

## **AFLC Annual Conference 2011**

The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations met for their 49th annual conference, June 14-17 in Sioux Falls, S.D. Gathering from across the U.S. were 497 members and friends of AFLC congregations. The conference is a time for spiritual renewal. In an effort to meet that goal there were regular prayer times, evening worship services and pauses for prayer during the business sessions. One prayer time came in response to a resolution to pray for members of the Armed Forces. Ones serving from AFLC congregations were mentioned and prayed for.

The conference resolved to support the Schools Corporation's plan to begin the process of adding a dormitory and gymnasium/auditorium building to the schools' campus in Plymouth, Minn. It was resolved that current debts that had been incurred during the chapel renovation be paid in full before ground is broken on any new building. The corporation stated that they will seek to raise in gifts and pledges 70 percent of the costs of one of the buildings before beginning construction.

In the discussion about the schools many spoke about the impact attending Association Free Lutheran Bible School had on their life. A large number of the audience rose to their feet when asked to stand if attending AFLBS had changed their life. A challenge and goal was issued at the conference that each AFLC congregation would have a student attending AFLBS.

Two new missionaries were commissioned during the conference for missionary service. Pastor Andy Coyle will soon move with his wife, Monica, and family to Ukraine to begin service there with a focus on working with a Bible college and providing Bible training. Justo Pillman was commissioned to serve in Ecuador, where he and his wife, Patricia, will serve the local church.

AFLC Vice President, Pastor Michael Brandt and Secretary, Pastor Brian Davidson, were re-elected to their positions. Other election reports and minutes of the conference will be available on the AFLC website at [www.aflc.org](http://www.aflc.org). The conference's business sessions were chaired by AFLC President, Pastor Elden Nelson.

Next year's annual conference will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the AFLC. It will take place in the AFLC's birthplace: Thief River Falls, Minn., June 12-15, 2012.