

NORTHWESTER

NEWSLETTER



I Am Worthy

Attention!

If you have registered to attend the Triennial Gathering in Des Moines, you should have recently received an email from Gabriela Contreras on my behalf. For security reasons, they will not release a list of attendees to me, so this is the only means I have to contact you.

Since we will not be hiring a motorcoach bus for travel to and from Des Moines, we are looking to coordinate rides. Even if you already have a full car going, please let me know. I have been contacted by a woman from another synod who is travelling to the Gathering but is looking for a ride to our synod afterwards. She would like a ride back to the Chippewa Valley or Menomonee area.

Also, if possible, I would like to know where you will be staying and whether anyone is looking to share a room for three nights. Please contact me as soon as you are able.

Thank you so very much.

Joan Moe, President NWSWI SWO
moejoan@gmail.com
715-533-3820

GATHER AND CELEBRATE!

For the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.~ Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Spring is such a busy time of year. It is a time of new beginning and new growth and so many possibilities. And it's a time for graduation parties! It seems that every year we have a handful of celebrations to attend and this year is no exception. I enjoy celebrating together with each graduate and their family and rejoice in the plans that each student has for the months and years to come.

Meanwhile, we have plans for the upcoming months!

Our [Synod WELCA retreat](#) at Luther Park Bible Camp will be here in no time at all. More information is available elsewhere in this newsletter and I urge you to attend, especially if you have never been before. Dates for this year are Monday and Tuesday, June 29-30. Pati Kachel will be our guest speaker on the theme of "God is Writing Our Story. Stop Trying to Steal the Pen!" Come and enjoy the natural beauty of the camp as well as time to fellowship with friends old and new. *Registration is due by June 22, 2026!*

Our **Synod Biennial Convention** will be held this year on September 26 at Bethany Lutheran in Rice Lake. This will be a **one-day** event, unlike other years. Your Synod board has been busy planning the convention and Day of Awareness on the topic of *Who Is My Neighbor?* Guest speakers are Rev. Lori Ruge-Jones and Deacon Lidixe Montoya. In addition to our business meeting, where we will elect new officers, we will worship together, led by Rev. Melinda Halom, and have numerous break-out sessions. Click [here](#) for more details.

Please make plans to attend!

Faithfully yours,
Joan Moe, SWO President, NWSWI



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NORTHWESTER AUGUST 20, 2026

What a Beautiful Day We are Having Today. Enjoy it!!

Hello to all, I hope you had a wonderful Easter. My house was overflowing with my family, and I enjoyed it so very much. The day was grand!

I read from a morning devotional, and it really caught my eye and wondered if you folks ever have had this happen to you? The Bible passage is:

“The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.” Psalm 145:18. From the helps in my Study Bible (God’s name is given to us so that we might call on God in times of need and in times of thanksgiving.)

I read the thoughts and I put it into family activities:

His phone rang, he stopped in the middle of a very important meeting and answered the phone, with many people hearing him he answered the phone and said Hi Mom.

A few days later I was at a meeting needing my attention, one of the gals said, “Carol you have a family call can you take it?” I said, “tell them I will call them back in an hour.” One of my friends called after the meeting and said that my daughter is worried about you and I did not take the time to talk to her!! Well, I called her and she was so happy to hear my voice and said she is feeling much better now. Thinking back on what I read earlier I surely did not take time for my family. Lesson received in bright colors. It is good that we take

time to listen to all the folks around us. I have a concern that I want to share with you. We are having election of officers at our September meeting in Rice Lake, for our SWO. We have several openings that were not filled in the last couple of years. Speaking for myself, I became a conference officer and then was asked to be on the Synod Officer Board. I have learned so much and have met so many wonderful people. It has been, for lack of words, a wonderful trip. I have enjoyed learning the things I need to accomplish in the positions that I held. If I made a mistake or tripped on something, there is always someone to call and they will gladly help me out.

Please consider taking on a position, pray about it and do not be scared. We have all been there at one time or another. My thoughts are that “With God to Guide me, I will be just fine.”

Blessings to you all, and Keep Singing and Smiling,

Carol Medchill
Vice President



Women of the ELCA Active and Inactive units

I receive letters from units telling me they no longer have a women’s organization. But I believe in most congregations, the women are still involved, active, and they do gather, perhaps to quilt, have book discussions, make pies for the county fair, have bazaars in the fall. In these ways they are participating in ministry and are sharing the Word of God through their actions and deeds.

The Synodical Women’s Organization (SWO) will soon be reviewing the

Women of the ELCA congregational units within our synod and decide as to whether they are active or inactive. This report is due to churchwide WELCA by February 1, 2027.

The churchwide women’s organization considers a congregational WELCA women’s unit active if it:

1. Comes together for study, support, and action;
2. Participates in ministry of Women in the ELCA beyond the congregation;
3. supports financially the program of Women of the ELCA and
4. designates leadership that will be in communication with the Synodical and churchwide women’s organization.

Our SWO considers a congregational WELCA women’s unit active if it:

1. identifies a President/Coordinator, and a treasurer as contact persons with whom the SWO can communicate
2. the unit sends the SWO Treasurer offerings **with a completed FORM A.**

The Churchwide women’s organization considers a Congregational WELCA women’s unit ACTIVE if it sends funds to them on Form B. The unit treasurer will complete FORM B by identifying the fund - **Thankoffering, Katie’s Fund, Women of the ELCA Where Needed Most** and will place the dollar amount.

Congregational Women’s units can also GIVE Designated Funds to the ELCA on Form B such as ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief Freight Fund, Lutheran World Relief through ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Missionary Sponsorship (include names of mission personnel). You can also include Global Barnyard, Good Gifts, Global Gifts but you must specify using catalog information.

So, if your women’s group includes funding to Women of the ELCA in any of the above categories and has leadership in communication with the Synod and Churchwide women’s organizations, you are an active unit.

Why do we need to know how many congregational active women’s organizations there are? This information will be used to determine the total number of voting members for the 2029 Triennial convention and how many voting members our synodical women’s organization will have at the 2029 Triennial Convention.

More information can be found in the Guide for Synodical and Congregational Unit Treasurers. Click here for [English](#) or [Spanish](#) versions of the guide. You can find Form A (for submitting funds to the SWO) by clicking on the following links: [English](#) or [Spanish](#) version.

Churchwide also introduced a new [Form B](#) which is included later in this newsletter, or can be found by clicking here—[English](#) or [Spanish](#).

If you would like to received copies of these documents by mail or email, please let me know. Contact me if you have questions.

Thank you for your gifts of generosity.

Phyllis Beastron
SWO Treasurer
beastron@redwing.net
715-821-5847 (cell)
715-273-5847 (home)

Congregational Unit Contacts Form

Keep the SWO Board up to date on officers for your women’s group by submitting this form at your earliest convenience. Click [here](#) for a copy of the form.



**Northwest Synod of WI
Synodical Women’s
Organization
Biennial Convention**

Our synodical WELCA biennial convention will be held Saturday, September 26, 2026 at Bethany Lutheran, Rice Lake. We will be electing new board members. The theme for the gathering, “Who is My Neighbor?” More details are available in the [flyer](#) included later in this newsletter.



Triennial Gathering in 2026

Join us at the 2026 Gathering in Des Moines, Iowa on July 16-19, 2026.

The Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering takes place every three years and gathers 1500-3000 women leaders, participants, and newcomers for four days of worship, inspiring speakers, workshops, service projects, and more!

We invite you to join with our ministry as we seek to nourish women's faith and love and to inspire women to proclaim their identity, intent, and actions.

The theme for the 2026 Triennial Gathering is "I am Worthy" focusing on Psalm 139:14 “I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” Psalm 139:14

This proclamation reminds us of God’s promise to always be with us, even during times of devastation and division. Repeating the phrase “I am worthy” helps us recognize the Holy Spirit’s ongoing work in our lives. This practice of self-affirmation creates opportunities for healing and repair within ourselves, the church, society, and the world. When we declare, “I am worthy,” we align ourselves with God’s promises. There is great power in our resolve.

Find information on the gathering at: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page>



CONFERENCES

Chequamegon Conference

Barb Krug

Joleen Schade attended our Spring Rally in April and shared information on this important ministry.



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

Bed builds will be held in Merrill on June 27 and Dorchester on September 12. For more information contact Joleen Schade at 715-613-3140 or Joleen.schade@shpbeds.org.

Apple River Conference

Merry Yates

We just had our Spring Fling on April 25 at Luck Lutheran Church with our speaker Penne Sewell in her character as Helda Pay, and her topic was do we need a Faith Lift. She had us laughing with her character and helping us with a faith lift. We heard from a lady at Luck Lutheran who is involved with mental health support and works with area teens. Our offering went to the SWO, the Community Referral Agency in Milltown, and to the Feed My Neighbor food bank in Centuria.

Our next fall event will be September 12, 2026 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Siren. Our speaker will be Gaye Lindfors. Information will be going out to churches in August. Please keep the date open and join us. Or if you're from another conference, contact Roberta Bitler at edbert@sirentel.net.

Submitted by Roberta Bitler

St. Croix Valley Conference

Anne Janda

The St. Croix Valley conference met April 18, for their Morning of Renewal at Cross Lutheran Church in Roberts. There were 70 women in attendance! Our speaker was Rebekah Storey, and her topic was "Finding Freedom in Forgiveness." She is an excellent speaker. The women at Cross Lutheran pulled out all the stops for this event. Thank you to Teri Peterson and her crew for pulling this together.

And, speaking of conference events, I have contacted some churches as we seek a host for the September (or August) Summer Retreat. Please be aware that ALL THAT IS NEEDED is a place to meet and to have a light lunch. The conference Board finds the speaker, prints anything that needs printing, and has a step-by-step list of what is needed for the meeting, i.e. microphones, any video equipment, etc.

Because the hosts of the last few gatherings really went "all out" to host, it may be that some churches find it a bit intimidating to even think about being a host. I am here to tell you, "FEAR NOT!" Just a space to meet and a light lunch is all that is required. This does NOT have to be fancy.

Should any of you be willing to do this for a Summer Retreat in August or in September, please let me know. My contact information is on the back page of this publication.

The NWS Women's Retreat is coming up June 29 and 30 at Luther Park Bible Camp. Pati Kachel, another popular speaker, has a great topic: "God is (still) Writing Your Story." "Stop Trying to Steal the Pen!"

I look forward to meeting you at Luther Park!

Heart of the North Conference

Janice Ahneman

SAVE THE DATE! The Heart of the North Conference Board has begun planning a Day of Renewal, "JOY," on October 10, 2026 at Lutheran Church in Rice Lake. Preliminary plans include a Bible study led by Pastor Heather Kistner, Trinity Lutheran, Spooner; followed by a guest speaker, worship with Holy Communion, and lunch by "Cooking up a Storm!"

Registration is \$20. First time attendees are free!! Checks payable to HON WELCA can be mailed by Carol, Wallin, PO Box 243, Cumberland, WI 54829. Contact Carol at 715-822-0109 or caroljwallin@gmail.com for more information.

Dairyland Conference

Amelie Lindberg-Livingston

Peace Lutheran of Pigeon Falls

Hello! On behalf of the Peace Lutheran of Pigeon Falls WELCA, I am pleased to invite you to our annual salad luncheon on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 12:00 PM. Please note that this year's event will be held at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Whitehall while our own church undergoes renovations.

As a past attendee, we would love to have you join us again. Our guest speaker, Pastor Mary Ann Bowman, will share stories and photos from her recent travels through Eastern Europe and Asia. She will provide a unique look at the sites mentioned in the Apostle Paul's letters, including Ephesus, Corinth, and Galatia.

We hope you can join us for this special presentation and fellowship. (The [flyer](#) is included later in this newsletter.)

Submitted by Cathy Estenson

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR



Let's Learn Spanish!

“Let’s Learn Spanish!” is a series of workshops offered through the Synod’s Neighbor to Neighbor ministry and led by Deacon Lidix Montoye. Trinity Lutheran in Eau Claire hosts the two-day sessions scheduled on the upcoming dates:

[Let’s Learn Spanish! 101](#)

July 15-16, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
Basic grammar, reading practice, cooking and introductions of Lutheran liturgies in Spanish.

[Let’s Learn Spanish! 102](#)

August 19-20, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
Go deeper in grammar where we will learn together about spelling rules, pronouns, articles, prepositions, verbs and more. We will do some writing and conversations with native Spanish speakers.

Click [here](#) to register online for these workshops and find more details.

Community Health Fairs

The Neighbor to Neighbor Ministry coordinates health fairs in communities around the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. The fairs provide outreach to our Spanish-speaking neighbors,

connecting them with community services. The schedule for this fall is below. You can support the fairs by volunteering the day of, or through donations. If you’re interested, contact Kim Vlcek at vlcekk@yahoo.com or 715-577-7198.

Health Fair Schedule

September 24 from 3-6 pm
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran, Curtiss

October 3 from 10 am -1 pm
Our Savior’s Lutheran, Chippewa Falls

October 29 from 3-6 pm
Trinity Lutheran, Eau Claire

November 7 from 10 am-1 pm
Pleasant Valley Lutheran, Eleva

Date to be rescheduled
Saron Lutheran, Ashland

Misa in Español

Monthly worship services in Spanish are held at Immanuel Lutheran, Eau Claire, on the first Sunday at 6 pm, followed by a meal, food pantry and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!



2026-2027

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin [Lay School of Ministry](#) is seeking housing for Lay School students for next year’s session beginning in September of 2026 and running through May of 2027.

Lay School meets in person the second weekend of the month at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, 1300 Mansfield St., Chippewa Falls, WI. Years 1 and 2 will

meet in person each month when possible. Zoom remains an option where distance or severe weather travel is an issue for participants. Continuing Ed meets via Zoom in the months when winter weather potentially makes travel hazardous.

Our Lay School Board has decided that in September, October, November, April and May, we will meet in a hybrid model, both in person and via Zoom, for students who may not be able to attend in person. Classes dismiss at 10:00 p.m. on Friday night and resume at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, so the student will not be spending a lot of time with you. They just need a place to sleep for the night.

A light breakfast (fruit, cheese, pastries) is available on Saturday morning at church. We would love to hear from anyone in the Bloomer/Chippewa Falls/Eau Claire area who may be willing to be a Lay School Host. If you are interested in this or have any questions, please contact Anne Janda at annejanda81@gmail.com or call 612-644-2648.



Border Servants

You are invited to travel with a group from the Northwest Synod of WI to the U.S./Mexico borderlands for an immersion experience. What is it like for immigrants crossing the border? Who are the people working with immigrants? What are the US policies and laws impacting immigrants? Border Servants Corps (BSC), Las Cruces, New Mexico, formed in 1997 to support migrants entering the country. BSC draws inspiration from Micah 6:8 – “What does the Lord require of you,

but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God?"

Click the link to their website:
<http://borderservantcorps.org/>

The immersion trip is set for October 12-17, 2026. The estimated cost is \$1500. A [flyer](#) with more details is included later in this newsletter. Email Mary Meierotto for more information at marymeierotto@gmail.com.

A Note from the Editor:

Anne Janda sent me the following article for this month's Northwest about the Mary Circle. After we spoke about it on the phone, she sent me a photo of the group. I was so inspired to hear their story, especially when I hear about women's groups in many of our churches fading away. They have created a "circle" that is meaningful and workable for their group members. I love that. Carry on Mary Circle!

We Are a Small, But Mighty Group of Women

How a group of young professionals and some almost-empty-nesters-but-still-gainfully-employed women joined forces to support and continue the work of the "holy women" in their lives.

A few years ago, some of us ladies (of a certain middle-age) were chatting during coffee hour. We noted that we had raised our children in the church and had volunteered as youth helpers, leading Sunday School, VBS, Confirmation and the like, yet more recently we felt a lack of purpose since those same kids were phasing out of our homes to begin their own faith journeys. This got us wondering what the next phase of life in the church might be for us.

We all grew up admiring the dedicated women in our churches who made things happen; the ones who held our various churches together. In a similar way, we admired the women at Ezekiel who were doing the same. We wondered how we could become a part of this group of holy women. After doing a bit of research, we found out that these amazing women of our past and our present (including us!) were/are a part of "WELCA" (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). We learned that Ezekiel has 4 Circles. Unfortunately, their meeting times are during the day. This posed a problem for us since we all worked during the day. But in a short time, we had a solution: we would start our own Ezekiel WELCA Circle.



The Mary Circle

We are the Mary Circle. Our mission is to support the aging population in our church and community. This is one reason we chose to walk in **The Walk to End Alzheimer's** last Fall. September 18, of this year, we will be participating in that walk again, supporting our mission to bring awareness to the needs of our eldest generation.

There are currently about 10 active members in our Mary Circle. We are a small but mighty group of faithful women whose ages range from our blessed 20-something's (Katelyn and Sarah) to the rest of us who are 40-ish, 50-ish, and 60-ish. We begin our meetings by reading WELCA's purpose statement together, we collect offerings (which are donated to people in need) and then we spend quite a bit of time

sharing our "highs and lows" from the last month. After that we participate in a Bible Study, share treats and have a business meeting. We begin and end our meetings with prayer.

Together we have enjoyed planning and hosting events and fundraisers (the Moose Lodge Pancake Breakfast & Ezekiel's Valentine's Dinner); we offer community activities (River Falls Days' Root Beer Floats and WELCA's summer Mug & Muffin event). We have attended synod and conference WELCA events (Morning of Renewal and Summer Retreats). We are also learning from our mentors about how to prepare for, serve, and clean up Ezekiel events like the Christmas Tea and Bake Sale, Rotary Breakfasts, and Lenten Soup Suppers.

This summer we are beyond excited to join together in faith and fellowship with thousands of other WELCA members from across our country at the WELCA Triennial Convention in Des Moines. Here we will gather, worship, and focus on our own personal faith journeys as we develop our gifts for leadership and ministry, develop potential and strengthen ourselves as individuals.

Mary Circle is open to all women who would like to gather to connect, pray, and journey deeper into their faith lives. ALL ARE WELCOME because as a WELCA Circle, we believe that God has called us all to be His holy disciples. Together we stand stronger. Thank you for your continued support of our missions. We are grateful for all of your prayers and we pray, too, for all of you.

Written by Vicki Olson
Submitted by Anne Janda



NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN

Synodical Board Members
(Officers and Conference Reps)
2024-2026

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Vacant

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*Articles/photos
of your W/ELCA
activities are
welcome.*

**DEADLINE
FOR THE NEXT
NORTHWESTER
AUGUST 20, 2026**

The NORTHWESTER

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of the NORTHWESTER. This digital publication continues to be a work in progress and your ideas and comments are welcome! Submit individual comments and ideas, as well as news and photos from your conference, congregation, or women's group to Kim Vlcek at vlcekr@yahoo.com.



Women of the ELCA

Our Mission – Mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

Our Purpose – 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.

Women of the ELCA -- Northwest Synod of Wisconsin -- Synodical Women's Organization
CONGREGATIONAL UNIT CONTACTS FOR YEAR _____

NAME OF CHURCH

Conference

Location, if different than mailing address

Mailing address of Church

Church Phone Number

Email address

CONTACT PERSON AND/OR PRESIDENT

Name

Address

Phone

Email Address

TREASURER

Name

Address

Phone

Email Address

PLEASE return with current information electronically at your earliest convenience:

• **Your CONFERENCE Representative**

Apple River- Merry Yates

Chequamegon- Barb Krug, 883 Brucker St, Medford, WI 54451 barbkrug@charter.net

Chippewa Valley- Vacant

Dairyland- Amelie Lindberg-Livingston, W1980 50th Ave, Stockholm, WI 54769-8707

ajl55810@msn.com

Heart of the North- Janice Ahneman, 1070 11th Avenue, Cumberland, WI 54829-9110

tjahneman@gmail.com

Lake Superior- Vacant

St. Croix Valley- Anne Janda, 612 Oak Knoll Ave, River Falls, WI 54022

annejanda81@gmail.com

- **SWO Secretary:** Deanna Lear McGinnis, 2705 5½ Ave, New Auburn, WI 54757

Deannamcginnis@gmail.com

- **SWO President:** Joan Moe, 1438 Truax Blvd, Eau Claire, WI 54703-1471

presidentnswiswo@gmail.com

Thank you!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
PEACE LUTHERAN OF PIGEON FALLS
WELCA SALAD LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY JUNE 17, 2026

**LOCATION: OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

36197 MAIN STREET WHITEHALL, WI

**DUE TO SANCTUARY REMODELING AT PEACE LUTHERAN, THIS
YEAR'S SALAD LUNCHEON IS BEING HELD IN WHITEHALL.**



**NOON LUNCHEON -
SPEAKER TO FOLLOW**

LUNCHEON SPEAKER:
Pastor Mary Ann Bowman

PROGRAM:
"ROOTED IN GRACE
IN THE STEPS OF
THE APOSTLE PAUL"

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**NO RSVP REQUIRED.
QUESTIONS?
PLEASE CALL 715.983.2242**

NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN



WELCA WOMEN'S RETREAT

God Is Writing Your Story

Speaker: Pati Kachel

<https://www.theparablefund.org/bio>

Monday and Tuesday, June 29 & 30

One day option available for Monday, June 29

\$95.00 (2 days) Early bird special available until 6/5/26

\$65.00 (Monday) Early bird special until 6/5/26

Luther Park Bible Camp

944 24 1/4 Street Chetek, WI

Contact Barb Krug for more information
715-965-5696 or barbkrug@charter.net



God is still writing
YOUR STORY, STOP
trying to steal the pen

Trust God ♥

SVG | PNG | DXF | EPS | VECTRAICE

2026

WELCA WOMEN'S RETREAT **INFORMATION SHEET**

Mon. June 29 & Tue. June 30

Presenter: Pati Kachel

God Is Writing Your Story

Music: Sue Saarem

Hosted by: Women of the ELCA
Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Jacki Johnson – coordinator 715-864-1489

Held at: Luther Park Bible Camp
944 24 ¼ Street Chetek, WI

Full 2 day - Retreat - Early Bird Registration \$95 postmarked by 6/5/26. \$120 postmarked after 6/5/26

This includes 4 meals, overnight lodging in a handicap accessible cabin, cabins sleep 6 women (per side – 2 sides), Speaker, camp activities, and costs to host the retreat.

Needed items for overnight stay: Bible and pen along with personal items, towels, pillows, bedding or sleeping bag, flashlight, swimsuit (if you want to swim), snacks, camera, and spending money.

Monday only, Early Bird Registration \$65 postmarked by 6/5/26. \$90.00 postmarked after 6/5/26

This includes 2 meals, Speaker, camp activities, and costs to host the retreat.

Needed items for one day retreat: Bible and pen along with swimsuit (if you want to swim), towel, camera, and spending money.

NO ONSITE Registration* and *No early check-ins for Cabins

No refunds, but registration can transfer to another woman

Registration: Monday – 9:00 A.M. – 10:15 A.M. in the Ministry Center

First time participant orientation begins at 9:15 a.m. and 9:40 a.m.

A free will offering will be taken with proceeds going to

(Church Women's Group and Personal offerings are encouraged)

½ WELCA for Synod use

¼ Luther Park

¼ Feed My People

TO BE ECO FRIENDLY – PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN RE-FILLABLE WATER BOTTLE
WATER JUGS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CAMP - PLASTIC BOTTLES OF WATER WILL NOT BE PROVIDED

REGISTRATION FORM

Early bird rates apply if postmarked by 6/5/2026



2026

WELCA WOMEN'S RETREAT

Mon. June 29 & Tue. June 30

Meet our Presenter: Pati Kachel

Pati loves God, His people, and His Holy Word....and she loves to tell stories about all of these!
Pati's stories are humorous, heartwarming and above all, Christ-centered.

Drawing on her Norwegian and German heritage, Pati weaves family stories and colorful characters into her homespun tales.

Check out The Parable Fund to learn more about Pati.
<https://www.theparablefund.org/bio>

*God is still writing
YOUR STORY, STOP
trying to steal the pen*

Trust God ♥

SVG | PNG | DXF | EPS | VECTRACE

-----PLEASE DUPLICATE THIS FORM AS NEEDED-----

Registration required by June 22nd

Make Checks Payable to **WELCA** (not your church or Luther Park)

Send to: Barb Krug @ 883 Brucker Street Medford, WI 54451

Questions: call or text 715-965-5696 email: barbkrug@charter.net

Name: First & Last (as you would like it on your name tag) _____

Is this your 1st retreat? _____ Would you like an orientation at the camp? _____

Address: _____

Email _____

Telephone: _____

Church Name and City _____

Attending only on Monday _____

Do you have any special dietary requirements? _____



NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN WOMEN OF THE ELCA BIENNIAL CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH RICE LAKE, WI

Worship with Pastor Melinda Halom

Guest speakers:

Deacon Lidix Montoya & Rev. Lori Ruge-Jones

Breakout Sessions:

Tracy Fischer from ADRC

(Protect our neighbors)

Michelle Pride from Feed My People

(Feed our neighbors)

Mary Trettin from Justice Seekers

(Help our neighbors)

Monica Dejno from Dejno Acres

(Employ our neighbors)

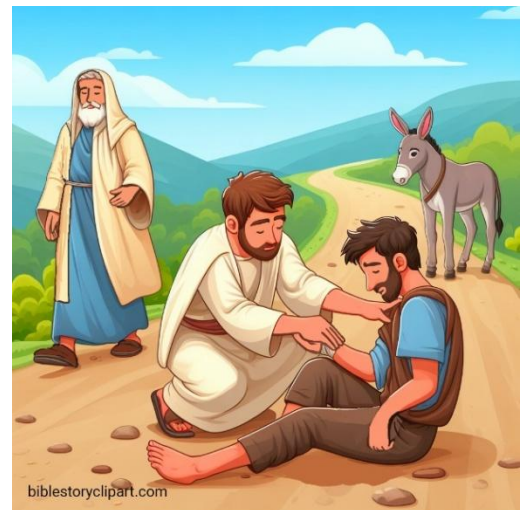
Rev. Lori Ruge-Jones from UW Eau Claire

(Educating our neighbors)

Deacon Lidix Montoya from

Neighbor to Neighbor

(Including our neighbors)



\$20.00 per person
(Lunch included)

To register send a check made out to WELCA to Phyllis Beaström

NW Synod of WI SWO Treasurer, W6244 410th Ave. Ellsworth, WI 54011

Questions: beaström@redwing.net cell # 715-821-5847 | home # 715-273-5847

Border Servant Corps Immersion Trip

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Monday, October 12 - Saturday, October 17, 2026

From Border Servant Corp:

Uniting Voices: Cultivating Understanding In A Divided World

In today's polarized society - surrounding almost every issue - it is increasingly important to come together, get to know one another, learn about realities, think critically, and proactively engage with renewed understanding.

BSC's border immersion is intentionally designed to provide a comprehensive spectrum of views about immigration and the borderlands by:

- Speaking with first-generation immigrants.
- Visiting local organizations working with immigrant populations. Possibly crossing the border. **Must have a passport.**
- Meeting with government officials to hear about border protection and law enforcement.
- Learning about immigration law.
- Building an understanding of economic policies and realities affecting people on the border.

Learn more at borderservantcorps.org

Transportation - Cost yet to be determined - Flight from Minneapolis to El Paso and in El Paso we will rent a van(s) and continue one hour to Las Cruces.

Group Size: Limit 15

Accommodations - We will be staying at the Janaan House in Las Cruces part of Border Servants. There are 18 beds some of which will be bunk beds. Lodging, all meals (once we arrive), and programming are \$750 per person.

Trip cost ~ \$1,500.00 (hopefully this is on the high end mainly dependent on flight cost)

Questions contact Mary Meierotto marymeierotto@gmail.com



Offering Form B

For use by **CONGREGATIONAL UNITS**
for offerings to **CHURCHWIDE**

Use Form B for **Thankofferings, Where Needed Most, Katie's Fund, Special Offerings, and Designated Gifts** to WELCA and ELCA ministries. Make check payable to "Women of the ELCA." For more information, please call 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2730 or go online to womenoftheelca.org.

Mail form with check to: Women of the ELCA, ELCA Gift Processing Center, PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.

		DATE	
CONGREGATION		CONGREGATION NUMBER	
CONGREGATION CITY/STATE		ZIP	REGION/SYNOD
UNIT TREASURER NAME		PHONE NUMBER	
ADDRESS		EMAIL	
CITY/STATE		ZIP	

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
WOG0420 THANKOFFERING	\$
DESIGNATED GIFTS & SPECIAL OFFERINGS (PLEASE SPECIFY)	
WOG0466 WELCA WHERE NEEDED MOST	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
TOTAL	\$



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