

**LWML-IOWA EAST DISTRICT CONVENTION**

**JUNE 21-22, 2024**

**RADISSON HOTEL, CEDAR RAPIDS, IA**

**Shout it Out! Praise the Lord!**

**“Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known to all the earth.” Isaiah 12:5**

**Banner Processional and Opening Worship** - Liturgist: Rev. James Preus, Preacher: Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Iowa District East President. The offering collected was designated to LWML-IED Mite Goal for 2024-2026.

**Session 1 - Friday Afternoon, June 21, 2024**

President Martha Hartwig called the 42nd Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Iowa East District (IED) to order at 2:10 p.m. A welcome was given by the Westgate and Williamsburg Zone convention co-chairs, Nancy Maurer and Carol Meyer. President Hartwig announced that the Board of Directors (BOD) is working on establishing a system where zones will share convention hosting responsibilities. More information will be available in the ALIVE when it is decided.

Greetings were received from Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Iowa District East President, and Carole White from the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. Pres. Hartwig gave acknowledgments and recognized special guests. 2024 Young Women Representatives and their zone presidents were welcomed and each zone president presented them with a YWR pin.

The LWML pledge was led by past LWML-IED presidents.

Sheryl Zinda, Recording Secretary gave the credentials report. As of 1:00 p.m. on June 21, 2024 a quorum was present with all 12 zones of the Iowa East District represented. Out of a possible 222 delegates there were 84 voting delegates, 19 BOD voting members, and 2 Past Presidents as voting members for a total of 105 eligible to vote. Also attending are 13 non-voting appointed personnel/LWML committee members and 66 other registrants for a total of 184 attendees. Sheryl Zinda moved to accept that the roll given be the official roll of the voting assembly of the convention. Motion seconded and carried.

Carolyn Zimmerman, VP of Organizational Resources moved to adopt the convention agenda as printed in the convention manual with necessary changes at the discretion of the Chair, as directed by the BOD. Motion carried.

Cheryl Killham, Convention Manager, presented the convention rules for adoption as directed by the BOD. Helen Huedepohl moved to adopt the convention rules as directed by the BOD - motion carried.

Pres. Hartwig appointed 3 BOD members to review the 2024 convention minutes and appointed the convention tellers.

The 2022 Convention minutes were reviewed with Helen Huedepohl noting the following modifications - the 4 times that “National LWML” is written should be changed to LWML as the word “National” is not needed, and where it states “LWML officers gave reflections on their service” it should read “LWML-IED”. Changes approved.

Jennifer Determan, Financial Secretary, presented the 2022-2024 Financial Secretary's Report as printed in the convention manual. Jennifer moved to accept the review of the report - motion seconded and carried.

Becky Gluesing, Treasurer, gave the treasurer's review and report as printed in the manual. Becky moved to accept the review of the report - seconded and carried.

Becky Gluesing presented the 2024-2026 Mite Goal as printed in the manual. She explained the difference between the mite budget and non-mite budget. Due to the recent notice of increased insurance premiums, Becky moved as directed by the BOD to increase the insurance line item from \$750 to \$1000 for the 2024-2026 biennium, resulting in a corresponding increase in the mite budget income from \$156,350 to \$156,600. Motion seconded and carried.

Becky moved as directed by the BOD to adopt the 2024-2026 Biennium Mite Goal of \$194,750, broken down into the categories of \$73,250 - Mission Grants, \$30,000 - Scholarships, \$30,000 - Mites to LWML, \$11,850 - Endowments, \$11,500 - Inreach, plus \$38,150 for reimbursed expenses. Motion seconded and carried.

A Mites in Action report was given by Martin Dickey of the Lutheran Heritage Foundation and Tiffany Smith, a deaconess in Tanzania with Lutheran Bible Translators.

Jeanette Kreutner, VP of Gospel Outreach, presented the proposed mission grants for 2024-2026 as printed in the manual. She explained that grants are paid in the order as they are requested and that they are funded as the mite money comes in. The direction was given to vote for 6 grant projects. Lois Kundel led the prayer before voting. Ballots were distributed and collected.

Karen Boehme gave the nominating committee report and introduced the candidates, which were also listed in the convention manual. The nominees are as follows: VP of Communication - Becky Gluesing, VP of Human Care - Kay Berry, VP of Organizational Resources - Margaret Kistler, Treasurer - Marna Mohr, Junior Pastoral Counselor - Rev. Matthew Vesey. There were no nominations from the floor. As only one candidate was nominated for each position, Pres. Hartwig declared the candidates are elected by acclamation.

Following a Christian Life skit, Pres. Hartwig declared Session I closed.

Erin Alter, Director of the Short-Term Mission Project for LCMS International Mission was the speaker at the evening banquet.

## **Session II - Saturday morning, June 22, 2024**

The morning session opened with the Pledge to the Flag and the Cross.

The Young Woman Representatives gave the opening devotion. An offering was collected for the Iowa County Food Bank. Sheryl Zinda, Recording Secretary reported there was no change in the number of voting members since Friday afternoon - the count remains at 105. Sheryl moved to accept the adoption of the official roll of the voting assembly - seconded and carried. Joy Reinert led the LWML Mission Statement.

Carolyn Zimmerman, VP of Organizational Resources presented the bylaw proposals as printed for the voting members. Helen Huedepohl moved "to amend the proposed bylaw revisions as printed and presented, if adopted, to allow the LWML-IED Structure Committee to re-number or re-letter sections to account for deletions and insertions and make any necessary spelling and typographical corrections". Amendment seconded and carried. Motion seconded

and carried. Helen Huedepohl moved "to amend the proposed standing rules revisions as printed and presented, if adopted, to allow the LWML-IED Structure Committee to re-number or re-letter sections to account for deletions and insertions and make any necessary spelling and typographical corrections". Amendment seconded and carried. Motion seconded and carried. Ann Carrick gave the Gifts of Love report. Pastor Jon Ellingworth, Jr. Pastoral Counselor led the first Bible study.

Rachel Courtney gave the teller report of the Mission Grant voting. The following grants were selected:

1. Lutheran Family Service - Lutheran School Teacher Counseling Resources - \$7,500
2. LCMS Office of Pastoral Education - Second-Career Phase - \$5,000
3. King of Kings Lutheran Church - Disaster Relief Project - \$7,500
4. Wartburg Walther League - Reaching College Students - \$2,500
5. College Hill Conservatory - Future Church Musicians - \$2,000
6. Word of Hope - Suicide Prevention Resources - \$5,000
7. Mission Central - Serving the Lord in Latvia - \$7,500
8. Community Lutheran School - Science Grant - \$6,000
9. Lutheran Heritage Foundation - East Africa - \$5,000
10. Lutherans for Life - Volunteer Relations - \$7,500
11. Eastside Mission - Van Repair - \$7,500
12. MOST Ministries - IED Short-term Mission Trip - \$7,500
13. Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch - Nutrition Center - \$3,000

Grants 1-12 were fully funded with #13 being \$250 short of the mission budget amount.

Helen Huedepohl moved to fully fund #13 and raise the mission grant goal by \$250. Motion seconded and carried. The new IED mission grant budget goal is now \$103,500 - this total includes the \$30,000 for scholarships. Carolyn Zimmerman moved to destroy the physical ballots from the mission grant voting - seconded and carried.

Karen Morrison, LWML Vice-President of Gospel Outreach and visiting Board of Directors Representative gave a report from LWML.

First time convention attendees and long time national convention attendees were recognized by Pres. Hartwig. Thanks were given to the music leaders, Karen Boehme and Jean Hilbert.

The Megaphone Mite Challenge was announced - \$3309.28 was collected in Iowa East, and \$500 has been added by LCEF for a total of \$3,809.28 going to mites.

Angie Banko, VP of Human Care reported on the convention Gifts from the Heart. The following was received: \$1,626.83 for Lutheran Interparish School, Williamsburg; \$1,607 plus supplies to Community Lutheran School, Readlyn; and \$1,137 plus supplies to Swaddling Clothes, Marengo. Rev. Roepke led the gathering in the Gifts of the Heart Dedication.

Pres. Hartwig declared Session II closed.

### **Session III - Saturday afternoon, June 22, 2024**

Helen Huedepohl opened the session with prayer.

Pastor Christopher Roepke, Sr. Pastoral Counselor led the second Bible study.

Pres. Hartwig acknowledged the members of the Westgate and Williamsburg zones, with co-chairs Nancy Maurer and Carol Meyer for all their work on the 2024 convention.

Convention Registrar Jennifer Rethwisch shared the final attendance report: 19 BOD voting, 84 delegates voting, 2 Past Presidents voting, 13 non-voting appointed personnel/LWML committee members, 107 other registrants for a total of 212 for both days of the convention.

Becky Gluesing gave the offerings report: \$3,511 for LWML-IED mites (Offering #1), and \$1,620 for the Iowa County Food Bank (Offering #2)

Colleen Hosford and Nancy McHone gave the closing resolutions. The outgoing LWML-IED officers gave reflections on their service. The following women were installed in their new positions by Pastor Ellingworth: Becky Gluesing, VP of Communications, Kay Berry, VP of Human Care, Margaret Kistler, VP of Organizational Resources, Marna Mohr, Treasurer, and Rev. Matthew Vesey, Junior Pastoral Counselor.

President Martha Hartwig declared the 42nd Biennial Convention of the LWML-IED is adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Rev. Tanner Post led the closing devotion.

Sheryl Zinda  
LWML-IED Recording Secretary