

SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE
32nd BIENNIAL CONVENTION
OLYMPIA RESORT, OCONOMOWOC
JUNE 27-28, 2008

The 32nd Biennial Convention began at 8:00 a.m. with the pre-convention singing with the processional of the Board of Directors and special guests.

President Carolyn Blum opened the convention at 8:24 a.m.

All 9 of our past presidents: Esther Schoessow Bauers, Loretta Gabrilka, Anita Gaede, Barbara Strenger, Edith Mossner, Gerry Burkee, Lauren Beale, Marlys Taege-Moberg, and Joyce Kaestner were in attendance at this convention.

Special guests were introduced: Sherrie Smith, president of the Northern Illinois LWML; Sylvia Johnson, National LWML Vice President of Human Care; Ed Bieno, president of the SWD Lutheran Laymen's League; the Rev. Daniel McMiller, SWD Mission Executive and keynote speaker; Kristy Grannis, LCMS Mission Projects Administrator; and Janice Wendorf, our national LWML President.

11 young women reps attended the convention.

Ruth Krueger, Vice President of Human Care and Mission Grants, presented Judy Henke, International Friendship Center Director, with a check for \$3,500, completing the final grant from the 06-08 biennium. Ruth also presented the Rev. Daniel McMiller, SWD LCMS Mission Executive, with a check for \$15,000, thus paying the last half of the \$30,000 grant for Church Work Student Scholarships.

Excess mites shall be designated to the last grant not fully funded in this biennium – International Friendship Center, Madison.

The mite goal for the 2008-10 biennium was set at \$195,000. This is a 2.7% increase from the previous biennium. This goal will be divided as follows: \$48,750 (25%) will go to national and \$146,250 (75%) will stay in our district for the mite goal.

President Blum introduced the keynote speaker, The Reverend Daniel F. McMiller. We need not go far to gather people from every tribe and nation. The church does not have a mission – mission *is* the church.

President Blum introduced Kristy Grannis, Mission Project Administrator for LCMS World Mission in St. Louis. She gave us an update on World Missions. The LWML is *ABLAZE* with the Gospel and works to always, "Go, Gather, and Glorify." She took us on a 'virtual' mission tour through a power point presentation.

It was noted that there were 62 first time attendees at this convention.

Total Registered as of 1:30 p.m., June 28, 2008 is 372.

President Blum encouraged us to share our faith with others; continue to develop one-on-one Christian relationships; mentor our sisters in Christ; and to continually recognize where our Help comes from.

With humble gratitude she thanked us all for the opportunity to serve the SWD LWML the past 4 years.

National LWML President Janet Wendorf was introduced and addressed the convention body. This is the first time in the history of the LWML that our national President is from South Wisconsin District. Jan's vision for the LWML is *Lutheran women in mission who are in the Word, of the Word, walking with their Lord*. She stated that conventions are an integral part of the LWML as women attend from all ages and stages of life, making a convention a diverse population

National President Wendorf then presented President Blum with a plaque from the LWML in appreciation of her service as our District President for the past 4 years.

Generous donations were brought to the convention of school supplies, Bibles, catechisms, children's Christian videos, coloring books, personal hygiene toiletry items and non-perishable food for the Great Milwaukee and Urban Missions, and additional food for the St. Paul's Lutheran Church Food Pantry in Oconomowoc.

During the next two years, we have promised to support these missions with our mites and to provide \$195,000 for missions - \$146,260 for District grants and \$48,750 to support our national grants.

Janis Mattson reported the **morning offering total was \$5,000 which means that SWD LCMS Milwaukee and Urban Missions and our district TLC Fund will each receive \$2,500. Money and pledges received for our morning Mariner's Mission March totaled \$2,904. This will be the first money for mites in the new biennium. The 'special purple \$5 bill' mite box collection yielded \$505.35 and will also be added to the mite total for the upcoming biennium.**