Fall 2019—October, November, December Volume 3, Issue 4

WomenELCA The Communicator

SAVE THE DATE!!!

33rd SWO Synod Convention May 2, 2020 Redwood Area Community Center Redwood Falls, MN

Just Celebrate!



The goal of the synod board for this one-day convention is to honor all women pastors in our synod as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Ordination of Women in the ELCA.

There are approximately 42% of women pastors that serve in our synod here in SW MN and we would be so pleased to have all or as many of these women attend our convention in 2020. Invitations will be sent out to all the women pastors in our synod in the next few months, but we want the word to get out there, so if you as a woman of the ELCA have (or know of) a woman pastor, would you please pass along "Save the Date" information. Your synod board really appreciates this!





Inside this issue

A Word From Your President	2
Mission Growth/Discipleship	4
Mission Community/Justice	5
Mission Action/Stewardship	6
Looking Out My Window	8
2019 Fall Gatherings	9
2019-20 Synodical Board	10

Special points of interest

- Looking for Help
- Women of the ELCA Resources
- 2020 Triennial Update
- 2020 In Kind Offering Focus
- ELCA Synod Assembly Service
- Walker Bag Instructions

A Word from Your President

So, did you have a good summer? I'm not sure where the time went but overall my summer was good - eventful, but good! Here we are well into the fall season here in the Southwestern Minnesota Synod. Schools are back into the routine of things. The fall schedules of our churches are back in progress and our annual Leadership Event is complete for another year! The event was held on September 7th at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Redwood Falls and as I write this we are anticipating a good turnout! We tried a new format for the event this time around foregoing the actual officer/committee workshops and including everyone in the short presentations of each office. Times are changing, ladies! We are facing changes within the Women of the ELCA here in Southwest Minnesota and the synodical board felt it was time to try a new format! Changes as far as less women being involved and smaller Conference Boards and Unit Boards. I've noticed that several Conference Boards are combining the Mission areas so one lady is leading them. We hope that those of you that attended appreciated the change-up! Your leadership is important to our organization and we are very thankful for each and every one of you that step-up to the plate and do your part as we all move forward in our faith journey of mobilizing women to grow in their faith!

Last year we had so much food for our 2018 Leadership Event and we were told that the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) was also having their board meeting in town that day, so we invited them over to join us for noon lunch. It was a fun time to include the two groups together and visit back and forth. So, in 2019, we have once again invited the LYO group over to join us for noon lunch! We hope this connection can continue!

Here are some other notes to make regarding the Women of the ELCA:

The Active Unit database is on a continual updating process. So, once again, I ask the Conference Secretaries to ask the Units in your conference to turn in their officer lists for 2020. Once the Conference Secretary receives the lists – they in turn send the lists on to myself (Synod President), Jill Duncan (Synod Secretary), and Christina Nelson (The Communicator editor). Remember to get the lists turned in to the synod level in **January** (so the Units should be getting their lists to the Conference Secretaries by **November 15th**). I then go on-line and update the listings on the churchwide website. Churchwide needs the updated list as every three years this list determines how many voting members to Triennial each synod is allowed. I know this is a time consuming duty – but it is an IMPORTANT one!

As long as I am on that subject of ACTIVE Units. This is also a good time of year for the Units to access their active state. As the number of women involved decline in our synod, it is really, really important that the Synod board knows if a Unit becomes inactive and folds. If that is happening to any Units – the synod board needs to know that and it just takes a written letter or a phone call to me, Joan Iverson, Synod President. I'm going to include the constitution wording on active units, in case you are questioning anything. If your Unit is facing some struggles and you are questioning how to operate – give me a call – I'd be glad to visit with you! To be an Active Unit you need to follow the criteria listed below. This information comes from Article II – Section 2 of the Unit Constitution:

***SECTION 2. Commitment**

To accomplish the purpose of Women of the ELCA, women in this unit shall commit themselves to

- A. come together for study, support, and action;
- B. participate in the ministry of Women of the ELCA beyond the congregation;
- C. support financially the total program of Women of the ELCA; and
- D. designate leadership that shall be in communication with the synodical and churchwide women's organization.

TRIENNIAL: Have you checked out the www.welcatg.org web page? The churchwide staff is starting to post information on there about the Gathering. Registration officially opens for the GATHERING September 30th. All registration materials will be published on-line [NO registration books will be mailed out]. So, if you have a computer or access to a computer – please open your heart to a fellow sister in Christ who wants to register for the Gathering and has no access to the internet! A promotional video was created that was used at the recent Churchwide Assembly. You can find that on-line. For those who have preregistered for the Gathering - an e-mailing will go out in the near future explaining how they can complete their registration hotel choosing, purchasing tours and making other selections - so watch your e-mail. If you don't receive this information feel free to get ahold of me or our Triennial Gathering Promoter, Pat Stevermer. My contact information can be found in this issue of The Communicator. Pat's contact info: 720 – 3rd Ave., SW., Sleepy Eye MN 56085. 507-920-6513. stevermer@sleepyeyetel.net

A few things to share on the Triennial CONVENTION (for the voting members that were elected). An e-mailing will be going out to all voting members at a later time with needed information, once churchwide has the completed roster of voting members. Planning for the CONVENTION continues. You can reach the web pages for the convention at www.welca.org/convention

The nomination process opened July 30th and continues through November 30, 2019. All nominations for churchwide secretary, treasurer and board members must be made online. Go to the link I posted above and that will lead you to the nomination materials online. Prayerfully consider who might have the gifts to lead the organization for the next three years. The churchwide president, with the help of the executive committee, will be working to fill business committees at the board's October meeting.

You will have the opportunity to sign up at your Fall Gatherings if you are interested in receiving triennial materials on our synod level. Each synod board liaison will have a sign- up sheet available at your fall gatherings, so look for that sheet to get your name on the synod list of those interested in receiving materials.

If you have any ideas on synod identification at Triennial – let me know or Pat Stevermer. We've had an array of ID items throughout the years. Remember the green sashes? How about the pins? The denim vests? The red rose pins? We also need

A Word from Your President—Cont'd

ideas for handouts from our synod – it has to be something easy to transport – any and all ideas are welcome!!

CHURCHWIDE updates:

INTERCHANGE (churchwide newsletter) will be going all digital in the winter of 2020. You can sign-up to receive Interchange from the "Stay in Touch" link at the bottom of every page of <u>www.womenoftheelca.org</u>. To get the news more quickly, sign up for Bold Connections while you are there. Bold Connections is monthly, while Interchange will continue to be published quarterly.

As you've probably heard by now, there have been some staffing changes at churchwide office. Gabriela Contreras and Ann Hightower have left the staff to work in other areas of ELCA ministry and Deana Velandra joined the staff.

The annual **THANKOFFERING** service is posted on the website. Go to <u>www.welca.org/thankofferings</u> to find it. I am hoping that all Units are using the Thankoffering service in some way and sending their offerings into churchwide.

GATHER has a new and exciting line-up of Bible studies for the fall and winter. For the fall, the Rev. Anna Madsen will present "No hard feelings?" – a three-part study on how the poetry of the Old Testament gives voice to the range of human emotions. In December, the annual devotional will be authored by visual artist Vonda Drees. 'Watch, wait, create – A Creative Advent devotional with Isaiah". In winter 2020, we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of women's ordination in the North American Lutheran church with a four-part series on vocation by the Rev.

Kathryn A. Kleinhans. "We are called" will look at how God calls each of us to serve God and one another in our own, personal contexts.

Lastly, GATHER has a new way for Bible study leaders to share resources and stay in touch with GATHER's editors: Join the new "Gather magazine meeting place" Facebook group. Find the link to join at <u>facebook.com/gathermagazine</u>.

I hope you have marked your calendars for the 2020 SW MN SWO Convention. Saturday, May 2, 2020 is the date of the oneday convention and it will be held at the Redwood Area Community Center in Redwood Falls, MN. They synod board will be making the plans for this convention in the next couple months, so keep your eyes open for the information as it comes available.

Please keep the Jarvi, Penk and Brandt families in your prayers as they grieve the loss of loved ones. Julie Jarvi (62), (former synod board member and Great River Conference board) passed away on July 21st. Jerome Penk (77), husband of former synod Vice President, Ilene Penk, passed away July 22nd. Gene Brandt (76), husband of synod board member, Betty Brandt, passed away on August 23rd. Some words that were shared with me when our son died four years ago has really stuck in my mind and the words carry so much heartfelt truth. *"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal. Love leaves a memory no one can steal." Blessed be the memory of Julie, Jerome and Gene.*

Joan Iverson, President SW MN SWO Women of the ELCA

WE NEED YOU!

TRIENNIAL 2020

NEEDED: ideas for SW MN identification items for Triennial AND also ideas for the give-away items we take to triennial and distribute. We would like to have ideas of items that are easily transported in women's luggage, so keep that in mind. If you have ideas please contact a synod board member with your idea.

2021 SW MN SWO CONVENTION SITE NEEDED

The 2021 convention will be a one-day event and we are looking at the northeastern part of the synod to hold our convention. This area includes all of Great River Conference and all of Crow River Conference as well as the very northern section of Minnesota Valley and the very northeastern portion off Scenic Valley as well as the eastern half of Lakeland Conference. So if anyone living in the area from Olivia north to Sauk Centre east to Princeton and southwest to new Auburn - if you know of a great facility that could hold around 200 to 250 women for a convention, please let a synod board member know so that these sites could be check out! Thank You!

Women of the ELCA Resources

Click on the images below to find out more about some of the devotional subscriptions available through your churchwide organization of Women of the ELCA!



www.gathermagazine.org





www.boldcafe.org

Bold Connections



https://conta.cc/32g7l3b

Interchange

interchange



Daily Grace



Click <u>here</u> to subscribe to some of the online publications available!

Mission Growth/Discipleship



What does the Bible tell us about Discipleship?

Putting Jesus first in all things: **Mark 8: 34-38** and he called to him with his disciples and said: if any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

Fruitfulness: **John 15:5-8** I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit for apart from me, you can do nothing.

Love for other Disciples: **John 13: 34-35** A new commandment I give to you that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. You are my disciples if you love one another.

Discipleship is a lifelong journey of living out and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. We are active disciples in many ways. We practice **discipleship** through prayer, studying, worshiping, inviting encouraging, serving and giving.

There are many ways in which women (young & experienced) may grow in faith, inspire one another in fellowship, challenge ourselves to learn & study the Bible and the willingness to serve. The following are examples of practicing discipleship.

- Gather- a monthly Bible study subscription magazine
- **Café** an online magazine written by bold young women who write about faith, relationships, advocacy and more: also, a Bible study source individually or with a group *On-line registration is required to receive it.
- **Bold Connections** a monthly newsletter featuring the latest news and information about programs and activities ***online registration** is required to receive it.
- **Interchange-** a publication four times a year giving leadership news from WELCA *online registration is required to receive it.
- **Daily Grace** an online daily devotion ***online registration** is required to receive it.
- Facebook, Twitter, Instagram & Pinterest
- Celebrate "Thankoffering Sunday" A special Women's Sunday of gratitude & Thankfulness
- Celebrate **"Bold Women's Day"** observing women who have acted boldly in their faith in **Jesus Christ** whether it is quietly praying or being bold in advocacy- all working to make a difference in the lives of others.
- Share in your willingness to serve on a Congregational, Conference, Synod and Churchwide board or committee.

Taking advantage of using the resources that are available on the WELCA website Lutheran Women have a long history of Bible study, **discipleship** and desire to deepen their spiritual life and learn about issues. Women grow with each other and through each other, developing their faith and spiritual lives enabling them to go beyond their personal circles and witness in their daily lives and the life of the church.

Janet Hagen, Betty Brandt, Dianne Doscher

Mission Community/Justice

If we reflect on the purpose statement of our WELCA organization, we may be struck by the following phrase: "promote healing and wholeness in the church, society, and the world". Thinking about this in the category of mission community and social justice, it often seems as if the battle is perhaps not being won in this area. Listening to the most recent news programs on television or reading the newspaper brings to our attention so many of the difficulties that we currently face in the church, society, and the world. The problems seem so abundant that we may often ask whether our own individual actions or prayers are even noticeable. The answer of course when we look deeper into this situation is that of course yes, we do make a difference. Even just one action or prayer can make change in this world because if we just touch one other human being, that is a trigger for change. That person may affect another and on to the next person. We need to remember that if each of the women in our worldwide organization touched one other human being, we would bring about change.

Hosea 12: 6 states "But as for you, return to your God, hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God". These words were written so long ago but they are words that we should remember in our own lives and in our present church and society. Love and justice are important concepts in our organization and in our belief system as Lutherans. How are we displaying love and justice? We do wonderfully with the mission programs in organizing school kits, making quilts or other mission items for those in other geographical areas or helping in homeless shelters or with local food shelves. It becomes a bit more challenging in our own communities on a personal basis perhaps to address love when there may be others who may seem a bit different than us in appearance or in their behaviors. We are still called to create a connection with those who do not necessarily fit into our vision of community. And at this time in

our country, there are so many areas in which differences are brought to our attention whether it is race, ethnicity, or with the difficulties related to immigration. It becomes challenging perhaps at times to display love and justice when some of these problems are present and we might not agree with the larger system such as with decisions or statements that are made by our current governmental bodies and administration. What can we as women of the church do to help in these larger problem areas? Does prayer really help? Prayer is necessary no matter on which side of the argument you might stand.

During a recent Sunday worship service, the notion of hospitality was addressed. We are instructed that the word hospitality has its origin in two different words, hospice and hospital. Hospice is defined as shelter and hospital as healing. We are called to the ministry of hospitality with others and are also reminded of God's hospitality towards all of us. How can we help in the healing that seems so important and necessary in our current society? And where do we find shelter or how do we help others find shelter? It seems crucial that we display or address this in whatever ways might be available.

Those of us who have been elected as voting members for the Triennial Convention to take place in 2020 will be called to share hospitality with other women during that gathering. We encourage others to also consider moving forward in planning attendance at this convention. The title of "**Just Love**" seems to fit so well with these ideas and with our mission. We also encourage living in that ministry of hospitality for which we are called, and which is provided to us by God. In closing, here is a verse from **Hebrews 13:2**: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it".

Louise Ferry, Kim Christianson, Jane Tongen

2020 Triennial Update



"Just Love" is the theme for the 2020 Women of the ELCA Gathering. It will be held in Phoenix Arizona, July 16-19, 2020. Early-bird registration opens September 30th. Early-bird registration through January 6, 2020 is \$325. After that, registration is \$375. Day registration is \$200.

The event will be held at the Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N 3^{rd} St. Phoenix AZ 85004. The nearby hotels are Sheraton Grand Hotel at 340 N 3^{rd} St and Hyatt Regency Phoenix at 122 N 2^{nd} St. More details will be included in the registration information as it becomes available.

Following Jesus is messy. Loving one another is justice. We are not perfect. We are one body in Christ.

A first time attendee reported on the last triennial held in Minneapolis in 2017: Since this was my first triennial the whole experience was a highlight. The opening worship set the stage and the joy continued to build throughout the event. The various delivery systems kept us wanting more as the days went by quickly. The closing worship sent us away "ALL ANEW" to continue with our journey with our Lord! The next triennial can't come soon enough!

One way to keep up to date is to check out the new triennial event page on the Women of the ELCA website.

Southwest Minnesota has nearly 50 women interested in attending and will be kept informed of information as it becomes available. It is not too late to be added to the list as sign up will be available at the fall gatherings. If you want to be informed of deadlines, plans when at the convention, identification options, let me or President Joan Iverson know. Our contact information is as follows:

Pat Stevermer

Triennial Gathering promoter 720 3rd Ave SW Sleepy Eye MN 56085 <u>stevermer@sleepyeyetel.net</u> 507-920-6513 Joan Iverson

SWMN Synod WELCA President Jackjoan73@gmail.com

2020 In Kind Offering Focus

This year, the Mission Action team has announced that **Personal Care Kits** will be our main focus.

Of course, we will also be accepting any Lutheran World Relief Kits, Quilts, Fleece Blankets, Soap and Christian Literature as well.

New this year, we will be collecting walker bags for the ELCA Synod Assembly to use for their service. Please check the articles in this edition of *The Communicator* for details.

Lutheran World Relief

https://lwr.org/

Check the website every few months as they occasionally tweak some of the requirements or rename their project kits. Print the information for your members who don't use the computer.

There are also some interesting videos to view.

https://lwr.org/videos/ page/2

Thrivent members

please consider joining other members who are creatively using their Thrivent Financial Action Team seed money to help support LWR projects. You may find some new ideas here:

https://lwr.org/getinvolved/thrivent-actionteams

Facebook

There is also a Facebook site to share information and photos and to ask questions about quilts and kits: LWR Quilters & Kit Makers Community

https://www.facebook.com/ groups/lwrquilters

Mission Action/Stewardship

What moves a body to action? Let me put on my science hat on for a moment. Newton's second law of motion gives us the standard formula of Force = Mass x Acceleration. That force can be calculated either internally (the signals in the brain firing energy to your muscles causing you to lift your leg) or externally (someone pushing you until you move). Both are required either separately or together to create an action. Why am I giving you a physics and biology lesson? I'll come back to that.

This is my fourth and final (for now) year on the Synodical Board for the Women of the ELCA, and this will most likely be my final article to you during this term. I find myself introspective and mulling over how I have been forced into action over these years.

My time on the board, serving the women that come to leadership and convention, witnessing how the right people seem to always come forward at the right time to create our events, loading that wonderful semi every year with our in-kind offerings, has shown me how God is always at work in us and through us. I will never forget the time we helped raise the money for Phebe hospital ahead of schedule or the time we collected shoes for Soles for Souls and made the coordinator call in a second truck because we gave so much! These experiences grew my faith exponentially and gave me the strength to move forward to new opportunities.

In my first year on the Synod Board, I was fortunate enough to attend my first Triennial gathering in Minneapolis. Like many that went, I did not have a clear view of who the Women of the ELCA was outside of my own church. Triennial introduced me to the community of the larger church in a powerful and inviting way. I learned about the work of AMMPARO, the Faith, Sexism and Justice Social Statement, rising up against Human Trafficking and much more through Triennial. Since then, I felt the external forces from this community calling me to concrete action in calling for justice.

Back to the science lesson. Just as we can calculate internal and external forces the create physical action, I can clearly see the internal and external forces in the Women of the ELCA that shaped me and strengthened my actions. As you probably know, Women of the ELCA has three main areas of mission: growth, community and action. What serving on the board revealed to me was how these three missions are interconnected and rely on each other to create a strong organization. As a member of the mission action team, I need the internal forces that come from growth in faith and discipleship. I need the external forces from community in each other and the world that cries for justice. Both of these things strengthen the actions we are called to in mission.

I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Synod Board of the Women of the ELCA. Quite frankly, I don't know where my life would be if I hadn't taken this journey. So, I leave you with this. What is your journey? What are the forces of growth and community calling you to action? May God bless you and keep you on this path.

> Christina Nelson, Karla Conrad, Barbara Wurtzberger

ELCA Synod Assembly Service Opportunity

For the last few years, we have partnered with our Synodical church body to bring service projects to Synod Assembly. We are happy to another fun project this year that will bring some joy and comfort to our local neighbors.

At Synod Assembly, voting members and guests will have the opportunity to assemble care kits for our siblings in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Women of the ELCA has been asked to provide a removable walker bag that can hold the items in the kit.

We are asking all units and conferences to bring as many completed bags as possible to our Convention. We will deliver them to the Synod Assembly in June.

There are many patterns for these bags you

could choose from. The next page has instructions for a very easy version we highly recommend.

Thank you! Please help us spread the word and get sewing!

Walker Bag Instructions

-designed by Carol Krage of Hutchinson, MN

Our many thanks to Carol for the use of this pattern. Carol has made many of these bags for Hutchinson Health Auxiliary. Thank you, Carol, for your ministry and allowing us to share in it.

Materials:

- 1/2 yard colored fabric
- 1/4 yard contrast fabric
- 9" of 3/4" wide sew-on velcro
- Thread
- Sewing machine

Instructions:

- 1. Using your colored fabric, cut two 9" x 17" rectangles and 9" x 25" rectangles. Using your contrast fabric, cut two 9" x 21" rectangles. Cut your velcro into three 3" pieces.
- 2. Sew velcro pieces to the right side of one of the 9" x 25" rectangles. All pieces should be 3/4" from the edge. Make sure the four pieces on the long sides will line up when you fold the fabric in half. Set aside for a moment.



- 3. Take your second 9" x 25" rectangle and lay it right side up. Fold both rectangles from you contrast fabric (9" x 21") in half and lay on each end of the previous rectangle.
- 4. Fold both of the 9" x 17" rectangles and place on top of the contrasting fabric pieces. Line up the edges.
- 5. Place your 9" x 25" rectangle with the velcro WRONG side up on top of the rest of the fabric and pin. Sew all the way around with a 3/8" seam allowance. Make sure to leave a 2-4" opening!



6. Trim corners, turn right side out and press.



Walker Bag Instructions—Cont'd

- 7. Top stitch all the way around to close the opening.
- 8. All done! Make another one!





TIPS:

JoAnn Fabrics: often has 50% off coupons to use for fabric and other materials

Fabric Recommendations: Solid—Symphony Broadcloth; Contrast—Keepsake Calico/Quilter Showcase. Purchase a little more fabric than needed to accommodate uneven edges. Prewash fabric for possible shrinkage.

Velcro: Use SEW-ON Hook & Loop Fastener; Package of 1 yard x 3/4" wide velcro will make four 9" pieces.

Looking Out My Window by Joan

We are the Apple of God's Eye



"Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of Your wings" $_{Psalm 17:8}$

Every day I can see our apple trees from my kitchen window. The three dwarf trees were a Mother's Day gift from our three children about 40 years ago and they have supplied many apples over the years. Two years ago, a strong wind came through the yard and the middle tree got blown over, so now there are two trees. They have taken turns producing apples each year and this year the south tree is just loaded with apples – small apples, but many of them! Living close to a creek we do have many deer that live in our grove and it is a given that the deer will happily help themselves to many of the lower hanging apples on the trees – a daily struggle we deal with when it comes to Mother Nature!!

Don't you just love apples? The taste, smell, and feel of them? Living in Minnesota we can especially connect them with late summer and early fall.

What does it mean to be the apple of God's eye? To be cherished by all others, to be very dear to someone, or to be the focus of someone. It means we are very special and precious to God. Many times we can feel appreciated, but there are times in life that pain and trials cause us to doubt.

In Zechariah 2:8, Israel had been plundered by enemies because of their faithlessness, yet God said He would be merciful to them. They were His most precious possession. In Psalm 17:8, David believed He was the apple of God's eye despite his life-threatening experiences with pagans.

Being precious and greatly loved by God may not keep us from unpleasant, difficult, or even dangerous circumstances. But regardless of how our lives and struggles appear to us, we must believe that God's loving and watchful focus is always on us.

So the next time you bite into an apple, not only can you thank God that you are the apple of His eye, but pray that you will maintain faith in Him and His commands and enjoy physical fruit as well as spiritual fruit! How comforting it is to know that each one of us is precious to God. May we be reminded that the earthly sufferings will not cause us to doubt this wonderful truth! You are that light of the world. The love of God is in you and around you. You know the one who loves you. Don't keep God's love for you a secret. *"Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

2019 Fall Conference Gatherings

Send your reports and photos from your gatherings to swmnwelca@gmail.com for our winter edition of The Communicator!

Conference	Date/Time	Location	Attending	Program
Crow River	Sept 28, 2019 8:30am—noon	Bethel Lutheran Church Lester Prairie, MN	Betty Brandt	Deb Hadley "My Amazing Life—Finding God in the Midst of the Storm"
Glacial Ridge	Sept 23, 2019 4:00pm	First Lutheran Church Morris, MN	Louise Ferry	Pr. Dan Bowman
Great River	Oct 5, 2019	Bethlehem Lutheran Church St. Cloud, MN	Dianne Doscher	
Lac Qui Parle	Oct 15, 2019 8:30am	Granite Falls Lutheran Church Granite Falls, MN	Kim Christianson	Travis Osterhide Green Lake Ministries
Lakeland	Sept 26, 2019 5:00pm	Green Lake Bible Camp Spicer, MN	Christina Nelson	Megan Morrison & Mary Gruis To Be A Blessing
Minnesota Valley	Oct 12, 2019 9:00 am	Scandian Grove Lutheran Church St Peter, MN	Jane Tongen	Judy Watke Repairing Broken Walls
Prairie	Oct 5, 2019 8:30am	Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Canby, MN	Linda Magnuson	Janice Zimmerman Trip to the Holy Land
Scenic Valley	Sept 19, 2019 5:00pm	Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Redwood Falls, MN	Janet Hagen	
Shetek	Sept 14, 2019 8:30am—noon	Shetek Lutheran Ministries Slayton, MN	Karla Conrad	Pastor Mike and Terry Stangeland C.S. Lewis's Irish Roots
Watonwan River	Oct 5, 2019 8:30am	First Lutheran Church St James, MN	Barb Wurtzberger	

SYNODICAL BOARD 2019-2020

President:

Joan Iverson 23308 County Road 54, Lamberton, MN 56152 507-445-3388 507-227-8670 (Cell) jackjoan73@gmail.com Congregation: Old Westbrook Lutheran, Westbrook Conference: Shetek (1st term expires 2020)

Vice-President:

Linda Magnuson PO Box 105, Cottonwood, MN 56229 507-423-5243 lindamag@charter.net Congregation: Christ Lutheran, Cottonwood Conference: Prairie (2nd term expires 2021)

Secretary:

Jill Duncan PO Box 745, Lester Prairie, MN 55354 320-395-2960 320-420-6284(Cell) jillyd58@hotmail.com Cogregation: Bethel Lutheran, Lester Prairie Conference: Crow River (1st term expires 2021)

Treasurer:

Maria Lokensgard 37980 State Highway 22, St Peter, MN 56082 507-246-5828 mandem.loke@gmail.com Congregation: Scandian Grove, St Peter Conference: MN Valley (2nd term expires Jan 2021)

Board Members At Large:

Betty Brandt 1259 Bradford St SE, Hutchinson, MN 55350 320-587-9655 218-244-5219 (Cell) cookingbetty@gmail.com Congregation: River of Hope, Hutchinson Conference: Crow River (2nd term expires 2020)

Kim Christianson

1300 Englewood Rd, Marshall, MN 56258 507-530-2301 (Cell) christianson.kim@gmail.com Congregation: First Lutheran, Marshall Conference: Prairie (2nd term expires 2020)

Karla Conrad

175 30th Ave, Jasper, MN 56144 507-215-1624 605-331-1287 (work) conradkarla@gmail.com Congregation: Jasper Lutheran, Jasper Conference: Shetek (2nd term expires 2021)

Dianne Doscher

208 11th St So, Benson, MN 56215 320-368-0479(Cell) e.ddoscher@charter.net Congregation: Our Redeemer's, Benson Conference: Glacial Ridge (1st term expires 2021)

Louise Ferry

920 70th St NE, Benson, MN 56215 320-843-2477 320-766-3554 (Cell) Iferry56215@yahoo.com Congregation: Shepherd of the Hills, Benson Conference: Glacial Ridge (1st term expires 2020)

Janet Hagen

1212 Parkside Dr, Marshall, MN 56258 507-829-9916 hagen_janet@yahoo.com Congregation: Rock Valle Lutheran, Echo Conference: Scenic Valley (1st term expires 2021)

Christina Nelson

905 Meadow Ln, Willmar, MN 56201 320-412-0510 (Cell) swmnwelca@gmail.com Congregation: Tripolis Lutheran, Kandiyohi Conference: Lakeland (2nd term expires 2020)

Jane Tongen

1442 Division St E, Brownton, MN 55312 320-328-4176 320-510-1710 (work) jt3205101726@gmail.com Congregation: Grace Lutheran, Brownton Conference: MN Valley (2nd term expires 2021)

Barbara Wurtzberger

17675 220th Ave, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 507-794-6869 507-276-2381 (Cell) rwurtz@sleepyeyetel.net Congregation: Our Savior's, New Ulm Conference: Watonwan (1st term expires 2020)

SW MN Synod Staff Liaison:

Pastor Kathryn Skoglund PO Box 499, Redwood Falls, MN 56283 507-627-9047 (work) kathryn.skoglund@swmnelca.org

Communicator Editor:

Christina Nelson 905 Meadow Ln, Willmar, MN 56201 320-412-0510 (Cell) swmnwelca@gmail.com