

Minutes from the Augustana District 8th Annual Women of the Word Gathering

September 16, 2017

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran, Hubertus Wisconsin

“Endurance” God gives His people endurance to engage in mission in and through their congregations.
Hebrews 12:1-2a “And let us run with Endurance the race God has set before us”

Registration and fellowship time began at 8 am with coffee, juice and light breakfast items. Mission booths that were available included Augustana District, Sola Publishing, Institute of Lutheran Theology, Family Promise, New Hope Mission Society, Inc, Christian Witness Wear, and a Women’s Bible Study Table.

Registration included 70 women from eight Augustana District Churches plus four guest churches in addition to five pastors who attended the gathering.

A full worship service began at 9 am led by Shepherd of the Hills “Spoken For” Contemporary Praise Team Band and sermon was given by Pastor Dawn Spies. Service included communion.

Pastor Randy Freund gave a brief summary of the Augustana District. The foundation of AD is Theology, Church, Mission. The goal is to keep us all accountable to each other in terms of theology, with as little structure as possible. Need to be creative in how we cover congregations – Creative Callings is a program to think out of the box. The pastors also met separately which included discussion on pastor mentoring.

On Delegate from each Augustana District Congregations, the current board and nominees for the 2018 board met separately for the Business Meeting – notes were taken by Jan Kreie at 10:30 mtg in conference room.

Attendees: Sandy Kriefall WOW Board Member, Stephanie Freund: New Creation Lutheran and WOW Board Member, Marian Thorston: WOW Board Member, Elaine Lotter: Shepherd of the Hills, Bobbi Knudson: Faith Lutheran, Lora Fredericksen: St John Lutheran, Bev Swenson: WOW Board Member, Jan Kreie: Board Nominee, Susie Kruse: Crossroads Lutheran, Bonnie Erickson: Peace Lutheran Church, Mia Mills Hazel Run Lutheran and Board Nominee: Marge Hoff: Christ the King Lutheran.

Absent: Paula Leske, Carla Grimsrud: Outgoing Board members, and Christine Price 2018 Nominee

Approval of Minutes from September 17 2016 Gathering – motion to accept - Marian Thorston 1st, Stephanie Freund 2nd - passed

Treasurer’s report – expenses, income and balanced – motion to accept - Marge Hoff 1st, Bonnie E second – approved!!

Positions: nominations for vice coordinator= Christine Price accepted nomination, no other nominees. Stephanie Freund moved to accept Christine Price as Vice Coordinator, Marian Thorston 2nd – approved.

Nomination for Secretary = Mia Mills accepted nomination, no other nominees. Bev Swenson moved to accept Mia as Secretary 1st; Susie Kruse second – passed

Education secretary – Jan Kreie accepted nomination, no other nominees. Bobbie Knudson moved to accept Jan as Education secretary, Mia, second – approved

Stephanie Freund to go to LCMC gathering – approved to go as representative of WOW

Business Meeting adjourned 10:39 am

Witness Wear Fashion show for remainder of attendees during business meeting. Utilized 10 models from attendees, Offered attendees a butterfly to share faith.

Simple Hope - Karen Puhl and Pam Schwalbach shared story of endurance in their mission in Tanzania. Food=Health + Sustainable skills + Jesus = Life. They started with provided food to make the people healthy, help them learn how to sustain skills and earned the trust to share about Jesus. Fruit of their labor was a baptism.

Lunch included grilled brats, salad bar buffet with candy and birthday cake. Table talk discussion questions based on Hebrews 12:1-2

Lacey's Hope Project - Emmy Meyer endured the unthinkable – drug addiction, abuse and sex trafficking. Only 2% of sex trafficked victims are rescued. The average age a human is sold and groomed into sex trade is 13. It is important to educate youth on what to look out for and who to turn to and to provide parents with information who don't believe it could happen to their child. The donations from the service collected for Lacey's Hope Project was \$742

Jacinda Shields spoke on How Churches Can Deepen Their Relationships with Missionaries by giving a missionary's perspective to church missions.

What's in Your Hand based on what God told Moses in Exodus 4:2 – Everyone in attendance was given \$5 to use as seed money for a mission cause.

Officers for the 2018 Board were installed by Pastor Randy Freund:

Stephanie Freund, Coordinator, New Creation Lutheran Church, Perham, Minnesota

Vice Coordinator, Christine Price, Peace Lutheran, Nevis, Minnesota

Secretary, Mia Mills, Hazel Run Lutheran, Hazel Run, Minnesota

Education Secretary, Jan Kreie, Faith Lutheran, Hutchinson, Minnesota

Member at Large, Marian Thorston, St. John's Lutheran, Springfield, Minnesota

Ex-officio member, Sandy Kriefall, Shepherd of the Hills, Richfield, Wisconsin

2018 Gathering will be September 15, at Peace Lutheran in Watertown Minnesota

Closed the Gathering with a prayer from pastor Matt Shields and a Duet of How Great thou Art followed by warm cookies and bottles of waters to go.