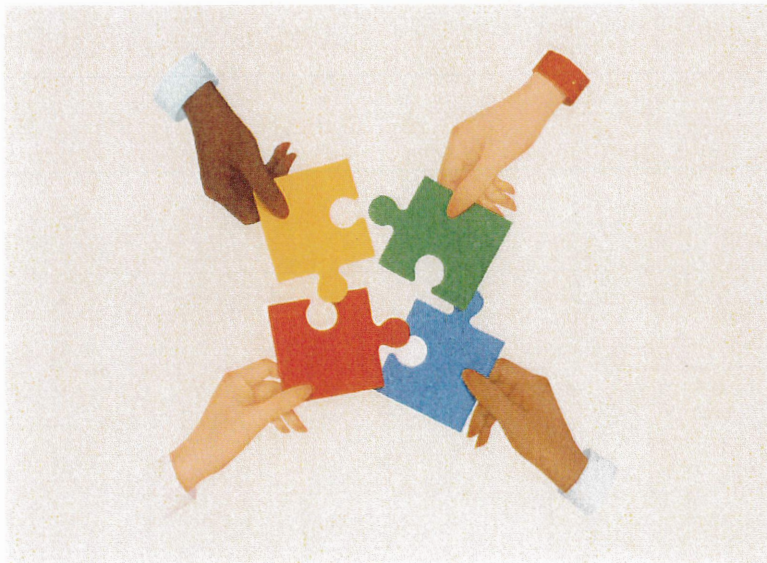


6th Annual Joint
North Wisconsin Upper Michigan and
South Wisconsin District
International Lutheran Laymen's League
Convention



CONNECT

Saturday, September 27, 2025

Peace Lutheran Church

Neenah, WI

CONNECT

Welcome from South/North Wisconsin District Presidents

Mr. Mark Roeder and Mr. Neal Schalow 1

Greetings from Gloabal CEO Lutheran Hour Ministries

Mr. Kurt Buchholz 2

Greetings from Chairman, International Lutheran Laymen's League

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LERT, Comfort Dog Ministry, Hearts of Mercy & Compassion,

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Connect

Welcome everyone to our 2025 Joint North/South Wisconsin District Convention. This will be the 6th time we've met jointly in our district convention. We have a little business to handle, but the greater part of our day will be devoted to hearing from our inspiring speakers. Our theme, this year is **CONNECT** and this is based on 1 Peter 4:10, *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

Those addressing us this year include, as our plenary speaker, Lutheran Hour Speaker, Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler; in addition, we will hear from LERT, the Lutheran early response team (particularly important in a year already marked by several natural disasters). We also gave the opportunity to hear from Comfort Dog Ministry; Hearts of Mercy and Compassion; and Spiritual First Aid Training.

Our districts are paired with International Ministry Centers in Laos and Turkey. Updates on these mission fields will be available at our Lutheran Hour Display. Other mission activities, closer to home, will be covered by our speakers. So, we look forward to a day of inspiration. By the time we leave, we will be better equipped to use our gifts to serve one another as we **CONNECT.**

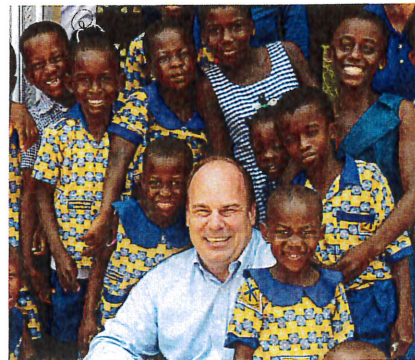
Mark Roeder
South WI District President

Neal Schalow
North WI District President

Greetings, brothers and sisters, in the Name of our Lord Jesus!

Recent studies show that around 40 percent of the world's population is still considered unreached by the Gospel. God has called Lutheran Hour Ministries to share the transformative love of our Savior with these people.

Christianity's geographic center moving to the Global South (Africa, Asia, and Latin America) presents new opportunities for sharing Christ's love globally. It is critical that LHM uplifts leadership, staff, volunteers, and constituents in these areas to become the catalyst for reaching more nations where people still live in spiritual darkness. Our unique ministry model paves the way for individuals to experience the Gospel message in their language, in their context, from someone they can relate to. But we know that God is leading us to do so much more!



This is why LHM has embarked on a bold globalization initiative that allows us to expand ministry work exponentially into places that we have not yet had an opportunity to explore. In John 4:35b, Jesus calls on His disciples to "open your eyes and look at the fields. I tell you, they are ripe for harvest." God has brought the nations to our doorstep. We have been called to work together to reach across barriers—cultural, linguistic, ethnic, and physical—with the saving Gospel. We are called by Jesus to "lift up our eyes" so that the center of our vision is on His harvest field, on people for whom He died, not on buildings, programs, or self.

I cannot help but wonder what our North American societies would be like if more believers served and witnessed to their neighbors as I see happening in the growing church around the globe. It is that wondering, that desire, and that Gospel passion that drives us to do the research, teach what has been learned, and create the resources to fuel a movement here in North America to do just that.

What an impressive global undertaking and an awesome joy to see dedicated Gospel workers overseas as well as here at home who are committed to fulfilling our mission of *Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church!* We did not gather hundreds of staff and thousands of volunteers spanning the globe alone. I pray you see yourself in every ministry impact story as well as every bit of research, training, and Gospel resource that we produce. It takes all of us—working together, praying, and generously giving—to make any of this a reality.

On behalf of all of us at LHM, thank you for attending this convention and for your ongoing partnership in ministry. I pray God's blessings on your time together and look forward to continuing to serve alongside you in the mission field.

Your partner in His mission,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt Buchholz".

Kurt Buchholz, Global CEO

660 MASON RIDGE CENTER DRIVE | SAINT LOUIS, MO 63141-8557 | 1-800-944-3450

Greetings in the Name of the Lord!

It is a tremendous honor and privilege to serve on the Board of Directors for such an impactful Gospel-spreading organization as the International Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries. As I begin my sixth year chairing this board, there is nothing more uplifting than serving a ministry that is tasked with fulfilling Christ's command to "go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19).



I am excited about the future of LHM because we are well positioned to rapidly expand our ability to bring the message of hope via the Gospel to an increasingly broken world. LHM's state-of-the-art, multi-platform communications strategy, coupled with the utilization of local staff around the world, is uniquely suited to spread the saving message of the Gospel across more than 60 countries during these uncertain times. It is amazing to see how LHM continues, via the Holy Spirit, to make an increasingly significant impact.

- People around the world experience the Gospel through LHM programs, services, or materials nearly 275 million times each week.
- People reached with the Gospel around the world last year led to nearly two million of these individuals providing LHM with contact information for follow up and around 400,000 being referred to churches and Christian communities.
- Ministry activities were completed more than 450,000 times by people who have been equipped to share their faith more effectively with others.

While God has truly blessed this ministry, we know that these numbers must continue to grow since billions of people still live in spiritual darkness. From ministry centers where we are already making an impact, we are expanding into other countries to share the power of the Gospel using proven models. This approach has already opened doors for reaching people in six new countries—Nepal, Bolivia, Peru, Kyrgyzstan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Tanzania. I cannot wait to see where we will go next!

Thank you for attending this convention and for partnering with us in the critical mission to share Christ's love around the world. I hope you share my personal satisfaction in knowing you are helping countless individuals to experience the hope and love of Christ for the first time so that the Holy Spirit can continue to work on their hearts. Our partnership through LHM's ministry is truly saving lives for eternity!

In His Service,



Dr. Kurt Senske

Chair, International Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries

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5 FINGER PRAYER

The ring finger is the weakest. Pray for the sick, poor, and those most in need.

The middle finger is the tallest. Pray for leaders in government, business and the

The pointer finger is used to give directions. Pray for teachers, coaches, therapists, doctors and first responders

The pinkie finger is the smallest. Pray for yourself and your own needs.

Your thumb is closest to your heart, so pray for those closest to you – your family and

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

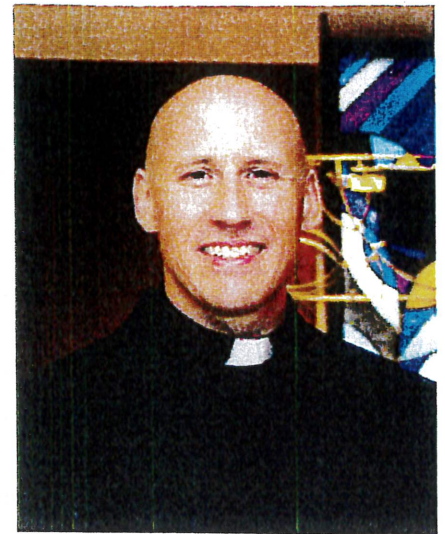
Speaker of The Lutheran Hour

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler began serving with LHM as Speaker of The Lutheran Hour in October 2018. Prior to that, he served as pastor of Epiphany Lutheran Church (2014-2018) and assistant pastor at Timothy Lutheran Church (2012-2014), both in St. Louis. Before becoming a pastor, he served as an aircraft maintenance officer in the Air Force.

Michael grew up in a military family, living throughout the U.S., from North Dakota to Alabama, Virginia to Colorado. His family moved eleven times before he finished high school in Springfield, Missouri. He graduated from the U. S. Air Force Academy in 2001 with a general engineering degree and served 5 years in the Air Force. He left active duty in 2006 to prepare to be a pastor at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, completing a Master of Divinity in 2010 and a Ph.D. in 2014.

He continues to serve part-time as an Air Force Reserve officer at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, and as a guest instructor at Concordia Seminary.

Michael and his wife, Amy, have four children. Amy enjoys being a home-school and Sunday school teacher, cooking, crafting, and being a catalyst for events aimed at strengthening bonds between family and friends.



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660 Mason Ridge Center Drive | Saint Louis, Missouri 63141 | 1-800-876-9880
www.lhm.org





CONNECT

NORTH WISCONSIN/UPPER MICHIGAN and
SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICTS JOINT CONVENTION
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NEENAH, WI

7:45 am Registration opens with coffee and sweets
8:30 am Opening Communion Service with Convention Offering

9:30-10:15 am Call to Order

Welcome and Introductions

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE CROSS

I pledge allegiance to the cross

Of my Lord Jesus Christ

And to the faith for which it stands,

One Savior, King Eternal

With mercy and grace for all

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO COUNTRY

I pledge allegiance to the flag
Of the United States of America
And to the republic for which it stands
One nation under God, indivisible,
With liberty and justice for all.

PREAMBLE TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, Amen.

Acknowledging the rich blessings which almighty God has showered upon us, especially in that He has brought us to the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we laymen of the Lutheran Church freely join our hearts and hands in the Christian fellowship of this organization. We humbly pray the Lord of our church to keep us steadfast in the faith, and to bless our lives and labors both here and hereafter.

Theme Resolution #25-01

Offering Resolution #25-02

Greetings from District Representatives

10:15–10:30 am Break

10:30–11:30 pm Rev. Dr. Ziegler

11:30-12:15 pm Lunch

12:15-12:45 pm Lert

- 12:45-1:00 pm Break
- 1:00 – 2:00 pm Comfort Dogs – Spiritual Training
 Hearts of Mercy
- 2:00 – 2:45 pm Closing Business
 Resolution of Thanks #25-03
 Closing Devotions
 Adjournment
- 2:45 – 3:30 pm District Meetings

**GOD’S BLESSINGS ON YOUR TRAVELS HOME THIS AFTERNOOD AND
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR UNTIL WE MEET IN CONVENTION NEXT YEAR.**



A BIKE RIDE WITH JESUS

When I first met Christ it seemed as though life was rather like a bike ride, but it was a tandem bike, and I noticed that Christ was in the back helping me pedal.

I don't know just when it was that He suggested we change places, but life has not been the same since.

When I had control, I knew the way, it was rather boring, but predictable, it was the shortest distance between two points.

But when He took the lead, He knew delightful long cuts, up mountains, and through rocky places, at breakneck speeds; it was all I could do to hang on! Even though it looked like madness, He said, "Pedal".

I worried and was anxious and asked, "Where are you taking me?" He laughed and didn't answer, and I started to learn to trust.

I forgot my boring life and entered into the adventure. And when I'd say, "I'm scared," He'd lean back and touch my hand.

He took me to people with gifts that I needed. Gifts of healing, acceptance, and joy. He said, "Give the gifts away; they're extra baggage, too much weight."

So I did, I gave them to the people we met, and I found that in giving I received, and still our burden was light.

I did not trust Him, at first, in control of my life. I thought He'd wreck it; but He knows bike secrets, knows how to make it bend to take sharp corners, knows how to jump to clear high rocks, knows how to fly to shorten scary passages.

And I am learning to shut up and pedal in the strangest places, and I am beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face with my delightful constant companion, Jesus Christ.

And when I'm sure I just can't do anymore, He just smiles and says.....

"Pedal."



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

North
Wisconsin/Upper
Michigan and

South Wisconsin
Districts

Joint International Lutheran Laymen's League Convention

Annual Meeting Minutes

Energizing Missions

Trinity Lutheran Church, Wausau, Wisconsin

October 12, 2024

<https://nw-sw-lll-lhm.org>

8:00 Registration - with coffee and sweets

Attendance: Mark/Susan Roeder Mark Ramel, Joseph Siegel, Vicky Maaske, Barbara Henning, LeeAnn Barzak, Tom Beineke, Peggy Kraase (South Wisconsin members)

8:30 Opening Communion Service led by Rev. Preston Paul, Rev. Ryan Fehrmann, and Rev. Jim Mayland. Convention Offering (\$592 – Sent to: LHM \$296, Turkey \$148, Laos \$148)

9:30 – 10:15 Call to Order: Convention was called to order by NWD President Neal Shalow. Welcome and Introductions (Dick & Lynn Gast - Petal Pushers, Dr. Kari Vo - LHM, Cathy Robinson - OGT, Pastor Paul - NWD Pastoral Advisor)

Pledge of Allegiance to the Cross, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, Preamble to the International Constitution.

Convention Theme Resolution #24-01: Energizing Missions (read by Mark Roemer)

WHEREAS the God of all creation has provided us with a bountiful earth filled with beauty and riches, and

WHEREAS we have been told to spread His name throughout the world, and

WHEREAS "...the name of the LORD is to be praised" as the Source of all goodness, and

WHEREAS many people around the world do not fully understand our great GOD and His love as manifested in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED members and supporters of the International Lutheran Laymen's League voice a resounding vote of approval for the proclamation of God's Word by ENERGIZING MISSIONS near and far through the multifaceted efforts of the Lutheran Hour Ministries, and be it further

RESOLVED that we implore the grace of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon this grand endeavor for outreach asking for heightened success in every way possible, using the gifts that God has bestowed upon all of us individually and corporately, all to His glory and the furtherance of His Kingdom on earth and be it finally

RESOLVED that this approval be passed by voice vote, followed by the singing of the common doxology:

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW PRAISE HIM ALL CREATURES, HERE BELOW;

PRAISE HIM ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOSTS; PRAISE FATHER, SON AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN!

Offering Resolution #24-02: Energizing Missions (read by Vicky Maaske)

WHEREAS the Lord has called us to go and preach the Good News of Him throughout the world, and

WHEREAS Lutheran Hour Ministries has taken up this cause of bringing a full understanding of our great God and His love as manifested in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior to all the people of the world, and

WHEREAS the LORD has called us to help in the cause through our support of Lutheran Hour Ministries, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the 2024 Joint District Convention of the International Lutheran Laymen's League, held in Wausau, designate that the offering collected during the convention be shared between the districts for the support of Lutheran Hour Ministries, and be it further

RESOLVED that we encourage all International Lutheran Laymen's League members to remember Lutheran Hour Ministries with their prayers and financial support.

Motion made and Seconded to accept both resolutions. **Unanimously Approved.**

Greetings shared by: Bill Jordan -LCEF(representing NW-LCMS District President Rev. Duane Lueck, who is transitioning out of president position). Keep supporting the ministry in you congregations/communities. 1/3 of money donated goes to synod, supports Camp Luther, Lima, Peru Ministry and campus ministries. Money invested with LCEF helps fund congregational projects.

NW-LWML District President Joan Berquist. Common mission goals shared with LLL.

SWD-LWML Dist. Representative: Marilyn Belter (President Cinda Poppe was unable to attend)

Joseph Siegel: Website update – Send Joe event notices, pictures, etc..to put on the website. E-mail available. Join FACEBOOK group. <https://www.nw-sw-lll-lhm.org> Thank you for making the name tags for everyone!

10:15 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11:30 Dr. Kari Vo – Theological Editor of Lutheran Hour Ministries and author of LHM Daily Devotions. In addition to writing LHM Daily Devotions she works with her husband, Pastor Minh Chau Vo, as missionaries to the Vietnamese refugee and immigrant population of St. Louis, for the past 35 years. She translates/downloads LHM Advent Devotions into Vietnamese. We need to learn to live with God through Scripture, prayer and action; allowing God to get into every aspect of your life. Enjoy God! We are all disciples.

11:30 – 12:15 Lunch

12:15 – 12:45 Cathy Robinson – Branch Manager of the Wisconsin – Orphan Grain Train and co-founder and member of the Brakebush Family Foundation. Together we change lives forever. 2023: 27 Branches sent 54 shipments to 71 countries and 38 states. Disaster relief provided showers, laundry and sleeping units. 8,700,000 rice meals sent out nationally. Aide to Ukraine. It is not possible to get into some countries. Volunteers are needed on Wednesdays to load truck.

12:45 – 1:00 Break

1:00 – 2:00 Lynn & Dick Gast – Best Day Ever is the 2025 Theme. Behold! Jesus the Savior is Born. The Lutheran Hour Ministries Float will participate in the Tournament of Roses Parade for the 74th year on January 1, 2025. The Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee coordinates the 4000-5000 volunteers from across the US and Canada (Petal Pushers) who decorate numerous floats in the parade under the direction of their float builder, Phoenix Decorating. What started as a 3 year commitment to take over the Petal Pushers turned into a 34 year commitment for Lynn & Dick. The parade is viewed in 70 countries, watched by 1 million along the parade route and viewed by 40 million on T.V. Wide spread witness opportunities to view the

only Christian float in the parade. Although supported by LHM and the LC-MS, the float is a self-funded, non-profit of the LHMFC and the Southern California District of Int'l LLL; funded by donations, proceeds from the Behind-the-Scenes party and 2 Lutheran Hour Float tours, and the sale of Petal Pusher and LHM float merchandise. www.petalpushers.org
[FACEBOOK@PetalPushers.org](https://www.facebook.com/PetalPushers.org)

2:00 – 2:30 Root Beer FLOATS: Provided by a grant from Thrivant. Presented by Mark & Sue Roemer. THANK YOU!!

2:30 – 3:00 Closing Business 41 registrations (4 no shows)

Resolution of Thanks #23-03 read by Sherrilee Wallerman

WHEREAS the members of the North and South District boards have dedicated much time and effort to making the District Joint Convention of the Lutheran Laymen's League an inspiring and successful convention, and

WHEREAS Rev. Preston Paul, Rev. Ryan Fehrmann and Rev. Jim Mayland, our worship leaders, our LCMS, LWML, and LCEF leaders, our Program Speakers Dr. Kari Vo, LHM Tournament of Roses float Chairman Dick Gast, and NWD Orphan Grain Train presenter, Cathy Robinson, and all the organizational leaders have inspired us under the convention theme of Energizing Missions, and

WHEREAS our Fellowship and Break time treats have been sponsored with outside assistance from LCEF, members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Wausau have allowed us use of their facilities, the caterers who provided our lunch and you, the members present, having shared your time with us, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the delegates here assembled extend thanks and gratitude to all those individuals involved with a rising vote of thanks.

Closing Devotions – Singing of the Doxology

Adjournment – 2:59

3:00 – 4:00 SWD Business Meeting: A. Call to Order. B. Minutes of October 14, 2023 Convention. **Motion made and Seconded to approve. Carried.** C. **Treasurer's Report:** Mark Ramel reported: 6/1/2023 - 5/31/2024: Beginning Balance: **\$3515.32** Total Cash Available: **\$8683.92** Total Expenditures: **\$5353.62.** Operating Fund Balance: **\$3330.30.** Rebate received. **Current Balance: \$6062.81. Motion made and Seconded to approve. Carried.** D. **Old Business:** Display @ Concordia, Wisconsin - Tom B. & Paul B. Talked to most students before

chapel-after all left quickly. Paul passed out Project Connect booklet: Comeback. Pastor Baker announced the Convention from the pulpit emphasizing students could register for free. No takers.

E. New Business: 1. Elections (even years: pres/secretary) President: Tom Beineke will be stepping down after 6 yrs Mark Roemer nominated, seconded. Nomination accepted with the condition that Tom B. trains him and remains in an advisory capacity. Tom agreed to terms. Secretary: Peggy Kraase nominated, accepted. Unanimous votes for both positions. **2. Purchase of Display:** LHM wants each district to supply their own display. LHM will no longer send one out to use. They have designed a uniform display to be purchased for \$400. **3. Central Zone Fair Booth 2024:** Displayed their own banner. 400 "Do You Know Who Jesus Is?" little pocket Jesus and bags for kids given out. Tom, Sue & Mark volunteered to help @ booth. **4. Pastoral Advisor: Pastor** Zahner still considering. Other possibility is Pastor Cutler, St. John's, Mayville.

F. Website Info: Joseph Siegel commented earlier in the day.

G. Announcement: Next Board Meeting: Friday, November 8, 2024. ZOOM for SWD, NWD and Polly.

H. Adjournment: 3:28

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Kraase

District Treasurer's Report Date 6/01/24-05/31/2025

Receipts

Receipts

Beginning" Balance 6/1/2023
District Convention Reimbursment
Operating Fund from Int'l LLL
Donation
District Convention Offering
District Convention Income
Returned from Zones

Year to Date
\$ 3,330.30
\$0.00
\$5,064.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00

Total Cash Available

\$8,394.30

Expenditures

Expense
Year to Date

Contingency Fund
County Fair Booths
District Administrator Coordinator
District Board
District Convention
District Convention Offering
District Leaders Conference
District Publication
Project Connect
Office Expense
Outreach
Pastoral Advisers
Promotional Expense
Regional Meeting
Website
Zone
Total Expenditures

\$909.18
\$146.00
\$632.47
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$32.52
\$400.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$450.00
\$0.00
\$2,570.17

Operating Fund Balance

\$5,824.13

Treasurer Mark Ramel

4th Quarter Rebate Available



International Lutheran Laymen's League

www.nw-sw-lll-lhm.org – website

79th Annual Convention

Joint with South and North Wisconsin – Upper Michigan Districts

October 12, 2024

The convention got underway Saturday morning with registration and fellowship at 8:00 a.m...

A Communion Worship Service began at 8:30 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wausau. Rev. Ryan Fehrmann from Aniwa served as officiant and liturgist and Rev. Preston Paul, NWD LLL Counselor, delivered the sermon. The convention offering was taken during the worship service. The convention offering will be split three ways South Wisconsin's LHM's International ministry office, the North Wisconsin's ministry office – Laos, and LHM and Lutheran Hour Ministries

NWD President, Neal Schalow called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wausau. Neal Schalow welcomed everyone to the convention on behalf of the joint convention committee. Then Neal introduced our special guests – NWD LCMS Vice President Bill Jordon, NWD LWML President, Joan Berquist, SWD LWML Vice-President – Marilyn Belter, SWD LLL President - Tom Beineke, Keynote Speaker, Dr. Kari Vo – Lutheran Hour Ministries, Theological Editor and author of LHM Daily Devotions, Dick and Lynn Gast, Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee, and Cathy Robinson, WI Division of Orphan Grain Train.

Announcements: Neal Schalow announced that there are displays for your review outside the chapel from the LHM Float Committee (Pedal Pushers), and an LHM resources table. Make sure you visit the displays. Neal thanked Cindy Schalow for her work on the convention booklet, Joe Seigel for making the name tags, and Sherrilee Wallerman for handling the convention registration. In the convention booklet is the LHM Float Committee's Coloring Contest sheet, copy for Lutheran school students and grandchildren. They can earn prizes.

We recited the pledge of allegiance to the cross and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Then we recited the preamble to the international constitution.

Resolution #24-01

The convention theme resolution #24-01 on page 24 of the convention booklet was read by Mark Roeder, "Energizing Missions", the theme resolution. The resolution passed by voice vote. At the end of the resolution the doxology was sung.

Resolution #24-02

Resolution 24-02 the Offering Resolution on page 25 was read by Vicky Maaske and it was adopted.

NWD LCMS Vice President

NWD LCMS Vice President, Bill Jordan addressed the convention on behalf of NWD LCMS President, Dwayne Lueck. This is Rev. Lueck's last term as NWD President.

Our offering dollars are broken down in the following ways:

- 39% is sent to Synod
- 35% is sent to District
- 21% goes to Missions
- 5% is sent to Camp Luther

Ministry Emphasis of the NWD LCMS

- Ministering to children and Youth
- Lutheran Schools
- Ministry
- Deaf
- Hmong
- Veterans

Mission Outreach

- Campus Ministry
- Camp Luther
- Peru

NWD LWML President

NWD LWML President Joan Berquist addressed the convention.

- A great start to the 2024-2026 biennium here in the LWML of the North Wisconsin District (NWD). At our convention in June, we voted to support a Mission Grant Goal \$120,000 for this biennium with additional funding of grants in the amount of \$20,000 that has been received over time and held in our Gifts and Bequests Fund for a total \$140,000 funding of Mission Grants. At our meeting in September the board voted to pay \$41,000 of the 2024-2026 Mission Grants and paid the additional \$20,000 from Gifts and Bequests. The Mission Grants paid are listed below:
 - Grant #1 NWD Professional Church workers Student Grants in the amount of \$15,000
 - Grant #2 The Hannah Center, Inc \$10,000
 - Grant #3 Trinity House Maternity Home, \$10,000
 - Grant #4 God's Word for Teenagers Around the World \$8,000
 - Grant #5 In Every Tongue: Translators for MOST Ministries Teams \$8,000
 - Grant #6 Bringing Hope and Encouragement to Cancer Patients \$10,000
- The Short-Term Mission Trip to Michigan was amazing.
 - We visited Lutheran Heritage Foundation, LAMP Ministry, POBLO International, Camp Restore and MOST Ministries. We learned about each of the ministries, and we were able to participate in a servant event at each one.
- At Camp Restore, (reclamation of run down area of Detroit) they expressed a need for a used van for their mentoring program. About that same time, our district received a generous donation, and we were able to send them a check for \$10,000 to meet their need for a van.

SWD LWML President

SWD LWML Vice President – Marilyn Belter addressed the convention on behalf of SWD LWML President Cinda Poppe.

- LWML has given more than 100 million in mission grants
- 75% of Mites collected stay in our districts and 25% are sent in to support the National Mission goal
- 31 Mission Grants were selected at the 2023-2025 bi-annual convention
 - Two will help support the mission of LHM
 - Sharing Christ with Women and Children of Kazakhstan = \$100,000
 - Expanding Gospel Outreach in Hispanics in the U.S. - \$100,000
- \$220,000 is the SWD LWML Goal

Joe Seigel, Joint Website Administrator, indicated that he will be working on a contact database. He asked us to encourage our churches to look and utilize the NWD/SWD Joint website. He encouraged us to send him photos and events to put on the website.

Paul Brietenfedt encouraged us to read the booklet, "Come Back".

1st Session

Neal Schalow presided over the 1st session. He introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Kari Vo, from the Lutheran Hour Ministries. She presented on Learning to Live with God, "Bible, Prayer, and Action".

She writes about half of the Lutheran Hour Daily Devotions. It is difficult to get the Gospel into some countries, but it can be done through thumb drives and satellites etc.. When you share the Gospel we can connect globally, locally, and digitally.

Discipleship

- Enjoy God
- Say I Love You to the one who Loved you first

Plan

- Ask for help
- Start small and simple and work your way up
- Forgive yourself for mess ups and start again

The goal of reading the Bible is to let God speak to you.

God directs you through memorizing Bible verses

Where do you start reading the Bible

- The Gospels – Luke
- New Testament
- Old Testament

Ask God to teach you and open your eyes as you read the Bible.

- Read sections
- Use bookmarks

Prayer – Getting Started

- Set an alarm
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you pray
- Breathe and be quiet
- Then, speak like yourself
- Remember who you are speaking to
- It's OK to be silent

Recessed for Lunch

2nd Session

Neal Schalow introduced Cathy Robinson – WI Division Orphan Grain Train.

Cathy spoke on the mission statement of OGT – They encourage and enable God's people to share personal and material resources in bringing Christ's name and character to needy people both far and near.

What is OGT?

Orphan Grain Train is a Nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The Orphan Grain Train movement is a loving response to Jesus Christ's example as a servant and His love for us.

Just a few of the Wisconsin Division Projects

- Volunteers loaded 30,000 pounds of potatoes – 30 pallets of 125 (8 lb.) bags headed for Ysleta Mission in El Paso.
- Vitaliy Smolin with Public Organization "Open door Foundation" in Ukraine has received 19,000 pounds of various canned foods, medical equipment & supplies, Bibles, & other needed aid.
- Wisconsin Branch & Minnesota North Collection Center together funded a shipment of 40,000 pounds of edible dried navy beans for Water for Life in Liberia.
- Volunteers loaded 11,880 Food for Kidz meals, 4,750 pounds of various foods and other aid for Latin American Lutheran Mission (LALM) in Laredo, TX.

3rd Session

Tom Beineke introduced Dick and Lynn Gast, Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee, Chairmen.

About the Petal Pushers: More than 4,000 volunteers from across the United States and Canada come together to help build floats. The **Petal Pushers** work on a variety of floats, giving them an opportunity to work side-by-side with people from many different backgrounds, believers and non-believers alike.

74 years ago, 12 members of the Lutheran Laymen's League started the LHM Float Committee. Today the committee is made up of 36 members.

The LHM float is a self-funded project of the Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee and the Southern California District of the International Lutheran Laymen's League. The committee's ongoing work is funded primarily by generous donations from Christian friends and multiple fundraising activities and is not included in the operating budget of Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Petal Pusher merchandise helps fund the work of the float committee.

The Lutheran Hour Ministries float "Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord" will be entered as the only Christian float in the parade to carry on its mission of providing a Gospel witness to viewers everywhere, from along the parade route to televisions worldwide.

Final Business Session

SWD LLL President, Tom Beineke conducted the Final Business session.

Old Business

None at this time.

New Business

None at this time.

Credentials Report

Sherrilee Wallerman reported that there were 41 people registered for the convention. 29 registered were from the NWD. 12 registered were from the SWD. 37 of the 41 registered attended the convention.

Resolution #24-03

Sherrilee Wallerman read Resolution #24-03 Resolution of Thanks on page 26 After the reading the resolution was adopted.

Closing Devotion

Tom Beineke led the closing by leading the singing of the doxology and leading the members present in the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

Recess for District Meetings

NWD District Meeting

President Neal Schalow called the NWD LLL meeting to order at 2:55 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wausau.

Attendance - 11

Minutes

The 2023 (78th) Convention minutes were approved as presented on pages 17-22 of the convention booklet.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report as presented by Marilyn Mueller. The report was in the convention booklet on page 23. The ending balance was \$1,413.90. The report will be filed for audit.

The Audit Committee, Diane Schulund and Cindy Schalow, reported the books were audited and they were in excellent order.

Presentation of the ballot

President - 2024-2026

Neal Schalow

No other nominations from the floor

Treasurer- 2024-2025

No Candidates at this time

No other nominations from the floor

Secretary - 2024-2026

No Candidates at this time

No other nominations from the floor

Central Regional Director - 2024-2026

No Candidates at this time

No other nominations from the floor

A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of officers. Motion carried.

NWD LLL President's Report

Neal Schalow gave the NWD LLL President's report.

The District Board decided to continue the stipend paid position of District Outreach Ambassador with Paul Brietenfedt serving in that position for another year.

Neal reported that:

- The Board is looking for feedback on the joint convention. Please fill out the convention evaluation form.
 - Like the format?
 - Like the joint meeting?
- Encouraged using materials
 - Spiritual Conversations
 - Called to Serve
- He thanked all who made follow-up phone calls to NWD churches to encourage convention participation
- He thanked Sherrilee Wallerman, Marilyn Mueller, and David Frater for their years of service to the NWD Board.
- He and Paul attended the Pastors' Conference and shared information about LHM resources

NWD Outreach Ambassador Report

Paul emphasized LHM resources:

- Children's storybooks
- Veterans Bible study – Called to Serve
- Spiritual Conversations – curriculum for youth on how to share your faith
- He has been traveling around the state recruiting Ambassadors and sharing about LHM resources with pastors
- He would like to see us spreading the word about our joint website
- He and Tom traveled to Concordia – Mequon. They shared both with students and faculty information about LHM resources

Old Business

None at this time

New Business

Neal Schalow announced that LHM is standardizing district table displays, so everyone's LHM displays look the same. The cost of the display and removable panels is \$400.

Gerry Schield moved the NWD meeting to be adjourned. Seconded by Diane Schulund. Motion carried. The NWD meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m...

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrilee Wallerman
NWD Secretary

**L.L.L. North Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District
Treasurer's Report June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025**

Balance on hand – Checking 6/1/24 **\$1,413.90**

Checking – Receipts

DBM Collection	\$ 70.00
LHM Rebates	\$1,908.16
LCEF N-WI Convention Sponsorship	\$ 400.00
Convention – Registrations	\$ 960.00
Convention – Offering	\$ 592.00
S-WI District	\$ 132.47
Donations	<u>\$ 634.05</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS **\$4,696.68**

Checking – Disbursements

Project Connect/Children Books	\$ 330.42
Pastoral Advisors	\$ 67.20
Sherrilee Wallerman – mileage	\$ 52.00
Paul Breitenfeldt – Hrs/mileage	\$ 213.25
DBM Offering – Laos	\$ 35.00
DBM Offering – LHM	\$ 35.00
Bank Maintenance Fees	\$ 17.00
Joseph Siegel – website	\$ 450.00
Labor of Love	\$ 50.00
Convention – Lunch	\$ 463.51
Convention – Joan Berquist	\$ 230.10
Convention – Dick Gast	\$ 500.00
Convention – Trinity Lutheran Church	\$ 200.00
Rod Riese	\$ 100.00
Convention Offering – LHM	\$ 296.00
Convention Offering – Laos	\$ 148.00
Convention Offering – Turkey	\$ 148.00
Convention – Rev. Fehrmann	\$ 50.00

Convention – Rev. Preston	\$ 181.32
LHM Display	\$ 400.00
LCMS District Convention Tables	<u>\$ 200.00</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

\$4,166.80

Balance on hand – Checking 5/31/2025

\$1,943.78

Cynthia Schalow

Cynthia Schalow

Acting Treasurer

CONNECT

Theme Resolution #25-01

WHEREAS the God of all creation has provided us with a bountiful earth filled with beauty and riches, and

WHEREAS we have been told to spread His name throughout the world, and

WHEREAS “the name of the LORD is to be praised” as the Source of all goodness, and

WHEREAS many people around the world do not fully understand our great GOD and His love as manifested in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that members and supporters of the International Lutheran Laymen’s League voice a resounding vote of approval for the proclamation of God’s Word by **CONNECTING** near and far through the multifaceted efforts of the Lutheran Hour Ministries, and be it further

RESOLVED that we implore the grace of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon this grand endeavor for outreach asking for heightened success in every way possible, using the gifts that God has bestowed upon all of us individually and corporately, all to His glory and the furtherance of His Kingdom on earth, and be it finally

RESOLVED that this approval be passed by voice vote, followed by the singing of the common doxology.

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSING FLOW;

PRAISE HIM ALL CREATURES, HERE BELOW;

PRAISE HIM ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOSTS;

PRAISE FATHER, SON AND HOLY GHOST, AMEN!

CONNECT

Offering Resolution #25-02

WHEREAS the Lord has called us to go and preach the Good News of Him throughout the world, and

WHEREAS Lutheran Hour Ministries has taken up this cause of bringing a full understanding of our great God and His love as manifested in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior to all the people of the world, and

WHEREAS the LORD has called us to help in the cause through our support of Lutheran Hour Ministries, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the 2025 Joint District Convention of the International Lutheran Laymen's League, held in Neenah, designate that the offering collected during the convention be shared between the districts for the support of Lutheran Hour Ministries, and be it further

RESOLVED that we encourage all International Lutheran Laymen's League members to remember Lutheran Hour Ministries with their prayers and financial support.

CONNECT

Resolution of Thanks #25-03

WHEREAS the members of the North and South District boards have dedicated much time and effort to making the District Joint Convention of the Lutheran Laymen's League an inspiring and successful convention, and

WHEREAS our worship leaders, Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler, our LCMS, and LWML leaders, our Program Speakers, and all the organizational leaders have inspired us under the convention theme of **CONNECT**, and

WHEREAS our Fellowship and Break time treats have been sponsored with outside assistance from LCEF and Thrivent, members of Peace Lutheran Church, Neenah have allowed us use of their facilities, the caterers who provided our lunch, and you the members present having shared your time with us, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the delegates here assembled extend thanks and gratitude to all those individuals involved with a rising vote of thanks.

AS THE SAYING GOES.....Here are noteworthy expressions. Each of these similies is as old as the hills, worn to a frazzle and has by this time become part parcel of our everyday language.....

As fresh as a _____
As brown as a _____
As neat as a _____
As smart as a _____
As dark as _____
As pleased as _____
As proud as a _____
As meek as a _____
As red as a _____
As stiff as a _____
As heavy as _____
As light as a _____
As fit as a _____
As green as _____
As black as _____
As white as a _____
As frisky as a _____
As pale as a _____
As happy as a _____
As easy as _____
As hard as a _____
As crazy as a _____
As slow as _____
As fast as a _____
As quick as a _____
As funny as a _____
As sly as a _____
As clear as a _____
As cool as a _____

As warm as _____
As quiet as a _____
As good as _____
As playful as a _____
As blind as a _____
As fat as a _____
As thin as a _____
As hungry as a _____
As dead as a _____
As clean as a _____
As innocent as a _____
As bright as _____
As prretty as a _____
As ugly as _____
As stubborn as a _____
As sharp as a _____
As sober as a _____
As smooth as _____
As strong as an _____
As mad as a _____
As honest as the _____
As shiny as a _____
As sweet as _____
As limp as a _____
As busy as a _____
As flat as a _____
As dry as a _____

DO YOU KNOW YOUR CANDY????

1. A famous swashbuckling trio of old_____
2. Favorite day of the week for working people_____
3. A subdued laugh_____
4. Indian burial grounds_____
5. Galaxy_____
6. Red planet_____
7. A sweet sign of affection_____
8. Can't hold on to anything_____
9. A famous author_____
10. A happy nut_____
11. Famous New York Street_____
12. Famous former baseball player_____
13. Twin letters_____
14. Home of the movie stars_____
15. Superman's reporter name_____
16. A well behaved man_____

ANSWERS

DON'T
CHEAT.....

AS THE SAYING GOES.....Here are noteworthy expressions. Each of these similies is as old as the hills, worn to a frazzle and has by this time become part parcel of our everyday language.....

As fresh as a	<u>daisy</u>
As brown as a	<u>bear</u>
As neat as a	<u>pin</u>
As smart as a	<u>whip</u>
As dark as	<u>night</u>
As pleased as	<u>punch</u>
As proud as a	<u>peacock</u>
As meek as a	<u>mouse or lamb</u>
As red as a	<u>beet</u>
As stiff as a	<u>board</u>
As heavy as	<u>lead</u>
As light as a	<u>feather</u>
As fit as a	<u>fiddle</u>
As green as	<u>grass</u>
As black as	<u>coal</u>
As white as a	<u>sheet</u>
As frisky as a	<u>puppy</u>
As pale as a	<u>ghost</u>
As happy as a	<u>lark or clam</u>
As easy as	<u>pie</u>
As hard as a	<u>rock</u>
As crazy as a	<u>loon</u>
As slow as	<u>molasses</u>
As fast as a	<u>fullet</u>
As quick as a	<u>wink</u>
As funny as a	<u>clam</u>
As sly as a	<u>fox</u>
As clear as a	<u>glass or bell</u>
As cool as a	<u>cucumber</u>

As warm as	<u>toast</u>
As quiet as a	<u>mouse</u>
As good as	<u>gold</u>
As playful as a	<u>puppy</u>
As blind as a	<u>bat</u>
As fat as a	<u>pig</u>
As thin as a	<u>rail</u>
As hungry as a	<u>bear or horse</u>
As dead as a	<u>door nail</u>
As clean as a	<u>whistle</u>
As innocent as a	<u>baby</u>
As bright as	<u>day</u>
As prretty as a	<u>picture</u>
As ugly as	<u>sin</u>
As stubborn as a	<u>mule</u>
As sharp as a	<u>tack</u>
As sober as a	<u>judge</u>
As smooth as	<u>silk</u>
As strong as an	<u>ox</u>
As mad as a	<u>wet hen</u>
As honest as the	<u>day is long</u>
As shiny as a	<u>new penny</u>
As sweet as	<u>sugar or candy</u>
As limp as a	<u>dish rag</u>
As busy as a	<u>bee</u>
As flat as a	<u>pancake</u>
As dry as a	<u>bone or desert</u>

DO YOU KNOW YOUR CANDY????

1. A famous swashbuckling trio of old _____ 3 Muskateers _____
2. Favorite day of the week for working people _____ PayDay - _____
3. A subdued laugh _____ Snickers _____
4. Indian burial grounds _____ Mounds - _____
5. Galaxy _____ Milky Way _____
6. Red planet _____ Mars _____
7. A sweet sign of affection _____ Kiss _____
8. Can't hold on to anything _____ Butterfinger _____
9. A famous author _____ O'Henry _____
10. A happy nut _____ Almond Joy _____
11. Famous New York Street _____ Fifth Avenue -- _____
12. Famous former baseball player _____ Babe Ruth _____
13. Twin letters _____ M&M's _____
14. Home of the movie stars _____ Hollywood _____
15. Superman's reporter name _____ Clark _____
16. A well behaved man _____ Mr Good Bar _____