



## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## 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.*



## LOGO EXPLANATION

*The symbol, with cross, water, and lily, identifies the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as children of God, baptized, forgiven, and adopted into God's family full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptism water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to "Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*

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## **BIBLE VERSE**

*1Peter 5:10*

*And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.*

## **CONVENTION OBJECTIVES**

*The objectives of the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA are to:*

1. Transact the business of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA with Christian love;
2. Provide opportunities to worship God through word, music and service;
3. Present new and ongoing opportunities to learn to serve our sisters and others in need;
4. Encourage participation in healthy lifestyles;
5. Rejoice in the 34th Anniversary of Women of the ELCA;
6. Renew our relationship with Christ; and
7. Celebrate our continued spiritual sisterhood through Women of the ELCA.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SYNODICAL BOARD**

1. The Synodical Board recommends that the Southeastern Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopt the proposed 2023-2024 budget.
2. The Synodical Board recommends that the Southeastern Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopt the 2023-2024 Love Offering.

## WELCOME FROM THE HOST CLUSTER



Welcome!

After a three year wait Cluster 2 welcomes you to the Thirty-Fourth Annual Convention of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA at the newly renovated Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel and Conference Center. Our theme “Together at the Table - Tasting Grace” could not be more appropriate as we come together again and share God’s Grace through worship, Bible Study, workshops, Cluster Muster, and fellowship with old friends and new ones.

We will be conducting the business of our organization, receiving an update on the status of the synod from the Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Patti Axel, and inspiration from our Keynote Speaker, Pastor Tiffany Chaney.

Your generous Love Offerings will be going this year to the Churchwide Women’s Organization to help them recover from reduced income during COVID and allow them to continue their many missions. In-Kind Gifts will go to M.U.S.T Ministries located in Marietta, Georgia. A visit to their website reveals all of the many areas in which they assist those in need. And we mustn’t forget Katie’s Table - make sure to stop by and see what catches your eye.

I hope you are here eagerly awaiting to participate fully in all that has been prepared for you. The board members and Cluster 2, with the help of Cluster 3, have worked hard to make this a truly inspiring experience and we have a special surprise for you after the banquet.

Open your hearts and minds and have a truly uplifting experience.

Kathy Seraphine  
Convention Chair  
Cluster 2 Coordinator

## GREETINGS FROM THE CHURCHWIDE PRESIDENT



Shalom!

Thank you for all you do for Women of the ELCA! Your time, talents and treasures are needed now more than ever, not only to Women of the ELCA, but also in the world. You also make a huge difference in our churches and communities. Thank you again for all that you do and continue to do!

As promised, there have been some changes in Women of the ELCA. One of our biggest priorities is anti-racism work (you can find more information on [welca.org](http://welca.org)). Here are a few examples:

A Leadership Event in February 2022 was a digital event entitled, “For Such a Time as This: Spirit fed, Spirit led.” It was based on the story of Esther. In addition to presidents, all synodical officers and board members were invited as were conference and cluster leaders. Following the event, more training sessions for WELCA leaders were planned. The training sessions were again via Zoom and open to everyone. Training and bringing up leaders are the responsibility of all of us, not just the few.

Bold Women’s Sunday has been moved from the last Sunday of February to the first Sunday of March. Why you may ask – because February is Black History Month; March is Women’s History Month and includes International Women’s Day. This way we do not dilute Black History Month and honoring our African American sisters and brothers.

Churchwide executive board members can now serve as the churchwide representative at her own synodical convention. As a reminder, a churchwide representative cannot be a voting member of her own congregational unit at her synodical convention. She is also there to serve as a resource not just for your convention, but after as well.

God’s special blessings on your time together! I am praying for you and your time together. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [jmichali@d.umn.edu](mailto:jmichali@d.umn.edu).

Blessings,

Joy Michalicek  
President, 2020-2023 Triennium  
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## GREETINGS FROM OUR SISTER SYNOD

Greetings and God's amazing grace to our ELCA sisters of the Southeastern Synod!

God, who is faithful and just, has heard our prayers of lament and we are being led back into the land of milk and honey ( otherwise known as person to person contact). Though covid-19 is still a reality we must deal with, we have vaccines and a better understanding of how to live with a virus that has had a tremendous impact on our lives for the past two years. We are so grateful that "Zooming" may be a thing of the past, or at least relegated to times of snow storms and other emergencies.

Our La Crosse Area Synod was blessed to have Bishop Kevin Strickland deliver the sermon at the opening worship service for our Synod Assembly in June. His sermon was a call to action and a highlight for many of us that evening. Did you know that the following day, Bishop Strickland was inspired by our "Raising the Barn" World Hunger initiative and the Southeastern Synod donated \$715 for a barn to make sure ALL ARE FED. The Assembly barns represented donations of over \$140,000. Thank you for your support!



On April 30, with COVID numbers low, the LaCrosse Area WELCA was able to convene our 34th Spring Convention touting the theme "Live Together in Unity". The keynote speakers presented the history of the Lakota people and experiences they have encountered during the past twelve years of mission trips to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Though Bonnie and Sarah cited many atrocities the Lakota Sioux were subjected to, they stated that "love, kindness, resilience and inspiration abound, and that the Lakota don't need us to 'save' them, but to 'empower' them." Their trips have built relationships that benefit everyone, and they invited us to join them in their effort to empower God's people. We are anticipating a joyful Fall Renewal in October and the board will be meeting next week to deliberate the details of this event.

I'm sure excitement is riding high in anticipation of your upcoming convention in September. A gathering of ELCA women from four states must be awesome indeed! May God bless your going out and your coming in; may the Lord look upon you and give you peace!

In His amazing love,

Anita Jensen

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Theme - Together at the Table - “Tasting Grace”**

**Bible Verse - *And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. 1Peter 5:10***

**Purpose** - The primary purpose of the convention is to conduct the business of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA. To this end, the synodical board and voting members are expected to be in attendance at all plenary sessions. Participants are welcome to observe the business and be a part of all convention activities.

**Voting Member seating** is arranged alphabetically by last name. Voting members are to be seated a few minutes before each plenary session as printed in the agenda so that the required business may be conducted promptly. All voting members should attend the orientation at 1:30 pm on Friday. No substitutions will be allowed after September 1.

**Registration** will be at the auxiliary desk in the pre-function area of the convention center part of the hotel on Thursday 5:00-7:00 pm; Friday 9:00 am– 3:00 pm; and Saturday 8:00-10:00 am.

**Orientation** for voting members to the convention will be Friday from 1:30-1:40 pm in the JMW (Joe Mack Wilson) Ballroom. There will also be an orientation from 1:45-1:55 pm. for first-time attendees and anyone else that would like an overview of the convention.

**Formal opening** of the convention will be Friday at 2:00 pm in the Joe Mack Wilson ballroom.

### Times to Remember

Cluster Leader Training	Friday, 1:00	Breakout C
Unit Treasurer Training	Friday, 1:00	Breakout D
Voting Member Orientation	Friday, 1:30	JMW Ballroom
Convention Orientation	Friday, 1:45	JMW Ballroom
Opening of Convention	Friday, 2:00	JMW Ballroom
Cluster Muster	Friday, 4:35	As assigned
Worship Service	Friday, 7:30	JMW Ballroom
Bible Study	Saturday, 9:15	JMW Ballroom
Keynote Speaker	Saturday, 10:45	JMW Ballroom
Workshops	Saturday, 11:35 & 4:35	As assigned (p 24-25)
In-Kind Gathering	Saturday morning	JMW Ballroom
Love Offering	Saturday afternoon	JMW Ballroom
Banquet	Saturday, 7:00	JMW Ballroom
Synod Update w/Pr. Patti Axel	Sunday, 9:15	JMW Ballroom
Closing Worship	Sunday, 10:30	JMW Ballroom

**Regular offerings** will be collected during the Friday evening and Sunday morning worship services.

**In-Kind Gifts** - Please bring your gifts of women’s, children’s and men’s socks and/or underwear for M.U.S.T. Ministries of Marietta, Georgia. Place these items in the boxes provided in the pre-function area of the hotel when you come to the plenary session on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning.

**Love Offering** - We will be collecting the 2022-2023 Love Offering for the Churchwide Women of the ELCA on Saturday afternoon.



**Keynote Speaker** - Pastor Tiffany Chaney will be speaking at 10:45 on Saturday morning.

**Churchwide Representative** - Joy Michalicek, president of the Churchwide Organization, will be representing the churchwide board at our convention.

**Special Guest**- Pastor Patti Axel will be representing Bishop Kevin Strickland at our convention and will give a synod update on Sunday morning.

**Chaplain** - A chapel will be set up in Breakout Room B just off the pre-function area of the hotel except during Centering Prayer from 7:30-8:15 on Saturday and Sunday mornings and during workshop times on Saturday. Our chaplain, Pastor Dawn Bennett, will be available throughout the convention for private counseling if requested.

**Prayer Concerns** - There will be prayer bowls on a table inside the plenary hall and in the chapel. Please write your prayer concerns on a piece of paper provided and drop it into one of the prayer bowls. Our chaplain will raise your concerns during our worship services.

**Convention Choir** - Dana Lee Smith will be leading the convention choir which will be singing at the Sunday morning worship service. There will be two practice sessions on Saturday: 1:15-2:00 in Breakout D and 5:30-6:00 in the JMW Ballroom.

**Katie's Table** will be located in the JWM Ballroom and will only be open during non-meeting times. Please bring gently used jewelry and scarves to sell. These items must be sealed individually in a plastic zip-locked bag. *Credit cards, cash or checks will be accepted.*

**Silent Auction** will be located in the JWM Ballroom and will feature handcrafted items and gift baskets. Please bring your donations to the designated area before the beginning of the first plenary session. Winners will be announced at Saturday night's banquet. *Credit cards, cash or checks will be accepted.*

**Other items to bring** - Colorful calendars or greeting cards with pretty pictures for The Table on Delk workshop; your face mask from last year's convention (or other mask); a sweater or jacket (it may be cool in the plenary hall); and pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

**Reception** - There will be a reception with a cash bar from 5:30-6:30 pm on Friday outside Hamilton's Restaurant and also from 6:00-7:00 pm before the banquet on Saturday night.

**Friday dinner** will be served in Hamilton's Restaurant from 6:30-7:30 pm.

**Breakfast** - Remember that the breakfast buffet in the Hamilton's Restaurant on Saturday and Sunday morning is included with your hotel registration but you will need vouchers which you will receive at registration.

**Saturday lunch** will be served in Hamilton's Restaurant from 12:30-1:30 pm.

**Banquet** - The banquet will be held in the JMW Ballroom on Saturday from 7:00-10:00pm. Our theme will be *"Together at the Table"*. Dress will be semi-formal in jewel tones.

**Hotel Reservations** - Please note that you will need to make your own hotel reservations directly with Hilton Hotels by calling 1-800-445-8667. You must mention the code SOUSCI to receive the posted rate of \$129.00 per night. Rooms will be released starting August 1 and cannot be guaranteed after August 15.

**First Aid** - There will be a first aid booth in the pre-function area of the hotel and Amanda Smith will be available throughout the weekend in case of a medical emergency or an injury.

**Insurance** - All eligible participants are covered by insurance during travel to and from the convention and during attendance at the convention. If necessary to file a claim, please contact our treasurer, Diana Palma, by phone at 404-667-6290 or by email at [palmadbmax@gmail.com](mailto:palmadbmax@gmail.com).

**Time Zone** - Marietta, Georgia is located in the Eastern Time Zone. All times listed are local.

# CONVENTION AGENDA

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022**

9:00-3:00	Convention Registration	Auxiliary Desk
1:00-1:30	Cluster Leader Training	Breakout C
	Unit Treasurer Training	Breakout D
1:30-1:40	Voting Member Orientation	JMW Ballroom
1:45-1:55	Convention Orientation	JMW Ballroom
<b>2:00-4:30</b>	<b>PLENARY SESSION 1</b>	<b>JMW BALLROOM</b>
	Formal Opening of Convention	<i>Pr. Dawn Bennett</i>
	Welcome	<i>Kathy Seraphine</i>
	Appointment of Convention Committees	<i>Shirley Connelly</i>
	Report of the Committee on Credentials	<i>Donna Hoglund</i>
	Voting members _____	Participants _____
	Officers _____	CWO Rep _____
	Board _____	Clergy _____
	Voting Strength _____	Guests _____
	<b>Total Attendance</b> _____	
	Adoption of Proposed Rules of Procedures for Convention	<i>Louise Iconis</i>
	Adoption of the Convention Agenda	<i>Louise Iconis</i>
	Presentation of Recommendations from the Board ( <i>page 4</i> )	<i>Louise Iconis</i>
	Introduction of Special Guests	<i>Shirley Connelly</i>
	Introduction of Churchwide Representative	<i>Shirley Connelly</i>
	Report of the Churchwide Representative	<i>Joy Michalicek</i>
	Stretch and Sing	<i>Dana Lee Smith</i>
	Introduction of Mission Areas	<i>Synodical Board</i>
	Introduction of Exhibitors	<i>Diana Palma</i>
	Report of the Nominating Committee	<i>Janice Hawkins</i>
	Prayer for Elections	<i>Pr. Dawn Bennett</i>
	First Ballot for Triennial Voting Member	
	Announcements	<i>Bernice Bland</i>
<b>4:35-5:25</b>	<b>CLUSTER MUSTER</b>	As assigned
<b>5:30-6:30</b>	<b>HAPPY HOUR (<i>Cash bar</i>)</b>	<b>Outside Hamilton's</b>
<b>6:30-7:20</b>	<b>DINNER</b>	<b>Hamilton's</b>
<b>7:30-8:30</b>	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b>	<b>JMW BALLROOM</b>

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022**

7:30-8:15	Centering Prayer with Beverly Pilgrim Morning Walk Water Aerobics with Diana Palma	Breakout B Meet in hotel lobby Hotel Pool										
7:30-9:00	Breakfast ( <i>w/ voucher</i> )	Hamilton's										
8:30-10:30	Convention Registration	Auxiliary Desk										
<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<b>PLENARY SESSION 2</b> Report of the Committee on Credentials <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Voting members _____</td> <td>Participants _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Officers _____</td> <td>CWO Rep _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Board _____</td> <td>Clergy _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Voting Strength _____</td> <td>Guests _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2"><b>Total Attendance _____</b></td> </tr> </table> Report of the Committee on Elections Report of the Nominating Committee Prayer for Elections Second Ballot for Triennial Voting Member First Ballot for Vice President and Secretary	Voting members _____	Participants _____	Officers _____	CWO Rep _____	Board _____	Clergy _____	Voting Strength _____	Guests _____	<b>Total Attendance _____</b>		<b>JMW BALLROOM</b> <i>Donna Hoglund</i>  <i>Elaine Fisher</i> <i>Janice Hawkins</i> <i>Pr. Dawn Bennett</i>
Voting members _____	Participants _____											
Officers _____	CWO Rep _____											
Board _____	Clergy _____											
Voting Strength _____	Guests _____											
<b>Total Attendance _____</b>												
<b>9:15-9:45</b>	<b>BIBLE STUDY</b> with Pastor Dawn Bennett Stretch & Sing Introduction of Exhibitors Gathering of In-Kind Gifts for MUST Ministries Report of the Newsletter Editor Report of Committee on Elections Report of the Nominating Committee Third Ballot for Triennial Voting Member Second Ballot for Vice President and Secretary ( <i>if needed</i> ) Announcements	<b>JMW BALLROOM</b> <i>Dana Lee Smith</i> <i>Gloria Martin</i> <i>Sissy Gifford</i> <i>Kathy Hill</i> <i>Donna Hoglund</i> <i>Janice Hawkins</i>  Bernice Bland										
<b>10:45-11:30</b>	<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>	<i>Pr. Tiffany Chaney</i>										
<b>11:35-12:25</b>	<b>WORKSHOPS - Session 1</b> ( <i>see p. 24-25 for details</i> ) <b>Centering Prayer</b> - Beverly Pilgrim <b>Prayer Bowl</b> - Debbie Ringer <b>Inspiritus</b> - Rev. Jennifer Garcia <b>ELCA Foundation</b> - Rev. Ana Lugo <b>Thrivent</b> - Rodney Hill <b>Table on Delk</b> (and placemat craft) - Annette Rhadans <b>Liturgical Dance</b> - Exuberant Praise Ministry	<b>Breakout B</b> <b>Breakout C</b> <b>Breakout D</b> <b>Breakout E</b> <b>Breakout F</b> <b>Breakout G</b> <b>Breakout H</b>										
<b>12:30-1:30</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	Hamilton's										
<b>1:15-2:00</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b> - Dana Lee Smith	<b>Breakout D</b>										

*(continued on next page)*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022**

*(continued)*

<b>2:00-4:30</b>	<b>PLENARY SESSION 3</b>	<b>JMW BALLROOM</b>
	Report of the Committee on Credentials	<i>Donna Hoglund</i>
	Voting members _____ Participants _____	
	Officers _____ CWO Rep _____	
	Board _____ Clergy _____	
	Voting Strength _____ Guests _____	
	<b>Total Attendance</b> _____	
	Report of Committee on Elections	<i>Elaine Fisher</i>
	Report of the Nominating Committee	<i>Janice Hawkins</i>
	Prayer for Elections	<i>Pr. Dawn Bennett</i>
	Fourth Ballot for Triennial Voting Member	
	First Ballot for Synodical Board	
	Collection of the 2022-2023 Love Offering (CWO)	<i>Joy Michalicek</i>
	Report of the Treasurer	<i>Diana Palma</i>
	Presentation of the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget ( <i>see page 31</i> )	<i>Diana Palma</i>
	Adoption of the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget	
	Presentation of the 2023-2024 Love Offering	<i>Diana Palma</i>
	Collection of the 2022-2023 Love Offering	<i>Joy Michalicek</i>
	Report of the President	<i>Shirley Connelly</i>
	Stretch and Sing	<i>Dana Lee Smith</i>
	Report of the Cluster Liaison	<i>Barb Miller</i>
	Report of the Committee on Reference and Counsel	<i>Tara Spray</i>
	Report of Committee on Elections	<i>Donna Hoglund</i>
	Report of the Nominating Committee ( <i>if needed</i> )	<i>Janice Hawkins</i>
	Fifth Ballot for Triennial Voting Member ( <i>if needed</i> )	
	Second Ballot for Synodical Board ( <i>if needed</i> )	
	Announcements	<i>Bernice Bland</i>
<b>4:35-5:25</b>	<b>WORKSHOPS - Session 2</b> ( <i>see p.24-25 for details</i> )	
	<b>Centering Prayer</b> - <i>Beverly Pilgrim</i>	<b>Breakout B</b>
	<b>Prayer Bowl</b> (includes craft) - <i>Debbie Ringer</i>	<b>Breakout C</b>
	<b>Inspiritus</b> - <i>Rev. Jennifer Garcia</i>	<b>Breakout D</b>
	<b>ELCA Foundation</b> - <i>Rev. Ana Lugo</i>	<b>Breakout E</b>
	<b>Thrivent Financial</b> - <i>Rodney Hill</i>	<b>Breakout F</b>
	<b>Table on Delk</b> (and placemat craft) - <i>Annette Rhadans</i>	<b>Breakout G</b>
	<b>Liturgical Dance</b> - <i>Exuberant Praise Ministry</i>	<b>Breakout H</b>
5:30-6:00	<b>Choir practice</b> - <i>Dana Lee Smith</i>	<b>JMW BALLROOM</b>
6:00-7:00	<b>HAPPY HOUR</b>	Pre-function Area
<b>7:00-10:00</b>	<b>BANQUET - Together at the Table</b>	<b>JMW BALLROOM</b>



# **PROPOSED RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE CONVENTION**

## **1. VOTING MEMBERS**

The voting members to be seated at the convention shall include one woman elected by each unit of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA and the elected officers and board members of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA.

## **2. SEATING OF THE VOTING MEMBERS**

Voting members must show their credentials (nametags) to the Committee on Credentials before being seated in the section that is reserved for them. The roll of voting members may not be changed after September 1, 2022.

## **3. ATTENDANCE**

Voting members shall not absent themselves from any session of the convention without valid excuse. After registering on-site, the voting member can be replaced by the alternate voting member only in the event of an emergency.

## **4. QUORUM**

A majority of the voting members registered with the Committee on Credentials shall constitute a quorum.

## **5. VOTING PROCEDURE**

To be eligible to vote, a voting member must be seated in the designated section. No proxy or absentee voting is permitted.

## **6. NOMINATIONS**

Nominations from the floor for vice president, secretary and board member may be made by filing a completed, prescribed form with the secretary prior to the nomination. The forms and information may be obtained from the secretary or chair of the nominating committee. Floor nominations must be signed by two voting members. The person nominated shall have given her consent and indicated her willingness to serve if elected and biographical information and a photo must be made available to all voting members.

## **7. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

The President shall announce the appointment of participants to the following committees:

- Committee on Claims
- Committee on Credentials
- Committee on Nominations
- Committee on Elections
- Committee on Reference and Counsel

## **8. CONVENTION BUSINESS AGENDA**

The presiding chair of the convention shall be granted the privilege of adjusting the agenda and calling up any items of business she deems necessary in light of schedule and time constraints.

## **9. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Any voting member may make a motion or present a resolution from the floor if the motion or resolution is germane to the question under consideration. If any voting member desires to add any item of new business (i.e. a motion or resolution of a general character and not germane to a pending question) she shall:

- A) Write a motion or resolution on the appropriate form;
- B) Provide the signatures of five (5) voting members; and
- C) Submit the form to the Committee on Reference and Counsel no later than 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2022.

Any motion necessitating allocation of funds shall be referred to the Executive Committee of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA. The board shall report on such proposed amendments at a subsequent meeting of the Convention, but shall not be required to do so until twenty-four (24) hours have elapsed following the proposal.

The Committee on Reference and Counsel shall report to the convention with its recommendation for handling such new business, which may include a recommendation that the matter not be considered.

## **10. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Seat and voice shall be granted to the bishop of the Southeastern Synod, or the bishop's representative; and to the president of the Churchwide Organization (CWO) or her representative; and others to whom the president of the board shall accord this privilege.

Upon request by a voting member and with the approval of a majority of voting members, a resource person may speak on a pending question. Upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference and Counsel, the convention may seat advisory members who shall have voice but not vote. Visitors are welcome at the convention but are not accorded the privilege of the floor.

## **11. SPEECHES**

All speeches in general discussion, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds vote of the convention's voting members shall be limited to two (2) minutes. Total debate on any motion will be limited to twelve (12) minutes. Speakers must use the microphone and identify themselves by name, congregational unit, city, and state to be recognized by the chair. Speakers will proceed to the microphone with green cards if speaking in favor of the motion or red cards if speaking against the motion on the floor. The chair shall accept speeches one at a time, alternating those speaking for and against the question. No person shall speak more than twice on the same issue without the consent of the assembly and only after all others have spoken.

## **12. DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS**

After the convention is in session, permission to distribute materials not issued from the Executive Committee of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA must be secured from the Committee on Reference and Counsel.

## **13. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

The wearing of promotional buttons or slogans, the distribution of materials or the carrying of placards to promote one candidate over another is not permitted at the convention.

## **14. GOVERNING LAW**

Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing law of this convention, except as otherwise provided in the standing Rules of Procedure for the Convention, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Women of the ELCA, or the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA.

## HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION

***Resolutions must be submitted to the Reference and Counsel Committee before 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2022. Tara Spray is the chair of the committee and Tara Spray is the Board Resource.***

To state the reasons for a resolution, “Whereas” should be kept to a minimum so as not to encumber the resolution in a negative way for persons who may not agree with the writer’s reasoning, but may agree with the resolution.

*The form follows:*

Whereas: \_\_\_\_\_ (use only as many as absolutely necessary.)

Resolved, that \_\_\_\_\_ (as many as necessary to state the action of the resolution.)

*(See Rules of Procedure, Section 9, Motions and Resolutions on page 15 for additional information.)*

## REPORTING THE CONVENTION TO YOUR UNIT

### A. Setting the Presentation of this Report

1. Arrange a display of convention material on a table: Bulletin of Reports, special bulletins, programming, etc.
2. If a display board or PowerPoint is available, write titles or names of speakers, elected officers, etc. on it in advance. The presenter can then point to the information as she makes the presentation, making it easier for the audience to grasp names and titles.

### B. Presentation of Report

1. General information: Make a statement concerning date, place, setting of convention, Keynote Speaker, and Churchwide Representative.
2. Plenary sessions: Tell briefly about constitutional changes, if any. Refer to printed matter and constitution on display.
3. Election results: Announce the newly elected officers and members of the board.
4. Resolutions adopted should be reported and significant ones read.
5. Inspirational messages: Point out the speakers and share a few statements concerning one or two of the messages that you found meaningful.
6. Special features: Mention all or several of them at least, but describe only two or three of them. It may become tiresome to describe each one. Include special music, opening of convention, installation service, and worship opportunities. Include the workshops you attended.
7. Before you finish, while the members of your unit are hyped up about the convention you attended, be sure to mention the date and location of the convention for the coming year.
8. Conclusion: Close with a prayer for the leadership and for the participants of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA.



## CONVENTION COMMITTEES



<b>Claims</b>	Board Resource - <i>Diana Palma</i> Chair - <i>Margery Kellar</i>
<b>Credentials</b>	Board Resource - <i>Gloria Martin</i> Chair - <i>Donna Hoglund</i>
<b>Elections</b>	Board Resource - <i>Bernice Bland</i> Chair - <i>Elaine Fisher</i>
<b>Reference and Counsel</b>	Board Resource - <i>Sissy Gifford</i> Chair - <i>Tara Spray</i>
<b>Nominations</b>	Board Resource - <i>Shirley Connelly</i> Chair - <i>Janice Hawkins</i>
<b>Convention Planning</b>	Host Cluster - <i>Cluster 2</i> Convention Chair - <i>Kathy Seraphine</i> Banquet Coordinators - <i>Kathy Hill and Debbie Lundell</i> Hospitality - <i>Mary Lou Fish and Pat Nordin</i> Volunteer Coordinator - <i>Annelle Colevins</i>
<b>Other</b>	Audio-Visual Administrator - <i>Linda Few</i> Music Director - <i>Dana Lee Smith</i> Registrar - <i>Barbara Schwanebeck</i>

## EXHIBITORS

<b>ELCA Foundation</b>	Rev. Ana Lugo
<b>Lutheran Disaster Relief</b>	Rev. Morgan Gordy
<b>Inspiritus</b>	Rev. Jennifer Garcia
<b>Lutheran World Relief</b>	Janice Hawkins
<b>Novus Way</b>	Clare Marie Hannon
<b>Thrivent</b>	Rodney Hill
<b>Triennial Gathering</b>	Margery Kellar

## NOMINEES

*Nominees are asked to list their experience in the following areas over the last five years according to the numerical scheme below.*

1. Experience and service at the congregational level
2. Experience and service at the cluster or conference level
3. Experience and service at the synodical level
4. Experience and service to the regional or churchwide organization
5. Experience and service in other organizations and/or community service
6. Present occupation or job before retirement
7. Age group (35 and under, 36-49, 50-64, 65 or over); ethnic/racial heritage; congregation; cluster number
8. Reason for allowing name to be placed in nomination.

*Nominations to be placed for vice president, secretary and three board members, each to serve a two year term are listed below.*

### NOMINEE FOR VICE PRESIDENT

#### ELIZABETH (BETH) DRANE

1. Council member; Chair of Worship Planning Team; Worship Assistant; Choir and Bell Choir Member; Vice President of WELCA; President of WELCA.
2. Cluster 6 Recorder .
3. Vice President 2019-2022; Board Member 2017-2019; Voting Member to three synodical conventions; first-time Voting Member to the 2021 Triennial Convention via Zoom.
5. Community Food Collection volunteer/liaison from St. Paul Lutheran Church; Days for Girls; Family Promise.
6. Retired; Part-time work during tax season.
7. 65 or over; Caucasian; St. Paul, Maryville, TN; Cluster 6/Agape.
8. What a wonderful experience it has been to serve on our synodical board and I hope to continue the journey. I have had the opportunity to work with some amazing ladies and I have so much more to learn.



### NOMINEE FOR SECRETARY

#### KAT JULIUS

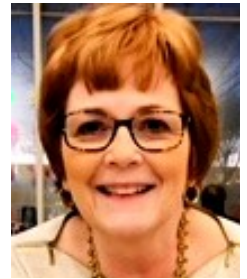
1. Vice President Congregational Unit; Worship Committee; Outreach Committee; and Stewardship Committee.
3. Current board Member; Action Committee; Cluster 1 Liaison.
5. Volunteer at Wiregrass Food Bank; Mama Tina's Soup Kitchen; Support Local 211; House of Ruth.
6. Office Manager of a small practice; Adjunct professor online for Baptist College of Florida.
7. 65 or over; Caucasian; Triumphant Cross, Dothan, Alabama; Cluster 9/Gulf Coast.
8. Being a Lutheran woman has always been important to me and has guided my decisions and actions. Moving to Dothan, Alabama was an unusual move, apparently inspired by my angel, as becoming a member of Triumphant Cross gave me both new direction and an amazing Christian family. I sincerely feel that I can better serve this family and WELCA members by accepting this nomination for Board Secretary.



## NOMINEES FOR BOARD MEMBER

### MELODEE DAVIS

1. WELCA Board Secretary 2017-2019, 2019-2021; Growth Chair 2021-2023; JUST Club Co-Chair 2018, 2022.
2. Member of Cluster 4/Magi.
3. Attended the 2017 Convention.
6. Retired Psychometrician.
7. 65 or over; Caucasian; Trinity, Lilburn, Georgia; Cluster 4/Magi.
8. Since 2016, after my husband died and I retired, I have become actively involved in WELCA and other church activities. I'm a person who once I commit to something, I follow through. I believe I have learned enough about WELCA from serving on the board at Trinity and think that now I'm ready to serve at the synod level.



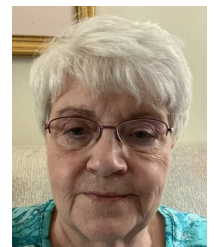
### ALICE SCHUNEMANN

1. Choir and Altar Guild.
2. Cluster Coordinator for Magi/Cluster 4.
5. Ran a homeless shelter for many years.
6. Retired; Legal Assistant.
7. NA; Caucasian; Community of Grace, Grayson, GA; Cluster 4/Magi.
8. I was very active in all aspects of church life over the past years, but had to let things slide as I cared for my ailing mother. I have now moved back to the SE Synod area and wish to resume active participation.



### PHYLLIS WADE

1. CU President; Serving as Bible Study Leader for one of our circles was my most rewarding experience. I love getting the ladies to serve their thoughts and experiences.
2. President, Vice President and Secretary (Florida-Bahamas Synod).
3. President, Treasurer and Board Member; Convention Co-Chair (Florida-Bahamas Synod).
4. Voting Member to Triennial several times and served on the Minutes Committee once.
5. As Church Secretary I worked with various support groups scheduling meetings in the church facility and providing assistance as needed.
6. Semi-retired; Part-time bookkeeper.
7. 65 or over; Caucasian; Ascension, Chattanooga, TN; Cluster 6/Agape.
8. We live in a world with many challenges and activities that take our focus away from our relationship with God and each other. I believe that around our WELCA tables, whether we're doing a Bible study, making quilts, or deciding how we can best help a local outreach organization, that we are at our best! At some point, we begin to share our joys and our concerns, and we find support, encouragement and understanding. That is something that many of us need - a place at the table with our sisters!



**NOMINEES FOR TRIENNIAL VOTING MEMBER**  
**September 19-21, 2023**  
**Phoenix, Arizona**

*Nominations to be placed for four voting members to serve at the 2023 Triennial Convention are listed below.*

**PATTI AUSTIN**

1. Congregational Care Committee Chair.
2. Attend Cluster meetings.
3. Synodical president.
4. Churchwide Board member 2011-2014; Churchwide President 2014-2017.
5. Fundraising for local food bank; former tutor for 3rd graders.
6. Retired.
7. 65 or over; Caucasian; Redeemer, Atlanta Georgia; Cluster 3/Trinity.
8. I have served our synodical organization at the congregational, cluster and synodical levels. I also served as a board member of the Churchwide organization from 2011-2014 and President from 2014-2017. I feel this gives me an outlook for voting on things brought before the voting members of the Triennial Convention.



**BERNICE BLAND**

1. Choir Member; Thespian; Lector; Music and Worship Committee; Disaster Preparedness Coordinator; Youth Group Leader.
2. Member at Large for the Magi Cluster.
3. Co-Chair and Volunteer for the 2016 convention; Voting Member for Congregational Unit; Volunteer in Synod Office since 2013; Member of Synod Assembly Worship Team; Three terms as Synod Assembly Committee Chair and Volunteer Coordinator; Assisted with the MLK Commemorative Service.
4. ELCA Disaster Ministry Team; Volunteer Corps for the ELCA Youth Gathering; Facilitator for the 2015 Association of Lutheran Musicians (ALCM) National Conference in Atlanta.
6. Retired from the Department of the Army in 2011 after 37 years of service.
7. 65 or over; African American; Living Grace, Tucker, Georgia; Cluster 4/Magi.
8. I am allowing my name to be placed in nomination because I would love to represent the Southeastern Synod as a voting member.



## JANICE HAWKINS

1. Served as Congregational Unit President, Secretary, Circle leader and Communications Chair.
2. Participant and speaker for Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Ministry.
3. Synodical Board Member serving two terms; Board Liaison to Cluster 4; Lutheran World Relief Key Leader for 9 years; 2022 Nominations Chair.
4. Triennial Voting Member in 2017 and 2021 (Zoom); Attended Triennial Gatherings in 2014 and 2017.
5. Regular donations to varying community organizations (Lilburn Co-op and American Kidney Services).
6. Retired Hospital Pharmacist; Forever Senior Ambassador.
7. 65 or over; Caucasian; Trinity, Lilburn, Georgia; Cluster 4/Magi.
8. I enjoyed serving as a Triennial Voting Member for the 2017 convention in Minneapolis. I like to see how WELCA operates on the Churchwide level. Having that many women gathered in one place is inspirational. I hope to also stay for the Gathering.



## LOUISE ICONIS

1. Congregational Unit President; Chair of Christmas Market.
2. Past Cluster Coordinator; Presently Cluster 3 Recorder.
3. Past Synodical President; Presently Board Secretary; Growth Committee.
4. Triennial Voting Member in 2017 (president); Served as Chair of the Conference of Presidents Planning Committee in 2016.
5. Neighborhood Newsletter Editor.
6. Retired Dental Hygienist.
7. 65 or over; Caucasian; Member St. John's in Atlanta, GA; Associate Member St. Mark in East Point, GA.
8. I have been active in all levels of our organization for over 40 years but I have only served as a Triennial Voting Member once (2017) when I was president of SES WELCA. I would love to represent our synodical organization at the 2023 Triennial Convention in Phoenix.



## WHO'S WHO AT CONVENTION

### **JOY MICHALICEK - *Churchwide President 2020-2023 Triennium***

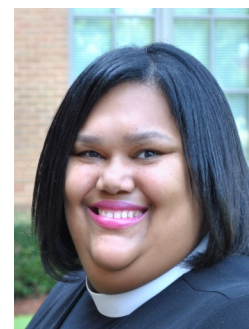
Joy Michalicek was elected as churchwide president of Women of the ELCA in August 2021. Before being elected as president, she previously served on the churchwide executive board from 2017-2021, serving on the executive committee and the programs and communications committee. She has also served as a triennial gathering promoter for the Tenth Triennial Gathering (2017). Previously, she served one term as the synodical women's organization (SWO) president for Northeastern Minnesota (3E) and two terms as a SWO board member. Joy served two years as a synodical scholarship advisor working with younger women. "This gave me a passion for getting younger women involved in Women of the ELCA," she said.



Joy is a member of Kenwood Lutheran Church in Duluth, Minn. and has served on the church council and as church president. She is a regular online attender of St. John's Lutheran in Elkton, Minnesota. She works at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, as a project coordinator for the facilities management department. She and her husband, Kevin, have two sons, two large lazy dogs and an independent cat. Joy likes to walk trails, sing, play handbells, swim, walk along Lake Superior, bargain shop, and watch murder mysteries.

### **THE REV. TIFFANY CHANEY - *Keynote Speaker***

Pastor Tiffany Chaney is an ordained minister in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She lives in Montgomery, Alabama, where she serves as Pastor Developer for Gathered by Grace, a mission community with intentional outreach among young adults ages 18 to 40ish, and as Chief Diversity Officer for Baptist Health, a three-hospital health system.



Pastor Tiffany is also active in the wider church, serving on the national African Descent Strategy Team and as Communications Chairperson for the national African Descent Lutheran Association, of which she is a Lifetime Member. Within the Southeastern Synod, Tiffany serves as Chairperson for Umoyo, the synod's vitality initiative for congregations of African descent.

A native of Mobile, Alabama, Tiffany is a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she received the Bachelor of Science in finance, the Master of Business Administration, and the Master of Science in Health Administration degrees, and a graduate of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, where she received the Master of Divinity degree. Tiffany has a Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University and a Certificate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace from University of South Florida. She is a graduate of Leadership Montgomery's Class XXXVIII and is currently participating in Princeton Theological Seminary's Iron Sharpening Iron Executive Leadership Program for women clergy. She is also a certified coach, trained to work with individuals, congregations, and organizations to achieve goals.

Tiffany has been invited to preach, teach, and write about a variety of topics including cultural sensitivity, racial justice, equity, strategic planning, evangelism, post-modern ministry, economic justice, asset mapping, young adult ministry, communications, funding mission, and shifting culture. Committed to serving the community, Tiffany is a member of Faith in Action Alabama and Interfaith Montgomery. She serves as a board member for the Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama and Inspiritus.

### **THE REV. PATTI AXEL - *Assistant to the Bishop of the Southeastern Synod***

Pastor Patti Axel is an Assistant to Bishop Kevin Strickland and serves as one of two Directors of Evangelical Mission for the Southeastern Synod. Pastor Patti served as a Neonatal Nurse for 26 years at Children's Hospital of Atlanta at Egleston. She was ordained in 2008 and continued as the Pastor-Mission Developer at Nativity Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, GA.



Pastor Patti is the Evangelism nerd for the Synod and is passionate about everything associated with Congregational vitality!! She is happily married to Jeff Axel and they have two wonderful, adult children, three adorable grandchildren and numerous grand pets! When she has free time, she loves gardening and reading and walking in the woods.

### **THE REV. DAWN BENNETT - *Chaplain***

Rev. Dawn Bennett is the Pastor Developer at The Table in Nashville, TN. The Table centers the voices of LGBTQIA+ people as well as those impacted by poverty and incarceration. Pastor Dawn serves on the Diversity & Justice Task Force, Mental Health Task Force and is an Adult Advisor for SESLYO. She is passionate about making the world a more kind and gentle place for people on the fringes of community; she often does this work through advocacy and education pathways.

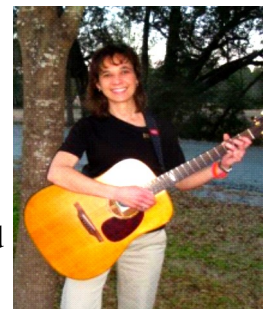


Dawn holds a MDiv, Vanderbilt Divinity School; Certificate in Religion, Gender & Sexuality, VDS; BS Psychology, Liberty University. She works in the area of restorative justice and pastoral care. While her primary work lies at the intersection of faith and LGBTQ+ family advocacy, she considers herself to be a bridge builder: journeying with all people as they navigate turbulent areas of conflict and faith relationships.

Pastor Dawn is the author of *Loving Pearl: A Mother's Call to Unconditional Love*. She calls herself an introvert so when the weather permits, you'll likely find her reconnecting through hiking or gardening. Ministry aside, her favorite role is Mom to her three grown and Gigi to her three grands. She lives in Nashville with her three fish, Moe, Larry and Curly, although she's still unsure who is whom.

### **DANA LEE SMITH - *Music Director***

Dana is a Georgia state licensed and board certified music therapist. She earned a Bachelor's in Music Therapy from Georgia College and State University in 1997. Since 1999, she has been serving clients through her own private practice. Dana provides music therapy services in a variety of individual and group settings.



Dana is a life-long member of Zion in Guyton, Georgia where she was baptized, confirmed and married. Dana and her husband Dana (*no, it's not a typo*) are now raising their own son, Evan, at Zion. She currently serves on church council, directs the adult and children's choirs, serves on the worship and music committee, serves as pianist and guitarist and leads a Cafe' group. Dana and her family are also involved in the Cub Scout program that is sponsored by Zion.

## WORKSHOP SYNOPSES

### CENTERING PRAYER

*Beverly Pilgrim*

What is centering prayer? Centering prayer is a form of Christian meditation. It involves choosing a sacred word as the symbol of your intention to consent to God's presence and action within. Centering prayer usually includes sitting comfortably and, with eyes closed, settling briefly and silently, introducing the sacred word. When centering prayer becomes aware of thoughts, he/she is to return ever so gently to the sacred word. The centering prayer is followed by a period of opening one's mind, heart, and soul to the influence of God.



Jesus teaches us through the Lord's Prayer, or the Model Prayer, a new pattern – start with God first. Focus on your Heavenly Father, and this will change how you pray. When we begin to see reality from God's point of view vs. our own, this changes everything. As we learn to pray like Jesus teaches, our lives are forever changed. There is a joy, peace, purpose, and love that flows when we have the right pattern in prayer. "Lord, teach us to pray..."

*11:35am to 12:25pm and 4:35pm to 5:25pm*

**Breakout B**

### PRAYER BOWLS - Finding your way to the presence of God

*Debbie Ringer*

Prayer ... finding that quiet, intentional time each day to spend time with God, to hand over all of your concerns, ask for healing for someone in need or to give someone the strength to carry on. I was searching for a gift one day and stumbled across a pretty item on the internet – a *prayer bowl*. It is simple ceramic bowl with a Bible verse printed on the rim and some note cards that you could drop in the bowl as a reminder to pray for someone in need of God's hand. It could sit somewhere prominent and be a reminder to take time for prayer.



The members of the synodical board made prayer bowls at our last meeting, for collecting our prayers in the chapel during the convention and we thought it would make a great workshop for those attending. Debbie Ringer has offered to lead this activity and we will offer two sessions. Blessings, Shirley.

*There will be a \$5.00 fee for materials.*

*Limit of 24 participants per session. You must sign up at registration to participate.*

*11:35am to 12:25pm and 4:35pm to 5:25pm*

**Breakout C**

### INSPIRITUS

*Rev. Jennifer Garcia*

Would you like to learn more about Inspiritus? Formerly Lutheran Services of Georgia and Lutheran Services in Tennessee, Inspiritus guides individuals and families on a path from surviving to thriving. We empower those whose lives have been disrupted to discover their strengths and resilience, accompanying them as they grow into vibrant contributors to their community. Come learn about the many different ways that Inspiritus works to empower women, the incredible contributions they make in their communities and how you and your congregation can accompany women on the path from surviving to thriving!



*11:35am to 12:25pm and 4:35pm to 5:25pm*

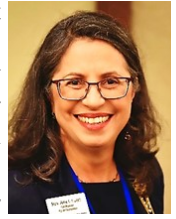
**Breakout D**



## ELCA FOUNDATION

*Rev. Ana Lugo*

We love our church and love WELCA! We have served in a variety of ways. We are proud of what WELCA does for members and community. We support ministry thru our regular and special gifts. We are confident leaders will “rise up” from members to pick up the mantle. But we are not sure if, financially speaking, our church and WELCA will make it. What if we could continue to support ministry with our offerings and gifts once we are in heaven and all our expenses are paid? This workshop will provide you with information about the ways in which your legacy may sustain your congregation, other ministries, organizations, and services well beyond our time here on God’s Earth. The mission of the ELCA Foundation is to strengthen, support, and sustain the three expressions of the ELCA.



***11:35am to 12:25pm and 4:35pm to 5:25pm***

**Breakout E**

## THRIVENT FINANCIAL

*Rodney Hill*

At Thrivent, we believe money is a tool, not a goal. Driven by a higher purpose at our core, we are committed to providing financial advice, investments, insurance, banking and generosity programs to help you make the most of all you’ve been given. At our heart, we are a membership-owned fraternal organization, as well as a holistic financial services organization, dedicated to serving your unique needs. We focus on your goals and priorities, guiding you towards financial choices that will help you live the life you want today and tomorrow. Apply real world lessons with Thrivent’s Women, Wealth & Wisdom workshop. Learn to apply real-world lessons about managing finances and reaching financial goals. Attend this workshop to hear stories about six women who have figured out a few things about their finances and enriched their lives in ways beyond what’s in their bank accounts.



***11:35am to 12:25pm and 4:35pm to 5:25pm***

**Breakout F**

## THE TABLE ON DELK MINISTRY

*Annette Rhadans*

*The Table on Delk* provides a safe place for those who are currently, or at risk of, being sexually exploited to have a meal and get connected to resources that can help them. Volunteers prepare food and show their guests God’s love. They believe that *The Table on Delk* can play a role in ending sexual exploitation in the Atlanta area. The women of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Marietta, Georgia support this ministry by making placemats with the colorful pages of calendars or the pretty fronts of greeting cards, then write a personal message on them, like “God loves you”. The women use these placemats during their meal and keep them to remind them that others care. Participants will learn more about *The Table on Delk* and have a chance to make placemats for the women of this ministry.



***Limit of 24 participants per session. You must sign up at registration to participate.***

***11:35am to 12:25pm and 4:35pm to 5:25pm***

**Breakout G**

## LITURGICAL DANCE

The Exuberant Praise Dance Ministry from The Atonement Lutheran Church in Atlanta has been dancing together for over 20 years. Our members are Angela Johnson, a Community Health Worker, Melencia Robinson, a 2nd grade teacher, Imani Robinson, a Physical Therapy Aide, and Harolyn Light, a Quality Control Analyst. The workshop will begin with low impact movements to spiritual music. An explanation of Praise Dance and our lyrical dance style and attire will be shared. Then we will transition to various props that can spiritually become an extension of our bodies in the sanctuary or other worship space.



**Psalm 150:4 Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!**

*Harolyn Light*

***Limited to 20 participants per session. You must sign up at registration to participate.***

***11:35am to 12:25pm and 4:35pm to 5:25pm***

**Breakout H**

## ORDER OF RECOGNITION FOR LEADERS

*The following order of recognition may be used for outgoing officers or board members and installing new officers or board members of the Women of the ELCA.*

Today we recognize women who have offered themselves for service to God through the ministry of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

*The leader announces the names of those officers and board members who are completing their service and invites them to come forward.*

We recognize and appreciate your leadership in the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA. We offer to you our gratitude for the wisdom and compassion that you have given so generously. We thank God for all that you have done and will continue to do in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Those whose current service is ended return to their seats.*

*The leader announces the names of those to be installed and invites them to come forward.*

In Holy Baptism we are called to a life of faithful service and witness. You have been asked to serve as a leader in the Women of the ELCA.

Will you give yourself joyfully to this responsibility, offering praise and thanksgiving to God? If so, please answer - I will, with God's help.

**I will, with God's help.**

You have been given many gifts to build up the body of Christ. Will you be open to receive the witness of others and walk with them in a journey of faith? If so, please answer - I will, with God's help.

**I will, with God's help.**

May God who has chosen you for this task graciously dwell in you and give you the strength and compassion to fulfill it.

*The leader then addresses the congregation or group that is gathered.*

Will you, as people of God, encourage these leaders by remembering them in prayer and accepting them as partners in the gospel? If so, please answer - We will, with God's help.

**We will, with God's help.**

These leaders are now commended to you. May God grant them grace and strength for their tasks.

*Those who are installed return to their seats.*

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT



It has truly been an honor to serve you as President and represent you throughout the Synod. I have had a lot to learn this first year of my term and have been so blessed to have a very strong board to support me, guide me and help me along the way. And of course, I know that I have had your prayers to give me the courage and the strength to keep me true. Thank you.

It has been a delicate balance with the pandemic coming to a place that has finally allowed us to return to gathering for worship and community and we have been careful and taken care of ourselves and our families, getting our vaccines and boosters and wearing masks when needed. Bless you.

Seeing your commitment to returning for a gathering I was so excited that we could gather together around the table, tasting grace at our first face-to-face convention in two years. Your commitment to our WELCA community fills my heart with joy!

Despite the tough year we continue to serve our local communities with projects such as Backpack Buddies and our work for global missions like Lutheran World Relief. I know that many of you continued to make quilts and assemble many different care kits during the pandemic and we were still able to fill trucks with many boxes of items to help those in even greater need.

I attended Synod Assembly in June and shared with those present a report of the projects we completed during the past year and had an exhibit table promoting WELCA and our 2022 convention. I was happy to meet many of our Women of the ELCA who were representing their churches as voting members while there.

I have been so glad that we are entering a time when we are able to come together again, including in our cluster meetings this past spring. I was delighted to attend the Gulf Coast Cluster meeting in Biloxi in April - it was a joy to see so many smiling faces rejoicing in being back in fellowship together. We even had an enlightening physical therapy class emphasizing the importance of lifelong movement and balance. I loved it! I met so many kind and welcoming souls that I'm hopeful to be back in community for next year's cluster meeting - as well as the other clusters! My goal for next spring is to be able to attend all the cluster meetings in 2023. I hope to see each of you there!

Once again, I am so looking forward to being back in community with you all and to being able to share stories, laugh heartily, and see Christ in each of you.

May peace and safety be with you until we are together.

Blessings,

Shirley Connelly

## REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT



I was elected Vice President of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA at the 2019 convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. In 2019 I was also elected to represent our synod at the Triennial Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

Who could have known that in just a few months the world as we know it would change? The pandemic changed everyone's world. Most of us had never heard of Zoom or how to do virtual meetings. In 2020 WELCA cancelled the convention and we all felt sure we would meet again in person in 2021. Well, that didn't happen so we met virtually on Zoom.

I was so excited to represent our synodical organization at the Triennial Convention in July 2021 and couldn't wait to experience all of the wonderful events that were scheduled. Unfortunately, that didn't happen either and we met virtually on Zoom.

One of the things I noticed was how efficiently and how organized these meetings were carried out. Our board and members adapted and learned new ways of getting the work of the synod done. Now in 2022 we will meet in person in Marietta, GA. and I am looking forward to seeing all of you there.

I wish to thank our past president Patti Austin for her leadership during a very difficult time in her life and our present president Shirley Connelly for her continued support and leadership as we attempt to get back to "normal" (whatever that is).

I look forward to the future and seeing what new adventures and experiences are ahead for all of us. I know that the Lord is standing with us and will guide us for whatever comes, and I know that the Women of the ELCA will stand strong and faithful.

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Beth Drane

Vice President

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY



Welcome to the 34th Annual Convention of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA!

I was asked to fill the unexpired term of secretary when Shirley Connelly was elected president last September. Those of you that have served on the synodical board with me in the past have probably heard me say many times that I could never do the job of secretary because I cannot listen as well as I can talk, but here I am doing whatever I can for our organization.

Some of my duties as secretary included:

- Attending all quarterly board meetings (including the 2021 Post Convention meeting), taking and transcribing the minutes, making corrections/edits, and distributing the minutes to all of the board members.
- Working with the president and board members to complete the 2022 Annual Resource Guide for and distributing it to the board members and cluster leaders.
- Compiling the Bulletin of Reports for the 2022 convention.
- Serving as Board Representative for Cluster 5 - Mission which did not meet together.
- Responding to email requests and other correspondence as required.

I also found out that serving as the synodical secretary was not as bad as I had feared with the help of the Zoom recordings from the 2021 convention and all of our board meetings. I have been blessed to serve this past year with all the ladies on our board and I appreciate their patience and support.

In One Spirit,

Louise Iconis

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

		Budget	Actual
<b>INCOME</b>	Cluster Offering	\$2,700.00	\$697.24
As of 6/30/22	Cluster Registration	\$1,000.00	\$472.00
	Congregational Offering	\$7,500.00	\$1,235.65
	Convention Misc Income	\$100.00	\$0.00
	Convention Offering	\$3,000.00	\$805.00
	Convention Registration	\$25,000.00	\$8,068.61
	Katie's Table	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
	Love Offering	\$5,200.00	\$527.05
	Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$0.00	\$450.00
	Lutheran World Relief	\$0.00	\$265.00
	Board Offering	\$200.00	\$0.00
	Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Pass Through	\$0.00	\$0.00
	LWR Shipping	\$0.00	\$960.00
	Convention Scholarships	\$200.00	\$100.00
	Synod Assembly	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Thank Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Triennial Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Lutherdidge/Lutheranch	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Weaver Subscriptions	\$30.00	\$0.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$46,730.00</b>	<b>\$13,680.55</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	Audit	\$750.00	\$0.00
As of 6/30/22	Annual Resource Guide	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Bank Fees	\$100.00	\$0.00
	Board Expenses	\$4,100.00	\$1,678.83
	Churchwide Offering	\$6,600.00	\$0.00
	Convention Scholarships	\$1,100.00	\$0.00
	Action Committee Expenses	\$50.00	\$0.00
	Community Committee Expenses	\$50.00	\$0.00
	Growth Committee	\$50.00	\$0.00
	Convention Expenses	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
	Katie's Table	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
	Leadership Training	\$100.00	\$0.00
	Love Offering	\$5,200.00	\$0.00
	Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Lutheran World Relief	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Miscellaneous	\$200.00	\$144.00
	Synod Assembly Expenses	\$450.00	\$0.00
	Region 9 Archives	\$50.00	\$0.00
	Pass Through	\$0.00	\$4,894.93
	LWR Shipping	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Thankoffering	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Triennial Voting Member Reserve	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
	Triennial Scholarships	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Triennial Offering - per year/pd once	\$100.00	\$0.00
	Weaver Expenses	\$30.00	\$0.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$46,730.00</b>	<b>\$6,717.76</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Available Funds</b>		<b>\$28,811.45</b>

## PROPOSED BUDGET

February 1, 2023 - January 31, 2024		
<b>INCOME:</b>		
	Cluster Offering	\$ 2,000.00
	Cluster Registration	\$ 750.00
	Congregational Offering	\$ 7,500.00
	Convention Misc Income	\$ 100.00
	Convention Offering	\$ 3,000.00
	Convention Registration	\$ 29,100.00
	Katie's Table	\$ 200.00
	Love Offering	\$ 3,000.00
	Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$ 200.00
	Lutheran World Relief	\$ 100.00
	Board Offering	\$ 200.00
	Miscellaneous	\$ -
	Pass Through	\$ -
	LWR Shipping	\$ -
	Convention Scholarships	\$ 1,000.00
	Synod Assembly	\$ -
	Thank Offering	\$ 100.00
	Triennial Offering	\$ 100.00
	Lutherdidge/Lutheranch	\$ -
	Weaver Subscriptions	\$ 30.00
	Memorial Scholarships	\$ -
	In Memorium	\$ -
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 47,380.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
	Audit	\$ 750.00
	Annual Resource Guide	\$ -
	Bank Fees	\$ 100.00
	Board Expenses	\$ 4,350.00
	Churchwide Offering	\$ 2,500.00
	Convention Scholarships	\$ 1,000.00
	Committee Expense	
	- Action	\$ -
	- Community	\$ -
	- Growth	\$ -
	Convention Expenses	\$ 34,100.00
	Katie's Table	\$ 200.00
	Leadership Training	\$ -
	Love Offering	\$ 2,500.00
	Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$ 200.00
	Lutheran World Relief	\$ 100.00
	Miscellaneous	\$ 200.00
	Synod Assembly Expenses	\$ -
	Region 9 Archives	\$ 50.00
	Pass Through	\$ -
	LWR Shipping	\$ -
	Thankoffering	\$ -
	Days for Girls	\$ -
	Global Mission	\$ -
	Triennial Voting Member Reserve	\$ 1,000.00
	Triennial Scholarships	\$ 200.00
	Triennial Offering - per year/pd once	\$ 100.00
	Weaver Expenses	\$ 30.00
	Memorial Scholarships	
	In Memorium	
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 47,380.00</b>

## GIVING BY CONGREGATION

Unit #	Congregation Name	City	State	Regular Offering	Love Offering	Other	LWR Shipping	Misc	Totals
5794	Shades Valley	Birmingham	AL						
5793	Faith	Clay	AL						
5796	Christ	Cullman	AL						
5816	St Mark's	Huntsville	AL	\$75.00	\$28.00	\$100.00			\$203.00
5804	St Paul's	Mobile	AL	\$105.00					\$105.00
	Messiah	Madison	AL						
	Triumphant Cross	Dothan	AL			\$250.00			\$250.00
30446	Holy Trinity	Daphne	AL						
5772	St. John	Atlanta	GA						
7774	Christ	Oakwood	GA	\$90.00					\$ 90.00
7480	Christ Our Hope	Riverdale	GA						
30025	Christ The King	Cumming	GA						
5769	Emmanuel	Atlanta	GA						
7554	Grace	Carrollton	GA						
5784	Holy Trinity	Marietta	GA		\$10.00				\$10.00
5754	Jerusalem	Rincon	GA						
5773	Living Grace	Tucker	GA						
30067	Lord of Life	Alpharetta	GA						
30747	Nativity	Bethlehem	GA						
5756	Ascension	Savannah	GA						
20039	Atonement	Atlanta	GA		\$200.00				\$200.00
5753	Zion	Guyton	GA						
5771	Redeemer	Atlanta	GA						
5748	Resurrection	Augusta	GA						
	All Saints	Lilburn	GA						
10518	Rock Of Ages	Stone Mtn.	GA						
5749	St James	Brunswick	GA	\$35.40					\$35.40
5755	St. John's	Rincon	GA						
7670	St. Mark's	East Point	GA						



## GIVING BY CONGREGATION

Unit #	Congregation Name	City	State	Regular Offering	Love Offering	Other	LWR Shipping	Misc	Totals
5777	St. Paul	Decatur	GA						
5760	St Paul's	Savannah	GA						
	St Timothy (special)	Forest Park	GA	\$50.00	\$50.00				\$100.00
	St. Matthew	Columbus	GA						
	First United	Kennesaw	GA						
	Lord of Life	St. Simon's	GA						
7367	Trinity	Lilburn	GA	\$456.25	\$239.05		\$100.00		\$ 795.30
13074	Bethel	Biloxi	MS	\$164.00		\$465.00	\$635.00		\$1,264.00
5813	Christus Victor	Ocean Spr	MS						
	Grace	Long Beach	MS						
5845	Reformation	Greeneville	TN						
13261	Christ	Nashville	TN						
30082	Christ	Fairfield Glade	TN	\$110.00					\$110.00
5859	Grace	Oak Ridge	TN	\$150.00					\$ 150.00
5849	Holy Trinity	Kingsport	TN						
5858	Holy Trinity	Newport	TN						
	Living Word	Arlington	TN						
5864	Our Savior	Gatlinburg	TN						
	Gloria Dei	Knoxville	TN						
5861	Salem	Parottsville	TN						
7428	St Andrew	Franklin	TN						
5851	Messiah	Knoxville	TN				\$170.00		\$170.00
5848	Our Savior	Johnson City	TN						
5855	St Paul	Maryville	TN						
	Trinity	Hixson	TN						
	St. John	Abington	VA						
	Good Shepherd	Seminole	FL						
	Individual Gifts								
	Non-Cluster Misc.							\$2,718.61	\$2,718.61
	Cluster gifts							\$1,169.24	\$1,169.24
	<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>####</b>	<b>####</b>	<b>\$815.00</b>	<b>\$905.00</b>	<b>####</b>	<b>\$7,370.55</b>

## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF REPORT 2020-2021 Collected August 2021

Congregation	City, State	Cluster	Personal Care Kits	School Kits	Baby Care Kits	Fabric Kits	Quilts	Total Weight
Resurrection	Augusta, GA	1	173	255			2	1075
Our Redeemer	Augusta, GA	1						
St James	Brunswick, GA	1	10	51			26	257
Good Shepherd	Garden City, GA	1	10	63	8		17	246
Zion Lutheran	Guyton, GA	1	26	80	4		20	382
Jerusalem	Rincon, GA	1	58	30				182
Ascension	Savannah, GA	1						
St Johns	Rincon, GA	1	47	50				226
St Paul's	Savannah, GA	1					18	60
Lord of Life	St. Simons Island, GA	1						
St Matthews	Columbus, GA	2						
St Timothy SU	Forest Park, GA	2						
Grace	Carrollton, GA	2					40	119
Christ	Marietta, GA	2					87	292
Christ Our Hope	Riverdale, GA	2					7	22
First United	Kennesaw, GA	2					121	482
Holy Trinity	Marietta, GA	2					102	368
St Paul	Decatur, GA	3						
Emmanuel	Atlanta, GA	3	53					101
Redeemer	Atlanta, GA	3	51	50			358	1587
Rock of Ages	Stone Mountain, GA	3		20				76
Epiphany	Conyers, GA	4						
All Saints	Lilburn, GA	4					139	444
Nativity	Bethlehem, GA	4					80	298
Living Grace	Tucker, GA	4		29		16	130	546
Trinity	Lilburn, GA	4	188	218	571		162	3937
Lord of Life	Alpharetta, GA	5					196	668
Faith	Cleveland, GA	5						
Christ the King	Cumming, GA	5					304	863
Prince of Peace	Johns Creek, GA	5					28	112
Christ	Oakwood, GA	5	67	40			88	524
Cross of Life	Roswell, GA	5		12			88	333
Immanuel	Blountville, TN	6	14			3		27
Sinking Springs	Midway, TN	6						
Reformation	Greeneville, TN	6	120				69	407
Christ	Fairfield Glade, TN	6						
Our Saviour	Johnson City, TN	6	261				39	524
Holy Trinity	Kingsport, TN	6	174					280
Gloria Dei	Knoxville, TN	6	203	153	32		101	1250
Messiah	Knoxville, TN	6	47				60	282
St Paul	Maryville, TN	6	82					128
Grace	Oak Ridge, TN	6		8			42	202
Salem	Parrottsville, TN	6	38					75
Trinity	Hixson, TN	6					22	88
St. James	Greeneville, TN	6						
HolyTrinity	Newport, TN	6						

Shades Valley	Homewood, AL	7	200	400	117	25	208	2607
Faith	Clay, AL	7						
Messiah	Madison, AL	7	791	1463	224		100	6828
St. Mark's	Huntsville, AL	7					96	336
Shepherd/Hills	Birmingham, AL	7						
Messiah	Montgomery, AL	7	62				155	1015
St Andrew	Franklin, TN	8		416			222	2047
Christ	Nashville, TN	8		263			149	1277
Peace	Spring Hill, TN	8		98			26	367
Trinity	Tullahoma, TN	8	11				114	374
St Timothy	Hendersonville, TN	8					104	375
First	Nashville, TN	8						
Holy Trinity	Daphne, AL	9					5	15
Grace	Gulf Shores, AL	9					88	298
St Paul's	Mobile, AL	9						
Bethel	Biloxi, MS	9		37			117	453
Martin Luther	Mobile, AL	9						
Christus Victor	Ocean Springs, MS	9	71	38			185	776
Grace	Long Beach, MS	9					8	30
St. Paul	Pensacola, FL	Panhandle						
Grace	Tallahassee, FL	Panhandle						
Good Shepherd	Shalimar, FL	LCMS		24			32	240
Holy Trinity	Fort Walton Beach, FL	Panhandle						
Messiah	Panama City, FL	Panhandle						
St Paul's	Foley, AL	LCMS				13	17	82
Trinity	Auburn, AL	LCMS		190			39	726
Holy Cross	Mobile, AL	LCMS						
Shepherd/Bay	Lillian, AL	LCMS						
Ascension	Huntsville, AL	LCMS						
Lord of Life	Bluffton, SC	SC Synod	89				13	203
Bethel	Springfield GA	LCMC					20	64
Bible	Rincon, GA	LCMC	48			27	125	442
Faith	Marietta, GA	LCMS					11	34
Prince of Peace	Fernandina Beach, FL	FL/Bahama	55					103
St John	Abingdon, VA	VA Synod					56	176
Trinity	Toccoa, GA	LCMS	101	175	57			919
Holy Trinity	Tupelo, MS	LCMS						
Athens	Athens, TN	LCMS						
Totals			3050	4163	1013	84	4236	36250

<b>1st place</b>
<b>2nd place</b>
<b>3rd place</b>

*\*The total pounds collected in 2021 was 1780 lbs. which was less than 2019 but considering we didn't collect bulk soap, this is amazing! The soap is usually about 4000 lbs. We had exactly the same amount of quilts collected in 2021 as in 2019 (4236).*

*There were approximately 400 more School Kits, 200 more Baby Care Kits, but 200 less Personal Care Kits. We had 58 participating churches, 7 of which were non-Lutheran and 4 from outside the synod boundaries.*

## MISSION: ACTION (STEWARDSHIP) REPORT



### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Gloria Martin** (*chair*)  
**Kat Julius**  
**Christeen Yerby**

### BIBLE VERSE

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1Peter 4:10*

### MISSION STATEMENT

*The Action (Stewardship) Committee supports, empowers, and encourages women to demonstrate their Christian love through actions of service to those in need throughout God's world.*

The Action Committee encourages all the women in our synod to continue to participate in our ongoing projects such as Lutheran World Relief (Quilt and Kit Ministry), Ronald McDonald House Charities (collection of pop tabs), Samaritan's Purse (shoeboxes for kids), and Days for Girls (feminine hygiene kits).

Our largest ministry is Lutheran World Relief where, despite the pandemic, we collected over 36,000 pounds of quilts and kits at seven ingathering sites around the synod in August 2021. We highly recommend tracking where your quilts and kits go. Follow the journey of your gifts of love as they make their way around the world! For more information visit [www.lwr.org/tracker](http://www.lwr.org/tracker).

The Action Committee also encourages you to have your congregational unit support Katie's Fund, an endowment that supports ministry in three areas: leadership development, global connections, and living. The 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 ministries for generations to come. Come visit Katie's Table at the convention where the proceeds from the sale of your donated jewelry and scarves will go to support this important program. We will also have a silent auction with various items like gift baskets and handmade crafts.

We will also have special display at the convention for the churchwide campaign for Katie's Fund called **2122**. It is designed to support the organization into the next 100 years of mission and ministry. The women of our organization have faithfully supported Katie's Fund during its first 25 years and we hope to continue our giving well into the next century. Pledge forms will be available at the "Katie Luther" display to help support the endowment.

## MISSION: *COMMUNITY (JUSTICE)* REPORT



### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Sissy Gifford** (*chair*)  
**Barb Miller**  
**Diana Palma**

### BIBLE VERSE

*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed but not in despair, persecuted but not abandoned, struck down but not destroyed. 2 Corinthians 4:8-9*

### MISSION STATEMENT

*We are called as a diverse body of women to promote justice by embracing, educating and empowering women to be bold in their faith and to walk humbly with God.*

Bold Women's Day is historically observed on the fourth Sunday of February, however, it can be observed whenever you feel the need to lift up the Bold Women of your congregation or community. All Lutheran women have and are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers and others are bold in their service to those in need. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home, or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. This is all about how we live out our baptismal call about being a disciple of Christ.

Church Women United is a racially, culturally and theologically inclusive Christian women's movement that celebrates unity in diversity and works for a world of peace and justice. Women around the world express their love for and loyalty to Christ with four celebrations each year - Human Rights Day in January, World Day of Prayer in March, May Friendship Day in May, and World Community Day in November.

The ELCA has companion synods in Guatemala, Malaysia/Singapore; Bavaria, Germany; and Ethiopia. The women of the Southeastern Synod are also partnered with the Lacrosse Area Synod. We support our companion synods by making them part of our regular prayers and can contact our/their synod office for current or ongoing needs.

Women of the ELCA justice initiatives include combating commercial sexual exploitation, human trafficking and supporting families with special needs through our online resources. We advocate for racial and cultural equity through our anti-racism training and our cross-cultural programming.

Rachel's Day is usually observed on the first Sunday in May. The day takes its name from Jeremiah 31:15-17 in which the matriarch Rachel grieves for her children. Rachel's Day is a time to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of violence and fear. It can also be observed anytime violence touches children in your community, state, country and world.

## MISSION: GROWTH (*DISCIPLESHIP*) COMMITTEE



### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Bernice Bland - Chair**  
**Beth Drane**  
**Louise Iconis**

### BIBLE VERSE

*But as for that (seeds) in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patients endurance. Luke 8:15*

### MISSION STATEMENT

***Growth is measured as time, age, and size and to evaluate the magnitude of growth, we must identify the roots of our organization:***

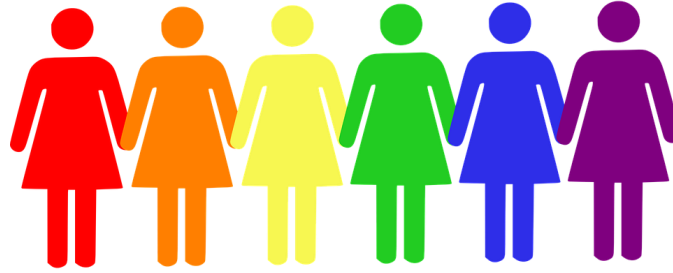
*“Lutheran women in the United States have been gathering in mission since the 1800s, and we owe much to our foremothers who responded to God’s call, created a place and lived out a purpose when women had no voice in the church. Three groups came together in 1987 to form Women of the ELCA. These groups were the American Lutheran Church Women (of the American Lutheran Church), the Lutheran Church Women (of the Lutheran Church in America) and Women in Action for Mission (of the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches). The constituting convention was held June 13-14, 1987, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with the theme “Embrace God’s World.” The organization was officially constituted Jan 1, 1988, with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.” For more information go to [www.womenoftheelca.org/about/history](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/about/history).*

The Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA held its first convention in 1987 where we were “Called to be One.” We have been separated physically by disasters, deaths, and a pandemic, but never in spirit. As we continue to grow in God’s grace, we proclaim affirmation, as promised in God’s word as well as in our adopted mission statement, of a future with hope. And today, we rejoice in the celebration of our Thirty-fourth Annual Convention as we meet again “Together at the Table.”

Our shared resources for continued spiritual growth are located on the churchwide website ([www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)); both printed and electronic means of staying in touch with God’s word with Gather Magazine, Café, Interchange and Bold Connections; and the free app “Daily Grace” app to always be in touch with God’s word. Our website ([www.seswelca.com](http://www.seswelca.com)) has information about our organization, special projects like our Love Offering and In-Kind Gifts and many resources for your groups. The Weaver, published quarterly, keeps you up to date on the WELCA synodical programs, the annual convention, Triennial, etc. The e-newsletter is the free version or the printed version is available for only \$10 per year. To subscribe, contact editor Kathy Hill at [kathyshill1@gmail.com](mailto:kathyshill1@gmail.com) or 404-310-7112. You can also find us on our Facebook page or Twitter.

Please remember to share these resources with your youth groups, friends, neighbors, and pew buddies. We cannot grow if no one knows!

## ANNUAL CLUSTER MEETING REPORT



CLUSTER	LOCATION	NO.	CLUSTER REGISTRATION	CLUSTER OFFERING	LOVE OFFERING	TOTAL TO SYNOD	OTHER	UNITS
1 Ebenezer	No information							
2 Good N.E.W.S.	Holy Trinity Tallapoosa, GA	21	\$80.00	\$29.65	\$10.00	\$119.65	\$100.00	5
3 Trinity	St. Mark East Point, GA	24	\$96.00	\$224.00		\$320.00		9
4 Magi	Trinity Lilburn, GA Via Zoom	3	\$8.00	\$10.00		\$18.00		5
5 Mission	No meeting							
6 Agape	Grace Oak Ridge, TN Via Zoom	25	\$4.00	\$30.00		\$34.00	\$170.00	6
7 Diaspora	Faith Clay, AL Via Zoom	18	\$72.00	\$263.00	\$28.00	\$363.60		4
8 The King	Christ Nashville, TN	39	\$152.00		\$152.00			
9 Gulf Coast	Bethel Biloxi, MS	15	\$60.00	\$140.59		\$200.59	\$900.00	3
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>145</b>	<b>\$472.00</b>	<b>\$697.24</b>	<b>\$38.00</b>	<b>\$1,207.24</b>	<b>\$1170.00</b>	<b>48</b>

## 2022-2023 CLUSTER LEADERS

<b>CLUSTER 1 – Ebenezer</b>			
<b>C</b>	NA		
<b>R</b>	NA		
<b>M</b>	NA		
<b>BR</b>	Kat Julius	<a href="mailto:gramkat@@comcast.net">gramkat@@comcast.net</a>	954-494-8806
<b>CL</b>	Beth Drane	<a href="mailto:Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com">Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com</a>	865-681-5987
<b>CLUSTER 2 – Good N.E.W.S.</b>			
<b>C</b>	Kathy Seraphine	<a href="mailto:kms146qs@bellsouth.net">kms146qs@bellsouth.net</a>	770-971-7654
<b>R</b>	Debbie Lundell	<a href="mailto:debrallundell@comcast.net">debrallundell@comcast.net</a>	770-815-8918
<b>M</b>	Annelle Colevins	<a href="mailto:acolevin@westga.edu">acolevin@westga.edu</a>	770-834-7056
<b>BR</b>	Gloria Martin	<a href="mailto:gvmartin@yahoo.com">gvmartin@yahoo.com</a>	404-510-6338
<b>CL</b>	Diana Palma	<a href="mailto:palmadbmax@gmail.com">palmadbmax@gmail.com</a>	404-667-6290
<b>CLUSTER 3 – Trinity</b>			
<b>C</b>	Linda Few	<a href="mailto:fewbaby@bellsouth.net">fewbaby@bellsouth.net</a>	404-556-5858
<b>R</b>	Louise Iconis	<a href="mailto:louise@iconis.com">louise@iconis.com</a>	404-769-8253
<b>M</b>	Hollis Williams	<a href="mailto:willholl@bellsouth.net">willholl@bellsouth.net</a>	770-845-2017
<b>BR</b>	Christeen Yerby	<a href="mailto:cyerby@bellsouth.net">cyerby@bellsouth.net</a>	404-790-6774
<b>CL</b>	Diana Palma	<a href="mailto:palmadbmax@gmail.com">palmadbmax@gmail.com</a>	404-667-6290
<b>CLUSTER 4 – Magi</b>			
<b>C</b>	Alice Schunemann	<a href="mailto:schunemann.a@gmail.com">schunemann.a@gmail.com</a>	912-965-0615
<b>R</b>	NA		
<b>M</b>	Margery Kellar	<a href="mailto:Margery.kellar@gmail.com">Margery.kellar@gmail.com</a>	404-803-9404
<b>BR</b>	Bernice Bland	<a href="mailto:bernice.bland@gmail.com">bernice.bland@gmail.com</a>	404-423-6563
<b>CL</b>	Beth Drane	<a href="mailto:Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com">Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com</a>	865-681-5987
<b>CLUSTER 5 – Mission</b>			
<b>BR</b>	Louise Iconis	<a href="mailto:louise@iconis.com">louise@iconis.com</a>	404-769-8253
<b>CL</b>	Barb Miller	<a href="mailto:barb0066@gmail.com">barb0066@gmail.com</a>	702-210-2620

### LEGEND

**C** - Coordinator

**R** - Recorder

**M** - Member At Large

**BR** - Board Representative

**CL** - Cluster Liaison



<b>CLUSTER 6 – Agape</b>			
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<b>M</b>	Patty Harmon	<a href="mailto:Harmon.patty@gmail.com">Harmon.patty@gmail.com</a>	865-300-9850
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<b>CLUSTER 7 – Diaspora</b>			
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<b>M</b>	Meredith Frantz	<a href="mailto:meredith.frantz@gmail.com">meredith.frantz@gmail.com</a>	615-974-0457
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**LEGEND**

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**M - Member At Large**

**BR - Board Representative**

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## LITANY



Loving God, we pray for this community as we gather around the table.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Deliver us from simply desiring to go “back to normal,” and give us grace instead to be open to the opportunities that your Spirit brings in this time of separation.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Grant that we may come out of this crisis with open eyes, more fully available to the needs of those most vulnerable and those whose labor we have always depended on.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Give us creative hearts to embrace and carry forward the new ways we have found to connect with one another;

**Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

And in your good time, bring us safely back together as a people renewed in the knowledge of your faithfulness and abiding love and strengthened for the work ahead.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good. Amen.**

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS



**Assembly** - ELCA's term for the gathering of voting members for decision-making or legislative functions

**ARG - Annual Resource Guide** - Informational program guide developed by the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA

**BOR - Bulletin of Reports** - The program booklet for convention which contains all pertinent information for the convention attendees

**CWO** - Churchwide Women's Organization

**Conferences, Clusters, or Coalitions** - Term given to grouping established by the ELCA for the purpose of fostering interdependent relationships among congregations, institutions, synodical, and churchwide units for mission purposes. Women of the ELCA clusters will normally follow the same boundaries

**CU - Congregational Unit** - The women's organization within a congregation

**Convention** - Term for the gathering of voting members for decision-making or legislative functions within the Women of the ELCA

**ICU - Intercongregational Unit** - The women's organization where women from several congregations have formed a unit

**Membership** - Refers to the congregational, intercongregational, and special units who are affiliated with Women of the ELCA; it does not refer to individual women

**Participant** - Individual women who choose to participate in a variety of activities which fulfill the purpose of the Women of the ELCA

**Region** - A geographic territory which includes several synods

**Special Units** - Units comprised of women in settings authorized by the CWO Executive Board such as college campuses, seminary campuses, or retirement communities

**Synod** - One of 65 territories of the ELCA (one non-geographic: Slovak Zion)

**SWO** - Synodical Women's Organization which consists of all the congregational, intercongregational, and special units that are located within the territories of the geographic synods of the ELCA

**Women of the ELCA** - The preferred shortened form of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

# HILTON CONVENTION CENTER FLOOR PLAN



## BALLROOMS AND BREAKOUT ROOMS

## NOTES