

**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.**

---

## **TIME FOR RESOLUTIONS**

The calendar has been turned and you may have made some personal resolutions for the New Year. It might be spending more time in daily devotions or visiting shut-ins. As members of the Women of the ELCA, we also need to consider writing formal resolutions that present issues and propose actions to resolve concerns we might want to have addressed by the synod convention, board or committee. A resolution is a main motion which is submitted to the Resolutions committee in writing prior to the business meeting at our convention in June. Resolutions bring new business before the convention. Last year NO resolutions were submitted. Can we assume that there are no major changes needed in our organization? Please put this on the agenda of your next business meeting. A resolution must have signatures of *five* participants of an active unit/units within our synod. You simply state the topic, reasons for the concern and how you propose it might be resolved. Here is an example (ignore the content):

We submit the following resolution related to property upkeep:  
 WHEREAS the sidewalk in front of Zion Lutheran Church is in bad condition; and  
 WHEREAS there are holes, rises, and cracks in the cement; and  
 WHEREAS at least two adults and numerous children have fallen and become injured this spring;  
 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the property committee appropriate funds for the repair of said sidewalk at their June meeting.

Your unit president/contact will be receiving a convention packet that includes a

motion/resolution form. Please consider this action prayerfully and should you as a delegate or congregational unit feel there is a need not being met by the board, let us know through a resolution. It will then be addressed by all the women of NE Iowa synod through their elected delegates.

*--submitted by Gloria Tollefson, your synod president*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Please Note**

At our fall rallies many of you became excited about making pillowcase dresses for the girls in Haiti. Each spring, Deb Lindamon from Mason City goes to Haiti and will take dresses with her. Her telephone number is **319-610-5649 (corrected number)**.

*Iris Hagen from St. Paul's in Cedar Falls presented her pillowcase dresses at the Fall Rally held at*



*Bethlehem. She has made over 95 of them and each one is different and so attractive. They will be sent to Haiti. Directions were available at all the Fall Rallies.*

---

## CALENDAR

- Jan. 19 SWO Board Lunch with cluster coordinators  
April 9 Cluster 1 Spring Retreat  
April 13 Clusters 4, 5, 6 and 7 Spring Gathering  
April 20 LWR Pickup, Trinity, Cedar Rapids  
April 27 Cluster 1 and 2, LWR Pick-Up in Manly  
April 27 Cluster 9 Spring Gathering, St. Johns, Guttenberg  
April 27 Cluster 8 Spring Gathering, Location to be determined  
May 4 SWO Board meeting at convention site  
May 22 - 23 Women of the ELCA Bible Study Seminar with Dr. Kay Ward, Wartburg Sem.  
June 14 SWO Board Pre-convention meeting at convention site  
June 15 SWO Convention, Wartburg College  
Nov. 2 LWR Pickup, Olson Explosives, Decorah and Redeemer, Waverly
- 

## Upcoming Gather Bible Studies

### 2013 Summer Study

*All Who Hunger Gather Gladly* by Audrey Novak Riley

When the hungry crowd gathered, Jesus told his friends to give the people something to eat—and then he made sure they could. (Audrey Novak Riley, assistant director for the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal, enjoys her summer days in River Forest, IL.)



**Reminder!** Less than 9 months until early bird registration opens for the Ninth Triennial Gathering in Charlotte NC, July 24-27, 2014. Any questions? Contact Anna Jetson, the NE Iowa Triennial Promoter at [NE\\_Iowa\\_TGP\\_2014@yahoo.com](mailto:NE_Iowa_TGP_2014@yahoo.com).



\* \* \* \* \*

The St. John-St. Olaf Women of the ELCA in Belmond (Cluster 2) led the Joint Thankoffering Communion Service to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of WELCA at St. Olaf on November 18. The Joint Ministry contributed \$250, and the total offerings submitted to WELCA as a result of this service were \$632. Submitted by Jan Harbaugh, Secretary, St. John-St. Olaf Joint Ministry WELCA

### In Good Company



Company's coming! Kay Ward, the first woman elected bishop in The Moravian Church, has invited nine women from the Old Testament, several from the New Testament and a handful of women she knows to stop in for a visit in the 2013-2014 Bible study. They will be companions with us each month, long enough for us to get to know them and to also get to know ourselves a bit better. Their stories will draw us into Bible study, worship with the Psalms and opportunities to tell our own stories.

Leaders (and interested students) are encouraged to join the seminar with Dr. Ward at Wartburg Theological Seminary May 22-23. For more information, contact the LifeLong Learners Office, [lifelonglearners@wartburgseminary.edu](mailto:lifelonglearners@wartburgseminary.edu)

---

### Good News

Editor Jan Harbaugh  
111 4th Ave. SE, Belmond, IA 50421  
641-444-3783 [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.)

### NEIA Women of the ELCA Treasurer

Shirley Retz  
1351 207th Street  
Manchester, IA 52057  
Phone: 563-927-3824

### Contact Women of the ELCA at:

773.380.2730 or 800.638.3522, ext. 2730  
[www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Women-of-the-ELCA](http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Women-of-the-ELCA)  
8765 W. Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631-4189