

**Southwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the ELCA  
Board Meeting Minutes – Transition Meeting  
Saturday, July 15, 2023 – SW MN Synod Office, Redwood Falls, Minnesota**

**Call to Order:** President Ilene Penk called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m.

**Members present:** Noreen Beranek, Marcella Chapman, Brenda Danielson, Dianne Doscher, Gwen Degner, Carolyn Enstad, Janet Hagen, Kathy Harwick, Jane Leitzman, Maria Lokensgard, Karen Quistorff, Ilene Penk. and Karen Skarphol.

**Members Absent:** Connie Dallmann and Carmen Maus

**Devotions:** Ilene Penk gave devotions based on Romans 12:10-11 called "The Power of Your Want To" by Joyce Meyer.

**Agenda:** M/S/P Brenda Danielson/Karen Skarphol to approve the agenda.

**Prayer requests** were shared.

President Ilene thanked Janet, Dianne, and Marcella for their service to the Board and welcomed our new Board Members: Karen Skarphol, Kathy Harwick, Jane Leitzman, and Karen Quistorff. Two positions are still open for Board Members at Large.

**Reports:**

- M/S/P Maria/Kathy to approve the minutes of March 25, 2023.
- M/S/P Dianne/Carolyn to approve the minutes of the SWO Convention of May 5, 2023, as amended.
- M/S/P Dianne/Carolyn to approve the Treasurer's Report. Maria reported a checking account balance on hand of \$42,482.30 as of July 14, 2023.

**Correspondence:** Thank you notes were read from Joan Iverson, Dianne Doscher, and Laura Krueger.

M/S/P Karen S./Dianne to approve the appointment of **Jane Leitzman as Vice President** for one year with re-election possible in 2024.

**Transition time** was held to allow outgoing Board members to work with their successors.

## **Unfinished Business:**

The 2023 SWO Convention was discussed, and attendee evaluations were reviewed.

Triennial Scholarships have been awarded to Sharon Carrigan in the amount of \$500 and to Patti Hagen in the amount of \$375.

## **New Business:**

Board members received packets of information for the coming year which included the SWO Constitution and Bylaws, Policy Statement, job descriptions, and other information. Board member biographies were shared.

### **Board Member assignments for 2023-2024 are:**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Mission Action (Stewardship)        | Noreen Beranek, Carolyn Enstad, Carmen Maus                |
| Mission Community (Justice)         | Connie Dallmann, Kathy Harwick                             |
| Mission Growth (Discipleship)       | Brenda Danielson, Karen Skarphol                           |
| Synod Nominating Committee Liaisons | Ilene Penk, Gwen Degner                                    |
| Administration/Finance              | Ilene Penk, Jane Leitzman,<br>Gwen Degner, Karen Quistorff |

### **Conference Liaisons for 2023-2024:**

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Crow River       | Connie Dallmann  |
| Glacial Ridge    | Gwen Degner      |
| Great River      | Jane Leitzman    |
| Lac Qui Parle    | Kathy Harwick    |
| Lakeland         | Carmen Maus      |
| Minnesota Valley | Brenda Danielson |
| Prairie          | Carolyn Enstad   |
| Scenic Valley    | Noreen Beranek   |
| Shetek           | Karen Skarphol   |
| Watsonwan River  | Ilene Penk       |

The Board set the following **meeting dates** for 2023-2024:

- Friday-Saturday, Sept. 8-9, before and after the Leadership Training, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Redwood Falls
- Saturday, October 28, 10 a.m., Synod Office – Board training meeting
- Sunday, Nov. 12, 1 p.m., at Cross of Calvary in Olivia
- Saturday, January 13, 10 a.m., in Olivia. If the weather is bad, we will meet by Zoom.
- Saturday, February 17, 10 a.m., in Olivia. If the weather is bad, we will meet by Zoom.
- Friday, May 3, gather at 3 p.m. or as soon as possible at Gloria Dei in Redwood Falls
- Saturday, May 4, SWO Convention at Gloria Dei.

Conference **Fall Gatherings** have been scheduled as follows:

Sept. 18 – Glacial Ridge – St. Paul’s, Lowry – 4 pm  
Sept. 30 - Shetek – Shetek Lutheran Ministries - 8:30 -12:30  
Oct. 7 – Prairie – Hendricks – Christ Lutheran – 8:30  
Oct. 7 – Great River – Faith, Becker – 9 a.m.  
Oct. 14 – Minnesota Valley – Augustana Gibbon – Noon  
Oct. 17 – Lac Qui Parle – 8:30-11 a.m. – Location to be announced

Plans were made for the **Leadership Training Event**. Board members should be at the church by 8:30 a.m.

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Date:              | Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023  |
| Site:              | Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls  |
| Time:              | Registration will begin at 9:30 am. The event will begin at 10.  |
| Theme:             | “Hand in Hand Together”  |
| Theme Verse:       | Psalm 90:17a<br>“Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands.” NRSV |
| Theme Hymn:        | ELW #692, “We Are an Offering”   |
| Food):             | Carolyn & Karen S.   |
| Table Decorations: | Maria  |
| Other Decorations: | Brenda   |
| Name Tags:         | Brenda   |
| Lanyards:          | Maria  |
| Music:             | Brenda & Gwen  |
| Printed Program:   | Gwen   |
| Invitations:       | Ilene  |
| Schedule           | Ilene & Gwen   |

M/S/P Carolyn/Karen S. to adjourn at 2:06. The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Gwen Degner, Secretary  
SW MN SWO Board