

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.

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## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We are busy planning our synod convention which will be held at Wartburg College in Waverly on Saturday, June 21. Each congregational unit should have received these materials:

**Nomination form for officers and board members:** We need interested women to say yes to joining our synod board as our vice-president and two at-large board members. We hold six meetings a year on Saturdays at our synod office and facilitate our convention. You will learn so much about our organization and make lifelong friends with women you would never get to know otherwise.

**Nomination form for nominating committee:** This is a short-term service commitment for five women who work together to fill the convention ballot with interested committed women.

**Motion/resolution form:** Congregational units are given the opportunity to address concerns with our organization by using this form. You might want to submit a resolution regarding changes in our clusters, for example.

**Convention Scholarship Application:** To encourage women who are “first timers” and not delegates to attend our convention, we will cover registration fees for the first ten who apply! Apply by May 15 to our treasurer.

**Education Scholarship Application:** Three scholarships of \$500 are available to women seeking further education to advance in the work force (rather than recent HS graduates). We do like to have you accept at our convention. Apply by May 15 to our treasurer.

**Convention Registration:** Please copy this form and distribute it to all interested women in your church. You will note that you save \$10 by

registering before May 25. Delegates **MUST** be registered by that date as you will receive an additional mailing to help you prepare for voting. Send to Nancy Poppe, our treasurer.

**All of these forms can be found on our website, [www.neiasynod.org](http://www.neiasynod.org) and within that website go to Women of the ELCA. Please help us publicize these opportunities!** *Gloria Tollefson, W-ELCA NE-IA Synod President*

## **Our New Clusters are Busy Planning Their Spring Events**

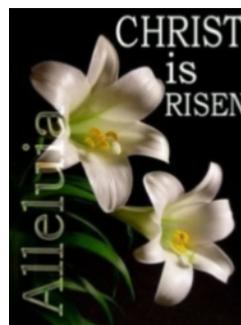
**Jubilee Cluster C** met on Saturday morning, March 22, for “Cluster Conversation and Coffee” at the Zion Lutheran Church in rural LaPorte City to organize their new cluster and spend time getting acquainted.

Contact Donna Kirschenmann (319-483-1994) with your questions.

**Riverside Cluster F** will “Celebrate Bold Katie and Martin Luther” at their spring retreat on Tuesday, April 8. Registration (\$5 includes morning coffee and noon luncheon) begins at 8:30. At 9:00 Michelle and Mark Murray will

portray how Katie and Martin Luther may have interacted in their marriage. The love offering will be given to Katie’s Fund. Contact Shirley Knudsen at 641-866-6862 or [sknud@frontiernet.net](mailto:sknud@frontiernet.net) with your questions and reservations.

**Three River Cluster H** will host Jubilee–C and Tree of Life–E for their Spring Gathering and Lutheran World Relief collection at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Greene on Saturday, April 12. Dave Solik Hagen from Waverly will tell about the work of the Carter Project for Habitat for Humanity in Haiti. Offering will go to Lutheran World *(Continued on [page 2](#))*



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## CALENDAR

2014

- Apr. 8 Spring Gathering, Riverside Cluster (F)  
Bethany, Iowa Falls
- Apr. 12 LWR Ingathering, St. Peter's LC, Greene,  
Clusters C, E, H
- Apr. 26 LWR Pickup 8-11 am, Bethlehem Lutheran  
Church, Manly  
Spring Gathering, Northeast Iowa Cluster,  
Orleans  
Spring Gathering, Shechem Cluster, St. John's  
(Stapleton), Waucoma, 9-noon
- Apr. 27 Cluster B, Little Flock, Spring Gathering,  
1:30 p.m. at St. John, Luana
- May 3 Spring LWR pickup at Olson's Explosives,  
Decorah
- May 17 Board Meeting, Wartburg College, 9-noon
- May 21-22 Bible Study Seminar, Wartburg  
Seminary, Dubuque
- June 20 Board Meeting 4 pm-8 p.m
- June 21 NEIA SWO Convention, Wartburg College,  
Waverly
- July 22-24 Ninth Triennial Convention, Charlotte,  
NC
- July 24-27 Ninth Triennial Gathering, Charlotte, NC
- Sept. 6-7 Fall Retreat, Three River/H at Ewalu
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Relief. Luncheon (free-will offering) and cluster meetings will follow. Women from other clusters are welcome to attend and use the truck to transport their LWR kits and quilts. Pick-up is 8:00-11:00 am and worship service begins at 9:30 am. Call Bonnie Dralle (319-493-4404) with questions.

**Little Flock** Cluster B is planning their spring gathering on Sunday afternoon, April 27, at 1:30 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church in Luana. Call Lorna Christeleit at 563-767-4182 for more information.

**Refer to the calendar for additional dates of spring events.**

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### Good News

Editor Jan Harbaugh  
P. O. Box 68  
Renwick, IA 50577  
515-825-8068  
[jan.harbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:jan.harbaugh@gmail.com)

Articles are due the 1st of the month for the next month's newsletter. Please put WELCA in your subject line. (You can also send paper copies by "snail" mail.)

### So What is Katie's Fund?

Katie's Fund began in 1997 as an endowment that would honor the life of Katharina von Bora Luther and support bold ministries for generations to come. Interest from this fund is currently supporting workshops, films and materials on anti-bullying, human trafficking, domestic violence and leadership development. A goal has been set to build Katie's Fund to one million dollars by our Triennial Gathering in Charlotte, NC July 24-27. Gifts to Katie's Fund can be sent to our synod treasurer and she will forward them. *Gloria Tollefson, synod president*

### Place Mats Available

ELCA Global Missions have a special gift for you—a world map that can be used as a place mat, coloring sheet or display item. They might be used at a cluster event or in your own church. They come in pads of 100. You can order as many as you can use online at [www.ELCA.org/globalmission-resources](http://www.ELCA.org/globalmission-resources) for only shipping costs. (100 came to me for about \$6) *Gloria Tollefson*

### Coaster Update

I have started labeling all the beautiful coasters you made for us to share at the Triennial Convention. I have completed over a hundred and have somewhere between 300 and 400 more to complete. I haven't found any two

identical. You may have used the same fabric but each one is unique. We are also going to be using these coasters to identify us, NE Iowa, at the Triennial. Please see me at the SWO convention—I will have a spot for you to see me there and pick yours up. If you will not be at the convention, please let me know and I will connect with you in Charlotte. Thanks again for all your work.

*Anna Jetson email [ne\\_iowa\\_tgp\\_2014@yahoo.com](mailto:ne_iowa_tgp_2014@yahoo.com) or 507-498-3209 home or 952-240-9569 cell.*



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### NEIA Women of the ELCA Treasurer

**Nancy Poppe**  
2656 Gilmore Ave  
Ionia, IA 50645  
641-435-2231  
[Popcan@exede.net](mailto:Popcan@exede.net)

### **Contact Women of the ELCA at:**

773.380.2730 or 800.638.3522, ext. 2730  
<http://www.womenoftheelca.org/>  
8765 W. Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631-4189