

The Trumpeter

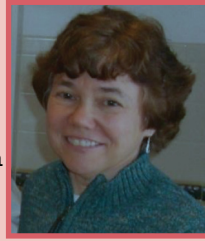
South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Volume 30, Number 2 April 2018 Published Quarterly

From the President

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The Lenten journey is over and we have seen the risen Lord on Easter. Hallelujah! Each conference will hold their Spring Gathering on a Saturday in April. What is the purpose of the women's conferences and gatherings? The conferences offer events that are held more locally than the synod events to encourage fellowship, friendship, and sharing of ideas with your neighboring Sisters in Christ. They can provide experiences for learning and leadership development, stewardship education, and provide opportunities for joint ministry and action. Conferences do their work interdependently with the synodical women's organization and the local women's church groups. All three levels work together for a stronger women's organization. The structure of conferences can be flexible. Are there several women from different churches that like to plan events and are willing to be on the conference board? Are there churches that enjoy fellowship with women from other churches and can plan and offer hospitality for a Gathering on a rotating schedule? We need to be creative and include all women and meet women where their needs are. Do you see a need in your community? Do you know of a group doing good things in or for your community? These can be lifted up at a conference Gathering and information shared for the benefit of the entire community and region. I encourage you to attend a Spring Conference Gathering, which are listed on page 4, and become involved in sharing your gifts by joining a conference board and/or planning and/or hosting a Spring Gathering in the future. There is room for all. Thank you to all the conference leaders and churches that make these gatherings possible.

Helen Sheahan, SWO President



Bold Women

Our mission statement asks us to act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ. What does this mean to you? Let's look at the word "Boldly". Webster's dictionary describes 'boldly' as 'fearless & daring; courageous; requiring or exhibiting courage'. Does this describe you? I believe we sometimes take comfort and become rooted in our church. When we fail to look outside of those four walls we risk missing out on what our world has to offer, and what we can offer our world! Reverend Angela said in her sermon at the Triennial, "Christianity is not comfortable!" "If you are comfortable in Jesus, you are doing it wrong." I'm not saying that what we do within our church walls is not important, but we need to step outside and get 'uncomfortable'. It means we need to step back and evaluate what's in front of us. We are a blessed community of women created in the image of God. Sisters in Christ, we can all rejoice in the gifts God has given you and your willingness to offer them for service. What do you see in your communities? Is there a woman yearning to be invited to participate? Could this be a future leader in your unit?

Be bold! Ask! Invite!

Lisa Plorin, President of Women of the ECLA, prays that we all have a spark that will in turn light a fire within our women's groups. Go out and spread the word about who Women of the ELCA are and what we have to offer! Set a goal to invite one or two new women each time you get together for a gathering or convention. God has a purpose for each of us and he has given us everything we need to accomplish His purpose. (Excerpts from Lisa Plorin's speech at Conference of Presidents, 2/23/18)

April Reader Question - What BOLD thing have you or your women's group done?

You can let us know by sending an email to welcatrumpeter@gmail.com or a note to:

Helen Sheahan, 1106 Valley Stream Drive, Madison, WI 53711.

We will share them in the July Trumpeter.

LOOK WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING!

If you missed the January Update events, here are some of the activities and events that our busy women's groups are doing. Thank you to all the women who give their time and talents to make these good things happen. Please invite a friend to help with your projects. It is always more fun with more people helping.

Meeting at church & in homes	Making Quilts for Lutheran World Relief	Celebrating Bold Women Day
Book discussion groups	Quilt silent auction	Harvest Fun Fair
Young mothers' group	Quilts for graduates	Thankoffering service during deer hunting season
Breakfast group	Quilts for those in need	Taking meals to an inner city church
Circles doing the Gather Bible study	Quilts & Gifts of Gratitude for shut ins	Advent evening of dessert, devotion, songs, on the theme of light
Circles studying the Social Statement on Women & Justice	Christmas baskets for members in need	Ice cream social
Saturday night sit & sew (quilts)	Giving the Gather magazine	Yearly Bazaar
Creative Christians - Sewing 3x/month	Serving for funerals	Christmas party
Video series called "Numa"	Serving Lenten meals	Silent Auction
Surveying the women in their congregation	Cookie walk	Salad luncheons
Prayer journaling workshop	Selling soup for the Souper Bowl	Chili supper
World Day of Prayer	Working in the Food Pantry	"No bake" sales
Prayer Chain	Card making	
Fair trade Fair	Birthday parties	
Feed bag totes	Making hospice & newborn & school kits	
	Thankoffering service	

WANTED

Synodical Women's Board Members

We are looking for 2 - 3 women to serve on our synodical women's board. The commitment would be through September 2019. The board meets 5 times/year for a half day on Saturdays. We plan 1 big event each year and attend Spring Gatherings and other events as needed. If you are interested in learning more, please call or email Helen Sheahan, President, or any board member, listed on page 3.

We also received 17 Women of the ELCA Yearly Ministry Reports. Thank you for filling them out. It is amazing all the activities and causes women's groups support.

Women's groups are giving money to many worldwide and community causes, too numerous to mention. A need is seen and women respond. They are helping their schools & children, helping hurricane ravaged countries, helping domestic abuse & homeless shelters, feeding the hungry, educating themselves about Human Trafficking, helping our veterans, supporting missionaries, supporting their local community, supporting solar power for hospitals in Liberia, and supporting Women of the ELCA.

Submitted by Helen Sheahan

2018 PENNIES FOR POVERTY

'Pennies for Poverty' is our women's synod special offering at our Biennial Convention that is given to local social service agencies or projects that benefit women and children who live in poverty. BUT, poverty does not take a year off without a Biennial Convention. For 2018 the South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization Board has designated our Pennies for Poverty to go to domestic abuse services. Each women's group can decide if they want to send their 'Pennies' to a local domestic abuse shelter / organization or to the Synodical Board. 'Pennies' sent to the Synodical Board will be given to DAIS, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services in Madison. This provides the opportunity to support your local domestic abuse services.



Please keep your Pennies for Poverty collections going year round and each year send them to the synodical Treasurer, Bonnie Gilbertson.

Submitted by Helen Sheahan

Women of the ELCA Synodical Board

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

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

Eleanor Siebert

Southwest Conf. Liaison
1930 Hillside Drive
Richland Center, WI 53581
608-649-3806
ejsp@mwt.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
trctrfamily@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
608-527-5725l

Southwest Conference

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Women of the ELCA Offering Information

Hello, I am Bonnie Gilbertson and am excited to be your new SWO treasurer. I am a member of St John's Lutheran Church in Oregon, Wisconsin. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. My e-mail is Bc_gilbertson@charter.net, (underscore after the Bc) phone number is 608-835-7387 and my address is 5498 Windridge Road, Oregon, WI 53575.

The many ministries of the Women of the ELCA are dependent entirely upon the generosity of women throughout our churches. The church wide constitution of the Women of the ELCA describes the following forms of offerings.

1. Regular Offerings: These are given whenever women meet, the backbone of our ministries together. A voluntary offering from each unit sent on FORM A to the synodical treasurer.

Bonnie Gilbertson
5498 Windridge Road
Oregon, WI 53575

As recommended by the elected church wide board, the SWO keeps 50% for our local ministries and forwards 50% to the church wide organization. These offerings can be sent anytime (quarterly, semi-annually or annually).

2. Pennies for Poverty - see separate article on page 2 in this issue of the Trumpeter.

THANKOFFERING

3. These are gifts made in gratitude for the blessings you receive. These offerings support the ongoing ministries of the church wide organization. A long standing tradition is that each women set aside gifts at home whenever the Spirit moves them to gratitude. Then local units hold a Thankoffering service that can include the entire congregation to collect their offerings. Please send them in on FORM B. Send to Women of the ELCA at:

ELCA Gift Processing Center
PO Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

4. Designated Gifts: support particular ministries of the church wide organization. Examples are: Katies Fund, WELCA Scholarship, ELCA World Hunger, LWR Freight for Quilt shipping, Raising up Healthy Women and Girls, Anti-Racism. Every cent of your designated gift is used for the ministries you designate. Again use FORM B.

5. Finally a very simple way everyone in your congregation who loves to shop on Amazon can contribute is through the program -- **Amazon Smile**. Individuals shopping at Amazon go to "smile.amazon.com", NOT Amazon.com. Choose Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (our full name) as their charity. Every quarter, Amazon Foundation forwards half a cent for every dollar spent to Women of the ELCA. All Amazon Prime benefits still apply.



I am looking forward to God's spirit moving each unit in our conference to become more involved in God's work—to help others less fortunate.

Thank you,
Bonnie Gilbertson

CONFERENCE HAPPENINGS

2018 Conference Spring Gatherings

Registrations start at 8:30,
program at 9:00 am unless noted.

For more information, please email the contact person or
Helen Sheahan at sheahanl@sbcglobal.net

Baraboo Conference

4/21 at Zion Lutheran in Rock Springs
Program about Reedsburg's Boys and Girls Club
Contact Janice Dorow at djdorow@yahoo.com

Southwest Conference

4/14 at St. John's in Boscobel
Registration & Brunch at 9:00
Program "Fill Your Cup"
Contact Ingeborg Froiland at ingel420@gmail.com

Elkhorn Conference

4/14 at St. Luke's in Rome/Sullivan
Program about UPAVIM & Human Trafficking
Contact Lois Bente 920-674-4769 or
vnlbente@sbcglobal.net

Beaver Dam Conference

Invited to Elkhorn Gathering on 4/14 or any close
Gathering

Southlake Conference

Welcome to attend any Gathering that is close

Monroe Conference Spring Business Meeting
will be held **April 21, 2018** at

Wiota Lutheran Church.

Address: 6682 State Rd. 78 North Wiota, WI.

Registration from 9:30-10:00 am;
meeting 10:00-11:30 am.

Lunch will begin at noon, cost is \$5.00
Entertainment by The Junction Jammers.
Everyone is invited to attend.

East/West Conference Spring Gathering

Please join us on *Saturday, April 14th* at **Lake Edge Lutheran Church**, 4032 Monona Drive, Madison.
Registration begins at 8:30 am and our morning program begins at 9 am. There is no registration cost.

*We will have a presentation on the Transition Education Program in the Madison School District. This program works with students who experience Homelessness. These students face barriers to housing, racism, Human Trafficking, and the simple challenges of survival. This program works to identify, advocate, and support homeless students and their families.

*Also, Hildy McGown from Advent Lutheran Church will give a short presentation on the Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits and where they go.

*We will end the morning with a salad luncheon. Please bring a salad to pass (one for every two attendees).

RSVP the number attending to Terry Anne at:
taylor.thereasa@gmail.com or for questions contact Polly Carter at pfcart48@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Synod-wide Event on September 22

Plans are underway for our 2018 synod wide women's spiritual retreat at New Life Lutheran Church, 7564 Cottage Grove Road, on the east side of Madison.



"Listening for God - Walking with Jesus"

Carla Stanton, a Certified Spiritual Director from the La Crosse area, will lead our day.

Come spend the day with your sisters in Christ. Learn ways to listen and walk in our faith. Registration starts at 8:30 am, Program starts at 9:30, Closing by 3:45 pm

New Life Lutheran Church is in a beautiful country setting just outside Madison. On the grounds is a prayer labyrinth, a stone prayer garden with a large cross, and trails with pergolas. Childcare will be offered. Registration forms will be in the July Trumpeter.

WELCA REGISTRATION FORM

Baraboo Conference Spring Gathering

Hosted by Zion WELCA

April Saturday 21, 2018

Registration 8:30 - 9:30 AM

Zion Lutheran Stone Church

E6787 Stone Church Drive

Rock Springs, WI 53959

608-727-2242

Please RSVP by April 12, 2018

Your Church Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

Luncheon cost \$7.00. Please inform if anyone is attending has special dietary needs.
Please make checks to **WELCA Baraboo Conference**.

Mail this form to: Janice Dorow (608) 253-7482

P.O. Box 498

Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Payment may be mailed with this form or paid at the door

Or mail number attending and church name to: djdorow@yahoo.com



Registration will begin at 8:30 am with coffee and fellowship. Our guest speaker will be a representative from the Newly formed "Reedsburg's Boys and Girls Club". A portion of the offering will be given to the Boys & Girls Club. Suggested needed items if you would like to buy are: Art Supplies, School Supplies, Toys & Games (ages 7 - 18) Tissues, Band aids. The program, music and business meeting will be held in the church, we will conclude with luncheon in the parish hall.

Thank You Very Much for Coming and Have a Safe Journey Home.

2018 Elkhorn Conference Spring Gathering

"Serving God and ALL Around Us"

"But be doers of the Word, and not merely hearers."

James 1:22

Host church: St. Luke's Lutheran Church

(Village of Rome, Highway F)

1956 Main Street, Sullivan, WI 53178

Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. through noon Luncheon

(Registration/Refreshments beginning at 8:30 a.m.)

Morning agenda

Fellowship • Synodical women's update • Jane Harrison from "UPAVIM" • Worship & Song

• Raising awareness on the problem of Human Trafficking • Election of Officers

For lunch, bring a salad to pass (one for every two attendees).

A freewill offering will be collected to be donated to "UPAVIM" and the Synodical board

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Please RSVP the number attending from your church group by April 6th to

Lois Bente 920-674-4769 or email: vnlbente@sbcglobal.net

Elkhorn Conference (South-Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization)



PINE LAKE WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT ~ 2018



**Pine Lake , Crossways Ministry
Waupaca WI**



**August 17, Friday pm –
August 19, Sunday Noon**

www.crosswayscamps.org/pinelake.html

**PASTOR ALEXIS TWITO ~ COORDINATOR
OF THE MILWAUKEE POLICE CHAPLAINCY
PROGRAM THROUGH THE SALVATION ARMY.
Weekend Worship & Bible Study Leader**

Share this weekend retreat with all of your friends. Please duplicate this brochure and extend an invitation to others.

REGISTRATION: Please complete the registration form below, circle registration payment amount, cut the form along the dotted line and enclose the completed form in an envelope addressed to:



Theme; Freedom To Forgive

MATTHEW 18:21 - 22

²¹ “Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?
²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”

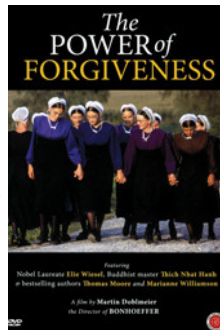
Kathy Holat
625 N. 104th Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
Ph: 414-258-6362 call with any questions

**Make checks payable to:
WI Christian Women's Retreat Group**

A receipt will be sent to you confirming your reservation including suggestions of what to pack and what you might need to know.

Program; The Power of Forgiveness, by

Martin Dobimeier— A moving and multileveled examination of the religious, spiritual, and scientific values of forgiveness.



Retreat scholarships are available. Call Nancy Sack; 414-545-5434, with questions. Email: nsack@att.net
Due by 7/15/17. *First come, first served*

EPHESIANS 4:31 - 32

³¹ “Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

Join us for: Sunset Sing & Meditation at Sunset Point, Bible Study, Candlelit Taize Service, Guided Meditations, Book Club, Worship with Communion, Program *And* Hiking, Swimming, Sistership, Campfire Sing, Massage, and Fair Trade Shopping

READ, “YOU WILL NOT HAVE MY HATE” BY ANTOINE LEIRIS ~ JOIN THE BOOK CLUB!

To register: Cut along the dotted line, complete the form, **make check payable to: WI Christian Women's Retreat Group** mail with payment in full to **KATHY HOLAT, 625 N 104TH ST, WAUWATOSA, WI 53226**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE/ZIP:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

MEDICAL / DISABILITIES OR FOOD CONCERNS

CHURCH AFFILIATION:

Please circle registration payment enclosed:

Evergreen Lodge includes bedding & towels in a semi-private room. Air—controlled. Limited number available.

Register Early!

_____ Send me information about the book club selection

Registration
(postmarked by July 24th)

Cabin @ \$120

Evergreen lodge @ \$155

Late Registration
(after July 24th)

Cabin @ \$130

Evergreen lodge @ \$165

WELCA SYNOD ACTIVITIES

This was the first time we celebrated Bold Women's Sunday at St. Peter's, Loganville and it was wonderful.

We put together a power point and narration of the women in our congregation who were the "first" to do something. Some of these firsts included the Ladies Aid Society formed in 1910, the first women Sunday School teachers in 1928, Confirmation teachers, Parish Education members, council trustee and council president, first woman pastor, first woman to join the Armed Forces (1944), first bold women to attend a Triennial Convention, first woman janitor, secretary, organist and many more. A message was read from our first woman pastor, Tammy Craker, who is pastor of a church in South Dakota.



A bookmark was designed and handed out to women that day. We had women ushers, readers and young girls as acolytes. We made use of the Bold Women Litany from the web site. The hymn we sang was "All the Faithful Women", all 11 verses broken up into three parts during the service.

The highlight was an all women's choir. We dusted off the choir robes, sang and swayed to "We Will Follow Him" from Sister Act. We even received a standing ovation.

Blessings,
Carolyn Meyer
Education Secretary, St. Peter's W/ELCA

BIBLE STUDY

Gather Bible Study

May will be an intergenerational issue. The devotional will explore how we can open our groups and congregations to diverse newcomers and extend a welcome to all people.



This summer, June, July, and August will focus on Prayer, the paradoxical truths of this spiritual practice, the different practices of prayer, and the products or results of prayer. More information is available at: <https://www.gathermagazine.org/bible-study/>

Smorgasbord Dinner
Saturday, May 12, 2018, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Adults \$15
Children (5-12) \$7
Under 5 are Free
Menu Includes:
Meatballs, Fish Balls, Mashed Potatoes,
Vegetables, Salads, Lefse, and Desserts
And a Bake Sale

Jefferson Prairie Lutheran Church
23184 Bergen Road
Poplar Grove, IL 61065
Phone # 815-292-3226.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church invite you to a salad luncheon Wednesday March 21, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 749 Bluff Street in Beloit.



We will have a wide variety of salads, featuring hot chicken salad, cinnamon rolls and a variety of bars for dessert. Coffee and lemonade will be served. Our fresh cinnamon rolls will also be available for purchase.

Ticket prices are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Everyone is welcome.

MISSION JUSTICE

What exactly is **Human Trafficking** and why should I care? This sounds like a poor person's problem, how does it affect me? These are just a few of the questions/comments I've received over the past year. Let me see if I can answer these for you. Human Trafficking is the 2nd largest crime in the state of Wisconsin, it follows the illegal drug trade. Sex exploitation, slave labor, debt bondage, child bride, child soldier and organ harvesting all fall under the description of Human Trafficking. Now you are probably wondering how does that affect me here in my own community, we don't have any of those problems? Well, guess what? You do. Wisconsin was listed as #2 in the Nation for human trafficking. Our State and Federal legislature have been working hard to put laws in place to protect our children, neighbors and those most vulnerable from this truly human crisis.

In Elkhorn this past January we held a major awareness event and we learned several things from the audience who attended. 1. We need to bring the awareness event to the schools. 2. What can we as a community do next? We know what is now we want to do something about it. 3. The SANE nurses asked if we could organize an awareness event similar to the one held in Elkhorn in Burlington.

EVENTS

Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 pm

Human Trafficking Awareness event at the Burlington High School.

If you have questions and want to know more about what is happening in our area please plan to attend. This is a free event that is sponsored by the Burlington Rotary Club. You will hear Theresa Flores share her story. Theresa is a survivor, advocate and author on Human Trafficking. Theresa was raised in an upper middle class family and was trafficking for 2 years when she was a teenager. Theresa has a very unique story that will surely touch your heart. We will also hear from a representative from Fight to End Exploitation from Racine. Come and find out what FEE with the help of the Racine Police Department, Racine County Sheriff's Department and the FBI are doing in SE Wisconsin. We will then have a panel of experts for a Q&A and what we can do in our own neighborhoods.

Saturday, May 19 at 12:00 pm Sugar Creek Lutheran Church in Elkhorn

We will have an opportunity to do something. We have organized with Theresa Flores to host her S.O.A.P. Project outreach and you can help make this happen!



S.O.A.P.

The SOAP Project is specifically focused on educating and increasing awareness in the public on the prevalence of human trafficking, in order to restore trafficked survivors and to prevent teens from being victimized by domestic, minor, sex trafficking.

SOAP National travels all over the US to hold outreaches during large events. We partner with local organizations to distribute millions of bars of soap wrapped with a red band that gives the National Human Trafficking Hotline number - 1(888)373-7888 - and resources to high-risk motels.

Trained volunteers help us help us offer the soap free-of-charge to motels along with training to be able to identify and report sex trafficking when they see it in their establishments.

I hope to see you soon!

Blessings,

Dawn Heath, Join the Movement Against Human Trafficking

DISCIPLESHIP



DISCIPLESHIP with STRENGTH and DIGNITY

"She is clothed with strength and dignity and she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.' Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate".

Proverbs 31: 25-31

Women of the ELCA's purpose statement names us as women created in the image of God, called to discipleship. Women of the ELCA participants are active disciples in many ways. Women of the ELCA practice seven marks of discipleship: praying, studying, worshiping, inviting, encouraging, serving, and giving.

During the month of April, each of the South Central Wisconsin SWO's Conferences will be conducting their Spring Gatherings. Women need to be practicing Proverbs 31:25-31; being a woman of noble character.

Women across South Central Wisconsin:

- Need to be praying and embracing the strength and dignity that we find worshipping, giving and studying together.
- Need to be encouraging in their local units to show the strength and dignity that is spoken of in Proverbs to be called to discipleship.
- Need to be encouraging and praying for one another, so that women will feel the calling to serve as a Conference level officer.
- Need to be inviting to support and attend the Conference meeting held in your area. This meeting is not just for unit officers, it's for all women of each congregation to come together to serve, learn, and share.
- Need to be studying together; looking forward to the May GATHER Bible Study:

"It's easy to extend welcome to people who are similar to us, but how can we offer a welcome to all? At the heart of this year's intergenerational issue, this devotional will explore how we can open our groups and congregations to diverse newcomers." Using examples of biblical welcome and hospitality, pastor and author Julie A. Kanarr, who serves as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Belfair, Washington, will explore how we can define ourselves beyond ideas about age that can so often be damaging to women and encourage us to define ourselves as God does - through love."

This quote taken from the Winter Interchange 2018

WELCA 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 enews: What Matters & our quarterly magazine, "Walking Together." If you are currently not receiving the free, enewsletter 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-managementsoftware/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

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THE TRUMPETER

Carrie Kruzan, Editor
5701 Raymond Road
Madison, WI 53711

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Purpose of the Women of the ELCA

As a community of women

Created in the image of God

Called to disciples 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