

YOU ARE INVITED TO ....



## **CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION**

**THEME VERSE: Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."**

As our theme verse states, all of creation belongs to God. As humans we have mistreated and abused creation rather than being stewards or trustees of all that God has created. Come, learn how we advocate for justice to redeem ourselves and creation.

**2020 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin  
Synodical Women's Organization Convention  
at Bethany Lutheran Church 35 W Messenger Street, Rice Lake WI 54868  
April 17-18, 2020**

Join us for singing, praying, fellowship, laughter, worship, keynote speakers, awareness sessions, and more!

**As we "care for God's creation", we ask you to bring your coffee mug!**

**Cost – only \$35 until April 6th. Late registration and same day registration \$40.** Two scholarships (\$35 each) available to each conference. Deadline for scholarship: March 16, 2020.

**Friday evening, April 17** – Every church in our synod with a W/ELCA unit (group) is entitled to send a voting representative to our **business session which begins at 7:00 p.m.** and will include SWO financial report, adoption of the SWO budget, and election of SWO Officers and board members. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. Snacks and beverages will be served from 6-7 p.m.

**Motels** – there are several motels in Rice Lake. See page with motel information.

**Saturday Registration & Coffee 8 a.m. Welcome 9 a.m. Concludes approximately 3:15.  
Worship and Keynote speakers:**

- **Synod Pastor Erin Nelson will bring the message at 9:15 a.m. worship. Special music from Bethany Bell choir. Inspirational music.** SWO Officers and board members for 2020-2022 will also be installed.
- **Dr. Diane Jacobson will be our keynote speaker.** She is professor emerita of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, MN and also served as director of the Book of Faith Initiative for the ELCA. She currently serves on the St. Paul Area Synod Caring for Creation Workgroup.

**Convention Offering:** ½ to church wide Women of the ELCA and ½ to ELCA World Hunger.

**In Kind Gifts** for Benjamin House – homeless shelter in Rice Lake for men, women, and children gift cards (Walmart, Kwik Trip), socks, back packs (can be used but in good shape), combs, hand sanitizer, toiletries, towels, personal care items, Kleenex

**Saturday afternoon: As we focus on Care of God's Creation, we will also focus on caring for God's people in our Awareness Sessions. Awareness sessions will be offered twice: 1:15 – 2:10 and 2:20 – 3:15. Awareness Session Topics:**

- Yoga, exercise, exercises to help with strength, endurance, balance – led by Jane Meinz
- Care of God's creation using various forms of alternative and/or natural resources – led by Adam Wehling from Chippewa Valley Technical College
- Suicide Awareness and reaching out to families or individuals who have experienced one taking their own life – led by Amy Fondroy Eich
- Drug/Alcohol Addiction – led by Chris Lyman
- Care of Creation: The Immigrant Neighbors that God Sends Us, led by Rev. David K and Joyce Anderson. This awareness session tells the stories of local immigrant neighbors, explains the current immigration crisis, separates the facts from myths about immigration, and reminds us of God's call to "love the immigrant as yourself (Lev. 19:34)."
- Dr. Diane Jacobson on forming creation care teams in the congregation and also how to make your church more energy efficient.

**COME – JOIN US!** Join us for an exciting, uplifting, inspiring and informational convention.

The Convention Committee

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**Check our website for the most current convention information: [www.nswiswo.org](http://www.nswiswo.org)**

**And follow us on Facebook at Women of the Northwest Synod**