

Women of the Word

8th Annual WOW Gathering

Saturday, September 16, 2017

June 2017



Shepherd of the Hills
Lutheran Church
1350 Hwy 175
Hubertus, WI 53033



WOW 2017 THEME: "ENDURANCE"

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 endurance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."*

We have an exciting agenda planned for the 8th annual WOW Gathering on September 16:

- ◇ Worship and Special Music
- ◇ Action oriented mission booths,
- ◇ Inspirational speakers with real-life experiences in the trenches of mission,
- ◇ Separate Pastor Focused Discussions,
- ◇ Wisconsin cook out and buffet for lunch,
- ◇ An exciting dismissal surprise!

All LCMC congregations are invited to join us for this event. We hope to see you there!!

I was reading my Everyday Matters Bible for women and came across a great entry from Carolyn Custis James; "Stretched in Scary Ways" -Hebrews 12:1-2

The more I learn about God and his calling, the more I know my life is purposeful. I love Hebrews 12:1-2 where it talks about a race that's been marked out, which we're called to run; that nothing I encounter along the way is going to throw him off. I may make a bad decision; I may zig when I should zag, but my life is purposeful; I'm on a mission; God has me where he wants me. He takes me through experiences that shape me, that help me do more for his kingdom. This gives me a framework for my life.

It also stretches me in scary ways. There are situations where I need to show more courage, to step out and take a stand, to speak up because kingdom issues are at stake. I don't think that comes easily when you've been conditioned to back away and not speak up. It creates battles within me because every once in a while, I get confronted with a situation where the easy path is more appealing. I have to ask myself, is this what God wants me to do? and take a harder route. But ultimately, I know that's my race to run.

This made me think about the gathering Shepherd of the Hills is hosting in September and what some women really go through in life. We are pulled in 20 different directions just before that first cup of coffee and we want to make sure that we are doing the best for everyone. I have struggled with this for a good chunk of my adult life and until I stopped and just let Our Father take the steering wheel. Then I felt more relaxed with the craziness in which I called my life.

When I would go away from His word and tried to just do things my way, I would find that it was a struggle to get things done and not feel fulfilled in them. He will always lead us in the way we need and we just have to trust that He will give us the endurance that is needed.

Karol Schmidt, Shepherd of the Hills, Richfield, Wisconsin

The following speakers will be at our Gathering:

Jacinda Shields is a stay at home parent to two (soon to be three) children, and wife to Matt, who is the pastor at Shepherd of the Hills. She and Matt spent a total of 20 months in South Africa in 2008-09 and 2014-15 partnering with local African congregations and planting a church. She enjoys spending time with her family, being outdoors and reading books about education, faith and ministry.



Karen Puhl and Pamela Schwalbach – Simple Hope: Karen Puhl and Pamela Schwalbach became acquainted in August of 2009 at a meeting about global hunger. They discovered they had both visited Africa and shared the same desire to reduce the extreme hunger needs they witnessed during their travels. They are two ordinary moms who answered an extraordinary call to help the Hadza bushmen of Tanzania, traveling there twice annually since 2010. Both are members at Shepherd of the Hills in Hubertus, WI.



Emmy Myers, Founder of Lacey's Hope Project, is a local sex trafficking survivor and advocate for victims who will share her personal experience, as she aims to help us look for warning signs. Lacey's Hope Project, a Wisconsin-based project she started in memory of a close friend and fellow victim of sex trafficking. The project's goal is to help raise awareness of modern-day slavery by focusing on the signs and dangers of sex trafficking and survivors' healing processes. <http://www.laceyshopeproject.org/>



Collections from the 2017 WOW gathering worship service will be donated to Lacey's Hope Project

CAPTURE YOUR MISSION ACTIVITIES:

We invite congregations to participate at the WOW gathering by demonstrating your actual mission activities on video. Think of ways your congregation serves locally, nationally, or internationally. Please send digital pictures or perhaps a brief video of a testimony from the people who are being served or of people serving and how their service impacts the lives of others.

The video should be limited to 3 minutes, knowing that we may need to edit it. Video format can be in .mov.mp4. etc., or supply a link to You Tube, vimeo or mail a jump drive or DVD to Shepherd of the Hills or our email address: adwogathering@gmail.com. Provide your church name, logo or picture of the church and a brief title or description on the video. Submit no later than July 31, 2017.

Women of the Word—Augustana District Official Business

Each Augustana District Congregation represented at the gathering will be requested to designate one person as a delegate to attend a brief WOW business meeting during the gathering. The WOW 2018 Board will be voted in during that business meeting. A meeting packet will be provided at the registration. The remainder of the assembly will participate in another activity while the business meeting is taking place.

2018 WOW Board Positions

We have several opportunities for you to join the 2018 WOW board! We are accepting nominations for all the positions listed below.

Vice Coordinator backs up the Coordinator and moves up to the Coordinator position the following year. The Coordinator coordinates activities for the year including board meetings, and the annual gathering. We currently have one nominee for Vice Coordinator; Christine Price from Nevis, MN.

Secretary keeps minutes at all Board and Gathering meetings. We currently have one nominee for Secretary; Mia Mills from Hazel Run, MN.

Education Secretary - Bible Study and educational resource person: provide newsletter article featuring favorite bible studies from ladies' groups in different churches and items for publicity in newsletters.

Historian - Collector of founding artifacts, meetings, photographs, documents pertaining to WOW.

Mission Secretary – Assists with contacting new missions for gatherings and can highlight particular mission in newsletter. Can also assist in Stewardship events of Augustana District.

All board positions assist where needed in gathering and newsletter preparation, and in recruiting board members. Please contact Sandy Kriefall at sandykriefall@gmail.com or Stephanie Freund at stephaniefreund70@gmail.com if God is moving you to join the Women of the Word Augustana District in a powerful way.

Pastors are invited to be our Guests at the Gathering to participate in Pastoral Discipleship Discussion

Pastoral Discipleship

An Augustana District Approach to Mentoring, Coaching and Pastoral Theology

Goal:

To encourage, guide and mentor new and/or young pastors using relational, biblical and theological resources.

Rational:

Pastoral ministry is often difficult. The resources to navigate through many of these challenges are limited. Due to the issues and challenges those new to pastoral ministry now face, (some of which are listed below), as well as the complexities that are a part of life in the parish, the Augustana District seeks to offer this resource to new pastors and congregations.

The Issues and Challenges:

Of course, there have always been issues and challenges that effect or even attack pastoral ministry. However, the theological, cultural, biblical, relational and pastoral are a short list that collectively threaten effective pastoral ministry in ways previous generations have not experienced. The areas (among others) come together in a powerful and confusing way for those new to pastoral ministry. During our time at the gathering, we will discuss these matters and seek possible solutions.

Why attend a WOW gathering?

* *Karen* - "Attending last year's Women of the Word conference gave me an opportunity to see how God is working through other LCMC churches and learn why it would be great for our church to connect with women from other congregations. We are sisters in Christ!"

* *Mia* - "My first time attending I was able to fellowship with other like-minded women, who are gathering to worship Christ. Some may just become lifelong friends!"

* *Kelly* - "I was with three other women and we all came home with something different! Each of us received a personal touch from God."

* *Sandy* - "I have been to 5 WOW conferences and each are uniquely crafted by the congregation that hosts them, but no matter what the theme or where the church they each include the opportunity to learn more about Augustana District and missions and have face time with other Christian women."

* *Karol* - "After attending with the ladies from my church for the first-time last year. I felt a yearning to be more connected to the WOW. I have learned so much about not only WOW, but AD and LCMC. I was really introduced to missions that our sister churches do and I am looking forward to connecting on deeper level with our sisters in Christ."

* *Amy* - "I have only attended one WOW conference so far, but am looking forward to attending future events. I enjoyed meeting other women outside my own congregation and having the opportunity to learn from each other and worship together. But I also loved getting to bond more closely with the women I traveled with. We don't often have a chance to spend several uninterrupted hours together. That time in the car was as cherished as the conference itself."

The focus around Women of the Word (WOW) gatherings is faith, fellowship, and mission. This year's theme for the Shepherd of the Hills gathering is Endurance based on Hebrews 12:1-2 where we find motivation to endure toward the end goal and dream God has given us. At this gathering, we will be focusing on demonstrating the impact that women have in our communities and throughout this world.

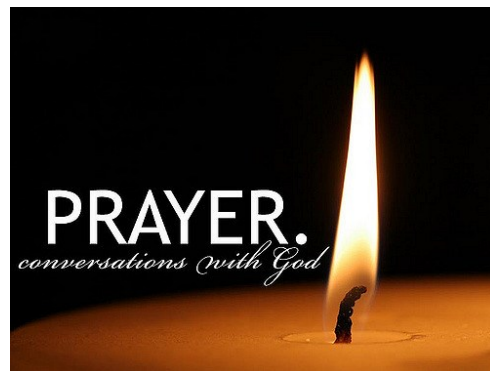
One of the main objectives of the Augustana District as a whole is to help churches collaborate in Theology, Church, and Mission. As a member of that organization, we look to bring women together from churches from multiple states to share experiences, make new friends, learn from each other, reach out in love and support each other and make a difference in this needy world as the church of Christ.

WOW Bible Study Reflection by Kris Campion, Living Word Lutheran Church in Marshall, MN

Living Word Lutheran Church in Marshall, MN is bustling with women's Bible studies going on throughout the week at the Church or in people's homes. Though a variety of Bible studies have been done, one study in particular stands out over the past couple of years. Priscilla Shirer has written a Bible study called "**The Armor of God.**" The study has women meet 7 times together over the course of 7 weeks. During each session, Priscilla Shirer does a Bible teaching time for the group to watch together on a DVD and to discuss the Bible lesson for that week. The study also has 6 weeks of personal Bible study time or "homework" to work on at home during the week.

Priscilla Shirer is an excellent teacher and communicator. Her Biblical knowledge and teaching style is accessible to women of all ages, backgrounds and levels of Spiritual maturity. The blessing of gathering together as women to study the Word of God is that it allows us to have Christian fellowship together and it encourages one another to be in the Word. This study also allows for us to have some good, personal Bible study time and reflection in between group sessions. At Living Word, The Armor of God has been done by several small groups. This Bible study is transforming lives and making women eager to learn more of God's Word!

To do The Armor of God Bible study in your own church, you can order it on line at: Lifeway.com. On this website, you can order both the DVD for the group to watch together and The Armor of God Bible study book for each participant to have. Because Priscilla Shirer does all of the teaching, it is simple to go through the questions in the study book as a group each week, after watching the DVD. If you have any questions regarding this study or other women's Bible studies being done at Living Word Lutheran Church, feel free to email Kris Campion at: campion6iw.net or Julie Christensen at: jasc518@gmail.com



AUGUSTANA DISTRICT PRAYER WARRIORS

Mark 2:3-4 (NIV)

³Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.

The mission of our prayer support includes:

- ◇ Praying for our congregations
- ◇ Praying for our pastors, staff, and leaders
- ◇ Lifting up events, current activities, and mission focuses
- ◇ Sharing prayer requests that are submitted

Requests can be submitted thru the Augustana District website, find us under CHURCH, and under PRAYER WARRIORS.

Link: <https://augustanadistrict.org/church/prayer-warriors/>

Requests can also be submitted via email to: prayerwarrior53@embarqmail.com. We also welcome more to join the prayer warriors.

Contributed by Jan Kreie, Faith Lutheran, Hutchinson, MN

If you have any questions, please contact a WOW board member. Your board members are as follows::

2017 WOW Board

Coordinator	Sandy Kriefall 2018	Shepherd of the Hills Church	Richfield, WI	sandykriefall@gmail.com 414-630-5543
Vice Coordinator	Stephanie Freund 2019	New Creation Lutheran Church	Perham, MN	stephaniefreund70@gmail.com 320-237-3360
Treasurer	Beverly Swenson 2018	Christ the King Church	Hutchinson, MN	murray@hutchtel.net 320-583-9290.
Secretary	Carla Grimsrud 2017	First Lutheran Church	Britton, SD	crg@venturecomm.net 605-448-5203
Member at Large	Marian Thorston 2018	St. John's Lutheran	Springfield, MN	mariant@newulmtel.net 507-723-5509
Ex-officio member	Paula Leske 2017	Christ the King Church	Hutchinson, MN	pleske@nutelecom.net 952-465-7974
Augustana District board	Emilie Wildey			emandale12@gmail.com 320-562-0180

Some Hotel options in the area

- ◇ **Comfort Inn & Suites** W227 N16890 Tillie Lake Court Jackson WI 3.8 miles, from \$84, (4.0), 1-888-690-5247
- ◇ **Best Western Germantown Inn**, West 190 North 10862 Commerce Circle Germantown 5.11 miles, from \$89, (4.5) 1-888-305-3366
- ◇ **Country Inn & Suites**, West 188 North 11020 Maple Rd Germantown, 5.18 miles, from \$65, (4.5) 1-800-881-1523
- ◇ **Holiday Inn Express**, West 177 North 9675 Riversbend La Germantown 6.74 miles, from \$79, (4.0) 1-888-283-3404
- ◇ **Super 8**, North 96 West 17490 County Line Rd Germantown, 6.87 miles, from \$61, (3.5) 1-866-429-5787
- ◇ **Country Inn & Suites** 2000 Gateway Court West Bend, 8.55 miles, from \$79, (4.0) 1-888-305-3366
- ◇ **Hampton Inn & Suites**, 1975 South 18th Ave West Bend 8.61 miles, from \$80, (4.0) 1-800-881-1523
- ◇ **Radisson Hotel**, North 88 West 14750 Main St Menomonee Falls, 8.77 miles, from \$65 (3.0) 1-888-283-3404

Some Restaurant options in the area

- ◇ **Sawmill Inn** 1729 Wolf Rd, Richfield, WI 53076, 262-628-4128
- ◇ **Sloppy Joes** 3723 Hubertus Rd, Hubertus, WI 53033, 262-628-1800
- ◇ **Johnny Manhattan's** 3718 Hubertus Rd, Hubertus, WI 53033, 262-628-7700
- ◇ **La Cabana** 3052 Hubertus Rd, Hubertus Wi 53033 262-628-4437
- ◇ **Sobelman's Pub & Grill** 1872 Wisconsin Hwy 175 Richfield Wi 53076, 262-623-6770
- ◇ **Big Sky Country Bar & Grill**, W204N11498 Goldendale Rd, Germantown, WI 53022, 262-415-7633
- ◇ **Brisco County Wood Grill** North96 West16865 Cumberland Ct, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051, 262-251-8330
- ◇ **Barley Pop Germantown Brew Pub and Restaurant** N116 W16137 Main St Germantown 53022, 262-25-2086
- ◇ **Alpine Retreat** 1380 Friess Lake Rd Hubertus WI 53033, 262-628-3995
- ◇ **Copper dock Restaurant** 1474 E Friess Lake Dr, Hubertus, WI 53033, 262-628-3718





Women of the Word – Augustana District Registration Form

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Richfield WI
Address 1350 Hwy 175 Hubertus, WI 53033
Saturday, September 16

WOW 2017 Theme: **“Endurance”**

Hebrews 12:1-2a

God gives His people endurance to engage in mission in and through their congregations.



Registration/Beverages/Treats and Mission Booths open at 8:00 am

Welcome and Worship begins at 9:00 am

Gathering will end with Fellowship and Send-off by 3:00 pm

Registration Fee is \$20.00 per attendee which includes Morning breakfast snacks and beverages, treats, grilled lunch buffet and registration packet (Pastors are invited as our guest)

Special dietary needs? Vegetarian, Gluten free, dairy (lactose) free and nut free options available

PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION FORM AND FEE BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

Registration Type: Pastor Attendee

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone _____ Email: _____

Augustana District Congregation? YES NO

Church Name and Location: _____

Make Check payable to Women of the Word, Augustana District

Send completed form and check to:

Shepherd of the Hills

1350 Hwy 175

Hubertus, WI 53033