

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.

Upcoming Events



- July 12-14 Triennial Convention @ Spokane, WA
- July 14-17 Triennial Gathering @ Spokane, WA
- July 22-23 Global Mission Gathering @ Decorah Lutheran
- Aug 5-6 Synodical Board Transitional Retreat
- Sept 24 Fall Training @ Our Savior's, Osage
- Sept 27 Fall Training @ Nazareth, Cedar Falls
- Oct 1 Fall Training @ St. James, Allison



We held a Triennial Send-off at our SWO Convention in June. Remember our attendees in prayer as they travel to Spokane Washington. Delegates will attend the Convention July 12-14. The Gathering follows July 14-17 and includes worship, Bible Study, workshops, servant opportunities and inspirational speakers.

submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson

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From Your President

We are in the middle of summer and I hope that you are enjoying our summer Bible Study
RENEW, RESPOND, REJOICE

It has been an honor to serve as president of the Northeastern Iowa Synodical Women's Organization for the past four years. I give thanks to God for this opportunity.

My husband, Milton, and I are retiring this summer and moving to Stillwater, Minnesota. You all will still be in my heart.

I am reminded of the song
*I Have the Love of Jesus Down in My Heart,
Down in My Heart to Stay.*

I can change those words
*I HAVE
The Women of the ELCA
Women of the NEIA Synod
Global Mission and
Lutheran World Relief
Down in my heart. Down in my heart to Stay!*

I will remember you in prayer and hope to visit the Synod from time to time. Thank you to the many wonderful women who have blessed me.

God Bless and Keep You,
Women of Northeastern Iowa.

submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson

The summer Bible study centers on three words:
Renew - Respond - Renew.
Read, Study, and Enjoy!

The July-August issue
Session 2: Respond
Theme verse: Luke 1:46 - 48

Session 3: Rejoice!
Theme verse:
Philippians 4:4



Quilts & Kits Questions & Answers

Q. Our group already started making Kits this year based on the previous guidelines. Will they still be accepted?

A. Yes! You can still submit Kits completed under the previous guidelines through the end of 2011.

Q. Our group has some 2011 Kits completed. What is the best way to pack and label them?

A. Pack Kits separately according to the type, and label the boxes clearly with the specific Kit name (e.g. LAYETTES for the Kits you've already made and Baby Care Kits for the Kits you make with the updated guidelines). School Kits are the only Kits that will continue to have the same name. In this case, clearly mark your boxes with the updated Kits "UPDATED School Kits."

Q. Why can't we use tote-style School Kit bags anymore?

A. We discovered that children all over the world are much more comfortable with backpack-style bags and find them more practical. In some contexts, the tote-style bags are seen as feminine and draw negative attention to boys who carry them.

Q. Our group purchases tote-style bags for our School Kits instead of making them. Where can we find backpack-style bags that meet the new guidelines?

A. This style is often used in the U.S. for youth to carry athletic equipment. Try your local sporting goods store or search online using the keywords, "buy drawstring backpacks." Before purchasing, make sure they meet the new size requirements (14" x17") and General Assembly Instructions.

Q. Why are pens now included in the School Kits?

A. Teachers, parents and partners all around the world indicated that as students advance in school, they transition from pencils to pens for writing assignments and continue to use pencils for math assignments. The addition of pens makes these Kits more versatile as students' skills develop. World Relief 700 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21230 800.597.5972 lwr@lwr.org

Q. Why aren't washcloths included in the Personal Care or Baby Care Kits?

A. Recipients and partners we interviewed indicated larger towels are more versatile.

Q. Why aren't Band-Aids® being included in the Personal Care Kits anymore?

A. Six Band-Aids don't last very long and they go to waste if they get wet before they are used.

Q. Why aren't Onesies® or sleepers with feet an option for the Baby Care Kits?

A. Many moms we interviewed said that their children quickly outgrow Onesies and sleepers with feet. T-shirts and footless sleepers serve the same purpose and last longer on a growing baby.

Q. What is the importance of baby caps or hooded jackets/sweaters in the Baby Care Kits?

A. We heard overwhelming feedback from kit-makers that you felt it was important to keep babies' heads covered. We heard the same message from community health professionals and parents overseas.

Q. Why don't Fabric Kits have needles and buttons?

A. LWR's Fabric Kits are usually sent to sewing schools to train people to make clothing. Since the schools have sewing machines, providing fabric and thread is the most effective way to help students

submitted by Donna Kirschenmann, NEIA SWO Mission Action Chair

Editor Needed

Are you willing to try something new? We are still looking for an editor for *Good News for Mary, Martha and Mary Magdalene*. Contact the Synod Office if you are interested in serving the Northeast Iowa Synodical Women as editor of the *Good News*.

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

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