



CONNECTIONS

EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA WOMEN OF THE ELCA NEWSLETTER

Volume 20 No.3 www.eandsynodwelca.org

April-June 2017



Do you feel called to be a part of the EaND SWO Leadership Team?

There are openings for these positions:

- ♦ Vice President
- ♦ Treasurer
- ♦ Fargo Cluster Representative
- ♦ Grand Forks Cluster Representative
- ♦ Prairie Rose Cluster Representative
- ♦ Wahpeton Cluster Representative

Simply complete a "Vita Form" (found in the spring cluster packet given or mailed to your congregational unit President); submit it to:

EaND SWO Secretary, Pam Neumiller
513 Santa Cruz Drive
Fargo, ND 58103 by August 1, 2017.

You may also be nominated from the floor at the convention. This is an opportunity to serve in a role that makes a difference in your life and the lives of others as you share God's message in the world.



EaND SWO Scholarships to Triennial Gathering Awarded

Scholarships were awarded to three applicants for the first EaND SWO Triennial Scholarships.

Patti Biel (Valley City), Susan Haukess (Valley City), and Sue Edwardson (Mayville) were selected on the basis of short essays submitted by June 15, 2017.

They received registration for the convention and hotel cost for the event.

Congratulations!

"Be a Light, No Matter What!"

You are invited to attend the
30th Annual Convention of
Eastern North Dakota
Synodical Women of the ELCA
Saturday, September 16, 2017
Faith Lutheran Church
309 4th St NE,
Valley City, ND 58072

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8:45-9:30 am | Registration & Coffee |
| 9:30-10:00 am | Opening with devotions |
| 10:00-10:10 am | Announcements |
| | (vendors, workshops, etc.) |
| 10:10-10:30 am | Break |
| 10:30-10:50 am | Karen Voris
Churchwide Representative |
| 10:50-11:30 am | Plenary I |
| 11:30-Noon | Bible Study |
| Noon-1:00pm | Lunch & Vendors |
| 1:00-1:45 pm | Plenary II |
| 1:45-2:15pm | Speaker -- "Millennials" |
| 2:15-2:30 pm | Round table discussion on
Millennials talk OR
Treasurers' Workshop |
| 2:30-2:50 pm | Break |
| 2:50-3:30 pm | Worship with installation of
Board Members. |
| 3:30 pm | End of Convention |
- Convention Offering: 1/4 to CAR Scholarship for Girls to attend High School; 1/4 Eand SWO; 1/2 Churchwide.
 - In-Kind Offering: Barnes County Food Pantry: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, feminine hygiene products.

You Are The Light of the World
"You are not here to bring light into the world,
You are here to be light
There is a difference"
-Abraham Hicks



Kathy Fick

"You Are the Light of The World"

Based on Matthew 5:14-16

You are the light of the world,

...In the same way let your light shine before others...



Amanda Brumfield

"If I Could Say Just One Thing"

Sit back and be captivated by the stories that will take you on a journey through acts of faith by listening to God's words when she heard them.

Activities this year:

- *Two guest speakers
- *Music
- *Martha & Mary Vendor Table
- *Paparazzi Vendor Table
- *Coffee and Juice Table
- *Lunch
- *Free time to visit, walk the grounds
- *Hands on building health kits for APOC (Abused Persons Outreach Center). All supplies will be furnished. This will be in the rear of the auditorium and can be worked on at any time during the day.

August 19, 2017

Maryvale Provincial Center
11550 River Rd, Valley City
(Once on Main St. turn north on 5th Ave NE)

9:30 Registration ~ 10:00 Day begins

Registration forms available at
ELCA Lutheran Churches

Register early and save money

By August 4.....\$40

After Aug 4.....\$50

All late registrations can be made by phone and make \$50 payment at the door.
Make checks payable to EaND SWO

Mail checks to:

Nadine Olson - SWO Treasurer

4 Elm Lane

Lisbon, ND 58054

For info and to register: Nadine (701-680-2725) or Jeanne (701-490-3324)

of the **Women ELCA**



EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA SWO 3B BOARD 2016-2017

Please keep this list for contacting your Board Members.

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CONNECTIONS

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President's Message

Hello and welcome to SUMMER!!

June was cool with some warmer days, but not **REAL** summer. Then came July, and now we feel the heat of the sun and gardens are beginning to produce all sorts of fruits and vegetables and FLOWERS!

I love the promise of a garden. We plant seeds or seedlings; we weed and water; we wait eagerly for the fruits & vegetables to grow and mature; and we harvest the results with thanks!

Sometimes we have surprises—my husband is a farmer (somewhat retired) who has lived his life planting and harvesting. This past spring a decision was made to break up a pasture (always a great gopher hunting site for visitors who had their first opportunity to learn to shoot a rifle) to plant 15 acres of corn. The plow, harrow and planter went to work and it appeared as though a good field of corn was coming up.

Imagine going out to check the corn only to find a very spotty field of corn plants—picture lots of holes and no corn plants! What a surprise! Yup, gophers enjoyed corn salad with the kernels. The acres have been re-planted and the neighbor kids are “plinking away”—beats trying to snare them and not as dangerous as poisoning them.

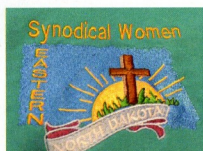
It reminds me of the parable of the sower who scattered the seed and, depending where it fell, had some sort of crop. When we don't think carefully about where we go and what we choose to do, the Evil One can snare us before we are aware of the danger. As we choose the movies, television programs, books, etc. for ourselves and our families, we must think about what the messages are and how they will affect us.

Our society is becoming de-sensitized to murder, theft, cruelty, and other evils as television, music, and movie producers continue to push the boundaries of decency and morality. What can we as Christian Women do? We can avoid the programs, we can write letters of protest, we can speak out. We can become aware and teach our families to be more aware of what is going on around us. It's tough and often unpopular to speak out, but our future depends on us to do something.

Have a great summer! Plan to attend the 4th Annual Women's Retreat at Maryvale! It will be a wonderful summer event and your Board encourages you to join them for the day!

Have a restful summer—see you in September!

Karen Retzlaff, EaND SWO President



Show Your EaND Pride
ORDER a Triennial
T-Shirt TODAY
Information Below

EaND SWO t-shirts are a way to share your story.

*The logo on the left is on a teal background on the upper left side of the shirt.
Order one for yourself below.*

	SIZE
Quantity _____	Small
Quantity _____	Medium
Quantity _____	Large
Quantity _____	1X
Quantity _____	2X
Quantity _____	3X
Total Quantity _____	@ \$15.00
Shipping \$5.00	
Grand Total \$ _____	() Check payable "EANDSWO"

Ship to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail order to: Nadine Olson (T-SHIRT)
4 Elm Lane
Lisbon, ND 58054

WELCA 101

Quilt to cut fabric, to arrange pieces into a pattern, to sew pieces together, to tie prepared top to batting (a lining) and backing, to bind edges to create a covering; a covering for a bed, chair, shelter, etc. to be distributed to those in need.

LWR (*a.k.a* Lutheran World Relief)—an agency that distributes quilts to those in need.

Bethel Quilting Circle

In the April 23, 2017, issue of the *Daily News*, Wahpeton, ND, an article appeared telling about a unique group of quilters. The article was given to this editor, who is summarizing the full page article written by Frank Stanko.

"Quilting Circle Won't be Broken"



"For more than 30 years, Bethel Lutheran Church has been the home of one of the Twin Towns Area's most active quilting circles. Nearly two dozen women create approximately 200 quilts each year, working at home and more importantly, with their friends and neighbors at Bethel Lutheran.

"Bethel Lutheran becomes a hotbed of activity on the last Tuesday and Wednesday of every month. That's when the women of the quilting circle gather to meet, catch up on what's new, work together and to have a great time in the process.

"Helping out is a large part of why Bethel Lutheran's quilting circle endures. The quilters are grateful for the parishioners and community members who donate fabric for each quilt. In the past, quilts have been sent to regions such as Central Africa.

"More recently, the quilting circle has recognized the needs within their own backyard. Last Christmas nearly 80 quilts were distributed to area families. Organizations like the YMCA of Cass and Clay counties, located in Fargo, and Someplace Safe, in Breckenridge, MN, have benefitted from their generosity.

"With high school graduations...Bethel Lutheran's quilting circle is preparing for its annual "wrapping in love" event. Each year, the senior youth at Bethel Lutheran are given a newly-made quilt, with the quilting circle members placing their arms on the youth's shoulders."

To read the full story, go to:
http://www.wahpetondailynews.com/news/quilting-circle-won-t-be-broken/article_5ad956c2-27a2-11e7-9977-9fa4cf6b10f7.html

Quilt Bible Study Helps Raise Money for Parish Nursing



Rachel? Judith? Asenath? Jephtah's daughter? Where are their stories found in the Bible, and what can women of today learn from these ancient women?

Seven women from the Richland-Our Savior's parish, in the Colfax, ND area, which is part of the Wahpeton Cluster, decided to find out. They stitched a "Women of the Bible" quilt in conjunction with studying 40 women of the Bible. The inter-generational group decided to raffle the king-size quilt and donate the proceeds to the ROSE Group, their parish nurse ministry.

The pattern, which included a prepared Bible study, was purchased from The Quilt Corner in Baton Rouge, LA. The Bible study kit included instructions for 40 unique blocks along with a pattern. The fabric had to be purchased separately, and was selected by one of the Bible study members. The fabric was divided among the seven members. An explanation of why each block design was chosen to represent a particular woman of the bible was also part of the kit. Rachel, for example, was represented by the "wedding ring" block variation because she was faithful in her marriage to Jacob. The Bible study told each woman's story and included a lesson that applied to women of today.

The Bible study members stitched at home and then as a group assembled all the squares together. At the meetings, the women took turns leading a Bible study based on a block they stitched.

These women used their God-given gifts to inspire, enlighten and enrich their spiritual lives. Along the way, the quilters found similarities between themselves and some of the Biblical characters they studied. They also deepened relationships between the two churches that make up the parish, and gave the parish nurse ministry a much needed financial boost.



Connections

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Aneta, ND 58212

Please Note: Update

your Unit Mailing Address. If you are no longer president, please pass this on to her. If you are a subscriber, your expiration date is coded with your name, e.g., Jane Doe JA/16 (expires January 2016).

Frequency of Publication Information

CONNECTIONS is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Subscription rates are four (4) issues for \$3.00. Subscription requests and address changes should be sent to :

Karen Retzlaff

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What's Inside?

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PRSRT STD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Fordville, ND 58231

Permit No. 8

Return Service Requested

Please share the information in this newsletter. Photocopy as needed for your unit members, your bulletin boards, and church newsletters. Don't file this away! It's your message about what is happening in the Eastern North Dakota Synodical Women's Organization!

Unit Presidents, Please Note!

Currently Happening:

10th Triennial Convention and Gathering July 13-16, 2017 Minneapolis, MN

Upcoming:

4th Annual Women's Retreat August 19, 2017 Maryvale rural Valley City

***30th Annual EaND SWO Convention Saturday, September 16, 2017
Faith Lutheran Church Valley City, ND***

Check for more information in future issues of Connections, the packets received at the Spring Cluster Gatherings, and on the website:

<http://www.eandsynodwelca.org>

PLAN AHEAD to attend!!!!