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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 There!

We are looking forward to celebrating the past and future of the Women of the ELCA with you. Choose the location and date that works for you and fill a car with women from your church. Bring memories to share and old photos too—

- October 6, Saturday, 9-11:30am at Bethlehem in Cedar Falls
- October 9, Tuesday, 6:30-9:00pm at St. Paul's in Postville
- October 13, Saturday, 9-11:30am at Trinity in Mason City

Please add it to your calendar!

Submitted by Your Synod Board

Walking Together

We as Women of the ELCA have received a special invitation from our bishop, Steve Ullestad, to participate in a series of conversations titled, “Walking Together,” which will be held from October 21–April 14 on Sunday afternoons at nine different churches throughout our synod. I encourage you to attend the session that works best for you. We are fortunate to be in a synod that requests input from Women of the ELCA. (As your president, I also serve on the Synod Council.)—*Gloria Tollefson, your president*

Where global and local connect

Glocal Mission Gatherings (GMGs), offered through the ELCA’s Global Mission unit, bring together congregational leaders for a day and a half of worship, workshops and sharing around global and local mission.

“Glocal” is a new term used to describe God’s work where *global* and *local* realities connect. When the disciples asked Jesus, “who is my neighbor?” Jesus gave them a glocal answer. Every day, in the food we eat, the clothes we wear and the cars we drive, we are having glocal experiences. GMGs help you make sense of these connections and experience them within the context of your faith.

At a GMG you learn about the changing context of the global church. You get a biblical foundation for the accompaniment model of mission. Global companions share their witness. Lively devotions include global voices during the fellowship time of networking and connecting. In-depth, skill-building workshops round out the GMG. Women of the ELCA staff gather participants, usually over lunch, to discuss and apply the GMG learnings to the mission of our organization.

Upcoming Glocal Mission Gatherings : It is unusual to have an event in Iowa. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

- November 2–3 Faith Lutheran Church, Clive, Iowa

Go to elca.org and search the term “glocal” for more information and to register. You’ll remember that our synodical women have scholarships available for these events. Contact our treasurer for more information.

--from the INTERCHANGE, June 2012, written by Valora K. Starr, churchwide director for discipleship. *Submitted by Gloria Tollefson, your synod president*

CALENDAR

Nov. 3 SWO Board
Nov. 3 LWR Pickup, Trinity, Waterloo
Jan. 19 SWO Board Lunch with cluster coordinators
Mar. 23 SWO Board
May At convention site
June 14 SWO Board Pre-convention meeting at convention site
June 15 SWO Convention, Wartburg College

Ninth Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA

Of Many Generations
is the theme.



Just the facts:
Dates: July 24–27, 2014
Location: Charlotte, North Carolina

Theme verse: Isaiah 58:12 “Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.”

It’s an inspiring weekend for mothers, daughters, sisters and best friends you call sisters.

NE Iowa Synod Promoter is *Anna Jetson*. I can be reached via email at NE_Iowa_TGP_2014@yahoo.com, cell phone # 952-240-9569 or U.S. mail at 21249 Viking Dr., Spring Grove, MN 55974. The churchwide office is going to track how effective we are by using a code system. My code is 5F-TGP, there will be a spot on

the registration form for you to enter that code.

Early Bird Registration will open September 2013 thru December 2013. During that time we will have a block of hotel rooms reserved for our synod in one of the recommended hotels. I will share the details as soon as I have them.

I urge you to consider going. If not you, then think of who in your life or congregation may be recharged by spending the weekend with like-minded women, looking to the future of our organization. Support them in prayer and conversations. Support them in fund raising or start saving now. The goal I created for our Synod was to have at least one person from each congregation attend the Triennial Gathering in North Carolina.

Look for additional information in future newsletters, on the web at www.womenoftheelca.org, Facebook (our NEIA Synodical Women’s Organization page, Women of the ELCA page), or simply contact me with questions.

October airing of “Half the Sky” on PBS

Many of you have probably read *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning authors Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDun. Now the book’s message—a call to arms against the oppression of women and girls in developing countries—comes alive on the screen in a two-night PBS special airing on October 1 and 2. The film “Half the Sky” chronicles the stories of women and girls confronting extreme gender inequality around the world and celebrates the remarkable individuals fighting to bring about change.

These issues—maternal mortality, sex trafficking, gender-based violence, economic empowerment and the right to education—are the core issues within the movement sparked by the work of Kristoff and WuDun and the Women of the ELCA. Why not record this program and view it at a retreat or program at your church in the future? *Information from Linda Bushkofsky, our executive director*

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Good News

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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.)