

NEWS RELEASE:

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LWML Hosts Breakfast Reception for Center for Hispanic Studies Graduates

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) hosted a first-ever reception for the graduates of the Center for Hispanic Studies (CHS) at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. The breakfast reception was held on May 5, 2011, following the graduates' call service the previous evening. The LWML not only desired to celebrate the graduates' achievements with them, but also to share with them the heart and identity of LWML.

Honored guests included the graduates and their spouses, as well as friends and professors who played an important role in the students' seminary experiences. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez, Director of CHS, opened the event with congratulatory words and prayer. Seminary President Dr. Dale Meyer offered his congratulations to the students, as well as a message of admiration and praise for the women of the LWML. Dr. Meyer applauded LWML as a quiet but powerful force in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, sharing that as the demographics in the United States rapidly change, the LWML “gets it and responds.” CHS Professor Marcos Kempff offered closing remarks and the final prayer at the end of the reception.

“The LWML is here to support you in your ministry,” LWML President Janice Wendorf assured the graduates. President Wendorf expressed the pride LWML has for the graduates who have been active in lay ministries and now take on their new roles as pastors and deaconesses in the congregations that have called them. Highlighting mite giving, the Heart-to-Heart Sisters program, and the services that Lutheran Women in Mission offers to those in need throughout the world, President Wendorf assured the graduates that the LWML has many helpful resources available.

LWML Vice President of Gospel Outreach Marilyn McClure, who has been actively involved in Hispanic ministry during the past 41 years, served as translator for President Wendorf. McClure also took time to showcase the variety of Spanish materials available through the LWML.

“The LWML hopes to make this reception an annual event,” shared President Wendorf. Two graduates with LWML connections are Marta Luna, a 2009 Heart to Heart Sister, and Perla Rodriguez, a Heart to Heart District Leader trainee for the LWML Peoria Convention in June 2011. The graduates expressed delight as each received a bag filled with LWML resources and Spanish materials.



**Please remember LWML in your estate plan.
Our legal name is: “Lutheran Women's Missionary League.”**

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942 the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

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