

AUXILIARY REPORTS

Lutheran Youth Organization

Submitted by
Hannah Sherer, C/SIS LYO President



Greetings on behalf of the C/SIS Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO).

I would like to begin by introducing myself. My name is Hannah Sherer and I was elected as the new C/SIS LYO President in November of 2012. I am beyond excited to serve the Lord as well as our synod for the next two years!

During 2012 and 2013, the LYO Board and Planning Committee has been very active in planning and participating at synod youth events. Junior, Senior, and Post High youth from all ELCA C/SIS congregations are invited to participate in two annual events taking place at Rend Lake Resort in February, and Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville in November.

Many youth (8th Grade and up) from our synod attended Leadership Lab from July 30-August 4, 2012 at Augustana College in Rock Island. Leadership Lab is a ministry of the three Illinois synods that develops youth and young adult leadership and faith growth in the church. This year was Leadership Lab's 50th Anniversary and ELCA Bishop Mark Hanson was in attendance as well as the founder of Leadership Lab, Pastor Dick Hanson. The 2012 "Labbers" were more than welcoming to Bishop Hanson (he even took a group picture with all of us to put on his Twitter account!) The theme was "Reset: Jesus is the Jubilee," based on the text Luke 4: 16-21.

Our annual gathering at Carlinville was November 16-18, 2012; music was led by Dakota Road and keynoting by Jason Fisher, Bob Lindsay, Pastor Tom Krieger, and Dakota Road musicians, Hans Peterson and Larry Olsen. We engaged the theme "Still to Come," based upon Mark 13 and the not knowing the time or place of the end of the world as we know it.

Each year at the Carlinville gathering the C/SIS holds their annual convention to handle the business of the LYO and to elect individuals for officers and board terms that have expired. Board members are elected; there are three officer positions and six C/SIS Conference Representatives (plus four at-large positions) to two-year terms at the Carlinville youth gathering. Planning Committee applications are voted upon by the Board members, with five Planning Committee members from each of the six C/SIS Conferences eligible to serve at a time.

The C/SIS LYO Board and Planning Committee held two planning retreats. Both planning retreats were held at Atonement Lutheran Church in Springfield in August 2012 and January 2013.

Our annual gathering at Rend Lake was February 15-17, 2013; music was led by Prays Twice and keynoting by Pastor Roy Christell, with a special guest speaker Friday night, former LYO Advisor Pastor Tom Christell. It was great to have both Pastors Christell together again bringing the word. The theme "SOS: Save Our Ship" was inspired 2 Corinthians 11. We focused on the different ships that all of us as sinners are faced with throughout life: whether it be hardship, worship, ownership, leadership, or relationships. The "Rend Lakers" were more than happy to have our synod's bishop, Bishop John Roth, worship and interact with us for part of the gathering. This is the second year Bishop Roth has joined us at Rend Lake and we look forward to having him in the future if he chooses to attend!

This year Leadership Lab will be held July 22-27, 2013 at Augustana College in Rock Island; the theme will be "Whatever" based on the scripture Philippians 4:8.

Carlinsville is November 22-24, 2013 at Lake Williamson; the theme is "Hello, my name is..... How may I serve you?" based upon the different aspects of service: the scripture being Colossians 3: 23-24.

The LYO would like to give thanks to the Central/Southern Illinois Synod for its continued support of youth ministry, to all the C/SIS ELCA congregations that have participated in these events and to all of those that will in events to come! We would also like to give a very special thanks to Cindy Svanda and Pastor Tom Krieger for their leadership and dedication as our mentors and advisors.

God's Peace and Love,

LYO TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING December, 2012

Bank of Springfield Account	
Beginning Balance	\$73.60
Service Charge	\$0.00
Expenses	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$73.60
Bank of Carbondale Account	
Beginning Balance	\$4,607.01
2012 Rend Lake Youth Gathering Expenses	\$19,631.75
2012 Carlinsville Youth Gathering Expenses	\$21,398.21
2012 January LYO Planning Meeting	\$120.00
2012 Synod Assembly Page Expenses	\$420.54
2012 August Planning Meeting	\$188.87
Deposits	
Rend Lake Youth Gathering	\$20,507.00
Carlinsville Youth Gathering	\$22,079.00
Ending Balance	\$5,433.64

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Svanda

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Submitted by Mary Plymire
President, CSIS Women of the ELCA



Our biggest event of 2012 featured a three-day retreat in Peoria and focused on our theme, Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls. Women from all over the synod were invited to participate in cholesterol checks, tests for high blood pressure and osteoporosis as well as free massages and trying several kinds of pumpkin recipes. On Saturday the highlights included lunch and a ride on a riverboat and a sightseeing bus tour of the bluffs above the Illinois River. Sunday saw us meet at Salem Lutheran Church for worship, fellowship and refreshments.

Looking ahead most of our conference groups will be holding Spring gatherings which involve much fun and fellowship as well as enable our women to participate in causes such as the Malaria Campaign. This fund raising effort is being done jointly with the Global Mission unit of the ELCA with a goal to stamp out Malaria in Africa in the foreseeable future. Each synod wide organization is being asked to give \$25 to further expedite this worthy cause.

Our ladies also support our sister synods in Madagascar. In particular, we recently sent \$500 to help supplement the salary of Toromare Mananato, whom we helped to put through the Wartburg Seminary. We also sent \$1000 to help defray the traveling expenses of our Bishop Roth when he visits that country next year. Women of the ELCA in our synod intend to further help the efforts of the Global Mission committee throughout this coming year.

The Synodical Board of Women of the ELCA is currently busy planning our 2013 Biennial Convention to be held Friday, September 13, and Saturday, September 14, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Springfield, Illinois. Focusing on the theme "Generations of Grace" we will look at present and past generations and how they affect/effect the faith which we all have inherited from past and present saints. Workshops and fun entertainment are now in the planning stages as well as worship and fellowship. We are thrilled to have Betty Brandt, former Secretary of the Church Wide Board as one of our featured speakers. Betty not only brings much experience with her, she also has a delicious sense of humor and will add much to our festivities. Packets of information will go out May 1, 2013 and we encourage all to attend and participate.

We are also looking forward to the 2014 Triennial to be held in Charlotte, NC with the theme, "Of Many Generations." It is hoped that many of our women will be able to attend and we encourage churches to give financial help to those ladies who would like to go but are held back by monetary issues. Please contact Bobbi Thomas, our Triennial Promoter, for all the information you might need. Her address is 622 Mason Street, Chenoa, Illinois, 61726-1335. Her phone is 815.945.7285.

If you have any questions about our organization, please go to www.womenoftheelca.org. Our syndical site is www.welca-csis.org. Please also contact me at 217.529.2488 for more information about our group. I would love to hear from you.

Lutheran **M**en in **M**ission

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