

The Trumpeter

South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Volume 32, Number 4 October 2020 Published Quarterly

From the President



Carrie Kruzan is stepping down as The Trumpeter editor at the end of this year. We will miss her. She has been our editor since early 2018 and is the one to whom we give credit for designing and incorporating the

name of our newsletter with the Women of the ELCA logo in the header of our cover page. Carrie is currently in her 3rd year as church administrative assistant at McFarland Lutheran Church. She has been working in churches for over 13 years. During COVID, she has found herself working on weekends, instead of during the week. She compiles the videos for the church for their online services.

Carrie grew up in Rockford, IL, and was raised Lutheran. She and her husband are members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Middleton. Carrie is an artist by trade (a degree in fine arts) and works in many different mediums and formats...woodworking, jewelry making, crafts, making gnomes from upcycled K-cups, etc... Carrie has opened an Etsy shop (online) this month. Carrie's husband is from the Kenosha area and works at PPD, Inc., in receiving pharmaceutical products. The Kruzans love the outdoors, playing games with family, and travelling.

Thank you, Carrie, for your excellent work on The Trumpeter. It was greatly appreciated.

Tammy Hedrick has been office manager at First English Lutheran Church in Whitewater for 1 1/2 years. During COVID, her primary challenge has been maintaining healthy work to home boundaries as her office is now primarily her home.



Tammy was born in East Troy, WI, but has also lived in North Dakota, Wyoming, Eau Claire, WI, and Upper Michigan. She was raised in both the Lutheran and the Methodist faith.

The Hedricks are members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Ft. Atkinson. She and her husband have been married for 26 years and have two sons, ages 21 and 15. "We are a country family preserving my husband's farming heritage with our hobby farm, small herd of sheep and the rural Wisconsin traditions we were both raised with."

The South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization welcomes Tammy as their new Trumpeter newsletter editor.

Tammy's first issue of the Trumpeter will be in January, 2021. Be sure to send in articles and blurbs about your WELCA unit. The email address will stay the same: welcatrumpeter@gmail.com

By Janna Smith, SWO president

Food For Thought:

How are your church WELCA groups coping during COVID? What are you doing differently? We all wish we could worship like we used to but is there anything you like or are surprised at during worship in the era of COVID?

MISSION STEWARDSHIP

Thank offerings

Thank offerings show gratitude for God's blessings and give us an important and tangible way to express our gratitude. It is a tradition grounded in our celebration of community, of meeting together to joyfully give thanks for what God has given us. Thank offerings have always been and still are our opportunity to say thank you to God in both a significant and ordinary moment.

Thank offerings shall be gifts from individuals in gratitude for blessings. These offerings are used by Churchwide to support the ministries of the women of the ELCA.

Whenever Women of the ELCA Thank offerings are received, you can celebrate with a service. Collect your offerings at a regular church service, invite women to participate, to speak at the beginning of the service to explain the significance of the thank offering. Use the service as an opportunity for women to celebrate and to continue their commitment to the ministries of the women's organization. It is appropriate to invite the entire congregation to participate. Encourage everyone to give a gift so we may continue the ministry of the women's organization.

Remember to send your offering in on form B and mail directly to Merrifield, Va.

Submitted by: Bonnie Gilbertson SCSW treasurer



WELCA tips for planning a Thankoffering service - Planning and carrying out your Thankoffering service might look different this year, depending on local circumstances

- Choose a date, time, and place - Consider online alternatives to accommodate those who will be participating at home or elsewhere.
- Plan the service.
- Invite participation by all.
- Celebrate Women of the ELCA - Display Gather magazine, program resources, and other items that exemplify the many ministries of Women of the ELCA.
- Rather than a full worship service, consider using a Thankoffering devotion during a circle meeting or other gathering where you collect the Thankoffering.
- Traditionally, women set aside their offerings throughout the year, using containers dedicated to Thankofferings. Encourage women to gather supplies (empty jars, boxes, envelopes, labels, decorations) to make home Thankoffering containers before or after the service.
- Find Thankoffering liturgy, prayers, and service ideas at this link: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/thankofferings>

With flexibility and creativity, even a completely online Thankoffering service can be as satisfying as any in-person service.

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, 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, Monroe Conference
(Liaison to Beloit Conference)

Secretary

Lynn Mehringer

N5602 Switzke Road
Johnson Creek, WI 53038
hvacres@tds.net
(920) 699-2174
St. John's Lutheran Church
Johnson Creek, 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, Southlake Conference

Board Members

Linda Freitag

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

Eugenie Hildebrandt

W1330 State Road 33
Mayville, WI 53050
hbrandt@uwm.edu
(920) 387-4082
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Mayville, 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, 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, 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, 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, Loganville

Barneveld Conference

Donna Peterson
4966 State Road 23
Dodgeville, WI 53533
608-935-9023
dpeter8182@gmail.com
Grace LC, 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
eelizathej75@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, 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, Fennimore

Beaver Dam Conference

– no current board

Southlake Conference

– no current board

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

BABY CARE KITS

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Please include sizes between 6 and 24 months. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.
- Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from leftover yarn, or made from heavy double knits. Select a pattern that suits your skill level. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.
- Diapers can be made from flannel or even by recycling t-shirts. Download a Diaper Tip Sheet from our website.
- If knitting or crocheting receiving blankets, including one knitted/crocheted blanket and one flannel blanket will provide maximum versatility.
- Onesies can be cut and hemmed or serged to make a simple t-shirt.
- Gowns, rompers or top/pants sets can be substituted for sleepers.
- Gently used, clean clothing and blankets (no stains or tears) may be substituted for new ones. It is especially important that the items be in excellent condition, as used clothing is increasingly difficult to get through customs in many countries. Even one item that looks worn or stained to local officials can jeopardize the status of a whole shipment. All other items (diapers, towel, soap) in the kit must be new.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.



INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH BABY CARE KIT

TWO lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies®)

TWO long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)

TWO receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36" and 52" square

FOUR cloth diapers, flat fold preferred

ONE jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap

TWO pairs of socks

ONE hand towel, dark color recommended

TWO or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars

TWO diaper pins or large safety pins

HOW TO PACK YOUR KITS OF CARE

- Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins.
- Pack completed kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in **LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS** on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents.

PERSONAL CARE KITS

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.



INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended

TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping

ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*

ONE sturdy comb, remove packaging

ONE metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

- Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

HOW TO PACK YOUR KITS OF CARE

- Fold the towel in half width-wise. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Pack completed kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in **LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS** on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents

lwr.org (9-15-20)

Beirut Disaster

Thank you to all of the churches in the synod who were part of the Lutheran World Relief Ingathering in September. Our prayers are with each person in the world who receives a quilt, sewing kit, baby care kit, personal care kit, or school kit.



Many of you have heard the heartbreaking news of the Beirut (Lebanon) port explosion on August 4th, when over 180 people were killed and 300,000 were driven from their homes. In addition to this suffering, a shipping container containing more than \$600,000 in Lutheran World Relief humanitarian supplies was apparently destroyed in the ammonium nitrate blast.

On Sept. 3rd, 2020, LWR provided an update. "Digging through the piles of rubble in the city's destroyed port, local

staff have been able to locate and extract the remains of a shipment of humanitarian supplies meant to help refugees and other vulnerable communities in Lebanon.

"This includes kits assembled to promote personal hygiene and bales of hand-sewn quilts from churches.

"Destruction was so severe that the area around the port, where the shipping containers had been housed, has just now been able to be reached. It appeared at first glance that the three containers were behind a building, a spot which may have afforded the containers some small amount of protection from the blast. The containers were damaged - but not completely destroyed, as initially believed." Lutheran World Relief is still sorting through the damaged goods to see if anything can be salvaged.

MISSION JUSTICE

A Plea to Our White Members of the ELCA, and a Promise to Our Members of Color

The ELCA is the least integrated of the Christian denominations in America.

We are the whitest.

96% white!

How uncomfortable is that!

We might want to say we are open-minded and thus not racist. But to be that white in our diverse society takes energy and effort. It takes powerful socialization.

In 1993, very soon after the ELCA was formed, a commitment was made that within 10 years of its existence, 10% of the church's membership would be African American, Asian, Hispanic, or Native American. So how can we be where we are, related to racial issues?

As children we learn about our world. It is highly likely that over our lifetime our upbringing and education about race influenced us to believe that we are white, and white is really good—it is best. It has been suggested this makes it really hard to see and understand the personal, systemic and institutional racism in which we live.

Our church teachings push back on this idea of white privilege, this racial prejudice that leads to racial discrimination. We are freed in Christ. In our Social Statement on Race, Ethnicity, and Culture we say, "Christ our peace has put an end to the hostility of race, ethnicity, gender and economic class." On our ELCA website we say to the world. "This is Christ's Church. Liberated by our faith we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all."



I was on a recent ZOOM meeting where the question was tossed out, "What do we do to change, to become more diverse in our congregation?" There was absolute silence. This is a hard question. I had no easy answer either. As we seek to understand, a place to start is open discussion with each other, and with people of all races and ethnic groups.

"Today, as European-descent members of the ELCA, we must admit that racism is a sin against God and our neighbors and that God is calling us to do everything in our power to make things right" (Living Lutheran, January 17, 2020). Pray that we will be teachable and humble and will succeed. It is our work to do.

By Eugenie Hildebrandt, SWO board member

Books of interest:

Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S by Lenny Duncan. (2019).

White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo. (2018).

NEWSLETTERS

“Praise Him with trumpet sound.” Psalms 150:3a (ESV)

Our newsletter has an interesting name...*The Trumpeter*. The other day, I overheard a comment about UW/Whitewater’s Marching Band. In an attempt to avoid the spread of ‘droplets’ the brass section is considering bell covers to their instruments. Yes, the trumpets will wear masks. This will affect the sound and it will be muted.

We began our Synodical Women’s Organization (SWO) meeting the other day with board members stating the name of their church newsletter:

- **St. John’s Epistle** (St. John’s LC – Johnson Creek)
- **The Messenger** (St. Paul LC – Mayville)
- **First Light** (First English LC – Whitewater)
- **Sundays and Beyond** (East Koshkonong LC - Cambridge)
- **Connection in Christ** (St. John’s LC – Oregon)
- **The Word** (Wiota Lutheran Church)
- **St. James Jottings** (St. James LC – Verona)
- **Insights** (Central LC – Edgerton)

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Your Email



Eleanor Siebert’s late husband, a pastor, was also newsletter editor of **The Manger**, in one of their former parishes. He got in trouble one month because of a typo. He accidentally mailed it out as **The Manager**.

Churchwide’s Women of the ELCA quarterly newsletter is called **Interchange** (https://www.womenoftheelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/IC_2020_Fall_Final.pdf).

The newsletter is also available in Spanish, **Intercambio** (https://www.womenoftheelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Intercambio_2020_Fall_Final.pdf).

I had a Zoom meeting recently with the other 5 Wisconsin SWO presidents. We regularly share WELCA newsletters. East-Central Synod of Wisconsin – **The Open Door**, La Crosse Area Synod – **Crosswinds**, Greater Milwaukee Women of the ELCA – **Gleanings**, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin – **The Northwester**.

Think of the women in your congregation who may not subscribe to *The Trumpeter* and also do not have Internet access. Print a paper copy of this newsletter and deliver it to those shut in.

Our synod weekly newsletter is **What Matters** (<https://scsw-elca.org/news/>). The ELCA has a bimonthly e-newsletter for ELCA congregational and synodical leaders called **Administration Matters**.

The ELCA monthly magazine is called **Living Lutheran**. Our Women of the ELCA monthly magazine is called **Gather**. These are the words currently printed on the *Gather* website:

*“As concerns about COVID-19 keep us from gathering in person,
let’s gather from home for faith, comfort, and hope.”*

In this age of COVID, we must strive to not be muted in spreading the Word...both the Gospel and our more mundane announcements.

By Janna Smith, SWO President



Drive Thru Chili Supper

St. Peter's Church, Loganville WI
608 727-2200



Wednesday
October 14, 2020
4:00 pm – until sold out

Single Servings \$10

- Generous Bowl of Chili
- French Bread Buttered
- Cheese Slices
- Crackers
- Homemade Dessert
- White or Chocolate Milk

Boldcafe (boldcafe.org)



Café, an on-line magazine, shares stories written by bold young women who write about faith, relationships, advocacy and more. Readers and writers of Café include pastors, seminary and college students, and other young adult women who use Café as a Bible study resource individually or with a group. Although many women in their 20s and 30s contribute in every issue, Café can be used and shared by women of all ages.

WELCA news from FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH in Whitewater

Join us for our very first Christkindlmarket! It will be held in the church parking lot (401 W. Main St., Whitewater) on Saturday, December 5th, from Noon until 4:00 pm. Christmas markets in Germany are a tradition that stretches back hundreds of years. There were Christkindlmarkets when Martin Luther was alive. "Christkind" means "Christ child." Mouthwatering aromas of gingerbread, glühwein, grilled sausages and roasted almonds add to the ambience. At our Christkindlmarket, we will have food trucks, several vendors, and a Bake Shoppe (with a non-alcoholic version of glühwein). We will also have a Winter Holiday tent with crafts and Christmas ornaments. Many medieval towns have their farmers' markets right outside their cathedrals. Our Christkindlmarket will be patterned after the Whitewater Farmers Market with COVID protocols in place (masks, social distancing, etc.) This Women of the ELCA fundraiser will bring in money for numerous local and worldwide charities. Join us in a unique Christmas tradition in an era where we may not be able to worship traditionally.



WORKING PARENTS

check this out at Lutherdale!

PIVOT, a program that merges camp and school!



This weeklong program includes a supervised, facilitated study time in the morning for Grades 1-6, followed by hot lunch and afternoon camp-style activities. Lutherdale is offering flexible scheduling options with a weekly family discount of 20% per sibling.

MONDAY - FRIDAY | 8:00am - 5:30pm

**Excluding Holiday Weeks and School Breaks

Register for sessions with a non-refundable, transferable deposit.

Pay for PIVOT, as you use it during the 2020/2021 academic year.

\$195 PER WEEK - \$25 Deposit for Each Session. Whether school transitions to Virtual Learning or for families enrolled in Virtual Learning who may need an

occasional week of care, PIVOT is a perfect solution for families. You get reliability and flexibility, and your child gets to socialize with other youth, complete required schoolwork, and enjoy camp activities.

Check out the Lutherdale website for more details: <https://www.lutherdale.org/programs/day-camp/>

Lutherdale Bible Camp (N7891 US Highway 12, Elkhorn) follows COVID-19 protocols.

MISSION DISCIPLESHIP

Listen, Listen God is Calling

He is calling you and he is calling me.
He is reaching out to both you and me.
I am listening.

Call a friend to see how they are doing.

It has been such a long time since we were with our friends.

If a person has died, call a member of the family.

Show them you are concerned.

They must be hurting.

Maybe your call will lift them up.

Yes, God is calling you and me.

Are we listening?

We need this also, to keep God in our life at all times.

Yes, listen, God is calling.

He is reaching out to you and me.



by Lawanna Schieldt, 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.

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

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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