



Good News

May/ June
2024

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.

President

Spring has arrived along with the robins and other songbirds that have been gone for the winter months. We are in the season of renewal so let us rejoice for all of God's creation. I hope everyone had a wonderful and blessed Easter with family and friends. He is risen indeed! Indeed, He is risen! We are so blessed to be Easter people.

I hope everyone was able to make it to their Cluster meetings these past couple of months. There was a lot of good information gathered from the Cluster meetings. There is a lot of energy now going into our SWO convention on June 15th. This year's theme is "Rejoice and Renew!" I encourage you to attend. We will be rolling bandages and have three interest sessions, (LSI, Mike Knipp); (GHM, Kim Dickey) and (Joni and friends, Karen Weltzin). We hope that you will learn from and enjoy this experience. There will also be the opportunity to take part in the rolling of bandages and take back what you have learned to your WELCA groups so they can also add this to their in-kind mission. And as always a nice luncheon and door prizes will be given out. Hope to see you all there!

Blessings to all,
Sondra Nelson

Justice Committee

At our June 15 gathering we will be having three breakout sessions. The first session will be Mike Knipp from LSI who will update us on the closing of the Bremwood residential care facility and the changes in emphasis to immigrant and refugee programs. The second session will be *Global Health Ministries* presented by Kim Dickey. Be sure to stop and learn about the rolling of bandages to send across the world. The third session will be *Joni and Friends* presented by Karen Weltzin. Karen just returned from a trip to Guatemala. We hope these presentations make you

more aware of the needs of our brothers and sisters throughout the world and at home in Iowa.

The Gathering will be at Redeemer in Waverly with coffee and registration at 8:00 am, followed by worship, sessions, meeting and lunch from 8:30 am to 2 pm. The registration form can be found on the Women of the ELCA website. [Gathering-Registration-2024-C.pdf \(neiasynod.org\)](#) Be sure to mark your calendars for the 15th.

Submitted by Jo Ann Brunsvold

Stewardship Committee

Monetary donations for the gathering will be divided between Church-wide WELCA (50%), ELCA World Hunger (25%) and Joni and Friends (25%).

LSI will be our in-kind gift recipient. Here is a list of needed items:

Personal care: body wash, deodorant- solid only, shampoo, conditioner, ethnic hair products, Toothpaste, toothbrushes (individual), towels

Towel bundles: bath towel, wash cloths, toothbrush, toothpaste, ChapStick/lip gloss, shampoo, conditioner, solid deodorant, body wash

Bedding Bundles: sheets, pillowcases (twin bed)

School supplies: acrylic paints, brushes, paper or canvases, construction paper, markers (washable) Expo Markers, journals, craft items or kits

Games: Speak Out, Mad Gab, Pie Face, Jenga, UNO, Hedbanz

Kitchen items: dish towels, dish rags, pot holders, Tupperware, plastic drinking cups

Gift Cards/ Misc:

Wal-Mart gift cards, gas cards, Earbuds, basketballs, shower caddies

Submitted by SWO Board

Discipleship Committee

What better way to show your faith, than to join other Women of the ELCA for our annual gathering, June 15th, Redeemer Lutheran in Waverly. We want to promote the scholarships that are available. First is the Gathering Scholarship which will pay for the registration for a first-time attendee. What a great way to experience fellowship and the chance to learn of ways to help others. The registration form can be found on the NEIA SWO webpage, [2024-Gathering-Scholarship-registration.pdf \(neiasynod.org\)](#).

Another scholarship is the Triennial Gathering, to be held in Des Moines, IA, July 17-19, 2026. This scholarship registration is due by November 1, 2025. This is a wonderful gathering of the women of the ELCA from all over the United States and its territories. [Scholarship-Application-for-2026-Triennial.pdf \(neiasynod.org\)](#)

Our third scholarship is an educational scholarship for Women of the ELCA in our synod. The scholarship is for women who want to continue their education, whether it is at a college or a training program. [2024-Educational-Scholarship-application.pdf \(neiasynod.org\)](#) What a great way to help with education costs.

Submitted by Jo Ann Brunsvold

Little Flock Cluster Recap

Little Flock Cluster B met Sat. April 27 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Luana, with 57 in attendance and 1 Vicor, Jeremy Wolfe. God's Creation of Butterflies was the theme of our gathering and our presenter was Jim Langhaus from the Butterfly Garden in Monona. Jim has tagged 6000 Monarch butterflies since 1990, with 100 being found in the south. Jim has been one of many volunteers that started this beautiful park after attending an Earth Day 2000 program. This group has transformed an area that collected trash into a terraced garden with a bridge over the watershed area. The park contains a Gazebo, a swift bird tower, hosta, perennial, and memorial gardens, including 2 miles of paved trails. Area 4-H, FFA, school children, and the St. Paul community have worked to make this area free to the public and attractive to butterflies and bees. Fresh cinnamon rolls were shared from St. John's in Farmersburg and a lasagna dinner at noon by the Luana WELCA ladies. There was a short video shared that day from

the ladies of St. John's that fit perfectly with the theme, however, the message was so powerful in everyday life.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=dQ26D_Ck158

CALENDAR

Jun 1	3C Synod Event @ Wartburg
Jun 14	SWO Board @ Redeemer, Waverly
Jun 15	SWO 36 th Annual Gathering @ Redeemer, Waverly
July 1	Deadline for July/ Aug <i>Good News</i>
Oct 5	Cluster D Gathering @ St Paul, Lime Springs

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