

**CENTRAL STATES SYNODICAL ORGANIZATION  
WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
CONVENTION, JULY 24-26, 2009 IN MANHATTAN, KS**

The Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Central States Synodical Organization met for their **22<sup>nd</sup> annual convention**, July 24-26, 2009 at the Clarion Hotel, 530 Richards DR, Manhattan, KS. The Convention Theme was “Gift of Grace” and the Scripture selection, “ ...justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus”, Romans 3:24.

Registration began at noon on Friday. The Hospitality Room, Augsburg, SERRV/Fair Trade and numerous displays were available for convention attendees. The first choir practice was at 4:00 p.m. Delegate and participant orientations were at 5:00 p.m.

**CONVENTION OPENING** President, Iris Turnbull, opened the convention by welcoming the delegates, participants and guests. **Convention Chaplain, Linda Davis**, had an opening prayer and **Song Leader, Jan Malpert**, and **Pianist, Judy Peterson**, led the singing of the **theme song, Amazing Grace**. The Purpose Statement was read and SWO Board members were introduced. Others introduced were: **Lynn Starr, Parliamentarian and Susie Borgstrom, Time Keeper**.

**CHURCHWIDE REPRESENTATIVE** **Diane Frederick**, Churchwide Executive Board, brought greetings from the Churchwide Women of the ELCA Organization. Diane suggested we help other women in our congregations understand how funding works in Women of the ELCA, she asked that we support Women of the ELCA financially and by purchasing the resources available. She noted many resources are free to download. Diane encouraged the convention attendees to visit with her throughout the convention and urged all to Live Boldly in the Grace of Jesus Christ. A letter from Beth Wrenn, Women of the ELCA President, is included in the Convention Program.

**EIGHTH TRIENNIAL GATHERING** The eighth Triennial Gathering for Women of the ELCA will be in Spokane, Washington, July 14-17, 2011. **Tanya Fraker**, Scranton, KS, will be the Triennial Gathering Promoter for Central States Women of the ELCA.

Before the convention recessed for the evening, the SWO Board members offered their rendition of Charlie Daniel’s Amazing Grace.

**WORSHIP** **Kevin Clark**, Campus Pastor, Manhattan, KS and **Michael Ide**, Pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, Manhattan, KS led the **Campfire style** Friday night **worship** service. Convention attendees sang campfire songs and served each other communion.

**BOWL-A-THON** Many women went across the street to Zuckey Bowl to bowl and raise **funds for Camp Tomah Shinga**, and others gathered to visit and cheer on the bowlers. \$1800.00 was raised.

**Saturday, July 25, 2009**

Linda Davis, Chaplain, led **Bible Study** based on the Convention Scripture, Romans 3:24

**Welcome, to Manhattan** was given by Jayme Morris-Hardeman, Manhattan City Commissioner.

**Greetings and News from Central States Synod** was presented by Rev. John Kreidler, Bishop's Associate for Administration. Rev. Kreidler stated we have a challenge to become a missional church; to think about our churches' role in the future through prayer and dwelling in God's word. He announced a synod wide fund appeal to raise 7.3 million dollars for support for education of seminarians, PMAs and rostered leaders. He stated, "This is a time for boldness, not shyness; a time to step out, not retire."

**Business Meeting** Convention Chaplain, Linda Davis, led delegates in prayer. Vice President, Carla Standley, called on President, Iris Turnbull, for her report. The **President's Report** is printed in the convention program book (CPR). Iris also called attention to the letter from Cathy Sell, President of our **sister synod**, North Carolina.

**Convention Standing Rules** were presented by Secretary, Carolyn Bauer. They were read at the delegates' orientation and are printed in the CPR. Carolyn moved for the adoption of the Convention Standing Rules. Motion carried.

**Corrections to the Convention Program** Vice President, Carla Standley, presented the following changes to the convention program and reports. In the Standing Rules, the white card is no longer for abstaining, but for Point of Order. **Pg. 5** of the Convention Schedule, the Saturday date is July 25, 2009. **Pg. 25** Choir Director is Jan Malpert and Accompanist is Judy Peterson. Committee on Claims, omit Dawn Lessialk, Carol Braaten is Chair. **Pg. 27** change telephone prefix for Mary Keidle to 689 and on **Pg. 28** Change Rhonda Templing's address to 234B NW 210 RD. Carla moved for the adoption of the convention program and reports, with the above changes noted. Motion carried. The Convention Committees were introduced during the delegates' orientation on Friday. President, Iris, declared the **appointment of the convention committees** as printed in the CPR, including the changes made to the Committee on Claims.

**Report of the Credentials Committee** Janet Neilsen, Registrar, reported the following as being registered: 45 delegates (*per roll call it was determined there were 50 delegates*)  
84 participants  
14 guests  
8 officers and board members  
(*4 grant recipients are counted in with delegates and participants.*)

The report of the Credentials Committee was adopted.

**Report of the Claims Committee** Carol Braaten, chair, reported the **Love Offering** received from the congregational units, Friday evening, was \$2661.50.

**Report of the Nominating Committee** Rhonda Templing, chair, reported the following nominees for two year terms of office: President, Iris Turnbull  
Treasurer, Jewell Swinney  
Board Members, Susie Borgstrom, Mary Keidle  
and Deborah Rupprecht.

President, Iris, called for nominations from the floor for the position of president. No further nominations were received. The chair declared nominations closed.

**Committee on Elections**, Gloria Sharp, chair, distributed ballots to delegates who voted for the office of president. Delegates marked their ballot for president. Ballots were collected and counted.

**Treasurer's Report** was presented by Marilyn Youngquist. Marilyn noted the report is printed on pages 16 through 19 of the CPR. She noted several figures were placed on the wrong line when the accounting firm prepared the report. Interest on the Mission Investment Fund is \$336.00, Newsletter expense is \$85.00 and Misc. income is \$31.00. Marilyn then presented the Synodical Women's Organization **budget for 2010-2011**. (The proposed budget is on page 20 of the CPR.)

**Report from Elections Committee** Gloria Sharp, chair, announced that 56 votes were received for Iris Turnbull for President, with one abstain; 30 votes needed to elect. *It was noted the registrar reported only 45 delegates and 8 officers and board for a voting strength of 53. The Registrar's lists were obtained, and roll was called of the pre-registered delegates. A few changes and substitutions were noted and the result of the roll call was 50 delegates and 8 officers and board for a **voting strength of 58**.* Based on these results, the chair declared **Iris Turnbull elected president** for a term of two years.

**Elections** The chair called for further nominations for the office of treasurer. No further nominations were received. The chair declared nominations for treasurer closed. Delegates proceeded to mark their ballot for treasurer. Ballots were collected and counted.

**Budget** Marilyn Youngquist, treasurer, moved for the adoption of the budget. Motion seconded. The adoption of the 2010-2011 budget was approved.

**Reference and Council** Marian Thompson, chair, presented the following **resolution**: "Whereas the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Central States Synodical Women's Convention was facilitated and made possible by the efforts of many people, be it resolved that we thank the following people: (*see the Resolution Form attached to these minutes.*) Motion carried.

Minutes, Central States SWO Convention (continued)

**Elections Committee** Gloria Sharp, Chair, reported that 57 votes were received for Jewell Swinney for Treasurer. 30 votes needed to elect. The chair declared **Jewell Swinney elected as treasurer** for a term of two years.

**Elections** The chair called for further nominations for the position of board member. No further nominations were received. The chair declared nominations for board member closed. Delegates proceeded to mark their ballot for the three nominated for board member, Susie Borgstrom, Mary Keidle and Deborah Rupprecht. Ballots were collected and counted.

**Minutes Committee** Kay Hase, Chair, reported the secretary's records to be in order and moved that the approval of the minutes of this convention be referred to the SWO board. Motion carried.

**Committee on Presidents Report** Connie Teigen, Chair, reported the committee feels the president has fulfilled her job description. Connie moved for the adoption of the president's report. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

**Elections Committee** Gloria Sharp, Chair, reported 56 votes received for Susie Borgstrom; 56 votes received for Mary Keidle and 56 votes received for Deborah Rupprecht. 30 votes needed for each position to elect. The chair declared **Susie Borgstrom, Mary Keidle and Deborah Rupprecht each elected to a two year term as board member**. Gloria moved that all ballots be destroyed. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

**Reports from Display(s) people and In Kind Gift Representatives** Gary LaGrange, retired Army Colonel and head of "**Help us Learn, Give us Hope**", spoke of his passion to help children in difficult places, especially Iraq and Afghanistan. He thanked the delegates and participants for the estimated 1000# of supplies and the \$500. (+) collected to help defray shipping. Andrea Johnson, **Bethany Home**, stated they are a faith based home and provide a community of Christian love and concern to 118 residents. J.P. (Joyce) Palmer thanked the assembly for allowing her to promote **Lutheran Planned Giving**. Stephanie Ferguson, **Oaks Indian Mission**, reported they house 37 children and thanked convention attendees for supporting Oaks with gifts of money and goods.

**Business Meeting Closed** President, Iris, declared the business meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Central States Women of the ELCA closed. Chaplain Davis closed with prayer.

**Service Projects** Some convention participants engaged in Tie One On! Ten quilts were tied. Other participants assembled several afghans for Warm Up America.

Minutes, Central States SWO Convention (continued)

**Workshops** Reflecting God's Grace through guided meditation – Diane Frederick; Video, Embrace Grace; Biblical Storytelling 101 – Rev. Patty Brown-Barnett; Children to Give Away (Orphan Trains) – Judy Hill; Help us Learn, Give us Hope – Ret. Col. Gary LaGrange; Camp Tomah Shinga – Harlan and Jean Teske and Lutheran Campus Ministry – Rev. Kevin Clark.

**Banquet** Jill Duis, Toastmasters International, entertained with her presentation, Ladies of the Night. The Manhattan Barefoot Dixieland Band provided Dixieland Jazz music.

**Barbara Nelson Fund silent auction** Clusters provided 23 baskets which yielded \$927.00 for the Barbara Nelson Fund.

**Prayer Partner Exchange** An Apple item costing \$1.00 was exchanged using a “left / right” exercise directed by Carla Standly.

**Compline Worship** ended the day's activities. Cluster leaders gathered with Susie Borgstrom, Cluster Coordinator SWO board liaison.

**Sunday, July 26, 2009**

**Bible Study** Convention Chaplain, Linda Davis presented session two of the Bible Study based on Romans 3:24.

**Grant Recipients** Nancy Buser, Jewell, KS; Cecelia Wiedemann, Cole Camp, MO; Carol Riffel, Herington, KS and Carol Ann Salber, Lawrence, KS were introduced.

**Report of the Credentials Committee** Jan Neilson, Chair, reported Saturday totals were 50 delegates, 93 participants, 16 guests, 8 board and officers for a total attendance of 167.

**Installation of SWO Board** Diane Frederick, Churchwide Women of the ELCA board, installed continuing, reelected and newly elected officers and board members for Central States Synod Women of the ELCA Board.

**2010 Convention** Vice President, Carla Standley, announced the Central States SWO convention will be in **Branson, MO, July 23-25, 2010**. Ozark Mountain cluster extended the invitation to come to the Lodge of the Ozarks next July.

**Formal closing of convention** President, Iris, declared the 22<sup>nd</sup> convention of the Central States SWO closed; Chaplain Davis closed with prayer.

**Closing Worship** was conducted by Rev. Kevin Clark, assisted by Pastor Melba Smith and Chaplain Linda Davis. Total Convention Offering was \$4960.00.

*Respectfully Submitted, Carolyn Bauer, Secretary, Central States Synod Women ELCA*