

The 82nd Convention of the Kansas District Lutheran Laymen's League
November 5, 2022
Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina, Kansas

President Arlen Schultz called the Convention to order.

Pastor Dennis Kootz led the opening devotion. It was based on Genesis 5:1-32 which is the generations of Adam. It serves to link the history of the earliest humans to the time of Noah. Pastor Kootz pointed out that if we look at the meanings of the names listed, they show that God is spelling out His entire plan of salvation. "Man was appointed to be mortal. This was very sorrowful indeed. However, the blessed God shall come down teaching how His death shall bring the despairing comfort and rest." Pastor concluded his devotion with a prayer.

President Justin Panzer addressed the Convention. He emphasized we need to get into God's Word and that God's Word brings us peace and salvation. He spoke of the wealth of information that is located on the Kansas District website. (kslcms.org) He stated we are to be living as the Baptized. He mentioned the theme verse of the Kansas LCMS Convention, I Peter 2: 9-10. We are chosen to declare and we are the Royal Priesthood of Kansas. Some of the things President Panzer mentioned that make this happen are that we have daily prayer is the home, that congregations follow the Church Worker Care Manual, and that churches work together. He mentioned how the women make a concerted effort to raise up younger women in the church. We need to reinvigorate the men of the church. He suggested having Bible study at least once a month, provide mentorship for young men and establish relationships by doing activities like shooting, fishing, etc. President Panzer spoke of the importance of having a group to support the church workers and foster and advocate for the workers. He also mentioned the importance of older adult ministry, campus ministry and how we need to encourage and recruit more church workers. He stated that the monthly newsletter of the Kansas LCMS, "Working Together" can be received if you go to the website and select it.

Tammy Taylor gave greetings from the LWML. She mentioned they have a \$145,000 Mite Goal. This is used to carry out the many ministries they support in Kansas and throughout the world.

A video presentation from Kurt Buchholz, CEO of Lutheran Hour Ministries, was shown. He encouraged each and every one to be a part of God's ministry. He spoke of how today's technology allows us to reach many new people. But he also expressed how we had a lot more that needs to be done because there are still three billion people that have not heard of Jesus. Everyone needs the opportunity to hear the Gospel in an understandable way. People need to be equipped to be able to share the Gospel. Lutheran Hour Ministries continues to move the mission forward. In the last nine years they have quadrupled the number of people hearing the Gospel message. LHM will strive to continue their efforts to truly make a Mission Impact on the world.

Tracy Brunner read the Theme Resolution.

22-01 THEME RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the ways of the devil, the world and our flesh have perpetuated every sin imaginable, afflicting individuals, families, and nations regardless of age, income, race or walk of life; and

WHEREAS sin has blinded countless people from the beauty of the Gospel; and

WHEREAS too many that do not know the True God and his wonderful plan of salvation, do not actively share and show the good news of salvation; and

WHEREAS our merciful God would have all people to be brought to salvation ultimately be given the gift of eternal life; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the International Lutheran Laymen's League and Lutheran Hour Ministries strive mightily to proclaim the Good News of Christ Jesus boldly and clearly in Kansas and to the far reaches of the world; and be it further

RESOLVED that this be done especially through the Lutheran Hour, the International Ministry centers and the many other LHM programs; and be it also

RESOLVED that advances be made in this Gospel work through the efforts and support of a revitalized and motivated laity; and be it firmly

RESOLVED that we recognize the rich history of LLL/LHM's ministry and strive to be part of the bold vision that will carry LLL/LHM forward; and be it finally

RESOLVED that everyone here assembled rise to second this resolution and vote its passage with the singing of the Common Doxology:

Gary and Judy Neuschafer were recognized for all the work they had done to prepare for the Convention.

Arlen Schultz was also recognized for all the work he has done.

A video was shown about the LHM International Internship Program with Dr. Tony Cook as the speaker. He spoke about how LHM is expanding our Ministry Centers into more countries. He said they were uplifting the next generation of workers and leaders in the ministry centers. The following steps would be taken:

1. Identify the Hubs
2. Recruit Interns, define target locations and develop materials for that area
3. Train the Interns
4. Plans created and approved
5. Interns establish the Ministry Centers

We use workers that are from the area and know the local culture. Dr. Cook identified four areas: Panama, Cameroon, India and Kazakhstan.

Arlen reminded everyone about the silent auction and the nostalgia items.

Lunch was served.

Convention resumed at 12:46

Carol and John Kratzer spoke to the Convention about their Comfort Dog, Keren. They are associated with the Lutheran Church Charities. Keren was with them. They take Keren to areas that have had disasters so that Keren can interact with the people. They have twice taken Keren to Uvalde, Texas to help those impacted by the school shooting.

Arlen talked about activities that could be done in communities and emphasized that everyone is important.

John Johnson moved to accept the minutes of the previous Convention as printed in the booklet. Ray Keller seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report by John Johnson was printed in the booklet. Tom Stanton moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Fred Gruhn seconded the motion. Motion passed.

John Johnson reminded everyone that the fiscal year for the District Project ends on May 31st.

Fred Gruhn read the following District Project Resolution:

DISTRICT PROJECT RESOLUTION 22-02

Financial Aid for Kansas District students attending a LCMS synodical school or seminary preparing for full-time church work.....\$39,500
Recognition Dinner for the 4th year students at Concordia Seminary.\$1,000

Overseas Bible Correspondence Courses and Argentina Ministry.....	\$8,000
State Fair Worship Service and State Fair Booth.....	\$1000
Tournament of Roses Parade Lutheran Hour Float.....	\$500
	TOTAL \$50,000

(Any contributions received over our project goal of \$50,000 will be added to Financial Aid.)

Should the amount of contributions received be less than \$42,000, then the amount designated for Financial Aid to students will be \$31,500 and the amounts designated to other categories will be prorated to accommodate the shortage of contributions.

Should the amount of contributions received be greater than \$42,000 but less than \$50,000' then the amount designated for financial aid to students will be reduced to accommodate the shortage of contributions.

BE IT RESOLVED that we as active and committed Christians pray and financially support the 2022-2023 District Project goal of \$50,000. The name of the Lord is to be praised.

A motion to accept the resolution was made by Joe Cretien. John Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Jim Johnson explained last year's District Project distribution. The total received was \$38,365.97.

Financial Aid recipients were listed in the booklet.

Tom Stanton informed everyone the State Fair Worship Service and Fair Booth reports were in the booklet. There were 133 people at the service and the collection was \$452.50. Pastors that preach at the worship service will receive a \$150 stipend. Kansas LLL is the only group to bring God's Word to the State Fair. Merle Lietz memorial paid for a LHM Connect stand at the service. Booklets left over were given out at the Fair Booth. President Justin Panzer will be the speaker next year.

John Johnson reported that the Bible Stories for Children booklets were very popular at the Fair Booth.

Fred Gruhn was recognized for his technology expertise. He set up the Zoom connections, the video system and other technology to help make the Convention go smoothly.

Tracy Brunner suggested that we give the leftover food from lunch to the Serenity House, which helps people who have addictions. John Johnson made a motion to give the leftover food from lunch to the Serenity House. Keith Gloe seconded. Motion passed.

There was no Old Business.

New Business - We collected an offering for Keren.

Elections- Mark Westerman asked that he be replaced as Region 3 Representative. Warren Briggeman was appointed to replace Mark.

President Schultz asked for nominations from the floor.

John Johnson moved to cast a unanimous ballot as printed.

President- Joe Cretien Vice-President- Vacant

Region 1 Board Member- Fred Gruhn Region 4 Board Member Ray Keller

Arlen gave a President's Report. He has been at 50+ Conventions. He has shaken hands with every one of the Kansas LLL District Presidents. Arlen used a play on words to remember each of the past Presidents.

The Convention next year will be at Risen Savior in Wichita.

The new officers were installed by Pastor Kootz.

Ray Keller read the following Thanks Resolution:

22-03 CONVENTION THANK RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the members of Region 2 of the Kansas District LLL have given unselfishly of their time and talents to provide for an inspiring and Christ-centered convention; and

WHEREAS an excellent convention agenda has been prepared; and

WHEREAS the theme "Faith" should remind and us during the coming year that there are opportunities for us to share the Good News with others

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we extend our thanks to everyone who made this 82nd Kansas District Convention a success by rising and exclaiming "Thank You! Amen!

Linda Stanton read a poem that was written by her father, Merle Lietz.

Arlen told everyone to take a BINGO card and do what it says on the card. Then bring it to the Convention next year. The one with the most done will get a prize.

A video on the Mission Center in Madagascar was shown.

Arlen announce the silent auction winners. \$140 was raised for the District Project.

Arlen thanked the cooks.

Joe Cretien shared a few words. He said we need to work toward the youth. He encouraged everyone to actively work to involve and reach more men.

Arlen adjourned the Convention at 3:13.