

River Channels

Newsletter of the Southeast Minnesota Synodical Women's
Organization

February 15, 2026

Issue 147

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Plan for the 2026 Gathering in Des Moines, Iowa!

July 16-19, 2026

Event registration will open July
15, 2025!

For more information go to
[https://www.womenoftheelca.org/
new-triennial-event-page](https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page)
See page 7 on signing up a bus to
the Gathering.

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 28, 2026, Women's Day at Good Earth
Village

April 11, 2026, MNRC Spring Event at St. John
Lutheran Church, Mapleton, MN

April 18, 2026, RRC Spring Event at Cross of
Christ in Houston

April 25, 2026, ZRC Spring Event at Zumbro
Lutheran Church in Rochester

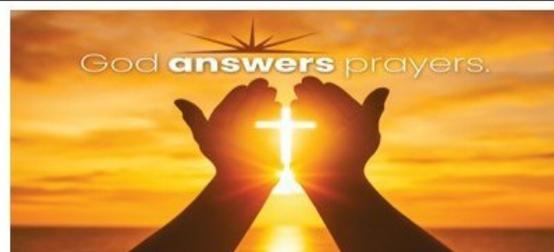
April 25, 2026, BERL Spring Event at Good
Shepherd, Wells, MN

April 25, 2026, CRC Spring Event at Cross of
Christ, Welch, MN

July 13-15, 2026, 13th Triennial Convention via
Zoom

July 16-19, 2026, 2026 Women of the ELCA
Gathering, Des Moines, IA

September, 2027, Convention of the SE MN Syn-
odical Women's Organization, Mount Olive
Lutheran, Rochester, MN

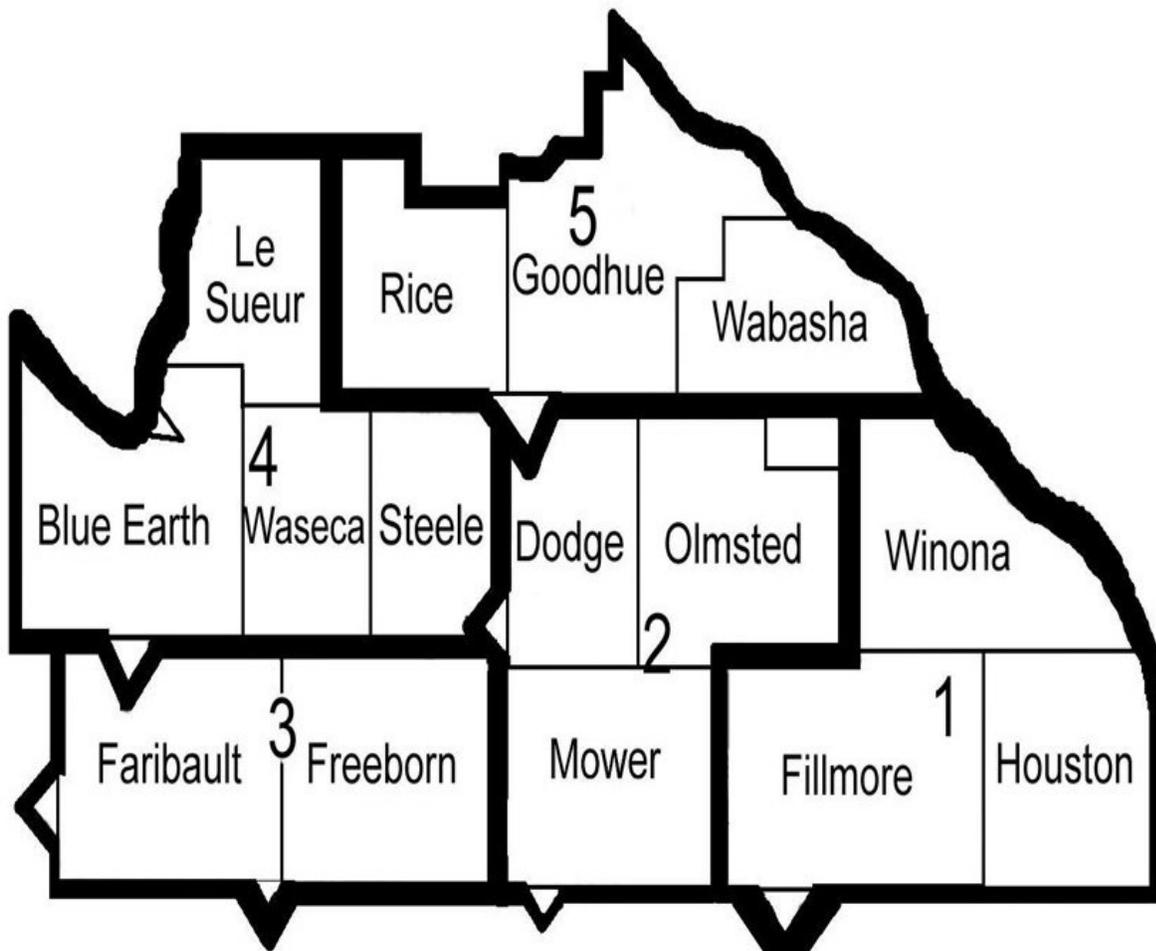


**SE MN Conferences
ELCA Region: 3I
Partner Synod: New England Synod
Companion Churches:**

- **Central Diocese Tanzania Lutheran Church;**
- **Colombia Lutheran Church;**
- **South Sudan Lutheran Church in Africa**

Map of SE MN Conferences

1. Root River Conference
2. Zumbro River Conference
3. Blue Earth River Conference
4. Minnesota River Conference
5. Cannon River Conference



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CONFERENCE LIAISONS

BLUE EARTH RIVER
Terri Hanson

CANNON RIVER
Jane Rinehart

MINNESOTA RIVER
Cherie Haas/Diane
Linbo

ZUMBRO RIVER
Pat Eichhorst

ROOT RIVER
Kathy Bolin

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jheukesh@smumn.edu

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River Channels is a publication of the Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. River Channels is distributed free to the congregational unit presidents, the conference committee members, the synodical and church-wide leadership of Women of the ELCA, and the Southeastern Minnesota Synod staff. Individual subscriptions are \$5.00 for four issues a year or free by email. Send articles, photos and other materials to Editor, River Channels, at the address in the listing on this page. The pages in this newsletter may be photocopied for educational and promotional use by Women of the ELCA members in the congregational units of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

Notes from Your President

By Kathy Bolin

“Breaking News” – the news that you can trust.

These are challenging days. At times it seems as we have gone back in our lives story of social unrest to eras that some of you recall from the 1940's or the 1960's and 70's. I had hoped, often times felt and even believed that we would not be living through times of division and unrest again. Scripture tells us that we will always have those who need our help (Deuteronomy 15:11 and Matthew 26:11). It seems there is no end to that list, here and around the world. The speed in which we can now get news is many times faster than it was when I was in college in the 60's and 70's. There are days when I long for an old dial phone with no answering machine and no “breaking news” that breaks every few minutes. Frequently, more often than not, I question the validity and the truth in what is being told, what is being said that I am suppose to be seeing or hearing. Years ago, I start-

ed a first thing in the morning devotion and meditation time. It is my “breaking morning news” time. I light a candle to welcome in the morning light reminding me who is the Light. Years ago, my godchild Megan gave me a small chime. It hangs on an ornament hook on the table next to my armchair. A gentle tap rings a quiet, peaceful tone calling me to center my thoughts on the morning's devotionals that I use. Often with a fragrant cup of tea at my side I pray through the names of those on my prayer list (which includes all of the SEMN Synod Women of the ELCA – not by name of course), and then focus on that morning's readings – they are short from either Christ in Our Home and or The Word in Season and the passages in scripture that go with that days message. There are other devotions that I also use but lately I have added a five-minute pause after this routine to quiet my mind and soul and ponder the message that I know deep in my heart that I can trust. How is God's word speaking to me today? God's word is meant to be shared, today as it was centuries ago. God's word can be trusted. How is God calling me, and you, to share his truth today, and every day?



Notes from Your Vice President

By Mona Skare

Hello, my name is Mona Skare, and I am the new Vice-President of the SEMN Synodical Women's Organization.

My husband John and I live in the old creamery building in Bricelyn that we've renovated over many years. We have 2 daughters: Sarah and her husband live in Mayer, MN, and Anna and her fiancé live in Rochester. Our grandchildren - Andrew, 20 and Lauren, 18 - keep us busy attending sporting and music events!

I enjoyed teaching for 41 years, working with learners of various ages with special challenges and needs. I have been especially passionate about working with preschool learners, as I then can also connect with their families. I now volunteer with the Pre-school Play Group at our local library – what fun!

At Bricelyn Lutheran Church I serve as president of our WELCA and as a deacon on the church council. There are many needs in a small congregation, so all hands are needed all the time, it seems! In the past I also served 2 terms on our SEMN Synod Council.

Other activities that I enjoy include singing in a choral group, reading, and gardening.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve on and learn more about this organization. I look forward to meeting many of you!

Purpose Statement

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.

Note from the Secretary

By Terri Hanson

Synopsis of the Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization Synod Board Meeting of Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Treasurer Diane Linbo reported that in addition to the funds collected for Cherish All Children and disbursed as reported, an additional \$2000 was donated directly to the organization from Zion Lutheran Church Women (\$1000 collected from members and matched by another member). Bethlehem Inn sent a thank-you for the love offering taken at the September SWO convention.

Mona Skare from Bricelyn, was confirmed in the Vice President position vacated by Julie Streifels, who needed to resign shortly after the election.

President Kathy Bolin led a discussion of the role of conference liaisons, and this description of that role evolved: In addition to installations at Spring Events, the liaison for each conference should be present at the SWO display table and write a thank you note to the host congregation/planners for hosting the Spring Event. If possible, the liaison could visit at least one congregation in their conference on a Sunday morning or for a Women of the ELCA circle meeting or some other event. This is a way for the SWO Board to reach out to the conferences.

Conference liaisons are:

Root River	Kathy Bolin
Blue Earth River	Terri Hanson
Cannon River	Jane Rinehart
Zumbro River	Pat Eichhorst
Minnesota River	Cherie Haas, Diane Linbo

The Board voted to send \$300 to churchwide for the 2026 Servants' Event as well as an offering of \$500.

Respectfully submitted, Terri Hanson, Secretary



**Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention
July 16 – 19, 2026, Des Moines, Iowa
2026 Triennial Convention Bus**

Thinking about the trip to and from Des Moines, Iowa? An option may be to take a chartered bus to the Triennial Convention. This option allows you to travel to your hotel on July 16, and return home on July 19. The two suggested hotels in the convention materials charge a parking fee ranging from \$14.00 to \$30.00 per day. Counting three days at the minimum, those fees add up.

If there is enough interest, we will charter a 50-passenger bus to pick up passengers starting in Lake City, and then onto Red Wing, Cannon Falls, Northfield, Owatonna and Albert Lea, Minnesota. The bus would leave Lake City on July 16, at approximately 7:30 a.m. and then stop at each of the cities listed above, arriving in Des Moines, Iowa, early Thursday afternoon. The bus would return to Minnesota following the Sunday Worship Service. More pick-up and drop-off information (time and locations) will follow.

A round-trip fee of **\$110.00** will be charged. If you are interested in riding the bus to the convention, please **register by emailing Judi Mickelson (email below)**. Registration will be first come first served, for up to 50 people, with **payment due by March 30, 2026**. You must register by email to Judi Mickelson to hold your seat on the bus, then send payment as listed below.

Send registration form and check to:

Make Check payable to:

Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization

Mail to:

Judi Mickelson, 1138 East Avenue, Red Wing, MN 55066

Email: jmickels1975@gmail.com

Questions may be directed to:

Judi Mickelson, 651-764-3575
First Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN

Doris Gruber, 651-764-1319
Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

Bus Registration Form

Name _____ Phone # _____

Church Name _____

Pick-up City Location _____

Email Address _____

Social Justice

By Cherie Haas

Let me introduce myself and tell you why the position of Social Justice Ministry is right up my alley. I am retired from over 30 years of teaching, much of that with English learners, most of them Latino. I have learned many things from them over the years. I have learned about the clinics that provide basic care to those who need it and can't afford it. I have learned about the various employers who offer jobs inviting Mexicans and others to immigrate to southern Minnesota. I have learned of the fears and hopes of high school students, some of whom were brought here as children and faced an uncertain future upon graduating without a social security number. Many eventually qualified for DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) when that program was implemented. I learned about the cartels that threatened families (join us or else!), causing them to fast track a path to the United States in whatever way they could find for the sake of their children. I lived through the era of "Build the Wall" and students who demanded that I let them know whose side I was on.

There is more fear today. Some families decide to leave the U.S. for a better life in Mexico. Yes, ironic! Many parents make plans for who will take their children into their home if the parents don't come home from

work that day. Most make plans for every family member to carry documents declaring their citizenship status with them at all times. No, it's not just your ID that we all carry most of the time anyway. Imagine carrying your passport with you at all times just to prove your legal status. Imagine being afraid to leave home to get groceries because someone in your home is undocumented. Or being afraid to leave your car when you see ICE officers in the grocery store parking lot even though you were born in the United States, but your skin is brown or black.

Now, to be sure, social justice is needed for many groups of people, not just immigrants. And I am here for all in need, anyone whose figurative house is on fire. I simply have more experience with immigrant families, and it's a 5-alarm fire for many right now. So how do we support them?

The same ways we support others in need... In my community, there's Community Pathways, one-stop shopping for food, clothing, personal care items, etc. formerly known as the Clothesline and the Food Shelf, but also now include dental care and other needs supplied by local businesses. We can make contributions of items or money, we can volunteer to sort donated items, or we can make deliveries to those who are

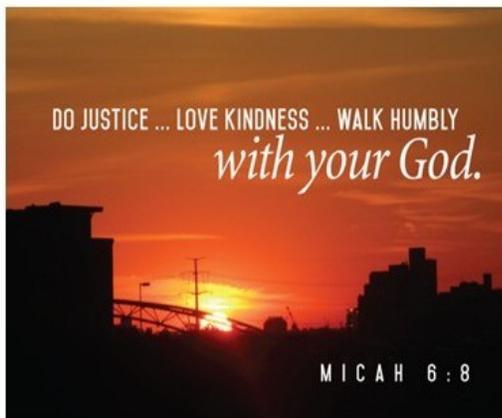
afraid to come in person.

My community also has community dinners sponsored by several local churches. This is an ecumenical effort with four different churches taking on the responsibility for providing meals to the community once a week on an on-going basis. One Catholic church, one Baptist church, and two Lutheran churches (including mine) each have their day of the week to serve, including meal deliveries to those who cannot come in person.

We also have programming in our community to provide housing options to people in situations ranging from escaping domestic violence to losing their home due to job loss.

These are just some of the opportunities that people in Owatonna or Steele County have to be of service to others. I imagine that most of our communities, depending on size, have similar opportunities to contribute and similar opportunities to take advantage of the help when any of us may find ourselves among those in need.

Keeping in mind the range of ideas that people have when it comes to what **justice** is, I found this definition for “**just**” from Oxford Languages, “Based on or behaving according to what is morally **right** and **fair**.” I found a long list of synonyms including “fairness, equity, evenhandedness, impartiality, lack of bias, objectivity, lack of prejudice, open-mindedness, non-partisanship.” Choosing the word “**equity**” from the list of synonyms, we find a word that has come into controversy in the past year or so but which means to provide that which is needed to give everyone a **fair** chance. What is needed by one person is different from the needs of another person. In my news contributions I hope to provide perhaps a new perspective on social justice from the perspective of equity, or how to live in harmony, equality and fairness. I look forward to sharing my thoughts with you in the coming months.



MINNESOTA RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

Minnesota River Conference
2026 Spring Event

Saturday, April 11, 2026

St. John Lutheran Church
104 Central Ave N Mapleton, MN
(Please use entrance on north side of church)

8:00 AM – Registration, Displays/Vendors, Coffee, and Fellowship
9:00 AM – Program 12:30 PM – Lunch

**“ The Time of Singing
has come”**

“For now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come.”
Song of Solomon Chapter 2: 11-12

Speaker: Cherie Jacobson

Cherie is a Water Color Artist/Painter

Registration Fee: \$ 15.00 Checks payable to **SE MN Synod
Women of the WELCA** (Includes Morning Coffee & Lunch)

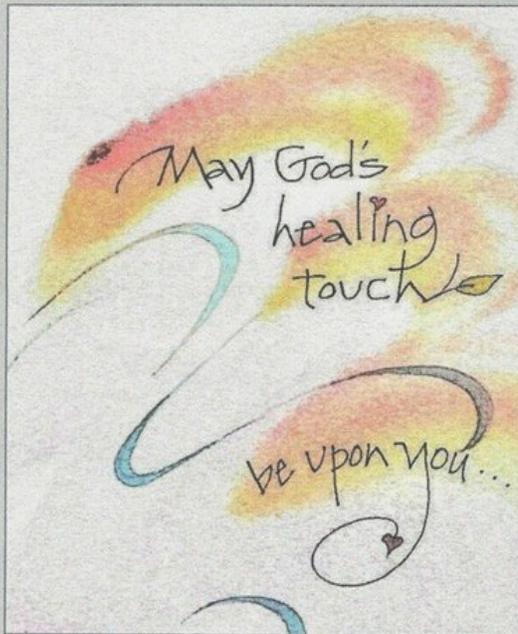
Please send Registrations and Fee to: Karen Myers
P O Box 844
Lake Crystal, MN 56055
507-720-1214
kmmyers73@gmail.com

Registrations due by:
April 1, 2026

BLUE EARTH RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

Southeastern Minnesota Synod Blue Earth River Conference SPRING EVENT



Saturday,
April 19, 2026
8:00 a.m.

*'God's Healing
Touch'*

Program: *'Healing Harps'*
by
Rachel Christensen

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

291 - 1st Street SW

Wells, Minnesota

ROOT RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

ROOT RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

Please join us at the **2026 Women of the ELCA Root River Conference
Spring Gathering**
hosted by **Cross of Christ Lutheran Church**
204 S. Chase St., Houston, MN

Saturday, April 18

9:00 am Registration, coffee bar, treats, and fellowship
9:30 am Program
Lunch to follow
\$15 registration fee

Special Guest

Linda Lind, presentation "Gardens of the Bible"

Special Music

"The Garden Flutes"

*"Consider how the wildflowers grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet
Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are."
-Luke 12:27*

For more information, please contact **Elsie Olson (507) 896-2236** or **Rae Evenson
(507) 430-9466**



ZUMBRO RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

ZUMBRO RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

**Zumbro Lutheran Church
624 Third Ave. SW, Rochester, MN 55902**

Schedule:

8-9:30am: Registration, Coffee & Displays

9:30am: Program & Worship

Guest Speaker: Pastor Shelley Cunningham

12pm: Lunch

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 10, 2026

Please bring a love offering for Zumbro's Food Pantries. Items needed: tuna or chicken pouches, ramen noodle cups, creamy peanut butter, Hormel Compleats, shelf-stable microwave meals, and boxes of instant oatmeal packets.



REACHING OUT WITH COMPASSION

CANNON RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

Women of the ELCA 

Cannon River Conference Spring Event &
Salad Luncheon

Saturday April 25, 2026

8:00-Noon

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
Welch, MN

Village Partnership for Education



Speakers Bruce and Brenda Blair will share their experiences working with the Village of Mondema in Sierra Leone West Africa and helping them convert a vacant church building to this new Center for Education.

8:00-8:50 - Registration, Coffee and Display Tables

This year's offerings will be distributed among:

Good Earth Village, Churchwide-Women of the ELCA, Lutheran Campus Ministries - Winona, Crossroads Campus Ministries - Mankato, Village Partnership, Days for Girls & First Choice

Love Offering: will go to *Village Partnership & First Choice* dry erase markers, ABC cards, chalk & chalk board erasers, pencils, men's and women's underwear for the teachers (size medium) **For First Choice:** Toddler Clothes up to size 5, Diapers all sizes

Please use the attached form to Register by April 15
Walk-ins welcome

CANNON RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT

Registration Form Cannon River Conference Spring Event
Saturday, April 25, 2026, 8:00-Noon
To be Held at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Welch, MN

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Home Congregation: _____ City: _____

List food/diet restrictions _____

Pre-Registration Preferred by April 15 - Walk-ins Welcome
Registration fee- \$15.00 Checks to SEMN Synod WELCA
Mail to: Kelley Mittelsteadt Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
24036 County 7 Blvd.
Welch, MN 55089

Registration Form Cannon River Conference Spring Event
Saturday, April 25, 2026, 8:00-Noon
To be Held at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Welch, MN

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Home Congregation: _____ City: _____

List food/diet restrictions _____

Pre-Registration Preferred by April 15 - Walk-ins Welcome
Registration fee- \$15.00 Checks to SEMN Synod WELCA
Mail to: Kelley Mittelsteadt Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
24036 County 7 Blvd.
Welch, MN 55089

2026 Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention and Gathering Information

**Triennial Convention (Business meeting)
via Zoom July 13 - 14, 2026**

**Triennial Gathering - Des Moines, Iowa
July 16 – 19, 2026**



Theme: "I am Worthy"

Bible Verse: "I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

Psalm 139:14

We invite you to join with our ministry as we seek to nourish women's faith and love and to inspire women to proclaim their identity, intent, and action.

This proclamation reminds us of God's promise to always be with us, even during times of devastation and division. Repeating the phrase "I am worthy" helps us recognize the Holy Spirit's ongoing work in our lives. This practice of self-affirmation creates opportunities for healing and repair within ourselves, the church, society, and the world. When we declare, "I am worthy," we align ourselves with God's promises. There is great power in our resolve.

Please use www.womenoftheelca.org website to find more information under EVENTS and scroll down to Triennial Convention and Triennial Gathering with dates.

November 2025

UNIT OFFICER UPDATE FORM 2025-2026

CONFERENCE NAME: _____ (Choose one below)
Blue Earth River; Cannon River; Minnesota River; Root River; or Zumbro River

UNIT (Congregational) NAME: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Church email: _____

Date of Installation: _____

Fill in all information below-DO NOT WRITE "SAME AS LAST YEAR"

Complete this form yearly within two weeks of election and whenever officers change. Thank you.

CURRENT UNIT OFFICERS:	FORMER OFFICER'S NAME
President Address City, State Zip Phone _____ Email _____	
Vice President Address City, State Zip Phone _____ Email _____	
Secretary Address City, State Zip Phone _____ Email _____	
Treasurer Address City, State Zip Phone _____ Email _____	
Stewardship (Mission Action) Address City, State Zip Phone _____ Email _____	
Justice (Mission Community) Address City, State Zip Phone _____ Email _____	
Discipleship (Mission Growth) Address City, State Zip Phone _____ Email _____	

SEND A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE FOLLOWING:

Diane Linbo, Treasurer SE MN Women of the ELCA

402 15th Ave NW, Kasson, MN 55944

semntreas@gmail.com 507-634-6602 – Home 507-261-4141—Cell



Thank You from Joy McElroy

May the season unite us as seek Peace with Justice

Dear Women of the ELCA-SE MN Synod,

WOW! Your generosity and passion for Children's Safety is amazing and truly a blessing.

Your campaign brought in over \$8,000, which will support the hiring of a PT Youth Trainer so we can reach more youth and families.

Grace and Peace to you all in this season.

Secretary: Terri Hanson, PhD

Feeling called to serve the church and my neighbors, whomever they may be, I volunteered for a vacant position on the SEMN WELCA board and was blessed to be elected to the position of secretary. As such, I offer the members the opportunity to practice patience, since my hearing acuity is only 24%! Growing up in a broken and transient family, I continued moving through a number of educational programs and jobs as an adult. Teaching has been a continuous thread, from teaching kindergarten after college through teaching therapy patients skills to manage and reduce their distress. In the church I have served as a choir member and cantor, occasional preacher, Sunday school teacher, member of church Council and clergy and staff call committees. Currently I am co-president of my local LCW at Trinity in Blue Earth, church librarian, occasional Bible study leader, head of the church visiting ministry, secretary of missions committee, and book club administrator, among other roles. I am an at-large member of BERC board. I'm looking forward to attending my first Triennial this summer, as a voting delegate. I also serve on the community library board and participate in the country's oldest Chautauqua reading circle. I moved to Blue Earth 12 years ago to take my final clinical position before retirement, to be close to extended family. Divorced and without children, I share my home with



my mixed-breed pup Gracie Vaune . I am grateful for these many opportunities to serve side-by-side with other faithful women.



Thrivent Action Grants Update:

You don't need to be a Thrivent member to apply for a \$250 action grant. There is another category, Associate member. It costs \$19.95 per year, and allows you to apply for one grant a year. Apply online at:

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership#apply-1>

River Channels Newsletter Subscription Form

River Channels is published by the Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women of the ELCA. One copy is sent to each unit president. If your unit has co-presidents, only one will receive a copy. Conference officers also receive a copy. Individuals may subscribe for \$5.00 per year. Please us this form to order, and type or print clearly.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Phone Number _____

New Subscription _____ Renewal _____

Enclose check for \$5.00 per subscription (\$10 for two years).

Email Subscriptions are free

Make payable to: SE MN Synodical WELCA (In memo of check, put in Newsletter Subscription.)

Mail to:

Diane Linbo
402 15th Ave NW
Kasson, MN 55944



Saturday, March 21, 2026 is National Quilting Day.

At Lutheran World Relief, we have a LOT to celebrate! For 80 years, compassionate people just like you have put their faith into action and made quilts for people in need around the world. And not just a few quilts — nearly 28 MILLION QUILTS!

These gifts of love make life brighter, softer, and a bit more comfortable for our neighbors around the world struggling with chronic poverty, illness, natural disaster and conflict. THANK YOU.

Host your own National Quilting Day (NQD) event to celebrate 80 years of comforting the world with quilts! Here are some tips for organizing a quilting celebration in your community. “Those who sleep under a quilt, sleep under a blanket of love.”

Go to this link to get more information and be able to download a guide for the day and blessings <https://lwr.org/nqd>

Download this helpful guide to plan your NQD event

Download this Quilts and Kits of Care blessing

THANK YOU so much for all you do to make life better for others. Every stitch created, every square chosen, from the batting to the ties - is a demonstration of God’s love. We value and appreciate the love you have sewn and the generosity you have shown to our neighbors in need around the world. We look forward to seeing how you lift up your ministry on this very special day. God bless you!

EASTER
MORNING
CHANGES EVERYTHING.

Yearly Treasurer's Report



Annual Report February 1, 2025 - January 31, 2026

Checking Account Income:

Unit Offerings:	
Blue Earth River	\$ 2,228.62
Cannon	\$ 2,019.89
Minnesota River	\$ 1,484.70
Root River	\$ 2,400.00
Zumbro River	<u>\$ 3,895.50</u>
Total	\$ 12,028.71

Income:

Interest	\$ 0.75
SWO Conv. Exp. Fund	\$ 555.00
River Channels Sub.	\$ 185.00
Church UN/First Luth	\$ 35.00
2025 Fall Conv. Off.	\$ 3,624.00
2025 Conv. Registration	\$ 2,000.00
2027 Conv. Offering	\$ 50.00
2026 Conf. Off. BE	\$ 75.00
Sale Of Necklaces	\$ 20.00
Exhibitor's Meals	\$ 50.00
2023/2024 Zumbro Off	\$ 350.00
Void Check # 4605	\$ 222.16
Cherish All Children	\$ 1,733.00
Bethlehem Inn-Love Off	\$ 100.00
Thankoff. Trin/BE	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
Total	\$ 9,199.91

Conference Income

Blue Earth Off.	\$ 1,037.00
Blue Earth Reg.	\$ 340.00
Cannon Off.	\$ 700.00
Cannon Reg.	\$ 950.00
MN Offering	\$ 554.00
MN Registration	\$ 715.00
Thrivent/MN Assembly	\$ 369.23
Root Offering	\$ 884.00
Root Registration	\$ 735.00
Zumbro Off.	\$ 1,060.00
Zumbro Reg.	<u>\$ 945.00</u>
Total	\$ 8,269.23

Total Income **\$ 21,228.62**

Balance February 1, 2024 **\$ 16,493.00**

Income **\$ 28,497.85**

Total Income **\$ 45,990.85**

Total Disbursements **\$ 32,014.29**

Balance January 31, 2025 **\$ 13,976.56**

Money Market Account

Balance February 1, 2024 **\$ 2,344.97**

Income - Interest **\$ 1.07**

Total Income **\$ 2,346.04**

Total Disbursements

Balance January 31, 2025 **\$ 2,346.04**

Checking Account Disbursements:

50% to CWO Feb. 2025 -Jan. 2026	\$ 6,014.34
SWO Board Expenses:	
Postage	\$ 81.71
Mileage	\$ 1,036.47
River Channels Expense	\$ 1,223.12
Office Supplies	\$ 347.33
Board Mtg.s	\$ 201.37
Good Earth Village - Reg.	\$ 40.00
Church Women United	\$ 35.00
Schroeder Acct. - Audit	\$ 80.00
Checks	\$ 89.92
Honorarium Cherish All Children	\$ 500.00
Thank off. Trin/BE	\$ 200.00
Gift	\$ 32.48
Crossroads Reissue Ck	\$ 222.16
Synod Board 5 Conf. Reg.	<u>\$ 270.00</u>
Total	\$ 10,373.90

Conference Expense:

Blue Earth Conference	\$ 529.69
Cannon Conference	\$ 777.13
Minnesota Conference	\$ 810.37
Root Conference	\$ 355.55
Zumbro Conference	<u>\$ 1,166.38</u>
Total	\$ 3,639.12
Spring Conference Gifts	
Blue Earth Conference	\$ 635.49
Cannon Conference	\$ 872.87
Minnesota Conference	\$ 827.86
Root Conference	\$ 1,243.45
Zumbro Conference	<u>\$ 1,238.62</u>
Total	\$ 4,818.29

2025 Fall Convention Expense:

Mileage	\$ 387.90
Postage	\$ 260.78
Paper/Copies/Misc	\$ 487.80
Board Mtg.	\$ 189.33
Catering/Fruit	\$ 962.51
Pianist/Tech/Custodian	\$ 150.00
Pastor Page Whitney	\$ 50.00
Scholarship	\$ 25.00
Synod Board - Reg.	\$ 175.00
Print Prayer Book	\$ 80.89
Bethlehem Inn - Love	\$ 100.00
Joy McElroy - Speaker	\$ 200.00
Cherish All Children	\$ 6,069.77
(Designated Gift)	
2025 Fall Convention Gifts	<u>\$ 4,044.00</u>
Total	\$ 13,182.98

Total Disbursements **\$ 32,014.29**

4th Quarters Treasurer's Report



Quarterly Report November 1, 2025 - January 31, 2026

Income:

Unit Offerings:		
Blue Earth River	\$ 1,210.75	
Cannon	\$ 1,005.35	
Minnesota River	\$ 452.50	
Root River	\$ 1,050.00	
Zumbro River	<u>\$ 2,163.00</u>	
Total		\$ 5,881.60

Interest	\$ 0.14	
River Channels Sub.	\$ 20.00	
SWO Conv. Exp.	\$ 35.00	
2026 Conf. Off.	\$ 50.00	
2027 Conv. Off.	\$ 50.00	
Thankoffering Trin/BE	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	
Total		<u>\$ 355.14</u>

Total Income \$ 6,236.74

Balance Oct. 31, 2025	\$ 11,610.80
4th Qtr. Total Income	<u>\$ 6,236.74</u>
Total Income	\$ 17,847.54
4th Quarter Disbursement	<u><u>\$ 3,870.98</u></u>
Balance Jan. 31, 2026	<u><u>\$ 13,976.56</u></u>

Disbursements:

CWO - 50% Unit Offering	\$	2,940.80
SEMN Synod Donation		
Mileage	\$	72.00
Postage	\$	78.00
Newsletter Expense	\$	322.72
Office Supplies	\$	224.98
Gift	\$	32.48
Thankoff. Trin/BE	\$	<u>200.00</u>

Total Disbursements \$ 3,870.98

Money Market Account

Balance Oct. 31, 2025	\$	2,345.77
4th Qtr. Interest	\$	0.27
Total 4th Qtr. Income	\$	<u>2,346.04</u>
4th Qtr. Disbursements		
Balance Jan. 31, 2026	\$	<u><u>2,346.04</u></u>

**“Happy Valentine’s Day”
“A Prayer for You”**

I said a prayer for you today, and know God must have heard.
I felt the answer in my heart, although He spoke no word.
I did not ask for wealth or fame, I knew you would not mind.
I ask Him to send treasures, of a far more lasting kind.
I asked that He be near you, at the start of each new day,
To grant you health and blessings, and friends to share your way.
I asked for happiness for you, in all things great and small.
But it was for His Loving Care,
“I Prayed the Most of All”

- For SEMN Synodical Women’s Organization our year ends on January 31.
- Watch for the 4th Quarter Report and 2025 Year End Report in this issue of River Channels.
- Thank you for your Unit Offerings. These are a great source of income for us at the Synodical level, and also the 50% that is sent to Women of the ELCA – Churchwide.
- If you have Form A, please use that with your donation. If by chance you do not have this form, just add a note letting me know what your donation is designated for. Thank you.
- Looking forward to the Spring Conference Events.
- Information on the Spring Event’s is also posted in this River Channels.
- Thank you for your Unit Officers Updates.
- Please send if any changes of officer’s going into the New Year with your Women’s activities.

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Websites of interest to Women of the ELCA

Augsburg Fortress Publishers
www.augsburgfortress.org

ELCA Churchwide Offices
www.elca.org

Good Earth Village
www.goodearthvillage.org

Lutheran World Relief
ww.lwr.org

Southeastern Minnesota Synod
www.semnsynod.org

Women of the ELCA
www.womenoftheelca.org