

*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.

---

*Mission Action Reports Due*

At the January Northeast Iowa SWO Board meeting, each Cluster President was given a copy of the form used to report her cluster's total Mission Action statistics for 2010. As in the past few years, the individual units need list only the LWR projects that were completed for the 2010 spring and fall in-gatherings. The deadline for this report to be sent is March 15, 2011. The Mission Action chair in each unit or the unit President is responsible for collecting and forwarding the information to the Cluster Chair who will send it on to the NE Synod Mission Action chair, Donna Kirschenmann, who will compile the statistics for the 2011 Convention. If you have any questions, please call 319-483-1994 or email [dkirschenmann@mchsi.com](mailto:dkirschenmann@mchsi.com)

*submitted by Donna Kirschenmann, NEIA SWO Mission Action Chair*

---

*Contact Women of the ELCA at:*  
773.380.2730 or 800.638.3522, ext. 2730  
[www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)  
8765 W. Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631-4189



*From Your President*

The Lenten Season begins in March this year. It is a time to reflect on the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There is a wonderful resource from Churchwide Women of the ELCA entitled "Looking into the Mirror" - A Lenten Reflection. It could be used in your Bible Study groups, at a unit meeting or at a special time in which you concentrate on Lent. This resource is available for downloading for free! Look under [women.elca@elca.org](http://women.elca@elca.org). Once you locate this resource you will see others that will interest you. Our Women of the ELCA Churchwide staff works very hard to make resources available for our use.

Plan to gather with women of faith and attend these events:  
Your Cluster Event  
The Synodical Women's Organization  
Convention in June  
The Triennial Gathering in Spokane, WA in July

*submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*

---

*Remembering Solveig*

Our Synodical Women's Organization is remembering one of our members, Solveig Gregory, who died on January 31 in Cedar Falls. Solveig was a gifted musician who generously shared her time to play for our SWO Conventions and other gatherings. She had a ready smile and helpful suggestions. I enjoyed her music for our Synod Global Mission Event held at her church, Bethlehem Lutheran, Cedar Falls in 2009. She was elected as a delegate for the Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention in July. We will miss her wisdom. Thank you Solveig, for blessing us with your music!

*Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*

## Upcoming Events



- Mar 4 World Day of Prayer  
Mar 9 Ash Wednesday  
Mar 12 Board Meeting @ Synod Office  
(9:00 am)  
Mar 15 Mission Action Reports Due  
Mar 26 Snow Date Board Mtg  
Apr 9 Clusters 4,5,6,7 Spring Gathering  
@ Immanuel, Independence  
Apr 12 Cluster 1 Spring Gathering  
@ Salem, Lake Mills  
Apr 16 Cluster 2 Spring Gathering  
Location to be announced  
Apr 24 Easter Sunday  
Apr 30 Cluster 8 Spring Gathering  
@ Canoe Ridge, Decorah  
Apr 30 Cluster 9 Spring Gathering  
@ St Paul, Guttenberg  
Apr 30 Cluster 10 Spring Gathering  
@ Zion, West Union  
May Synod Board Meeting  
Date & location TBA  
May 1 NE IA SWO Scholarship  
applications due  
June 18 SWO Convention  
@ Wartburg College  
July 12-14 Triennial Convention @ Spokane, WA  
July 14-17 Triennial Gathering @ Spokane, WA  
Aug 5-6 Synodical Board Transitional  
Retreat



The 2010 – 2011 Bible study “The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity,” looks at what unites us and defines us as people of faith with the goal of focusing on our common faith in Jesus Christ. This study written by the Rev. Linda Johnson and The Rev. D. Jensen Seyenkulo, Ph.D. helps us understand how our different backgrounds, life experiences, and perspectives can be shared and heard as we study the Bible together.

The March issue ... Open Hearts  
Session 7: Loving Relationships  
Theme verse: Matthew 22:36-39

Women of the ELCA - Website

## NEIA SWO Convention

**Date:** Saturday June 18, 2011  
**Place:** Wartburg College, Waverly  
**Theme:** Renew, Respond, Rejoice  
**Theme verse:** Philippians 4:4-7 (New RSV)  
**Theme hymn:** Rejoice Ye Pure of Heart  
**Bring:** A Health Kit, School Kit, or Sewing Kit  
for Lutheran World Relief

We will have a staff person from Lutheran World Relief with us for our Convention.

*submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*

---

---

## Spring Cluster Events

As we look ahead, the Cluster Spring Events are being planned. These events provide opportunities for fellowship and learning. Being together is a thing to be treasured. Look for mailings from your cluster and put the dates on your calendar. A Synodical Women’s Organization Board member will be with you, representing the board and acting as your shepherdess. We all enjoy meeting the women from the various congregational units. Thank your cluster leadership team for the work they do.

Dates and locations can be found in the *Upcoming Events* article. No information has been received for Clusters 3 and 11. (editor)

*submitted by Cecil Maureen Johnson, NEIA SWO President*

---

---

*Good News for Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene*  
Newsletter Editor, Linda Groe,  
310 7th Ave SE, Waukon, IA 52172  
563-568-3526 groelclg@gmail.com  
Articles are due the 1st of the month for the next months newsletter.

NE IA Women of the ELCA Treasurer  
Shirley Retz  
1351 207th Street  
Manchester, IA 52057  
Phone: 563-927-3824