



WOMEN OF THE ELCA GATHERING
AUGUST 5-8, 2021 | PHOENIX
WELCATG.ORG

Good News

September 2020
Volume 33
Number 8

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.

From the President

The only thing constant is that there will be changes. You might notice some changes here already. Jan our newsletter editor and Vice President moved north to be closer to her grandchildren. I thought I would try to fill in this one time. Diane Wills has volunteered to be the newsletter editor going forward, for which I am very grateful. The board is in the process of filling the position of Vice President. Please keep us in your prayers.

When you are facing challenges or changes you were not expecting, what do you do? One day recently, I was watching music videos on my phone. I was looking for some videos, that I feel are inspirational and that you might see during intermission at the next SWO gathering. I keep thinking, when we get back to normal... The reality is, we may never get back what it was like before. I just pray we will get through this to a time when we can be together again in person.

Blessing Anna Jetson

2020 Triennial Postponed

The 2020 Triennial Gathering has been postponed until August 5-8, 2021. We will still meet in Phoenix and our theme will remain the same, **Just Love**. Your registration for this year will be good for next year. If you need further assistance, go to the website: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page>

Discipleship Committee

Well, the weird year continues. What it has done is cause everyone to think differently about

the everyday things. We do not take school or work days for granted. Matter of fact, everything takes more thought. Have you missed seeing some old friends? Is there a melancholy feeling to some of your days? This lack of routine, or struggle to create a new one can cause frustration. Have you thought about reaching out to others to brighten their day? Maybe with a dumb joke to share. Discipleship is not just hands on projects, though never underestimate their importance. Maybe call someone to socially distance and share your porch or patio and a cup of coffee and a kind word. The world, and human species, was created in such a way that the ONLY way to get happiness is to give it. Think of that. You can't buy it, can't earn it, can't barter it- only by giving it can we be happy. Amazing way we were created. I Chronicles 4:10, "*enlarge our territory for the Lord by helping others improve their day in a small way.*" Remember the old song, "Drinking from my saucer 'cause my cup has overflowed?" Wishing a magnificent end of summer to all as we watch the beautiful sunrises and sunsets and count the many blessings around us. God Bless and keep you well.

Submitted by Lavonne Teem

Stewardship Committee

Stewardship is the act of being a steward. A steward is a person who is given the responsibility to care for something considered worthy and valuable. In order to be a good steward, we need to first take care of ourselves. That means that when we are going through a stressful health event -- like the current coronavirus -- we need to listen to our doctors and health experts and follow their advice to help keep ourselves safe. We need to make sure that we are nurturing ourselves with rest, good dietary choices, and activities that help keep our stress levels in check. When we steward to ourselves,

we can be better stewards to others. Too often the caregiver inside all of us overlooks what we need. So, during this time, listen to what your mind, body, and spirit need and be a good steward to yourself. You are worthy and valuable!

<https://dioceseofnewark.org/content/stewardship-time-covid-19>

Submitted by *Deb Jacobsen*

CALENDAR

Sep. 1 Deadline for October *Good News*
Sep. 12 LWR Ingathering, Olson's Explosives, Decorah, 7:30-10:30 a.m.
Oct. 1 Deadline for Nov *Good News*
Nov. 1 Deadline for Dec *Good News*
Nov. 7 LWR Ingathering Clusters CEH, St Timothy Lutheran, Hudson

NE IA Women of the ELCA Executive Board

Anna Jetson, President

952-240-9569 amjetson@yahoo.com

Vice President The board will be appointing someone for this position at their next meeting.

JoAnn Brunsvold, Secretary

641-512-4236 jobvold76@yahoo.com or sjbruns@wctatel.net

Beverly Sheridan, Treasurer

563-382-9025 sherida701@gmail.com
701 Serenity Drive
Decorah, IA 52101

Good News, Editor Diane Wills

641-425-8628 wills.dianes@gmail.com
1399 Beeds Lake Drive
Hampton IA 50441

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.)

Contact Women of the ELCA:

<http://www.womenoftheelca.org/>
773.380.2730 or 800.638.3522, ext. 2730

Contact NEIA Women of the ELCA:

neiasynod.org/women-of-the-ELCA

Please join us for Just Love: A virtual preview

Join Women of the ELCA for **Just Love: A virtual preview** where you'll get a taste of what's to come at the 2021 Gathering, Aug. 5-8 (welcatg.org). While we can't recreate the entire gathering in a two-hour Zoom webinar, we'll explore the Just Love theme through Bible study, a mini-workshop, words of inspiration, music, and much more. And you can participate **for free** from your comfy armchair, front porch, or home office.

Connect with other women of faith for this two-hour webinar, **Saturday, Sept. 12, at 1 p.m. CDT**. Registration is limited to the first 1,000 women, so complete your simple, online registration now @ <https://www.womenoftheelca.org>.

Here's who is helping us with our virtual gathering:

- The Rev. Jennifer Michael, churchwide president in the 2008-2011 triennium (emcee)
- The Rev. Angela Khabeb (Bible study)
- Rachel Kurtz (music)
- Kelly Glow (artist-in-residence)
- The Rev. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni (mini-workshop)
- The Rev. Beth Birkholz (stretch break)
- Eva James Yeo (quilt challenge)
- Valora K Starr (in-kind giving)

You'll also hear greetings and prayers from the Rev. **Elizabeth A. Eaton**, presiding bishop of the ELCA; **Lisa Plorin**, churchwide president of Women of the ELCA; and **Myrna Wells-Ulland**, president of the Grand Canyon Synodical Women's Organization, the home of our 2021 triennial gathering in Phoenix, Ariz.

We hope to see you there!