



Good News

March 2022

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.

From the President

Here it is March already! March 2 is Ash Wednesday. What is your Lenten practice? As a child, I was a bit mystified by the giving up of candy, sweets, or chocolate by my cousins. In more recent years, I have been challenged during Lent to “give up” or change a “bad habit.” A quick search of the internet gives a list of options. Or if you are looking for resources, check the Women of the ELCA website. One of my kids was recently challenged by a teacher at school to perform 35 random acts of kindness. Here is my short list of things to choose from: give up candy or soda, take 10 minutes to walk and talk with God, do the 40 ways to love my neighbor found in the Gather magazine, collect items for a food pantry or shelter, make a bunch of personal care kits, or sit quietly and listen for God’s call. What will your list look like during these 40 days of Lent?

Blessings, Anna Jetson

LWR Needs Personal Care Kits

Lent may be a time of reflection, but it need not be one of inaction. Your congregation is invited to share your love with our neighbors around the world by getting your hands busy making Personal Care Kits. You need to gather and assemble kits and invite your congregation to share their generosity with our neighbors around the world. The kits and generous financial gifts your congregation will make deliver hope to our neighbors in need around the world. Give today at LWR.ORG/HOPE.

2022 LWR Ingathering Dates

April 9 @	Immanuel, Independence
April 11 @	Southport Mall, Mason City
May 7 @	Olson’s Explosives, Decorah
Oct 8 @	Immanuel, Independence
Oct 10 @	Southport Mall, Mason City
Nov 5 @	Olson’s Explosives, Decorah

Lea Norlinger 641-494-7614, Mason City, IA
Lrprk0@gmail.com NE IA SWO board & LWR contact

Save a tree and get your Star by email! Email webadmin@neiasynod.org to request the change!

Discipleship Committee

We all have different talents that work as one body of Christ. Sunday was installation of my church’s 2022 officers. As they stood in front of the congregation, I thought of the many different talents those volunteers possess. As stated in 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, “There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served.” A few officers listen better, teach others better, organize better, sew better or serve others better. We all have God given abilities to share God’s word. Act on those talents. Join the SWO Board to help plan the June Convention, volunteer to be part of your church’s council, teach Sunday school, join the choir, help put together LWR kits. Isn’t this part of our Christian journey, sharing with others what God has given us?

Submitted by LuAnn Brunes

Justice Committee

The SWO board is interested in hearing what you and your group or church have done in the last year in the area of justice, including ending human trafficking and racism. Women of the ELCA through the churchwide executive board has committed itself to strengthen our mission and ministry in three key areas of fighting racism: raising awareness, accompaniment and advocacy. We share this work at all levels of our organization, the churches, the synod and our churchwide organization. More information is available at the Women of the ELCA website. Please send me your ideas and projects at amjetson@yahoo.com or snail mail to 21249 Viking Dr, Spring Grove MN 55974. I look forward to hearing from all of you!

Submitted by Anna Jetson

LSI Challenge Update

We are nearing the \$4000 mark, on our way to \$5000. We are almost there!!!! To contribute to the LSI Spiritual Life Challenge, please send donations directly to LSI, 106 16th St SW, PO Box 848, Waverly IA 50677. Please include Spiritual Life Challenge on the memo line. Thank you for all you have done for LSI and the Women of the ELCA.

Stewardship Committee

What do the Women of the ELCA do for outreach at your congregation other than making quilts and serving funeral lunches? Here are so of the many outreach activities that the Women of the ELCA in NE IA do. Does your church do something not on this list? Then let us know, we would love to make this list even longer!

Activities

Providing church dinners including anniversary celebrations and Lenten suppers, giving scholarships for education and camp, supporting VBS, giving Baptismal gifts, preparing Heat 'n' Eat meals, creating homemade greeting cards to shut-ins and Care Center residents, wrapping bandage strips for LWS, sewing quilts for Salvation Army, graduating seniors, the Riverside Quilt auction, Beloit and Bremwood children's homes, and homeless shelters, sponsoring a Holiday Food Fair, sharing an Advent By Candlelight program, giving Gather magazine subscriptions given to new members, collecting food for the food pantries, eyeglasses for Lion's clubs, pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House, visiting all shut-ins every two months, sending comfort teddy bears to churches around the country, making gift bags for shut-ins and Care Center residents, assembling Christmas fruit baskets and meeting monthly for Bible study.

Monetary donations given to:

Riverside Bible Camp, New Beginnings Shelter, Bremwood, Francis Lauer Youth Services, Beloit, Hospice, Camp Courageous, UNI Lutheran Center, Comprehensive Systems (Charles City), Opportunity Village (Clear Lake), Friends of the Family, Iowa City Hospital Chaplaincy, Seminary Student at Dubuque, The Corner Closet (clothing and financial help), The Sharing Shoppe, ELCA Leadership Fund, Katie's Fund, Local food pantries, Wings of Refuge, Caring Pregnancy Center, LAMP, LWR, LSI, Northern Lights Shelter, LSI Spiritual Challenge.

Submitted by Alice Greimann

Introducing Karen Weltzin

I recently became a SWO board member so am trying to learn the ins and outs of the organization. I am a member of Zion Lutheran Church-Jubilee of rural LaPorte City. I became a member in February of 1988 when my oldest son was baptized. My husband is a farmer and truck driver and I am a recently retired physical therapist from Central Rivers AEA. We have three children. Our oldest son, Sam, and his wife, Jess, live in Madison, Wisconsin with their two young sons and another on the way. Our second is also a son, Ben. He lives in Columbia, MO. And our daughter, Bethany, lives in Peoria, Illinois. Now that I am retired I am free to visit them more since they all live in neighboring states.

I serve on the Zion worship committee and helping lead worship, playing in the bell choir, directing choirs, helping with Sunday school, serving fellowship, attending Bible studies and WELCA, and playing for worship as organist/pianist when needed. My passion is to serve those less fortunate and I have gone on numerous mission trips to third world countries to take wheelchairs and other equipment to the disabled through an organization called Joni and Friends, Wheels for the World.

CALENDAR

Mar 12 SWO Board via Zoom, 8:30-noon
Apr 9 LWR Ingathering @Immanuel, Independence
Apr 11 LWR Ingathering @Southport Mall, Mason City
May 7 LWR Ingathering @Olson's Explosives, Decorah
May 14 SWO Board via Zoom, 8:30-noon
Jun 17 SWO Board @ St John, Nashua
Jun 18 NE IA SWO Gathering @ St John, Nashua
Oct 8 LWR Ingathering @Immanuel, Independence
Oct 10 LWR Ingathering @Southport Mall, Mason City
Nov 5 LWR Ingathering @Olson's Explosives, Decorah
Sept 18 2023 Triennial Convention & Gathering

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*Articles are due by 1st of the preceding month e.g.
April 1 for May issue)*

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Contact NEIA Women of the ELCA:

neiasynod.org/women-of-the-ELCA



NE IA Women of the ELCA- Check us out and give a like or post about your church's activities!