

LIMM LINK

Linking Health Professionals with Mission Needs

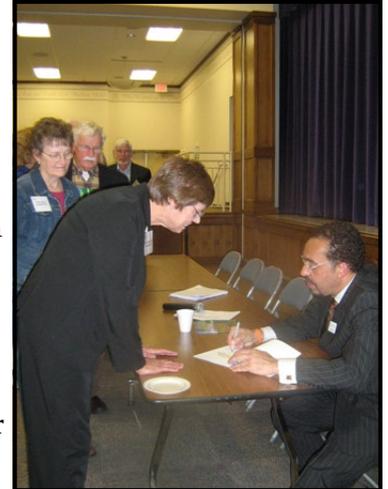


LIMM 2011 Needs and Resources Forum *The Lutheran Malaria Initiative*

The 2011 LIMM Forum was held April 1 and 2 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Wichita, KS. **Rev. John Nunes**, President and CEO of Lutheran World Relief (LWR) was the keynote speaker. Rev. Nunes identified the complex causes of malaria deaths. "LMI will be able to save lives and change a way of living," stated Rev. Nunes, "but it will take empowered individuals and groups working together in order to be successful." Rev. Nunes signed the children's book co-authored with his wife Monique, "*Little Things Make Big Differences, a Story about Malaria*" for forum participants. The books were the gift of LIMM. **Dr. Ruth Goehle**, former LCMS medical missionary and African disease specialist shared the goals established by the United Nations in 2000 that are to be achieved by 2015. **Jacob Fiene**, representing the LCMS stated, "LMI is an effort of global proportions to mobilize US Lutherans in the fight against malaria." **Kurt Buchholz**, Vice-President for Special Initiatives for LWR, urged, "talk about malaria to anyone who wants to listen: it is treatable and preventable." The Holy Cross LMI Committee discussed their learning curve regarding malaria with moderator **Bobbie Lautenschlager**, CEO of LIMM. **Rev. Scott Snow** concluded, "The LMI

Committee knew little at the beginning, but did a lot of research to learn the best way to eliminate the pain, suffering and deaths from malaria. We drew the conclusion that providing nets gave the best answer." Holy Cross raised \$10,000 for LMI through various activities. **Linda Reiser**, former LWML President and current LWR Board member gave a brief history of malaria in the USA during the luncheon sponsored by Thrivent. Information on the Lutheran Malaria Initiative can be found at www.LutheranMalaria.org.

Jacob Fiene reported on LCMS work in Haiti with ongoing Mercy Medical Teams. **Rita Nickel**, RN and LIMM board member shared information regarding the work of the Lutheran Church of Chile after the earthquake and tsunami in the south of Chile. Kansas District **President Keith Kohlmeier** served as chaplain for the event.



Rev. Nunes signing his book.

Lutheran Malaria Initiative

One million people a year die from malaria, including one child every 45 seconds! In 2000, the United Nations set goals to eliminate diseases, including malaria. In 2003, media mogul Ted Turner donated \$1 billion to create the United Nations Foundation to support disease eradication. The UN Foundation approached the Lutheran Community through the Lutheran

World Relief and asked for their involvement. The UN Foundation donated \$25 million to the Lutheran Malaria Initiative (LMI) to cover administrative costs for the project. At the LCMS National Convention, the delegates adopted the LMI with a 97% vote. The LMI has set a goal of LCMS members raising \$45 million dollars to help eliminate deaths from malaria in Africa by 2015.

Toni and Steve Hayes CHE Trainers in Thailand

From February 8-11, 2011, Lutherans in Medical Missions, in cooperation with the Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation-Thailand (CWEFT), presented a four-day Community Health Education (CHE) training led by Steve and Toni Hayes in the Hmong communities in Chiang Rai, Northern Thailand. Community Health Education is a participatory style teaching that trains local villagers on how to extend preventive care to their neighbors and at the same time present the Gospel. The community had identified a need to learn how to take and record blood pressures as there was a high incidence of stroke among younger people. The Hayes also consulted with the Lutheran Church of Philippines and introduced the concept of CHE there.



Steve Hayes with Pastor Pon Sak.

Parish Nurses International

Dr. Marcy Schnorr, chairperson of the Lutheran Parish Nurses International and Susan Neff, RN, LCMS Parish Nurse Council will travel to Bethlehem, Palestine November 25-December 2, 2011 for an outreach program to elderly Palestinians. "The program began 5 years ago serving 14 older Christian adults in Bethlehem and now reaches over 500 persons as outreach is extended to the elderly in nearby villages—both to Christians and Muslims," reports Dr. Schnorr. Three new communities will be visited and a simple stroke screening will be done. A health screenings and preventive educational program will also be done in Bethlehem. LIMM supports the transportation costs of Schnorr and Neff in partnership with Concordia Lutheran Ministry, Cabot, PA.

LIMM Announces New Board Member

David Wesche, MD, PhD Pharmacology, will join the LIMM Board of Directors at the end of service by Judy Schache, RN, who has served nine years. Wesche was a LCMS medical missionary in Papua New Guinea, Senior Lecturer in Medicine at the University of Papua New Guinea, Lt. Colonel, Medical Corps at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, and Senior Director at Parke-Davis Pharmaceuticals/Pfizer Global Research and Development. He has served/serves as a consultant for the Malaria Access Program, Clinton Foundation, the Gates Foundation, Global Network for the National Institute of Health, and Medicine for Malaria Venture for the Expert Scientific Advisory Committee. He is currently Senior Medical Director for Lundbeck Inc.



Contact LIMM:

P.O. Box 766
Concordia, MO 64020
Contact Bobbie at:
314-503-4317
Email: limm@limm.org

For more mission news and opportunities, see the LIMM web page at:
www.limm.org

Consider a donation to LIMM today. Remember LIMM in your estate gift planning.

LIMM Board Meeting, 2011-2012 LIMM Grants

The LIMM Board adopted support of the Lutheran Malaria Initiative at its 2011, April 1 meeting. "We are fully supporting the efforts of the LCMS and the LWR in this important project," states Bobbie Lautenschlager, CEO. Contact LIMM for resources, consultation to begin a LMI committee, or for a speaker. In addition, the following grants were made for the next budget year: \$8,730 for CHE program in Thailand, \$4,198 for the transportation costs for Steve and Toni Hayes to Thailand for CHE training in July, 2011, \$8,875 for the CHE training program in the Philippines with the Lutheran Church of Philippines, \$10,000 to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of India for their innovative Alcoholism Treatment Program at Bethesda Hospital, Ambur, India, and \$3,748 for travel to Palestine.