Meet Board Member and New Treasurer, Kathy Kauffman —

I was born in Mobile, AL, and raised as an Air Force kid, have lived in eleven states and once in Canada. I moved to PA 43 years ago because it is my husband Steve’s home. We have 3 children, 2 daughters-in-law and 2 grandchildren. We feel very blessed that they live within 30 minutes of us and share our love of Jesus. We belong to Mt. Zion, ELCA in Lewisberry, where I teach Sunday School, Women’s Group President, lead a women’s bible study and serve in the nursery.

I retired from my full time job as an Administrative Assistant for a Financial Planner at the end of 2018, and am working part time on special projects. Steve and I are looking forward to traveling to see friends and family as well as our beautiful country as often as we can.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your LS SWO Treasurer and a big thank you to Peggi Norman for being the support I will need as I begin this new adventure!

Beginning February 1, 2019, Kathy will officially begin her new position.
President’s Message

Affirmations

"You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

♦ to live among God’s faithful people,
♦ to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,
♦ to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
♦ to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
♦ and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 237.

It’s time to celebrate “Shining Lights” of Affirmation.

Reverend David Beckman, a Lutheran pastor and founder of Bread for the World, wrote that despite a divisive year, we are celebrating passage of the Congress Farm Bill. There were no cuts to SNAP. Congress also reauthorized The Global Food Security Act for 5 years. Thanks to letter writers, visits to congress and advocates.

Shining Lights

Senior high students and advisors from 35 congregations at Winterfest who worked on their theme "Dear Hate". Using their creative talents, they learned how "to love your enemies" and how "through word and deed" to love all.

Shining Lights

Christian Churches United believes and models "Love your Neighbor". Since 1978 they have helped those who are homeless, poor and incarcerated in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties.

Shining Lights

Greta Thurberg, a 15 year old Swedish student, was inspired by the Parkland students in the United States. Her passion is climate change. She stood alone outside of her school holding a sign.

Later in a speech, she called out political leaders who by failing to act have stolen the future of our children.

Shining Lights

LAMPa, Pennsylvania Council of Churches, FCNL, W/ELCA and many citizen and faith advocates who helped to pass SB 554, Safe Haven. This unanimously passed legislation keeps children who are sex-trafficked victims out of the criminal justice system. This was a hard fought and heartfelt victory.

Shining Lights

Let us pray, "Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 22.

Lois Ann Griffiths, Women of the ELCA, LS SWO
DAY OF RENEWAL REGISTRATION FORM

Date: Saturday, May 11, 2019
Registration: 9:00-9:30 a. m.
(refreshments upon arrival)
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Place: St. Bartholomew United, Hanover
Cost: $20.00 (Includes program and lunch)
Theme: “Showing Hospitality to Strangers”
Scripture: Hebrews 13:2
Special Offering: United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg “Annual Fund”
Contact for Questions:
Sue Lyons: Phone: 717-816-6533
Email: maryslyons@yahoo.com

The church is handicap accessible.

About the Speaker:
Reverend Angela Zimmann United Lutheran Seminary, will be the guest speaker for Day of Renewal.
She will speak about the hospitality she experienced during her time in Jerusalem.
Pastor Angela Zimmann serves as the Vice President of Advancement and Adjunct Professor of Homiletics at United Lutheran Seminary.
Angela served as a parish pastor from 1998-2014 in Southeast Michigan and in Jerusalem, Palestine/Israel, and also taught full-time at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Her leadership experience includes serving as President of the Lucas County Education Service Center School Board, Trustee for the Ohio School Boards Association, and charter member of the United States Presidential Scholars Alumni Board in Washington, DC. Locally, she is involved in the Gettysburg Area Dollars for Scholars as a board member and the Board for the ARC of Adams County. Angela is the author of the book “Turning the Noose that Binds into a Rope To Climb,” as well as a chapter in the book entitled “Composing Feminist Interventions,” and various articles in a number of journals and magazines. Angela is married to Rev. Martin Otto Zimmann, Ph.D. They have an adult son, Seth, and a teenage daughter, Chelsea.

Sponsored by the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Lower Susquehanna, Synodical Women’s Organization

(Please complete and mail this section of the form postmarked by Monday, April 19)

Make check payable to LS SWO WOMEN OF THE ELCA and mail to:
Kathy Kauffman, 970 Stevens Road, York Haven, PA 17370 717-712-8983

Name ________________________________________ Phone ______________________
Address ______________________________________ City _______________________
Zip __________________ Email address: ________________________________
Home Church _________________________________ City ______________________
Directions to St. Bartholomew’s United
1204 Grand Valley Rd. Hanover, PA 17331

From York area: Take 30 to 116 and follow that through to Grandview Rd. (Hanover Canning Company on the right and the Sensening Meat Market on the left.) Cross the railroad tracks and turn left at the light; Follow Grandview to the end and turn left onto Westminster Road. Stay on that road, bearing right at the Y. Same road becomes the Grand Valley Rd. just before the Long Arm Dam. The church will come into view on the left a few minutes after you pass the dam.

From Harrisburg area: follow route 15 south to 94. Turn left towards Hanover. A sign marks this turn to Hanover. Drive through Cross Keys (Where route 30 intersects) and continue straight ahead. Route 94 becomes “Carlisle Road”. As you pass the square or center of Hanover, the road name becomes Baltimore Street. (Same road). About the fifth stop light after the square (Gas stations on both corners at a light and a shopping mall on the left) is Grandview Road. Turn right at the light and go to the end of Grandview Road. Turn left onto Westminster Road. That road becomes Grand Valley Road. Stay right at the Y and after you pass the Long Arm Dam the church will shortly come into view. Turn left into the parking lot.

From Gettysburg – Route 116 towards Hanover. Just after Brushtown there is a small red schoolhouse on your right and a traffic light, turn right there at “Racehorse Road.” Follow the road and bear left rather than going into the housing development. When the road ends, turn left on Route 194. Drive to Westminster Road. (Just after passing the Landing restaurant and a former fire station on your right) Turn right onto Westminster Road. and follow it staying right at the Y until it becomes Grand Valley Rd. Pass the Long Arm Dam and the church will come into view on your left a few minutes after passing the dam.

From Lebanon: Turnpike to the Gettysburg exit. Follow Harrisburg directions.

Handicap entrance is to the back of the church. The elevator is there.
The special offering for this year’s Day of Renewal will go to the “Annual Fund” at the United Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg.

This fund is the bread-and-butter of the seminary. Since we don’t charge tuition for our full-time Lutheran students, the Annual Fund is what we count on to sustain high-quality education – it pays for everything from the communion bread in chapel to the electricity to the professors’ salaries. We need to raise about $2 million dollars a year, every year!

Let’s help our seminary to reach it financial goal in 2019!

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“Election Information 2019-2020 Term”

Elections this year for the 2019-2020 term, we need to elect a Vice-President, (2 year term); Secretary (2 year term) and three board members (2 year terms), and two board members for one year terms. Please consider submitting your name for one of the positions. The Nominating Form will be provided in the “Convention Newsletter” that will be published and mailed in late May. A complete description of these board positions will be included in that special edition newsletter.

Thank you in advance for prayerfully considering serving on the board of the Women of the ELCA, Lower Susquehanna, Synodical Women’s Organization. Please contact any board member, listed on the back page of this newsletter for more information, or call Sandy Bingaman, 717-665-5265; Donna Greifzu 717-377-1780; or members of the Nominating Committee for more information.
OFFERING DEADLINE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019

For Congregational Unit contributions to the Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women’s Organization to be credited for the year 2018/2019, **all checks must be RECEIVED by January 15, 2019.** Churchwide will only credit money received (not postmarked) before January 31, 2019. Therefore, the Treasurer needs to have everything in to her so that she can send our SWO offering in time to make the deadline.

Another consideration to keep in mind is that all Congregational Units must make a remittance of record – either to the Synodical Treasurer or to Churchwide – to be considered as an Active Unit. This information is important when Units send voting members to Synodical Conventions, and when Churchwide allocates the number of voting members we may send to Triennial Conventions.

Use Form A for regular offerings and other offerings that go to your synodical treasurer. Other offerings include Convention Offering, Day of Renewal Offering and Camp Hebron Retreat offerings. Checks should be written out to:

**“LS SWO Women of the ELCA”**

Please send contributions with remittance forms to:

Peggi Norman, 328 Carolle Street
Greencastle, PA 17225
717-593-9249
peggi2@yahoo.com

Use Form B for Thankofferings, (remember Thankofferings are sent directly to churchwide)

Katie’s Fund and all other offerings to support churchwide ministries of Women of the ELCA or the ELCA (i.e. World Hunger, ELCA Malaria Campaign, Lutheran Disaster Response). Checks should be made out to:

“Women of the ELCA”

**Mail these forms to:**

Women of the ELCA
ELCA Gifts Processing Center
PO Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Downloadable Form A and Form B remittance forms can be found at:

**Staffing Update**
I am so pleased to introduce you to the newest invaluable member of our team – Elise Adrian. Some of you have been in touch with her already as she’s working on keeping us organized in Ingathering Land. Elise started in July as our new Marketing & Outreach Specialist Fellow. We’re tremendously fortunate to have her working with us for the next two years. She is taking on the work that Martha Muswema was doing in her role as a Lutheran Volunteer Corps intern, as well as managing several communications projects for the LWR engagement team. You can reach her at eadrian@lwr.org or 410.230.3556.

**Fall Ingatherings**
THANK YOU to all who worked so hard to make the fall Ingathering season a success. From weather issues to truck complications, you all are rock star-level organizers, negotiators, and troubleshooters. We and all those we serve together are incredibly blessed to have you all as partners in this ministry!

**Pipeline**
Here are a few shipments that left the warehouses this fall:
  **Partner:** Children’s Gift Ministry
- Guatemala: School Kits and Personal Care Kits to families in rural communities struggling to access basic essentials.
  **Partner:** Food for the Hungry
- Zimbabwe: Personal Care, School, and Baby Care Kits for families in rural communities struggling to access basic essentials.
  **Partner:** World Help International
- Haiti: Quilts and Personal Care Kits for people affected by the 5.9 magnitude earthquake that struck in early October.
  **Partner:** IMA World Health
- Mauritania: Quilts and kits for vulnerable women and children, people affected by local flooding, and Malian refugees.
  **Partner:** Lutheran World Federation

**Here are a few that are coming up in the next several weeks:**
- Bosnia: Quilts and Personal Care Kits for refugees and migrants passing through Bosnia.
  **Partner:** International Orthodox Christian Charities
- Nicaragua: School Kits to children in communities associated with LWR coffee projects.
  **Partner:** LWR Nicaragua
- Iraq: Quilts to be provided in the cold winter months for 14,000 IDP families in Jed’ah camp outside of Mosul.
  **Partner:** RNVDO

**Tracker Issues**
We’re so grateful for the dedication, creativity, and compassion you each bring to this partnership!

Melanie Gibbons
Quilt & Kit Ministry Manager | MGibbons@lwr.org | 443.267.6451
In 2018 the Rebecca Circle of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Hershey, met to make 110 gift bags for “She’s Somebody’s Daughter” (SSD). The bags contained a lavender sugar scrub kit made by the women of Holy Trinity as well as a journal. Money for the project was provided by a grant from Thrivent.

SSD is a local sex trafficking resistance organization whose staff are making an effort to fight the flourishing sex industry in our area. This admirable group of people has the courage to not just call attention to the problem, but to actually go into the adult dance, massage, and book stores and minister to the women who are selling themselves there. One small part of their ministry is to give the women a gift bag once each month to reinforce that they are loved and valued beyond their situations. The goal in SSD’s outreach is simply to build relationships and offer a support system.

SSD’s awareness initiative offers presentations on the connections between pornography, the commercial sex industry and sex trafficking through trainings and preventative education in churches, schools, civic organizations, and medical and law enforcement agencies.

For more information, visit shessomebodysdaughter.org.
LSS Tanzania Trip—2018
By Tina Zellers

TANZANIA – where to begin. After a very long two days of traveling, we finally arrived in Tukuyu for our meeting with Bishop Edward Johnson Mwaikali. He is very thankful for everything the Lower Susquehanna Synod does for the Konde Diocese.

Our travels took us to Metema Bible College, Manow Secondary Seminary (our version of a junior/senior high school), and the Itete Hospital. It was good to see that our contributions to these places are being put to good use.

We support a student from our companion congregation at Metema and also at Manow. The living conditions at both of these schools are what we would consider primitive. We sat in on a biology class at Manow. The students were very respectful and listened attentively to the teacher. The headmaster expects great things from the students, and in 2016, Manow earned the distinction of being the top school in Tanzania.

The things happening at the Itete Hospital are very exciting. The morale of the employees is very high. They love the hospital administrator and love working for him. At this time, different labs are all in one small room, but with the new buildings, things will be spread out to avoid cross-contamination. Unfortunately, 60% of the patients treated at the hospital are being treated for Aids-related conditions, such as tuberculosis, all as a result of their immune systems being compromised from the disease.

Our next stop was our companion congregation at Mwakaleli. We were very happy to see our contributions being put to good use. The people were happy to see us and treated us like celebrities. A special four-hour church service was held on Sunday morning, where several different choirs sang and danced. Some members of one of the choirs were wearing the gowns that Salem gave to them on the last trip. It was wonderful to see how happy the people are, living their lives around their faith. All too soon, the trip ended and we were on a very long flight back to the U.S.

Tina is a member of Salem Lutheran Church, Lebanon.
You may have heard the poem “The Dash” by Linda Ellis, about the dash that comes between two dates in an obituary or biographic sketch. The poem is about the importance of making the most of life.

What would that dash say about us if our lives ended today? It might be filled with a list of educational accolades or an extensive summary of professional and community accomplishments. It might include hours of volunteer service at numerous non-profit or religious organizations. And church attendance ought to count for something. But these are not really the important details about our lives.

What is most important is how we treat people, both our friends and strangers. How are you making a difference in your community? Do you contribute something in your daily life that makes someone else’s life a little better?

That little dash is a simple punctuation mark, but it conveys much more about us than we realize. Let’s make it meaningful and make that dash count for something.

This message was written by Susan Harris, past president of the North Carolina Synodical Women’s Organization and a member of Salem Lutheran Church, Lincolnton, N.C.

You can install the app to receive the daily devotional from Daily Grace on your phone each day. Visit the Women of the ELCA website to find out how. www.womenoftheelca.org. It is free, however, donations are welcome!
WOMEN OF THE ELCA, LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNODICAL WOMEN’S ORGANIZATION
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UPCOMING EVENTS

DAY OF RENEWAL
St. Bartholomew United
Hanover, PA
May 11, 2019

32nd ANNUAL LS SWO CONVENTION
St. Paul, Lititz, PA.
August 16-17, 2019.

FALL RETREAT
Camp Hebron
Halifax, PA
Nov. 1-3, 2019

Mission Statement
To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.