



## Hmong women meet at Camp LuWiSoMo

By Miriam Carter

A Hmong women's retreat was held Oct. 4-6 at Camp LuWiSoMo in Wisconsin. Hmong women from Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan get together every other year to worship, learn and have wonderful fellowship. And that's what happened at this retreat.

Despite a cold, rainy weekend, the women had a great time.

The theme was "A Day in a Woman's Shoes." It was interesting how the shoe theme was carried out during the weekend.

Two speakers were invited to speak on vocation. Vicar Yia Lor led the workshop in Hmong and Mary Kay Mages led the workshop in English. They shared how our vocation includes our entire lives in whatever roles God places us.

This includes all struggles and joys. Our vocation, or Christian life, is done as a wife, mother, sister, daughter, lawyer, teacher, neighbor, etc.

Sarah Culbert, a Minnesota South District LWML Young Woman Representative, was also invited and shared a bit about LWML. The women learned that Bible study, missionary work and service are all

part of LWML.

Sarah told everyone about her fantastic experience at the national LWML convention in Pittsburgh last summer. She talked about mites and some of the wonderful work this money does. The Hmong women proceeded to give to these mite projects. About \$100 was given to help share Jesus around the world. The women seemed so eager to learn and share.

Working right in with the theme, flip-flops were donated for people

in Cambodia and Thailand. Women decorated the plain flip-flops at the retreat as a craft project. The decorated flip-flops looked great.

Some of the highlights of the weekend were getting to know new friends, the beautiful singing in Hmong and English and the final worship service on Sunday. Because of what God has done for each of us in Jesus, we can each walk every day in our own shoes and be there for others as they walk in their shoes.

## LWML to meet in Des Moines in 2015

The LWML announced the theme and Scripture verse for the 36th Biennial Convention to be held June 25-28, 2015, in Des Moines, Iowa.

The LWML invites everyone to attend and be fed by God's Word, nurtured through worship and fellowship and equipped to sow, nourish and reap in the Father's field.

### Theme:

Bountiful! Sow - Nourish - Reap.

The convention theme is based on the following Scripture passage: "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all

things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (2 Cor. 9:8 NIV).

### Goal Statement:

Through Christ's bountiful love and blessings of Word and Sacraments, I am equipped by the Holy Spirit to work in my Father's harvest field.



# COMMENTS/FINANCES

## Through My Window

### Ashes in the Snow Stanzas for Ash Wednesday and Lent

The fire was ours for several hours  
one night,  
A gift we had on New Year's Eve,  
To gather round its roaring sound  
and light  
And talk and listen, laugh, receive.

This time the wood was especially  
good and dry,  
A tree I'd cut from just last spring;  
Our family here from everywhere, and I  
Just sighed at what these moments bring.

We'd cleared the snow for fire's glow. Our son  
Would ask his love to be his bride;  
With ring in place she would say yes, right here  
At this year's end, this fireside.

How rare for us, how good for us, to be  
All in one place our love to show.  
The fire died down, and not a sound. Then we —  
We buried ashes in the snow.

I cleared away the snow one day to find  
The ashes left from that same night.  
Though charred and spent, they were a Lent so kind  
To bring good memories of our rite.

Some ashes mark our sins so dark that must  
Be faced and killed and buried deep.  
Some ashes though can help us grow. With dust  
They are the memories we keep.

An ashen cross may mark my loss, my stain,  
But still it brings a lasting gift,  
Remembrance of amazing love, a gain:  
From ashes, too, there's joy to lift.



**Rev. Dr.  
Dean Nadasdy,**  
LCMS Minnesota  
South District  
President



### **District congregation mission receipts**

*for the period ending Jan. 31, 2014*

#### **For the month ending Jan. 31, 2014**

Anticipated amount (8.4% of budget**)	\$168,000
Actual receipts	\$160,667
<b>Over (under) amount</b>	<b>(\$7,733)</b>

#### **Year-to-date receipts**

Anticipated amount (8.4% of budget**)	\$168,000
Actual receipts	\$160,667
<b>Over (under) anticipated amount</b>	<b>(\$7,733)</b>

#### **Use of mission receipts**

50% remitted to Synod (Year-to-Date/YTD)	\$80,334
50% for district operations (YTD)	\$80,333
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>\$160,667</b>

#### **Mission receipts—compared with prior years**

Mission receipts — YTD 2014	\$160,667
Mission receipts — YTD 2013	\$141,516
<b>Over (under) last year</b>	<b>\$19,151</b>

*\*\*Based on average receipts for the past five years  
2014 congregational receipts budgeted at \$2,000,000*

#### *MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT LCEF*

#### **Month of December 2013**

New investments	\$810,134
Withdrawals	\$1,283,719
<b>Net increase (decrease)</b>	<b>(\$473,585)</b>

#### **Year-to-date July 1, 2013–Dec. 31, 2013**

New investments	\$4,661,132
Withdrawals	\$6,387,264
<b>Net increase (decrease)</b>	<b>(\$1,726,132)</b>



## Christian education at work ...

As part of National Lutheran Schools Week, students from St. James Lutheran School, Northrop; St. Paul Lutheran School, Fairmont; St. Paul's Lutheran School, Truman; and Martin Luther High School, Northrop, raised \$5,442 to cover the cost of food that was packed for Kids Against Hunger.

Working together, the students in grades kindergarten through 12 and several adults packed 22,248 meals.

According to a 2010 census, Martin County has a population of about 20,000 people. In about five hours, the Lutheran school students packed enough food for all the people of Martin County to have one meal.

The meals cost about 25 cents each and consist of chicken stock, soybean protein, rice and dried vegetables. The meals will be shipped overseas to feed children in third-world countries.

For more pictures and details, go to [www.martinlutherhs.com/kids-against-hunger.html](http://www.martinlutherhs.com/kids-against-hunger.html).



St. James, Northrop, students packed 23 boxes.



St. Paul's, Truman, students packed 30 boxes.



St. Paul, Fairmont, students packed 44 boxes.



# PERSONNEL CHANGES

## Accessions and transfers from other districts

**Rev. Stan. M. Aufderheide**, from emeritus status, Northwest District, to emeritus status, Minnesota South District.

**Rev. Timm L. Griffin**, from intentional interim pastor, St. Mark, Omaha, Neb., to intentional interim pastor, Family of Christ, Ham Lake.

**Rev. Thomas M. Gundermann**, from pastor, Faith, Rochester, N.Y., to Chaplain, Concordia University, St. Paul.

**Rev. Jeremiah D. Johnson**, from pastor, Faith, Richmond, Mo., to associate pastor, Glory of Christ, Plymouth.

**Rev. Robert F. Myers**, from emeritus status, Ohio District, to emeritus status, Minnesota South District.

**Rev. George P. Rapp**, from emeritus status, South Wisconsin District, to emeritus status, Minnesota South District.

**Rev. Robert Schmidt**, from emeritus status, Northwest District, to emeritus status, Minnesota South District.

**Rev. Darren K. Scruggs**, ordained and installed at Hosanna, Mankato, on Dec. 29, 2013.

**Rev. William G. Utech**, from professor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, to assistant to the president, Missions, Minnesota South District.

**Megan Coburn**, to Trinity, St. Francis.

**Carly Ebersole**, candidate, to Immanuel, Lewiston.

**Emily Gierse**, candidate, to St. Paul's, Fulda.

**Katie Kuball**, to St. Paul, Lester Prairie.

**Kimberly Link**, to St. Michael's, Bloomington.

**Elia Peterson**, candidate, to Immanuel, Gaylord.

**Nicole Sanft**, candidate, to St. Paul, Fairmont.

**Kristen Schoen**, candidate (colloquy), to St. Paul, Fairmont.

**Janice Schrader**, candidate status.

**Jay Schutte**, candidate status.

**Elia Peterson**, candidate, to Immanuel, Gaylord.

**Anna Shaw**, candidate, to Trinity First, Minneapolis.

**Christina Warnier**, candidate, to St. Paul, Fairmont.

**Elizabeth Wegner**, to Central, St. Paul.

**Timothy Germain**, candidate (colloquy), to Eastern Heights, St. Paul.

**Meghan O'neill**, candidate, to Central Lutheran School, St. Paul.

**Stephen Schrader**, to Central Lutheran School, St. Paul.

## Transfers out of the district

**Rev. Chris V. Nilges**, from candidate status, Minnesota South District, to director, Concordia/Lutheran Social Services, Springfield, Ill.

**Doris Kayser**, candidate status, to Michigan District.

**Rev. Peter J. Sestak**, from emeritus status, Minnesota South District, to emeritus status, South Dakota District.

**Timoty Stroming**, St. Paul, Prior Lake, to Minnesota North District.

**Kenneth Weinlaeder**, non-candidate status to Iowa District East.

**Jeremy Ashley**, St. Peter's, Edina to Michigan District.

**Ranotta Brauer**, non-candidate status, to Northwest District.

**Jenna Countryman**, non-candidate status to Texas District.

**Deborah Gilster**, reinstatement to candidate status, Minnesota North District.

**Kristy Grannis**, non-candidate status to Michigan District.

**Rachel Heirigs**, candidate status to South Dakota District.

**Krista Hillman**, Immanuel, Lewiston, to South Wisconsin District.

**Stephenie Hovland**, St. Martin's, Winona, to North Wisconsin District.

**Jacqueline Illian**, Central, St. Paul, to Mid-South District.

**Ruth Kowalski**, candidate status to Nebraska District.

**Katie Lane**, GEO missionary to Nebraska District.

**Emilee Nieman**, non-candidate status to Michigan District.

**Kathryn Rolf**, non-candidate status to North Dakota District.

**Annette Rupprecht**, emeritus status to Nebraska District.

**Dean Scheele**, Emanuel, Hamburg, to Michigan District.

**Muriel Stark**, Our Savior's, Excelsior, to Minnesota North District.

**Michael Zimmer**, Minnesota South District, Burnsville, to Northern Illinois District.

## Changes in the district

**Rev. Christopher R. Dodge**, from senior pastor, St. Michael's, Bloomington, to candidate status.

**Rev. Bruce G. Frederickson**, from assistant pastor, Mount Olive, Anoka, to assistant pastor, Family of Christ, Ham Lake.

**Rev. Bruce H. Laabs**, from sole pastor, St. John, Plato, to candidate status.

**Rev. Dean E. Mahlum**, from non-candidate status to sole pastor, St. John, New Germany.



**Rev. William H. Otte**, from senior pastor, Trinity, Rochester, to emeritus status.

**Rev. Benjamin K. Rucker**, from candidate status to sole pastor, St. Peter, Gibbon.

**Rev. Robert J. Rupprecht**, from sole pastor, St. John, New Germany, to emeritus status.

**Rev. Donald E. Urbach**, from assistant pastor, First Evangelical, Glencoe, to emeritus status.

**Jenifer Zimmer**, Redeemer, Wayzata, resigned, July 1, 2013.

**Maureen Bergmann**, Trinity, St. Francis, to emeritus status.

**David Cook**, King of Kings, Roseville, to emeritus status.

**Carin Chaney**, St. James, Howard Lake, to emeritus status.

**Myrna Kuphal**, Immanuel, Gaylord, to emeritus status.

**Linda Landaverde**, candidate status to emeritus status.

**Terri Bentz**, Trinity First, Minneapolis, to non-candidate status.

**Todd Bentz**, candidate status to Emanuel, Hamburg.

**Phillip Johnson**, Concordia University, St. Paul, to Minnesota South District.

**Kimberly Link** to St. Michael's, Bloomington.

**Curtis Boeder**, Redeemer, Wayzata, to candidate status.

**Rae Brisbin**, St. John, Elk River, to candidate status.

**Jenna Countryman**, St. Paul, Lester Prairie, to Non-Candidate Status, on July 1, 2013

**Pamela Going**, St. John's, Chaska, to non-candidate status.

**Tim Hansen**, Cannon Valley LHS to Central, St. Paul.

**Lisa Johnson**, non-candidate status to Immanuel, Lakefield.

**Jill Jopp**, non-candidate status to non-candidate status on Oct. 27.

**Doris Kaye**, Bethlehem, St. Paul, to candidate status.

**Scott Kloetzke**, candidate to St. John's, Corcoran.

**Robin Kruse**, candidate status to non-candidate status.

**Stephanie Limmel**, St. John's, Chaska, to Our Savior's, Excelsior.

**Nancyann McCarty**, non-candidate status to non-candidate status on Oct. 24.

**Craig McCourt**, Cross View, Edina, to candidate status.

**Emilee Nieman**, candidate status to non-candidate status.

**Kimberley Peterson**, St. John's, Chaska, to candidate status.

**Lisa Peterson**, non-candidate status to non-candidate status.

**Faith Rattei**, candidate status to St. Peter's, Edina.

**Kathryn Rolf**, Zion, Hopkins, to non-candidate status.

**Lori Schroeder**, Redeemer, Wayzata, to St. John's, Norwood Young America.

**Tracey Steivang**, Mount Hope, Bloomington, to non-candidate status.

**Julie Strom**, candidate status to non-candidate status.

**Theodore Stroming**, Peace, Hutchinson, to candidate status.

**Daniel Wacker**, candidate status to non-candidate status.

### Called to glory

**Rev. Glenn L. Korb**, Oct. 27, 2013.

**Rev. Robert J. Rupprecht**, Dec. 25, 2013.

**Rev. Norman W. Schramm**, Oct. 17, 2013.

### New school openings

**Trinity Little Lambs  
Preschool**, Northfield, on Sept. 16, 2013

