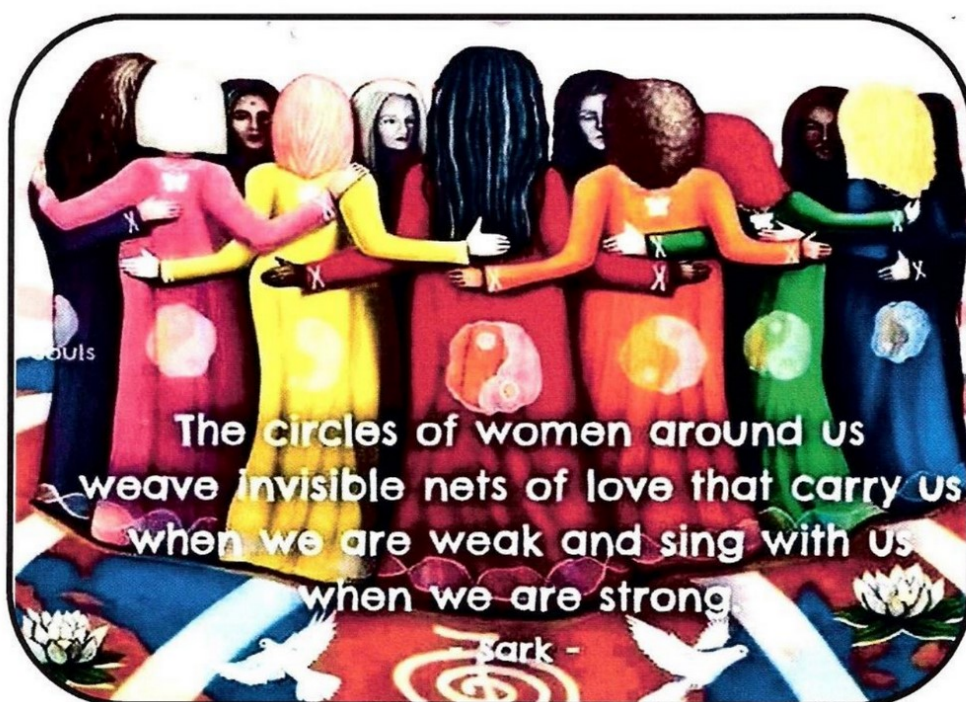


Women of the ELCA
Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization
34 Annual Convention
September 16-17, 2022

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
102 W Junius
Fergus Falls MN 56537



Theme: Love One Another

Guest Speaker: Jacqueline A. Bussie

Award winning author:

“Love Without Limits” & “Outlaw Christian”

John 13:34 “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another: Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

Hosted by the Women of Conference 7 & 8

Our Mission
To mobilize women to act boldly
on their faith in Jesus Christ

Convention Bible Verse

John 13:34

³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

Convention Goals

- * To help women become more rooted in their faith
- * To provide inspiration, information and ideas that work
- * To conduct our synodical business in an expeditious manner

Our Purpose

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.

A Blessing For Women

Dear Lord, Thank you for the woman reading this prayer.

May she be showered with your blessing
and fill her with your incredible peace.

Wrap her in your love.

May she feel confident and worthy
as she seeks to do your will.

Help her grow closer to you everyday.

Fuel a desire deep within her to follow you.

I pray that she would lead a life
by example set by Christ.

May she face everyday with courage
and may she walk with integrity.

Surround her with encouragement
and give her your wisdom.

May she experience joy today in your name.

Amen

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General Information

**PLEASE WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES AND
SOCIAL DISTANCE AS BEST AS YOU CAN**

Registration

Friday, Sept. 16: 9am-1pm
Saturday, Sept 17, 7:30-9am

Convention Meals

All meals and snacks are included with full registration

Banquet

Friday, September 16th 6:30 pm

Celebration of the Ordination of Women in the Ministry

Friday, Sept. 16, 5-6pm worship followed by the banquet and program

Leadership Training Sessions

Friday, Sept. 16, 9:30-10:30
for anyone who wants to serve as WELCA leaders

Business Meeting

Friday, Sept. 16, at 1pm

Seating for Business Meeting

Voting Members are seated by conference
Visitors are seated behind voting members
First Time Grant recipients are seated in a designated section

Melbergs Bookstore

Friday and Saturday

Breakout Sessions and Displays

Saturday 17th throughout the day

Silent Auction IN DINING ROOM

Friday 16th all day and Saturday 17th until noon

Information, Message Center, Lost & Found: Registration Desk

Chaplaincy Service

Contact any SWO Board member

Emergency Numbers

SWO President - Marilyn Grandstrand 763-258-9217

**PLEASE REFRAIN FROM WEARING PERFUME OR COLOGNE,
AND/OR SCENTED HAND OR BODY CREAMS.**

2022 Fall Convention Schedule

Friday, Sept 16

9am-1pm: **Registration**

9-9:30am: **Morning Coffee**

9-30-10:30am: **Leadership Training Session**

FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SERVE AS WELCA LEADERS

10:30-11:30am: **Bible Study with Pastor Genelle Netland**

11am-1pm: **Lunch**

12:30pm: **Voting Member Orientation**

1-4pm: **Business Meeting**

4-5pm: Munch and Mingle

5-6pm: **Communion Worship**

MESSAGE BISHOP BILL TESCH

6:30-7:30pm: **50-40-10 Banquet**

7:30pm: **Banquet Program**

Saturday, Sept 17

7:30-9am: **Registration**

8:15am: **Morning Devotions: Memorial for sisters in Christ**

9-10am: **Breakout Session 1**

SEE LIST OF WORKSHOPS IN YOUR FOLDER

10-11:30am: **Keynote Speaker** - Dr. Jacqueline Bussie

FOLLOWED BY A BOOK SIGNING

11:30am: **Committee Orientation**

12 Noon: **Lunch**

1pm: **Presentation by Churchwide Representative** - Diane Henning

1:30-2:30pm: **Breakout Session 2**

3-4pm: **Keynote Speaker** - Dr. Jacqueline Bussie

4 pm: **Sending Service with Installation of New Officers and
Mary Magdalene Presentation**

Business Session Agenda

1. Voting Member Orientation
2. Official Opening
3. Credentials Committee Report
4. Call to Order
5. Appointment of Parliamentarian
6. Convention Committee Appointments
7. Adoption of Convention Rules and Procedure
8. Adoption of Agenda
9. Report of Nominating Committee
10. Orientation of Voting Procedure by Election Chair
11. Election of President and Treasurer
12. Call for New Business
13. High School Scholarship Recipients
14. Introduction of SWO Board
16. Report of First Ballot
17. Recommendations from SWO Board
18. Adoption of Proposed Budget
19. Election of SWO Board Members and Nominating Committee
20. Election of Triennial Voting Members
21. Report of Reference & Counsel/Resolution Committee
22. Report of Committee on Claims

Rules of Procedure

1. Voting Member Voting Body

The voting members will be seated by conference in the designated section and shall include: one woman elected by each congregational/intra-congregational unit as well as the board of the Synodical Women's Organization.

2. Seating of Voting Members

Voting members shall receive their credentials at the convention registration table before being seated in the section reserved for them.

3. Quorum

A majority of the registered voting members shall constitute a quorum.

4. Privilege on the Floor

Seat and voice shall be granted to the Bishop of the NW MN Synod, or the Bishop's representative, to board members of the Synodical Women's Organization, representative of congregations not represented by a unit, and the representative of the Churchwide Women of the ELCA.

5. Appointment of Committees

The presiding chair at the opening business meeting shall announce the appointment of the following committee:

Committee on Reference and counsel - 4 members

Committee on Elections - 9 members

Committee on Credentials - 4 members

Committee on Claims - 4 members

6. Voting Procedure

To be eligible to vote, a voting member must be seated in the designated voting member section. No proxy or absentee voting is permitted.

A. Two-thirds vote is required for adoption of:

1. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

2. The Synodical Women's Organization budget

3. Other action specified in Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition

B. Voting Cards will be used as follows

Affirmative vote: **Green** card

Abstaining vote: **White** card

Negative vote: **Red** Card

7. Elections

A. SWO Board Officers and Board Members will be elected to a two year term: All elections shall be by written ballot. The number of votes cast for each nominee shall be announced. Majority of votes cast shall elect.

B. Nominating committee

All elections shall be by written ballot. The number of votes cast for each nominee shall be announced. The person receiving the highest

Rules of Procedure (CONT)

number of votes shall be chairperson. The Nominating Committee members will be elected for a one year term.

8. Motions and Resolutions

Any delegate may make a motion or present a resolution from the floor if the motion or resolution is germane to the topic under consideration. If any delegate desires to add any item to new business that is a motion or resolution for general character and not germane to a pending question she shall:

- A. write a motion or resolution on the appropriate form
- B. provide the signature of five delegates
- C. Submit the form to the committee on Reference and Counsel no later than the opening of the business session

The committee on Reference and Counsel shall report to the Convention with its recommendation for handling such new business, which may include a recommendation that the matter not be considered. Actions taken by the Convention shall be consistent with the documents of the ELCA and the documents of the Women of the ELCA.

9. Speeches

All speeches in general discussions, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds vote of the convention, shall be limited to two minutes. No person shall speak more than twice on the same issue without the consent of the Convention and only after all others have spoken. Speakers must use the microphone, if available, and identify themselves by name, congregational/intercongregational unit, and conference number and name to be recognized by the chair.

10. Attendance

Delegates shall not absent themselves from any meeting of the Convention without valid excuse.

11. Promotional Activities

The wearing of promotional buttons or slogans, the distribution of materials or the carrying of placards to promote one nominee over another is not permitted at the Convention.

12. Governing Parliamentary Law

Roberts Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing law of this Convention, except as otherwise provided in the rules of Procedure of this Convention.

Opening of Convention

LEADER: As Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we again gather at this convention in remembrance of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior. We come together in this place to worship, learn, and be encouraged in our faith journey. We thank you for safe travel and ask that you keep our loved ones at home safe in your arms during our absence.

ALL: We praise you, O God, for all that we are and for all that we have. Keep us ever thankful and grant to us a measure of spiritual wisdom and understanding that we might know your will for our lives.

LEADER: Loving God, we come as a diverse and gifted people, ready to serve you and those in our community. Teach us true discipleship and show us how we can use our gifts to make a difference in the world.

ALL: Come now, Holy Spirit, and enter each of our hearts so that we can go forth in love and power and shine with God's Love and as Women of God Let our Faith bloom to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

ALL SHALL UNITE IN PRAYER:

God of all life, be with those sisters who are unable to be present at this convention. Free us from those boundaries we set for ourselves that we might truly open ourselves to others. Enable us to be a joyful people, full of zeal, so that our actions will be a witness to you. Come now, Holy Spirit - dwell with us, comfort us, and strengthen us so we may grow and go to accomplish those tasks before us in the following days of convention. We ask all this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

THEN THE PRESIDENT SHALL SAY:

This Thirty-fourth annual convention of the Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is now declared open in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Convention Committees

Claims Committee

Count all offerings

Report totals to convention

Advisor: Terry Piphon, SWO Treasurer

Credentials Committee

Obtain count of all registrations

Report count of all registrations to convention

Report any new registrations of delegates before each business session

Advisor: Mary Peterson, Board Member

Elections Committee

Count ballots

Report election results to SWO President

Advisors: Ardys Horner, Board Member

Reference and Council Committee

Receive resolutions

Review resolutions as directed by Rules of Procedure

Handle amendments, if referred, as directed by Rules of Procedure *SEE P. 3-4*

Advisor: Diane Teigland, Board member

First Timers Grant: Diane Teigland, SWO President

High School Scholarships: Marilyn Grandstrand, SWO President

Convention Committee

Marilyn Grandstrand, SWO President

Terry Piphon, SWO Treasurer, conf. 5

Amber Krafnick, SWO Board Member, conf. 7

Mary Peterson, Board Member, conf. 7

Barb Welle, site coordinator, conf. 7

Carol Balk, conf. 7

Nola Smith, conf. 8

Sandra Devins conf. 8

Rene Hasbargen conf. 7

Worship planner:

Sue Ellwanger

Bishop Bill Tesch, NWMN Bishop

Convention Registrar 2022

Luella Thom, conf. 8

Parliamentarian 2022

Silent Auction Overseer

Roxanne Swisher

Greetings From the Churchwide President

Shalom!

Thank you for all you do for Women of the ELCA! Your time, talents and treasures are needed now more than ever, not only to Women of the ELCA, but also in the world. You also make a huge difference in our churches and communities. Thank you again for all that you do and continue to do!



As promised, there have been some changes in Women of the ELCA. One of our biggest priorities is anti-racism work (you can find more information on welca.org). *Here are a few examples:*

1. A Leadership Event in February 2022 was a digital event titled, “For Such a Time as This: Spirit fed, Spirit led.” It was based on the story of Esther. In addition to presidents, all synodical officers and board members were invited as were conference and cluster leaders. Following the event, more training sessions for WELCA leaders were planned. The training sessions were again via Zoom and open to everyone. Training and bringing up leaders are the responsibility of all of us, not just the few.
2. Bold Women’s Sunday has been moved from the last Sunday of February to the first Sunday of March. Why you may ask – because February is Black History Month; March is Women’s History Month and includes International Women’s Day. This way we do not dilute Black History Month and honoring our African American sisters and brothers.
3. Churchwide executive board members can now serve as the churchwide representative at her own synodical convention. As a reminder, a churchwide representative cannot be a voting member of her own congregational unit at her synodical convention. She is also there to serve as a resource not just for your convention, but after as well. God’s special blessings on your time together! I am praying for you and your time together. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at jmichali@d.umn.edu.

Blessings,

Joy Michalicek
President, 2020-2023 Triennium
Women of the ELCA
8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago IL 60631
800-638-3522, ext. 2730
773-380-2730
Fax: 773-380-2419
www.womenoftheelca.org

Greetings from Churchwide Representative

Diane Henning

Executive Board Member
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America



Diane was elected to the executive board of the Women of the ELCA in August of 2021. She serves on the budget and finance committee.

Diane grew up on a farm in southern Minnesota and since a young age has always served the church in many capacities. She taught Sunday church school, played the organ and piano for worship as well as other events, was church council secretary, choir member, member of the Lutheran Church Women board prior to the merger, was elected to the Saint Paul Area synodical board as president and re-elected several times, served as a board member and convention coordinator. She also served on synod council with four different bishops since the merger. Currently she is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Lakeville, Minn. and serves on the church council in women's ministry, and assists as needed with the youth and family, Bible study leader, and other.

Diane is retired but has a background in accounting and property management. She is the mother of one grown son and two wonderful grandchildren.

SWO President's Report

Greetings Sisters in Christ!

The theme for our 34th Annual Synodical Women's Organization convention is Love One Another! From our convention Bible verse (John 13:34), "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." I pray that the convention's main speaker, Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, and the breakout sessions will provide you with the stimulus to go out in the world and Love on Another!

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, author of Love Without Limits and Outlaw Christian will challenge us to Love and act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ.

It has been a long, difficult time since our last convention. For most of us we are finally having a resemblance of "normalcy". Please feel free to wear masks and social distance during our convention.

We will be electing a President (2 year), Vice President (1 Year), Secretary (1 year), Treasurer (2 year), Three (3) Board Members (2 year), Two (2) Board Members (1 year), Three (3) Nominating Committee (1 Year) and Eight (8) Triennial Convention Voting Members. Please consider putting your name in nomination for one of these positions. God needs you to step up.

During our communion service we will remember our sisters who have entered the joy of heaven. There are so many that are no longer with us. We remember them and thank God for their commitment to WELCA.

On Friday Evening we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the U.S. Lutheran churches' decision to ordain women, the 40th Anniversary of the ordination of women of color and the 10th Anniversary of the ordination of the LGBTQIA+ community. There will be a banquet and a short program to honor the ordained women of the NW MN Synod.

My prayer is that we have a successful convention, that you find a way to act boldly on your faith in Jesus Christ and that you love this organization as much as your leadership.

In Christ,

Marilyn Grandstrand
President NW MN SWO

Vice President's Report

No report available for the booklet

Treasurer's Report.

KEY FINANCIAL FIGURES

Ordinary Feb '21 - 2021
Income/Expense Jan 22

Income	30,086	22,614
Expense	28,592	40,378
Net Income	1,494	-17,764

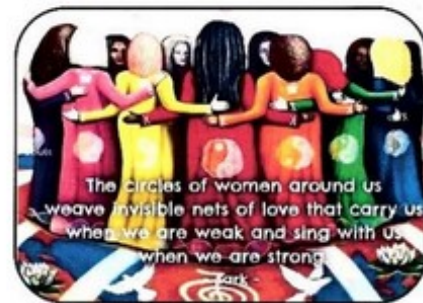
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2021, we had one conference gathering, the Conference 8 Fall Gathering, and a virtual convention. Offerings totaled \$24,346. We sent \$14,553 to churchwide, and \$4,375 to local Bible camps and campus ministry, college scholarships, RREAL and People's Church, Bemidji.

Your generous offerings go toward keeping Women of the ELCA thriving, supporting, and empowering women and girls. Thank you for all you do and give.

Terry Pipho

"Alone, we can do so little,
together, we can do so much."
– Helen Keller



WOMEN OF THE ELCA. A PLACE FOR YOU

2022 has been a pivotal year for Women of the ELCA. Exciting things are happening in our organization. Churchwide has been hard at work with programming such as "for such a time as this: spirit fed, spirit led" leadership event, Faithful Friends, Thankofferings, Gift Planning, leadership training events for synodical boards, the rollout of 2122, the \$1 million campaign for Katie's Fund, Triennial Convention and Gathering in 2023, as well as many other resources available on the WELCA website.

Terry Pipho,
NWMNSWO Treasurer

Mission of NWMN SWO

Three Perspectives

Our Women of the ELCA Purpose Statement is carried out through three different perspectives: **Growth, Community, Action**. They cannot be separated any more than God the Father (Creator), God the Son (Redeemer) and God the Holy Spirit (Sanctifier) can be separated.

Our purpose statement makes it clear that we are a community of women living in relationship to God, one another, the church, society and the world. The Women of the ELCA is organized for mission and that mission is to mobilize women to act boldly upon their faith in Jesus Christ.

So, instead of wondering which issues, programs or resources belong to Growth, which belong to Action and which belong to Community, know that all issues, programs and resources need all three perspectives to be wholly addressed.

Together, the three mission areas provide a holistic approach to living the gospel of Jesus Christ in today's world; they provide opportunities for women to grow in faith and mission.

Mission: Community

Goal: to enable each woman to value herself and others as disciples created in God's image and redeemed through Jesus Christ, and to build up and celebrate relationships that are global, diverse and interdependent.

Mission: Community is about relationship among women of faith. These relationships are disciple relationships, which include God, family other persons of faith, the global. Community, Women of the ELCA units and the unchurched.

Functions:

1. communication - Use SNOW newsletter, Churchwide publications such as "gather", the Stewardship Planning guide, The Resource Catalogue, and other mailings to call attention to projects, programs and events. Also use the Women of the ELCA website, www.womenoftheelca.org, to be aware of the most current information from churchwide. Share and display the information!
2. Stewardship interpretation - Encourage a biblical understanding of stewardship. Inform about the purpose of offerings, projects etc.
3. Ecumenical Programs—Encourage and coordinate participation on World Day of Prayer, Nations Day of Prayer, Monday Noon Prayer and other community efforts beyond our congregations and denominations.
4. Cross-cultural Education - Promote and use available community resources and speakers.
5. Affirmation of Women - Support and uphold each other. Retreats and conventions are great resources.
6. Family Relationships - Provide family and extended family events and us the community resources available.
7. Worship - Bring "thanks and praise" to the forefront in our meetings using resources available through the "Resource Catalog of the Women of the ELCA."
8. Organization Growth - Work toward insuring a welcoming atmosphere, program and schedule with are responsive to the needs of our women.

Wishing you Joy in the Journey!

Diane Teigland
Board Member

Mission: Growth Report

The goal of Mission: Growth is to provide a variety of learning experiences which strengthen each woman as a whole person, develop her potential, and equip her for ministry, each congregation can develop their own ways of making this happen.

Each year at the convention we award First Timers Convention grants. These women that receive these grants appreciate the opportunity to attend the convention and are interested in learning more about the organization.

The Bible Study each month in our women's magazine, **Gather**, gives us an opportunity to grow together in our faith with other women in our congregations. **Gather** offers three multi-session Bible studies per year in winter, summer and fall and two, one-month devotional studies in May and December.

On the 4th Monday of each month we also offer the **Gather** Bible Study, on-line, lead by one of our board members. A link is found for zoom meeting on our WELCA web site. This is a new way to connect to other women and share in a comfortable setting in your own home.

Another way to grow in your faith and fellowship is to attend your spring and fall conference gatherings. These are great opportunities to learn and share, meet ladies from other churches and hear inspiring speakers. Try to attend a conference near you this fall, offer to help out at one, we can always use a new volunteer and remember each and every woman has a gift or talent that is worth sharing with others.

Program ideas abound on the website www.womenoftheelca.org. The web site offers a wealth of information about the organization besides great program ideas.

For more information on the synod level, go to www.nwmnsynod.org and to the Synod Women' site.

If you have ideas for speakers, musicians, or programs to share, please call one of the board members so they can be shared with other units within the Synod. God's Blessings on your Bible studies and activities.

Mary Peterson
Board Member

NW Minnesota Synod Women of the ELCA Mission Action 2021

As covid vaccines became available our church women returned to meeting for Bible Study and working on service projects and making quilts. During the shut down many quilts were assembled at home to be tied after they started meeting in person. Even though only 39 churches reported their numbers, it shows the dedication to outreach when people have experienced poverty, famine, floods, hurricanes, fires and war. Jesus asked us to love our brothers and sisters, our action projects are a tangible symbol of this love and concern.

Not only were quilts shipped abroad, but were also distributed locally to newborns, children in the hospital, fire victims through firemen or rescue squads, veterans, people in hospice and nursing homes, homeless shelters and crisis centers, and as gifts to high school graduates, confirmands and baptized babies.

Our women also collected new pillows, blankets and various sizes of sheets to distribute where needed at a variety of community shelters and places like Churches United and Someplace Safe. 306 prayer shawls were crocheted or knitted and distributed.

In addition to putting together kits for Lutheran World Relief, they also assembled personal care kits for local shelters and the homeless. Many hundreds of bags were sewn to hand out in Northwestern Minnesota. Thrivent members took advantage of grant money to purchase materials to put these projects together.

They held toy drives, soap Sundays, Undies Sundays, and collected food and garden produce for the local food pantry. They baked cookies and made soups and hot dishes to be warmed up for homeless people in need. One lady at Trinity in Detroit Lakes rolled 2600 bandages for Global Health Ministry.

I am so proud of the numbers we shipped to **Lutheran World Relief.**

Quilts: 3,342

Sewing Kits: 61

Personal Care Kits: 882

Baby Kits: 985

School Kits: 1,742

Pounds of Soap: 53

Global Health Ministries in Hopkins, MN

Newborn kits: 153

Rolled Bandages: 2700

Aids/Hospice kits: 40

Lab coats/ Masks: 58

A total of **540** quilts were made for other people or organizations for local use. Giving someone a quilt is like wrapping them up in love.

On a personal note, Julie and I have enjoyed our time on the synodical board and thank you for the little notes you sent along with your reports. It is with grateful hearts that we thank all of you for your support of our church's world wide outreach to help those in need. We know that your quilts are sent with many prayers for those who receive them. During this time of war in Ukraine and other places, we know the need for all these kits and quilts will be very high. Thank you all for being women of faith and love.

Ardys Bakken Horner, Julie Jones

Action/Mission

**Nominees
SWO Board Officers**

President
TWO YEAR TERM
Marilyn Grandstrand

Vice President
ONE YEAR TERM
Diane Nord

Secretary
ONE YEAR TERM

Treasurer
TWO YEAR TERM
Terry Pipho

Triennial Voting Members

Ardys Horner
Nola Smith
Arlene Teigen
Terry Pipho
Lois Balko
Julie Jones
Sue Ellwanger

**Nominees
SWO Board Members**

Board Member
CONFERENCE 1, 2, 3
TWO YEAR TERM
Julie Jones

Board Member
CONFERENCE 4, 5, 6
TWO YEAR TERM
Ardys Horner

Board Member
CONFERENCE 4, 5, 6
TWO YEAR TERM
Arlene Teigen

Board Members
ONE YEAR TERM
Two Positions

Nominating Committee
ONE YEAR TERM
Three Positions

Nomination Biographies

**President
Marilyn Grandstrand**

My name is Marilyn Grandstrand. I have served as your president since the 2019 Convention. I have put my name in nomination for reelection. I would be honored to serve again as your synodical president. The past few years have been a challenge, I would like to continue leading this organization into the next phase of growth.

Prior to serving as president, I was a board member representing conferences 1, 2, & 3. I served a conference chair and also as the local congregation president. I have served as church council president, Sunday School and Confirmation teacher. I was on the church council when we close our small, rural church. I lead the service and observance to celebrate the life of our church.

I am a member of the Karlstad Lions Club. I have just been elected as Vice President. We are an organization whose motto is to serve. I will be honored to serve you as president of the Northwesterners Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization.

Nomination Biographies

Vice President

Diane Nord

Faith Lutheran

Conference # 5

Diane is a member of Faith Lutheran Church at Wolverton MN. She has been active in her local WELCA holding many offices over the years, currently as secretary. Diane served as Cluster 6 Coordinator and a second term as secretary. This was before the change to Conference. She was a board member of the NW MN SWO for four years holding the office of secretary the last 2 of those years and was a voting delegate to the Salt Lake City Triennial Convention.

Treasurer

Terry Pipho

Terry Pipho is a member of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Moorhead - Conference 5. She received her BA from Concordia College, Moorhead, and also from Moorhead Technical Institute in the Legal Assistant program. She had previously served as the administrative assistant to the Campus Pastors at Concordia College; was also a Financial Advisor for Thrivent and served as a legal assistant. Terry is now retired.

She has been active over the years at her church, serving as a council member, synod assembly delegate, Sunday school teacher, and a WELCA officer. In addition, she was the Northwest Minnesota SWO conference/cluster financial reporter and has been the SWO treasurer these past two years. Terry has been very active in the community as well, such as being a board member of Pathways Bible Camps; volunteer docent at the Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County; Lost & Found Ministry volunteer; and also Jeremiah Program volunteer.

Nomination Biographies

Board Member

Julie Jones

CONFERENCE 2

Julie is an active member at Zion Lutheran in Warroad, MN. She currently serves on the Worship and Music Committee, is an active member of the Rebecca Circle, President of the Women of Zion, and sings in the church choir. She serves as Chaplain for the Warroad Eagles Auxiliary. Currently she is employed at Marvin Windows in the Purchasing Department as their Administrative Assistant/Leadership Support Team representative. She is very excited about her Hawaii Cruise in February 2024, along with family and friends!

She is very pleased to be placed into nomination for a returning SWO Board position and enjoyed attending the last Triennial in Minneapolis.

Board Member

Ardys Horner

CONFERENCE 6

Ardys is a very active member of our unit. A member of First Lutheran in Detroit Lakes, she leads Bible studies and book studies; is active in her circle; is on the altar flower committee; and is part of a weekly prayer and study group. She is currently serving on the SWO board, has attended many Triennial Gatherings and also was a voting member for Churchwide, as well as being a regular attendee at Synod conventions.

She is currently the Secretary of Crossroads/ Lutheran Campus ministry in Moorhead. Ardys is active in PEO - Philanthropic Educational Organization - (secretary) and Sons of Norway (Vice President) in Detroit Lakes. She enjoys quilting and reading and hates weeding her flower beds on hot days.

Board Member

Arlene Teigen

CONFERENCE 5

Arlene Teigen is a member of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Moorhead, Minnesota. She has been active in the women's activities serving as a board member for her unit and also served as President a number of times. She has also served on the Synod board for WELCA.

Other church activities have included Women's Bible Study, church choir, council, Stephen's Ministry, hospital visitation and altar guild.

Arlene lives in Fargo, ND with her husband Vic. Other interests include: music, reading (Book Club), spending time with grandchildren, and keeping in touch with family and friends.

2023 WELCA Triennial Convention Voting Member Nominees

Elect 8 * Denotes nominee, if elected, would be serving as a first time voting member

Ardys Horner (6) *Terry Pipho (5)
*Nola Smith (8) *Lois Balko (5)
Arlene Teigen (5) Sue Ellwanger (8)
Julie Jones (2)

Ardys Horner

First Lutheran, Detroit Lakes - CONF. 6

Ardys is a very active member of our unit. She leads Bible studies and book studies; is active in her circle; is on the altar flower committee; and is part of a weekly prayer and study group. She is currently serving on the SWO board, has attended many Triennial Gatherings and also was a voting member for Churchwide, as well as being a regular attendee at Synod conventions.

She is currently the Secretary of Crossroads/ Lutheran Campus ministry in Moorhead. Ardys is active in PEO - Philanthropic Educational Organization - (secretary) and Sons of Norway (Vice President) in Detroit Lakes.

Nola Smith

Shalom Lutheran, Alexandria - CONF. 8

First Timer

Nola Smith graduated from Lutheran General & Deaconess Hospital school of Nursing in Park Ridge, IL, with her RN. She completed her BSN in 2000. Nola's work experience included hospital nursing (She delivered two babies herself), school nurse, home care nurse and long-term care nurse for 32 years with 14 years as Director of Nursing! After 47 years, she retired June 2021! Nola's husband John is a retired ELCA pastor and the coming up on their 48th wedding anniversary in October. They have three daughters and five grandchildren. They also were foster parents for seven children and hosted 13 foreign exchange students.

Growing up on a farm in rural Illinois, church attendance and its activities were a large part of her social and spiritual experience. A vivid memory was at age three, going to Ladies Aid meetings at church and her Mom had tied three penny's in the corner of a handkerchief as her offering! Over the years she has taught Bible study, sang in the choir and played piano/organ.

She taught Sunday school, VBS, served as a Youth leader, Glacier Ridge conference secretary, WELCA president/secretary, Church council, Altar Guild, lector, assistant minister, delegate to the Churchwide Assembly and now WELCA coordinator for district 8 for the NW synod.

2023 WELCA Triennial Voting Member Nominees

Terry Pipho Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Moorhead - CONF. 5 First Timer

Terry received her BA from Concordia College, Moorhead, and previously from Moorhead Technical Institute in the Legal Assistant program. She has served as the administrative assistant to the Campus Pastors at Concordia College; was also a Financial Advisor for Thrivent; and served as a legal assistant. Terry is now retired.

Very active at her church, she is serving as a council member, synod assembly delegate, Sunday school teacher, and a WELCA officer. In addition, she was the Northwest Minnesota SWO conference/cluster financial reporter and has been the SWO treasurer these past two years. Terry has been very active in the community as well, such as being a board member of Pathways Bible Camps; volunteer docent at the Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County; Lost & Found Ministry volunteer; and also Jeremiah Program volunteer.

Lois Balko Trinity, Moorhead - CONF. 5 First Timer

Lois is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead. Throughout the years she has taught Sunday School, VBS, and serving as a leader in the high school youth program.

She has been president of Trinity Women's Organization and has been active on church groups and committees. She has lived out her faith by helping others on servant trips through the church, going to such places as Haiti, Mexico, and twice leading a crew to help clean up New Orleans in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina. Lois was our SWO Secretary for five years.

She and her husband have three grown sons and three grandchildren, with number four coming at the end of the year. She is a Master Gardener, and currently works at a garden center in Sabin, MN.

2023 WELCA Triennial Voting Member Nominees

Julie Jones

Zion Lutheran, Warroad - CONF. 5

Julie currently serves on the Worship and Music Committee, is an active member of the Rebecca Circle, President of the Women of Zion, and sings in the church choir. She serves as Chaplain for the Warroad Eagles Auxiliary. Currently she is employed at Marvin Windows in the Purchasing Department as their Administrative Assistant/Leadership Support Team representative. She is very excited about her Hawaii Cruise in February 2024, along with family and friends!

She is very pleased to be placed into nomination for a returning SWO Board position and enjoyed attending the last Triennial in Minneapolis.

Arlene Teigen

Shalom Lutheran, Alexandria - CONF. 5

Arlene Teigen is a member of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Moorhead, Minnesota. She has been active in the women's activities serving as a board member for her unit and also served as President a number of times. She has also served on the Synod board for WELCA.

Other church activities have included Women's Bible Study, church choir, council, Stephen's Ministry, hospital visitation and altar guild.

Arlene lives in Fargo, ND with her husband Vic. Other interests include: music, reading (Book Club), spending time with grandchildren, and keeping in touch with family and friends.

Sue Ellwanger

Esther Lutheran, Parker's Prairie - CONF. 8

Sue is a member of Esther Lutheran Church rural Parkers Prairie. At Esther she is involved with the worship planning committee and as the supper lady for Vacation Bible School. She is also a member of the Technology Committee. Sue had also served on the church council. She is currently employed as the office secretary for both Esther and Faith Lutheran in Mil-
tona.

Sue am a part of Esther's Women of the ELCA unit, currently serving as the secretary of the unit. She has also served as a cluster coordinator. She was on the board of the NW MN SWO and also served as the NW MN SWO President.

She is a clerk for Eastern Township and she, together with her husband Don, operate American Heritage Hunting Club.



Richard H. Pickett, CPA
Suzanne A. Demuth, CPA
Trent L. Wilson, CPA

115 North Court Street • Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Phone: (218) 736-6965 • Fax: (218) 736-7960

Accountants' Compilation Report
To the Board of Directors Northwestern Minnesota Synodical
Women's Organization of WELCA Moorhead, MN

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Northwestern Minnesota al Women's Organization of WELCA (a non-profit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position - modified cash basis as of January 31, 2022, and the related statement of activities - modified cash basis for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, and for determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable financial reporting framework. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures ordinarily included in financial statements prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. If the omitted disclosures were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Organization's financial position, change in net assets, and cash flows. Accordingly, the financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

Pickett & Demuth Ltd

Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of the ELCA
Statement of Financial Position - Modified Cash Basis
January 31, 2022

Assets

Current Assets

Checking - Bell Bank \$ 12,620

Total Current Assets 12,620

Property and Equipment

Computer & Printer 2,167
 Accumulated Depreciation (1,690)

Total Property and Equipment 477

Total Assets \$ 13,097

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Net Assets

Undesignated Net Assets 4,097
 Triennial Gathering Equity 6,000
 Leadership Development Retreat Equity 3,000

Total Net Assets 13,097

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$ 13,097

**Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of the ELCA
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
February 2001 through January 2022**

	Feb '21 - Jan 22	Feb '20 - Jan 21
5016 · Women of the ELCA Offerings		
50 · % Convention Offering	0.00	-1,815.27
5016-1 · Regular Offering (50% to churchwide)	7,314.85	9,999.87
5016-10 · AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors)	0.00	500.00
5016-11 · Faithful Friends (100% to churchwide)	0.00	420.00
5016-12 · Triennial Offering (100% to churchwide)	700.00	275.00
5016-2 · Thankoffering	918.90	115.00
5016-5 · ELCA World Hunger	338.20	208.60
5016-6 · Convention Offering (50% to churchwide)	2,165.00	147.50
5016-8 · Where Needed Most	2,000.00	13,735.12
5016-9 · Conference Offering (50% to churchwide)	1,016.00	5,323.75
5068-4 · Bible Women of India	100.00	0.00
Total 5016 · Women of the ELCA Offerings	14,552.95	28,909.57
5017 · Benevolence/Missions		
5017-2 · Luther Crest	500.00	0.00
5017-3 · Campus Ministry	1,000.00	0.00
5017-4 · Pathways Bible Camp	500.00	0.00
5017-5 · Rreal (Rural Renewable Energy Alliance)	500.00	0.00
5017-6 · Scholarships	1,500.00	1,500.00
5017 · Benevolence/Missions - Other	374.50	3,000.00
Total 5017 · Benevolence/Missions	4,374.50	4,500.00
5020 · Conferences Expenses		
5020-3 · Conference Three	0.00	36.81
5020-8 · Conference Eight	668.18	68.48
Total 5020 · Conferences Expenses	668.18	105.29
5022 · SWO Convention Expenses		
5022-1 · Committee Expense	5.82	0.00
5022-2 · Postage	123.25	0.00
5026 · Printing	313.40	0.00
5028 · Misc. convention Expense	1,428.53	1,277.50
5030 · Convention Honorarium	325.00	1,150.00
5040 · Convention Planning Mileage	44.80	0.00
5044 · Convention Registration Refund	3,940.00	0.00
Total 5022 · SWO Convention Expenses	6,180.80	2,427.50
5058 · SNOW Newsletter Publication	0.00	755.23
62400 · Depreciation Expense (Depreciation on equipment, bu...	317.00	0.00
Total Expense	28,591.17	40,378.45
Net Ordinary Income	1,494.35	-17,764.20
Net Income	1,494.35	-17,764.20

Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of the ELCA

Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

February 2001 through January 2022

	Feb '21 - Jan 22	Feb '20 - Jan 21
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
4003 · Conference Registration		
4003-3 · Conference 3 Registration	0.00	15.00
4003-8 · Conference 8 Registration	470.00	50.00
Total 4003 · Conference Registration	470.00	65.00
4006 · Conference Expense Income		
4006-8 · Conference 8 Unit Assessment	300.00	0.00
4006 · Conference Expense Income - Other	0.00	25.00
Total 4006 · Conference Expense Income	300.00	25.00
4008 · Convention Offering	0.00	110.00
4012 · Convention Registration	3,940.00	160.00
4013 · Convention Expense Income	1,040.00	65.00
4016 · Miscellaneous	0.00	1.00
4022 · Snow Subscription	0.00	15.00
4023 · Silent Auction Income (To be used for Triennial Expens...		
4023-1 · Triennial Expenses Income	25.00	0.00
Total 4023 · Silent Auction Income (To be used for Triennial E...	25.00	0.00
4025 · Faithful Friends Offerings (Send 100% to Women of the...	0.00	420.00
4026 · Congregational Unit Offerings		
4004 · Conference Offering		
4004-2 · Conference 2 Offering	70.00	0.00
4004-3 · Conference 3 Offering	0.00	70.00
4004-5 · Conference 5 Offering	0.00	100.00
4004-8 · Conference 8 Offering	892.00	25.00
Total 4004 · Conference Offering	962.00	195.00
4020 · Scholarship Offerings	1,450.00	810.00
4024 · Triennial Offerings (100% to Church Wide Organizati...	750.00	275.00
4026-1 · Regular Offerings	14,541.42	19,789.12
4026-2 · Thankofferings (100% sent to Churchwide)	918.90	115.00
4026-4 · ELCA World Hunger Offering (ELCA designated gif...	188.20	208.60
4026-5 · Current for Curran (Designated Gift to Rural Rene...	0.00	0.53
4026-6 · India Bible Women (Designated gifts for small gro...	100.00	0.00
4026-7 · Conference Offering	1,070.00	175.00
4026-8 · SWO Convention Offering	4,330.00	185.00
Total 4026 · Congregational Unit Offerings	24,310.52	21,753.25
Total Income	30,085.52	22,614.25
Gross Profit	30,085.52	22,614.25
Expense		
5000 · Uncategorized Expenses	100.00	0.00
5010 · Board Expenses		
5001 · Accounting Fees	1,195.00	1,170.00
5006 · Bank Charge	0.00	58.00
5010-1 · Printing and Reproduction (Printing, copies, and o...	137.54	362.96
5012 · SWO Board Mileage	448.06	1,712.53
5052 · Postage	482.80	448.34
5060 · Office Supplies	134.34	129.03
5010 · Board Expenses - Other	0.00	-200.00
Total 5010 · Board Expenses	2,397.74	3,680.86

Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization
Proposed Budget Overview
February 2023 through August 24, 2024

	<u>Feb '23 - Jan 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4003 · Conference Registration	10,000
4012 · Convention Registration	12,000
4023 · Silent Auction Income (To be used for Triennial Expenses of ...)	1,500
4026 · Congregational Unit Offerings	
4020 · Scholarship Offerings	3,000
4024 · Triennial Offerings (100% to Church Wide Organization)	1,000
4026-1 · Regular Offerings	15,000
4026-3 · Katie's Fund (WELCA designated gifts)	5,000
4026-7 · Conference Offering	10,000
4026-8 · SWO Convention Offering	5,000
Total 4026 · Congregational Unit Offerings	39,000
Total Income	62,500
Gross Profit	62,500
Expense	
5010 · Board Expenses	
5001 · Accounting Fees	700
5012 · SWO Board Mileage	500
5050 · Newsletter	400
5052 · Postage	500
5060 · Office Supplies	400
Total 5010 · Board Expenses	2,500
5016 · Women of the ELCA Offerings	
5016-1 · Regular Offering (50% to churchwide)	7,500
5016-12 · Triennial Offering (100% to churchwide)	1,000
5016-3 · Katie's Fund (Designated 100%)	5,000
5016-6 · Convention Offering (50% to churchwide)	2,500
5016-9 · Conference Offering (50% to churchwide)	5,000
Total 5016 · Women of the ELCA Offerings	21,000
5017 · Benevolence/Missions	
5017-2 · Luther Crest	2,000
5017-3 · Campus Ministry	2,000
5017-4 · Pathways Bible Camp	2,000
5017-6 · Scholarships	3,000
Total 5017 · Benevolence/Missions	9,000
5020 · Conferences Expenses	10,000
5022 · SWO Convention Expenses	14,500
5024 · Leadership Training	1,500
5066 · Triennial Expenses	
5066-1 · Triennial Young Women's Grant	1,000
5066 · Triennial Expenses - Other	1,000
Total 5066 · Triennial Expenses	2,000
5070 · Womens Retreat	2,000
Total Expense	62,500
Net Ordinary Income	0
Net Income	0

**Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization
Balance Sheet
As of January 31, 2022**

	<u>Jan 31, 22</u>	<u>Jan 31, 21</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
1030 · Checking - Bell Bank - 1158	12,620.47	10,809.12
Total Checking/Savings	<u>12,620.47</u>	<u>10,809.12</u>
Total Current Assets	12,620.47	10,809.12
Fixed Assets		
Computer and Printer (ACER Computer and HP Lazer Jet Printer)	2,166.78	2,166.78
1105 · Accumulated Depreciation	-1,690.00	0.00
Total Fixed Assets	<u>476.78</u>	<u>2,166.78</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>13,097.25</u>	<u>12,975.90</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
A/P Triennial Expense	0.00	1,000.00
Total Accounts Payable	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities	0.00	1,000.00
Equity		
3000 · Equity (Other Income)	2,602.90	29,740.10
3005 · Triennial Gathering Equity (Grant money to subsidize Triennial Gathering Expenses fo...)	6,000.00	0.00
3010 · Leadership Development Retreat	3,000.00	0.00
Net Income	1,494.35	-17,764.20
Total Equity	<u>13,097.25</u>	<u>11,975.90</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>13,097.25</u>	<u>12,975.90</u>

**Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization
 Congregational Unit Report
 February 2022 through January 2023**

	Feb '22 - Jan 23	Feb '21 - Jan 22
01 Bethel Greenbush	0.00	25.00
01 Conference 1	637.00	0.00
01 First Baudette	205.00	465.00
01 First Karlstad	0.00	100.00
01 Messiah Roseau	0.00	305.00
01 Mt. Carmel Roosevelt	0.00	150.00
01 Zion Warroad	0.00	336.00
02 Bethany RLF	0.00	95.00
02 Bethlehem Newfolden	125.00	160.00
02 Conference 2	1,485.00	0.00
02 Ebenezer Oklee	40.00	205.00
02 Ekelund Goodridge	0.00	35.00
02 First Warren	250.00	500.00
02 Gustav Adolph	100.00	230.00
02 Immanuel Plummer	12.75	70.00
02 Lund in Gully	0.00	40.00
02 Nazareth Holt	0.00	139.50
02 Our Savior's Grygla	0.00	50.00
02 Our Savior's Thief Lake	0.00	100.00
02 Our Savior's Warren	0.00	161.50
02 Salem Oklee	100.00	0.00
02 Sand Valley Gully	0.00	60.00
02 Silver Creek	0.00	43.00
02 St. Pauli TRF	0.00	260.00
02 Trinity TRF	262.15	176.40
02 Zion TRF	423.48	60.00
02 Zion Viking	0.00	35.00
03 Concordia Fertile	0.00	534.00
03 Faaberg	0.00	1,152.00
03 Fisher	152.50	787.50
03 Kingo Fosston	260.00	500.00
03 Little Norway	0.00	306.25
03 Maple Lake	0.00	100.00
03 New Hope Alvarado	0.00	150.00
03 St. Paul's Crookston	225.40	318.60
03 Zion Oslo	0.00	30.00
04 Bethany Nevis	0.00	948.62
04 Clearwater Lutheran	0.00	175.00
04 Conference 4	434.00	0.00
04 Faith Bagley	0.00	300.00
04 First Bemidji	317.00	1,575.00
04 Our Savior's Leonard	0.00	100.00
04 Trinity Debs Pinewood	25.00	0.00
05 Christ the King Mhd	0.00	200.00
05 Comstock	0.00	125.00
05 Conference 5	1,204.00	0.00
05 Faith Wolverton	0.00	150.00
05 Grace Ada	125.00	800.00
05 Immanuel Hendrum	0.00	521.00
05 North Buffalo	250.00	700.00
05 Our Savior's Barnesville	500.00	1,253.00
05 Our Savior's Moorhead	25.00	0.00
05 Scandia Glyndon	0.00	142.90
05 Trinity Waubun	0.00	150.00
05 Wild Rice Twin Valley	0.00	400.00
05 Zion Twin Valley	0.00	300.00
06 Calvary Perham	0.00	100.00
06 Conference 6	1,524.00	0.00
06 Cormorant	0.00	500.00
06 Faith Staples	0.00	150.00
06 First Detroit Lakes	143.75	419.12
06 Trinity DL	300.00	300.00
07 Augustana Elizabeth	0.00	200.00
07 Augustana FF	0.00	100.00
07 Bethlehem FF	311.00	280.00
07 Breckenridge Lutheran	99.75	525.75

**Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization
 Congregational Unit Report
 February 2022 through January 2023**

	Feb '22 - Jan 23	Feb '21 - Jan 22
07 Central Pelican Rapids	146.50	0.00
07 Conference 7	1,884.00	0.00
07 Faith Evangelical Pelican Rapids	80.00	120.00
07 First Battle Lake	92.50	235.38
07 First FF	0.00	400.00
07 Grove Lake Pelican Rapids	0.00	205.00
07 Hope FF	0.00	75.00
07 New Life Lutheran Rothsay	0.00	320.00
07 Nidaros	59.00	50.00
07 Tingvoid	0.00	50.00
07 Vining	0.00	680.00
07 Zion Amor	0.00	250.00
07 Zion FF	0.00	200.00
08 Conference 8	1,936.00	1,637.00
08 East Moe	250.00	25.00
08 Esther	0.00	250.00
08 Faith Eagle Bend	0.00	100.00
08 First Alexandria	441.50	908.50
08 First Lutheran Kensington	100.00	200.00
08 Long Bridge Sauk Centre	0.00	75.00
08 Messiah Hoffman	0.00	100.00
08 Rock Prairie Elbow Lake	68.75	139.25
08 Shalom Alexandria	0.00	100.00
08 Shepherd of the Valley	63.30	0.00
08 United Elbow Lake	67.25	130.25
TOTAL	14,725.58	24,345.52

Keynote Speaker
Saturday, September 17th
Jacqueline Bussie



Dr. Jacqueline Bussie is an award-winning author, professor, theologian, and student of life in all its messy beauty, as well as a much sought after speaker and workshop facilitator. Her first book, *The Laughter of the Oppressed* won the national Trinity Prize. Her 2nd book, *Outlaw Christian: Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the Rules* won the 2017 Gold Medal Illumination Award for Christian Living and received a coveted starred review from *Publishers Weekly*. Her 3rd and latest book, *Love Without Limits: Jesus' Radical Vision for a Love with No Exceptions* won the Reader's Favorite Bronze Medal International Book Award for Christian Living, the 2020 IAN Outstanding Religion Book of the Year Award, and 3rd Place IAN Non-Fiction Book of the Year Award. Also, *Publisher's Weekly* named *Love Without Limits* "a must-read for all Christians interested in inclusivity for their communities."

An active servant-leader in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Dr. Bussie spent the last twenty years teaching religion to undergraduates at ELCA colleges and serving as the founding Director of the Forum on Faith and Life at Concordia College. Today Dr. Bussie is the Executive Director of the Collegeville Institute in Collegeville, Minnesota. Every day she is amazed and grateful that she gets to: 1) write and tell her story; 2) empower other people to write and tell theirs; and 3) accompany marvelous people like you on your journey of faith, hope, and healing.



**Bible Study Leader
Genelle Netland**

Friday, September 16th

*ASSOCIATE TO THE BISHOP AND MINISTER FOR
COMMUNITY AND LEADER ENGAGEMENT IN
CONFERENCES 4, 5, & 6*

Pastor Netland grew up in the Southeast Iowa Synod. She's a graduate of Luther College with a BA in Public Communication Communicative Disorders and has one year of graduate work in Speech Pathology at the University of Kansas.

Pastor Genelle has worked for Lutheran Campus Ministry at both the University of Kansas and in the Twin Cities. She has served with youth at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis and did her internship in Avon, Connecticut.

She graduated from Luther Seminary, St. Paul with a M.Div. in 2001. Pastor Genelle served Calvary Lutheran Church in Bemidji for 20 years. Genelle and her husband Chad have two children. Together they run a beef cattle and small grains farm. They love to camp, travel and watch their kids exploring and enjoying a variety of activities.

**Bishop Bill Tesch
Northwestern Minnesota Synod**



Bishop Tesch's mission statement is: "A Follower of Jesus: Creating Gospel Collaborations with Faithfulness, Authenticity and Love." Before his election to Bishop, he served as the Director for Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop of the South Dakota Synod. Prior to that he pastored at Messiah New Hope Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD first as Mission Developer and later as the congregation's Senior Pastor. His first call was to a two-point rural and small-town congregation (St. Paul and St. Peter in Humboldt and Orland, SD).

Tesch is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Luther-Northwestern seminary, the USAF Air War College, Air Command and Staff College, the Air Force Basic Chaplain's Course and Officer's Training School.

The Bishop is also a retired Air Force Chaplain, having attained the rank of Colonel before his retirement in 2021. He was a member of the South Dakota Air National Guard and served in two overseas combat deployments.

Bill Tesch is married to Chris Tesch, who teaches Nursing at the University of South Dakota. He and Chris enjoy time with their adult children and are grateful to be discovering the joys of grandparenting. In his spare time, he enjoys exercise, hunting, fishing, book club, entertaining friends and family, cheering for the Green Bay Packers... and a host of other hobbies for which he really has no time!

Breakout Sessions

Staying Centered through Seasons of Change and Uncertainty Facilitator: Kari van Wakeren



It is often said that change is one of the only constants in life, yet that doesn't mean change is easy to accept, especially when we don't seek out or expect the changes we are experiencing.

It can also stir up all sorts of emotions inside us—insecurity, fear, anxiety, even anger. Yet there is another way, one based in the unwavering love, goodness, and grace of God.

In this workshop, Kari will share about her book, *Unbalanced but Centered*, how it applies to recent changes in her own life, and a few techniques that participants can use to help them stay centered in the promises of God throughout the seasons of change and uncertainty they experience.

Kari van Wakeren is a wife, mom, writer, teacher, and ordained pastor living in Alexandria, Minnesota. She is also the coordinator of the new FACES of Leadership program for the NW MN Synod. Her books, *Unbalanced but Centered: Tending to Your Heart in the Frenzy of Life* and *Bubble Wrap Girl* are available on Amazon or through her website www.karivanwakeren.com.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Taskforce in the Fargo-Moorhead Area

Facilitator: Amanda Strauss



Every year there are hundreds of cases of missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls across the United States. Lack of awareness and data hinders these cases.

Learn about the missing and murdered indigenous women in the Fargo/Moorhead area. What is the taskforce all about? What can we do to help our indigenous neighbors?

breakout Sessions

Hope in the Shadows

Abriendo Fronteras - Opening Borders

Facilitator: Vicki Schmidt



Many people wait in hope along our southern border under the shadow of our United States flag, striving to live in safety and without fear in our country. Listen to stories of people who have been part of immersion experiences in El Paso, TX and Juarez, MX, as they relate their firsthand experiences among those suffering from violence in their home countries, and who are being kept from entering our country.

RREAL – Rural Renewable Energy Alliance

Facilitator: John Vaughn



John Vaughn will show two videos - one for the work at Phebe and Curran in Liberia and one for the work at White Earth. The work on White Earth Reservation involves the use of solar power.

John has over twenty-five years of experience as the Executive Director of community and economic development nonprofits. He is a former Reflective Leadership Fellow at the University of Minnesota Hubert H. Humphrey Institute and winner of the 2018 national Urban Institute's Thomas J. Kingsley Impact Award. When he is not traveling the state for RREAL, he lives in Stillwater, Minnesota, where he is finishing his third pre-1885 historic home renovation.

NW MN WELCA High School Scholarship Recipients 2022-2023

Congratulations to these four recipients. Let us keep them in our prayers
as they begin their journey in life.

Katelyn Gulbranson

Moorhead MN

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Moorhead MN

Concordia College, Moorhead MN

Quinn O.S. Christianson

Halstad MN

Augustana Lutheran, Halstad MN

Concordia College, Moorhead MN

Maxwell Hodny

Moorhead MN

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Moorhead MN

Concordia College, Moorhead MN

Amber Frigaard

Dalton MN

Sverdrop Lutheran Church, Underwood MN

Augustana University, Sioux Falls SD

Teach our youth the way they should go and when they are older, they will
not leave it. *Proverbs 22:6*

Mary Magdalene Award



John tells us that after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared first to Mary Magdalene and instructed her to 'Go to my brothers and tell them: (John 20:17). In response, Mary Magdalene went to the Disciples with the news: I have seen the Lord! And she told them that He had said these things to her:

(John 20:18)

At our annual convention we are honoring women from our conferences with our Mary Magdalene Award. These special and treasured women will be given a rose, a certificate and a monetary donation to a charity associated with the Women of the ELCA.

The 2022 recipients are as follows:

Jean Benson: First Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes

Charity: Lutheran World Relief

Yvonne Anderson, Esther Lutheran Church, Parker's Prairie

Charity: Lutheran World Relief

Sue Aalgaard: First Lutheran Church, Bemidji

Charity: Lutheran Campus Ministry

First Timer's Grant

To encourage the participation of women in the Women of the ELCA (WELCA), the NW MN SWO invites up to eight women as guests to participate for the first time in our convention.

Our SWO pays for the convention registration and lodging for the Grant Recipients. Local congregational units are responsible for transportation, if necessary.

The Mission Growth Committee provides First Timers' Grant Applications on the NW MN SWO Website and in the first Convention Mailing in February to Units prior to the Fall NW MN SWO Convention. Interested participants are encouraged to apply.

This year we have two first timers attending the convention. We welcome them to our convention.

Beth Fabian from Faith Lutheran in Staples
Karen Olson from Zion Lutheran in Twin Valley

2021 Convention Minutes
Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization
SWO 33rd Annual Convention
September 17, 2021
Zoom Meeting at 1 pm

President Marilyn Grandstrand extended a welcome to the 33rd Annual Convention of the Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization. She invited everyone present to turn to page 9 in the Convention Booklet to read responsively the Opening of Convention.

Official Call to Order: After the Opening of Convention, President Grandstrand declared the 33rd annual convention open at 1:16 pm, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Roll call for Credentials Committee: Because we were using Zoom for the business meeting, a poll was taken on the computer with voting members checking in; we had 18 voting members; 6 board members, 1 guest and 1 non-voting member for a total of 28. President Marilyn declared that a quorum was established, and is now open for transaction of business.

Adoption of Rules of Procedures: Secretary Lois Balko moved the adoption of the proposed Rules of Procedure as printed in the Convention Booklet on pages 7 and 8. The adoption of the rules have been moved by the synodical board, no second required. Hearing no discussion, the vote on the motion, which must have a 2/3 vote to pass, was taken and motion passed.

Adoption of the Agenda with Flexibility: The adoption of the agenda with flexibility was moved by the NW MN SWO Board presented by Secretary, Lois Balko, as printed in the Bulletin of Reports; no second was necessary. Vote was taken and motion passed.

Churchwide Representative: President Marilyn shared a video greeting from Lisa Plorin, our convention churchwide representative.

Report of the Nominating Committee: President Marilyn Grandstrand gave a report submitted from board member and Nominating Committee Advisor, Sue Smith, on the following nominations: Vice president (2-year term), Amber Krafnick; Secretary, Sue Ellwanger (2-year term), Roxanne Goulet. Board Members: (Conf 1,2,3) Heather Grafstrom (Conf 4,5,6) Diane Teigland; and (Conf 7,8) Roxanne Swisher.

President Marilyn introduced the current Synodical Board.

Secretary Lois Balko was called upon to give a report of the Synodical Women's High School Scholarship program. She asked everyone to turn to page 45 in the convention book, and expressed the importance of supporting our high school youth as they attend an ELCA College/University of their choice. She also encouraged all of the congregations to send in money to support the program.

President Marilyn announced the nominees for officers. Amber Krafnick has been placed in nomination for Vice president; asked for additional nomina-

tions from the floor; there were none. Sue Ellwanger was nominated as Secretary; no additional nominations were from the floor. The number eligible to vote was 26. Roxanne Swisher made a motion to accept the ballots by a show of “Thumbs up” for easy counting. Pam Olson seconded; motion carried. By a show of thumbs, Amber Krafnick and Sue Ellwanger were both unanimously elected to their respective positions. President Marilyn announced that an election has occurred.

President Marilyn called for the ballot for board members. The following were placed in nomination for board members: Heather Grafstrom (conf. 2,3 &3); Diane Teigland (conf. 4, 5 & 6); and Roxanne Swisher (conf. 7&8). President Marilyn asked for nominations from the floor; there were no additional nominations from the floor.

Again, by a show of thumbs, Heather Grafstrom; Diane Teigland; and Rozanne Swisher were unanimously elected. President Marilyn announced there an election has occurred.

New Business: Patricia Cummins from First Lutheran in Detroit Lakes brought forth a question from her church: will the LWR dates remain the same as written in in convention book; and because many women miss emails or don't have access to the website, can information be done by mail again. President Marilyn replied that the board is looking into ways to get information out in a better manner to each congregation.

Reference and Council Committee Resolution: Roxanne Swisher brought forth a resolution from a congregation in conference 8 regarding the SWO Board establishing a Scholarship Fund for College Women who plan to go into the ELCA Ministry. Ardys Horner made a motion to look into the resolution, determining the cost and where the money will come from; Roxanne seconded the motion. After discussion, Luella Thom from Esther Lutheran Church in Parkers Prairie stated that she donate the first \$350 to the scholarship fund. A vote was taken; motion carried.

President's Report: Marilyn Grandstrand that the “Gather” Bible study will continue this fall until December, with board leaders lined up to give it.

Since the in-person convention had to be cancelled for this year, President Marilyn said that the Memorial service for women of our synod who died since March 2020 will be held at next year's convention. We will also hold the 52nd Anniversary of the Ordination of Women into the ELCA Ministry next convention too. She also noted that churches who have completed tie blankets, donate them to their local charities/organizations. If they have just the fabric, they can either keep it until next year or finish them and donate them.

SWO Treasurer, Terry Pipho was invited to address the body and highlight the treasurer's report that is found in the convention book. She presented the budget for the year 2022-2023. Terry made a motion on behalf of the board to adopt the budget; no second was needed; motion carried.

President Marilyn Grandstrand called upon Bonnie Wagner for a report on the Mary Magdalene Awards. Bonnie asked everyone to turn to page 47 for a list

of the women who were nominated for an award. The awards, with a rose pin, will be sent to each women, or a family member for those who have died. She encouraged everyone to be thinking of those women who should be nominated for next year.

Report on Offerings: Terry Piphon reported that offerings of \$2410 were received and that 50 percent will be sent to churchwide; with the other 50 percent split five ways equally to Pathways Bible Camps; Lutheran Bible Camp; Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry, Moorhead; Lutheran Campus Ministry, Bemidji; and the People's Church in Bemidji.

President Marilyn called upon Roxanne Swisher to give a report on those that received the First Timers Grant to attend our NW MN SWO Convention this year. Their names are listed in the convention book on page 46. Since the convention was cancelled this year, their grant will be extended to next year's convention in Fall 2022. Roxanne invited everyone to ask friends, particularly younger women, new to the synod or their congregation to apply for next year.

President Marilyn called upon Roxanne Swisher to give an update on the Silent Auction. She encouraged everyone to be thinking about next year and bringing an item for the auction. We are still looking for larger ticket items that will encourage increased giving as the money collected goes to support any women in our synod who will be going to the Triennial Convention in 2023.

President Marilyn introduced this year's Convention Committee and extended her heartfelt thanks to them for a job well done.

The 34th Annual Fall Convention of the NW MN Synodical Women's Organization will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls, Sept. 16-17, 2022. Jacqueline Bussie has agreed to be our keynote speaker then.

President Marilyn introduced the outgoing board members and thanked them for their dedicated service to the SWO.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

At 2:34 pm, President Marilyn declared the 33rd annual convention adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lois Balko
SWO Secretary

Hands On Activity

Gift Cards



This year are asking members to bring gift cards in the amount of up to \$25.00 for area shops: gas stations, Target, Walmart, grocery stores, barber shops, beauty salons, laundromats, etc. The cards will be given to someplace safe, CHI St. Francis Footprints, Salvation Army to be given to their clients as needed.



Please be sure to stop at the Silent Auction tables located in the dining room. Bid early, and bid often!

The money we collect will be given to those attending the 2023 Triennial Convention and Gathering in Phoenix, Arizona.

Displays

ConseCrate
Pastor Ruth Hetland



Since 2020, ConseCrate has been sending out subscription boxes to women in ministry around the world! Each month over 400 women from many different denominations receive ConseCrate, a box filled with fun, useful, and inspiring items. Many of the items in each box are created by ministers. The creator and curator of ConseCrate is the Reverend Dr. Ruth E. Hetland. Check out ConseCrate's display table or consecrate.cratejoy.com to learn more!

Displays



Serving the Moorhead and surrounding areas for over 60 years.

Our emphasis is on **Lutheran materials.**

We want to take this opportunity to thank Melbergs for their support of our SWO group. This will be their last convention with us. Please stop by at their booth and thank them.



Pathways offers unique environments where God encounters people and renews them to live lives of love

Luther Crest Bible Camps
Inspiring Faith, Community and Stewardship in God's Creation



Lutheran Campus Ministry

LCM is an inclusive, Christian student organization open to all!

We have two LCM in our synod: Bemidji and Moorhead.

At each they worship weekly, enjoy affordable meals together, and participate in various service projects! For more information, visit either of these sites: Bemidji: www.lcmbemidji.org/1_2_about.html

Moorhead: www.facebook.com/LutheranCampusMinistryMsum



Look for the booth from Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry at our convention.

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Terminology

Assembly: ELCA's term for the gathering of delegates for decision-making or legislative functions.

Churchwide: Designated term for the whole organization.

CWO: Churchwide Women's Organization.

Cluster: Groupings of congregational units and intercongregational units within the territory of a Synodical women's organization.

Conferences, Clusters, Coalitions: Terms given to groupings established by ELCA synods for the purpose of fostering interdependent relationships among congregations, institutions, and Synodical and Churchwide units for mission purposes. Women of the ELCA clusters normally will follow the same boundaries.

Congregational Unit: The women's organization in a congregation; this may be made up of a smaller group of women in the congregation, but is the term designated for the total women's activity/organization within the congregation.

Convention: Term for the gathering of delegates for decision making or legislative functions within Women of the ELCA.

Intercongregational Unit: A local organization of women from two or more congregations that have no congregational units.

Membership: Refers to the congregational / intercongregational units who have affiliated with Women of the ELCA; it does not refer to individual women.

Reference and Counsel Committee: Reviews resolutions made at the Triennial Convention which are not germane to the stated agenda (that is, new business) and makes recommendations regarding them to the delegate body.

Synod: One of 65 territories of the ELCA.

Synodical Women's Organization: Congregational/ Intercongregational units which are located within the territories of the geographical synods of the ELCA.

SWO: Synodical Women's Organization.

YOU ARE INVITED!

**12th Triennial
Convention and Gathering
In Phoenix
2023
Convention: Sept 19-21
Gathering: Sept 21-24**

**35th Annual
SWO Convention
2023
Hosted by:
Conferences 1, 2 & 3
Time & Location to be
announced**

Save the Dates

Fall Conference Gatherings

You are all strongly encouraged to attend your conference gathering. If you aren't sure which one you are in, please contact your congregational unit to find out.

Conference 1

Saturday October 15, 2022
First Lutheran, Karlstad

Conference 2

*DATE, TIME AND LOCATION
TO BE DETERMINED*

Conference 3

*DATE, TIME AND LOCATION
TO BE DETERMINED*

Conference 4

*DATE, TIME AND LOCATION
TO BE DETERMINED*

Conference 5

*DATE, TIME AND LOCATION
TO BE DETERMINED*

Conference 6

*DATE, TIME AND LOCATION
TO BE DETERMINED*

Conference 7

Saturday, October 22
Hope Lutheran, Fergus Falls

Conference 8

Wednesday, September 28
Faith Lutheran, Eagle Bend