Minutes from the 7th Annual Gather of Women of the Word

Augustana District

September 17, 2016

Christ the King Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, Minnesota

Psalm 119:105 *Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light upon my path.*

Registration began at 8:30 am with coffee and muffins provided by Thrivent Financial and served by Christ the King Women of the Word. Eighty-eight women from seventeen churches registered. Paula Leske, Coordinator welcomed everyone.

Stoney Point sang "Let's get Together" and "Don't Laugh at Me".

Speakers: 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. Offering was $2046.00 to be divided between Ethiopian Mission, Heartland Girls Ranch and Common Cup. 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

Joni's furnished box lunches for the noon break.

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.

Women of the Word is in the process of setting up a prayer network.

Business Meeting:

The new slate of officers for 2017 were elected and installed by Randy Freund. They are as follows:

Sandy Kriefall, Coordinator, Shepherd of the Hills Church, Richfield, Wisconsin

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

Treasurer, Beverly Swenson, Christ the King Church, Hutchinson, Minnesota

Secretary, Carla Grimsrud, First Lutheran Church, Britton, South Dakota

Education, Vacant at this time

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

Ex-officio member, Paula Leske, Christ the King Church, Hutchinson, Minnesota

Door prize, prayer angel, was won by Karol Schmidt.

The theme for next year was introduced by Sandy Kriefall. ***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". Events throughout the weekend for people traveling wanting to spend a couple days are being planned. Lunch will include a Wisconsin lunch cookout on our patio and pavilion.