



# The Communicator

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

Out of an abundance of love for neighbors, the Synod Board made the difficult decision to cancel the 33rd Synodical Convention scheduled for May 2nd.

All conference spring gatherings have also cancelled their events. Please check in with your conference president for further information on those events.

Following the directive of the churchwide organization, the Synod Board has approved the budget for 2021 in a special board meeting. (You can view this budget in this issue of the Communicator) Election of new Synod Officers will take place in 2021. Please check back on our website, [www.swmnwelca.org](http://www.swmnwelca.org), for future updates!

We all pray for your continued health, safety and care in this painful and uncertain time.

God Bless,

SWMN WELCA Synod Board



### Inside this issue

<a href="#">A Word From Your President</a>	.....2
<a href="#">Mission Community/Justice</a>	.....4
<a href="#">Mission Growth/Discipleship</a>	.....5
<a href="#">Mission Action/Stewardship</a>	.....5
<a href="#">Looking Out My Window by Joan</a>	....6
<a href="#">Triennial 2020 Update</a>	.....7
<a href="#">2021 Approved Budget</a>	.....8
<a href="#">2019-20 Synodical Board</a>	.....10

### Special points of interest

- [Blessed are the Peacemakers](#)
- [Psalms of Lament](#)



## A Word from Your President

Greetings to all the women of the SW MN Synodical Women's Organization!

I once again had the privilege of attending the Conference of President's Meeting in Chicago February 21 – 23. It was a great conference and one of the best I've attended through the years. The planning committee did a very fine job of planning the event! Another fact that made it a great weekend was the beautiful weather we dealt with. It did not feel like February with temperatures in the 50's in Chicago! What a fun weekend to be able to worship and celebrate Bold Women's Sunday!! The theme this year was "The Power of Community" with the theme verse from Hebrews 10:24-25. A great weekend spent at the Lutheran Center with other BOLD women!!

There were approximately 59 synods represented and it was fun to meet some new ladies along with CW President, Lisa Plorin and a few CW Ex. Board Members and the staff from CW office. Most of us were roomed with our Partner Synod gal – which was fun to be able to visit some more about what our two synods are doing! Our Partner Synod is Virginia Synod and I always enjoy visiting with Jody Smiley – the VW SWO President! We threw around some ideas for our two synods to get together at some point at Triennial, but nothing definite was decided on, so watch for more information on that event as we get closer to July in Phoenix!

There was talk and discussion throughout the weekend on the proposed constitutional changes that will be coming before the voting members at the Triennial Convention in July. The next publication of INTERCHANGE (on-line publication) will list the constitution changes being proposed, so if you haven't seen the changes proposed by now on the WELCA website – you will be able to view them that way.

For those of you that maybe haven't heard, our synod is down to 9 voting members attending Triennial. Christina Nelson was elected as our Woman of Color/Other Language but she had to back out due conflicts with her job. Being we did not have an Alternate to fill that spot our synod loses one vote, but I am confident that the rest of our 9 voting members will do a good job to represent our synod at Triennial!

Please see the "Triennial Page" in this publication on more info on the Triennial. With the COVID-19 Pandemic the plans for Triennial are being considered almost daily on churchwide level. With all the uncertainty of this crisis, it is wise to keep informed by any changes regarding Triennial. The churchwide executive board is holding a ZOOM meeting April 25<sup>th</sup> and a decision on Triennial plans will be made at that meeting. Any updates will be posted at [www.welcatg.org](http://www.welcatg.org) or you can also go directly to [www.welca.org](http://www.welca.org).

Other items I'd like to share with you that came out of COP in Chicago are some items of interest:

- \$40,000 was raised from 36 synods who chose to pay for a Triennial Voting Member cost for this year.
- As long as the constitutional changes proposed were presented 6 months prior to the Triennial, any of the proposed changes that are voted in at Triennial will become effective immediately.
- 19 awards were received by CW Staff on the Gather and Café publications and others.
- Once again reminded of the importance of the 6 Models for Mission available for unit and conference boards.
- The Triennial Gathering registration is at 1200 (with 555 who pre-registered). [FYI: average Gathering attendance has been between 2,000 – 2,500]. 15% are first time attendees and **Minnesota** is leading the pack in Gathering registrations (as of Feb). SWMN has around 46 registered to date! WAY TO GO LADIES!! There are 125 registered for the Triennial Gathering Choir and 100 registered for the Run, Rock & Roll. These were numbers shared to date, so we all pray the numbers will increase over the next few months!! WATCH the website for the list of speakers during both the Convention & the Gathering [www.welcatg.org](http://www.welcatg.org). Due to the green initiative proposed at the 2017 Triennial, all 2020 attendees are "encouraged" to bring your own coffee mug or water bottle to use through the Triennial!
- Financial challenges do exist. All offerings going to churchwide are down. With the fiscal year just closing on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> we did not get a complete report but that will be sent to the SWO Presidents soon.
- LWR were present and gave a great presentation!! Did you all know that 2020 is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lutheran World Relief? It is!! Watch the website for more information but come October there will be info on planned events and resources on-line. The new 2020 Quilt & Kit Ministry Guides were distributed and can also be found on-line at [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org). The new distribution map will also be coming on-line soon, so watch for that. "Let us not become weary in doing good" was a phrase repeated during the LWR presentation and is an important phrase to keep in mind as you women prepare the quilts and kits in your own units! Of course, the changes in their acceptance of a couple items was announced. Due to the availability locally for many countries some items are just not feasible to send anymore. So, as of May 1, 2020 LWR is no longer accepting BULK SOAP or FLEECE BLANKETS. LWR had no requests for BULK SOAP this past year, so due to that fact they have dropped that from the list of things to donate. [Please remember that the soap bars asked for in the Personal Care Kits and Baby Care Kits are still acceptable]. It is exciting if a country can obtain the soap they need locally! The two LWR warehouses are really smelling good with the overstock of bulk soap and LWR will now give that to homeless shelters and other organizations locally that can make use of the bulk soap.

## A Word from Your President—Cont'd

As far as the FLEECE BLANKETS – these are deemed environmentally challenging. Other countries just don't have the technology that the US has in our waste treatment centers. For other countries, they wash these blankets in their lakes and rivers and the fleece is contaminating their water supplies. We want to replace the fleece blankets with quilts and strive to be good stewards!! Again, if you have fleece blankets all made up give them locally to organizations in need.

- The Bible study and Worship Services held at COP were led by Rev. Brooke Peterson from the Chicago area. She did a great job and we all enjoyed her presence!
- An interesting workshop was presented by the ELCA AMMPARO organization. (more found on-line publications)
- CW Staff presented a great powerpoint presentation of the different program areas covered by staff.
- \$7000.00 was collected at the Saturday Worship offering and will be divided with ½ going to Churchwide and ½ going to AMMPARO.
- Here's a quote made during the COP that is really a good quote to use when it comes to the Women of the ELCA. **"Bold Women – may we know them, may we be them, may we raise them!"**

In light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the May 2<sup>nd</sup> SWO Convention is cancelled. According to our constitution, no election will happen if a convention is cancelled, so the present officers/board members will continue serving until we can hold the next convention. Yes, the Publicity Packet did get posted on the website ([www.swwelca.org](http://www.swwelca.org)) but of course that is no longer needed. The only page you could still use from that is the "OFFERING PAGE". The board felt the safety and health of our women of SWMN is too important to jeopardize, so the decision was made by the synod board to cancel the convention this year. We are still going to put together the 'Faith Journey' stories that many of our ordained female clergy had already turned in. If any female clergy would still like to submit a Faith Journey Story, please submit them to me by June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will still publish the booklet we had promised that will be ready for distribution late summer. Please watch the website for any details on how to get a copy!

All events scheduled for the convention are cancelled. **BUT....we will still honor the three convention offering objectives** (1/2 to Churchwide; ¼ to Chilstrom Scholarship Fund and ¼ to AMMPARO. We encourage individuals, units and conferences to still **send in your offerings to our synod treasurer. If you can't access the original offering form, put a note in with your check when you send it to Maria. That way she will get the money designated to the right place!**

The August 22<sup>nd</sup> Leadership Event is still on the calendar and at that time we will have our normal Leadership Event at

Gloria Dei Lutheran in Redwood. At this point we are praying we'll be able to hold this event, but if it can't be held due to state regulations yet, you will be notified. We are tentatively planning the event by holding our usual Leadership Event and also making it possible for the women to bring their In-Kind Offerings scheduled for the May Convention.

ALL Conference Spring Gatherings are CANCELLED as well due to the COVID-19. Many are declaring a unanimous ballot (if you have just the needed amount of nominees on your ballot for election) and planning installation at the Fall Gatherings.

Many have asked about the Walker Bag project. Being this is a synod project and the women were just asked to make the bags, it will be entirely up to the synod if this project will still happen. All dependent if synod assembly happens or not. Synod Council will be meeting by ZOOM meeting April 25<sup>th</sup> – so more should be known at that point. Please watch our website for any new information on that. So at this time, just hang on to those Walker Bags you have made.

I need to correct something stated in the Jan/Feb/Mar. Communicator. It was stated that St. Paul's Lutheran of Arlington has disbanded. That should have read "St. Paul's Lutheran of HECTOR". Sorry for that error. On the other hand, Providence Valley LCW of Lac Qui Parle Conference has disbanded their women's group.

Prayers for Al Erickson (founder of ASK) in Minneapolis. His beloved wife, Ina, passed away January 18, 2020 and a celebration of life was held at Bethlehem Lutheran, Mpls. back on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>. Al has requested that memorials be sent to Adults Saving Kids at 6501 Woodlake Drive, #814, Richfield MN 55423. The synod board has sent a memorial and if your conference board or units would like to send a memorial, please do so.

Joan Iverson, President

SW MN SWO Women of the ELCA



## Blessed are the Peacemakers

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Matthew 5:9 NRSV



- Pray for peace among nations and peoples.
- Host an after-school, summer or weekend feeding program for children and families.
- Forgive as we have been forgiven by God.
- Organize a community march against family violence.
- Challenge the systems that perpetuate poverty.
- Contact the ELCA Advocacy Office about joining with other Lutherans to speak to public officials about the difference your congregational ministries make in your community.
- Sign up for the ELCA Advocacy Network to receive information and other alerts.
- Love all of humanity, respecting everyone, and seeing differences as a gift from God.

More ideas and information at these links.

[ELCA Social Issues](#)  
[Justice for Women](#)  
[Gender-Based Violence](#)  
[Human Trafficking](#)

## Mission Community/Justice

### JUSTICE AND PEACE

First I want give you two definitions:

**Justice** is the quality of being just; righteousness, equitableness, or moral rightness: to uphold the justice of a cause. ... the maintenance or administration of what is just by law, as by judicial or other proceedings: as a court of justice.

Biblical references to the word "justice" means "to make right." Justice is, people living in right relationship with God, one another, and the natural creation. ... As God is just and loving, so we are called to do justice and live in love.

**Peace** is a stress-free state of security and calmness that comes when there's no fighting or war, everything coexisting in perfect harmony and freedom. ... Peace also means being free from disturbance. ... True peace includes personal wholeness, righteousness, political justice, and prosperity for all creation.

The Hebrew word Shalom describes the "realm where chaos is not allowed to enter," chaos being understood as sickness, war, social strife, or the violation of the covenant. Peace can result from military victory. In Greek the word for "peace" means to reconcile, to be at peace, and to make peace.

Now let's bring this information into real life. Peace is the consequence of justice & just relationships. But Peace is "only Peace" it is not something that can be thrust or forced upon anyone. In the biblical times some religious and political leaders just trampled over the helpless or the weak. Sometimes the offerings and prayers that they offered to God were just for appearance sake.

***"There is no peace," says the Lord, "for the wicked."*** Isaiah 48:22

But God knew better, this is why he asked them to be sure that Justice Flows like water unhindered so that all can get their share of the blessings of a good and Gracious God.

***"Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never – failing stream."*** Amos 5:24

Lasting Peace (Just Peace) needs to be enjoyed by everyone in a community. As most of us know, God is a God of justice & peace not of confusion and disruption.

***"And the work of justice shall be peace, even the work of justice and quietness, and assurance forever."*** Isaiah 32:17

We as people of faith know, Jesus was treated unjustly, when all he was doing, was teaching of Peace, Love, & Righteousness. Yet, at the same time he knew human beings have a sinful nature and have trouble doing the things he was teaching.

***"No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice; so that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."*** Genesis 18:19

As I continue to learn, by reading from the bible, listening to others read the Old and New Testaments, hearing the Gospels read and sermons preached, I become surer of God's Love, Justice and Peace. With that being said, we as sinful human beings should be doing what God requires of us.

***"And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God."*** Micah 6:8bNRSV

Now go follow your heart and be a peacemaker, and go out and help find justice for those in need. This is our duty as Servants of God.

Jane Tongen, Louise Ferry, Kim Christianson

## Mission Growth/Discipleship

As the Season of Lent comes to a close, we find our journey taking us to Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and to the joyous celebration of the Risen Christ on Easter Morning. What a BLESSING for all of us!

The following named article is from the resource section on the ELCA website.



### Finding Your Spiritual Gifts

God has given each Christian two vitally important gifts. The first is the gift of faith in Jesus Christ, his work of redemption and thus forgiveness of sin. The second is the gift of one or more special abilities, which are to be used for the purpose of unifying the body of Christ and for the growth of God's Kingdom. These abilities are called spiritual gifts and they are received through our baptism.

The Apostle Paul refers to the following as references for the spiritual gifts: Romans 12 – How to Behave; I Corinthians 12 – Spiritual Gifts; Ephesians 4 – Unity in the body of Christ; and I Peter 4:10 – God has given each of you a gift from his variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

## Mission Action/Stewardship

In February a group of nine from Our Savior's Lutheran, New Ulm went on a week-long mission trip to the US/Mexico border near Pharr, Texas. This is where we witnessed a severe need for humanitarian aid as well as the political need for comprehensive immigration reform. Here I'm going to write about the unexpected message I received, I believe, from the Holy Spirit about prayer. Never in a hundred years did I think I personally would receive a gift on this trip. The trip wasn't about me, but it is true I have needed to learn to trust in prayer. The "prayer message" to me was given through examples I witnessed and heard about from others.

First, Hugo and Eunice Moya, our hosts through BorderPerspective.com, have ministered for over 20 years to desperate people coming across the border. This humanitarian tide seems unending and no solutions to solve the reasons for this migration have been reached. Hugo said over and over, "We must pray about this." They conduct worship services in a room in a tire shop. They have a keyboard, drum set, their Bibles and most importantly prayer. Anybody could feel worn out and just give up and turn their attention to something else in life. But not Hugo and Eunice. Through prayer they continue their ministry. Their reliance on prayer in the face of human need was the most powerful thing I have ever witnessed.

Second, a young woman on our mission team saw all this too. She said she came to realize that prayer was real. The good it

All Christians have been given at least one spiritual gift. The purpose of spiritual gifts is two-fold (1) to unify Christians in their faith and (2) to produce growth within the church, both numerical and spiritual. These gifts are to be used out of love for one another, and in service to one another. There are many gifts; people have different gifts; some people have more than one gift . . . all spiritual gifts come from the Holy Spirit.

We do not choose which gifts we will receive. God bestows them upon us through the work of the Holy Spirit. Some examples of spiritual gifts may be in artistry, giving, hospitality, music – vocal or instrumental, intercession, knowledge, leadership, skilled craft, teaching, and writing.

What are my gifts . . . which gifts have I been blessed with? Discovering the answer to that question requires prayer and an openness to the Holy Spirit within me . . . directing me along the way with a thankful heart in its direction.

The spiritual gifts are there always. They are meant to be used in my daily life, in daily Bible reading and to bring glory to God and in serving the needs of others.

Heavenly Father, help us to use our spiritual gifts to further your kingdom. Guide our lives Lord so that it may be to your glory. Help us to be aware of our brothers and sisters in need that we may reach out to them and let them know your unending love and mercy. We pray in your Holy Name . . . Amen

Dianne Doscher, Janet Hagen, Betty Brandt

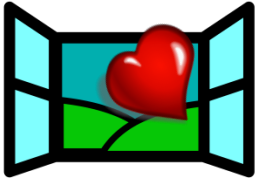
could do was real. Good things happening are not just the result of a lucky coincidence. Good things happen through prayer.

And last, a member of our team told of her family member who had demonstrated over the years how prayers for things large and small were often answered. The example of a small, but very helpful prayer request was for an open parking space in the night in a city on a busy crowded street. The nurses and others in the car returned each night from helping in one of the hurricanes that hit the east coast. I think it was the Red Cross who wanted this car parked in front of the building each night. It was impossible to find a parking space. So the team asked for prayers from this prayerful woman, and for the rest of the time they were there, they found an open parking space in front of the building each night when they rounded the corner and came down the street.

So now I am home and have had time to reflect on what we saw and learned. Hugo Moya is a retired grounds man at a high school. Now he works part time. They live frugally, I suspect on very little. But here they are, trusting in the Lord, praying steadily and accomplishing much to help people in need. And their example has changed my prayer life. I did not see that coming and I am very thankful it happened.

Barb Wurtzberger, Christina Nelson, Karla Conrad

## Looking Out My Window by Joan



While attending the Conference of Presidents recently there was the famous old phrase brought out more than once in conversation. I know we've all either said it or thought it or heard it: **"we've never done it like that!"** Thinking about this phrase that is so easy to refer to when it comes to events or projects we are all doing in our local units, I did some searching and found the verse from Isaiah 43:18-19 and thought I'd share some thoughts that came to mind.

*"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."* Isaiah 43:18-19

As much as most of us don't like change or try new things when it comes to our units, we are all guilty of being comfortable doing things like we always have. That can be a good thing! When we do try new ways of leading a meeting or conducting a special project in a different way, and forget the important parts of our meetings and the true meaning and goals of our meetings and gatherings, do you ever get the feeling that the changes might be done to increase our attendance and make us a "better" person by the changes. Some of these changes can be good, but have you ever thought about the fact that when we make changes it may be for the wrong reason? We might be seeking to rebuild our attendance and influence of the organization instead of rebuilding the body of Christ? After all we are a community of women created in the image of God!

The Lord spoke through the prophet Isaiah and said, "Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing." Many of us fall to that temptation to make things "just like they once were" and we want the organization to be as popular as it once was. Change can be good if we make changes for the good of our lives and for the right reasons. Think about it.....God does not call us to be popular, he calls us to be faithful.

Let us all consider how we can discern God's will in our lives and in our units. Instead of just assuming that if we water down our ministries more people will show up for the meetings, gatherings and conventions, let us pray earnestly and wait for God's will to guide us. Instead of limiting our faith to "how to be a better person", let us live out our faith and pray for God to make us more like Jesus!

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

## Psalms of Lament

God who holds all things...

Uncertain and ungrounded, O Lord,  
the future is clouded.

Can you hear our cries, O Lord,  
our pain and despair?

Distance hurts, O Lord,  
both body and spirit.

Our connections are weak, O Lord,  
and hope is tenuous.

We need you now, O Lord,  
to bind us together.

Spin webs of love and grace, O Lord,  
between all people.

Grant us hope, O Lord,  
and glimpses of you.

Ground us in your certain love, O Lord,  
and bring us to your glorious future.

-Rev. Jon Nelson, Ebenezer and Tripolis Lutheran Church

"Lamentation, a prayer for help coming out of pain, is very common in the Bible. When we hurt physically, we cry out in pain; when we hurt religiously, we cry out in lament. A Psalm of Lament is an address to God: a complaint, a request, and usually an expression of trust. Types of complaints include: concerns with the psalmists own thoughts and actions, concerns with the actions of an enemy or prevailing attitude, and concerns with God's action or inaction. They are cries of despair, anger, protest and doubt. They are the largest class of psalms and were a normal part of Israel's praise and worship. There are communal psalms of lament and individual ones." -Vineyard Church, Ann Arbor

In this time of growing fear, uncertainty and anxiety around this global pandemic, it can be helpful spiritual practice to dive into the Psalms of Lament. Better yet, you could take this time to write your own as you can see here! The following website has wonderful instructions and outlines for doing just that. Check it out! <https://annarborvineyard.org/participate/spiritual-formation/writing-a-psalm-of-lament/>

# Triennial 2020 Update



As this goes to press, it is still unknown if Triennial 2020 will happen. Churchwide staff and executive board are working almost daily on how to handle all the unknown right now. Please look for updates at [www.welcatg.org](http://www.welcatg.org).

Our Voting Members are: **Linda Magnuson; Maria Lokensgard; Louise Ferry; Jane Tongen; Algene Larson; Carla Johnson; Kristy Henriksen; Karen Skaraphol and Joan Iverson.** (*Christina Nelson was elected as our Woman of Color/Other Language voting member, but she had to back out due to other conflicts. We will lose one voting member due to the fact that we did not have an alternate for her*).

We also have three **ALTERNATE** voting members (on call if a voting member cannot attend). Those three Alternates are: **Nan Crary; Barbara Borth and Sandra Buendorf.**

**Triennial Promoter:** Pat Stevermer from Sleepy Eye agreed to serve as our own Triennial Promoter and she did a good job of attending as many of the conference gatherings as she could. Unfortunately, some family commitments have come up for her and she has had to withdraw as being our promoter and will not be able to attend Triennial. So if you have questions, you can get ahold of Joan Iverson – [jackjoan73@gmail.com](mailto:jackjoan73@gmail.com) or 507.227.8670 or Linda Magnuson – [lindamag@charter.net](mailto:lindamag@charter.net) or 507.828.7544 and we'll do our best to help you.

Any new information that comes about for Triennial is posted on the churchwide website and you can go to [www.welcatg.org](http://www.welcatg.org) to see the latest info posted.

Several of the voting members have asked about travel arrangements. Knowing that all travel arrangements have to be made one month prior to flying, please keep your eyes open for any new announcements about this. Watch your email inboxes and just follow the information you are given. If you are planning to travel with other voting members, it's best to talk amongst you before making your flight arrangements.

All visitors attending the Gathering – you of course have to make your own travel arrangements.

Over the past year we've had sign-up sheets available at conference gatherings, the 2019 convention and 2010 Fall Leadership Event. We've asked women that are either planning to attend the **Triennial Gathering** to sign up. That listing has been e-mailed at least a couple times to those and

there has been some response of some wanting to take their names off the list and some new names that have been added to the list.

We don't want to miss anyone that is attending and we need to make sure we have enough SW MN SYNOD ID's available to hand out at the convention. This year's ID's will be a PIN with our logo on that is to be worn during the Triennial Convention and Triennial Gathering. They are being made. The Give-A-Way item will be the small 3M sticky note packs. Each pack will have a SW MN sticker on it. We just need some patience as we wait out this Virus and you will be notified as to how things will transpire and happen concerning Triennial in the next few months.

The listing as we have at this time is posted below of those who will be attending the Gathering. It will help the synod board to know if there are other women planning to attend (maybe you pre-registered at Mpls. in 2017, but just didn't sign-up on our sheet.) Please make sure all women of your Units see this list and if there are any corrections of additions that need to be made, please get that information to Joan Iverson ASAP. Email: [jackjoan73@gmail.com](mailto:jackjoan73@gmail.com) or call 507.227.8670 or email Linda Magnuson - [lindamag@charter.net](mailto:lindamag@charter.net) or 507.828.7544. Anyone that wants their name added to our list of attendees, we do need your name, email, phone number, conference. You can certainly share your mailing address if you don't have e-mail. As of now we have 46 listed and Churchwide office has about 54 registered. We don't want to miss anyone!!

**CROW RIVER ATTENDEES:** Betty Brandt; Ann Kosel; Kathleen Brandt-Rucker; Viola Bengtson; Melissa Berglund; Nan Crary; Phyllis Lindstrand;

**GLACIAL RIDGE ATTENDEES:** Louise Ferry; Algene Larson; Joanna Rustad

**GREAT RIVER ATTENDEES:** Barbara Borth; Carol McCall  
**LAC QUI PARLE ATTENDEE:** Carla Johnson

**LAKELAND ATTENDEES:** Marla Adrian; Jan Bjorngjeld; Rhonda Brady; Lois Evenson; Patti Hagen; Barb Hanson; Karol Markfelder; Rachel Rundquist; Marsha Nelson; Nancy Drange; Marlys Pearson; Nancy Olson; Vicky Pearson; Jennelle Cunnings

**MINNESOTA VALLEY ATTENDEES:** Maria Lokensgard; Jane Tongen; Sandra Buendorf; Leona Miller; Kay Mowbray

**PRAIRIE ATTENDEES:** Linda Magnuson; Kim Christianson; Shirley Pederson-Porisch; Dawn Planting; Karen Y. Murphy

**SCENIC VALLEY ATTENDEES:** Ruth Ann Anderson; LaVaun L. Danielson

**SHETEK ATTENDEES:** Joan Iverson; Kristy Henriksen; Karen Skaraphol

**WATONWAN RIVER ATTENDEES:** Judy Anderson; Glenda Bloomquist; Virginia Skow

**SYNOD ATTENDEES:** Pastor Kathryn Skoglund

**PLEASE NOTE:** There is a gathering registration available for transfer. Diane Fredin cannot attend the Gathering and if there is anyone out there that would still like to register and purchase her registration, let Diane now ASAP. 507.766.0895

## 2021 Approved Budget

BUDGET	2017	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2021
	ACTUAL	APPROVE	ACTUAL	APPROVED	ACTUAL	APPROVED	APPROVED
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 47,195.22</b>		<b>\$ 45,502.43</b>		<b>\$ 45,903.97</b>		
<b>REVENUE/INCOME</b>							
Conference Gathering Offerings	\$ 11,966.25	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 10,606.02	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,966.00	\$11,500.00	\$11,500.00
Unit Worship Offerings	\$ 25,722.74	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 24,702.97	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 22,380.94	\$26,000.00	\$23,000.00
Synod Convention Offering	\$ 8,606.50	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 9,990.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 8,442.00	\$11,000.00	\$10,500.00
Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$ 500.00		\$ 870.00		\$ 452.50		
LWR Shipping/In-kind fabric kits	\$ 2,498.60		\$ 2,030.60		\$ 2,071.40		
Food Packing Event	\$ 200.00						
Katie's Fund	\$ 429.25		\$ 798.01		\$ 555.43		
Synod Convention Income							
Extra Meals Purchased	\$ 167.50		\$ 70.00		\$ 50.00		
Registration	\$ 7,950.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,330.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 6,530.00	\$10,500.00	\$7,500.00
Donation			\$ 125.00				
Triennial Offerings	\$ 1,385.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 50.00	\$2,000.00	\$500.00
Direct Donations to Synod	\$ 450.00		\$ 575.00		\$ 1,581.69		
Bank Interest	\$ 0.41						
Individual Conference Income	\$ 13,729.15		\$ 15,553.72		\$ 11,975.00		
Void/Reissued Checks			\$ 48.95				
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 73,605.40</b>	<b>\$ 66,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 75,750.27</b>	<b>\$ 65,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 66,054.96</b>	<b>\$61,000.00</b>	<b>\$53,000.00</b>
<b>INCOME BALANCE</b>	<b>\$</b>		<b>\$</b>		<b>\$ 111,958.93</b>		
<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Conference Gathering Offerings	\$ 11,966.25	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 10,606.02	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,966.00	\$11,500.00	\$11,500.00
Conference Expenses /Mileage/Copies	\$ 1,500.96	\$ 750.00	\$ 675.10	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 936.46	\$750.00	\$1,250.00
Unit Worship Offerings	\$ 12,861.37	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,351.49	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 11,190.47	\$13,000.00	\$11,500.00
Synod Convention Offering	\$ 4,303.25	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 4,995.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 4,221.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,250.00
Convention Designated Offerings	\$ 4,303.25	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 4,995.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 4,221.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,250.00
LWR Shipping/In-kind fabric kits	\$ 2,498.60		\$ 3,034.65		\$ 2,071.40		
Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$ 500.00		\$ 1,180.00		\$ 452.50		
Food Packing Event	\$ 200.00						
Katie's Fund	\$ 429.25		\$ 798.01		\$ 555.43		
Synod Convention Expenses	\$ 9,064.96	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,868.62	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 9,459.88	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
Coming Year Convention Expenses	\$ 130.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		\$300.00	\$250.00
Financial Review	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00		\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00	\$150.00
Board Expenses	\$ 3,126.70	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,750.67	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,805.11	\$ 3,500.00	\$3,000.00
Administrative Expenses - Postage	\$ 340.61	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 400.00	\$150.00
Insurance	\$ 99.10	\$ 250.00	\$ 73.80	\$ 200.00	\$ 82.30	\$ 200.00	\$200.00
Bank Charges	\$ 311.25	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 25.40		\$400.00
Leadership Training	\$ 3,019.95	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,035.75	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,572.10	\$ 3,500.00	\$3,000.00
Equipping Congregation Day	\$ 205.36			\$ 400.00		\$ 100.00	
The Communicator	\$ 1,601.82	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$1,600.00
Memorials/Gifts/Donations	\$ 2,250.00		\$ 2,548.01		\$ 594.05		
Triennial Offering	\$ 1,385.00		\$ 50.00	\$ 500.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$500.00
Triennial Expense	\$ 1,826.97				\$ 735.00	\$ 4,000.00	

## 2021 Approved Budget—Cont'd

BUDGET	2017	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2021
	ACTUAL	APPROVE	ACTUAL	APPROVED	ACTUAL	APPROVED	APPROVED
Individual Conference Expenses	\$ 13,023.54		\$ 12,308.71		\$ 12,858.51		
Web Domain Fee			\$ 27.90			\$ 50.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 75,298.19</b>	<b>\$ 66,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 75,348.73</b>	<b>\$ 65,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 67,456.61</b>	<b>\$ 61,000.00</b>	<b>\$53,000.00</b>
<b>BALANCE ON HAND</b>	<b>\$ 45,502.43</b>		<b>\$ 45,903.97</b>		<b>\$ 44,502.32</b>		
<b>2019 Synod Convention Expenses</b>		<b>2019 Leadership Expenses</b>		<b>2019 Designated Convention Offering</b>			
Booklets, Printing	\$ 832.53	Facility	\$ 200.00		Campus Ministry- Marshall	\$ 2,110.50	
Entertainment	\$ 800.00	Food	\$ 1,223.85		Shetek Lutheran Ministry	\$ 2,110.50	
Facility	\$ 300.00	Lodging	\$ 529.80				
Food	\$ 2,415.30	Mileage	\$ 1,011.49		<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 4,221.00</b>
Gifts/CWO rep/Brd thank/conv consult	\$ 162.89	Postage	\$ 55.00				
Lodging	\$ 1,437.73	Copies	\$ 293.34				
Mileage	\$ 1,041.94	Supplies	\$ 258.62				
Musician	\$ 250.00	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,572.10</b>				
Nominating Com Mileage	\$ 375.14						
Postage	\$ 75.00						
Speakers	\$ 300.00	<b>2019 Gift/Memorials</b>			<b>2019 Board Expenses</b>		
Pastor Speakers	\$ 150.00	Global Health Ministry	\$ 25.00		Food	\$ 379.08	
Supplies	\$ 219.35	Puerto Rico Hurricane	\$ 500.00		Lodging	\$ 90.00	
Staff Support	\$ 650.00	Memorials	\$ 69.05		Mileage	\$ 2,110.49	
Workshop Presenters	\$ 450.00				Supplies	\$ 225.54	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 9,459.88</b>	<b>Total Ex-</b>		<b>\$ 594.05</b>	<b>Total Ex-</b>	<b>\$ 2,805.11</b>	

# SYNODICAL BOARD 2019-2020

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