



Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:1-2

November 2011

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League—Canada 8th Convention will be held July 5–8, 2012, in Kelowna, British Columbia, under the theme "Hold Fast to the Word." I invite and encourage you to join your fellow sisters of faith in this exciting event.

As members of LWML—Canada we have each accepted the privilege and responsibility to support and serve our league by carrying out our mission. We do this through our mite offerings and service projects; we encourage one another as mentors, leaders and officers; we pray for church workers and missionaries of Lutheran Church—Canada. Attending our national convention is one more way in which we are able to support our league.

Conventions are a time of fellowship and fun as we meet with one another and share the many opportunities and experiences God has given us as we work together as ambassadors in our communities and throughout the world.

Conventions are a time of learning as we hear God's Word in Bible study, listen to mission speakers and visit with exhibitors as they tell us how we can assist them in a variety of ministries all with the united purpose of telling people of God's love through Jesus our Saviour.

Conventions are a time of discussion and decision-making as you join your sisters in Christ to adopt the Mission Program, select mission grants, elect officers and adopt bylaw amendments and resolutions.

Conventions are a time when you are able to take part in all the decision-making even if you aren't able to attend. Keep up on convention news through our many tools of communication: *Tapestry* and *Get Connected*; the email services of *LWML—Canada Update*; *LWMLC News* and *The WORD from Kelowna*. Read the business bulletin that will be delivered to each society around April 2012, pray about the decisions to be made and offer advice to your zone delegate. Keep the delegates, officers and all convention participants in your prayers during the days of convention, asking God to guide us in our activities and plans.

As we meet together in Kelowna, and "Hold Fast to the Word", may God guide and enable us to be witnesses for Him in that community. Pray that the people who serve us and observe us know by our actions and attitudes that we are His children. May God continue to grant you wisdom, peace and joy as you serve Him through the church and our league, and may He give each of us the hunger and thirst to faithfully "Hold Fast to the Word".

Grace and Peace in Christ,

Judy Grande, President
Lutheran Women's Missionary League—Canada

*For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My Word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
Isaiah 55:10-11*



The **WORD** from Kelowna

8th National Convention Kelowna, B.C. July 5 - 8, 2012

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONVENTION

- **Mission speaker from our partner church in Nicaragua**
- **Banquet with keynote speaker and entertainment**
- **Mission walk and servant events**

SPRING UPDATE

- To save the cost of postage, we would like to produce the 2nd mailing, in February, electronically.
- If you are willing to download everything and/or receive the package by e-mail please let us know at convention12@lutheranwomen.ca. Provide your name, the name and location of your society and your e-mail address.
- We need to know by January 10th, 2012.

From the Host Committee

A quick note, dear Sisters in Christ, to entice you to come to the beautiful Okanagan for the 2012 LWML-Canada convention.

Kelowna is a lovely city nestled in the valley, along the shores of beautiful Lake Okanagan. The hillsides are covered in orchards and vineyards, backed by higher mountains. There are many wineries to visit, and unusual tours, such as a Pedi-Cab tour of the city. All this is the perfect setting for a summer vacation and our convention!

The facilities for

our convention are conveniently located in the heart of the city, minutes from Kelowna International Airport, near lots of convenient shopping and only two km from the lake. All events will be on one level, no stairs!

We look forward to welcoming you in July 2012 for a great time of fellowship, study of

God's Word, wonderful food, and, of course, the business of the convention.

Hope you are planning ahead to be our guests as we are looking forward to being your hosts.

God's blessings,

Jeanette and Linda
Convention
Committee
Co-Chairs



Out and about in Kelowna

The "Okanagan" has much to offer – bask in the sunshine, wander beaches and parks or spend time shopping.

If you are a golfer choose from over 17 courses accommodating all skill levels and abilities.

Do you enjoy the freshest fruit? You need only go to the Farmers' Market minutes from downtown.

And not to be forgotten is the Cultural District hosting galleries, museums, theatres, studios and restaurants.

Whatever your tastes, Kelowna has something for everyone! Check it out at www.tourismkelowna.com

Pre and Post Convention Tours

Come early or stay late. A variety of tours are planned by the convention committee for Thursday, prior to the convention and Sunday and Monday after the convention. Several selections by Wildflower Trails and Wine Tours Ltd. are:

- Okanagan winery tours offering a sampling of the hundred wineries in the area,
- Kettle Valley Trail tours, and
- Kelowna Pedi-cab tours.

We encourage you to participate in these tours designed especially for our convention group. More details to come. Keep watching for updates on the web.

Convention Speakers



Keynote speaker
Dr. Hilgendorf

Keynote speaker

Dr. Mary E. Hilgendorf will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Hilgendorf serves as Professor of Education at Concordia University Wisconsin and Ambassador of the Women's Leadership Institute. She is a frequent speaker at women's conferences and educational seminars. Information about her topic will be provided in the next mailing.

Mission Speakers

- ⇒ Rev. Dr. Leonardo Neitzel
Executive Assistant to the
President, Mission and Social
Ministry Services
Lutheran Church- Canada
- ⇒ Deaconess Milagros Martinez
Iglesia Luterana Sinodo de
Nicaragua, Nicaragua

Bible studies

There will be two Bible studies based on the convention theme and led by LWML-Canada pastoral counsellors, Rev. Mark Hennig and Rev. Ken Maher.

Interest sessions

Convention attendees will not have to miss any interest sessions at this convention; they may participate in all of them. Here are those which have been confirmed to date:

- Real Life Family Ministry led by Gary Brucker
- How to lead a Bible study led by Rev. Mark Hennig
- How to write a Bible study led by Rev. Ken Maher

Interpreter for the Deaf

New at this convention will be the provision of an interpreter for the Deaf for registrants who wish to attend and require this service.

Lutheran
Women's
Missionary
League - Canada

Rolling
bandages at
the Ottawa
Convention
2009



Convention Highlights

Servant Events

A number of servant events are arranged to take place during the convention. Please note that there will be servant events for Kelowna Gospel Mission taking place prior to the convention for those who choose to come early. During the convention, time has been set aside for a variety of servant activities including marking Bibles and making bandages.

Gifts of Love

The Gifts of Love gathered at the 2012 convention will be given to Kelowna Gospel Mission. Between now and the convention, societies are encouraged to support similar agencies in their own community. Please record the

items you deliver locally and send the information to VP Member Development/ Mission Service, Arlene Kish, Box 195, Bruno, SK, S0K 0S0.

2012 Walk for Missions

Consider participating in a special walk to raise funds for missions. Invite others to support your walk with donations. This walk will take place in the evening, to allow the group to be a witness to the community as well as to raise funds.

Whether you walk a distance, or only around the block, most convention-goers can participate. Also, whether you walk or not, you may order a t-shirt.

Funds will be used to provide Christian materials, Bibles and snacks for children in Olanchito, Honduras who attend VBS and materials for literacy and catechetical training for women at the Lutheran Centre for Theological Study in Dapaong, Togo, West Africa.

Registration cost for the mission walk, including a T-shirt, will be finalized for the next newsletter.

Convention Highlights cont.



**Young Women
2009 Ottawa
Convention**

**Lutheran
Women's
Missionary
League-Canada**

Programs for Young Women and Teens

There will be time for teens and young women to gather for fun and fellowship and learning about LWMLC.

The teen group, ages 17 and under, will not be required to pay registration if they attend with an adult who is a paid registrant.

In addition to participating in the convention, special activities are planned for them.

Each district sends a "young woman representative" to the convention. Societies and zones are invited to find ways to enable more young women to attend. How? Consider some of the following ideas.

- Pray for the young women in your congregation.
- Encourage them to attend. Getting away from work and family can be a major undertaking. Perhaps it could be part of a family holiday.
- Help financially. Perhaps you might hold a fund-raiser to help with expenses.

Spend time in The Vineyard

In this area you will discover many exhibits from various agencies of the church and LWML-Canada committees. And, for your shopping pleasure, you will find the LWML-Canada Mobile Store and Sperlings' Bookstore.

Choir

For those who love to sing, there will be an opportunity to sing in the choir. You will sign up when you fill out the registration form and music will be sent to you. Please note when planning your arrival—rehearsal time has not yet been established but likely will be late afternoon on July 5.

Offerings

Three offerings will be taken during the convention. The first will go toward our mission grant goal. The other two are yet to be determined. The General Council is suggesting the recipients be related to the convention theme, providing ministry to women and/or sharing the Word. Suggestions may be sent to: Judy Grande, President
1725 Lacon Street
Regina, SK, S4N 1Z7

or by e-mail to:
president@lutheranwomen.ca.

Local Arrangements

Convention Costs

A combined registration fee and meal package is offered for \$370.

The package includes a ticket to the banquet. For those not wishing the meal package, registration only is \$280 with a banquet ticket available for an additional \$40. One day registration for either Friday or Saturday, including lunch is \$100.

The hotel provides a free shuttle. Reservations are required but not more than 30 days prior to the convention.



**Coast Capri
Hotel in
Kelowna**

A private shuttle service is also available at a cost of less than \$10, one way. More details will be provided in the next mailing.

Accommodations

Information and forms for obtaining special convention accommodation prices will be included in the next mailing but to help you plan, the cost per night is \$145 + taxes for two people in a room; an additional \$10 each is charged for the third and fourth person in a room.

To learn more about what the hotel has to offer visit their website:
http://www.coasthotels.com/hotels/canada/bc/kelowna/coast_capri/overview