

Kansas District Lutheran Laymens League Convention
77th Annual Convention November 12, 13, 2016
Holy Cross Lutheran Church—Wichita, Kansas

The Convention was called to order by President Tim Voelker.

Opening devotions were led by Pastor Scott Snow. The devotion was based o Matthew 13:1-23. The Gospel is like seed. As the seed is scattered it falls on a variety of soils. Some falls by the wayside and is eaten by the birds. Some falls by the rocks and sprouts but because of harsh conditions it soon dies. Some fell on good ground and grew well producing 30%, 50% and 100% good fruit. God's wish is that we sow with reckless boldness and His word falls on productive soil.

Pastor Snow had another commitment and could not stay but announced that Holy Cross, Wichita is hosting a trip to Germany July 20-August 1. Contact Holy Cross if interested.

The Convention attendees were given a few minutes to read the minutes of the 2015 Convention. A motion was made to accept minutes as printed. Motion seconded and carried.

District Treasurer Gary Holle gave a detailed treasurer's report . As there were no questions a motion was made, seconded and carried to accept his report.

Carroll Hackbart gave the District Project report. Carroll reported that with many churches or groups having fundraising events and individual contributions we exceeded our project goal of \$33,000 by \$2,257.29.

Next we heard from Bervin Mirtsching, Ministry Advancement Officer for Lutheran Hour Ministries. He reported there are 35 Lutheran Hour Ministry centers throughout the world, many in countries where there is no organized church. People native to each country use Lutheran Hour programs and activities to tell of Jesus Christ. He mentioned various programs available to individuals, families, church groups and churches that we can use and share to tell others about Jesus Christ. Bervin explained the goal to raise 242 million in the next 5 years to tell the world about Jesus Christ and His salvation. This is not just for foreign countries as the United States is one of the largest mission fields.

After a short break we had introduction of those present.

Ronald Bott then read Resolution 16-01 "Celebrating 100 years of bringing Christ to the nations and the nations to the church" This resolution was approved with the singing of "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow."

We then had the presentation of the ballot by Vice-President Arlen Shultz. Candidates were President, Tim Voelker; Vice-President, Arlen Shultz; Region 2 Representative, Keith Jopp and Region 4 Representative, John White. There were no other nominations. A motion was made and seconded to accept these candidates as our officers for 2016-2017. Motion carried. The new officers were installed by Pastor Scott Snow.

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We were honored to have District President Rev. Peter Lange share a message with us. There are 163 Missouri Synod churches in Kansas; 14 grade schools; 41 pre-schools; 200 Pastors and 55,800 members. Pastor Lange told of how churches are using Lutheran Hour materials. He encouraged us to help equip the members by using LHM materials. He encouraged us to be bold examples to others. Pastor Lange challenged us to bring Christ to our neighbors.

Greetings from the LWML were given by President Brenda Piester. She told us the LWML is celebrating 75 years. She told of growing up in the church and the Lutheran Laymens League and the Lutheran Hour was a big part of her life. She also mentioned the many activities of the LWML.

Next Carroll Hackbart gave Resolution 16-02-- Ministry Action 2016-2017 the District Project. Financial Aid to students wanting to be full time church workers \$26,000; dinner for fourth year students at Concordia Seminary \$1,000; overseas Bible correspondence courses and Argentina Lutheran Hour Ministry center \$4,500; Kansas State Fair Booth and Worship Service \$1,000 and Lutheran Hour Float Rose Bowl Parade \$500 for a total of \$33,000. Any overage will go to Financial Aid. This Resolution was seconded and accepted as presented.

We then had the privilege of hearing Lutheran Hour Ministries President Kurt Buchholz in person. Kurt was on his way to India to see first hand the activities of LHM and also the opportunities that are there. He said God calls on individuals to teach the gospel; each individual has this responsibility; figure out a way to use LHM programs; make a connection with others and be bold in your ministry.

Mark Westerman then read the Convention Thank Resolution 16-03. We thanked Region 2 for their work hosting the convention and also a reminder to look for opportunities in 2017, our 100 years of The Lutheran Laymens League.

John Johnson Region 3 Representative gave an invitation to the 2017 Convention. Tentative dates are November 11, 12, 2017 quite possibly in Salina. There was some discussion about maybe combining the Convention with the Convocation that will be in Zone 7 on November 4 and 5, 2017.

Tim made several announcements: District Board Meeting in Salina on January 28, 2017. Tim urged us all to get involved with Lutheran Hour Sunday February 5 or any other Sunday that works for your church; District Golf May 6 at Ft. Riley.

Keith Jopp told us how to support The Lutheran Hour on Bott Radio.

The Convention was suspended till 8:45 Sunday. We dined with members of Holy Cross listening to a live German Band.

On Sunday morning many of us worshipped with Holy Cross. Tim had the opportunity to encourage the members of Holy Cross to check out Lutheran Hour Ministries, use the programs, get involved and support the Lutheran Laymens League and Lutheran Hour Ministries.

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Our Convention resumed at 8:45 with announcements and discussion on the District Convention for 2017. There was no other business so Tim called the 77th 2016 Convention closed. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary

Ronald Bott