

This is your Electronic Convention Publicity Packet

Read it over and share with all those interested in attending the

2023 Southwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Convention

at

**Shetek Lutheran Ministries
14 Keeley Island Drive
Slayton, Minnesota**

Friday, May 5, 2023

Make as many copies of the convention documents as you need.

*If you know of someone
without a computer, offer
to print a copy for them!*

Questions can be directed to:

Ilene Penk, SW MN SWO

President

320-510-1261

ilene@wildbluecoop.com



WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Southwestern Minnesota Synod



DATE: March 2023

TO: Congregational Unit Presidents and Interested Women – Women of the ELCA

FROM: Ilene Penk, SW MN SWO President and the Synodical Women's Board

SUBJECT: Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) Convention – "Renew, Redo, Rejoice"
Friday, May 5, 2023 – Shetek Lutheran Ministries, Slayton, Minnesota

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! This electronic mailing is your **publicity packet** for the 2023 SWO Convention. It is the only mailing you will receive. Please read all the information carefully and pass it on to all women in your congregation. Make as many copies as you need. If you know of someone without a computer, print a copy for them. They will appreciate your time and effort!

This one-day convention will be held on Friday, May 5, 2023, at Shetek Lutheran Ministries, 14 Keeley Island Drive, Slayton, Minnesota. Our theme is "**Renew, Redo, Rejoice**" and our theme verse is Zephaniah 3:17b:

"He will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love, he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival." NRSV

Coffee and a snack will be furnished as you arrive, and a noon lunch will be served. We suggest you bring your own water bottle to use during the day.

Each congregational unit is allowed one voting member at the convention. Voting members will be seated toward the front of the room and grouped by conferences. ***Your unit is strongly encouraged to pay the registration expense for your voting member.*** Please abide by the schedules published. Your promptness is appreciated! If a voting member is unable to attend the convention, you may send someone else in her place, but the change must be made by 9:30 a.m. on the day of the convention.

The business sessions are for the Voting Members, but all women and visitors are welcome to sit in on the business of the day. Displays will be open during business sessions as well.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Convention in May! If you have any questions, you are welcome to give me a call or send an e-mail.

Ilene Penk
320-510-1261
ilene@wildbluecoop.com



Tentative Convention Schedule (subject to change)

Friday, May 5, 2023

9:00 a.m.	Registration/Coffee/Displays – in Activities Center
9:30	Deadline for changes to voting members
10:00	Welcome/Opening/Voting Member Orientation All voting members must be seated by this time.
10:15	Worship with Holy Communion, Rev. Heather Culuris officiating Convention Offering will be taken.
11:15	Plenary Session 1 Credential Report Greetings/Introductions Table Prayer
12:30 p.m.	Luncheon
1:30	Gathering Music Synod Representative, Pastor Heather Culuris, Synod Minister Plenary Session 2
2:00	Speaker – Katie Chapman, Shetek Environmental Learning Center
2:30 pm	Churchwide Representative Scholarship Report In-Kind offering Report & Dedication Installation of SWO Board Announcements Closing



Convention Worship Leader and Speaker

Rev. Heather Culuris



Rev. Heather Culuris will lead our opening worship and serve as our Convention Chaplain. She is the Southwestern Minnesota Synod Staff Liaison to our Synodical Board.

Pastor Heather writes, "I am honored to be serving as Synod minister for Engaging Leaders! Through almost 20 years of rural ministry, I bring a deep commitment to strengthening our congregations and leaders who serve them! I am enjoying the work of working with congregations in the call process, as well as candidates attending seminary and preparing for ministry as deacons and pastors. This past year has been full of many adventures learning about the congregations and people of our synod!"

Katie Chapman

Katie Chapman will be our convention speaker. She is a connection-forward naturalist who values community building as a successful tool in environmental education. She teaches with passion, guiding participants of all ages to think about their own roles in caring for our Earth, and how we can work together in grace and mutual understanding to protect the environment for generations to come.

Built over fifteen years of education experience, from being an Apostle Islands National Lakeshore National Park Ranger to leading programs at an Alaskan environmental learning center, Katie's repertoire of interpretation skills and educational capabilities have creatively shaped the programming at Shetek Lutheran Ministries to reflect her vision for a more thoughtful and connected future in both ministry and learning opportunities.



When not speaking or teaching, Katie can be found building campfires, cooking, hiking, or trying her very best to beat all her family members in board games.

Bulletin Blurbs – Publicizing for the Convention

Use these blurbs in your church newsletters and bulletins to encourage ALL WOMEN to attend the 2023 Convention of the Southwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization!

Newsletters - April:

The SW MN Synodical Convention of Women of the ELCA will be Friday, May 5, at Shetek Lutheran Ministries near Slayton, Minnesota. Make plans now to attend and join your sisters in Christ as we gather to "Renew, Redo, and Rejoice!" Come to the one-day convention for worship, speakers, displays and fellowship!

Bulletins - April 2, 9, and 16:

Women of the Church: Do you need some time for yourself? Come to the 2023 Synodical Women's Convention for some inspiration and refreshment. You will not be disappointed by the experience of worship, speakers, displays, and a little bit of business in a beautiful Bible camp setting! The convention will take place on Friday, May 5, at Shetek Lutheran Ministries near Slayton, Minnesota.

For registration information, contact _____ (*name of local person*). Registrations are due April 22nd.

Bulletins - April 23 & 30:

All women are invited to come to the SW MN Synodical Women's Convention on Friday, May 5, at Shetek Lutheran Ministries near Slayton, Minnesota. Although the registration deadline was April 22, walk-ins are welcome. Consider joining many other Lutheran women for a day of renewal, reflection, and celebration as we "Renew, Redo, and Rejoice!" Please contact _____ (*local contact person*) for all the details.

Lodging for 2023 SWO Convention

A limited number of rooms will be available at Shetek Lutheran Ministries on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost will be \$60 per person and includes a multiple occupancy room on Thursday night and Friday morning breakfast. Contact Shetek Lutheran Ministries at 507-763-3567 for more information.

The nearest large community to Shetek Lutheran Ministries is Marshall. Below is a list of hotels in Marshall.

Americinn by Wyndham
1406 E. Lyon Street
Marshall, MN
Phone: 507 537 9424

Free Breakfast, Free WiFi
Indoor Pool/ Hot Tub

Deluxe Motel
516E Main Street
Marshall, MN
Phone: 507 537 4441

Ever Spring Inn & Suites
1500 E. College Drive
Marshall, MN
Phone: 507 532 3221

Free Breakfast, Free WiFi
Indoor pool , Air conditioning

Quality Inn
1511 E College Drive
Marshall, MN
507 532 3070

Free WiFi, Free Breakfast
Indoor Pool

Sleep Inn & Suites
1300 N Wakama Street
Marshall, MN
507 337 0103

Free Breakfast, Free WiFi
Indoor Pool, Hot tub

Super 8
1106 E. Main Street
Marshall, MN
507 337 9297

Free Breakfast, Free WiFi
Pet Friendly,

Travelers Lodge
1425 E College Drive
Marshall, MN
507 532 5721

Free WiFi Air Conditioning
Pet Friendly, Kitchen in room