

The Trumpeter

South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Volume 32, Number 2 April 2020 Published Quarterly

From the President

Storm jars

by Janna Smith, SWO President

A lot has happened to all of us since I turned in my articles to Carrie Kruzan, our Trumpeter editor, on March 15, 2020. These last two weeks remind me of 29 years ago Desert Storm. We were living in Nuremberg, Germany, and my husband had just joined the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. Right after President H.W. Bush spoke to the American people on TV, the alerts went off and the Regiment prepared to go to war.

Those were scary times. Military posts, housing areas, post exchanges, and commissaries were sealed off and it was a major deal to gain access. Plus we were in a foreign country, away from our families. Our military chaplains went to the desert with their squadrons. Reserve chaplains were activated in the States and sent to Germany.

Family Support Groups were organized, something I had not seen before in the military. This was before social media (1990). I remember getting excited hearing about something called electronic mail. The 2nd ACR Rear Detachment had one email account with the Regiment in the desert but it could only be used for military purposes. Our Regimental Commander's wife would write out long messages to the other wives on tag board. These messages were taped up in the post office on the kaserne.



Beginning in the late 1800s, Lutheran women were given small boxes to place in a special location in their homes as a visible reminder of blessings received. Women would add coins to those boxes almost daily as particular blessings were noted. This was the origin of the annual Women of the ELCA Thankoffering service that is still held in many of our churches.



I inherited my mother's storm jar. I didn't even know what it was. She purchased it at Rowe Pottery in Cambridge years ago. It is a ceramic jar with a candle and matches inside. During a storm, if you lost your electricity, you knew to go to that jar for light.

During our current 'storm,' why don't we find a box or an old jar from around the house (decorate it, if you wish) and then drop in coins whenever we feel thankful or hopeful about something. If you run out of coins, drop in buttons (later redeeming them for \$). It will help us to focus on the good on the positive. After this is all over, we can bring forward our Thankofferings.

Let's take pictures of our boxes or 'storm jars' and publish them in the July Trumpeter.

Note: After writing this article, I discovered (on Facebook) that current SWO board member and Cambridge native, Diane Luginbuhl, used to work at Rowe Pottery. She began decorating and painting the pottery in 1985 and was there for many years.

Food for Thought

'Whether One May Flee from a Deadly Plague' (1527) - This is the historical backdrop for a pamphlet written by Martin Luther. In August 1527, the plague had struck Luther's city of Wittenberg, and many of Luther's fellow citizens ran for their lives. This writing can be found here:
<https://blogs.lcms.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Plague-blogLW.pdf>

SWO FALL GATHERING

Just in time for sweater season
.....a FALL RETREAT!!!

JUST
LOVE

... in the Neighborhood

- Since our Spring Gatherings have all been cancelled, a Fall Retreat will be a wonderful way for women to meet together in a camp setting
- Lutherdale Bible Camp, N7891 US Highway 12, Elkhorn, WI, in new Conference Center!!
- September 18 - 19, 2020 (overnight & day options)
 - \$100 - overnight option in Conference Center (includes breakfast & lunch)
 - \$75 - overnight option in DeBack Lodge (includes breakfast & lunch)
 - \$25 - day retreat option (includes lunch)
- Theme is based on the 2020 Triennial Gathering (Phoenix) ...but with a "Mr. Rogers" twist
- John 13:34-35 (NRSV) *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*
- Speaker: Kellie Pearson, Janesville
- In-kind gift - bring along a sweater (used or new) to donate to charity
- Sponsored by South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization (SWO - 5K)

Overnight Retreat option: Can arrive at Lutherdale any time after 2:00 pm (Fri., Sept. 18) and stay until end of Day Retreat at 3:30 pm (Sat., Sept. 19)

Day Retreat option: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm (Sat. Sept. 19) - Babysitting for children available, ages 3 (potty-trained) to 12 years - must purchase a camp lunch - \$12 per child (MUST register for babysitting **BEFORE Sept. 1, 2020**).

Flyer & registration form will be available on our webpage on the synod website by June 1

Flyer & registration form will be included in the July Trumpeter

For more info, please contact Janna Smith, SWO President (5K), 262-215-6892

smithjanna55@gmail.com



Thanks to Karin Campbell, First English Lutheran Church, Whitewater, for her sweater artwork.

Women of the ELCA Synodical Board

President

Janna Smith

919 W. Charles St.
Whitewater, WI 53190
smithjanna55@gmail.com
(262) 215-6892 cell
First English Lutheran Church
Whitewater in Elkhorn Conference
[Liaison to Beaver Dam Conference]
[Liaison to Barneveld Conference]

Vice President

Sandy Seffrood

8329 County Road D
South Wayne, WI 53587
seffarm@gmail.com
(608) 558-5057 cell
Wiota Lutheran Church
South Wayne in Monroe Conference
[Liaison to Beloit Conference]

Secretary

Lynn Mehringer

N5602 Switzke Road
Johnson Creek, WI 53038
hvacres@tds.net
(920) 699-2174
St. Johns Lutheran Church
Johnson Creek in Elkhorn Conference

Treasurer

Bonnie Gilbertson

5498 Windridge Road
Oregon, WI 53575
Bc_gilbertson@charter.net
scswtreas@gmail.com
(608) 835-7387
St. John's Lutheran Church
Oregon in Southlake Conference

Board Members

Linda Freitag

218 Overview Circle
Verona, WI 53593
freitagl@tds.net
(608) 845-6540
St. James Lutheran Church
Verona in East/West Conference
[Liaison to Baraboo Conference]

Eugenie Hildebrandt

W1330 State Road 33
Mayville, WI 53050
hbrandt@uwm.edu
(920) 387-4082
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Mayville in Beaver Dam Conference
[Liaison to Baraboo Conference]

Diane Luginbuhl

W9161 Waldman Road
Cambridge, WI 53523
Dianeehrkeluginbuhl@gmail.com
(608) 235-9874
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
Cambridge in Southlake Conference
[Liaison to Monroe Conference]

Lawanna Schieldt

505 Stoughton Road, #7
Edgerton, WI 53534
lawannasch@gmail.com
(608) 728-4730
Central Lutheran Church
Edgerton in Beloit Conference
[Liaison to East/West Conference]

Eleanor Siebert

1930 Hillside Drive
Richland Center, WI 53581
ejsp@mwt.net
(608) 649-3806
Five Points Lutheran Church
Blue River in Barneveld Conference
[Liaison to Southwest Conference]

Vacant position - interested??

Vacant position - interested??

Conference Coordinators

Baraboo Conference

Carolyn Meyer
135 Main Street, P.O. Box 5
Loganville, WI 53943-9672
608-727-3511
ckmeyer@wicw.net
St. Peter's LC in Loganville

Barneveld Conference

Donna Peterson
4966 State Road 23
Dodgeville, WI 53533
608-935-9023
dpeter8182@gmail.com
Grace LC in Dodgeville

Beloit Conference

Jeannine Bown
1413 North Pontiac Drive
Janesville, WI 53534
608-754-2071
geraldjeannine@charter.net

Beloit Conference Hostess

Betty Johnson

950 Winfield Drive
Beloit, WI 53511
608-365-2657
eeelizathej75@gmail.com
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

East/West Conference

Polly Carter

2818 Prairie Road
Madison, WI 53719
608-271-7912
pfcart48@gmail.com
Good Shepherd LC in Madison

Elkhorn Conference

Julie Peterson

W9509 State Road 67
Sharon, WI 53585
262-206-2705
trctrfmly@sharontelephone.com
Jefferson Prairie LC near
Poplar Grove, IL

Monroe Conference

Sandy Potter

8765 Highway 78N
Gratiot, WI 53541
608-922-6240
allankp@centurytel.net
Wiota LC in South Wayne

Southwest Conference

Ingeborg Froiland

157 Roosevelt St.
Fennimore, WI 53809
608-391-0503
inge1420@gmail.com
St. Peter Lutheran Church in Fennimore

Beaver Dam Conference

- no current board

Southlake Conference

- no current board

QUILTING GROUPS

ATTENTION Women of the ELCA in the SOUTH-CENTRAL SYNOD of WISCONSIN (especially church quilting groups)

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Ordination of women in the Lutheran Church. To showcase this and other ways that women have been active in our churches, the Synod Assembly Planning Team will construct a **quilt backdrop**. The theme for the Synod Assembly is, **"We are Church Together!"**



- Church quilting groups are encouraged to donate **one** quilt.
- The quilt is allowed to have the church's name or picture on it (but this is not required).
- After Synod Assembly, the quilts will be donated to the **Lac Coudre Reservation**.
- Quilts may be dropped off at the synod office (6401 Odana Rd, Madison) before the next synod assembly. Please contact Vicki Hanrahan, vickih@scsw-elca.org to make sure Synod Office is open.
- Thank you for your generosity.

UPDATE: *The Synod Office will store the quilts until our next Synod Assembly, whenever that occurs.*

"Grüne Soße am Gründonnerstag" "Green Sauce on Maundy Thursday"

The other night, I phoned Eugenie Hildebrandt (SWO board member) while she was preparing dinner. She said, "We are having Green Sauce." I asked, "With boiled potatoes?" "No, over pasta," she replied.

Even with her Germanic last name, she was unaware of the custom of Grüne Soße on Maundy Thursday (Gründonnerstag). Having lived in Germany for several years, I was not aware of this custom until fairly recently when I happened to be visiting the Hessian province during Holy Week. There is even a "Monument to the Green Sauce" on the outskirts of Frankfurt. The seven greenhouses (in varying colors of green) symbolize the seven herbs: parsley, chives, chervil, borage, sorrel, garden cress, and salad burnet.



The dish must be made with these 7 fresh herbs...some of which are difficult to get in the USA. I remember the German headmaster's wife giving me a packet of seeds so I could grow them back home. The green sauce is served at room temperature with boiled potatoes, hardboiled eggs, and ideally, a glass of apple cider.

The basic recipe comes from the Middle East and is probably at least 2,000 years old. Roman legionaries brought it to Italy and from there to the Frankfurt region of Germany.

Among the Pennsylvania Dutch (Deutsch), Holy Week marks the beginning of "Spring Eating." With Maundy Thursday being called "Grien Dunnersdaag" by these Pennsylvania Germans, the tradition is to eat a big fresh salad...a German potato salad.

MISSION DISCIPLESHIP

God has a plan for all of us. We have to reach out to find out where we are going and what God has planned for us.

My life has been fulfilling. I have always attended church and have held many offices in the church women's organization (Women of the ELCA). God has had a plan for me. Along with teaching Sunday school, and being the Superintendent of Sunday School, I have learned from little ones about what God is doing for them.

When I was young, I attended Lutherdale Bible camp for four years. It was very rewarding and I met new friends doing God's work.

I have also been involved in doing mission work for God and others in El Salvador. I have made 9 trips through our synod and Central Lutheran Church in Edgerton. We visited congregations in El Salvador and met wonderful, beautiful people. We assisted with building and painting and fundraising. We also ate and worshipped with these believers.

Today, we can no longer travel to this region because of the M-13 gangs. It is too dangerous. Before, we took along medicine, quilts, clothing, and toys on our visits. Now, they are dependent on Lutheran World Relief for assistance.



This last fall I took 10 quilts to Seattle, Washington, to a Lutheran church that houses the homeless in their church basement.

We must help others in need. Let us all reach out to others. This is our discipleship. Start now.

Lawanna Schieldt
SWO board member

Original Frankfurter Green Sauce (Grüne Sosse) Recipe for Maundy Thursday (Gründonnerstag)

Ingredients

6 hard-boiled eggs	About 8.81 oz - 10.5 oz (total) of mixed herbs:
3-4 tablespoons of vegetable oil	20 stems of parsley
16 oz of sour cream	20 stems of cress
16 oz of plain yogurt	3 tablespoons of chives cut in rolls
1-2 tablespoons of lemon juice	5-7 stems of burnet
2 teaspoons of mustard	5-7 leaves of sorrel
2 teaspoons of sugar	6 stems of chervil
2 teaspoons of salt pepper	8 leaves of borage
1-2 pressed cloves of garlic (optional)	[anything green, including celery leaves & dill]



Preparation of the Frankfurter Green Sauce:

Place the eggs in a pot with water and bring to a boil and let the eggs boil for about 10 minutes. Rinse the eggs under cold water. Peel the eggs and cut them into halves. Place the yogurt, sour cream, oil, lemon juice, mustard, salt, pepper, and sugar in an electric blender. Wash the herbs and dry them with a kitchen paper towel. Remove the leaves from the stems of the cress, the parsley, the chervil, and the burnet and add to the blender. Cut the borage, sorrel, and chives in pieces and add to the blender. Mix all ingredients in the blender on high speed. Pour the Green Sauce in a serving bowl and let it sit for about one hour before serving. Serve alongside boiled potatoes & a few more hard-boiled eggs.

LOOK WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING

Lutheran World Relief News

The 2019 Ingathering of quilts and kits at the Madison rail yard fell about a month earlier than in previous years. For many congregations this meant they were delivering the product of just eleven months of work. Nevertheless the totals held up better than we had thought possible. Congratulations to all you faithful, creative, hard-working volunteers in church basements all over South Central Wisconsin for your outstanding stewardship!

Some churches, such as Bethany in Wisconsin Dells, deliver their quilts & kits to a different pickup location and are not included in these figures. A few churches in northern Illinois bring their donations to Madison and are included.

The date for the 2020 pickup in Madison is September 26 from 7 to 11 at the same location as usual. But there are two changes: **Lutheran World Relief will no longer receive SOAP or FLEECE BLANKETS.**

Submitted by Hildy McGown

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Quilts</u>	8,987	8,847
<u>Kits</u>		
School	5,306	5,492
Per.Care	2,251	2,164
Fabric	197	210
Baby	1,670	1,736
Soap	669	245



SAVE THE DATE & DEADLINES

Apr. 16, 2020

(CANCELLED) Southwest Conference Spring Gathering, First English LC in Platteville

Apr. 18, 2020

(CANCELLED) Monroe Conference Spring Business Meeting, New Hope LC in Hollandale
Rescheduled for Oct. 17, 2020 at Wiotia Lutheran Church near South Wayne

Apr. 25, 2020

(CANCELLED) Elkhorn Conference Spring Gathering, St. John's LC in Johnson Creek

Apr. 25, 2020

(CANCELLED) Beloit Conference Spring Gathering, Our Savior's LC in Beloit

Apr. 25, 2020

(CANCELLED) Barneveld Conference Spring Gathering at Grace LC in Dodgeville
Will try to reschedule for fall.

July 14-16, 2020

(DECISION WILL BE MADE BY APRIL 25, 2020)
Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention, Phoenix, Arizona

July 16-19, 2020

(DECISION WILL BE MADE BY APRIL 25, 2020)
Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering, Phoenix, Arizona

Sept. 18-19, 2020

South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization Fall Retreat at Lutherdale Bible Camp
(with overnight retreat or day retreat options)

Sept. 26, 2020

Railroad pickup in Madison of Lutheran World Relief kits & quilts

SHERYL PHILLIPSON

When our newly elected SWO board assembled for the first time last November, we played an ice breaker to learn more about each other. We were amazed at how many nurses were in the group: Eleanor Siebert, Helen Sheahan, Bonnie Gilbertson, and Eugenie Hildebrandt, all retired RNs. Sheryl Phillipson had also been in the healthcare industry, working with Waukesha Social Services.

Just a few weeks later, I received a call from Pastor Amy Waelchli at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ft. Atkinson, informing me of Sheryl's death from a fall in her home. What a shock. She was only 53. Pastor Amy told me that when Sheryl had been 7 years old, she had had a stroke, from which she did recover. When I shared this with the rest of the SWO board, Eleanor Siebert mentioned that Sheryl had told about this stroke when we were playing our ice breaker together.

Sheryl had served on the Elkhorn Conference board and was also a great advocate for Join the Movement, a local cause that seeks to educate and fight human trafficking. She was very active at Trinity Lutheran Church. The week before Sheryl died she was helping prepare for a spiritual wellness workshop. Pastor Amy said in her funeral eulogy, "We'd arranged this marvelous speaker, Stacy, to teach about forgiveness and reconciliation. In their brief time together, Sheryl had told Stacy about her childhood stroke and I had the privilege of witnessing this conversation. I didn't know it before, but Sheryl shared that she remembered everything from her days in a coma. She remembered her mom reading Little House on the Prairie to her. She remembered her Dad praying. And most strongly, she remembered visiting God in heaven. Sheryl said heaven is a place of no worries, none at all. She said, 'There's just light and peace and God.'"

Sheryl wrote a Mission-Discipleship article in the January issue of the Trumpeter. I urge you to reread what she wrote about volunteerism. She challenged us to reflect on Hebrews 6:10: "Whoever brings blessings will be enriched and one who waters will himself be watered." This Trumpeter article was shared with everyone at Trinity after Sheryl's death.

Again quoting Pastor Amy, "We remember Sheryl's love, her courage, her unflinching strength and faith, her service and discipleship."

As we go through these challenging COVID-19 days, we pray for those in healthcare, our nurses, doctors, social workers, and hospital workers. Give them strength.

Janna Smith
SWO President



UPAVIM

UPAVIM's mission is to empower women in the neighborhood of La Esperanza by providing employment, education and services to improve the quality of life for the entire community.

A huge "gracias!" to each of you for supporting our scholarship program. We have raised over \$15,000 to support the Reforzamiento community tutoring center and provide scholarships to students in La Esperanza.

Because of your generosity hundreds of students will have access to an education. The tutoring center and scholarship program run entirely on donations from our generous supporters. So thank you, again, for all of the support you have shown these programs from the UCDF board and all of the students in La Esperanza. [Click here to learn more about and support the life-changing work taking place in La Esperanza.](#)



ELCA presiding bishop addresses concerns about COVID-19

3/6/2020 4:55:00 PM

In 1527 the plague returned to Wittenberg, Germany. Two hundred years earlier the plague had swept across Europe killing up to 40% of the population. Understandably, people were anxious and wondered what a safe and faithful response might be. In answer to this, Martin Luther wrote "Whether One May Flee From a Deadly Plague."

To provide care for the neighbor, Luther recommended that pastors, those in public office, doctors and public servants should remain in the city. Luther himself remained in Wittenberg to care for his people. He recommended that public hospitals be built to accommodate those with the plague. He condemned those who took unnecessary risks that put themselves and others in danger of contagion. Luther also encouraged the use of reason and medicine, writing, "God has created medicines and has provided us with intelligence to guard and take care of the body. . . . Use medicine; take potions which can help you; fumigate house, yard, and street; shun persons and places wherever your neighbor does not need your presence".

We are living in the time of the coronavirus. We are also living in the time of social media and constant, relentless news coverage. Many of our people have the same concerns as those in Luther's day. Many of our people are anxious. Luther's counsel, based on Scripture, is still sound. Respect the disease. Do not take unnecessary risks. Provide for the spiritual and physical needs of the neighbor. Make use of medical aid. Care for one another, especially the most vulnerable.

Luther also reminded his people and us that we should trust God's faithfulness and promises, particularly the promise eternal life. Paul writes: "If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8).

In peace,
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Putting Things into Perspective

As we are on lockdown here at Fairhaven, I am reminded of being on lockdown in a different way during WWII in Copenhagen, Denmark. Just think...no soldiers or tanks coming down our driveway, no blacked out windows at night or listening for air raid sirens. Though toilet paper, sugar, and other items are not always available, we are not standing in line waiting to buy whatever is available. Our helpers here go shopping for us and get almost every item ordered.



During the war, my mother stood in line for hours for a small piece of meat or cheese or one or two eggs, chicory being used for coffee, tea, or tobacco. All the shortages happened within a day or two after the German Army marched in. Our drugs are still available and will be delivered unlike having no medicines or supplies available to Danes and other occupied countries.

Yes, we are on lockdown, but we can still see each other and talk—granted at a 6 foot distance. We miss our family and friends that cannot come in, but mail, phones and all kinds of communications are available to us on the computer with staff helping us, if need be. Contrast that, to no communication out of the country, with a few letters allowed after being censored. I had a friend, who had married an American and lived in the US. She did not know that her Dad had died until 3 years later.

We have radio and TV, where you can listen and watch anything you want. In Denmark, we had radio stations, all of them full of German propaganda.

The kitchen staff is bringing hundreds of meals to the apartments and rooms as ordered...just think of the planning for that. It makes me glad I am old.

Yes, we miss going to church, but our pastors are bringing us inspirational and uplifting messages and many churches are offering online services. Contrast this to our Danish pastors, many who were executed because they were hiding Jews and writing letters protesting the Nazi regime.

Let us hope our prayers are answered and we will soon be back to normal. It may be a new normal, but this is a strong country and we will overcome this.

This is from the perspective of an independent living apartment dweller. Stay well.

Sincerely,
Karin Strömberg Campbell

Note: Karin is in her 80s. She was a little girl in Denmark during the war. Their family also hid Jewish children in their home for a short time. Karin is a member of Joy Circle at First English Lutheran Church in Whitewater. She lives at Fairhaven Senior Services with her husband, Joe.

MISSION STEWARDSHIP

Our small country church gives big in many ways! I am about to tell you of one way we can help and feed others. I was asked to write about anything that our church does for stewardship. We are Primrose Lutheran Church, located about 25 miles southwest of Madison, in the Monroe Conference. We are located between two small villages: Belleville and New Glarus. Our church ancestors were mostly Norwegian when they started the church in 1850. So, one of the activities the women do together is to make lefse. Lefse is a type of potato flat bread.

Making lefse in such large quantities is quite a process. We first set up all the stations. This way everyone has a designated duty. We like to have 8 to 10 women to work at each station.

The potato dough is made the night before, so it can be chilled. The flour is also chilled in the freezer or the refrigerator so it is cold when we are ready to begin. The irons are set up to heat at the higher temperature. The cooling cloths are doubled and placed nearest the iron on long tables.

The potato bowl is taken from the fridge. Then 4 cups of potatoes are mixed with ¼ cup of butter. This is very important to totally mix until you see no lumps! Then add 1 cup of flour and 1 ½ teaspoons of sugar to the potato until just smooth. The dough is then turned out onto a lightly floured surface. Next shape the dough into a big log and cut the log in half of equal sizes. Each half is divided into 9 sections. Each section needs to be rolled into a ball. Be careful not to over handle the dough or over flour the ball. This will make it tough. Place the

bowl with balls in the fridge until ready to cook. Now you are ready to cook using the lefse iron or griddle. This part needs flour on the pastry cloth. The rolling pin also has a floured cloth cover. Roll out the ball to the size you want, which should be almost the size of the griddle. When it is to size take your lefse stick and slide it under the disk, to the middle, and quickly place on the griddle and lay it out flat. The person on the other side of the iron cooks and turns the circle over when browned on both sides.



Next, start the cooling process. The person cooking takes the lefse off the iron and turns to the long tables with the cloths. The top cloth is lifted; the cooked lefse is folded in half and placed between the towels. The top one is quickly put back down over the cooked lefse to cool. Be careful not to overlap the lefse. Allow them to completely cool.

Next fold again or cut them in half for storage. Saran wrap and bag for the freezer.

When we bake lefse together it's a wonderful fellowship project. The biggest amount we make is for our Annual Church Fall Supper. We also bake for the Spring Bazaar and Bake Sale. The proceeds go toward WELCA and our church's wider mission and needs, some of which include the Beacon and to the youth that attend the Sugar Creek Summer Camp. We have been asked to bake our lefse for the local bakery and private consumers. We are just glad that people like it so much that we can continue this age-old treat for the benefit of others.

Kathy Hultine
SWO Board member

SUBSCRIPTIONS

NOTICE TO INDIVIDUAL TRUMPETER SUBSCRIBERS

Please look closely at your address sticker and take note of the numbers following your address. Those numbers are the date that your Trumpeter subscription will expire.

MISSION JUSTICE

Poverty, Justice and Love

Do you know anyone who is poor? I do! For over 10 years I interviewed mothers who were poor. It has been heart wrenching to look at their lives through the lens of justice and love.

Justice and love, or JUST LOVE, is the motto of our WELCA Triennial Gathering this summer in Arizona. Let's apply that to women in poverty. We will have to work hard to feel what mothers living in poverty feel, learn what they need, and help where they need us if we are to lift up these, our sisters in Christ, in a meaningful way.

Living in poverty in America is defined as having an annual income below \$21,300 total household income for a family of three. Below that, people are eligible for cash support, called welfare. Twenty years ago, our country began requiring impoverished women to work in order to get welfare support, and that cash support was limited to five years over their lifetime. Those who did not have work skills were given training for entry level jobs, usually minimum wage jobs. This addressed one barrier to independence the women had. Many were taught to be daycare aides or nurse aides.

After their five years of support ended, the jobs they'd learned did not let many of them become financially independent. Practically speaking, their children did not stop needing food and clothing, their rent didn't stop, and utility bills still came. Many legislators thought this was just. The women had been given cash support, job training, and fair warning that it was limited to five years. And, yes, it was a start. But is it a weak start that makes the rest of us feel better, and gives us something to assuage our guilt?



So herein lies our task. Can our JUST LOVE, in action, be strong enough to give the lift where laws fall short, lift where adequate education often isn't likely, lift where family support systems are as poor as the impoverished mothers themselves?

I love the hymn, "On Eagles Wings," about being lifted up on eagle's wings. Are we the eagles for women among us who are struggling? Let's start with prayer.

Eugenie Hildebrandt
SWO board member

When it rains look for

Rainbows



When it's dark look for

Stars



Like the South Central Wisconsin Women of the ELCA Facebook page

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 GatherMagazine.org to subscribe online or call 844-409-0576.

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

News from around the synod is in "What Matters", the weekly synod e-newsletter. The newsletter is full of important news from Bishops Eaton and the synod, upcoming events, resources, mission trip invitations, fun fellowship events such as concerts and church bazaars, job openings, youth gatherings, wonderful stories of our shared work in Jesus' name, and much more! To sign up for synod news, please email Deacon Vicki Hanrahan, Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Life at vickih@scsw-elca.org.

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: Bonnie Gilbertson

5498 Windridge Rd, Oregon, WI 53575

For office use only

Date Received _____

Amount: _____

[WELCA WWW.WOMENOFTHEELCA.ORG](http://WELCA.WOMENOFTHEELCA.ORG)



THE TRUMPETER
Carrie Kruzan, Editor
5529 Marsh Road
McFarland, WI 53558

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 not to publish any submission for any reason. Submission deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication - welcatrumpeter@gmail.com. Submitted articles and photos 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 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