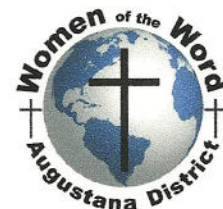


Women of the Word

"WOW" News



April 2012

A District of Lutheran Congregations
in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

John 1:1: *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*

Third Annual Gathering

Theme: Share the Word

September 22, 2012

Faith Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, MN

More information regarding the Third Annual Gathering plus the registration form are available on the last pages of this newsletter.

We hope you will plan to attend!

What does it mean to be Women of the Word?

Our family attends Paynesville Lutheran Church during the summer months because the church is located only three miles from our cabin. This church uses Daily Walk Devotional and the devotion for Tuesday, October 18, 2011, from John 1:1-5 answered for me the above question.

"Word" is far richer in Hebrew (*rhema*) and Greek (*logos*) than our English term. Logos can refer to thoughts or rationale, but John uses it in a philosophical sense: the rational principle that creates, organizes, holds together and governs all of creation. This Word became flesh, revealing the fullness of God and bringing light and life to all people. If we asked John, "What is the Word of God?" he might respond, "Actually, I think the correct question is "Who is the Word of God?" And the answer to that question is Jesus, the Christ." John depicts Jesus as present and active from the beginning, at work in all things creative. The capital W refers to the living Word that is Jesus Christ. Just as God spoke all creation into being, God has "spoken" salvation for all creation through Jesus. Ask God to help you understand that Jesus is the Word of God spoken for the salvation of all creation, that the gospel is the Word of God as the good news of God's work through Jesus, and the Bible is the Word of God bearing witness to God's being and work in the world."

If anyone ever questions you why our organization is called "Women of the Word", you could just say "Women of Jesus Christ". Or you could go into a much deeper, clearer explanation as is provided by the Daily Walk Devotional.



Blessings as you enjoy this unusually warm spring weather.

Mary Ebent
Coordinator for Women of the Word, Augustana District.



Meet your Board Members ~~



Carolyn Fiskness: My husband Al and I have shared 37 ½ years of marriage and we live in New London. We have two grown children. I am retired from a 37-year nursing career, the last 32 of which were in maternal/child health at the Willmar hospital. I enjoy hobbies including quilting, paper crafts, flower gardening, reading and cake decorating. I became a member of the WOW board last fall and look forward to the challenges and rewards of working with a great group of devoted Christian Women.

Beverly Tellefsen: I grew up in the Maynard/ Sacred Heart, MN area and attended college at Concordia, Moorhead. I married and moved to Connecticut where I taught elementary school for some years. I then moved back to Granite Falls where I continued to teach until I retired. I have two daughters and four grandchildren that I enjoy spending as much time with as I am able. I have served on several boards in the community, I do volunteer work in the community and at Wang Lutheran Church; currently serving as a co-president of our Women of the Word. Along with these activities, I love to travel, read, and have become involved in making pillowcase dresses for Africa. I do quilting, sewing tops and tying at church for missions. I chose to be on the WOW board so that we, in our church, could be kept up to date on the current happenings of the new LCMC church and women's group. I enjoy going to the conventions and meeting people who are excited about serving others.



News from the Education Secretary ~~

I'm hoping many of you have established Bible study as the main focus in your women's organizations. I have been in an intensive weekly study of the Gospel of John since September. In John 17, Jesus prays for himself, his disciples, and all believers. Jesus prays to the Father, "Glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began." Jesus knows that his purpose for coming to earth is almost finished and he asks the Father "to protect the disciples from the evil one and to sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." Finally, he prays for all believers: "May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

Hebrews 4:12-16 says, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges all thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Sola Publishing (Phone Orders: Toll Free: 888-887-9840; e-mail: psalm33.9@gmail.com) has women's and men's group studies designed for

primary use by a regularly-meeting small group (about 12 people), with nine sessions for the months of the school year. The studies are: In Harmony With The Word, God's Reluctant Leaders, One For All, Portraits of Jesus, and The Wise & The Foolish.

Also available through Sola are Kent Groethe's Bible-Alive Series. These are 5.5" x 8.5" books written in a reader-style, with 12 sessions each: Genesis; Exodus; Numbers & Deuteronomy; Luke; John; Acts; and Letters of Paul. These will work as well for high school youth.

One of the break-out sessions at the Third Annual Gathering of Women of the Word - Augustana District, September 22, 2012, at Faith Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, MN, will introduce studies prepared by Beth Moore. Plan to choose that as one of your opportunities to learn more about this avenue of study in your local churches as well as seminars by Beth Moore in Fargo, Minneapolis/St. Paul, or Sioux Falls as well as simulcasts in your local area.

Jan Schulte
Education Secretary

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Dear Women of the Word,

We will continue with our Newborn Kits and Hospice Kits with Global Health Ministries. Their mission statement is: **To continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ by enhancing the health care programs of Lutheran Churches in other countries.**

Thank you for your hard work to help the newborn babies and their mothers. The AIDS/Hospice kits can provide cleanliness and comfort to those who are in the painful end stages of this disease.

At our last annual gathering, pillowcase dresses and shorts were displayed. A number of you have been busy making them. Please feel free to bring them along to the September Gathering.

Please bring your mission projects to Faith Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, Minnesota at our September Annual Gathering.

I delight in working with all of you, as you work on your mission projects with prayers in your hearts.

Blessings to all of you.

Dorothy Desens
Mission Secretary

KIT INSTRUCTIONS

Newborn Kits

Please use new or gently used, clean items

- 36" square muslin or sheeting – not necessary to hem
- Regular size bath towel – no longer than 48"
- Wash cloth
- Bath size bar of white Ivory soap
- Newborn stocking cap, this may be sewn, knit or crocheted
- Small baby shirt, size 0-3 or newborn
- 1 receiving blanket (approximate size is 30"x30")
- \$5.00 per kit for shipping, attach to outside

Hospice Kits

- 1 regular size bath towel
- 1 wash cloth
- 1 bath size bar of soap in a plastic Ziploc bag
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 tube tooth paste
- 1 'pick' style comb
- 1 nail clipper
- 6 band-aids
- 1 jar or tube petroleum jelly
- 1 pair heavy duty household gloves – med size
- 1 small devotional booklet such as Portals of Prayer (may be used)
- \$5.00 per kit for shipping, attach to outside

Assembling Instructions:

- ❖ Wrap all items in the towel.
- ❖ Place in a large Ziploc bag (2 gal. or larger)
- ❖ Include label: AIDS/Hospice Kit – or Newborn Kit. Note should be visible through the bag
- ❖ Squeeze air out of bag before sealing.

**If you have been making school kits for LWR, you may bring them to the Annual Gathering.
We will see that they are delivered to Lutheran World Relief.**



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Share the Word

Third Annual Gathering - September 22, 2012
Faith Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, MN

John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

We are happy to invite you to attend the Third Annual Gathering of Women of the Word – Augustana District. This gathering will be at Faith Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Please share this information with other women in your congregation. We hope you can attend!

The gathering will begin at 9:30 a.m. with registration and coffee and muffins. A tentative timeline is listed below:

- † 10:00 a.m. **Worship and communion service led by Pastor Mark Richardson**
- † 11:00 a.m. **Keynote speaker Pastor Janine Rew-Werling of Hosanna Lutheran, Watertown, South Dakota, speaking on the theme, Share the Word**
- † 12:00 noon: **Lunch**
- † 1:00 p.m. **Break out sessions begin**
- † 2:30 p.m. **Business Meeting**

Tentative break out sessions include: New Hope Missions, Versions of the Bible, Card Making, Beth Moore Bible Series. Please note: if you attended the biblical quilt block session at the October 1, 2011, gathering, please bring it. These blocks will be sewn into a quilt.

Can you Help with the Third Annual Gathering?

In an effort to involve more Women of the Word groups in the Gathering, we are asking if any groups would like to provide the following:

1. **Name Tags:** If a congregation would like to volunteer to make the name tags, please contact Mary Ebent at the phone number or e-mail listed below. Name tags will need to be made and sent to Mary a week prior to the gathering. A name label will then be stuck onto the name tags that are made by your group.
2. **Muffins/Juice:** Muffins and juice for 100+ people. The muffins will need to arrive PRIOR to 9:00 a.m. so the serving area can be set up prior to registration. Please contact Mary Ebent if your group can bring muffins. We are looking for several congregations to volunteer to do this.
3. **Table Favors:** Wang Lutheran has volunteered to make table favors for the gathering. A BIG thank you to the ladies at Wang Lutheran!

Board member contact information:

Coordinator: Mary Ebent – mebent@hutchtel.net 320-587-5442
Vice-Coordinator/Education: Jan Schulte – jschulte@sstel.net – 605-695-4996
Treasurer: Emilie Wildey – emandale12@gmail.com – 320-562-0180
Secretary/Newsletter: Diane Anderson – andersdj@hutchtel.net 320-587-9352
Missions/newsletter: Dorothy Desens – ddesens@hutchtel.net – 320-587-8777
Historian – Heidi Froemming – hkfroem@hutchtel.net – 320-587-8607
At Large Members: Beverly Tellefson – bev43@embarqmail.com 320-564-3475
Carolyn Fiskness – altonfiskness@yahoo.com 320-354-4742
Ex-Officio Member: Carreen Pierson – chuckpierson@mchsi.com 320-587-5602

The WOW Boutique will also be 'open' for your shopping pleasure during the Gathering. All crafters are welcome to donate items. If you have something to donate, please bring it with the price marked. Proceeds will go to missions.



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Registration and coffee/muffins will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The registration fee - \$15.00
(includes morning coffee/muffin and lunch)
Fee is non-refundable, but can be transferred

Please return registration by September 12, 2012

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail _____

Congregation: _____

Please make check out to: Women of the Word - Augustana District

Mail Registrations to: Emilie Wildey, Treasurer, WOW
Faith Lutheran Church
335 Main Street SW
Hutchinson MN 55350

I give permission for
WOW-Augustana
District to use any
photographs of me for
reporting and/or
publicity purposes.