

The Trumpeter

South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Volume 30, Number 1 January 2018 Published Quarterly



Dear Sisters in Christ,

I hope you had a blessed Christmas with family and friends. As we say goodbye to a very busy year in 2017 for Women of the ELCA, please take time to reflect on what your women's group has accomplished. Please share those accomplishments at one of the January Update and Sharing events and fill out a Year End Ministry Report (more information in this newsletter). We enjoyed an inspiring Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis in July and an informative Biennial Convention in September. We elected a new synodical board and welcome another new board member, Vicki Tollackson from Argyle in Monroe Conference. Bonnie Gilbertson will officially become our new Treasurer on Feb. 1, 2018. You can meet your board members at the January Update. Thank you, Vicki and Bonnie and outgoing Treasurer, Donna Peterson.

Your board will be planning a synod wide event for later in 2018. Watch for information about this in the April Trumpeter. If you know of a dynamic spiritual speaker, please share that name with a board member.

The conference Spring Gatherings will be in March and April. They are close to home, with old and new friends, and information on programs that make a difference in our communities. Please take time to attend one. Thank you to all the conference officers and hosting women's groups that make these gatherings possible.

Blessings in the New Year, Helen Sheahan, SWO president

Why be part of the Women of the ELCA?

The Triennial Gathering was successful with over 3,300 registrants, more than expected, and income exceeded expenses. Already 500 women have signed up for the next Triennial Gathering in Phoenix, AZ, in 2020. But Thankofferings and Regular Offerings are down. Executive Director Linda Post Bushkofsky says "We can challenge ourselves to live into the fullness of our foremothers' visions of this organization as a radical change agent in the church."

Why should your women's group be part of and financially support the Women of the ELCA? The board members considered this question and here are some reasons:

- It is Biblically based that Christ encourages us to gather together (John 15:5-6 & Romans 12:4-5)
- Participation in national, synodwide, and local Gatherings provide us with opportunities for worship, friendships, fellowship and exchange of ideas with fellow women believers.
- Membership makes us part of a broader group, with additional resources and outlooks. It can expand our viewpoints and keep us from being limited in our views and opinions.
- Women of the ELCA provides excellent spiritual and devotional and Bible study resources, such as the Gather magazine, Café monthly on-line magazine for young adult women, Interchange for women leaders, and The Trumpeter for all women in our synod.
- The Triennial and Biennial Conventions and Conference Gatherings challenge us to action and compassion with speakers from different service organizations and stories of our sisters within and outside of our own communities.

Our Purpose Statement says "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

God is on the move through the Women of the ELCA. Your church and your women are on the move. We can accomplish more united together than alone. Be inspired to action and compassion. What moves you to be an active part of the Women of the ELCA?

DISCIPLESHIP What's the Difference? "Love God. Love neighbors. Grow disciples."

The first time I heard that, it made me take pause. Loving God & loving neighbors I could handle. But grow disciples!? What did I know about growing disciples? I hadn't read the Bible much. I didn't know much, if anything, about church history or Christian doctrine. The image that immediately came to mind was one of people coming to my door, stopping me on the street preaching to me, handing me pamphlets & telling me that unless I did certain things or believed a certain way, I'd never go to heaven. I didn't like the feeling I got whenever someone approached me like that. I couldn't see myself doing that to anyone else. In most cases, it doesn't encourage people to follow Jesus.

I've learned a lot in the past few years about what discipleship is and what it isn't. Discipleship is a journey. It takes time. It isn't easy. It requires change. Discipleship is about relationships, a relationship with God and relationships with others. Discipleship requires changes that are sometimes difficult. It requires that we change the way we think about and relate to others, even those, or maybe especially those, we would consider "different" because of things such as race, lifestyle, religious background, education or social status. Several quotes from the book Speaking of Jesus – The Art of Not-evangelism have stuck with me: *"Jesus' way believed in people, in unity, in community. Jesus believed in the power of uniting people in spite, or perhaps because, of their differences."* He *"believed in the power people could yield when they converged on a common goal, a common relationship."* *"Jesus cared about reaching hearts, wounded, broken, crazy, stubborn, radical hearts. Different heartbeats, different pains."* *"Jesus' way was the way of the heart."*

That's discipleship! It's not about being able to quote passages from the Bible. It's not about being able to explain law and gospel. It's not about convincing someone to believe the way you do or to go to a certain church. Discipleship is about following Jesus' way. It's about helping the poor, comforting the sick, dying and emotionally hurting, no matter the color of their skin, where they live or how much money they have. It's about speaking up for those who can't speak for themselves. Now those things, with God's help, I can do.

STEWARDSHIP Unidentified Needs Close to Home

I think of all the concerted efforts made by thousands of people to help those affected by poverty and social decline. We organize a mission trip far or near. Go with a group of workers to restore communities hit by fire, tornadoes or floods. Congregational groups give, make or buy materials to complete kits for school supplies, new born, health, blankets, & girl's needs. These are major projects of stewardship that help thousands of people. All is needed and very helpful around the world AND -WE ARE DOING IT!

Now, let's talk about our daily walk in the home, around the block, down the road, at work, in the grocery store, at the park and bedtime. Many opportunities to see needs and chances to show stewardship/care surround us. The child with a lost coin, a man whose car is stalled, a mom with so many duties and could use a helping hand or an ear to listen.

Each of us is busy with life of our own choosing and desires. But some have only what demands to be done, serve family, job or community. This is where the unidentified stewardship needs to be made aware. Watch and see, be mindful of others' needs, reach out if only an arm's length to help. Identify and offer the kind of service which will make lives with less stress. Jesus told the story of being a good neighbor. Where are we needed to help? Make a list of needs that are so often over looked, then reach out = IDENTIFY AND OFFER.

JUSTICE Current for Curran - Bringing Solar Power to Curran Hospital, Liberia, Africa Skip the Grid

Solar power to the Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing is now a reality thanks to the Women of the ELCA and others that joined us to make it happen. Installation was completed in March 2017 and has been producing clean energy. **Current for Curran** is the next initiative to provide reliable, clean, and renewable energy to the Curran Hospital, a Lutheran Hospital in Zorzor, northern Liberia, 200 miles away from the capital city. The hospital has 125 beds, outpatient services, a school of nursing, and supervision for 23 community health centers and clinics.

Lutheran women have been providing financial assistance to Curran Hospital for over 100 years through a Women of the ECLA endowment which was started by our predecessor women's groups. Solar panels have already been graciously donated by First Solar, but more support is needed. The goal is to raise \$200,000 before Easter 2018 (40% of the total project cost). To contribute you can send contributions to Northeastern Minnesota Synod Current for Curran Project, 1105 E Superior Street, Upper Suite, Duluth, MN 55802 or donate on line with this link: <https://my.rreal.org/checkout/donation?eid=89572> Put in the comments that it is for Current for Curran.

For more ideas on how you can get involved, contact Mary Jo Mettler, Northeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization, at djmjmettler@gmail.com or 320-179-2010. You can read more about the power of solar in fighting energy poverty at [Skip the Grid](#) on Facebook or their website www.skipthegrid.org

President**Helen Sheahan**

1106 Valley Stream Drive
Madison, WI 53711
608-692-7553
sheahan1@sbcglobal.net

Vice President**Linda Freitag**

218 Overview Circle
Verona, WI 53593
608-845-6540
freitagl@tds.net

Secretary**Janna Smith**

919 W. Charles St.
Whitewater, WI 53190
262-473-9719
smithsj@charter.net

Treasurer**Donna Peterson through
1/31/2018**

4966 State Road 23
Dodgeville, WI 53533
608-935-9023
dpeter8182@gmail.com

**Bonnie Gilbertson starting
2/1/2018**

5498 Windridge Road
Oregon, WI 53575
608-835-7387
Bc_gilbertson@charter.net

Board Members**Margo Holzman**

Elkhorn Conf. Liaison
N3871 Holzman Drive
Poynette, WI 53955
608-635-7772
mitesag@yahoo.com

Sandy Potter

Barneveld Conf. Liaison
8765 Hwy 78N
Gratiot, WI 53541
608-922-6240
allankp@centurytel.net

Hildy McGown

Baraboo Conf. Liaison
106 Nautilus Drive
Madison, WI 53705
608-238-8670
hildymcgown1860@gmail.com

Arnell Jorgensen

Beloit Conf. Liaison
128 Fox Lane
Walworth, WI 53184
262-275-6371
arnelljorg@gmail.com

Janean Hill

Monroe Conf. Liaison
417 Cramer Street
Mazomanie, WI 53560
608-335-2951 cell
janean.hill@gmail.com

Christine Wick

East/West Con. Liaison
511 East Division Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533
608-482-2861
wick.chris.78@gmail.com

Eleanor Siebert

Southwest Conf. Liaison
1930 Hillside Drive
Richland Center, WI 53581
608-649-3806
ejsp@mwt.net

Vicki Tollakson - Southlake
(inactive) Conf. Liaison
709 North Street
Argyle, WI 53504
608-558-7415 cell
nvet@centurytel.net

**Beaver Dam & Southlake
Conferences are inactive**

Conference Coordinators**Baraboo Conference**

Lerna Wiese
140 Roecker Street Loganville,
WI 53943
608-727-5306
lwmwiese24@rucls.net

Barneveld Conference

Betsy Baguhn
606 Johns Street
Mount Horeb, WI 53572
608-437-8937
BetsyBaguhn@gmail.com

Beloit Conference

Lawanna Schieldt
505 Stoughton Road, #7
Edgerton, WI 53534
608-728-4730
lawannasch@gmail.com

East/West Conference

Polly Carter
2818 Prairie Road
Madison, WI 53719
608-271-7912
cutey@chorus.net

Elkhorn Conference

Julie Peterson
W9509 State Road 67
Sharon, WI 53585
262-206-2705
trctrfmly@sharontelephone.com

Monroe Conference

Margie Olson
1305 23rd Street
Monroe, WI 53566
608-325-9565 or
608-293-1279
olsonfamily4@tds.net

Joyce Moen

1304 1st Street
New Glarus, WI 53474
608-527-57251

Southwest Conference

Ingeborg Froiland
157 Roosevelt St.
Fennimore, WI 53809
608-391-0503
inge1420@gmail.com

Conference Happenings!

Join your Sisters in Christ for **Women of the ELCA January Update and Sharing Event**

Tuesday, January 9, at Our Savior's Lutheran, 550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, WI.

or Monday, January 15, at Grace Lutheran, 1105 N. Bequette Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533

6:00 to 7:30 pm Snow date is Tuesday, January 23 for either location.

Program includes: Time for sharing your women's group's activities (Bring your Year End Ministry Report) & Information to assist you in planning events (Spring Gatherings), serving as officers, and starting new women's groups. You may bring food to eat after arrival or eat before arriving. Coffee, water, and bars or cookies will be served.

Southwest Conference Spring Gathering will be held **April 14, 2018** at St. John's Lutheran Church in Boscobel. Registration and brunch will begin at 9:00 am. Units will be notified by mail regarding details of the event with an in-kind gift list for Family Advocates, a Grant County women's shelter. A history of aprons will be presented by Suzanne Bartels so bring your favorite apron and memories to share. A short program "Fill Your Cup" will be presented by the 'Cracked Pots.' Come join us and discover that when we are filled with God's love, we cannot help but overflow and share that love with others. Submitted by Suzanne Bartels

Barneveld Conference Spring Gathering is **April 7, 2018** at St John's Richland Center, 479 South Park St. Richland Center, WI Registration is at 8:30; program at 9:00. Cost \$5 for the lunch. Send check and list of attendees to the church marked: c/o W/ELCA. We meet to provide mutual ministry opportunities to the women of the Barneveld Conference. Jennifer Williamson of Grace Lutheran Church in Dodgeville, serves as Development Director for Tutapona, which means "we will be healed" in Swahili. She will offer a program on Tutapona's ministry. Come and learn how you can support refugees and be inspired by these amazing true stories of redemption.

Joseph Issa is just 29 years old, but he has already known more tragedy and despair than anyone should in a lifetime. He's been through many traumatic experiences, any one of which could have destroyed him. Fatherless. Refugee. Kidnapped. Child soldier. Killer. Estranged. Exiled. Husband. Father. Victim. Survivor. Healer. All these words describe him. Issa, as his friends call him, was not destroyed by the trauma he experienced. Forgiveness saved him.

Issa had the opportunity to participate in a Christian trauma rehabilitation program founded by two Wisconsin psychotherapists. In 2008, Carl and Julie Gaede, and their two young daughters, followed God's call and moved to East Africa to start Tutapona. In just 10 years, Tutapona has worked with nearly 40,000 survivors of brutal civil wars and expanded to the Middle East to begin working with refugees and displaced people from Iraq and Syria. Today, Issa has a job as a translator and facilitator for Tutapona's work with South Sudanese refugees. "Knowing that other people shared in these experiences with me has brought great change in me," he says. "The session on forgiveness was the one that is helping me overcome the most." Person by person, Tutapona is working on the front lines of the greatest refugee crises the world has known since WWII. Every day brings healing and lives are transformed.

Beloit Spring Conference will be held at Central Lutheran Church in Edgerton on **April 7, 2018**.

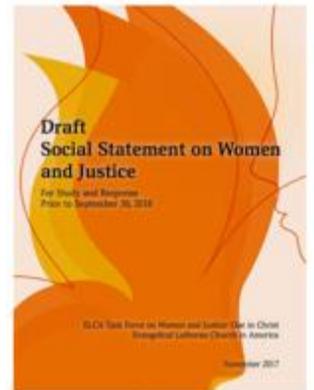
Service Project Idea for Jail Ministry Is your women's group looking for a new and different service project for 2018? Why not give subscriptions of the Gather magazine to ministry at your local jail? If interested, please check with your local jail chaplains whether subscriptions would be useful for their ministry. For the Dane County Jail, Chaplains Christa Fisher and Katharine Gorey would share the Gather Bible studies and articles of hope and inspiration with incarcerated women as they lead Bible study groups and meet with individuals. Information for subscription ordering using the subscription order card which is in each issue: Name – Chaplains, 115 Doty Street, Madison, WI 53715, Email: cfisher@wartburgseminary.edu, Phone: 608-266-4573

Proposed ELCA Women and Justice Social Statement! You have a voice and here is an opportunity to use it!

A draft of the proposed **Women and Justice Social Statement was mailed to congregations**. We encourage you to look it over and discuss it in your congregation. The ELCA is seeking feedback in preparation for the development of the final statement to be voted on at the Churchwide Assembly in 2019. [You can download a copy here.](#)

The Women of the ELCA are involved in writing this Social Statement. The Rev. Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld is a Co-chair of the Task Force. She is from the Milwaukee area and elected to the Women of the ELCA churchwide executive board at the 2017 Triennial Convention. Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director of the Women of the ELCA, is an advisor.

ELCA social statements are teaching and policy documents that provide broad frameworks to assist us in thinking about and discussing social issues in the context of faith and life. They are meant to help communities and individuals with moral formation, discernment and thoughtful engagement with current social issues as we participate in God’s work in the world. Social statements also set policy for the ELCA and guide its advocacy and work as a publicly engaged church. They result from an extensive process of participation and deliberation and are adopted by a two-thirds vote of an ELCA churchwide assembly.



Another Amazing Year of LWR Donations A heart-warming event took place last October at the railroad yard in Madison. That day volunteer drivers from all over the South Central Synod of Wisconsin dropped off the quilts and kits made and assembled by congregations for shipment to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Baltimore, MD. Here are statistics from this year and last.

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
QUILTS	7,894	9,055
KITS		
School	4,256	4,715
Pers. Care	1,965	2,567
Fabric	138	154
Baby	1,627	1,497
TOTAL	7,986	8,933
CHURCHES		
PARTICIPATING	84	96

Twenty churches produced fewer quilts than in 2016, but 40 churches upped their total! **St. John’s in Boscobel** made 8 fewer quilts this year but still managed to be the top quilt contributor with 432 quilts. **Bristol Lutheran of Sun Prairie** was right behind with 430.

The top School Kit producer was **Bethel in Madison** at 341; Personal Care Kit: **Midvale in Madison** at 390; Fabric Kit was **Peace Lutheran in Platteville** with 25 and **First English in Platteville** was tops in Baby Kit production at 191.

These numbers represent hours and hours of dedicated church volunteers unselfishly giving their time, talent and dollars so that less fortunate strangers, thousands of miles distant, will soon be receiving these precious gifts. Thank you, one and all. Together let’s keep up the good work. Submitted by Hildy McGown

How are your Thankofferings used by Women of the ELCA’s churchwide? Almost half is spent on resources for women, such as the Gather magazine, Gather Bible Study, Café, Bold Connections, Daily Grace, and monthly email newsletter called Bold Connections. There are more free resources on their website at www.womenoftheelca.org for retreats and shorter studies. There is also the new 2017-2018 Thankoffering Service. About 1/6 of their money is used for programs, such as Racial Justice and Advocacy (Today’s Dream, Tomorrow Reality), Cross-Cultural programs, Global Education programs

Year End Ministry Report

What activities did your women's group hold or assist with this past year? How many quilts and kits did you send to LWR? What Women of the ELCA resources did you use? Your Synodical Women's Organization and churchwide Women of the ELCA want to know what your women's group has done in 2017. Review your LWR Donation report and past year's minutes to complete the Women of the ELCA Yearly Ministry Report and bring it to the January Update and Sharing Events for the sharing time. If you are unable to attend one of the events, please email it or send it to Helen Sheahan at sheahan1@sbcglobal.net or 1106 Valley Stream Drive, Madison, WI 53711 by Feb. 15, 2018.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA YEARLY MINISTRY REPORT

Help us celebrate the collective work of each congregational unit in your region. Please complete this form and provide information about projects completed between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017.

Please email this form or send it to Helen Sheahan at sheahan1@sbcglobal.net or 1106 Valley Stream Drive Madison, WI 53711 by Feb. 15, 2018

Synodical President Helen Sheahan _____ Region/Synod 5K

Congregational unit _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Report the number of memorials and resolutions you acted on from the Ninth Triennial Gathering?

Memorials

_____ Awareness and Prevention of Human Trafficking

_____ Bullying, Harassment and Related Violence

_____ Creating Safe Churches for Children

_____ Solar Power for Phebe Hospital

Resolution

_____ Immigration of Children in Crises

How have you acted on the memorials and resolutions? _____

What Women of the ELCA resources have you regularly used in your unit?

_____ A Place for You_Booklet _____ Power point

_____ Bold Women's Day

_____ Human Trafficking

_____ Conversations about Race

_____ Devotions

_____ Rachel's Day

_____ Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls

_____ Spiritual Gifts Assessment

Name other Women of the ELCA resources, programs and publications that you have regularly used. English and En Español

Total number of in-kind gifts to LWR

_____ Quilts _____ Baby Care Kits _____ Personal Care Kits _____ Fabric Kits _____ School Kits
_____ Fleece Tied Blankets _____ New soap (4-5oz)

Total financial support of LWR _____

Total financial support of churchwide or global ELCA ministries (e.g., missionaries, ELCA World Hunger, etc.)

Total financial support of other national or global ministries (e.g., Global Health Ministries, PV for Phebe, etc.)

Total number of in-kind gifts to local or synodical ministries (e.g., food banks, women's shelters, etc.)

Total financial support of local or synodical ministries _____

How many Thankoffering services do you plan per year? _____

Thank you to each participant who has contributed and supports the mission and purpose of Women of the ELCA.

Our Mission

Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.



Time of Prayer to End Human Trafficking

The Women of the ELCA are designating January 11 through Super Bowl Weekend as a Time of Prayer to End Human Trafficking. These daily prayers and reflections were written by people of Northeast Wisconsin. Permission is granted to adapt them and share them as you wish. The prayers will also be shared on our Facebook page. Please pray these daily.

“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)

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 – We pray for law enforcement officers and judges who deal compassionately with victims of human trafficking and get them the help they need.

January 17 – We 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 – We 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 – We pray for writers, musicians, artists, and filmmakers who create educational and thought provoking images that move us to act.

January 20 – We 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. We pray for organizations such as Voices of Men who teach boys to respect women and girls. We 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 – We pray for those responsible in churches, government, and in our economy to stand up for the dignity of all persons, especially females.

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

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

January 24 – We 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 – We 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 - We pray for HOPE. This may be the only thing that victims of human trafficking are holding on to. We 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 - We 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 - We 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 - We 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 - We pray for LOVE. We pray that your love will break through the obstacles that all of these girls, boys, men, and women face every day. We 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 - We pray for MIRACLES. Lord, you show us miracles each and every day somewhere. We 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.

2017 Resolutions and Memorials of the Tenth Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA & South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization Biennial Convention

Please read through this list of resolutions and memorials which were approved by the Voting Members at the 2017 Triennial convention and 2017 South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization Biennial Convention. Does one or two stand out for you or is dear to your heart? If so talk, with your women's group about what you can do to carry out actions on the resolution in your community.

- **Acted** to affirm the ELCA's repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery and encourage education and relationship building with Native Americans.
- **Resolved** to raise awareness of the tainted water in Flint, Michigan, and/or offer tangible support to the people in Flint.
- **Resolved** to support the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child and clearly condemn all forms of corporal punishment of children.
- **Resolved** to educate (list of resources available) and act to reduce domestic abuse and violence and help survivors recover. Options for action are posting help hotline numbers, volunteering at shelters, supporting shelters financially or by donating needed care items or attending shelter public events, or making ELCA congregations a safe space for victims.
- **Resolved** to encourage all participants to hold in prayer the Bible Women of India.
- **Resolved** to establish January 11 to February 24, 2018, as a time of prayer in ELCA congregations to end human trafficking, and to educate (list of resources available) and work in cooperation with other agencies, task forces, and groups to end human trafficking and support its victims.
- **Resolved** to "go green" at the Eleventh Triennial Convention and Gathering in 2020, encouraging voting members and participants to reduce waste by using their personal electronic devices instead of paper and by bringing reusable cups and refillable water bottles.
- **Resolved** to support the leadership needs in the ELCA by encouraging women to seek ordination as "ministers of word and sacrament" and "ministers of word and service", and to promote support for the ELCA Fund for Leaders.
- **Resolved** to continue learning about and advocating for carbon fee and dividend, and other measures such as solar power to care for God's creation.
- **Requested** the Constitutional Review Committee of the churchwide executive board consider a constitutional change to allow up to two Synodical Women's Organization board members to be from the same congregation.
- **Referred** to the 2017-2020 Executive Board consideration of budgetary support to Today's Dream, Tomorrow's Reality (TDTR) anti-racism programming.
- **Rejected** the memorial to lower the number of Synodical Women's Organization elected board members to three.

2017 South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization Biennial Convention resolved to encourage women to pray and to give financial support to help the Caribbean Synodical Women's Organization churches through the Women of the ELCA to the ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response program and possibly directly to the Caribbean Synodical Women's Organization due to hurricane damage.

We thank Deacon Lisa Huber for her 2 1/2 years of service as our Trumpeter editor. She has done a great job and has improved the newsletter immensely. We are sad that additional duties prevented her from continuing as editor. If you, or someone you know, are interested in this position, please email Helen Sheahan at sheahan1@sbcglobal.net or Deacon Lisa Huber at lisa@bethel-madison.org. The newsletter is mass emailed and about 50 copies mailed first class quarterly. Knowledge of Word, Excel and Adobe needed. There is a small monetary compensation.

www.womenoftheelca.org

What is WELCA? It's an easy way to say Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Our organization includes Lutheran women who gather in [over 7,000 locations](#) in the U.S. and the Caribbean, for [service](#), [study](#), [advocacy](#), fellowship and more! WELCA embraces all kinds of ministries that support our mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. There is a place for you in [Women of the ELCA](#).

Gather, magazine for Women of the ELCA, offers a mix of articles, theological reflections, devotions, a bible study and stories of comfort and challenge that help readers grow in faith and engage in ministry and action. Gather is published 10 times a year for \$19.95; Digital access (computer, iPad, Android) is free to print subscribers. Visit [Gather Magazine](#) to subscribe online or call (800) 328-4648

Café is a free monthly online magazine for women whether or not they identify as Lutheran. It explores topics that are relevant to women and how faith relates to these issues. Many use it to learn more about what the Lutheran Church has to say about issues and to start discussions with friends or classmates. *Café*, the monthly publication and [podcast](#), are made possible through offerings donated by women from over 7,000 active WELCA units in congregations of the ELCA. See more at: www.boldcafe.org

SCSW Bishop Mary has a goal of connecting to every member of every congregation through our weekly e-news: What Matters & our quarterly magazine, "Walking Together." If you are currently not receiving the free, e-newsletter of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, please click on the link and request to be added. The newsletter is chock-full of important news from Bishops Eaton and Froiland, upcoming synod events, resources, events, mission trip invitations from other congregations and groups, fun fellowship events such as concerts and church bazaars, job openings, youth gatherings and much more! Walking Together has wonderful stories of our shared work in Jesus' name. Sign up today! <http://www.cvent.com/en/event-management-software/membership-management.shtml>

Like the South Central Wisconsin Women of the ELCA [Facebook](#) page

The Trumpeter is the newsletter for the Women of the South-Central Synod of WI and is emailed four times a year to churches in the synod.

January, April, July, October

The Trumpeter is available FREE of charge by email; send your request to: welcatrumpeter@gmail.com

The Trumpeter may be reproduced as needed. When reproducing please include the Trumpeter's name and issue date.



To subscribe for a printed copy Please CLEARLY PRINT ALL information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP + 4 _____ - _____

_____ 1 YEAR \$8.00

_____ 2 YEARS \$16.00

Please indicate: _____ Renewing _____

NEW subscription _____

Make checks payable to:
South Central Wisconsin SWO

Send to: Donna Peterson
4966 State Rd. 23, Dodgeville, WI 53533

For office use only

Date Received _____ Amount: _____

THE TRUMPETER

Deacon Lisa Huber
312 Wisconsin Ave
Madison, WI 53703

Please share this Newsletter with the women of your congregation

Please Note: All articles submitted for publishing in the newsletter must include the author's name. All submissions are subject to editing. We reserve the right to not publish any submission for any reason. Submission deadline is the 15th of month prior to publication – welcatrumpeter@gmail.com Submitted articles may be posted on our Facebook page.



Purpose of the Women of the ELCA

As a community of women

Created in the image of God

Called to discipleship in Jesus Christ

Empowered by the Holy Spirit;

We commit ourselves to

Grow in Faith

Affirm our gifts

Support one another in our callings

Engage in ministry and action

Promote healing and wholeness in the Church, the society and the world.

www.womenoftheelca.org