



# 2016 Report from the Central / Southern Illinois Synod Lutheran Youth Organization

## 2015 C/SIS LYO ADVISOR'S REPORT

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

The LYO Board and Planning Committee has been very busy planning for and participating in synod youth events in 2015 and 2016. Junior, Senior and Post High youth and their adult leaders from all C/SIS congregations are invited to participate in the two synod LYO retreats: at the Rend Lake Resort in February, and Lake Williamson Retreat Center near Carlinville in November.

The Carlinville retreat was held November 13-15, 2015, at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center. The theme for the retreat was "Fruits of the Spirit", based on Galatians 5:22-23. Each of the small group sessions focused on one of the "fruits", with the remaining "fruits" being a focus of each of the large group sessions. Dakota Road once again led our music, and keynotes were given by Larry Olson and Hans Peterson of Dakota Road, as well as Amie Hester and Raylee Brown. Along with the other retreat activities, congregations were asked to donate items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. With the donations made, we were able to complete 111 kits, which will be sent to Lutheran World Relief later this year.

The Rend Lake retreat was held February 19-21, 2016. The theme for the retreat was "There's No Place Like Home", based on Proverbs 3 and Luke 15. The small group sessions took aspects from the film "The Wizard of Oz" (brains, courage, heart) and used them to illustrate the two texts that were covered over the weekend. Music was led by Prays Twice, and the keynote speaker was Pastor Roy Christell.

Last summer saw youth from our synod join with the other synods from Illinois for Leadership Lab, held at Augustana College in Rock Island. The theme of Leadership Lab was "Body Building", based on 1 Corinthians 12:27. It reminded us that we are the body of Christ.

The dates for your upcoming events are:

- ◆ Leadership Lab: July 25-30, 2016
- ◆ Carlinville: November 11-13, 2016
- ◆ Rend Lake: February 17-19, 2017

The LYO would like to thank Bishop Roth, and all of the wonderful congregations in our synod who continually support youth ministry. It is truly amazing the things we get done due to the kindness and generosity of all of you. Thank you!

God's Peace,  
Cindy Svanda and Katlyn Brown  
C/SIS LYO ADVISORS

**C/SIS LYO TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 20145**

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Svanda, CSIS LYO Advisor

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 01/01/2015	\$11,724.55
2015 Rend Lake Youth Gathering Expenses	23,702.81
2015 Carlinville Youth Gathering Expenses	29,192.08
2015 Synod Assembly Page Expenses	916.01
Deposits	
Rend Lake Youth Gathering	26,110.00
Carlinville Youth Gathering	29,580.00
Ending Balance	\$13,603.65



# 2016 Report from the Central / Southern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA

*Submitted by Ms. Judy Sullivan Murray, President*

Greetings to all from the “Bold Women” of C/SIS WELCA!

WELCA C/SIS held our biennial convention at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Springfield. “FRIENDS, FAITH and the FUTURE” was our theme. We had the honor of Joan Iverson, Church-wide representative sharing news and information that will help in our ministries. Pastor Robert Dealey, representative for Bishop Roth, made a tribute to his mom for being a “Bold WELCA Woman” that influenced his life. Patty Rudin and Julie Johnson presented a delightful skit, Pastor Ruth Kaden, Convention Chaplin, led us in a contemporary closing worship.

### **Elections were held, the following are the 2015-2017 Board Members:**

President	Judy Sullivan-Murray	Vice President	Pat Caley
Secretary	Jomarilyn Hartke	Treasurer	Lynn Smith
Northern Conference Rep	Linda Anglin	Northwest Conference Rep	Cindy Lierly
West Central Conference Rep	Bonnie Hartke	Southern Conference Rep	Clare Smith
Missions Co-chairs	Julie Johnson and Jean Scherer		

A special “THANK YOU” to the retiring board for their dedicated work, leadership, faithful service to God and WELCA missions locally and beyond.

The new board is eager to get to know each other, share ideas and do God’s work through collaboration and dedication as we were called to do for all of God’s people. Current board members are spread out by miles but we continue to carry on with business with conference calls, skype and e-mail.

The Northwest Conference Spring Gathering was held April 23, 2016 at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in Arenzville. Devotion was led by Pastor Corey Lang; “Friends, Faith, Future” was the theme. The program talked about our blessings by the cupful! Several shared with the group what is being done in our communities as well as contributing to churchwide mission projects. Fellowship with a delicious meal followed.

The Southern Conference Spring Gathering was held April 24, 2016 at Mt. Calvary Lutheran, in De Soto. “Being BOLD and Toot Your Horn” was the theme. Several shared with the group what is being done in their local communities as well as contributing to churchwide mission projects. A physical offering was taken to support the De Soto food pantry. Deb Rathert, SAM, led us in worship. A delicious meal followed.

C/SIS Spring Retreat “Living Waters” based on Jerimiah 58:11 was held at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon. Speakers: Nina Weston, “My Life is Like a River”, Robby Gunn VanHook, “Dancing in the Rain”, Judy Murray, “Do you Ripple?”, Dana Pfeiffer from Grounds of Grace (Human Trafficking), Doreen Klages, Mission Interpreters. A physical offering as well as monetary donations were collected for The Night’s Shield Children’s Shelter. The shelter is a private, non-profit organization that provides twenty-four hour emergency shelter for abused, neglected and/or abandoned children from the entire state. Deb Rathert, SAM, led worship that concluded with a blessing of the hands service.

We continue to support our sister synods in Madagascar. Our missionary Toromare Mananato, communicates often sharing their thanks for supporting them through our Global Mission contributions. She shared their drought has reached an extremely dangerous level.

Women from all over the world are looking forward to our 10<sup>th</sup> Triennial Gathering entitled “All Anew” July 13-16, 2017 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mark your calendars now!

Stop by our display table and pick up some information and chat with us about the Women of the ELCA, both locally and nationally. Watch for information about events we will be hosting next year...all women in our synod are welcome!