

*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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## ***IT'S CELEBRATION TIME***

It is time for the Women of the ELCA to celebrate our 25th anniversary! Join us as we celebrate the past and the future of our organization. Choose one of these dates and place it on your calendar

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

We will take you down memory lane as we review our accomplishments this past 25 years. Be ready to share your own memories at your table. Then we will look into the future and present ideas you might use in your congregational unit as we go forward into the next 25 years. It will be fun! You will receive your invitation to our celebration in the mail soon. Everyone is invited.

*Submitted by Your Synod Board*

## ***CONVENTION 2012***

These participants in our June convention also attended the first NE Iowa Synod WELCA convention 25 years ago.



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## CALENDAR

- Sep. 22 SWO Board, Synod Office,  
8:30 a.m.
- Oct. 6 Fall Rally, Bethlehem, Cedar  
Falls
- Oct. 9 Fall Rally, St. Paul's, Postville
- Oct. 13 Fall Rally, Trinity, Mason City
- Nov. 3 SWO Board
- Nov. 2-3 Glocal Event, Faith Lutheran  
Church, Clive, Iowa
- June 15 SWO Convention, Wartburg  
College
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### Our Convention Highlights

150 women "Gathered for Faith and Action" at our synod convention held at Wartburg College on June 16. We sang and worshipped together, enjoyed a delicious luncheon (It received the highest evaluations!) and enjoyed time with old and new friends.

We elected two new people to our board and re-elected three board members. Shirley Stakey, Melissa Miller, Margaret Johnson, Carol Straka and Marie Reyner were elected to the 2013 nominating committee.

Offering collected was \$4,848, of which 50% went to church wide WELCA, 25% to LWR Shipping/Project Comfort and 25% to Shepherd of the Hills. In Kind items filled a van with items for Shepherd of the Hills.

Stacy Hamilton from Waverly came to personally accept and thank us for the educational scholarship. She plans to become a dental hygienist.

We honored the 11 women who had also attended the first convention 25 years ago and 26 "first timers" at this convention. Hope you were there! *Submitted by Gloria Tollefson, President*

#### Gather 2012-13 Bible Study Leaders' Guides still available

We have 13 leaders' guides for sale, left from our convention sales. Call Anna Jetson at (952)-240-9569 or e-mail her [amjetson@yahoo.com](mailto:amjetson@yahoo.com) for more information.

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### NEIA Women of the ELCA Treasurer

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### Good News

Editor Jan Harbaugh  
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## NEW SYNOD BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

At our recent convention in June, Nancy Poppe was elected treasurer and Nancy Miller as a board member. Nancy Poppe is a member at St. John Lutheran in Nashua. She will formally take over her duties in February. Nancy Miller is a member at St. Paul's Lutheran in Lime Springs. We welcome both of these members to our synod board. They will replace April Cheeseman and Shirley Retz, both of whom have served four years. We thank them for their service.

Judy Kelly was re-elected vice-president and Mary Jane Averhoff and Carolyn Loftaas were re-elected to their second terms as board members. We thank God for these women who are willing to use their leadership gifts in service to our organization. *Submitted by Gloria Tollefson, President*

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Syd Brinkman presented a communion set that had been used at our Triennial in Spokane to women from Peace Fellowship in Parkersburg.



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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.)

### 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)

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