



# LUNCHEON INTEREST SESSIONS

## LWML English District 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention

**April 28, 2018**

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The Luncheon Interest Sessions will take place on Saturday, April 28, 2018, at noon. Please rank in order of preference on the registration form.

### **Friendship House – Lutheran Campus Ministry**

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**Rich Bearup** has been executive director at Friendship House MSU since 2011. Established in 1992 as International Student Ministry – Lansing Area, Friendship House MSU is a non-profit, charitable Lutheran campus ministry affiliated with twelve Greater Lansing area Lutheran parishes. We estimate that more than 5,000 International students, scholars and family members have attended our classes since our founding. A typical Friendship House semester will have: 30 weekly classes (8 Bible studies) attended by more than 200 International students; a variety of tuition-free English as a Second Language (ESL) classes; and more than 80 Lutheran volunteers who teach, serve as one-on-one conversation partners, and in other capacities.

### **Ministry to Muslims in Chicagoland**

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**Rev. Hesham Shehab** - In 2008, with the support of local LCMS churches, Hesham planted Salam Christian Fellowship – a mission to Muslims in the western suburbs of Chicago. Thus far, 32 people from the Middle East have been baptized.

Salam reaches out to refugees and new immigrants from eight Middle Eastern Countries, and shares the Gospel with Muslims in three languages (Arabic, Farsi and English). Salam holds an information celebration service meeting every week for converts and seekers in Lombard, IL and organizes three bible studies at different locations in the western suburbs of Chicago. In order to support Salam and ignite the love of Christ towards Muslims in the heart of lukewarm Christians, Hesham speaks nationwide on Islam and evangelism to Muslims.

### **Missionary Work in Dominican Republic**

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**Deaconess Rachel (Powell) Joseph** – served her first call as a deaconess in Santiago, Dominican Republic, the second-largest city in this beautiful island nation. As an LCMS missionary there for nearly two years, her primary responsibility was teaching and mentoring Dominican deaconess students. In this role, she assisted in the development of theological curriculum for these future church workers, and walked with them as they put this Biblical learning into practice and served others in their churches and communities. She was privileged to provide spiritual care both for and alongside these women and those they served together. Near the end of her term of service she also co-taught regional deaconess courses in both Mexico and Panama.

### **Mission Presentation - Sunday, April 29, 2018**

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#### **Haiti Video Presentation of Grace Lutheran Church Haiti Mission 2017**

**Chris Meaney** – Grace Lutheran Church sends a mission team every two years to Haiti. Their work benefits Caribbean Children's Foundation, Grace Ministries and the children it supports. In this 45-minute video presentation you will see areas of Haiti that they travel through, an example of the work they do, and the people they serve. During mission trips the mission team works on various projects that benefit these missions in accordance with team member skill sets.

The video begins 3 months after the devastating hurricane Matthew that took place in October 2016, and left many without food or shelter. The mission team travels through Port-au-Prince and sees some of the conditions in that city. They also travel through a portion of Les Cayes which took heavy damage from the hurricane. The trip continues to Ile-a-Vache where the main mission work begins. The island was also heavily damaged by the hurricane, but by the Grace of God the main campus of Grace Ministries, where the mission team was staying, was left nearly untouched. Upon arrival the team was met by several children from the community. After making the trek up the mountain, Missionary Nora Leon speaks about the work that Caribbean Children's Foundation and Grace Ministries are doing on Ile-A-Vache.

During a mission trip you expect to help the people in that location, but you are often surprised how your own life is touched and changed by the very people you have gone to serve.