

For September 2010 Newsletter

WEST VIRGINIA – WESTERN MARYLAND SYNODICAL CONVENTION REPORT

The Twenty – Third Annual Synodical Convention of the West Virginia – Western Maryland Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was held on August 6-7, 2010 at Paul VI Pastoral Center in Wheeling, WV. The theme was “EVERYBODY HAS A STORY.” Forty-four people attended. Linda Riley, delegate and Andrea Prytz were present from St. John’s.

President, Dolly Nilsen opened the convention. Peggy Blatt and Joyce Simon, convention co-chairs welcomed us. Bishop Dunkin brought greetings and remarks and also shared about his trip to Palestine. He and The Rev. Beth Westphal presided over our closing worship.

Kristine Brugamyer from North Dakota was our Churchwide Representative and Deborah Powell, Associate Executive Director of Women of the ELCA was also with us. We were very blessed to share the weekend with these two very special ladies who have a true passion for this organization. They both shared information about our next Triennial Convention which will be held in 2011 in Spokane, Washington.

Marjorie Wolf, Beverly McDonald and Linda Buckel shared wonderful devotions and Rich Knoblich and Travis Henline were our special guests with presentations on storytelling. Pat and Lynn Schillings and Karen Stouch were once again our music leaders. Dorcas Friedline led a beautiful service for our departed members.

Many women shared “wonderful stories” throughout the convention. Bob Blatt lead us in a fun evening of Bingo on Thursday night and Friday night we were entertained by the Thursday Music Club Chorus followed by an Ice Cream Social.

Sherri Schafer gave a very informative update on Community Lutheran Partners and said they are always in need of One+Plus Kits and S.T.U.F.F. (sheets, towels, utensils for families). Delores Probst, President of Church Women United reported on that group. Pastor Matt Riegel – WVU Campus Ministry asked the women’s help in starting ministries to our college students in each of our churches.

So far \$1065 was collected for the Love Offering(one-half to Women’s Scholarship Fund to Seminarians; one-fourth to LUTHERAN LINES and one-fourth to St. James, Wheeling Food Pantry). \$600 was raised in the Silent Auction of all the beautiful baskets churches contributed. This money went to Community Lutheran Partners. At least 60 One+Plus Kits were also contributed. Thank you to St. John’s Members who helped in anyway.

Kara Propst was the recipient of this years \$1000 scholarship from the women. She is attending the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and is the daughter of our President Dolly Nilsen.

A special word of appreciation was extended to Joyce Simon who has served as editor of our LUTHERAN LINES for the past 15 years. Norma Bowyer and Andrea Prytz volunteered to take over her job.

Election of Officers was held. Norma Bowyer was elected Secretary. Marjorie Wolfe was elected Treasurer. Andrea Prytz, Ruth Craig and Pat Schillings were elected to the Board for two-year terms; Lola Graham and Janis Smith will serve one-year terms. Kris Brugamyer, our churchwide representative conducted the installation service.

Next year’s convention will be held at Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center in Huttonsville, WV on August 5-6. Come and join us!!

Linda Riley
Co-President, Women of the ELCA

St. John's Women of the ELCA Invite You To A

Salad Supper

September 21, 2010 – 6:30PM in Luther Hall

Just bring a salad and enjoy a time of fellowship and seeing everybody after the summer break!

Program

Everybody Has a Story

Beverly McDonald from Trinity, Arden will be our guest and help share highlights from the convention.

ALL CIRCLE MEMBERS AND WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE WELCOME!!