



Bountiful

Blessings

Des Moines LWML Convention ~ June 25-28, 2015 ~ Iowa East & Iowa West Districts ~ Volume 1 Issue 1 ~ June 2014

A Minute with Marilyn

Here we are nearly 30 years later.

Looking back it was 1985 when the LWML gathered in convention in Ames, Iowa. Our dress and hair style, communication and technology were certainly different at that convention; no cell phones or email capability, only dependence on land lines, fax and the US Postal Service.



Certainly we've come a long way. No doubt a good many of the women who were the hosts or the guests at that convention will not be with us next year, and more than likely very few of us will be here to be hosts again in another 30 years. However, June 2015 is only a few short months away, and our focus turns to the thrilling opportunity and the privilege for the LWML ladies of Iowa East and Iowa West to be hosts for the national convention, this time in Des Moines.

The convention theme has been announced "Bountiful! Sow · Nourish · Reap" — a very fitting convention theme for the heartland of America, where we recognize how bountifully God shares His love and goodness and how He equips us by the Holy Spirit to be in our Father's harvest field. Truly we will be fed by God's Word and Sacrament, nurtured through worship and fellowship, and equipped to sow, nourish and reap in harvest fields long after convention adjourns.

Many hands and feet will be required to help during these four days of convention; serving the Lord with gladness! I'm told we'll need approximately 600-700 workers. Yes, that's a lot of excited people, and I know Iowa is up to the task simply because God has blessed our districts with

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Convention Theme

The convention theme is based on the following Scripture passage: *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work* (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV).

Convention Logo

The brown line represents mankind as a newly plowed field open to receive God's bountiful blessings. As God nourishes His people with His Word and Sacraments, the Holy Spirit nurtures faith in Christ Jesus who, by His death on the cross, gives salvation and forgiveness to all believers and empowers them to serve as His light (depicted by the sun) to the world. The two green lines represent the abundant fruits produced through His grace by God's people. The three lines together depict an open Bible. In response to His grace, mercy, and bountiful blessings we thank, praise, and share our Father's love.

Convention Goal Statement

Through Christ's bountiful love and blessings of Word and Sacraments, I am equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in my Father's harvest field.

Convention Objectives

Convention attendees will be:

- Fed by God's Word and Sacrament
- Nurtured through worship and fellowship
- Equipped to sow, nourish, and reap in the Father's field

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Speakers Confirmed for Des Moines Convention

OPENING WORSHIP PROCLAIMER:

Rev. Gregory Seltz, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour radio ministry*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Rev. Dr. James Lamb, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life*

SUNDAY WORSHIP PROCLAIMER:

Rev. Keith Pottter, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Bettendorf, IA

BIBLE STUDY LEADERS — PAST LWML PASTORAL COUNSELORS

Rev. Larry Miller, Helena, MT; and Rev. Mike Mattil, Denison, TX

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKERS:

Carly Hatcher, MOST Ministries*

Rev. E. James Rivett, Prison Ministry

Rev. Jim Hetzner, Lutheran Church Charities (Comfort Dogs)

Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo, Concordia College, Selma, AL*

SATURDAY NOON LUNCHEON SPEAKERS:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President

LCMS Missionaries

Gary Theis, Director of Mission Central, Mapleton, IA

RETURNING TO INSPIRE AND ENTERTAIN:

Jan Struck, humorist interrupter, and Dr. Dina Vendetti, songleader

*also Saturday Noon Luncheon Speaker

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faithful and active people who are all willing to pitch in whenever and wherever they are needed. Workers will include not only our LWML ladies, but also men and youth, too. Consider now what your role might be when the convention arrives in Des Moines.

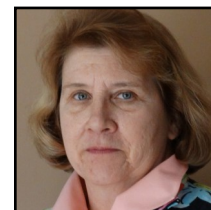
For the most part committees have been appointed and planning has started. A "Call for Worker" form is available for everyone to complete and submit so they can be identified as a convention worker. Workers who submit that form and commit to working two 4-hour shifts will be entitled to a special coupon for a discount on their full registration cost. Detailed information regarding the discount will be forthcoming.

I invite you to join me, let the excitement begin and let the joys flow as we join our hands and feet in preparation for the 2015 LWML Convention. It's a journey worth a repeat from 30 years earlier, only this time around with perhaps different dress and technology. One thing for sure is that our love and service to the Lord hasn't changed. We are bountifully blessed and "Serving the Lord with Gladness!"

Marilyn Schroeder
2015 Host Committee Chairman

In Prayer for One Another

My grandson recently got his first tooth! That's an important milestone for every baby... but for Baby Hank it seems kind of bitter-



Karen Menz,
Prayer Chairman

sweet. We don't know when Hank will get to use that tooth (and the accompanying teeth). Hank had a stroke at birth and can only eat through a tube that goes directly into his stomach. But, today, for me, those **were** words of encouragement! God has "equipped" Baby Hank, and I don't doubt for a minute that SOMEDAY he'll use those little teeth as tools!

God equips us with the tools we need as well. As we look to the convention that is now just a little over a year away, it is exciting to think that all this work will create an environment of praise, worship, sharing, and study that will be all to His glory. He equips us with just what we need to do His work.



Prayer: Heavenly Father, when I doubt myself in this endeavor, I doubt YOU! You equip me with just what I need to do Your work. Help me look beyond me ... to

You. Help me hear beyond my whispering doubts to Your whispers of encouragement. Thank You for Your loving presence in my life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Clergy Corner

Dear friends in Christ,

Several years ago I planted an apple tree in our back yard. I planted it with the anticipation that one day it would produce for me and my family a bountiful harvest. I knew it was a young tree so I had no expectations about it producing apples right away. It has, over the years, grown into a beautiful tree. A couple of years ago it finally produced a few buds. I was certain that summer was going to be the summer I would be eating delicious sweet apples right off the tree I had planted. But, there was a late frost that spring and as a result there were no apples. The following year there were no buds and therefore no fruit.

The real problem was that, at the time, I had two neighbors, one to the east and one to the west, who have beautiful apple trees that produce an abundance of apples. My neighbor to the east thought the reason there were no apples was my fault. He told me I needed to trim the tree, and if I did it would produce apples. I have a great deal of respect for my neighbor so I did as he told me. In fact, I invited him over to inspect my tree trimming. He thought I had done a good job and we both expected a harvest of apples in the fall. Again, nothing!

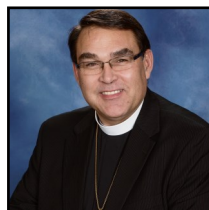
Jesus said that Christians are recognizable by their fruit. (Matthew 7:16-20). The tree in my back yard

is a beautiful tree but so far it is **not an apple tree** (no fruit!). Christians are more than just beautiful people — we are fruit trees! The fruit of the Christian is God-given character that is seen and experienced by others. And these fruits, or characteristics, are described by the apostle Paul as being love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22,23). This means our Bountiful convention is nothing but a basket of beautiful fruit!

In John 15:8 Jesus explains that for believers the secret of being fruitful (of a Bountiful harvest) is abiding in Him, for bearing spiritual fruit is only possible through the power of God. God who comes to us through His Word and Sacrament will certainly bring blessings to our convention and equip us to work in His field.

By the way, what should I do with that tree? Cut it down? ... I think I will let it grow another year. Maybe this year it will bear fruit.

In Christ,
Rev. Dr. Steven Turner
*Sr. Pastor Trinity Lutheran, Algona
2015 Host Committee Pastoral
Counselor*



30 Years Ago ...

From WINGS by Marly Taege about the LWML Convention in Ames, Iowa, July 22-25, 1985.

The largest number ever to register at a convention in the history of the LWML was in Ames with 8,023 leaguers and guests. Location, campus setting (\$47 per day for room and meals) and attendance of 3,000 leaguers from Iowa alone were some reasons cited for the record attendance numbers.

District Presidents:

Iowa East — Loras Troge

Iowa West — Rachel Taylor

Firsts from Ames:

- The first devotional book published by the League, “You Are Special” by Alma Kern.
- Opening festival service featured a 780-voice choir, more than 10,000 worshippers, and a hymn, “In Glory Resplendent, in Honor and Might” by Prof. Henry I. Letterman.
- An elegant wooden holder for the convention candle was handcrafted by Ross Barnes, husband of Alberta, LWML President.
- Offerings totaling a new high of \$70,194 provided \$23,334 toward the mission goal, \$18,833 for African hunger, \$14,382 to purchase a van to transport children to Hispanic religious classes in Washington, and \$13,644 for Native American Indian ministry.
- Bylaws changed to add a fourth vice-president and rename the vice-presidential positions, making them all equal.
- Each district chose a different mission need and brought samples forward in a dedication of ingathering items.
- Delegates adopted a new mission goal of \$845,520.

To God be the Glory!

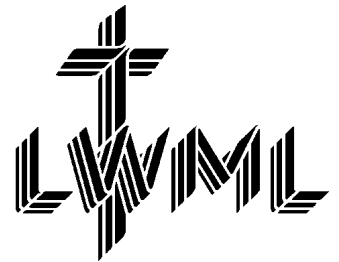
The Calm Before the Celebration



All is quiet at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines, where in one year thousands of men and women will gather for the LWML Convention. Will you be there as one of our volunteers? As a delegate? Please keep those planning our convention in your prayers that God's will would be done. See you in Des Moines!

Bountiful Blessings

Introducing Your Host Committee



Host Committee Chairman: Marilyn Schroeder
LWML Convention Programming Committee Chairman:
Pat Reichert
LWML Convention Manager: Marguerite Christman
LWML President: Kay Kreklau
LWML Audio Visual Director: Rev. Bill Engfehr
Host Committee Treasurer: Carole White

Properties Co-Chairman: Kim Meyer, IWD
Ushers Chairman: LouAnn Knaak, IED
Worship Support Chairman: Janice Johnston, IED

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Communications Coordinator: Kathryn Sprecher, IWD
Prayer Chairman: Karen Menz, IWD
Publicity Chairman: Deb Matasovsky, IWD
Secretary: Joanne Hartman, IED
Staff Services Chairman: Nancy Goddard, IWD

CREATIVE ENHANCEMENTS DEPARTMENT

Creative Enhancements Coordinator: Laura Woebbecking, IED
Activities Chairman: Diane Rabe, IED
Decorations Chairman: Denita Krause, IED
Music Chairman: Julia Dlouhy, IED

FACILITY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Facility Management Coordinator: Sharon Andresen, IED
Properties Co-Chairman: Martha Hartwig, IED

GUEST SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Guest Services Coordinator: Judy Westergren, IED
Child/Youth Care Chairman: Angie Banko, IED
Food Services Chairman: Vicki Ozburn, IED
Packet Materials/Registration Chairman: Helen Huedepohl, IED
Tours Chairman: Linda Berghoefer, IED
Transportation Chairman: Betty Borchardt, IED

PERSONNEL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Personnel Resources Coordinator: Tracy Stetzel, IWD
Personnel Data Management Chairman: Janice Steffen, IWD
Hospitality Chairman: Jane Shever, IWD
Special Dress Chairman: Barbara Huseman, IWD
Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Roy Berquist, Iowa East
Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Dr. Steven Turner, Iowa West
Iowa East District President: Janice Johnston
Iowa West District President: Adeline Gutz

Creative Enhancements Team is Ready to Add Sparkle

The Creative Enhancements Department is eager to add “sparkle” to the convention through music, decor and servant activities. We are ready to let the Gospel shine through all that we do in preparation for the convention. Let me introduce you to the faithful women who will chair the three committees of this department.



Diane Rabe is the Activities Chairman. God always has a plan and I am certain that Diane was chosen for this special service to Him. I met Diane at my first national convention in Pittsburgh and instantly knew she was the person who would shine in this role. Her loving heart makes her perfect for coordinating the servant activities, mission walk, blood drive, and golf tournament.

Denita Krause is the Decorations Chairman. I met Denita as a part of the IED YWR Committee, and her enthusiasm and love for Christ would warm anyone’s heart. Denita’s creative spirit will sparkle through coordinating the favors for the attendees, centerpieces, banner coordination, sewing sashes and setting up the “Photo Op” and stage.

I wasn’t taking any chances when I asked **Julia Dlouhy** to be the Music Chairman. I knew that her organization skills and music talent would be a huge strength to our committee. So, as her roommate at the Pittsburgh convention, I suggested that she join my committee or suffer the consequences of a short-sheeted bed! Who could resist an offer like that? Joyfully, Julia will be assisting with our music needs, instruments, and choir music. We really love our music at



Left to right: Denita, Diane, Laura, Julia

conventions and Julia will make sure that it sparkles for the Lord!

My name is **Laura Woebbecking** and I am bountifully blessed to be the Coordinator of this awesome group of faith-filled women. Just like a diamond sparkles to remind us of commitment to a spouse, so the Creative Enhancements Committee sparkles in commitment to our God and to the mission of the LWML!

Communications Department Prepares for 2015 Convention



Left to right: Deb, Karen, Kathryn, Nancy, Joanne

By Kathryn Sprecher, Coordinator

What a blessing it will be to have the Iowa East and Iowa West LWML Districts work together as we prepare to welcome our LWML sisters and brothers to Des Moines in 2015 to be **Bountiful!** as we **Sow • Nourish • Reap.**

Your Communications Department consists of the following Chairmen who will help us promote the convention:

Prayer Committee Chairman Karen Menz arranges for the prayer chapel at the convention along with spiritual support for the convention Host Committee through prayer partners, prayer requests and words of encouragement.

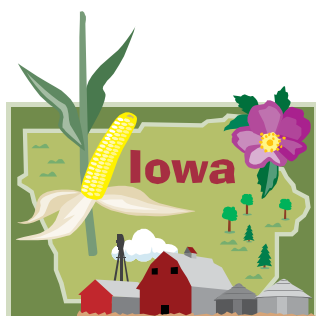
Publicity Committee Chairman Deb Matasovsky and her committee have been busy in developing ways to promote the convention. The convention polo shirts are ready for purchase. These shirts are a major fundraiser for the Host Committee to help defray costs. The committee's responsibilities also include the host committee newsletters as well as creating the Bulletin Bits for congregations in our two districts that will encourage prayer and volunteer support for the convention. This committee will also assist with group district photos at convention.

Secretary Joanne Hartman records the minutes of all the convention Host Committee meetings.

Staff Services Committee Chairman Nancy Goddard serves as a resource for a professional image of the Host Committee forms and correspondence. She furnishes clerical support for all meetings and provides setup for all of our forms.

We ask all our LWML sisters (and brothers) to keep the convention Host Committee members in prayer as we plan for this convention. Don't forget to check your District's website and newsletters for all the latest updates and downloads: <http://idwlcms.org/lwmlnews.php> and <http://www.lwml-ied.org/>.

Share the Bountiful News ...



- With your District—at Convention in June!
- With your Zone—at Rallies and Board Meetings!
- With your Society—encourage your Sisters in Christ to attend convention in our own state!

As we prepare to be *Bountiful!* in Des Moines!

Call for Workers

Please volunteer to help at the upcoming LWML Convention in Des Moines! We will need the assistance of more than **600** willing workers (women, men and youth) during the convention. You will be contacted by **April 15, 2015**, with details as to your role. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Special Notes for Workers:

1. All workers must complete the "Call to Workers" form, which will be available at the Iowa East and Iowa West conventions this June.
2. Workers must serve at least two 4-hour sessions at convention to get a registration discount.
3. If you serve as a delegate, you cannot serve as a worker at convention.
4. Do not register for the convention until you receive your worker coupon.

Did You Know?

Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President, grew up in northwest Iowa, served as a parish pastor in northeast Iowa, plays the banjo, and rode on the Lutheran Hour Ministries float on January 1, 2014.

He will be a luncheon speaker at the Des Moines LWML Convention!

Publicize and promote the Des Moines LWML Convention by wearing your convention polo shirt.

2015 Des Moines LWML Convention Shirt Order Form



Please print clearly as this information will be used for your mailing label.
One shirt per order form please. Reproduce as needed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Women's Sizes (please circle one size on chart below) (women's shirts are true to size)

S	M	L	XL	XXL
6/8	10/12	14/16	18/20	22/24

Unisex (Men's) sizes (please circle one size on chart below) (men's shirts are larger and longer)

S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
34/36	38/40	42/44	46/48	50/52	54/55

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

NOTE: If you wish to have several shirts mailed to one address,
include all orders and checks in one envelope.

Mail order (postmarked) deadline date: **May 15, 2015**

Pick-up at Convention (postmarked) deadline date: **June 1, 2015**

**No shirts will be sold at the Convention
No exchanges or refunds**

www.lwml.org/conventions

Shirts are short-sleeved, embroidered white 3-button 65/35 poly/cotton pique polo style. Minimal show-through.
PRICES (postage included):

S, M, L, XL	\$23.00
XXL, 2XL	\$25.00
3XL	\$26.00

Make checks payable to:
Des Moines LWML Convention 2015

Send order form & payment to:
Jennine Maas
P.O. Box 183
Guthrie Center, IA 50115

Questions-Email: jc131_3@hotmail.com

Thank you for your convention shirt order.

*The Host Committee 2015
(Iowa East & Iowa West)*