Purpose 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.

Meet Board Member, Ellie Bauerle:
Ellie was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
Her late husband was in the army and they lived in various places, His last assignment was Fort Richie, MD, and this is how she got to Pennsylvania. She decided to stay in the area after his passing. She is a member of Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waynesboro, and participates in the CU of the Women of Evangelical, Greencastle.
She enjoys working out at the YMCA, watching the Greenbay Packers and Milwaukee Brewers. She also keeps busy doing volunteer work and attends the senior center in Mont Alto, PA.
Sisters in Christ,

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8

This is not exactly how I became the LS SWO board member to attend the 2018 Women of the ELCA President’s Conference in Chicago the last weekend of February, but it certainly was a message that I was obliged to consider during the three-day conference. The theme was “Here I Am Lord,” and throughout the conference it was obvious that the women attending from the 65 ELCA synods had all heard the call and answered, “Here I Am.”

Last summer, I was among several thousand women who attended the Tenth Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis. It was a gathering filled with great speakers, worship opportunities, and fellowship that energized me to return to my everyday life “All Anew” in the spirit of what Women of the ELCA calls us to be.

The President’s Conference was different. It was a much smaller event, and it provided opportunities to interact with nearly everyone present. Although we had travelled from many different places, there was a bond that connected us. We were all Lutheran women, Women of the ELCA, synodical leaders in the organization, but, more importantly, we all were seeking ways to make a difference in our churches, communities, and the world. We shared our frustrations with how to make the organization more compelling to the women of our congregations, especially younger women, as well as our successes in reaching out to the women of our congregations, our communities, and those who need our help throughout the world. It reminded me of the children’s song, “The church is not a building; the church is not a steeple; the church is not a resting place; the church is the people.” And we, the Women of the ELCA, are “the people”, a very important part of “the people.” I was blessed to be in the company of strong women, who understand that they have a mission and can truly make a difference. We all need to pray that our hearts are open and our ears are listening for the call, so that we are ready and willing to say, “Here I am, Lord.”

One story that stuck in my mind from our sharing was about a woman who had attended the Triennial Gathering for the first time last summer. She kept thinking about the many times the word “bold” had been used, and was hoping to find her “bold.” One day she was in the Walmart checkout line, buying fabric, when the cashier, a Muslim woman, asked her if she knew how to sew. She said yes, and, finding a bit of her “bold”, asked if she needed something altered. The cashier responded that she wanted to learn how to sew, and, finding more of her “bold”, this W/ELCA woman volunteered to become her teacher. The lessons have forged an unexpected friendship that is a blessing to both of them, all because she answered the call and said, “Here I am.”

Sue Lyons,
SWO Vice President,
Lower Susquehanna,
Synodical Women’s Organization
DAY OF RENEWAL REGISTRATION FORM

Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Registration: 9:00-9:30 a.m. (refreshments upon arrival)
Place: Memorial, Shippensburg
Cost: $20.00 (Includes program and lunch)
Theme: “In Katie’s Footsteps”
Scripture: Hebrews 13:2
Special Offering: Katie’s Place, Shippensburg (see page 5 for more details)
Contact for Questions:
Joyce Ray: Phone: 717-709-0907
Email: joyceray62@gmail.com

Each person attending this event is asked to bring one (1) shoe in which is a symbol of a significant walk in her life.

The church is handicap accessible.

About the Speaker:

We are delighted to have Dr. Jean Godsall-Myers as our guest speaker for Day of Renewal. She will be doing a unique presentation on Katharina von Bora Luther. Dr. Godsall wrote a skit, “Katie, Anna and Me”, portraying the lives of Katharina von Bora, Anna Weiser Muhlenberg, and a modern ELCA woman.

Jean Godsall-Myers was born in Bryn Mawr, PA and raised in King of Prussia, PA. She received her BA from Smith College, her MA from University of Michigan, and her Ph. D. from Bryn Mawr College. Her career was mainly spent working in academic administration and leading German language and culture at Widener University near Philadelphia. Her research fields were medieval German literature and the culture and literature of the German Democratic Republic.

Dr. Godsall has lived at Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany where she and her husband, Steve, directed the ELCA Wittenberg Center. Jean is a life long Lutheran. Currently she serves on the Board of Directors of the German Society of Pennsylvania and her volunteer work includes transcribing and translating letters written by the Mennonites in the 19th century.

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 9)

Make check payable to LS SWO WOMEN OF THE ELCA and mail to:
Peggi Norman, 328 Carrolle St., Greencastle, PA 17225

Name ________________________________ Phone __________________________
Address________________________________ City ________________________
Zip ___________________ Email address: ________________________________
Home Church __________________________ City __________________________
Directions to Memorial Lutheran Church  
34 E. Orange St.  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

From the North and North East: via I-81 South
Take Exit 29 (King Street)
Turn right onto the Walnut Bottom Rd. (Rt. 174)
Go through 2 traffic lights, then turn left onto E. Orange St. at the Vigilant Hose fire station
Proceed through 5 intersections (2 stop signs, 1 traffic light, then 2 more stop signs)
At the next intersection, there is no stop sign. Memorial will be on your left at the corner of Orange St. and Penn St.
Turn left onto Penn St. and the parking lot is right behind the church.

From the South, East, and West: via I-81 North
From the South, East, and West: via I-81 North
Take Exit 24 (Fayette St)
Turn left at the traffic light onto the Old Scotland Rd.
At the fourth traffic light, go straight. Follow this road past the Duck Pond and bear left at the stop sign. You will be on South Penn St.
After going straight at one more stop sign, you will see the church and the parking lot on your left.

From the South and West: via Route 11
Route 11 become King St. when you get into Shippensburg
Turn right at the fifth traffic light (Earl St.)
Turn left at the stop sign (E. Orange St.)
Memorial will be on your right at the top of the hill
Turn right onto S. Penn St. and the parking lot is behind the church
**Yearly Project Reminder**

Just a reminder to all CU leaders - please complete the “Yearly Project Form” that is included on page 8 of this issue of News & Views.

Mail to Barbara Bullock **BEFORE** Wednesday, August 1, 2018 (her address is on the form and the back page of this newsletter). These are projects that were completed between **last year’s August 18 & 19, 2017 convention**, and the **upcoming August 18, 2018, LS SWO Synodical Convention at St. Paul, Carlisle**.

This would include Lutheran World Relief, Local Projects, Fair Trade Products (Coffee, tea, Chocolate) and other projects your women’s group has **carried out, or was responsible for organizing**.

A form is available on page 8 of this newsletter, and additional forms will be available at the Day of Renewal, Saturday, April 21, at Memorial Lutheran, Shippensburg.

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**Day of Renewal Offering**

The special offering for Day of Renewal will go to Katie’s Place of Shippensburg, which houses a number of community organizations and is anxiously anticipating renovations to be able to accommodate many more. Katie’s Place is a hope and dream – a building dedicated to providing a home to community activities and organizations for all people regardless of race, religion, creed or socio-economic background.

**Among the services offered are:**

- SPO (Shippensburg Produce and Outreach) distributes fresh vegetables and fruit as well as other nutritious foods each Tuesday afternoon to those needing help in the Shippensburg area. They currently serve an average of 125 families per week.
- The Thrift Shop provides bargains and blessings at their sale one weekend a month, and also provides emergency aid to area people after fires or other situations where clothing and shelter items are needed.
- CAN (Christ Among Neighbors) assists community people in need of assistance with funds for temporary rent, fuel and other of life’s necessities.
- Tri-County Community Action Agency sees clients who need help at their Katie’s Place office, instead of requiring them to travel to Carlisle or Harrisburg for assistance.
- SCRC (Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition), is a group of university, school district and community leaders, who meet frequently to discuss and solve “common ground” problems.
The Luther Effect
Continued from the January/February issue ....

From the onset, African Protestants played a decisive role in the mission in today’s Tanzania. In the early stages, local employees played an important part in connecting with the local culture and language. As the mission expanded, they quickly became indispensable staff members: supervising field stations, working as teachers in the rapidly growing mission schools and accompanying mission trips as catechists.

The mission’s declared objective was independence of the newly founded Christian congregations. Nevertheless, the European missionaries often had an authoritarian bent and tried to control the new Christians and their expressions of faith. Yet in practice, their ability to do so was limited. Frequent bouts of illness and the growth of the mission field forced them to delegate work to locals. Surviving records of debates and conflicts between European Protestant missionaries and African Christians attest to the latter group did not adopt the missionaries’ viewpoints on Christianity.

When the German missionaries were obliged to leave the country after the First World War, African Christians continued to supervise the congregations, cementing their claims to self-reliance. After the Germans returned, the missionaries generally tried to regain control. But the independence efforts could no longer be kept at bay, and many mission fields began ordaining the first African Protestants.

In their attempts to introduce European Christian template for marriage in Tanganyika, missionaries encountered numerous obstacles. The road to asserting this model was riddled with misunderstandings. Christian monogamous marriage was a far cry from traditional ideas and lived experiences. Men were only in monogamous marriages if they could not afford additional wives. According to local tradition, the husband and wife still belonged to different clans after marriage and practiced religious customs relating to their clans’ ancestors separately from their spouses. For this reason, it would have seemed strange for a married couple to pray together. Also, public demonstrations of marital intimacy were often considered improper. At first the Christian wedding ceremony, in which the bride and groom stand side by side at the altar, provoked uneasiness and even ridicule. Early photographs of a Christian couple at their wedding seem very rigid and staged.

The Christian conception of marriage with its ideal monogamous fidelity and its call for abstinence before marriage lives on in Tanzania and is propagated, among other places, in awareness campaigns to combat HIV. HIV continues to be a major health issue in many of the African countries including Tanzania.

Information taken from “The Luther Effect” Protestantism - 500 Years in the World” Edited by the Deutsches Histori cal Museum For more information go to the website www.hirmerpublishers.com

By Sandy Bingaman
Visit the Women of the ELCA churchwide website at: www.womenoftheelca.org

The updated website of the Lower Susquehanna is a work in progress and the area which housed our newsletters is not set up as yet. As soon as it is completed, there will be a notice in the News & Views about how to access it. Your patience is appreciated.

The Day of Renewal planned for Saturday, April 21, is to be held at Memorial Lutheran, Shippensburg. (a registration form, as well as driving directions, can be found on page 3 & 4 of this newsletter). Share with your unit. Thanks

Looking Ahead...

The Thirty-First Annual Convention of the Women of the ELCA, LS SWO, will be held Saturday, August 18, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Carlisle.

This year’s churchwide representative attending our convention will be Lisa Plorin, Executive Board Member, and newly elected President of the Churchwide Board in 2017.

She was on the planning team that established the W.I.S.E. (Women In Seminary Education) scholarship fund that recognizes women who are entering ordained ministry in Western N.D. A lifetime member of New Hope Lutheran Church, Upham, Lisa is also a part of the gifts program and preaches supply for Prairie Hope Ministries, a three-point parish in her area.

Lisa works part time for Weight Watchers as a leader and fills in as a retreat hostess at Metigoshe Ministries when she can. She enjoys spending time with her family and cheering on their local high school sports teams. Each summer Lisa spends the first week in August Cycling Around North Dakota In Sacajawea Country, a seven-day bicycle trip that covers more than 400 miles.

We are looking forward to welcoming Lisa to this year’s synodical convention.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline to submit news or articles of interest for the May/June News & Views is Wednesday, April 25, 2018.

Keep Informed...Read the “News & Views” Newsletter.
Please use this sheet to track the different projects your Women of the ELCA Congregational Unit/Women’s Group has completed throughout the past year - between last year’s August 18 & 19, synodical convention, and the upcoming August 18, 2018, SWO convention.

This would include Lutheran World Relief Projects, Local Outreach Efforts, Fair Trade Coffee, and other projects you were responsible for completing.

The Synodical Women’s Organization would like to tally the different activities your group has completed during the past year and publish them following convention in News & Views. Thank you.

**DATE SUBMITTED:** __________________________

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Please mail to Barbara Bullock by Wednesday, **August 1, 2018:**
636 Center Street, Millersburg, PA 17016    717-692-3896

Contact Person:__________________________________________
Phone Number/Email:____________________    ____________________
Congregation: ________________________City___________________
School Kits Reach Children in Iraq

Thanks to the generosity of Lutherans who donated School Kits to Lutheran World Relief (LWR), more than 13,650 students in northern Iraq received these Kits. The students, who range in age from elementary to high school, expressed what a tremendous difference the kits made in their lives. Many of their families are unable to buy school supplies because they have only recently returned to their homes after years of ISIS conflict. As a result, students couldn't complete their homework or skipped school entirely. Now, they have the basic, necessary supplies to continue their education.

LWR Quilts and Kits Traveled to Peru

In 2017, a shipment of Quilts, School Kits, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits and Fabric Kits went to Peru. LWR staff and our partner, CARITAS, distributed these items to 30,600 women, men and children all across the country. Mountain-dwelling families especially welcomed the warmth of the Quilts as winter temperatures began to set in, hitting average lows in the 30's in July and August.

The blessing of your gift doesn't end there! In LWR's long-term projects in Peru, students received Personal Care Kits that help their families learn better hygiene, which prevents diseases and illnesses and helps strengthen their dairy and cheese livelihoods.

Our Synod's 2017 LWR Reports

Reports that were sent to me, show that our 2017 Ingathering collections were:

+ 4,587 Mission Quilts
+ 3,957 Bars of Soap
+ 3,813 Personal Care Kits
+ 131 Fleece-tied Blankets
+ 6,384 School Kits
+ 253 Blankets
+ 60 Fabric Kits
+ 220 Baby Care Kits

$10,727.41 sent to LWR Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund

In addition, 735 Quilts and blankets were distributed locally for needs and $42,848.19 was given to LWR's General Fund that helps with long-term development projects. Monies also were directed to help LWR continue work to fight malaria and to provide safe water supplies for families and communities.

I Am Retiring in 2018!

This will be my last year (after 30 years) to serve our synod's churches as the Volunteer Coordinator for Relief Projects. Family health issues and the need for "new blood", "new ideas", etc. have made it clear to me that now is the time to bow out of some of my volunteer work. At the present moment, both our synod staff and Lutheran World Relief are searching for a person or persons to step up and take on this job. If you are interested, please contact The Rev. Thomas McKee at the Lower Susquehanna Synod Office. My SINCERE THANKS to the many volunteers who have made the annual Ingathering run so smoothly! Some of these folks in the 14 conferences have been assisting me for all of the 30 years!

This might be the last issue that I write an article for "News and Views" as hopefully new leadership can be identified soon.

I am presently preparing the spring packets of information that are distributed to all churches. If you are the person in your congregation that handles the fall Ingathering, please look for this packet that will be delivered to your church. This packet includes literature from LWR and helps to prepare for the Ingathering Appeal as well as information on other Relief Projects including Heifer International. Final information will be on the synod's website in August and will help you with things like dates and times for delivery of your material aid for the October 6 and 7, 2018 Ingathering.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF NEWS
Submitted by: Norma R. Good
Elections this year for the 2018-2019 term, we need to elect a President, (2 year term); Treasurer (2 year term) and three board members (2 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 or 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 Karen Poe, 717-919-7994, members of the Nominating Committee for more information.

A Few Reminders From Norma

+ Hopefully your church has ordered Fair Trade Eco-Palms to use at your Palm Sunday Services

+ Continue to use and sell Fair Trade coffee and tea and other products such as olive oil. The new LWR Coffee Project is with Farmers Market Coffee (877.lwr.mrkt or lwrfarmersmarket.org) or you may continue to order from Equal Exchange.

LWR's Good Samaritan Quilt Plaza

+ If you are working towards a $500. goal in contributions to the LWR Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund, your donations must be received by the Lower Susquehanna Synod Treasurer's Office by June 30, 2018. If your donations from July 1, 2017 to this date total $500. and you send your funds with your Church Treasurer's Monthly Remittance Form and note your amount sent on the proper line for this cause, you are eligible to have a brick engraved in LWR's Good Samaritan Quilt Plaza.

+ Be sure to take advantage of the funds available from Thrivent Financial to help with purchasing supplies for quilts or kits or for any other charitable cause your congregation is involved with. Each Thrivent member can apply 2 times a year for Action Team funding of $250. for each application.

Grateful for having been able to work with you.
Norma R. Good

“Election Information 2018-2019 Term”
WOMEN OF THE ELCA, LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNODICAL WOMEN’S ORGANIZATION
2017-2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD

SWO BOARD OFFICERS
President
Joyce Ray
3567 Turnberry Drive
Chambersburg, PA 17202
717-709-0907 717-658-6077 (C)
Joyceray62@gmail.com

Vice President
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maryslyons@yahoo.com

Secretary
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butty652@aol.com

Treasurer
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Barbara S. Bullock
CWGL Quilt Project
Seminary Student Promoter
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Donna L. Greifzu
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Newsletter Mailing List
Publications/Resources
Informer
Display Co-coordinator
Brochure Updater
Board Manual Updater
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Linda Lubold
Liaison to Synod Council
Finance Committee
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lindalubold9@hotmail.com

Karen Poe
Sister Synod Communicator
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poehait@aol.com

Lois Rode
Day of Renewal Committee
66 Duncan Street
Lancaster, PA 17602
717-945-6080
cliffnlois@comcast.net

UPCOMING EVENTS
DAY OF RENEWAL
Memorial Lutheran
Shippensburg, PA
Saturday, April 21, 2018

31st ANNUAL LS, SWO CONVENTION
St. Paul, Carlisle
August 18, 2018
(one day)

29th FALL RETREAT
Camp Hebron
Halifax, PA
Nov. 2-4, 2018

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