

Wisconsin Presentation Deals with Human Sex Trafficking

By: Sister Kathy Lange

Sister Celine Goessl, SCSC, took part in a panel discussion on the topic of human sex trafficking at the Seventeenth Convention of the Women of the ELCA's East Central Synod Wisconsin (ECSW) held on Saturday, November 4, 2017, at Trinity Lutheran Church in New London, Wisconsin.



In addition, present for the prayer service to begin the convention was Bishop Gerald Mansholt of the East Central Synod. (Pictured l-r.) S. Kathy Lange, Bishop Gerald Mansholt and S. Celine Goessl.

Presenting at the panel were S. Celine, who used a PowerPoint to address current issues related to human trafficking; Brian Russo, co-owner of Eye Heart World, who spoke about the opening of the Rose Home in Brown County and the first three women who took up residence at the beginning of October. The Rose Home is an aftercare residential home for survivors of human sex trafficking. State Assemblyman, Andre Jacque, from District 2, spoke about current Wisconsin legislation he is proposing against human trafficking. (Pictured to the left, at the end of the table are Andre Jacque, S. Celine, Brian Russo, and Shirley Paulson, President of the ECSW Wisconsin ELCA).



I had the opportunity to accompany S. Celine to the conference and distribute materials and sell DVDs of a previous conference held on January 16, 2016, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Howard, Wisconsin.



We felt privileged to be part of the day. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, gave the keynote address on Katharina von Bora Luther and other women noted for their support of Martin Luther's teachings.