

*News from the Northeastern Iowa Synodical Women's Organization*

*Statement of 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.

*Scholarships Available*



Look for the first SWO Convention mailing to every congregation. You will find information about the SWO Scholarships that are available to women in the Northeastern Iowa Synod.

**SWO Convention Scholarships** - \$20 - offered to women who are members of the Northeastern Iowa Synod, are not the congregational unit delegate and are attending the Convention for the first time.

**Educational Scholarships** of up to \$500 are offered to women of congregations of the Northeastern Iowa Synod who need to further their education to re-enter the work force. This is NOT for those who have just graduated from high school.

Scholarship applications are due May 1.

*submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*

**Contact Women of the ELCA at:**  
773.380.2730 or 800.638.3522, ext. 2730  
[www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)  
8765 W. Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631-4189



*From Your President*

Women of the ELCA celebrate Bold Women's Day each year on the fourth Sunday in February. This year that day falls on February 27th. Our mission is "Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ". The Churchwide Women of the ELCA website has a number of ideas about observing this day. Women of our congregations can be honored for the many ways that they serve. Each of us are different and so our "BOLD" looks different. Live your "BOLD" in your community, church and family.

**ACT BOLDLY ON YOUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST!**

*submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*

*Upcoming Events*



- Feb 27 Bold Women's Day
- Mar 4 World Day of Prayer
- Mar 9 Ash Wednesday
- Mar 12 Board Meeting @ Synod Office  
(9:00 am)
- Mar 26 Snow Date Board Mtg
- Apr 24 Easter Sunday
- May Synod Board Meeting  
Date & location TBA
- May 1 NEIA SWO Scholarship  
applications due
- June 18 SWO Convention  
@Wartburg College
- July 12-14 Triennial Convention  
@ Spokane, WA
- July 14-17 Triennial Gathering @ Spokane, WA
- Aug 5-6 Synodical Board Transitional  
Retreat

## NEIA SWO Convention

## Women of the ELCA Resources

Date: Saturday June 18, 2011  
Place: Wartburg College, Waverly  
Theme: *Renew, Respond, Rejoice*  
Theme verse: Philippians 4:4-7 (New RSV)  
Theme hymn: Rejoice Ye Pure of Heart

We will have a staff person from Lutheran World Relief with us for our Convention.

*submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*

Cluster Spring Events are being planned. Look for publicity, put it on your calendar and plan to attend. Each cluster event is unique. Bring someone along to enjoy a program, fellowship and opportunity to learn! If you are asked to be a cluster officer, give it serious consideration. Gathering with other women in our area is a real blessing.

*submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*



**Renew, Respond, Rejoice!**

*8th Triennial Gathering  
July 14 - 17  
Spokane, Washington*

All Women of the ELCA are encouraged to participate in the 8<sup>th</sup> Triennial Gathering by creating! Two options are available for all women, whether or not you attend the gathering in Spokane.

Quilters of all abilities are invited to create a quilt interpreting the gathering theme, *Renew, Respond, Rejoice!* Complete instructions for the quilt challenge are at [www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering) or call 800-638-3522. Quilts must be received at churchwide office by May 1.

Another option for women is to make prayer shawls. These will be collected at the gathering and given to ministries in the host synod, the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod. Instructions for making the prayer shawls are available at [www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering) or call 800-638-3522.

If you cannot attend the gathering in person you may mail your shawls to the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Office for arrival between June 1 and July 1, 2011. Mail to:

TG11 Prayer Shawls  
Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod  
314 S. Spruce Street, Suite A  
Spokane, WA 99210-5823

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LutheranWoman  
TODAY

The 2010 – 2011 Bible study is “The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity,” looks at what unites us and defines us as people of faith. Often, the tendency is to stay focused on the issues that divide us, but the goal of this study is to focus on our common faith in Jesus Christ. This study written by the Rev. Linda Johnson and The Rev. D. Jensen Seyenkulo, Ph.D. helps us understand how our different backgrounds, life experiences, and perspectives can be shared and heard as we study the Bible together.

The January - February issue ...  
In Spirit and Truth  
Session 6: *Race and Culture*  
Theme verse: Acts 10:34-35

*Women of the ELCA - Website*

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*Good News for Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene*  
Newsletter Editor, Linda Groe,  
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Articles are due the 1st of the month for the next months newsletter.

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