

NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN



# The Northwester

*Newsletter for Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

*Northwest Synod of Wisconsin*

*Volume 30- Issue 4 – December 2017*

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

PO Box 27

Greenwood, WI 54437-0027

US POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT # 10

GREENWOOD, WI 54437-0027

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**



## LESSONS FROM A CHRISTMAS TREE

Be a Light in the Darkness

We all fall over sometimes

You can never wear too much glitter

Bring Joy to others

Sparkle and twinkle as much as possible

It's okay to be a little tilted.



--Jane Lee Logan

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings from Amery Wisconsin!

One of the struggles I have in writing the Northwester article is to think of it for the time the issue arrives in your homes and churches rather than the time at which I'm doing the writing. This month is a good example. As I am writing, preparations are being made for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, but you probably aren't reading this until after those celebrations. What I really want to say is that you should have a blessed Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas, but...



My gratitude this month begins with the wonderful ladies at Colfax Lutheran for their beautifully organized hospitality and even homemade soup for lunch that they provided for our SWO Board Meeting on November 4th. Besides that, some of their kids (or grands?) came in to help with the clean-up. Oh, that we should all be so lucky.

It has been neat for me to put out a plea for a travelling companion and find that someone always answers and rides along. That makes for a much more interesting trip for me, and this person gets to enjoy your event as well. On a recent trip to Marshfield for the Chequamegon Fall Rally, Kim from Milltown ended up at the same table as her kindergarten teacher and another lady who knew her grandparents from way back when. I love the small world stories!

And that leads to the third one. The Chequamegon Conference Board put on this delightful play that coordinated so meaningfully with the activities they had us do between acts, all about different ways to pray in our daily lives. So, I suggested to Dawn Olson, our Vice President, that our next resource booklet (that she's in charge of producing) should have a section of addresses for web sites like the one Chequamegon used to find their play. Thank you Dawn, for your unending cooperation in saying that this can be part of the next booklet that will come out in time for our convention and include extra things. I didn't ask her, but I'm guessing she will take any information on speakers and computer resources that you are willing to share! Her contact information is on one of the back pages of this Northwester.



Prior to our November 4<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting we learned that voting members (delegates) for the July 2020 Triennial Convention (business meeting) in Phoenix must be elected at our bi-annual convention in April of 2018. The next convention we have isn't until April of 2020 and that doesn't give enough time for people to make adequate preparation and arrangements. Therefore, you will find an application form in this issue of the Northwester. The application will also appear in the special convention issue of the Northwester that will come out after the holidays. One item to note that we neglected to mention for the last go-round: each church can submit the name of just one candidate. You might bring this up at your next W/ELCA meeting and select someone who would be a good voting member, so you are ready to submit their application. Or, if you are someone who would like to participate in the national business meeting, get the okay of your W/ELCA. The submission deadline date is clearly marked on the application.

Because of this up-coming election, our contact list in the church-wide (Chicago) computer needs to be current. So, I'm on this last push to get that accomplished in order that church-wide can determine the number of voting members that we should elect to get their expenses paid to Phoenix. We will be lucky to keep the seven votes we had for Minneapolis as one person is elected for every 25 ACTIVE W/ELCA groups on our roster. The requirements remain constant as they are specified in our governing documents. Three separate "tickets" or ballots are authorized. The first is for a woman of color or whose primary language is other than English. The second specifies that one-fourth of our delegation be first-time voting members. The third round is for all remaining women who are W/ELCA members in our Synod. As always, the elected delegation is led by the SWO President. The SWO Board does sponsor a pre-Triennial training session, so no one need be hesitant about applying to become a voting member even if all the parliamentary procedure stuff is over your head!

The scholarship form for our April 21, 2018 convention can also be found in this issue of the Northwester as well as in the convention issue that will follow. Our constitution allows us to give out two scholarships per conference. Because we are doing a one-day event at a church, we anticipate significantly fewer expenses which are reflected in the much lower scholarship amount which in turn does cover the entire registration fee. **Find a young woman at your church who has never**



**participated in W/ELCA and assist her in applying for a scholarship.** The future of our organization depends on this type of "walking along side" and recruitment. Elsewhere in this issue are a few basics about this convention. Keep in mind that more complete information will be provided in the convention issue next month.

As we tried to dole out conference assignments at our November Board Meeting, we discovered more assignments than the number of conferences! Not covered by anyone is a new "job" written up after conversations I had with the Vice President of the Synod Council. Every presenter and speaker at our convention will have a hostess/prayer partner to walk along side and help meet their needs for the day. At this point I am looking for a mere handful of individuals who will be at the convention and willing to do this for our speakers and presenters like our own Bishop Hoyme. Contact me by phone or email to get the complete job description to assist you in making a decision to help out in this way.

Pastor Greg Kaufmann is the Bishop's office liaison to our Synod Women's Organization and he gives us some neat tidbits to chew on at our board meetings such as:

- the Synod Resource Center at Grace Lutheran in Eau Claire has a resource worth checking on by Mark Alan Powell on how Lutherans read and interpret the Bible. Access to the resource center is listed on the officers' page at the back of this Northwest.
- to contact Emily Duba (Susan Briel's daughter) about speaking at your church, call Diane Kaufmann. Emily is in Eau Claire and working on her doctorate. She speaks on Lutheran theology and how it plays out in daily life in a way that definitely isn't as boring as I make it sound.
- Phil Rugge-Jones memorizes huge chunks of Scripture like the entire book of Mark. He is also a fabulous Bible story-teller enjoyed by all generations. Contact him at Grace Lutheran in Eau Claire [carolgraceeau@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolgraceeau@sbcglobal.net) or 715-834-2459.
- Sue Houkum of the Resource Center staff is working on a computer program to link churches to the resource center website. That site had over 40,000 hits this October. They must be doing something right! Anyhow, get your church connected with them at the resource center.
- Speaking of computer links, the same goes for Diane Kaufmann and our W/ELCA website. She could add your church's link to ours, too. Diane's contact information is on the officer page at the back of this issue.
- Diane and the other racial justice advocate educators are also listed. They do wonderful programs for W/ELCA meetings, church gatherings, etc. Besides that, SWO pays their miniscule fees and mileage when they turn it in. It's a budget line item for us and you get the benefit.

One final result from the active ministry reports that many of you had to fill out is that we now have a synod wide total with 168 of our 200 churches reporting:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 9,915 quilts to LWR      | \$ 9,323.05 to LWR                                   |
| 1,370 baby kits          | \$38,603.15 to missions and world hunger             |
| 1,834 personal kits      | \$10,101.50 to other global causes and PV for Phoebe |
| 285 fabric kits          | \$19,544.85 to synodical items                       |
| 4,479 school kits        | \$ 2,600.00 to LSS                                   |
| 158 fleece tied blankets | \$92,257.50 to local ministries like food shelves,   |
| 2,114 bars of soap       | homeless shelters, camps, Salvation Army,            |
|                          | veterans, hospice, Christmas baskets, etc.           |

This reporting also showed 75 churches continue to hold Thank-offering services, that over 50 churches have used W/ELCA resources for their programs and devotions, at least 56 churches participate in Gather Bible studies, and 17 churches did something to support one of the resolutions from the 2014 Triennial in Charlotte.

After hearing church-wide had to lay off two of their already smaller staff because of offering shortages, it makes me wonder if we are all sending our share to Chicago. This would include things like the total amount of the W/ELCA offering at a Thank-offering service. Our money is not working well for good ministry while lying dormant in a savings account earning very little interest. But I think I am saying too little, too late. Let's just see how much good we can do with our financial resources.

In closing, I should probably apologize to Eleanor, our Northwest editor. I think I went over my usual allotment of pages for the issue. I hope she doesn't stay upset with me for too long!

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the convention in April. With several of your conferences having Spring Days of Renewal on April 7<sup>th</sup>, I know I won't get to be at all of them. But I'd like to be invited anyhow!

Sue Saarem, SWO President

∞∞∞∞∞∞∞∞∞∞∞∞

## Daily Prayers for a Time of Prayer to End Human Trafficking - January 11 to Super Bowl Weekend 2018

*"Give justice to the weak and fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." (Psalm 82:3-4)*

Note: These prayers and reflections were written by people of Northeast Wisconsin. Permission is granted to adapt them and share them as you wish.

**January 11** – On this National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness, I pray for an end to human trafficking of every kind right here in our area and around the world. Help me learn about human trafficking and then see how I can help put an end to this crime that enslaves millions of girls, boys, women, and men and is the second largest and fastest growing illegal trade in the world.

**January 12** - Holy Lord and Father in Heaven: I pray that you will wrap your loving arms around each and every girl, boy, man, and woman who is enslaved right now. Jesus, break the hideous chain of human trafficking. Deliver its victims into freedom.

**January 13** – Lord, look upon the young people of the world who face so many challenges; protect them from those who would try to lure them into the sex trade. Be with those already caught up in trafficking and give them strength to get out.

**January 14** - Lord, show yourself to all who are trapped in this vicious cycle, allow them to glimpse the beauty and freedom of your love, your unconditional love. Father, shine your light into this dark world. Shine it on each and every one of your children, created in your image and for your glory.

**January 15** - Lord, I pray for legislators who are working to pass laws to protect victims and provide law enforcement and the judicial system with the tools they need to end sex trafficking.

**January 16** - I pray for law enforcement officers and judges who deal compassionately with victims and get them the help they need.

**January 17** – I pray for children who are stolen for the purpose of selling them to buyers of sex and for their parents who cry for their missing children.

**January 18** – I pray for men who love and value their wives and children and for more families to know the kind of love that provides security and confidence to their children.

**January 19** – I pray for writers, musicians, artists, and filmmakers who create educational and thought-provoking images that move us to act.

**January 20** – I pray for advocacy groups like the Lutheran Office of Public Policy, Cherish All Children, Shared Hope International, 5 Stones, Truckers Against Trafficking, and the Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force. I pray for organizations such as Voices of Men who teach boys to respect women and girls. I pray for Eye Heart World and their Rose Home helping trafficking victims in Northeast Wisconsin and Lutheran Social Services as they help young victims rebuild their lives.

**January 21** – I pray for those responsible in churches, government, and in our economy to stand up for the dignity of all persons, especially females.

**January 22** – I pray for survivors who are so brave to tell their stories in order to prevent others from becoming victims. I pray for healing and a return to wholeness in their lives.

**January 23** – I pray for the cooperation of hotels, massage parlors, and beauty salons to help stop this crime.

**January 24** – I pray for professionals and volunteers and church members and all individuals and groups to work together and do what they do best to achieve the goal of ending human trafficking.

**January 25** – I pray for teachers, counselors, and other school personnel to recognize signs that a child might be being trafficked and to have the courage to act to protect them.

**January 26** - I pray for HOPE. This may be the only thing that victims of human trafficking are holding on to. I pray for them to keep hope in their hearts and know that there is a Heavenly Father who loves them no matter what.

**January 27** - I pray for COURAGE. Help anyone who sees something suspicious to have the courage to call the Human Trafficking hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or 911 to report it. That one call may lead to someone being rescued from trafficking.

**January 28** - I pray for us to be UNASHAMED. Lord give us confidence to speak up and make some noise about the epidemic problem of human trafficking. Help us feel compelled to be preachers about this problem as we may be the only voice for people being trafficked.

**January 29** - I pray to be a CHAINBREAKER. Lord, there is a better life for young people trapped in trafficking. They deserve to feel the love of the Lord, they deserve to feel worthy, and to be given a chance to start a new life. Lord, help us break the chains of the horrible crime of human trafficking.

**January 30** - I pray for LOVE. I pray that your love will break through the obstacles that all of these girls, boys, men, and women face every day. I pray that your love will overpower it all and shine down and rescue each person being trafficked, even it is only one person at a time. Help us to be your hands doing your work here on earth.

**January 31** - I pray for MIRACLES. Lord, you show us miracles each and every day somewhere. I pray for a miracle to work in the hearts of those people who are trafficking other human beings and buying other human beings. Create a situation or put someone into their lives that can help them see that what they are doing is not just making money or buying a brief moment of pleasure but rather horribly abusing a fellow human being.

**February 1** – I pray for BOLD ACTION. I pray that we can act boldly to learn about human trafficking including the signs that someone might be being trafficked, find out what is being done or needs to be done in our communities, and then act to help in some way. Help us not be discouraged by the enormity of the problem but remember the words attributed to Margaret Mead: “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing ever has.”

**February 2** - I pray for DISCERNMENT. Help us see how you are calling us to use the gifts and talents that you have given us to help end human trafficking whether that is through sharing what we have learned with neighbors or friends or family members, writing letters to legislators, volunteering with local groups that serve victims, donating money or goods to service providers, organizing adult or youth forums or arranging a conference or speaker, providing hospitality for awareness events, or praying every day for the victims of human trafficking and those who provide rescue and healing to them.

**February 3** – Be the light, Lord, that helps us shine the light on the darkness of sex trafficking in our area, especially this weekend. Encourage us to speak out, spread awareness, and support the fight to eliminate this crime.

**February 4** - Heavenly Father, on this Super Bowl Sunday and at every other large sporting or music event where so much human trafficking takes place, I pray that people will celebrate and enjoy themselves without treating others with thoughtless disrespect and cruelty. I pray that the better angels of our natures will acknowledge the dignity of all of our sisters and brothers and treat them as fellow deserving recipients of your great love. All these things we ask in your Holy Name. Amen.

## FROM THE TREASURER

At the recent Synod Board meeting, the board passed a budget for 2018 of \$25,060 with expected Local W/ELCA UNIT offerings to be \$20,000. Besides the ordinary expenses of the synod, our board voted to fund the following ministries:

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Seminary Scholarships       | \$4,000    |
| Lay School Scholarships     | 700        |
| SWO Convention Scholarships | 490        |
| Resource Center             | 100        |
| Two Synod Bible Camps       | 1,000      |
| Racial Justice Team         | <u>200</u> |
|                             | \$6,490    |



We have kept the cost of the convention as low as possible, mostly due to moving the convention to a church, and having Local units send in \$30 yearly for the Convention Expense Fund. We have at least \$4,200 in that fund to cover expenses. We will support women to attend with awarding 14 scholarships that will cover the \$35 cost of the convention. Be sure to apply to help you be able to attend.

Just a reminder that *our fiscal year ends January 31, 2018 so offerings for 2017 can still be sent until mid-January*. Also, Convention Expense Fund donations of \$30 received in January will be credited for 2017, unless you indicate it is for 2018.

If you find extra funds at the end of the year, discuss putting it to work for LWR quilt shipping, NW WI Synod capital fund campaign, Fund for Leaders, Gather magazine, Katie's Fund, and a direct gift to WELCA churchwide. The Churchwide W/ELCA had to lay off two staff members due to the decreasing offerings. Keep the W/ELCA ministry in your prayers.

Have a blessed holiday season

Audrey Severson, Treasurer  
N6059 530th Street  
Ellsworth, WI 54011-5107





## STEWARDSHIP

Can we put our funds to better use?

During the Triennial, there was a recommendation to move money out of our Mission Investment Funds to other places where funds would get more usage. Our SWO board voted to move money from the Mission Investment fund to WELCA church-wide, Church-wide fund for leaders (resolution 2017.03) and Bold Generosity (our synod capital campaign). We encourage local units and conferences to consider this recommendation for their funds.



**BOLD GENEROSITY**  
*intentional • inspired • impactful*

Who are your officers or leaders?

Each fall or in January, WELCA units elect new officers. In some units the leadership is a committee instead of officers. Whichever way you determine your leaders this information needs to be shared with the conference secretary. All conference secretaries need to share that information with the SWO secretary, Connie Anderson. You can mail or email this information. Thanks for your cooperation.

Connie Anderson  
Secretary, SWO W/ELCA

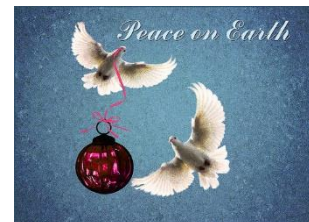
## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

During the Christmas season our memories often take us back to the Christmases of our childhood. During those formative years we learned the carols that remain our favorites. For me those carols include “Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord Are We;” “The Happy Christmas Comes Once More;” and “I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve” (‘Jeg er så glad hver julekveld’). Even though most of these them were written well over 200 years ago, all these carols provide words of comfort and hope in our contemporary world. For example:

Until at last we too proclaim  
With all thy saints, the glorious Name;  
In paradise our songs renew,  
And praise thee as the angels do.  
(Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord Are We)



The little Child in Bethlehem,  
He was a King indeed!  
For he came down from heaven above  
To help a world in need.  
(I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve)



The happy Christmas comes once more,  
The heavenly guest is at the door,  
The blessed words the shepherds thrill,  
The joyous tidings, “Peace, goodwill.”  
(The Happy Christmas Comes Once More)

However, my favorite carol continues to be “Away in a Manger.” It is the carol we sang in the Sunday school Christmas program, the song that we shared with nursing home residents to bring smiles to their faces and memories to their hearts, and it is the prayer hymn I sang with my children as I tucked them in bed at night. The last verse is still an appropriate prayer for us, no matter what our age. Its petition asks for safety through the night and beyond; it blesses all of God's children, and it gives us the promise of that future when we as God's children will be with him in heaven:

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.



May your Christmas be filled with joy and music!  
Dawn Olson, Vice-president

# DISCIPLESHIP

## What does discipleship mean to you?

Women of the ELCA participants are active disciples in many ways.

- ✿ Discipleship is a lifelong journey of living out and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.
- ✿ Disciples are followers of Jesus who are intent on carrying out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20) and the Great Command (Acts 1:8).

At W/ELCA, participants practice seven marks of discipleship: *praying, studying, worshiping, inviting, encouraging, serving, and giving*. Whether it be making quilts and health and school kits for Lutheran World Relief or studying the Bible together, or assisting in worship, they grow in faith and share what they've learned with friends and neighbors.

We grow in our faith by attending:

- ✿ Conference Day of Renewal
- ✿ Synod or Conference Leadership Trainings and Local Retreats
- ✿ SWO Biennial Convention
- ✿ Community Gatherings – Bible Studies
- ✿ National Triennial Gathering



We affirm our gifts by:

- ✿ Recognizing the gifts and strengths of others and recognizing your own gifts and strengths, then share them with the church and each other.
  - ✿ Support one another through prayer and giving each other encouragement.
- This is the place to find not only mentors and models, but also lifelong friendships ☺

Engage in Ministry and Action:

- ✿ Be the arms, hands, and feet of Jesus by meeting the needs of others, love and serve others, volunteer in the church, community, and schools.

Promote Healing and Wholeness:

- ✿ As *physically healthy women*, we will make healthy choices for our bodies.
- ✿ As *spiritually healthy women*, we will engage in Bible study, spiritual renewal, and holistic healing.
- ✿ As *emotionally healthy women*, we will engage in and seek healthy and meaningful activities and relationships to better support one another.

When we commit to caring for ourselves, we can then fully commit to our purpose and mission. We can commit to God's command to make disciples in the world and stand ready to serve others. Healthy women can produce healthy families, churches, and communities, and can develop healthy, more just, and more holistic societies.

**[www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)** – A listing of programs and bible studies for women to grow in faith. Also sign up for Daily Grace on the W/ELCA website and receive a daily offering of faith reflections by email.

**[www.nwswiswo.org](http://www.nwswiswo.org)** – This website is our own for the Northwest Synod. Send emails to this website to share what is going on in your churches and to recognize special people and events. Also read what is going on in the Northwest Synod by reading the Northwester. Great online resource to go for information.

Other Resources:

- ✿ Gather Magazine
- ✿ Café
- ✿ Northwester
- ✿ Your Bible



## HOW IS GOD LEADING YOU IN DISCIPLESHIP?

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The nominating committee is progressing on its list of candidates for the upcoming election at the SWO convention in April. A big thanks to those who agreed to run for the various positions and to those who have accepted serving a second term. If you get a call asking you to accept the candidacy for one of the remaining positions, we ask that you prayerfully consider it and respond according to the Spirit's leading, your own abilities, and your commitment to the ministry of Women of the ELCA and Christ's church.

The nominating committee members are Marcia Lindseth, Carol Medchill, Mary Jane Sedin, Phyllis Grohn, and SWO vice-president, Dawn Olson. A big thanks to this committee for their work and dedication.

# Northwest Synod of WI Women of the ELCA

## Convention Scholarship Application

April 21, 2018- Bethany Lutheran Church, Rice Lake WI

Two (2) Scholarships per Conference will be awarded - EACH WORTH \$35.00  
Preference will be given to 1<sup>st</sup> time attendees

Deadline: March 15, 2018 - Mail to: Audrey Severson, N6059 – 530<sup>th</sup> St, Ellsworth, WI 54011-5107

or send to [apseverson@gmail.com](mailto:apseverson@gmail.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

I have \_\_\_\_\_ have not \_\_\_\_\_ attended a NW WI Synod Women's Convention.

What Synod or Conference Events have you attended and when?

Have you received a scholarship from the Synodical Women of the ELCA? If yes, list event(s) and year(s)

Activities: (Please list activities from the past three years only)

Local Congregation

Women of the ELCA: Unit, Conference, Synod

Community

I am applying for this scholarship because:

PLEASE COPY AS NEEDED



**NOMINEE FOR THE BALLOT**  
**as VOTING MEMBER (delegate) to the 11<sup>TH</sup>**  
**TRIENNIAL CONVENTION of the WOMEN of the ELCA**  
**July 13-16, 2020**

**Election of Voting Members plus Alternates will be April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**at the NW Wisconsin Synod of W/ELCA Convention**  
**at Bethany Lutheran Church, Rice Lake**

Women of \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Address of Church \_\_\_\_\_

From the \_\_\_\_\_ Conference submit the name of  
Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

**To be considered by the Nominating Committee as a voting member (delegate) to the 11<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA to be held in Phoenix, Arizona.**

Please check appropriate box below concerning nominee listed: Attended/Voting Delegate

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1987 Constituting Convention, Milwaukee, WI        | _____ / _____ |
| 1990 1 <sup>st</sup> Triennial, Anaheim, CA        | _____ / _____ |
| 1993 2 <sup>nd</sup> Triennial, Washington, D.C.   | _____ / _____ |
| 1996 3 <sup>rd</sup> Triennial, Minneapolis, MN    | _____ / _____ |
| 1999 4 <sup>th</sup> Triennial, St Louis, MO       | _____ / _____ |
| 2002 5 <sup>th</sup> Triennial, Philadelphia, PA   | _____ / _____ |
| 2005 6 <sup>th</sup> Triennial, San Antonio, TX    | _____ / _____ |
| 2008 7 <sup>th</sup> Triennial, Salt Lake City, UT | _____ / _____ |
| 2011 8 <sup>th</sup> Triennial, Spokane, WA        | _____ / _____ |
| 2014 9 <sup>th</sup> Triennial, Charlotte, NC      | _____ / _____ |
| 2017 10 <sup>th</sup> Triennial, Minneapolis, MN   | _____ / _____ |

Person of color or whose primary language is other than English: \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

This nominee would be a good candidate because she has been involved with the Women of the ELCA at the local, conference and synod levels. She has a good understanding of many issues within WELCA. She would also be available to present to other groups within our Synod.

**Return by April 1, 2018 to: Susan Saarem, 1315 B 120<sup>th</sup> Ave, Amery, WI 54001-4800**  
**OR - email to [pmssaarem@yahoo.com](mailto:pmssaarem@yahoo.com)**

**Revised 11.16.2017**

**PLEASE COPY AS NEEDED**

# 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## 2018

### FEBRUARY

- 17 – EPIC – 9am-1pm – For Congregational Leaders at Luther Park, Chetek

### MARCH

- 3 – Chippewa Valley Conference Spring Day of Renewal, Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran, Elk Mound
- 15 – **Deadline** to apply for April 21 SWO Convention Scholarship
- 17 – “Walking Together” at the Davies Center, UW-Eau Claire [note NEW date]
- 24 – SWO Board Meeting, Bone Lake Lutheran, rural Luck

### APRIL

- 1 – **Deadline** to apply to be a voting member (delegate) to the 11<sup>th</sup> Triennial of W/ELCA in Phoenix - July, 2020
- 7 – Apple River Spring Day of Renewal, place TBA
- 7 – Chequamegon Conference Spring Rally, St John Lutheran, rural Edgar
- 7 – Heart of the North Conference Day of Renewal, Trinity Lutheran, Spooner
- 7 – St Croix Valley Conference Day of Renewal, Mt Zion Lutheran, Hudson
- 20 – SWO Convention **Business** Meeting (evening), Bethany Lutheran, 35 Messenger St, Rice Lake
- 21 – SWO Women of the ELCA Convention, Bethany Lutheran, Rice Lake, for ALL women of NW-WI Synod

### JUNE

- 2-3 – NW-Wisconsin Synod Assembly, with election of a new Bishop - Trinity Lutheran, Eau Claire

### JULY

- 19 – St Croix Valley Conference Summer Retreat, Bethany Lutheran, Star Prairie

### AUGUST

- 13-14 – Heart of the North Conference Supper Retreat, Luther Park, Chetek
- 15-16 – Chippewa Valley Conference Summer Retreat, Luther Park, Chetek
- 16-17 – Dairyland Conference Summer Retreat, Luther Park, with a special invitation for the Lake Superior Conference to join them
- 18 – Apple River Conference Retreat, Location TBA
- 



JOY

“Jesus, Others, Self”

**NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN**  
**SYNOD WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION 2016-2018 BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESIDENT**



Susan Saarem ("Sue")  
1315B 120<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Amery WI 54001-4800  
715-268-5586  
Balsam Lutheran, Amery  
[pmssaarem@yahoo.com](mailto:pmssaarem@yahoo.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT**



Dawn Olson  
W8712 Fox Rd  
Spooner WI 54801-7145  
715-635-4610

Trinity Lutheran, Spooner  
[dawndoug41@yahoo.com](mailto:dawndoug41@yahoo.com)

**SECRETARY**



Connie Anderson  
W11553 Co Rd J  
Stockholm WI 54769-5503  
H - 715-448-2029 C - 715-495-4768

Sabylund Lutheran, Stockholm  
[conniea111@gmail.com](mailto:conniea111@gmail.com)

**TREASURER**



Audrey Severson  
N6059 - 530<sup>th</sup> St  
Ellsworth WI 54011-5107  
715-273-5019  
Our Savior's Lutheran, Beldenville

[apseverson@gmail.com](mailto:apseverson@gmail.com)

**LAKE SUPERIOR CONF #1 - BD MEMBER**



Mary Jane Sedin-Justice  
9891 E Middle River Rd  
Poplar WI 54864-9105  
H - 715-364-2502 C - 715-815-0235

Peace Lutheran, Poplar  
[peacepoplar@gmail.com](mailto:peacepoplar@gmail.com)

**APPLE RIVER CONF #2 - BOARD MEMBER**



Gloria M. Rolstad-Discipleship  
2178 - 120<sup>th</sup> St  
Milltown WI 54858-2818  
H - 715-857-1954 C - 715-554-1129

Bone Lake Lutheran, Luck  
[groldstad@msn.com](mailto:groldstad@msn.com)

**HEART OF THE NO. CONF #3 - BD MEMBER**



Barbara Garling-Discipleship  
1745 - 6 1/2 St  
Almena WI 54805-9388  
715-357-3700

Augustana Lutheran, Cumberland

[dubar342@gmail.com](mailto:dubar342@gmail.com)

**ST CROIX VALLEY CONF #4 - BD MEMBER**



Emilie Horken-Stewardship  
N6399 - 1317<sup>th</sup> St  
Prescott WI 54021-7002  
H - 715-262-4728 C - 715-338-8486

Joy Lutheran, Prescott  
[em.horken@gmail.com](mailto:em.horken@gmail.com)

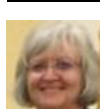
**CHIPPEWA VALLEY CONF #5 - BD MEMBER**



Phyllis Grohn-Justice  
3101 Garner St  
Eau Claire WI 54701-7678  
715-836-7055

Trinity Lutheran, Eau Claire  
(no email)

**CHEQUAMEGON CONF #6 - BD MEMBER**



Carol Lekies-Stewardship  
W8743 Co Hwy M  
Medford WI 54451-8539  
H - 715-785-7362 C - 715-965-9108  
Our Saviour's Lutheran, Medford

[carol\\_lekies@yahoo.com](mailto:carol_lekies@yahoo.com)

**DAIRYLAND CONF #7 - BOARD MEMBER**



Jane Brown-Discipleship  
N51722 Condensery Rd  
Osseo WI 54758-9745  
H - 715-597-3062 C - 715-533-3295

Kings Valley Lutheran, Osseo  
[janebrown40@centurylink.net](mailto:janebrown40@centurylink.net)

**NORTHWESTER EDITOR**



Eleanor Johnson  
W5370 Century Rd  
Greenwood WI 54437-8308  
715-267-6146  
Our Savior's Lutheran, Greenwood

[hdjejohnson@tds.net](mailto:hdjejohnson@tds.net)

**BISHOP'S REPRESENTATIVE - W/ELCA LIAISON Synod**

**Resource Center Director**

Rev. Greg Kaufmann

[gkaufmann@nswswi.org](mailto:gkaufmann@nswswi.org) 715-579-1556

[gkaufmann@synodresourcecenter.org](mailto:gkaufmann@synodresourcecenter.org)

Located at 202 W Grand Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0965

[www.synodresourcecenter.org](http://www.synodresourcecenter.org) 715-559-3445 Fax: 715-833-1156

Bonnie Weber, Asst. Director - [bweber@synodresourcecenter.org](mailto:bweber@synodresourcecenter.org)

**W/ELCA RACIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY EDUCATORS**

**Diane Kaufmann** 5207 - 70<sup>th</sup> St, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729-5742  
715.579.1731 (cell)

[dikaufmann@yahoo.com](mailto:dikaufmann@yahoo.com) & [webmaster@nswswiwo.org](mailto:webmaster@nswswiwo.org)

WEBSITE: [www.nswswiwo.org](http://www.nswswiwo.org)

**Marcia Lindseth**, 135 Hill Ridge Ct, Prescott WI 54021-1324

715.262.3498 (H) 651.278.8460 (cell) [mlindseth@centurytel.net](mailto:mlindseth@centurytel.net)

**Gail Lando**, 22691 Akermark Road, Grantsburg, WI 54840-8017

715.689.2437 [gailk@grantsburgtelcom.net](mailto:gailk@grantsburgtelcom.net)

**NEW CONTACT!**

**Mary Beth Meierotto**, 90555 Old County Highway K, Bayfield, WI

54814-4756 ph. 715.779.3257-(home) 715.209.0900 (cell)

[marymeierotto@gmail.com](mailto:marymeierotto@gmail.com)

**Angie Kutney**, 1426 180<sup>th</sup> Street, St Croix Falls, WI 54024-7530

715.222.7915 [angkutney@gmail.com](mailto:angkutney@gmail.com)

**NW SYNOD of WISCONSIN**

**944 24 1/4 Street - Suite 2**

**Chetek, WI 54726-7942 ph.715-859-6810**

**[nswswiwo.org](http://nswswiwo.org)**

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Northwest is published four times a year by the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Women's Organization. Local units are encouraged to subscribe for all of their officers, including the president and your pastor.

Subscriptions to the newsletter are **\$8.00 per year.** The due date of your subscription appears on the address label. Reminders are not sent, so please watch your label for your expiration date and renew.

Address changes and questions concerning subscriptions should be addressed to Eleanor Johnson, Editor, at the address below. *[Or email at [hdjebjohnson@tds.net](mailto:hdjebjohnson@tds.net). If you are emailing, please include Northwest or W/ELCA or subscriptions in the subject line].* This newsletter may be photocopied.

**DEADLINE** for next issue of *The NORTHWESTER* is **March 1, 2018**



Enclosed is payment of **\$8.00** payable to:  
**WOMEN OF THE ELCA, Northwest Synod (SWO)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip +4 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Conference \_\_\_\_\_

(Email) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Eleanor B. Johnson, W5370 Century Road, Greenwood, WI 54437-8308  
[hdjebjohnson@tds.net](mailto:hdjebjohnson@tds.net)

