-three Heart to Heart Sisters from 16 countries were in attendance. Keynoters at the convention were: Rev. W. Schumacher, Rev. Carl Grewuch, Danielle Putnam, President and Mrs. Kieschnick, Mary Hilgendorf, Ruth Koch, Jan Struck, Heidi Floyd, and Vicar D. Sternbeck. The 2011 34th Biennial LWML Convention will be held in Peoria, Illinois, on June 23-26 with the theme “Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge.” Acts 4:13b and 20.

The Lutheran Family Retreat was attended by 112 held at Webster Conference Center, Salina, Kansas on the first weekend in August.

KAOL 2009 was held at Trinity Lutheran Church and Christ the King Lutheran Church on September 12 using the theme “To Everything there is a Season...A Time to Lead,” Eccl. 3:1. One hundred seventy-five leaders including society presidents were in attendance. Each participant received a notebook with copies of presentations and other resources by a generous gift from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The ingathering was personal items for the Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas.

Fall Zone Rallies were held in the fall of 2009 carrying the KAOL theme to societies in each zone.

LWML Sunday materials from LWML office were focused on a continuation of the Convention theme: "Look to the Hills...God Reigns," authored by Dr. Warren Schumacher, President of the Northwest District LCMS 1994-2009 and opening worship proclaimer for the LWML Convention in Portland, Oregon.

The Christian Life Retreat sponsored by the Christian Growth Committee with Chairman, Deb Lehman, was held in Wichita, November 13 -14, 2009, with event leader, Annetta Dellinger presenting "In the Potter's Hands," Jeremiah 18:1-6. Participants were in Bible Study together, networked and molded clay.

The LWML Day of Prayer Service was authored by Reverend Philip Esala, Kettering, Ohio, based on Isaiah 52:7, "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'" The 2010 Day of Prayer offerings for the Education Loan Repayment Fund were \$3,415,76.

From March 2-23, 2010, our President Betty Kruse and husband, David, and Nina Borgstadter, joined the Guinea Mission Trip team members Rev. Rocky Mease, Jim Bradshaw, and Jane Limback journeying to Guinea, West Africa with a three-fold purpose: To be a blessing to the Guinean Lutheran Church and the Children's Christian Concern Society, to be a blessing to our missionaries, Rev. Tim and Beth Heiney, Tim, Heidi, Philip and Leslie Norton, Andrea Herman and Jack and Cathy Carlos, and to be a blessing to the Kansas District by bringing the stories back to Kansas. At the Kansas District LWML Convention Betty and Nina shared their experiences and said thank you for the prayers and support.

To the glory of God, all 2008-2010 Mission Projects except one non viable project were paid in full (\$38,620) as well as \$46,280 paid to God's Gracious Gift Fund recipients

The 33rd Biennial Kansas District LWML Convention was held at Geary County Convention Center, Junction City, Kansas, April 16-18, 2010 under the banner "The Lord is My Strength and My Shield," Psalm 144:2.

Speakers included: Steve Cohen, The Apple of His Eye Mission Society, Dr. Yohannes Mengsteab, LCMS World Mission, Chaplain Daniel Jones, currently assigned to Fort Riley Kansas, Danielle Otten, wife of Chaplain Otten, and Deacon Tom Eckard, Lutheran Urban Mission Agency, Kansas City. Daily Bible Studies were led by Pastor Mark Boxman. Sylvia Johnson, Vice President of Human Care served as the National Representative .

Four hundred and fifty-eight LWML attendees including 70 first time attendees, 21 Young Women Representatives and 3 LWML teens, were involved in three different Servant Events on Saturday afternoon; some rolled white bandages from sheets for Global Health Ministries; many wrote personalized messages into birthday cards to be sent to our Missionaries and their families;

others spent time stuffing small pillows for nursing home residents. Mission Walk participants gathered \$3087.53 in support of the Carlos Family, missionaries to Guinea.

The convention was chaired by Arlyce Klipp, of the Host Committee, with JoAnn Meyer, Host Committee Co-Chairman, representing the Manhattan and Linn Zones. Bonnie White served as song leader.

The Convention Celebration Service with Holy Communion celebrant was Rev. Rick Rostek, LWML Pastoral Advisor. President Betty Kruse opened the convention followed by a processional featuring banners depicting the theme from each of the LWML zones. The first convention offering was given to District Mission Projects in the amount of \$5366.00. The Sunday morning offering of \$4209.60 was designated for Ft. Wayne and St. Louis Seminary Food Banks. Delegates to the 2010 convention approved a total mission goal of \$143,745 for 2010-2012. This goal includes: Mission Projects of \$40,000, Student Financial Aid of \$40,000 and Mites to National of \$33,750.

MISSION PROJECTS GRANTS SELECTED FOR 2010-2012:

1. Christian Children's Concern Society, Sierra Leone, Africa	\$2,500
2. Kansas Division of Orphan Grain Train, Stuttgart, KS	\$5,000
3. Chapel Roofs, Africa	\$5,000
4. LCMS World Mission Ministry to the Armed Forces (Operation Barnabas) St. Louis, MO	\$10,000
5. Concordia Seminary, Nagercoil, India	\$ 5,000
6. Linn Lutheran School and PreSchool, Linn, KS	\$ 1,500
7. Peace Lutheran Church, Greensburg, KS	\$ 1,000
8. Holy Trinity Institute, Moreira, Rio Grad de Sol, Brazil	\$ 3,000
9. University Lutheran Center, Wichita, KS	\$ 5,000
10. Lutheran Bible Translators, Aurora, IL (partial)	\$ 2,000
	\$40,000

GOD'S GRACIOUS GIFT FUND GRANTS SELECTED FOR 2010-2012:

1. The Lutheran Home for Students, Zacapa, Guatemala	\$ 6,400
2. Peace Lutheran Church, Greensburg, KS (partial)	\$ 4,200
	\$10,600

