Bulletin of Reports

“Lead me Where My Trust is Without Borders”

Thirty-Second Annual Convention
Lower Susquehanna
Synodical Women’s Organization

St. Paul Lutheran and
Brickerville United Lutheran of
Lititz, PA
August 16 & 17, 2019
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Convention Theme

“Lead me Where My Trust is Without Borders”

Convention Scripture

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect" Romans 12:2

Convention Hymn

"In Christ There is No East or West" ELW 650

Convention Goals

The convention shall provide opportunities to:

1. Conduct the business of the convention
2. To understand the caterpillar metamorphosis will provide us a wonderful illustration of a believers spiritual transformation.
3. To transform our hearts and minds so we can better discern how to serve God as Women of the ELCA.

Blue is the color of the sky and sea. It is often associated with depth and stability. It symbolizes trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence, intelligence, faith, truth, and heaven. Blue is considered beneficial to the mind and body.
CONVENTION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION
Friday, August 16, 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Saturday, August 17, 8:00-8:45 a.m.

NAME TAGS
You will receive a name tag at registration. It must be worn at all gatherings. Please return the name tag holder at the end of the convention in the basket provided. Thank you!

EVALUATION FORMS—Please place evaluation forms in the basket with the name tags following convention.

LOST AND FOUND
Items of this nature should be reported to the registration desk.

BE SURE TO VISIT THE DISPLAYS -
Women of the ELCA
Lutheran World Relief
North Star—Harbor House
LAMPA
Criminal Justice System
Sister Synod—Tanzania (ELCT)
Equal Exchange
St. Paul, Lititz—Missions
Heifer International
Camp Hebron Retreat
Prayer Request Sign-up
Triennial 2020
MEET OUR SPECIAL GUEST
Rev. James S. Dunlop, Bishop

The Rev. James S. Dunlop was elected to serve a second six-year term in June of 2019 as bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Bishop Dunlop was ordained in 2005, and served as pastor of St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Littlestown, PA.

He received the Master’s of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Seminary Gettysburg in 2005, and the Bachelor of Arts, Magna Cum Laude, from Gettysburg College in 1978. Bishop Dunlop and his wife of 34 years, Connie, a Special Educator in the Northern York School District, have three adult children, all married, and three grandchildren.

Meet our Convention Chaplain, Emily Myallis

Deacon Emily Myallis is the Children’s Minister at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lititz, PA. She serves there with her husband, Reverend Rob Myallis. They have two daughters in elementary school, and as a family, they have trained a Therapy Dog named Miracle (Miri) who comes to church regularly! Deacon Emily is in her second ministry call, having previously served at a Social Service in Adult Day Care. She is a life-long Lutheran from Minnesota. Among her special experiences, she includes Teaching English in Greece, and studying the role of Deacons in Germany. When not working, she enjoys baking!
Angela Bell was elected to the executive board for Women of the ELCA in July 2017. She serves on the programs and communication committee.

Previously, Angela served as secretary for both the North Carolina Synodical Women’s Organization (9B) and the Texas/Louisiana Gulf Coast Synodical Women’s Organization (4F). Most recently, she served as a board member for Texas/Louisiana Gulf Coast SWO. Angela has also held positions on the cluster and church unit levels over the past seven years.

Angela lives with her husband, Andrew, and three children in Bellville, Texas, just outside the greater Houston area. Andrew is the pastor of St. John Lutheran in Bellville. Angela is a member of the worship and music committee and helps with adult Sunday school classes. She is passionate about music and has joined the handbell choir and two vocal choirs.

Angela grew up in Youngstown, Ohio, and graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in exercise science from Youngstown State University. She married Andrew two weeks before her college graduation and moved to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, so he could attend Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

Their daughter, Kalina, was born in Gettysburg during Andrew’s internship year. Upon his graduation in May 2010, they began interviewing with churches in North Carolina, where he had been assigned for his first call. Their twin boys, Isaac and Marek, were born during their second year at Unity Lutheran in Hickory, N.C.

"We began to test the waters again in 2014 to see where God was leading us and were very surprised to find that our next destination would be in the middle of Texas," Angela said.

In her free time, Angela can often be found either reading or messing around with her art supplies. The kitchen is her favorite room in the house, as she is fond of baking and cooking. She loves being outdoors and watching her children use their imaginations while playing together.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CONGREGATION</th>
<th>CLUSTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karen Borzok</td>
<td>Good Shepherd, Harrisburg</td>
<td>Harrisburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janet Denlinger</td>
<td>St. John, Berrysburg</td>
<td>Upper Dauphin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Eves</td>
<td>Memorial, Shippensburg</td>
<td>Chambersburg</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Fetter</td>
<td>Brickerville United, Lititz</td>
<td>North Lancaster</td>
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<td>Donna Greifzu</td>
<td>Evangelical, Greencastle</td>
<td>Chambersburg</td>
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<td>Deborah Johnson</td>
<td>Mt. Zion, Lewisberry</td>
<td>West Shore</td>
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<td>Shirley Keister</td>
<td>St. Christopher, Lykens</td>
<td>Upper Dauphin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyce Ray</td>
<td>First, Chambersburg</td>
<td>Chambersburg</td>
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<td>Sister Janice Ruch</td>
<td>Friedens, Myerstown</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyce Saeger</td>
<td>Grace, Lancaster</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edna Sterner</td>
<td>St. Bartholomew, Hanover</td>
<td>Hanover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Weiss</td>
<td>St. Paul, Lititz</td>
<td>North Lancaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Wissler</td>
<td>St. John, Lancaster</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bettina Zellers</td>
<td>Salem, Lebanon</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
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Committees of Convention

Committee on Credentials
Board Liaison: Sue Lyons
Chair: Sally Hagy
Voting Member: Sr. Janice Ruch

Committee on Minutes
Board Liaison: Chris Todd
Chair: Joyce Ray
Voting Member: Linda Eves

Committee on Claims (Offerings)
Board Liaison: Kathy Kauffman
Chair: Deborah Johnson
Voting Member: Dorothy Wissler

Committee on Elections
Board Liaison: Barbara Bullock
Chair: Bettina Zellers
Voting Member: Shirley Keister

Committee on Reference & Counsel (Resolutions)
Board Liaison: Lois Rode
Chair: Edna Sterner
Voting Member: Karen Borzok

Who’s Who at Convention

Bishop James Dunlop
Lois Ann Griffiths
Rev. Robert J. Myallis
Deacon Emily Myallis
Angela Bell
Sandy Bingaman
Peggi Norman
Grace Hoyt & Lois Rode
Marsha Campbell
Pamela Drenner

Bishop, Lower Susquehanna Synod
Presiding Officer
Pastor, St. Paul
Chaplain
W/ELCA, Churchwide Representative
Convention Coordinator
Parliamentarian
Registrars
Pianist
Organist
Voting Member: Each congregational/intercongregational/special unit in the Lower Susquehanna Synod, having sent an offering to our Synodical Women’s Organization or the Churchwide Women’s Organization, from February 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019, is entitled to one official voting member.

Seating of Voting Members: Voting members must present their credentials to the Committee on Credentials. Seating for Voting Members is within the bar of the convention. The role of voting members may not change after Friday, August 16 at 1:00 p.m., unless proper arrangements are made with the Registrar.

Quorum: A majority of Voting Members registered and in attendance at the convention from the congregational/intercongregational/special units shall constitute a quorum.

Privilege of the Floor: Seat and voice shall by granted to: the Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and/or his representatives, the churchwide representative, and committee chairs.

Appointment of Committees: The president shall announce the appointment of the following Committees of Convention:

- Committee on Credentials
- Committee on Minutes
- Committee on Reference and Council (Resolutions)
- Committee on Claims (Offerings)
- Committee on Conduct of Elections

Voting Procedures: Those eligible to vote are the voting members representing congregational/intercongregational/special units and board members of the Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women’s Organization. Voting may be by showing of voting cards:

- GREEN card – affirmative vote
- RED card – negative vote
- WHITE card – abstention or question

Conduct of Elections: All elections shall be by written ballot. The Nominating Committee will present the slate of nominations. Nominations from the floor for officers and board members must be submitted by 12:45 p.m. on Friday, August 16, 2019. Nominations from the floor must include the nomination form and biographical information of the nominee. No nominations will be accepted after the deadlines. In all elections, a majority of votes shall elect. 2019 elections will be held for Vice-President (2 year term) Secretary (2 year term), and three board members (2 year terms), and two board members for one year terms.
**Resolutions:** A resolution may be submitted to the Committee on Reference and Council from a voting member or voting members to the convention by 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 16, 2019. The Committee may put the resolution in proper form, eliminate duplication if similar resolutions are offered, and will ensure that all resolutions are in logical sequence. The Committee may make substantive changes only with the sponsor's approval. Reports to the Convention may be 1) to refer, 2) to amend, or 3) to consider with or without a recommendation.

**Speeches:** All speeches in general discussion, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds vote of the Convention, shall be limited to two minutes. No person shall speak more than twice on the same issue without the consent of the Convention and only after all others have spoken. Speakers must use the microphone and identify themselves by name, congregation and city to be recognized by the Chair.

**Attendance:** Voting members shall not absent themselves from any meeting of the Convention without valid excuse.

**Governing Parliamentary Law:** Robert’s Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing law of the convention.

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**PRESIDENTS OF THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNODICAL WOMEN’S ORGANIZATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presidents</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Kerr</td>
<td>1988-1992</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peggy Fritz</td>
<td>1992-1994</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nalda Olson (dec.)</td>
<td>1994-1996</td>
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<td>Ida Jeanne Smith</td>
<td>1996-1999</td>
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<td>Phyllis Frankhouser</td>
<td>1999-2000</td>
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<td>Shirley F. Jackson</td>
<td>2000-2002</td>
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<td>Lois Ann Griffiths</td>
<td>2002-2004</td>
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<td>Linda Van Til</td>
<td>2004-2006</td>
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<td>Fay Nichols</td>
<td>2006-2010</td>
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<td>Karen Poe</td>
<td>2010-2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ida Jeanne Smith</td>
<td>2011-2012</td>
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<td>Susan Master</td>
<td>2012-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyce Ray</td>
<td>2014-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lois Ann Griffiths</td>
<td>2018-2019</td>
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Hymn- "In Christ There is No East or West" ELW 650  (verses 1 & 2)

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:2
Do not be conformed by this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Responsive Reading:
A Poem "A Message From Heaven"

L: A gentle reminder that
   A: we are never far apart

L: My spirit will live forever
   A: there within your heart

L: And when you see a butterfly
   A: here to brighten your day

L: Remember that I'm there with you
   A: and there I'll always stay.

Prayer for "Those seeking a deeper knowledge of God" ELW 76
"Gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen."

Opening of Convention

Leader: I declare the 32nd Annual Convention of the Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America open.
Please turn off all cell phones and pagers, or put them in silent mode. Thank you.

LOWER SUSQUEHANNA
SYNODICAL WOMEN’S ORGANIZATION
THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION

Friday, August 16, 2019

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. REGISTRATION

12:45 p.m. -1:00 p.m. DELEGATE & COMMITTEE ORIENTATION
(VOTING MEMBER SEATING AREA IN FELLOWSHIP HALL)

1:00 p.m. FORMAL OPENING OF CONVENTION
Introduction of Guests by President
Greetings from Host Pastor, Rev. Robert J. Myallis
Introduction of Convention Committee
Announcements/Housekeeping

1:15-1:45 p.m. Devotions by Chaplain, Deacon Emily Myallis

Monetary Ingathering Offering Taken

1:45-3:00 p.m. Report of Committee on Credentials

Voting Member _____ Officer/Board Member_____
Participant _____ Guest _____ Total _____

Determination of Quorum
Appointment of Parliamentarian
Appointment of Committees of Convention

Adoption of Rules of Procedure - Executive Board Recommendation #1
Adoption of Agenda - Executive Board Recommendation #2
Report of Nominating Committee
Prayer for Election Guidance
Ballot #1 – Vice President (2 Year Term)
Introduction of SWO Board
Report on Ballot #1
Ballot #2 – Secretary (2 Year Term)
Report of Committee on Reference & Counsel
Recognize first time attendees
Report on Ballot #2
Ballot #3 – Board Members
Churchwide Representative—30 minutes
Report of Ballot #3
Triennial Ballot #1  First Time Attendee
Report of the Treasurer & Audit Report
Executive Board Recommendation #3
Triennial Ballot #2—
Adoption of Ministry Budget for 2020—2021
Executive Board Recommendation #4

3:00-3:25 p.m.  Lutheran World Relief Presentation—Rev. Martha Boyd
3:25-4:00 p.m.  Any Unfinished Business
Report of Triennial Ballot #1 & 2
Harbor House Update
Board Promotions
Triennial Gathering Offering taken

4:00-4:45 p.m.  Visit Display Time/Break
4:45-5:45 p.m.  Conversation with Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop, James S. Dunlop
(Location: Nave)

6:00-8:00 p.m.  Banquet & Program

We wish you safety in your travels and restful, peaceful sleep.
Please join us Saturday morning at our Eucharist Worship in the Nave at 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, August 17

8:00-9:00 a.m.  REGISTRATION
9:15-10:15 a.m.  Service of Holy Communion in Nave
(Convention Offering will be taken during this service)
10:15-10:30 a.m.  Travel Time to Fellowship Hall
10:30-10:50 a.m.  Call to Order
  Report of Committee on Credentials
  Voting Members _____ Officers/Board Members_____
  Participants _____ Guests _____ Total _____
  Determination of Quorum
  Report of Tangible Ingathering
  Greetings from United Lutheran Seminary Food Bank Representative
10:50-11:00 a.m.  Travel Time to Workshops
11:00 a.m.—Noon -  Workshops
  1.  The Act of Recycling—Chelas Montanye
  2.  Bible Study, Angela Bell,  CWO Representative
12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch in Fellowship Hall

1:15-2:15 p.m. **Workshops**
   1. Angela Bell—Bible Study
   2. Tracy DePasquale—“Journey to Justice”

2:15-2:30 p.m. Travel Time to Fellowship Hall

2:30-3:30 p.m. President’s Report
   Report on Committee on Claims (Offerings)
   Report on Committee on Minutes—Executive Board Recommendation #5
   Report on Committee on Reference & Council
   Unfinished Business/Questions & Answers
   Complete evaluation forms

**FORMAL CLOSING OF CONVENTION**
   Recognition of Outgoing LS SWO Board Members
   Introduction & Installation of LS SWO Board
   Commissioning of Voting Members to the 11th Triennial Convention

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**CLOSING OF CONVENTION**

Hymn - "In Christ There is No East or West" *ELW* 650  (verses 3 & 4)

**ALL: Closing Prayer**

"Holy God, we thank you for creating us to praise you, for sending your son to save us and for giving us your spirit to work in our lives. Open our minds so that when we read (and learn) the stories of all God’s people, they inspire us to speak and act. Amen"

**Leader:** I declare the 32nd Annual Convention of the Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women’s Organization of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America closed.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**
Recommendations from the Executive Board of the Lower Susquehanna, Synodical Women’s Organization, to the 2019 LS SWO convention:


2. The proposed agenda for the 2019 Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women’s Organization of the ELCA be adopted, giving the presiding officer flexibility to adjust the agenda as deemed necessary.

3. That the report of the review of cash receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year 2018-2019 of the Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women’s Organization of the Women of the ELCA be accepted.

4. The February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021, proposed ministry budget be adopted.

5. Upon approval of the Committee on Minutes, the minutes of the Convention be printed and distributed to the voting members and also to the congregations in the Lower Susquehanna Synod not represented by voting members. The minutes will be made available to all congregations in the Lower Susquehanna Synod, not represented at the LS SWO Convention, via the Lower Susquehanna Synod website at www.lss-elca.org.
Report of the Nominating Committee

Following are the nominations for Vice President, and four Board Members of the Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women’s Organization. Also needed is a secretary.

Nominating Committee Co-Chairs: Donna Greifzu and Sandy Bingaman

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR BOARD

1. Cluster; Congregation
2. Age range: 20-35; 36-55; over 55
3. Race and language other than English
4. Occupational history
5. Women of the ELCA Service in congregation
7. Congregational activities other than Women of the ELCA
8. Conference, Synod, Churchwide activities other than Women of the ELCA
9. Community Activities

VICE PRESIDENT - (two year term)

SUSAN LYONS

1. Chambersburg; Memorial
2. Over 55
3. Caucasian
4. Retired Public School Teacher (38 years)
5. Congregational Unit Leader; Bible Study Leader
6. Current and Former Member of the LS SWO Board; Chair of 2015 Synodical Convention; Chair of 2018 Day of Renewal; Voting Member at 2011 and 2014 Triennial Conventions
7. Fellowship committee; Prayer Crafters; Communion Server; Lay Lector; Relay for Life Team Captain
8.
9. Franklin County Historical Society; Institute for Retired Persons (IRP) - Program Committee; Lecturer; National History Day Mentor and Judge; Drew Michael Taylor Foundation

SECRETARY - (two year term)

CHRIS TODD

1. Upper Dauphin; St. Christopher, Lykens
2. Over 55
3. Caucasian
4. Retired, Commonwealth of PA
5.
6. 2014 & 2017 Triennial Convention; Camp Hebron Fall Retreat Co-chair; Convention In-gathering; Covered with God’s Love Quilt Project; Secretary—LS SWO.
7. Christmas and Easter Candy Project; Chow-Chow fundraiser; LWR Quilts
**BOARD MEMBERS (three two year terms)**

**Eleanor Bauerle**
1. Chambersburg; Evangelical, Waynesboro
2. Over 55
3. Caucasian
5. Help with School Kit Project; Help with crafts for shut-ins.
6. Member of the LS SWO Board for past 2 years.
7. Usher, Friendly Visitor, Flower Delivery, Greeter occasionally.
8. 
9. Assist residents at Luther Ridge, Chambersburg, on shopping trips and with groceries from bus to their residents.

**Barbara Dudek**
1. Harrisburg; St. Mark
2. Over 55
3. Caucasian
4. Retired, Auditor for Commonwealth of PA.
5. Circle Member; Congregational Unit President; LWR Parish Projects (Quilts, Personal Care Kits & School Kits) as well as other outreach projects.
6. Attends Day of Renewal; Camp Hebron Retreat & LS SWO Convention.
7. Active in Worship, Music & Arts Committee; Altar Guild; Extravaganza Preparation (hand made crafts that are sold—proceeds to church and outside organizations).
8. 
9. Member/President of Lower Paxton Township Lioness/Lions Club. Help with service projects.

**BOARD MEMBER**

**BOARD MEMBERS (two one year term)**

**Board Member**
BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR TRIENNIAL VOTING MEMBER (TWO ELECTED)

1. Cluster; Congregation
   2. Age range: 20-35; 36-55; over 55
   3. Race and language other than English
   4. Occupational history
   5. Women of the ELCA Service in congregation
   7. Congregational activities other than Women of the ELCA
   8. Conference, Synod, Churchwide activities other than Women of the ELCA
   9. Community Activities

PEGGI NORMAN
1. Chambersburg, Solomon
2. Over 55
3. Caucasian
4. Trainer Recruiter Specialist for American Greetings, Inc., since 1996
5. Treasurer LS SWO 2015-2019; Triennial Voting Member 2017; Member Claims Committee—Triennial 2017
6. Choir Member; Altar Guild, Communion Assistant, Relay for Life Team Member
7. Synod Assembly Voting Member
8. Greencastle-Antrim Homemakers; Treasurer, Church Women United

CHRISTINE TOTT
1. Upper Dauphin; St. Christopher, Lykens
2. Over 55
3. Caucasian
4. Retired, Commonwealth of PA
5. 2014 & 2017 Triennial Convention; Camp Hebron Fall Retreat Co-chair; Convention Ingathering; Covered with God’s Love Quilt Project; Secretary—LS SWO.
6. Christmas and Easter Candy Project; Chow-Chow fundraiser; LWR Quilts

BETTINA ZELLERS
1. Lebanon, Salem
2. Over 55
3. Caucasian
4. Legal Secretary
5. Former President and Secretary of the W/ELCA
6. Former Vice-President of Women of the ELCA Synodical Board
7. Lay Reader; Communion Assistant; Member of Co-op Fellowship Committee
8. Traveled to LSS Sister Synod—Konde Diocese
9. Volunteer with Homeless Shelter
#1. **INGATHERING** - Goal $2,000

The North Star Initiative – “The Harbor House”

The Harbor House exists to provide residential housing and a secure place for adults (18+ years of age) female survivors of domestic sex trafficking and sex exploitation. The women coming to the Harbor are coming from damaging life styles that have resulted from trauma of their past. During their time in the Harbor program the women receive support in education, career building, social services, therapy, and access to legal and basic medical services.

The program allows women to transition into independent life styles, and allows women to navigate towards a place of healing and wholeness. All the services are offered in an environment that encourages honest and open discussions regarding faith and spirituality.

**THIS MONETARY INGATHERING WILL BE TAKEN DURING THE DEVOTIONS ON FRIDAY. THIS CHECK SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO “LS SWO WOMEN OF THE ELCA” AND HAVE “INGATHERING” WRITTEN IN THE MEMO SPACE. PLEASE ATTACH FORM “A” WITH THE CHECK FROM YOUR UNIT.**

#2. **CONVENTION OFFERING** - Goal $2,000 (will be divided between both projects)

A. **Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest**—(lss-sw.org) they help, heal and advocate about issues dealing with human trafficking.

B. **AMMPARO**—an ELCA ministry that accompanies and advocates for migrant children at the Southwest border.

**THIS OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN DURING THE SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE. THIS CHECK SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO “LS SWO WOMEN OF THE ELCA” AND SHOULD HAVE “CONVENTION OFFERING” WRITTEN IN THE MEMO SPACE. PLEASE ATTACH FORM “A” WITH THE CHECK FROM YOUR UNIT.**

#3. **TRIENNIAL OFFERING** - Goal $1,500

All of this offering will be given directly to the Churchwide Women’s Organization in Chicago.

Each unit is given the opportunity to send an offering to the Triennial Convention. Our SWO president will take one check for the total of all offerings given and present those gifts at the worship service at the Triennial Convention.

We really need your help in reaching these goals. Have your unit pray before deciding how you can help with these important ministries. Unfortunately, sometimes no one from your Congregational Unit can attend convention. This is not to be the reason that the unit does not participate in helping to meet the synodical offering goal. Share the goals with the women in your congregation and send the offering you collect to the synodical treasurer Kathy Kauffman, 970 Stevens Road, York Haven, PA 17370. **Mail just ONE check with ONE FORM A, itemizing the offerings on that one form.** Please do your best to see the offering gets to the treasurer before Monday, August 12th. If you have someone attending the convention, please send the offering with her.

Be bold—pray and reach out to the financial challenges before us. Thank you for your generous support of the ministries of the Women of the ELCA!

**Individual offerings will also be accepted. Make checks payable to LS SWO Women of the ELCA and note on the memo line whether it is “Ingathering” “Convention” or “Triennial” offering.**
Of the 233 Congregations in our synod, 35 congregational units have given offerings through the Synodical Women’s Organization or directly to the Churchwide Women’s Organization (indicated with *). These are made up of $6,635.00 in CU offerings, $2,289.00 in Convention Offerings, $1003.00 in Day of Renewal Offerings, $2100.00 in Convention Ingathering Offerings, $1,131.00 in Retreat Offering, $5,563.96 in Thankofferings, $1,009.68 for Katie’s Fund and $2,810.00 for other Women of ELCA programs for a grand total of $22,541.64. We continue to give thanks to God for your faithful giving.

CHAMBERSBURG
Evangelical, Greencastle
Evangelical, Waynesboro
First, Chambersburg
Memorial, Shippensburg
Solomon’s, Chambersburg
Trinity, Chambersburg

GETTYSBURG
St. James (Wenksville), Bendersville *

HANOVER
St. Bartholomew United, Hanover
St. Paul, Hanover *
St. Matthew, Hanover
Trinity, East Berlin

HARRISBURG
Holy Trinity, Hershey
St. Mark’s, Harrisburg
Zion, Penbrook

LANCASTER
Christ, Lancaster
Good Shepherd
Grace, Lancaster
St. John, Lancaster

LEBANON
Friedens, Myerstown
Holy Trinity, Lebanon
St. James, Lebanon
St. Luke, Shaefferstown *
St. Mark, Annville
Salem, Lebanon

PERRY

SOUTH YORK
Emanuel (Freysville), Red Lion *

UPPER DAUPHIN
St. Christopher, Lykens
St. John, Berrysburg

WEST CUMBERLAND
First, Carlisle
St. Paul, Carlisle

WEST SHORE
Mt. Zion, Lewisberry
St. Stephen, New Kingston

YORK

NORTH LANCASTER
Brickerville United, Lititz
St. Paul, Lititz

NORTH YORK
Quickel, York
St. Michael, Rossville
As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit... "For Just Such a Time As This"... August 18, 2018 at St. Paul, Carlisle.

It was a convention goal to embolden participants to live their faith as Esther did. Lisa Plorin, was not only our churchwide representative; she is also the President of the Executive Board of W/ELCA. We were introduced to Jennifer De Leon, Director for Justice, W/ELCA and Director of Operations for our Region 8. In his sermon, Bishop Dunlop cited our accomplishments. One was our focus on sex trafficking. He praised the advocates who helped to make possible the passage of SB 554, Safe Harbor. (In the February issue of the Lutheran, Joyce Ray told how trafficking was a resolution from our 2014 Triennial so that women would become more knowledgeable.) He inspired us by repeating the words, "We need more Esthers".

We commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings...

Our executive board has answered the call to discipleship and accepted the challenge. At our first board meeting and our retreat at Whittle Farm, we brainstormed ideas and actions. We are today's Esthers. We seek to inspire more women to participate and continue our legacy to grow, affirm and support our call to engage in ministry and action, promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world."

We had our fall retreat at Camp Hebron. Tawn Battiste topic was, “Standing on the promises of God”, finding joy in Christ. Woohoo!

The February Conference of Presidents was a time with other presidents and Churchwide staff to focus on the how's of listening, learning and leadership. We were inspired by dynamic activities and advocacy being done in our synods. Workshops were on AMMPARO—the injustices at the border to children/families, the epidemic of suicide and the tools of advocacy, ESTHER 101 by Jennifer DeLeon. April 5-8, 2019 was the most exhilarating and enlightening time. Jennifer and 5 other W/ELCA attended the EAD, Ecumenical Advocacy Days, in Washington, D.C. The theme was "Troubling the Waters for the Healing of the World". Powerful to witness the diversity of generations, genders and faiths coming together to listen, learn and advocate.

We had our spring Day of Renewal about Showing Hospitality to Strangers. Reverend Angela Zimmann from United Lutheran Seminary led us in a joyful and lively discussion of her experiences in the Holy Land and how to be hospitable to others.

And now, it's time for another convention—August 16 & 17, 2019 at St. Paul, Lititz.

It's a first with Brickerville and St. Paul teaming up to prepare and plan. A idea worth repeating by others. A time to do the business of W/ELCA. It's also a time as a convention goal states, to transform our hearts and minds, so we can better discern how to serve God as Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

Our triennial theme says it all.

JUST LOVE!

Lois Ann Griffiths
President,
Women of the ELCA,
LS SWO
To: our retiring board members-Sandra Bingaman, Barbara Bullock, Linda Lubold and Lois Rode as they continue to ACT BOLDLY on their faith in Jesus Christ.

To: our present and newly elected LS SWO Officers and Board Members as they also ACT BOLDLY on their faith in Jesus Christ.

To: our CWO Representative, Angela Bell, for leading us in a Bible Study, giving a Churchwide message and installing our Board. We hope you enjoyed our hospitality.

To: Our Bishop, the Reverend James S. Dunlop, for participating in our question and answer session and for preaching at our Saturday morning worship.

To: Pastor Martha Shaeffer for presiding and Pastor Joanne Strunck for assisting at our Saturday worship.

To: Reverend Robert Myallis, host pastor, for his assistance and welcome.

To: Emily Myallis for being our convention chaplain.

To: Peggi Norman for being Parliamentarian.

To: All display and workshop presenters.

To: Donna Greifzu for BOR preparation, Convention Newsletter, name tags and any and everything we needed to know.

To: Brickerville’s Gloria Hostetter and ladies for the meals and to St. Paul’s Sandy Bingaman for host church chair, Phyllis Frankhouser for site preparation and ladies for their assistance.

To: ALL who attended the 32nd Annual Convention as voting members, participants, guests or board members. We pray that you leave the convention with hearts and minds transformed to ACT BOLDLY on your faith in Jesus Christ.


Phoenix, AZ

JUST LOVE
MISSION STATEMENT
To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

PARKER STATEMENT
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.
#1. Topic: Thriving Community/The Art of Recycle Workshop—Chelas Montanye
11:00 a.m.
This will be a presentation on the programs that are available at the Art of Recycle. Chelas’ goal is to impress the audience with how small acts of kindness can create a huge impact across counties. What might be considered trash can provide education and economic growth for a community. And you have a chance to meet Mr. Nobody Special.

#2. Topic: “What Does it Look Like” Bible Study—Angela Bell
11:00 a.m.—noon & 1:15-2:15 p.m.
What does being a disciple of Jesus look like today? How does one do justice, love mercy/kindness, and walk humbly with God in the world today? Join us for a short Bible study that breaks down the powerful verse of Micah 6:8. We will discuss what makes this verse so relevant in our communities and lives now.

#3 Topic: “Journey to Justice”
Tracey Depasquale
1:15—2:15 p.m.
Where is God calling you into the world? Explore with Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania and find others who are called by their discipleship on the same road. Learn how you and Women of the ELCA are vital to helping us be “Church Together, for the sake of the world.”
Vice President's Report

Following the 2018 LS-SWO Convention at St. Paul Lutheran, Carlisle, the outgoing and incoming board held a post-convention meeting. In September, the board met at the Wittel Farm in Elizabethtown for a one-day retreat. It was a day spent orientating new members, assigning tasks for each board member and spending time in fellowship.

The 29th Annual Camp Hebron retreat was held November 2-4. The retreat offered a weekend of spiritual growth for all in attendance. There were sixty-five women in attendance.

Speaker for the weekend was Tawn Battiste and the topic was: “Standing on the Promises of God”.

In May the synodical women’s Day of Renewal was held at St. Bartholomew United Church, Hanover. Reverend Angela Zimmann, Vice President of Advancement at the United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg, spoke about the hospitality she experienced during her time as a pastor in Jerusalem.

The LS SWO, Women of the ELCA, offers excellent opportunities for spiritual growth and sisterly communion for women of all ages. It provides avenues to giving and service to ministries locally and throughout the world.

Thank you for the opportunity of serving as your vice-president.

In Christ’s Service,

Susan Lyons

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Report of the LS SWO Executive Board

Six formal meetings of the Executive Board were held since the 2018 Convention and one Post-Convention Executive Board meeting was held. The meetings were held at the Synod Office in Harrisburg, but the July Board meeting was held at St. Paul Lutheran in Lititz. The Executive Board has the responsibility of approving the budget, reviewing the financial statements, and overseeing the following events: Day of Renewal, Camp Hebron Fall Retreat, and the yearly Convention. The Board also decides which organizations the event offerings will go to. At this year’s Convention, voting member(s) will be elected to represent the LS SWO at the Eleventh Triennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ in July 2020.

As this year’s convention closes, we need to thank everyone for your continued support to LS SWO Women of the ELCA. Blessings to you!

Respectfully submitted by,
Christine Todd
Secretary LS SWO

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Vice President's Report

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Susan Lyons

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Reflections of the 2018 Camp Hebron Retreat

The annual LS SWO, Fall Retreat was held Friday-Sunday, Nov. 2-4, at Camp Hebron, near Halifax.
There were sixty-five women in attendance. Speaker for the weekend was Tawn Battiste, The topic was: “Standing on the Promises of God”.
Within the sessions the women realized that we are all the same when we ask someone how they are doing, the majority of us say “fine”! We tend to not burden others with our problems. Tawn gave the women the letter breakdown for “Fine” - Freaked out, Insecure, Neurotic, Emotional.
The women enjoyed another weekend of good food, new and renewed friendships, a relaxing wagon ride, Fair Trade products and a beautiful worship service Saturday evening with Pastor Cindy Brommer.
The special offering for the retreat was earmarked for the Manow Lutheran Secondary School, located in the Konde Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, (ELCT) the Lower Susquehanna Synod (LSS) sister synod. Scholarships came to $1,131, enough for 1 full plus a partial scholarship! Great response ladies!
Katie’s fund, an endowment of the Women of the ELCA came to $85.01.

Thank you to all involved in making this a wonderful event. We hope that you will be able to attend next year’s 30th annual Camp Hebron Retreat to be held Friday, November 1st through Sunday, November 3rd, 2019

Chris Todd & Shirley Keister,
Retreat Chairpersons

Day of Renewal

The Women of the ELCA held their annual Day of Renewal, Saturday, May 11, at St. Bartholomew United Lutheran Church, Hanover.

Pastor Angela Zimmann, who serves as the Vice President of Advancement and Adjunct Professor of Homiletics at United Lutheran Seminary was the guest speaker. Her topic was “Showing Hospitality to Strangers”, and was based on her experiences when serving as a missionary in Jerusalem.

The day began with the definition of Hospitality—”What is hospitality and How and Why Do We Practice It”? 

Scripture theme was Romans Chapter 12, and how hospitality to strangers should be based on love. There was much discussion and sharing from the women present.

A variety of fruit and pastries were available upon arrival as well a coffee and juice. Lunch was served and included a variety of sandwiches, vegetable tray, chicken noodle soup, and a variety of cookies. Delicious. There were 60 women at the event and the day’s special offering will go to the United Lutheran Seminary “Annual Fund”. Special offering totaled $479.00.

Katie’s Fund offering totaled $84.00.

“You will forget what you said, forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”
- Maya Angelou
The official name of the newsletter of the Women of the ELCA Lower Susquehanna Synodical Woman’s Organization is “News & Views”.

The newsletter is published 6 times a year with one separate edition, “Convention Only Edition” that is mailed in late May—early June.

Currently, 45 issues are mailed to those who have requested the postal delivery version. The newsletter can also be accessed on the synod website. If you would like to receive the newsletter, either by USPS mail or email notice, please go to the synod website and fill out the “News & Views Subscription Form”, found in the listing under the Women of the ELCA section of the synod website: www.lss-elca.org - choose the option in the heading, “Mission Partners”, then down to option nine, Women of the ELCA, LS SWO. You may go to the site to print your own edition at any time, along with current registration forms to upcoming events.

If you receive the News & Views Newsletter (U.S.P.S.), and you have moved and now have a new mailing address, please remember to fill out the information on the back cover of the newsletter and send your change of address to: Donna Greifzu, 422 Cleveland Avenue, Waynesboro, PA 17268

Thank you also to those who submit articles about programs your CU is doing or have recently completed that you found inspiring and would like to share with other Units. This type of communication is encouraging to our units, and it is a good reminder of the programs that are available to our women’s organization. When submitting your articles, please be sure to include your phone number and/or email address in case the editor needs to contact you to clarify information.

Please keep those articles coming - and remember...they do not have to be in final edited condition when submitted. A form is available at events and convention to help in formatting your article so you can get started in sharing your programs or special events. Occasionally the form is also included in an edition of News & Views, as well as the display table at events.

Gather, the magazine of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — guides you as you live and experience your faith every day. In addition to a regular Bible study, the magazine offers a mix of faith-in-life articles, theological reflections, devotions, and stories that speak to the hearts and souls of progressive Christian women. Gather Magazine connects Christian women of all ages with like-minded others who are committed to growing in faith and building the kingdom of God—next door and across the globe.

Pricing Information:

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This is the first year in office for Bishop Edward Mwaikali. The bishop visited seven church districts in Tanzania over the year.

There is a continued need for medical supplies and equipment for the Itete Hospital. Major achievements were made in 2018 by the Konde Diocese Committee - Medical Task Force chaired by Pastor Beth Schlegel. The hospital has developed a master plan for development and expansion. There has been a joint effort between our synod, as well as third party organizations with interest in health care. Together we were able to help the Itete Hospital secure: sterilizers for baby bottles, purchase two refrigerators for milk and formula, purchase two labor and delivery beds, seven monitors for fetal health, a four-foot operated suction aspirator, and one vertical sterilizer. The Synod Council has approved using one half of the Synod Assembly offerings to support the purchase of washing machines.

Vicar Angela Hammer will be traveling to Tanzania along with members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lititz and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Penryn. A work project is scheduled to the Lower Susquehanna Synod House at the Manow School. Other travels plans will be touring diocese including visiting the bishop and staff. Vicar Angie will spend the remainder of July visiting congregations in Mbeya/Uyole area.

The Reverend Clifton Eshbach is planning a tour of the Konde Diocese for interested congregants of the Lower Susquehanna Synod in the summer of 2020. Interested people should contact Pastor Eshbach to sign up for the introductory sessions beginning this Fall.

If you are interested in serving on the Konde Diocese Committee, contact Reverend Clifton Eshbach. The committee seeks to improve lines of communication between our churches in the Lower Susquehanna Synod who partner with churches in Tanzania.
Raising up bold women of faith

Katie’s Fund is an endowment that supports ministry in three areas: leadership development, global connections, and living theology. Katie’s Fund is now more than $1 million. Women of the ELCA established Katie’s Fund in 1997 to honor the legacy of Katharina von Bora Luther, raise up bold leaders for the churchwide women’s organization, and support bold and creative ministry for generations to come.

Your gifts to “Katie’s Fund” go to the endowment, generating income each year to support ministry. You can also give to “Katie’s Fund Current,” to support current ministry projects. Your generosity makes a real difference in women’s lives. Thank you!

MAGAZINES, E-ZINES, E-NEWSLETTERS, AND PAPER NEWSLETTERS

Gather, the magazine of Women of the ELCA, offers a mix of articles, theological reflections, devotions, and stories of comfort and challenge that help readers grow in faith and engage in ministry and action. Gather is published 10 times a year with combined issues in January/February and July/August. Many women (and enlightened men) in Lutheran and full-communion partner congregations read the magazine.

Café is an award-winning web-based magazine for young adult women who want to build community, participate in advocacy, and strengthen their faith. It incorporates a Lutheran perspective but is a great read for any woman who is interested in how faith can relate to every-day life.

Bold Connections is a free monthly e-newsletter of Women of the ELCA. Whether you participate a lot or a little in Women of the ELCA, you’ll find helpful news and information on our programs and activities, and stories of how together we live out our purpose and mission.

Interchange is our leadership newsletter sent by regular mail, 6 times a year, to Women of the ELCA leaders in congregational units, synodical organizations, and clusters and conferences. It contains organizational news, new resource information, programmatic updates, and more. Leaders are encouraged to share the contents with all the women in their group. It can also be downloaded in PDF format from our website.

For more information on the above publications visit: http://www.womenoftheelca.org/publications
LOCATION HISTORY OF THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNODICAL WOMEN’S ORGANIZATION CONVENTIONS

32. August 16 & 17, 2019  St. Paul & Brickerville United, Lititz (North Lancaster Cluster)
31. August 18, 2018  St. Paul, Carlisle (West Cumberland Cluster)
30. August 18 & 19, 2017  Trinity, Camp Hill (West Shore Cluster)
29. August 20, 2016  St. Matthew, Hanover (Hanover Cluster)
28. August 14 & 15, 2015  Memorial, Shippensburg (Chambersburg Cluster)
27. August 16, 2014  St. Bartholomew United, Hanover (Hanover Cluster)
24. June 24 & 25, 2011  Zion Evangelical of Penbrook, (Harrisburg Cluster)
22. June 26 & 27, 2009  Trinity, Camp Hill (West Shore Cluster)
21. June 27 & 28, 2008  St. Paul’s, York St., Hanover (Hanover Cluster)
20. June 29 & 30, 2007  Lantern Lodge, Myerstown (Lebanon Cluster)
19. June 23 & 24, 2006  Evangelical, Greencastle (Chambersburg Cluster)
18. June 24 & 25, 2005  St. Paul, Carlisle (West Cumberland Cluster)
17. June 25 & 26, 2004  Salem, Lebanon (Lebanon Cluster)
16. June 20 & 21, 2003  St. Matthew, Hanover (Hanover Cluster)
15. June 28 & 29, 2002  Wilson College, Chambersburg (Tri-SWO)
10. June 25 & 26, 1997  Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove (Tri-SWO)
8. June 23 & 24, 1995  The Embers, Carlisle
7. June 17 & 18, 1994  The Embers, Carlisle
1. May 21, 1988  St. Matthew, York (York Cluster)
How to Report the Convention to Your Unit

1. Have a notebook available for all convention notes. Include facts and statements that seem important. Be accurate.

2. Mark in your Bulletin of Reports the actions taken.

3. Review and summarize notes while the convention is fresh in your mind.

4. Report briefly on speeches, resolutions, reports and elections.

5. Plan a report that sustains interest, highlights important information and remains within the time limits allowed to you at your meeting.

6. Note budget decisions and financial responsibilities. Explain how your unit contributes.

7. Report on Special features, speakers, small groups, churchwide representative’s presentation, worship and the offerings.

8. Use programs, leaflets, photographs or video if possible.

9. Suggest ways in which convention ideas or plans can be adapted and used in your unit.

10. Offer to present your report to nearby congregations that did not send a delegate or visitor to the convention.

11. Tell how the convention benefited you spiritually and mentally. Share what it meant to you. Give your personal impressions. Stimulate others to want to attend the convention next year.
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. **CHURCHWIDE** - designated term for the whole organization.

2. **CWO** - Churchwide Women’s Organization.

3. **CLUSTER** - A non-legislative grouping of Congregational, Intercongregational, and Special Units within the territory of a synodical women’s organization. Also known as a conference in some synodical women’s organization.

4. **CONGREGATIONAL UNIT** - the women’s organization in a congregation; this may be made up of smaller groups of women in the congregation, but is the term designed for the total women’s activity/organization within the congregation.

5. **CONVENTION** - term for the gathering of delegates for decision-making or legislative functions within Women of the ELCA.

6. **DAILY GRACE** - This daily reflection will stir you to live out your baptismal calling. Take time to reflect, offer a prayer and prepare for the day. Read the daily message or choose Random Grace. Available on the APPT store.

7. **INTERCHANGE** - name of the newsletter published by the churchwide office, also available online at www.womenoftheelca.org.

8. **INTERCONGREGATIONAL UNIT** - a local organization for women from two or more congregations that have no congregational unit.

9. **GATHER** - name of the magazine of Women of the ELCA.

10. **MEMBERSHIP** - refers to the congregational/Intercongregational/special units who have affiliated with Women of the ELCA: it does not refer to individual women of the ELCA.

11. **PARTICIPANTS** - individual women who choose to participate in a variety of activities which fulfill the purpose of the organization.

12. **REGION** - One of nine geographic territories of the ELCA comprised of a number of synods in the United States and the Caribbean.

13. **SPECIAL UNIT** - A member of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; a community of women composed of women who want to come together in special settings as authorized by the Executive Board for study, support and action in local settings where congregational affiliation is not readily available or possible (referred to as unit). For example, a unit organized and existing on a college campus or within a retirement community.

14. **SYNODICAL WOMEN’S ORGANIZATION (SWO)** - Congregational/Intercongregational Special Units which are located within the territory of the geographic synods of the ELCA.

15. **SYNOD** - one of 65 territories of the ELCA.

16. **TRIENNIAL CONVENTION** - The convention of Women of the ELCA; the highest legislative authority of the organization; meets every three years.

17. **WOMEN OF THE ELCA** - the shortened form of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. (please note: the acronym WELCA is not an accepted shortened version but W/ELCA can be used in print.)