

*SEVENTY-FIFTH
ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE
MISSOURI DISTRICT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE*



*CAPITOL PLAZA HOTEL
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI*

SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2017

<http://www.missouridistrictLLL.org>

A Brief History of the LLL

The year 1917 marked the 400th anniversary of the Reformation. Although this should have been cause for celebration among Lutherans, the meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States in Milwaukee convened under a cloud of concern. The United States had recently entered into World War I against a country from whom many of its members or their families had emigrated. The nation's economy was uncertain. And the Lutheran Church itself faced a considerable debt of over \$100,000 (approximately \$2 million dollars in today's currency value).

During this convention, a group of 12 dedicated laymen took it upon themselves to develop a strategy to wipe out the synodical debt. In order to address this problem, the Lutheran Laymen's League was formed. By the grace of God, within six months the Lutheran Laymen's League had successfully raised more than enough money to fully pay off the debt.

In coming years the LLL would work with the Lutheran Church to establish a pension fund for church workers and their families. During the 1920's efforts were undertaken to assist in the establishment and operation of radio station KFYO. And, in October of 1930, the initial broadcast of the Lutheran Hour was aired on the Columbia Broadcasting System. The first speaker of the Lutheran Hour was Dr. Walter A. Meier, professor at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

The Lutheran Hour continues today as the longest running Christ-centered broadcast on radio. Through the years we have been blessed with gifted speakers to share the Gospel including, in addition to Dr. Walter A. Meier, Dr. Lawrence Acker, Dr. Armin Oldsen, Dr. Oswald Hoffman, Rev. Wallace Schultz, Dr. Dale Meyer, Rev. Ken Klaus, and our most recent speaker, Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz.

In 1940, The Lutheran Hour began an international ministry with broadcasts airing in Ecuador and the Philippines. Today, through more than 30 international centers, Lutheran Hour Ministries provides programs to meet the spiritual and physical needs of people throughout the world.

As communication technology has changed through the years, the Lutheran Laymen's League has developed new strategies to carry out its mission of Bringing Christ to the Nations, and the Nations to the Church. Beginning in the 1940's and 50's, Christian programming through film and television was developed. And in more recent times, audio and video cassettes, compact discs, the Internet, and satellite radio have all been utilized to share the Gospel with people around the world.

In 1992, due to the popularity of the Lutheran Hour radio program, the International LLL chose the name of "Lutheran Hour Ministries" as the overall identity for its media outreach programs.

Lutheran Hour Ministries through the years has also endeavored to work closely with congregations in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Through Project Connect, brochures addressing a variety of life issues from a Christian perspective are made available to help people in need of Christ-centered advice. On-line evangelism training programs provide tools to help God's people become more confident witnesses of their faith. Through the new program THRED, LHM uses social media such as Facebook to reach out to people looking for answers to many questions in their lives. And the LHM Men's Network continues to serve as an important outreach program to encourage Christian growth in men.

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District President's Message

On behalf of the board of governors of the Missouri District of the Lutheran Laymen's League, I want to welcome you to the 75th annual convention of the Missouri District. It was in this city in 1942 that a group of men met for the first convention of the Missouri District.

The times were not that encouraging. The great depression was still in every one's memory, and the United States had just become involved in World War II, but the Gospel outreach of the Lutheran Layman's League was of great importance also.

In the 75 years since its first convention this organization has been about sharing the story of salvation through Jesus Christ to all the world. We do this through radio and television, through print, video and DVD's and satellite communications. We are now using the Internet, text messaging, Facebook, and our newest endeavor, THRED. The means has changed over the 75 years but the message has remained the same. Jesus Christ, the only hope we have.

God has blessed this organization with strong leaders and effective communication of his message. He has also blessed it with volunteer and supporters to assure that His Story will continue to be told to the coming generations. Thank you for your support of this ministry because your support is vital for the future of the organization.

It is my hope any prayer that you are spiritually renewed during this convention and that you return to your homes ready to share in you congregations, and among your friends and neighbors, what you have learned about Lutheran Hour Ministries.

May God bless your efforts on behalf of this organization and grant each of you a safe return trip to your homes and families.

Yours in Christ
Harvey Loenneke
President, Missouri District LLL

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

This is a time of great excitement throughout the church as we celebrate the historic anniversaries of the Reformation, Lutheran Women's Missionary League, and of course the International Lutheran Laymen's League. What an incredible year for celebrating ministry!

I'm sure that when 12 laypeople gathered in Milwaukee 100 years ago to support the church in word and deed by forming the Int'l LLL they could not have imagined the profound future impact of their decision. The beautiful part is not that 12 laypeople were called to action but rather they doggedly acted when the world and the devil sought to distract.

But if God could work through those 12 laypeople 100 years ago to achieve such incredible Gospel impact over the past 10 decades, imagine what the next 100 years can be like with not 12, not 1,200, not 12,000, but potentially 120,000 or more called, equipped, and SENT laypeople driving forward in faithful service to make the Gospel known! Let's not let that opportunity be forgotten!



Praise be to God that he has chosen to enlist you in His endeavor to bring salvation to ALL! I'm sure you are like me in that you love to see God's people come together and do something that really matters. LHM was created and supported for that very reason. Members like you never fail to encourage me to keep focused on our mission because there is so much more to do today and into the future.

I continue to be amazed at how God blesses LHM's work in *Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church*. Today, as a trusted expert in mass media proclamation with a global network of partners, we reach more than 71 million lost and hurting people around the world each week with the Gospel. But with billions of people still unreached, our work is not done. That's why we work in areas where other organizations are not present and use indigenous staff to develop culturally relevant programs and resources that proclaim the Gospel to the unchurched in more than 50 nations on six continents.

These efforts are having a tremendous impact on people who previously may not have been exposed to the Good News. In the United States, it means that one million listeners are tuning in to **The Lutheran Hour** program each week, and thousands more benefit from outreach resources, training, and events. Around the world, it means that in the past year evangelistic efforts by our ministry centers generated nearly 500,000 responses and resulted in more than 21,500 people becoming connected with local churches.

On behalf of all of us at LHM, thank you for attending this district convention and for your continued dedicated support of the Int'l LLL/LHM. May God continue to bless us all with the call to His mission, with a bold vision for the future, and with courage to put our faith into action. Have a great event!

Your Partner in HIS Mission,



Kurt Buchholz, President & CEO

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Greetings in the Name of the Lord!

It is my privilege to greet you as the Chairman of your International Lutheran Laymen's League. As we celebrate 100 years of God's blessings it calls to mind many inspiring stories of His steadfast love and mercies as He has blessed our efforts of *Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church*. Even more, this anniversary is a wonderful opportunity to remember with confidence our bright future, and to rededicate ourselves to bringing this hope to the billions of people who are still hopeless.

Our call to discipleship is so very personal. In Psalm 139:14-16 the writer exclaims, *"I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be."*



Each of us is a unique part of God's creation. No two of us are exactly the same, and so each of us has a unique place in His kingdom work. When it comes to harvest work, there just is no substitute for YOU—your gifts, your talents, your personality, your interests. All these—and so much more—make you unique. You can't send a substitute because there is no one else like you. You can't ask your pastor to go for you, or your family members, or the outreach committee at your church, or even those who serve on staff at Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Like so many others, you may feel ill-prepared, tongue-tied, anxious, or fearful. But God has formed you as you are. This means there are people that you can reach with the Good News better than anyone else. Your caring heart, your listening ear, your encouraging words, your loving service, and your passions, skills, hobbies, and personality all make you unique. And that is why He has called YOU to work in His harvest field. He calls YOU to go, in all your uniqueness, to the family, friends, and community right where you are. But you don't go alone. He has sent you with His Spirit, and with many other disciples, so that working together we can be *Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church*, beginning in our own homes and jobs, as well as our local congregations and communities.

Reaching the unchurched is a special calling of the Int'l LLL/LHM. I join with you in thanks to God for His blessings on this ministry and I pray that our celebration of His faithfulness will help us to remember our future. Thank you for attending this convention and for all your support that has brought us this far! May God continue to richly bless the future of these ministries as we are SENT together to be His hands and His feet around the globe.

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Phillip Johnson".

Phillip Johnson
Chairman, International Lutheran Laymen's League

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Message from District Pastoral Advisor

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ!

What a blessing to be here with you in Jefferson City for the Missouri LLL Convention as we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

Why is this important? Why does the Reformation still matter after all these years?

Because most people still live on the basis of how well they follow the rules Martin Luther grew up this way in the church of the Middle Ages. He tried following the rules in order to win the game of life. Very few people have ever played harder at the game than he did.

Only after failing at everything he tried, did Luther finally discover the free gift of God's grace through faith in Christ. Through God's Word, the Holy Spirit changed Luther from the inside out. Suddenly, this slave to sin was set free to be a slave of righteousness. Not by playing by the rules, but by the free forgiveness won for him by the grace and mercy of God and the liberating love of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Like a trapped miner discovering the way out of a cave, Luther spent the rest of his life dedicated to showing the way out to others.

The Reformation is still important because the church is always in need of reform - so that the Good News does not simply become old news or, even worse, bad news. The Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is always stunning and surprising - always ready to burst into our lives and turn our world upside down.

May the Holy Spirit continue to reform our hearts and minds by His holy will.

In Christ Alone,
+Pastor Peter Lange
LLL Pastoral Advisor

Dr. Gerald Perschbacher, LL.D.
Editor of *The Lutheran Layman*

Dr. Gerald Perschbacher, LL.D., has spoken to groups as large as 2,500 in his quest to convey the heartbeat of faith and history. Speaking engagements have taken him across the continent and to the far corners of North America from Los Angeles to Orlando, Anchorage to Long Island, and throughout Canada. He also has addressed groups in Germany during extended research trips.



A weekly Bible class teacher for more than 20 years, he is the author of 17 published books and thousands of articles, ranging over many topics. For more than 30 years Dr. Perschbacher has served as editor of the Int'l LLL's official publication *The Lutheran Layman* with a circulation of about 80,000 throughout North America and select countries overseas. He attended what is now Concordia University Chicago and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Dr. Perschbacher has been a guest on radio and television programs for many years. He has served as the leader or founder of several prominent organizations relating to history and German heritage. In 2010 the German American Heritage Society awarded him the Carl Schurz German Heritage Award.

Dr. Perschbacher's ancestry has been traced in significant detail to 1386, and his great-great-grandfather was among the initial German Lutheran settlers in St. Louis in 1833, six years before the Saxons arrived. He is married to Sharmon (nee Maschmeier) who has worked 20 years at Lutheran Hour Ministries. They have been blessed with son Philip (a former Concordia-Seward art professor) and artist-daughter Debbie Jurchen, plus her four children.

Reverend William R. Marler
First Vice-President of the Missouri District LCMS

Rev. William R. Marler is the Senior Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield, Missouri, and currently serves as First Vice-President of the Missouri District. From 1982-1986 he served full-time as a pastoral counselor and instructor at Lutheran High School South in St. Louis, while he was also a full-time graduate student at Concordia Seminary and St. Louis University. He was called to his current post in 1986, where he has continued to serve. Since 1990, he has been on the faculty of the Department of Religious Studies at Missouri State University, teaching the history of religion in America. Pastor Marler has led Reformation history tours to the Luther lands in Germany since the early 1990s, and led two such tours this past summer.

Pastor Marler and his wife Katherine are blessed with three adult children: Marissa is a graduate of Concordia-Seward and works for Pearson Publishing; her husband Joel is a project foreman, and they have a one-year old daughter, Austin Mae. Brett was a political science major at Drury University before studying/teaching in Turkey on a Fulbright grant. He spent a second year in Turkey, working for the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, and a third year working as a newspaper reporter in Istanbul. He returned to Washington University in St. Louis where he earned a Masters in Near Eastern Culture and Islam, and is currently finishing a doctorate in communication at Northwestern in Chicago. Elizabeth was graduated from Truman State University and is pursuing her doctorate in audiology at Purdue.

Pastor has served on numerous District and Synod boards in his ministry.

Christie Steffens
Missouri District LWML District President

Christie Steffens is a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Perryville, Missouri. She was elected as LWML Missouri District President in 2014 and will serve until 2018. As Missouri District president, she serves on the national LWML Board of Directors. Before serving as president, she served the Missouri District as Vice President of Christian Life, Mission Servant Chair, and on the Nominations Committee. At the zone level, she has held the office of president and served on the by-laws committee. At the society level, she has served as president, vice-president, and Christian Growth Chair. Christie is a retired Lutheran elementary teacher, serving 41 years in Texas and Missouri. She continues to help out at Immanuel Lutheran School as a substitute teacher. She is involved in many church activities, including adult choir, bell choir, Bible class, and women's Bible class leader. She has also been a Sunday school teacher, VBS teacher and music leader. Christie and her husband, Allyn, have two married daughters and five "GRAND" children. She enjoys traveling, reading, walking, and card making.

Christie's confirmation verse and daily inspiration are Jesus' words from John 15:5, ***I am the vine; you are the branches...apart from me you can do nothing.***

CONVENTION PROGRAM
Saturday, September 16, 2017
9:00 a.m.

OPENING COMMUNION SERVICE

Rev. Peter Lange, District Pastoral Advisor
Bethany Lutheran Church, Eldon

(Offering designated to support the Vietnam Ministry, Bible Correspondence Courses, and the Seminary Banquet)

FIRST CONVENTION SESSION
10:30 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Harvey Loenneke, President

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME TO THE CONVENTION

Alan Turley, Vice President

INTRODUCTIONS

Harvey Loenneke

Executive Committee

Board of Governors

Past Presidents

Guests

MINUTES OF THE 2016 CONVENTION

Darrel Voltmer, Secretary

APPOINTMENTS

Harvey Loenneke, President

Parliamentarian: Jack Johnson

TREASURER AND FINANCIAL REVIEW REPORT

Brian Mitchell, Treasurer

2018 DISTRICT LLL CONVENTION PLANS

Harvey Loenneke, President

VIDEO GREETINGS FROM INT'L LLL PRESIDENT

Kurt Buchholz (by video)

GREETINGS FROM MISSOURI DISTRICT LWML

Christie Steffens

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Harvey Loenneke/Alan Turley

CLOSING PRAYER

Curt Kassel

**SECOND CONVENTION SESSION
1:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER	Harvey Loenneke
OPENING PRAYER	Darrell Lorenz
A CENTURY OF BLESSINGS--AND MORE	Dr. Gerald Perschbacher Editor, <i>The Lutheran Layman</i>
STATE FAIR BOOTH REPORT	Sharon Hutcheson
MID-AFTERNOON BREAK	
GREETINGS FROM LCMS MO DISTRICT FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT	Rev. William Marler
STANDING WITH LUTHER	Dr. Gerald Perschbacher Editor, <i>The Lutheran Layman</i>
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Harvey Loenneke/Alan Turley
CLOSING PRAYER	Richard Schmidt

**FELLOWSHIP (HOSPITALITY SUITE)
5:30-6:15 P.M.**

**CONVENTION BANQUET
6:30 P.M.**

**Entertainment provided by Maker's Dozen from Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Honey Creek.**

**Banquet Speaker Rev. William Marler
LCMS Missouri District First Vice-President**



**CONVENTION PROGRAM
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017**

**BREAKFAST
7:00-7:45 A.M.**

**BIBLE STUDY
8:00 A.M.
Richard Schmidt**

**THIRD CONVENTION SESSION
9:00 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER	Harvey Loenneke
OPENING PRAYER	Jim Harms
NEW BUSINESS	
RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS	Harvey Loenneke
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Harvey Loenneke/Alan Turley
MOTION TO ADJOURN/ADJOURNMENT	

**CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE
10:30 A.M.
Trinity Lutheran Church
803 Swifts Highway
Jefferson City, MO**

Thank you to **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans** for their generous donation of the folders and note pads for our convention. Two **Action Team Grants** from Thrivent were also used to fund portions of this convention.

MISSOURI DISTRICT LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
74th ANNUAL CONVENTION
UNION STATION
ST LOUIS, MISSOURI
OCTOBER 21, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: President Jim Harms called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

OPENING DEVOTION: Rev. Peter Lange, District Pastoral Advisor gave the opening devotion, titled "God's word is Awesome."

WELCOME: VP Harvey Loenneke provided the welcome message and thanks to all attendees.

INTRODUCTIONS: President Harms introduced the Executive Committee, Board of Governors, Past Presidents in attendance; Brian Mitchell, Don Ohrenberg and Earl Moentemann and Convention Guests.

MINUTES OF THE 2015 CONVENTION: Alan Turley, District Secretary presented the 2015 Convention minutes for approval. The minutes were approved as presented.

TREASURERS and FINANCIAL REPORT: Brian Mitchell on behalf of District Treasurer Mark Nolte presented the reports for approval. Reports approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: President Harms explained that due to the abbreviated convention meeting the convention booklet does not include the various reports. They are available through the district website. He also announced copies of the Quarterly Financial Report are available. No other old business.

ELECTION OF MO DISTRICT LLL OFFICERS: Nominees for new officers are: President Harvey Loenneke, Vice President Alan Turley, Secretary Darrel Voltmer, Treasurer Brian Mitchell. The floor was opened for additional nominees. None presented. Motion to elect by acclamation made and passed.

MO DISTRICT PROJECTS SPECIAL COLLECTION: It was approved that the collection will be divided equally: half to Vietnam Ministries and half to Bible Study Ministry.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS: Darrel Voltmer reported that 26 clubs were contacted to submit requests for awards. Ten clubs responded and received awards.

2017 DISTRICT LLL CONVENTION PLANS: Brian Mitchell reported that the convention will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. It will be held on Sept. 15th to the 17th, 2017. This will be the 75th anniversary of the Missouri District LLL.

LHM UPDATE: Polly Faszholz Gregali, Ministries Resource Manager began a report on current programs of Lutheran Hour Ministries. The meeting was recessed at 5:00 p.m. for dinner at the 100th Anniversary Celebration for the LLL. Following dinner, Polly provided additional information on Lutheran Hour Ministries and responded to questions.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:12 p.m. the meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Turley, Secretary



Treasurer's Report

General Fund

Balance on June 1, 2016	\$ 6,711.40
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Income

Operating Funds from Int'l LLL	\$ 6,522.71
Interest from Bank	1.37

Total Cash Available	\$13,235.48
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Expenditures

District Board	\$ 2,266.17
District Convention	965.34
Office Expenses	162.19
State Fair Booth	3,020.48
District Website	105.00
Pastoral Retreat	200.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	
Desk Name Plates	472.96
Project Connect	399.08
Mission U	600.00
Cape Girardeau Bible Study	250.00
Total Expenditures	8,441.22

Balance on May 31, 2017	\$ 4,794.26
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Treasurer's Report (Continued)

Projects Fund

Balance on June 1, 2016	\$13,971.99
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Income

Student Assistance Endowment Disbursement	999.88
Student Assistance	1,767.70
Seminary Banquet	318.81
Bible Correspondence Courses	1,049.31
State Fair Collection (for Seminary Banquet)	131.00
Vietnam Ministry	1,499.31
 Total Cash Available for Projects	 \$19,738.00

Expenditures

Student Assistance Grants	\$ 2,200.00
Bible Correspondence Courses	1,183.40
Vietnam Ministries	1,450.50
Seminary Banquet	1,000.00
Fee for new checks	23.75
 Total Expenditures for Projects	 \$ 5,857.65

Project Fund Balance on Hand (May 31, 2017)	\$13,880.35
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Student Assistance Fund Account Balance	\$41,697.03
(Endowment with LCMS Foundation as of March 31, 2017)	

District Projects Income

June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017

Contributions from Individuals (LHM-Vietnam)	\$262.00
Contributions from Individuals (Bible Correspondence Courses)	\$113.00
St. Matthew, Lee's Summit Men's Fellowship Group (Special Projects)	\$201.45
Collection from 2016 Convention (LHM-Vietnam)	\$466.50
Collection from 2016 Convention (Bible Correspondence Courses)	\$466.50
Columbia Zone LLL (Special Projects)	\$255.00
Kansas City Zone LLL (LHM-Vietnam)	\$100.00
Concordia Lutheran, Sikeston LLL (LHM-Vietnam)	\$201.00
Trinity Lutheran Men's Club, Jefferson City (Special Projects)	\$500.00
Salem Lutheran Men's Club, Farrar (Bible Correspondence Courses)	\$150.00
Salem Lutheran Men's Club, Farrar (LHM-Vietnam)	\$150.00
2016 State Fair Worship Service Collection (Seminary Banquet)	\$131.00
Bank Interest	\$ 1.98
Total	\$2,998.43

Summary of Allocation to Three Special Projects of the District

Bible Correspondence Courses	\$1,049.31
LHM-Vietnam	\$1,499.31
Seminarian Banquet	\$ 449.81
Total	\$2,998.43

Note: Gifts to "Special Projects" not specified are divided equally among the three Special Projects of the District: LHM-Vietnam, LHM Bible Correspondence Courses, and the Seminarian Banquet. Bank Interest is also divided equally among the three Special Projects of the District.



Student Assistance Income

June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017

LCMS Foundation Endowment Distribution	\$ 999.88
Refund from Concordia Seminary	\$ 200.00
Concordia Zone LLL	\$1,187.00
Trinity Lutheran Church Men's Club, Jefferson City	\$ 92.00
St. Paul Lutheran Men's Club, Jackson	\$ 88.00
Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Club, Columbia	\$ 200.00
Interest from Bank	\$ 0.70
Total	\$2,767.58

Student Assistance Fund Account Balance

(as of March 31, 2017)

LCMS Foundation	\$41,697.03
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Financial Review Statement

To: Missouri District LLL Board of Governors
From: James Harms
Date: August 3, 2017
Subject: Financial Review

I have completed the financial review for the quarterly financial reports and supporting records for the Missouri District of the Lutheran Laymen's League for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2016 and ending May 31, 2017.

The review involved a detailed examination of the District approved budget, BOG minutes, quarterly reports, bank documents, check registers, and expense vouchers. A change of treasurers occurred about half way during this financial review period. Not all the information was transferred to the current treasurer making it more difficult to follow.

Separate general and project checking accounts are maintained by the treasurer with District President signature authority. The Missouri District LLL Student Assistance Endowment Fund is maintained at the LCMS Foundation.

Comparison was made to the District budget and BOG minutes. Overall compliance was found on the general and project accounts between:

- revenues reported and supporting bank deposits
- disbursements and supporting expense vouchers

This review includes the following recommendation:

- LCMS Foundation - Missouri District LLL Student Assistance Endowment Fund needs to have the Districts officers and mailing address updated.
- Email or phone call expense vouchers signed by the Treasurer should have a supporting notation.

It is my opinion that the August 31st, 2016, November 30th, 2016, February 28th, 2017, and May 31st, 2017 District Treasurer General and Project Quarterly reports do fairly and accurately reflect the true condition of the financial state of the Missouri District LLL for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2016 and ending May 31, 2017. It is the opinion of the undersigned that the financial records are correct and in proper order.

Respectfully submitted,



James L Harms

STUDENT ASSISTANCE REPORT

Last year we had eleven (11) requests for student grants through contacts to all admissions offices at the universities and seminaries. The registration form could be downloaded from our website www.missouridistrictLLL.org.

This year we have sixteen (16) applications for grants of \$250.00 each. The grants were increased from the usual \$100 to \$250 because the funds were available. These students will be attending the following schools:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri	7
Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska	5
Concordia University, Chicago, Illinois	1
Concordia University, Mequon, Wisconsin	2
St. Paul's Lutheran High School	1

Contributions to the Student Assistance Fund come from clubs, the Endowment Fund, individual contributions, and the carry-over from the previous year.

The Endowment Fund is available for grants of \$100.00 or larger and must be earmarked accordingly. The fund is administered by the LCMS Foundation and only the interest can be used for grants. If you will be reviewing your will or considering estate planning, please consider the Student Assistance Fund as a way of encouraging our young people who are interested in full-time work for the Church.

Students indicated on their applications which specific profession they were considering. They are:

Pastor	8
Teacher	2
Director of Christian Education	3
Deaconess	1
Mission Outreach	2

Listed below are the students receiving the grant of \$250.00 each, their hometown, and the college, university, or seminary, they are attending:

Alexander Brice	St. Charles	Concordia, Chicago
Devin Burmeister	St. Charles	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Mark Buchholz	Kansas City	Concordia, Seward
Daniel Clemens	St. Louis	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Tim Evans	Raymore	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Trevor Fiala	Valley Park	Concordia, Nebraska
Paul Flo	Hillsboro	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Evan Johnson	Sweet Springs	Concordia, Nebraska
Jarod Koenig	Perryville	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Lindsey Overbeck	Jackson	Concordia, Nebraska
Grace Seying	St. Louis	Concordia, Wisconsin
Sarah Seying	St. Louis	Concordia, Wisconsin
Logan Smith	Barnhart	Concordia, Nebraska
Mason Vieth	St. Peters	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Jennifer Wientge	St. Louis	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Matthew Womble	Sedalia	St. Paul's Lutheran High School

Cleo Steffens, Student Assistance Chairman

**THE MISSOURI DISTRICT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

At the 2016 Missouri District Convention held in St. Louis, the following groups or clubs were awarded certificates of merit for their activities during the last League year June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016.

The Top Ten Clubs receiving Blue Ribbons were:

CLUB	TOWN	REPORTING
1. Trinity LLL Fellowship Club	Columbia	Debbie Harms
2. Trinity Lutheran Men's Club	Jefferson City	Wayne Engelbrecht
3. Salem Men's Club	Farrar	Arnold Luehrs
4. St. Matthew's Men's Fellowship	Lee's Summit	Brian Mitchell
5. Trinity Men's Club	Shawneetown	Gary Dost
6. Holy Cross Men's Club	Emma	Lonnie Weber
7. St. Paul's Men's Club	Jackson	Howard N. Hemmann
8. St. Paul's Lutheran Men's Club	Concordia	Kenneth Nierman
9. Trinity Men's Club	Alma	Larry Becker
10. Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship	Perryville	LeRoy Dreyer

I mailed out 26 forms to the groups in the District who had filled out a form in the past six years. The forms were also posted on the District Web Site. I received 10 forms back. Thanks to all who took the time and effort to fill out the forms and returned them to me. May God continue to bless your efforts as you share His love and the mission of Lutheran Hour Ministries with the people in your congregation and community. The District Board of Governors have decided to discontinue this program due to the declining number of clubs.

In His Service,
Darrel Voltmer
Achievement Awards Chairman

State Fair Booth Report

The Missouri District of the LLL again sponsored a booth at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia from August 10-20, 2017. The booth was located in the Varied Industries Building on the Fairgrounds. During the Fair 26 couples, individuals, or pairs of folks covered 32 four-hour shifts during which the booth was open. We shared 500 adult Project Connect booklets, 2300 children's booklets, hundreds of stickers and pencils with messages about Jesus, 1900 pocket crosses, and 1500 emery boards with the message that "God Loves You" from Lutheran Hour Ministries. A video display shared information about the ministries of LHM.

On the opening weekend of the Fair, a Lutheran Worship Service was held. Rev. Todd Kollbaum from Concordia conducted the worship service and delivered a wonderful message that challenged everyone to go and share Christ as they went throughout the Fair. We had 52 in attendance at the worship service, at least 5 of whom had no church home. After the service we served coffee and danish rolls that were donated by the Best Western Hotel in Sedalia.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped at the Missouri District LLL State Fair Booth. And thank you to Kevin Gibbs of Sedalia for coordinating the Worship Service at the Fair.

Please pray that God's Word will take root and grow into flourishing plants through the seeds that were planted at the State Fair ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Hutcheson
State Fair Booth Coordinator



Columbia Zone LLL Report

The Columbia Zone LLL Spring Rally was hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Boonville on Sunday evening May 7, 2017 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Thirty-eight individuals registered for the rally.

The opening devotion was led by Immanuel's Pastor Joshua Ketelsen.

The Business Meeting was led by Columbia Zone LLL President Andy Melendez.

Missouri District LLL Past President Jim Harms presented the District Report.

An \$255 offering was collected and designated for the Missouri District LLL Projects.

The following officers were re-elected by acclamation:

President	Andy Melendez	Immanuel, Boonville
Vice-President	Gary Reidel	Alive In Christ, Columbia
Secretary	James Harms	Trinity, Columbia
Treasurer	John Hoehne	Campus, Columbia

A delicious meal was served by members of the congregation in the church's Fellowship Hall. Entertainment by Tammy Poulsen & Friend.

The program for the evening featured Daniel Jenkins, Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) Ministry Advancement Officer. His LHM job involves building relationships with major gift prospects and helping them experience the joy of giving. His territory covers Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, West Virginia, and the entire east coast from Maine to Florida.

We are sad to report that Andy Melendez recently resigned as Columbia Zone LLL President due to health reasons and has moved to Minnesota to be near his children.

Concordia Zone Report

Greetings from Concordia Zone.

Once again playing the card game of Pitch, hosted on a rotating basis by different clubs, was the biggest hit of the year. With 40-50 in attendance we ate, socialized, participated in devotions, played cards and contributed to student assistance. It was the zone's most impressive event, reaching the most members and non-members.

A number of servant events were hosted by the members at their home congregations, such as Easter breakfast, pancake dinners, chilli suppers, special events for tuition and delivery of flowers to shut ins. A number of organizations worked events for Orphan Grain Train, Food Shelters in the Kansas City area, workdays at Heits Point Camp and helping to staff the State Fair booth in Sedalia.

While our numbers are dwindling, members are still active in their congregations promoting Lutheran Hour Ministries and sharing the Gospel through all the resources available from LHM.

Jefferson City Zone Report

Plans are being finalized for a Reformation Service on the evening of October 31, 2017. The Jefferson City Zone of the Lutheran Laymen's League is planning to sponsor a reception following the Reformation Service. All of the congregations in the circuit are being invited to participate in this special event as we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.



Kansas City Zone Report

The Kansas City Zone Lutheran Laymen's League (LLL) Spring Rally was held at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Lee's Summit on Monday evening, May 15, 2017. Fifteen members were in attendance. Pastor Matthew Hardaway (KC Zone LLL Pastoral Advisor) provided an opening devotion prior to the meal.

Following the dinner, a business meeting was held. The minutes of the Spring 2016 meeting were presented and approved as read. Don Ohrenberg, who is retiring as Zone Secretary, was thanked for his past service in many offices at the Zone and District LLL levels. The Treasurer's report was presented by Robert Blanc.

Brian Mitchell (Zone President) thanked those in attendance for their ongoing support of Lutheran Hour Ministries and then presented a report from the Missouri District LLL and from the International LLL. An update from LHM-Vietnam was also included in the presentation.

\$185 in donations were collected from participants in the meeting. A motion to send \$100 to Lutheran Hour Ministries was offered. The motion was approved. A second motion was made to send \$100 to the Missouri District LLL for LHM-Vietnam. The motion was approved.

A video presentation from the 100th Anniversary Celebration of LHM and the LLL, held in St. Louis in October of 2016, was presented. The video consisted of a presentation by Rev. Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of the Lutheran Hour.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m. and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Missouri District LLL Board of Governors

Executive Committee

President	Harvey Loenneke (Janet) 1350 Broadridge Drive Jackson, MO 63755 hloenneke@charter.net	(573) 243-2146 (573) 270-5443 (cell)
Vide-President	Alan Turley (Norma) 1107 Fenton Park Drive Fenton, MO 63026 arturley@att.net	(636) 349-7909 (314) 704-1157 (cell)
Treasurer	Brian Mitchell (Karen) 306 SW White Ridge Drive Lee's Summit, MO 64081 mkbmitch306@sbcglobal.net	(816) 525-6016 (816) 872-4940 (cell)
Secretary	Darrel Voltmer (Marla) 16000 Holt 190 Craig, MO 64437 darrelv54@hotmail.com	(660) 683-5788 (816) 383-2707 (cell)
Pastoral Advisor	Rev. Peter Lange 1000 N. Grand Eldon, MO 65026 faithpall@gmail.com	(573) 746-0367
Immediate Past President	James Harms (Debbie) 1025 S Bridgewood Drive Columbia, MO 65203 jim@jim-debharms.net	(573) 449-0647 (573) 864-6670 (cell)

Appointed Board Members

Facilitator, Area 2	Don Roth (Carol) 206 Omete Creek Lane Perryville, MO 63775 dacomete@gmail.com	(573) 824-5468
Facilitator, Area 7	Kevin Gibbs 13379 Harms Road Windsor, MO 65360 kgaussies@iland.net kevin.gibbs@tyson.com	(660) 647-3924 (660) 287-1050 (cell)
Facilitators for Areas 1,3,4,5,6,8	Vacant	
Ambassador Coordinator	James Harms (Debbie) 1025 S Bridgewood Drive Columbia, MO 65203 jim@jim-debharms.net	(573) 449-0647 (573) 864-6670 (cell)
District Outreach	Richard Schmidt (Karen) 469 PCR 328 Perryville, MO 63775 richardschmidt391@gmail.com	(573) 824-5484 (573) 846-9197 (cell)
Website Editor	Brian Mitchell (Karen) 306 SW White Ridge Drive Lee's Summit, MO 64081 mkbmitch306@sbcglobal.net	(816) 525-6016 (816) 872-4940 (cell)
Student Assistance	Cleo Steffens (Carol) 6013 LaChateau Ct. St. Louis, MO 63129-2167 ciclsteff@aol.com	(314) 892-0936 (314) 580-5614 (cell)
Special Projects	Curtis Kassel (Mary) 1843 PCR 336 Frohna, MO 63748 chkassel@gmail.com	(573) 824-5893 (573) 768-1836 (cell)

Missouri District LLL Zone Presidents

Altenburg/Cape Zone	Richard Schmidt (Karen) 469 PCR 328 Perryville, MO 63775 richardschmidt391@gmail.com	(573) 824-5484 (573) 846-9197 (cell)
Columbia	Andrew Melendez (Wilma) 502 Poplar Street Boonville, MO 65233 awmelendez@gmail.com	(660) 882-3557
Concordia	Vacant	
Iron Mountain	Darrell Lorenz (Donna) 3200 Cambridge Drive Festus, MO 63028 dddllorenz@gmail.com	(636) 931-6540 (314) 941-0377 (cell)
Jefferson City	Paul Jungmeyer (Dorothy) 4429 Rainbow Circle Jefferson City, MO 65109 jungmeyer@usa.net	(573) 893-3032 (573) 680-3212 (cell)
Kansas City	Brian Mitchell (Karen) 306 SW White Ridge Drive Lee's Summit, MO 64081 mkbmitch306@sbcglobal.net	(816) 525-6016 (816) 872-4940 (cell)
North Central	Vacant	
Northeast	John Pflantz 5576 County Rd. 272 Palmyra, MO 63461	(573) 769-4644 (660) 998-0422 (cell)
Northwest	Darrel Voltmer (Marla) 16000 Holt 190 Craig, MO 64437 darrelv54@hotmail.com	(660) 683-5788 (816) 383-2707 (cell)
St. Louis	Harold Bohlmann (Melissa) 4362 Ventura Place Drive St. Louis, MO 63128-3158 htbcpas@aol.com	(314) 892-8387
Sedalia	Mike Dieckman dieckmanproperties@gmail.com	

INTERNATIONAL LLL

President and CEO	Kurt Buchholz 660 Mason Ridge Center Dr St. Louis, MO 63141 kurt.buchholz@lhm.org	(314) 317-4221
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Board of Directors

Chairman	Phillip Johnson	Maplewood, MN
Vice-Chairman	Gene Partlow	Williamsburg, VA
Secretary	Janice Wendorf	Grafton, WI
Treasurer	Paul Pettit	Lincoln, NE

Directors	Londa Borer-Skov	Sacramento, CA
	Jack Ficken	Fairview, TN
	Richard Gast	Mission Viejo, CA
	Gretchen Jameson	Brookfield, WI
	Kay Meyer	St. Louis, MO
	Mick Onnen	Davenport, NE
	Leonard Pranschke	St. Louis, MO
	Andreas Schwabe	Edmonton, Alberta
	Weldon Schweibert	Westland, MI
	William Snow	Watertown, SD

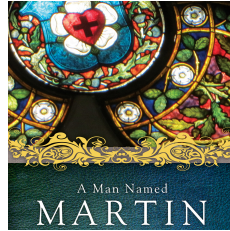
Pastoral Advisor	Rev. Bill Tucker	San Antonio, TX
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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

Synodical President	Rev. Matthew Harrison 1333 Kirkwood Road St. Louis, MO 63141	(314) 965-9000
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MO District LCMS President	Rev. Dr. R. Lee Hagan 660 Mason Ridge Center Dr Suite 300 St. Louis, MO 63141	(314) 590-6200
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A Man Named Martin - Part 3: The Movement



From Luther's 95 *Theses* in 1517 to the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, God was at work in the Reformation. Fierce debates over Scripture, church doctrine, and late medieval church practice led to theological positions articulating salvation as God's grace in action, with man being left to add nothing to his own salvation. In *A Man Named Martin - Part 3: The Movement*, viewers will see how the Reformation transformed European society and, eventually, left a profound impression around the globe.


A Man Named Martin - Part 3: The Movement will show how the Reformation accelerated the transformation of a world already in flux. While armed conflicts, theological disputes, and heated controversies marked segments of society throughout medieval Europe, the march of the Reformation left its imprint on the face of culture and citizen alike. Everything from education, politics, science, theology, marriage, and the family-and even extending to one's view of vocation and his relationship to God-came under the shaping and seminal influence of the Reformation.

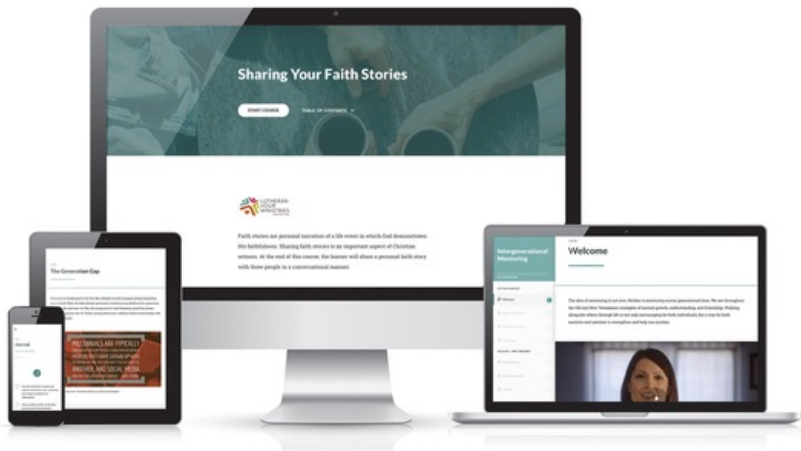
European politics changed in that state-to-state relationships were increasingly governed by political concepts of state and not by notions of Christendom. Ultimately, the Reformation contributed a number of ideas that traveled across the Atlantic which, in turn, influenced our Republic via ideas of individual rights and representative democracy. According to Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, program host and Speaker for **The Lutheran Hour**, "The greatest thing about the Reformation are the solas: grace alone, faith alone, Christ alone, Scripture alone because, in reality, what it does is it establishes the worth of a human being before God in a way that can't be done by people; it's done by God in Jesus Christ."

This Video Bible Study may be downloaded for free at lhm.org, or you may order a copy at lhm.org or by calling Lutheran Hour Ministries at (800) 876-9880.



LHM 2018 Online Mission Trip to Cambodia.

Lutheran Hour Ministries' **Online Mission Trips (OMT)** simulate a virtual mission trip for kids in North America. This year students will go to Cambodia where they can experience life through the eyes of children that are connected to Jesus via the LHM ministry center in Cambodia. They will also learn about the country and culture and gain unique perspective on the world beyond the walls of their classroom. As in years past, your school's designated chapel offerings will go directly to LHM – Cambodia. Your students can see how their mission dollars will spread the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ to the people of Cambodia. Please share this link  <https://www.lhm.org/onlinemissiontrips/guide> with your principals of your day school and the directors of your Early Childhood – Day Care programs.



Online Courses Launched August 1, 2017

LHM offers equipping resources to help you reach out with the love and Good News of Jesus Christ in your everyday lives. These online courses and webinars will cover five faith-strengthening categories – Christian foundations; Cultural Concepts; Everyday Insights; Outreach Essentials; Spiritual Reflections – and use an array of multi-media elements to help you gain an audience for the Gospel message. Register today for the courses that will be available August 1, Intergenerational Mentoring and Sharing Faith Stories. Visit <https://www.lhm.org/learn>.

Thred at Work.

Thred's mission: to foster open and honest dialogue between people from different backgrounds. We believe the Holy Spirit works in these types of interactions.

Thred's content is designed to be easy to use and share. This viral nature is core to Thred's strategy. The effectiveness of this strategy is shown through the number of people interacting with Thred's content. Our prayer is that the organic growth of this mission strategy will only accelerate.

What can you do? How can mission-minded Christians share the Good News about Jesus if the people we want to reach are not on or near those traditional trails of faith? LHM's answer is to blaze a new trail. We launched Thred to share the message of Jesus in a digital space. Visit thred.org to get a feel for how this ministry is organized. You can join us by sharing Thred's content, and volunteer. If you can copy and paste plus have a passion to talk about Jesus with others, volunteer to serve through Facebook, Email or Social Listening communications – visit lhm.org/volunteer/thredvolunteer

This is the Life Classics - DELUXE Edition



Here's TV from television's "Golden Age." Check out these nine episodes of **This is the Life**. Watch stars like Jack Nicholson, Leonard Nimoy, Angie Dickinson, and Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs cut their teeth on their craft-long before they hit the "big time."

The "Deluxe" version contains additional features if you choose to use this resource in a small group study. There's a PDF Discussion Guide, extra set photos, PDF of scripts, promo video and more.

These nine classic **This is the Life** episodes have been selected from among dozens produced by Lutheran Television Productions, during the 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s. Viewers will find the subjects and story lines aren't the stuff of sitcoms or even family-oriented shows that always went for the *happy ending*. Here are stories of faith-healing gone awry; a married couple's loss of their daughter; a pastor whose legalism was driving his members away; the bitter animosity of a father against his daughter's suitor; and more. In the end, each episode has one thing in common: God reigns through every event in our lives, and it is by faith in His Son-following and honoring Him-that our lives find their fullest meaning.

This is the Life: Classics on DVD \$34.95

This is the Life: Classics Deluxe DVD Set \$39.95

You may order a copy at lhm.org or by calling Lutheran Hour Ministries at (800) 876-9880.

LHM Affiliated Groups

What is an LHM Affiliated Group?

An LHM Affiliated Group is a group of men or women who wish to partner with Lutheran Hour Ministries in their outreach efforts, both locally and globally.

What are the qualifications to become an LHM Affiliated Group?

1. Groups in North America that are affiliated with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) or other North American churches that are in fellowship with the LCMS
2. Actively engaged in outreach locally and/or globally
3. Where possible, using Lutheran Hour Ministries materials in their outreach efforts
4. Must be willing to support the goals and objectives of Lutheran Hour Ministries
5. Has applied for recognition as an LHM Affiliated Group and received recognition from LHM
6. Must complete a reapplication form and survey every three years

What are some examples of Groups that may affiliate with LHM?

1. LLL Local Groups
2. Bible/Sunday School Classes
3. Men's Groups (Men's NetWork Groups)
4. Women's Groups
5. Couples' Groups
6. Congregations
7. LHM Volunteer Teams (Work Teams)
8. Petal Pushers and similar groups
9. College Students' Groups
10. Schools, including high schools and elementary schools
11. Mission societies

What are the benefits of becoming an LHM Affiliated Group?

- Receive a 20% discount on all [materials](#) ordered from LHM.
- Receive a 20% discount on registration for LLL International Conventions.
- Receive a 20% discount on registration for [Regional Outreach Conferences](#).
- Receive a 50% discount on booth space at Regional Outreach Conferences, excluding a free individual registration.
- Be eligible to apply for grants from Lutheran Hour Ministries to help fund local, regional, or international outreach efforts.
- Receive LHM's existing [e-newsletters](#) describing ideas and resources for reaching the community.
- Be able to submit stories for possible inclusion in a special section of the [Lutheran Layman](#) newspaper, pending approval.
- Have the opportunity to access and use a [library of logos](#) designed to indicate your status as being affiliated with Lutheran Hour Ministries.

For more information about how to become an affiliated group, visit www.lhm.org

**LHM Ministry Resource Manager and LHM Ministry Advancement
Officer for the Missouri District LLL**

Please contact me if you have any questions, need help with presentations or materials, and to share your stories of how you and your congregation are using LHM resources for outreach.



Polly Gregali
Ministries Resource Manager
314-317-4164
polly.gregali@lhm.org



 **LUTHERAN
HOUR
MINISTRIES**
Eric Gutberlet
Ministry Advancement Officer
Lutheran Hour Ministries
C: 636-675-4017
E: eric.gutberlet@lhm.org

Eric Gutberlet serves as a Ministry Advancement Officer at Lutheran Hour Ministries, a position he has held since October 2016. Eric provides opportunities for Christians to support Lutheran Hour Ministries through current and deferred gifts. He encourages current donors to explore supporting urgent ministries related to Laity led evangelism, Gospel proclamation through mass media, reaching the unreached globally, and looking for ways to re-engage our youth through digital ministry. Eric's passion is pursuing programs that will re-engage young adults, the Millennials, to seek and share a love for Christ in their lives. Eric works with donors in Wisconsin, Missouri and Illinois. Please contact Eric to discuss how you can make a lasting difference.

Notes



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

www.lhm.org

International Lutheran Laymen's League with its outreach through Lutheran Hour Ministries is an auxiliary of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Lutheran Church-Canada