



# *The Northwesterner*

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

*Northwest Synod of Wisconsin*

*Volume 29- Issue 3 – September 2016*

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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PO Box 27  
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Just for you.....

## LAKE SUPERIOR CONFERENCE GATHERING

For Women of the ELCA – OCTOBER 29, 2016



9:30 a.m. Brunch at Peace Lutheran  
in Poplar

**Program:** a short concert by Sherry DePolis Thompson

She is a singer and song writer from the Spooner area. And, yes, she still yodels!

Synod Women's Organization Officers will also be present to talk about the Triennial next summer in Minneapolis and answer any questions.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings, Lutheran Ladies!

How was your summer? Mine was certainly busy. With my husband's retirement events in June, family reunion in July, a road trip to my oldest son and family in Tennessee, SWO Board meeting, lots of sewing projects and several W/ELCA summer retreats, I didn't have time to get bored! But if you grew up like I did, getting bored wasn't an option -- it meant the folks would find a few more projects to work on! Maybe that was just part of growing up on a farm.



I truly enjoy being with you at your retreats. Some of you know how to have a really fun time! And many of the retreats had some very good speakers. It seems ironic that Mary Segerstrom can be both the funniest as well as giving us the best message to act upon. I was pleased that lots of you were willing to share your thoughts on future conventions being we have to move from the Plaza. The staff at Luther Park continues to be impressive. They do so much -- drive pontoons, guard at the pool, open the canteen, start bonfires, make popcorn, lead in fun blessings for the meals, clear tables, and just serve in helpful ways. It makes one see why kids often put their camping experiences at the top of lists for spiritual formation.

Meanwhile, back to the Plaza and the convention topic. It seems likely that we will be able to have our convention at a church close to Highway 53. I have yet to hear back from the "powers that be" at that location, but when I do, you will be the first people to know! Meanwhile, anyone who likes to organize and plan is welcome to contact me about helping with the next convention. I'll actually start begging later.

And the applause can start now!! Mary Jane Sedin and I finally got our act together enough to plan a gathering for the Lake Superior Conference women. It will be a 9:30 am Saturday morning brunch at Peace Lutheran Church in Poplar, right on Highway 2 that goes across from Superior to Ashland. Singer and song-writer Sherry DePolis Thompson from the Spooner area will be providing the program. None of us can remember how many years it has been since Lake Superior has gathered, so we are hoping many will be curious enough to check us out. We welcome your prayers and support, even your attendance with us.



My husband and I are looking forward to a trip to Buffalo, New York, this October. We will be attending the national gathering for "Cherish All Children" which is an ELCA ministry based in Minneapolis led by Rev. Amy Hartman. Their mission is to pray, educate, connect and act to safeguard the lives of all children. Rev. Amy has also been involved with the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin when they have put on the workshops against sexual trafficking. It is disappointing to see how few people attend these gatherings, so it does my heart good to know that Women of the ELCA is active in supporting this cause. We'll do a little sight-seeing. Neither of us has seen Niagara Falls, we both like Amish baking, and there are relatives along the way, so opportunities abound for those things, too.

My ecumenical side continues to be active! One Sunday in August found us attending a Presbyterian church near LaCrosse with grandchildren. The service was fairly similar to ours. Afterward we discovered that the pastor was trained at a Lutheran seminary. However, instead of reciting the Apostles Creed, they read together an affirmation of faith that I found interesting. It seems to support our W/ELCA Purpose Statement.

*We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and is the desire of our lives; whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth; whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all; whose love defeats even death, and is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are fearful and full of doubt, we trust in God; and in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace; to care for the earth and to share the goodness of God's creation; to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the Spirit; and in the company of the faithful to be the church to the glory of God.*

The phrase about seeking justice and living in peace brings me to my last point: Scripture asks us to pray for political and government leaders. Regardless of your political persuasion, prayer for our election seems like the best option. My challenge to you is that every time you are agonizing over a political ad or news item, say a quick prayer that God's will be done. And then make sure you vote!

**PRAYER**  
*changes things*

As always, I welcome your calls and emails. Let's keep the lines of communication open!

Sue Saarem, Synod Women's Organization President

## VICE PRESIDENT

I recently heard the story of a man who was visiting his mother in the nursing home. The mother was nearing her death due to Alzheimer's disease. As the son was visiting in her room, his brother stepped in the doorway. Upon seeing her other son, the mother said, "I don't know who that man is, but I know I love him."



What a story to describe our recently celebrated "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. Next to Christmas and Easter, it is my favorite Sunday in the Church year. As the Fourth of July recognizes and celebrates our democracy once a year, so "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday celebrates and symbolizes to our communities what the ELCA does all year which is to love and serve people even those whom we do not know.



In my church at Trinity Lutheran in Spooner, we celebrated this day of service on September 11<sup>th</sup> with continuing LWR mission projects, highway cleanup, home projects and free Pie in the Park served to people who were browsing Main Street businesses or driving through town on Hwy. 63. Many congregational members, young and old, wearing their yellow t-shirts, find great joy as they "live out their baptismal vocations in service to their communities in times of intense need," so quotes our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. She goes on to say, "In baptism we have been marked with the cross. We are the ones who go into the broken places of the world. We are the ones who, by showing up on 'God's Work—Our Hands' Sunday, shine the light of the cross in our communities."

So, let us continue to go in peace to love and serve in Christ's name those whom we don't even know!

Dawn Olson, SWO Vice President

## Today's Dream, Tomorrow's Reality

Greetings Women of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

I cannot convey enough thanks to you for the opportunity given to me to attend the TDTR (Today's Dream,



Tomorrows Reality) training in Kansas City, MO. I returned Sunday, August 28 and my head and heart have not stopped exploding with thoughts and emotions from the Racial Justice Advocacy training.

It is a fact that all white people are racists. The definition for racism is "what white privilege looks like in the lives of people of color". Until this white privilege (that white people were born into) stops and privilege for ALL people is equal the oppression continues. Our first job (our team of five women) with the help of the Holy Spirit is to teach the context of our early history in the United States. After and not before this entire context is learned (which has not and still is not being taught in our public school system) we can have a conversation and do our part to someday end oppression.

Your job is simple. Please invite our TDTR team not only to your congregation, women's group, etc., but think of other organizations in your community where we could have this presentation. E-mail me at [bethesdachurch@centurytel.net](mailto:bethesdachurch@centurytel.net) to set up a future date and time. Together we can spread the facts of white privilege like wild fire to bring an end to oppression that our brothers and sisters of color live with every day.

Thank you again and let's talk soon!

Light and Love,  
Mary Meierotto

Bethesda Lutheran Church, Bayfield, WI 54814 ph. 715-779-5611

# Discipleship

Have you ever thought what discipleship means as a woman of the ELCA? Webster's dictionary defines discipleship as, "a follower of Jesus Christ". As women of the ELCA there are many ways to be his disciples. According to the Women of the ELCA website there are **seven ways that we can practice discipleship: praying, studying, worshiping, inviting, serving and giving.**

In many of the leadership training sessions I have participated in with our conference, one of the questions that always arises is how can we get more women to participate. We understand that many of our women are busy with families, full-time jobs, being a caretaker of a loved one, dealing with



illness, children active in sports and other family commitments making it hard to add one more thing to a sometimes busy schedule. In

looking at these seven practices maybe we need to redefine how we look at our women's group. One thing I think we forget is that all women are members of Women of the ELCA whether they are associated with an "active group" or not. Even though they may not be active in your women's group they may be active in other ways.

Encourage and uplift all women in your congregation through your prayers. Maybe you may wish to connect with those who may not be a current participant and select them as a prayer partner for a year to help support them in their daily walk.

Encourage all to study Christ's word daily, not only in your monthly group Bible studies by inviting them but also in your own personal daily life. In our electronic age with computers and smartphones we have access to many wonderful daily devotions and Bible study materials. Encourage all to worship. Here many of our young women are willing to help teach Sunday or

Vacation Bible School or be worship assistants and serve on council, thank them for their willingness to participate in these areas. Invite them to participate in your quilting sessions, or encourage families to help put together a health, school or layette kit as a family. Encourage those who may knit or crochet to participate in your prayer shawl ministry. Many are willing to provide food for an event. Choose a special women's offering throughout the year that all may participate by giving to.

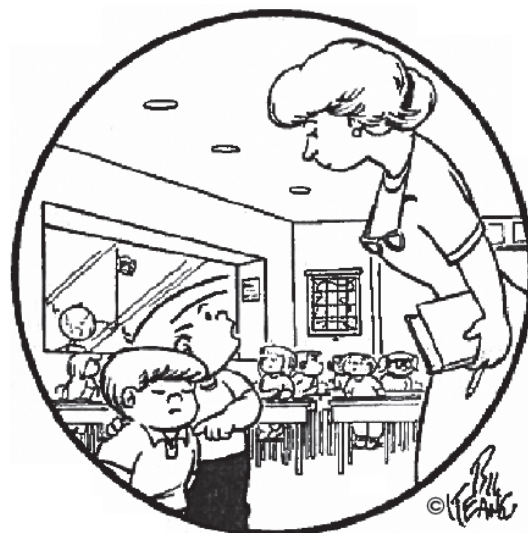


If you are looking for more ideas for either yourself or to share with your group check out the Women of the ELCA website under Discipleship and see the many materials that are available to help with your discipleship journey as a group or individually. [www.womenoftheelca.org/discipleship](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/discipleship). These materials are a free download.



Barb Garling, Heart of the North Conf. Representative

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff and Bil Keane



"Could you let Kevin and me pray in school today? His grandma is in the hospital and she's very sick."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane



# THE SERMON YOU PREACH

The first sermon preached each Sunday is not preached by the pastor but by YOU.

**YOU** preach a message of good cheer when you say "Good Morning!" to those you meet when you park your car and when you are near the foyer.



**YOU** preach a message of "Welcome! We have room for you", when you slide down the pew instead of forcing others to squeeze in front of you.



**YOU** preach a message of hope and joy when you sing enthusiastically during the hymns and songs in the worship service.

**YOU** preach a message of the power of prayer when you fervently enter into our time of prayer together.

**YOU** preach a message of respect for God and His Word when you listen attentively and follow the readings either in the bulletin or in your Bible, and take notes while your pastor is preaching.

**YOU** preach a message of seriousness and sincerity as you remain in the Sanctuary, participating in every part of the worship service.



**YOU** preach a message of hope when you reverently partake of the Lord's Supper.

**YOU** preach a message about faith when you cheerfully give your offering.



**YOU** preach a message of love when you smile, say 'Hello', introduce yourself to the guests/visitors at the worship service and invite them to join you for church activities.

Many messages are preached *before* and *after* your pastor has stood in the pulpit. If your message is positive and consistent, then the message given by your pastor will much better received.

EACH SUNDAY PREACH **YOUR** SERMON, IT HAS ETERNAL SIGNIFICANCE!



## Stewardship

**"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you. Deuteronomy 16:17**



Two weeks ago I celebrated, I think I celebrated, a pretty significant milestone in my life. It was my 70th birthday and as the commercial for Medicare says on TV " where has the time gone", I found myself asking that same question. When I was a child 70 seemed to me to be really old, but now I have a different opinion. There has also been one fear that has also haunted me since childhood and that is that I fear time will run out on me. I have feared that I would leave this earth not having accomplished all I wanted to do and all that I should do.

I decided that it might be a good idea to sit down and take some time on this special day to look at my stewardship scale and see if it is in balance. I know as I look back at my life that God has blessed me and my family richly. The question, however, have I done the best I could have with His gifts of time, talent, and money that he has entrusted to me? I want to think that for the most part I have, but I also know that there is probably room for improvement. Is my scale heavier on the side of gifts received or is it heavier on the side of gifts used and given?



Each of us has our own stewardship scale. We need to be stepping back from time to time, certainly not waiting till our 70th birthday, and see how balanced we are. Are we giving of our time to others, or are we selfish and using our time to do things that give only us pleasure and happiness? Are we keeping our God given talents under cover for fear that someone will see them and ask us to use them for the good of our neighbor? Have we been generous with our monies and has tithing been a part of our vocabulary.

Take a moment to check and see if your stewardship scale reflects your giving as you have been blessed.

Emile Horken, St. Croix Valley Conference Representative



Need an on-the-go companion for your faith journey? Daily Grace offers brief reflections every day in which you'll encounter God's extravagant, boundless and often surprising grace. Be comforted, challenged, inspired, consoled and confronted. Sign up for Daily Grace on Women of the ELCA. You can get it by e-mail as well as on apps for your phone.

To get it by e-mail, just go to Women of the ELCA website <http://www.womenoftheelca.org> and the link is right on the home page. This link will take you to sign up by e-mail. If you wish to get it as an app for your phone, click on resources and you'll find information.



## **Do Something**

*August 03, 2014*

*"But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves." (James 1:22)*

We need to hear the word. My dad used to say, "God gave us two ears and one mouth and most of us haven't taken the hint."

And yet, we are more than ears! We are hand and feet and mouth' we are heart and soul and mind. God calls us to walk in love, to pray constantly, to speak the truth in love, to offer a healing touch...to love the Lord our God with all out being and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

In the early 1980s, I was part of a church-sponsored study tour to Mexico. We saw vividly the pervasiveness of poverty and hunger. At the end of our journey, someone in the group asked one of the Mexican leaders, "The needs are so great. What can we do?"

She responded, "Thank you for coming. We value your support. Go home and work with your own poor people."

Think globally, act locally, **do something.**

*This message is adapted from a stewardship devotion written by John L. Halvorson for Women of the ELCA in 2001.*



An interesting idea for Advent

## **REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR**

Each day, you **add** an item to the box and on Christmas Eve [or before], you donate the contents to the local foodbank.



## Prayer for Quilts, kits, etc.



Let us pray.

O Lord our God, maker of all things,

You have blessed us with so many gifts—a good eye for color, the ability to make fine stitches, and the skills to develop ever-new and exciting patterns. Now we offer the fruits of our labors, the quilts and kits we have made, to you.

We dedicate these gifts to your service, trusting that your love will go wherever each item is sent, making it more than just a piece of material, a collection of items—making each piece we have created an expression of love.

There is no way for us to imagine the power and effect an act of love can have on a person's life—how you can use something as small as a quilt, a layette, a school kit to radiate your love from us to the world. May these be used in your service and become blessings for all who receive them.

To you we lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving for the many blessings you have given us, and we renew our Christian promise to help those in need—to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, comfort the weary and the outcast, welcome the stranger, and be a loving neighbor to all people of the earth.

We humbly dedicate our gifts of love to you and ask that you bless the fruits of our labor and the work of Lutheran World Relief that together we may minister to our neighbors in need. **Lord in your mercy..... Hear our prayer.**

Living in the gift of baptismal grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who long to experience God's compassionate love..... (a brief silence)

O God, you have created us in your image. Make us glad bearers of your likeness in word and deed. **Lord in your mercy.....**

Too often, we forget that the whole world in your family, created, loved, and redeemed by your grace. Help us to rejoice in our kinship and to reach out to all with compassion and understanding in our daily living. **Lord in your mercy.....**

Grant wisdom and understanding to the leaders of the nations, that they may use their influence to bring justice and peace to a world torn apart by self-interest and sin. **Lord in your mercy...**

Loving and gracious God, we often struggle to sort out our loyalties and priorities. Guide us in our decisions, that we may have no other gods before you. **Lord in your mercy.....**

Bless with your healing power all those whose lives are broken in body, mind or spirit and those whom we name in our hearts to you. **Lord in your mercy....**

We remember with gratitude those who have gone before us in the faith and who now claim the promise of the resurrection. Help us to be guided by their witness. **Lord in your mercy...**

Into your loving arms we entrust all for whom we pray, confident in your mercy; through the grace of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



**10<sup>th</sup> Triennial W/ELCA Gathering “All Anew”  
July 13-16, 2017 – Minneapolis, Minnesota**

**Scholarship Application**

**Two (2) Scholarships per Conference will be awarded - EACH WORTH \$200.00\***

**(\*See explanation on page 2 of this application)**

**PLUS**

**One(1) Scholarship for the full registration will be awarded to a woman 40 years old or younger**

**Preference will be given to 1<sup>st</sup> time attendees**

**Deadline: November 1, 2016** Mail to: Audrey Severson, SWO Treasurer  
N6059 – 530<sup>th</sup> St., Ellsworth WI 54011  
Or e-mail to her at

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

Please print carefully.

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

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

I have \_\_\_\_\_ have not \_\_\_\_\_ attended a WELCA Triennial Gathering

**What National, Synod or Conference Events have you attended and when?**

**Have you ever 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 circle one of the following numbers):

- 1) Financially, I could not attend without help.
- 2) The financial support will be helpful.
- 3) The financial support is not needed, but is encouraging and affirming.

       **check here if qualified to apply for the “40 and under” full registration scholarship**

The Scholarship Selection Committee (the Administrative Committee of the SWO), will review the applications for all scholarships, keeping the criteria below in mind as well as considering ages, ethnic background, and mother/daughter applicants:

**EXPECTATIONS:**

- 1) An attitude of wanting to make a difference because of attendance at this event.
- 2) A willingness to share your experience either in written form and/or verbally in our Northwest Synod.

**RESTRICTIONS:**

- 1) No more than two (2) yearly events in succession.
- 2) One Triennial Gathering every six (6) years.
- 3) A Synodical Board member may receive a scholarship for only one event during her term.
- 4) Inability to attend the event constitutes forfeiture of the scholarship.

\*Immediately following the 2014 Triennial in Charlotte, your SWO Board purchased the 14 Triennial scholarship registrations for \$280 each, which is by far the cheapest price they will ever be. Because our Policies and Procedures official document allows us to contribute \$200 each for these scholarships, we are asking the recipients to reimburse us for the \$80 difference. Therefore, if you are selected we will be asking

you to provide our Treasurer with a check for the \$80. If you have questions about this, please contact your **SWO President, Sue Saarem 715-268-5586.**

## TRIENNIAL UPDATE

Hi, everyone:

July 13-16, 2017 is getting closer. Here is what you should know.



**REGISTRATION:** Registration opens September 6, 2017. If you went to a previous Triennial, you got a registration booklet in the mail. If you didn't, not to worry: go to the Women of the ELCA website and you can print one off. You can register online, by fax or by mail. You can pay by credit card or check. On the registration form, under Synodical Women's Organization, put Northwestern Wisconsin. Our Region Number is 5 and our Synod Letter is H. Also on the registration form you can sign up for volunteer opportunities, optional tours and optional activities.

If you pre-registered at the Triennial in Charlotte, you will get a letter telling you how to proceed. If you are applying for a scholarship (and why not??), you will have to wait to register until you find out if you get a scholarship. (Look online or in this issue and prior issues of the "Northwester" for an application.) But the reduced registration fee is good through January 6, 2017, and scholarship applications are due November 1, 2016, so the Board will take care of that right away and let you know so you can register before the fees go up. You can also register just for a day. For girls 13 through 18, the early-bird fee is \$100. For a child under 13, the registration fee is free!

Delegates, your hotel and meals are taken care of during the convention, which takes place immediately before the Gathering. If you want to attend the Gathering (and believe me, you do!), you have register for this like anyone else and pay for it on your own (or with a scholarship; hint, hint!)

**HOTELS:** You must reserve a hotel room separately. And if you are staying for the full Gathering, you want to reserve a room for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, July 13, 14 and 15, 2017. You can buddy up with some friends and save some money. If you are sharing a room, only one of you has to make the reservation; just put everybody's name on the reservation request. Delegates, for the Gathering, you have to reserve and pay for your hotel rooms like the rest of us.

**BUSES:** We have tentatively reserved two coach buses to take us to the Triennial. They would both leave Thursday morning, pick women up and take us to Minneapolis. Then they would come back Sunday afternoon, pick us up and take us back. One route we are looking at would stop at Spooner, Rice Lake and St. Croix Falls. The other route would stop at Medford, Osseo and Eau Claire. We will check with leaving our cars at local churches. Depending on how many women we get to sign up for the bus we may have to make changes or cancel one bus and change the stops. I hope not; I hope we can get enough for two buses. And depending on how many women are on each bus depends on the price. We are hoping to keep the price at \$50.00 or less round trip. And the bus will have to be prepaid. I will be talking to the board about how we are going to handle collecting the money for the bus.

We are not going to run a bus just for Friday or Saturday; I know someone asked me about it but that will be too hard to fill, get too expensive, and too much extra work in dealing with that.

And please keep in mind the buses will not be staying there to take us to restaurants or to and from the hotels. That would get very expensive. So if your walking is a little on the iffy side, you may want to think about getting a cane or a walker or even a wheelchair to help you get around. On the registration form, you can indicate whether you need to rent a wheelchair or a scooter for inside the convention center, or also to arrange wheelchair-accessible shuttle service. If you indicate that on the registration form, they will forward you information on providers and pricing, so there is a fee for that.



**CLOTHING WITH LOGO:** Once again you can order clothing with the Triennial or W/ELCA logo from Lands' End. Do not go to the Lands' End website to do this: go to the Women of the ELCA website to order clothing with the logo.

**FOOD:** You have to buy your own food during the Gathering. There will probably be a food court in the convention center where you can buy things to eat. And I'm sure there are restaurants around the convention center and in the hotels.



**SHOPPING:** There will be opportunities for shopping at the Gathering also. There will be books, fair trade items, jewelry and other goodies. So you might want to plan for a little spending money there too.

**FUNDRAISING:** Who does most of the fundraising to pay for things at your church? Why, it's the women of course. So why not have a fundraiser to pay for your Triennial trip? Ask around and see if there are any women from your church who want to go to the Triennial and then put together a bake sale or rummage sale; anything to help defray costs.

The registration fee may seem like a lot of money, but for a national convention, it is not. They are paying for speakers, or microphones for the rooms, for musicians . . . uff da! The list can go on and on. A lot goes into putting on a Triennial. And our leadership at churchwide tries to get this all paid for without using any offerings sent in through the year, which is pretty amazing to me.

**CONCLUSION:** The Triennial will never get any closer than this so it's the perfect time to go. You will never, never regret going to a Triennial. Please let me know when you register and if you are interested in taking the bus and where you would like to get on the bus.

"I am about to do a new thing . . . " Isaiah 43:19,  
Come and be refreshed and renewed!

Blessings,

Roberta Bitler  
edbert@sirentel.net  
(715) 349-5908

Photos below are from the 2014 Triennial in Charlotte, North Carolina





## Treasurer



Fall seems to be a start of a new year when our summer schedule changes into a fall routine. Many W/ELCA groups are back to meeting regularly. Our Synod Women's Organization (SWO) relies on your W/ELCA group offerings for its ministries and operation. We appreciate the portion of your offerings you share with us.

Please use FORM A for your offerings from your units and any of our special synod offerings like Malawi Literacy Program. Use FORM B to send in your Thankofferings, Katie's Fund, or Quilt shipping fund for the churchwide W/ELCA office to their processing company address: W/ELCA PO BOX 1809, MERRIFIELD, VA 22116-8009. These forms can be found on the Women of the ELCA website under Stewardship.

I want to share with you how we spent \$10,146 from your unit offerings to our ministries through July: \$600 each to Luther Point and Luther Park Bible Camps, \$5,000 to Seminary Scholarships for Women, \$540 to Synod Convention Scholarships, and \$3,406 to W/ELCA churchwide. Your conference offerings also flow through the synod treasury to the churchwide W/ELCA and from the spring events amounted to \$2,045. We will soon give out Lay School Scholarships to 7 women. What a blessing you have been to many women.

Our total expenses for the convention was about \$10,200 and when registration income was only \$8,120, we were able to cover expenses with the help of the convention expense fund that units donated toward. Thank you so much for your faithfulness in sending that!

On the W/ELCA website, it was announced that a new Thankoffering service will be on their website by mid-September and in the fall issue of Interchange which will also include the Stewardship Guide. Go to our Northwest Synod SWO webpage at [www.nws wis wo.org](http://www.nws wis wo.org) and find a link to Congregational Unit Treasurer's Offering Schedule in the right column for dates and places where offerings and gifts should be sent.



Our officers training workshop on September 21 will have a different format as each office information will be presented to the whole group. We hope that officer information will be better understood by the whole boards of the conferences and units that attend.

Hope you have a wonderful fall.

Audrey Severson, Treasurer  
N6059 530th Street  
Ellsworth, WI 54011  
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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2016



### SEPTEMBER

- 17 – Synod-wide Leadership Training, Central Lutheran, Chippewa Falls

### OCTOBER

- 8 – Heart of the North Conference Fall Leadership Training, place TBA
- 12 – Dairyland Conference Officer Leader Training, Pleasant Valley Lutheran, Mondovi
- 22 – Apple River Conference Leadership Training, Fristad Lutheran, Centuria
- 29 – Chequamegon Conference Fall Retreat, Trinity Lutheran, Loyal

### NOVEMBER

- 5 – Synod “Learning Together” workshops, TBA

## 2017

### JULY

- 10-13 – 10<sup>TH</sup> Triennial CONVENTION of the Women of the ELCA, Minneapolis, MN Convention Center; where the *business* of the Women of the ELCA is conducted. [Monday to Thursday].
- 13-16 – 10<sup>th</sup> Triennial GATHERING of the Women of the ELCA, Minneapolis, MN, Convention Center; the theme for this Gathering is “All Anew”. [Wednesday to Saturday].



JOY

“Jesus, Others, Self”

Don't' forget!

you can receive the *Northwester* via the FREE electronic version. Carefully print your name, phone, address and email address below. MAKE SURE your email address is easily read!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Send your information to Eleanor Johnson, W5370 Century Rd, Greenwood, WI 54437-8308

Or email at [hjdebjohnson@tds.net](mailto:hjdebjohnson@tds.net)

NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN SWO BOARD MEMBERS – 2014 – 2016

#### PRESIDENT



Susan Saarem  
1315B 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Amery, WI 54001-4800  
715.268.5586

Balsam Lutheran, Amery  
[pmssaarem@yahoo.com](mailto:pmssaarem@yahoo.com)

#### VICE PRESIDENT



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