

2023 SD LWML SPRING RETREAT



The LWML South Dakota District Spring Retreat was held at Peace Lutheran Church in Brookings on April 21 and 22, 2023. The theme of the retreat was "With One Voice" based on Romans 15:5-7 *May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.* There were 134 people in attendance. The Hopeful Spirit Chorale from Brookings shared several old-time hymns and spirituals which started the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the LWML SD District. It was fun seeing photos from the past 80 years and playing a trivia game about district history.

Rev. Clint Thorson taught the group about the word amen in his Bible study, "All God's People Say, "Amen!" Rev. Dr. Brian Mosemann shared God's words from Romans in his Bible study, "The Freedom of Love: What Love Looks Like." These words show us our sins but give us the knowledge of God's free love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. The mite walk allowed time to learn about and pray for the 12 district mission grants. The servant events included making mission witness bracelets, making hand puppets for The Puppet Place at the SD State Fair, and putting together gift bags for the church workers in the LCMS SD District.

Rev. Rynearson from Peace Lutheran led the opening devotion and the singing. A skit performed by Kay Nelson and Brooke Aker, Heart to Heart Sisters Committee Co-Chairmen, showed how we each may look different on the outside but God's light and love lives in each of us believers. A SMILE activity led by Dianne Hemminger, Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, and Laurel Schamber, Chairman of Committee on Young Women, taught attendees how to share the love of Jesus and encourage others to join LWML. Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a Brookings non-profit organization, was the recipient of a large donation from the attendees. This organization provides beds made from "scratch" and bedding for children who don't have a bed.

The retreat was a great blessing, and the ladies of the LWML SD District thank Peace Lutheran Church for hosting the retreat and the ladies of the Brookings Zone for planning and working at the retreat.