

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.

HOPE TO SEE YOU IN FORT DODGE—

Our Tri-Synodical convention is being held at the Iowa Central Community College, [1 Triton Circle](#) in Fort Dodge, Friday and Saturday June 19–20. All three Iowa synods will meet together for worship, interest groups, luncheon and evening banquet with entertainment and lots of fellowship.

Go to our website, neiasynod.org, then Women of the ELCA, where you can find the registration form, lodging and schedule information. Download the registration form and send to Nancy Poppe, our treasurer. There is no lodging available on the campus. AmericInn Lodge (515-576-2100) and Best Western Starlight Village (515-573-7177) are closest to the campus. Rates of all the motels are very reasonable. All serve breakfast. The luncheon and evening banquet are included in your registration fee.

Fill a car from your church and head to Fort Dodge Friday morning. You will find the college right on Hwy 169. Turn into Triton Circle. Go directly to Decker Auditorium. Find our registration table for your lime green packet and nametag. (The synods will be color coded—NE Iowa, lime green, SE Iowa, melon and Western Iowa, teal.) Worship with Holy communion will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Following will be an opportunity to meet our churchwide reps—all three of them—then business meetings, workshops (nine choices) and two Bible studies with our bishops. We are blessed to have The Rev. Wyvetta Bullock, Assistant to Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, as our keynote speaker. The evening banquet will have a band ensemble for after dinner entertainment.

Workshops will offer choices to interest everyone—“Best Kept Secret,” a forum by our three churchwide board reps, Human Trafficking, Genealogy, Church Music Through the Generations,

Scrapbooking, Preparing Your Funeral, and more. If you are a delegate, you will attend two workshops, non-delegates three.

Your convention committee is excited about all they have planned! We need YOU and OTHER WOMEN from your church to join us in worship, Bible study, learning about our organization and having fun! See you in Fort Dodge. *Your Tri-Synodical Convention Committee*

DELEGATES

Every one of our 115 active units should be represented at our business meeting. Other interested women are welcome also (although workshops will be open at that time). Several weeks before the convention you will receive in the mail

- the proposed budget,
- information on nominees for the offices of president, secretary and three board members, along with the 2016 nominating committee,
- submitted resolutions. We welcome resolutions from your unit also. You will find the form for doing that on our website also.

Please spend time with this information prior to the meeting. You might review it with your unit board also. Our convention is important to our organization. Be involved. You will have a stronger home unit because you are. *Gloria Tollefson, Your NE Iowa Synod President*

OFFERINGS

Offerings given during the worship service will go to Women of the ELCA Churchwide (50%), Lutheran Disaster Fund (25%) and Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach, Iowa City (25%). Make your checks to NE Iowa Women of the ELCA.

In-Kind offerings: Please bring in a plastic bag with label designating where you intend your gift to be given:

- Gateway to Discovery, a recovery home and program for women recovering from drug and alcohol abuse located in Fort Dodge. Cleaning supplies, bedding, personal supplies and hygiene products are needed.

CALENDAR

- Jun 19-20 Iowa Tri-Synodical W-ELCA Convention, Iowa Central Community College, Ft. Dodge
- Oct. 24 Little Flock Cluster B Fall Gathering, St. Paul LC, Monona
- Nov. 7 Fall LWR In-Gathering for Clusters C (Jubilee), E (Tree of Life) and H (Three Rivers) at Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls
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- Domestic/Sexual Assault Outreach Center, an emergency home for 25+ women and children who have fled their homes due to assault or violence. Pajamas (all sizes), personal hygiene items, baby wipes and diapers (size 4 and 5), paper products, towels, laundry soap, gas cards.
- Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach asks for prayer shawls for chaplains to give to patients and families at the U of Iowa Hospitals (please no purchased shawls).

Our Churchwide Representative **Cindy Arnett** **Executive Board Member, 2014–2017** **Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

Cindy Arnett was elected to the churchwide executive board of Women of the ELCA in July 2014. She serves on the Program and Communication Committee.

Previously, Cindy served as president of the Sierra Pacific Synodical Women's Organization in

northern California. She has also served on the churchwide board nominating committee for the Eighth Triennial Convention, and on the planning committee for the 2011 Conference of Presidents.



Cindy is a longtime member of Bethel Lutheran Church in Cupertino, CA., where she was a staff member for 17 years. She has served in her congregational

Women of the ELCA unit as president and as a member of the board. She also serves her congregation as a deacon, Stephen minister, and lay eucharistic minister.

Cindy has served on the worship team for juvenile hall and the local children's shelter, offering worship services for and with children and youth.

Cindy particularly enjoys coordinating women's retreats and conferences. Mentoring young women to help them discover who God has called them to be is close to her heart. She also likes helping women explore opportunities for leadership in the kingdom of God. And she loves helping women discover how to revitalize their units and clusters.

Cindy is passionate about education and loves her work as a mentor, advisor and counselor for a private Christian university. She is interested in learning more about global ministry.

Cindy relaxes by hanging out with husband Nick, daughter Carrie, and the grandkids, and spending time with her dogs and horse.

Cindy is looking forward to meeting and serving Women of the ELCA throughout our church.

NEIA Women of the ELCA website:

neiasynod.org/womenoftheELCA

Good News

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

NEIA Women of the ELCA Treasurer

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