

MLP Japan News



amikouchi area in Nagano prefecture

Greetings

Image of Fireworks

When it comes to fireworks in Japan, many people will imagine the summer fireworks displays. In the United States, when people talk about fireworks, they often think of the ones launched on July 4th, Independence Day, to commemorate the independence which have been won from Great Britain.

If fireworks symbolize victory, then Christians have a reason to celebrate with fireworks every day and it still wouldn't be enough. That is because Jesus won our eternal life on the cross. Let us rejoice!

Kaori Egawa

MLP Japan Media Consultant

Pre-evangelism

Puppet Photoshoot

In June, we conducted a puppet photoshoot for the Oyako (Parent and child) Joy Club in Wisconsin, USA. Thanks to that, we have taken many photos of Pyon the rabbit enjoying adventures in America. We will be posting them on Instagram. Please look forward to it!



Announcements

Picture Book Time Report

On July 7th (Friday) at 11 a.m., the Parent-Child Joy Club was able to hold a Picture Book Time event at Hajimarinioie-sora, a visiting nursing station for senior citizens. Three participants, including a mom with a one-year-old baby, attended the event. The venue serves lunch and open for café time several days a week where you may enjoy a healthy Japanese style lunch there. It is also open as a rental space. Through hosting reading activities in a welcoming venue like this, we pray that we can gently shine the love of our Savior.



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH
But whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. Psalm 1:2

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Evangelism Topics

A work trip to the US (Part 1) - Kaori's Diary

LWMS

In June, I went on a two-week business trip to the United States. The main purpose was to attend the annual convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) and to meet with my MLP team in America.

First of all, let me explain what the LWMS convention is all about. It is a gathering for Christian women held every summer which offers a diverse range of programs, including worship, missionary reports, networking, and recreational activities. The convention is organized primarily by a committee of around ten women representing WELS members. Through communication with WELS pastors, guest speakers are selected to present their mission activities they are engaged in. Participants (male partners can also attend) encourage and show gratitude to these pastors and missionaries for their hard work and dedication, pray for them, and help to support through offerings. Transparent financial reports are provided. The convention is overall an open and lively event filled with enthusiasm, drawing the interest of WELS women who are passionate about both home and world missions.



Meeting New Friends

This year's LWMS convention was held in La Crosse, Wisconsin, from June 22nd to 25th. The convention center, located by the Mississippi River, was a perfect venue for the theme "Peace Like a River." As mentioned in Isaiah 66:12, "For this is what the Lord says: 'I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees,'" the women who attended the conference who are all believers of Jesus Christ were filled with joy and peace.

I was most impressed with how large the attendance was. The number of participants which filled the venue was over 1,200 people, and the power when singing hymns during the opening worship was quite remarkable. After the opening declaration by the female president, women walked in carrying the flags of various countries where WELS has conducted missions entered. These flags were displayed on both sides of the main hall throughout the convention, symbolizing unity. This year marked the 60th anniversary of the convention, and we were able to see a video on the big screen, reflecting on the past conventions leading up to 2022, allowing us to experience the history and tradition of the event.

MLP is affiliated with the Board of World Missions in the WELS. As an attendee representing MLP's Japanese translator, I had the opportunity to learn about the latest information on the TELL app, as well as missionary activities in South America and Africa. I am grateful to have made new connections with Aaron Wakeman, part of the Friends Network, and Pastor Peter Janke from the Asia One Team, who lives in Chiang Mai, Thailand with his wife and their baby son, Marvin.

Meeting

Report for 60th LWMS

Total Participants: 1,219

Representatives: 247

Delegates: 80

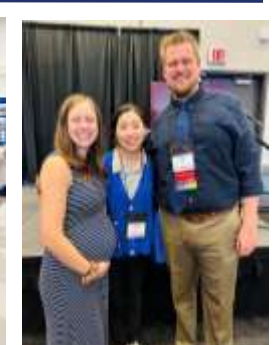
Send one sister: 35

First-Time Attendees: 282

Worship Offering

Amount:

\$65,522.16



From the left: Carol Niemeyer, LWMS Secretary 60 years ago, and Patsy Kramer, this year's President. Center photo: Speaker, Missionary Elise Gross. Right photo: Speaker, Peter Janke and his wife. Peter's wife, Alana, is the granddaughter of former Japan missionary, Kermit Habben and his wife Margie.