



Women of the Word

November 2016



The Seventh Annual Gathering of the Women of the Word-Augustana District was held on September 17, 2016 at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, Minnesota. It was a beautiful day packed with spirit-filled worship, interesting and informative speakers, great food, and plenty of opportunities for fellowship. Eighty-eight women from seventeen churches registered.

The theme for the gathering, "Be a Witness", was based on Psalm 119:105: "My word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." As Christian women we are witnesses in all that we do; in our homes, churches and communities. But in Acts 1:8, we find that we are so much more: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The WOW Gathering collection of \$2196, provided a witness; locally (Jerusalem) to the Common Cup Ministries; regionally (Samaria) to Heartland Girls Ranch, and to the Tabor congregation in Ethiopia (to the ends of the earth). We celebrate the Spirit of God's light.

Pastor Mark Richardson led the church service based on the bible verse from the Order of Baptism, "Let your light so shine before others that they may see good works and glorify your Father in heaven", Matthew 5:16. Stoney Point sang during communion.

Pastor Randy Freund gave a brief summary of the Augustana District. There are 78 clergy, 5 more in the process, in 10 states and 65 congregations. Need to develop a presence in the twin cities. Half of the LCMC churches are not currently part of the Augustana District.



Jeannie Thompson from Heartland Girls Ranch in Benson spoke to us about the Ranch and what it does. They take girls from the ages of 12-21. Most have been abused or trafficked.

Girls are referred to them by Social Services. They have forty horses that the girls take care of and ride. Their motto is "Healing youth and building lives through success."

Damaris Nyankabaria spoke on her life in Kenya. She now lives in Hutchinson, Minnesota and is currently a nursing student. Her passion is to make a difference to the people she meets.



BOUTIQUE



Enjoying coffee and muffins provided by Thrivent Financial and served by CTK Women



SAVE THE DATE FOR SEPTEMBER 16, 2017



The Eighth Annual Gathering of Women of the Word—Augustana District will be held at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Richfield, WI. The theme verse for next year is: Endurance based on Hebrews 12:1-2a, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race

marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith". God gives His people endurance to engage in mission in and through their congregations.

For those women attending who want to make a week end out of attending the gathering, activities are being planned throughout the weekend. Lunch will include a Wisconsin lunch cookout on our patio and pavilion. There are tentative plans to charter a bus for those women who will have to travel a distance, More details to follow...



Dates and host churches for 2018 and 2019 Annual Gatherings have been confirmed.

YOUR 2017 WOW BOARD

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