

Reflections...

A Newsletter of the Women of the ELCA + Northern Great Lakes Synod

September 2018

A message from...Synod Women's Organization President Melzee Jacobson

Dear Sisters in Christ, I have been trying to figure out where the summer has gone. I look back and know that I was busy with various things, but I still am not sure exactly what I accomplished and did I really complete all the projects I started? The summer has been filled with church activities such as our annual Bluegrass Service, Vacation Bible School, having to participate in physical therapy after x-rays and an MRI for my left leg, starting out with a cold and ending with pneumonia which it still seems that I am recovering from. But then as I get older it just seems to keep winding up. Speaking of exciting things with SWO, this year we took on the request from the Mkuza Girl's School in our companion synod in Tanzania. They had a need for funds to place piping to get the clean water from their well to the buildings. We were able to send monies to get the project started and continued to raise more. I am glad to announce that through many gifts from our units and individuals along with gifts from area churches in our synod we were able to send another large amount of funds to them in August. We were also blessed when we received an anonymous offer challenging us to raise a matching \$4,000.00 by convention and the donor would match it. I am happy to say that the funds we sent in August were a part of that challenge and they totaled \$3,100.00 plus. We have had reports that there are other sums coming to the convention also. Last year during the convention and retreat we welcomed donations of used Christian books that raised funds for Mkuza and we are going to repeat that again this year. So if you have any books that you would like to share, please bring them. We ask for donations when you chose books from the table to take home with you. There have been some of us who have been making prayer beads. Some beads are used in a general prayer sequence (which we provide the instructions for) and others are used to Pray the Small Catechism (also includes an instruction booklet). We sold some at the synod assembly and have shared the patterns with others that requested it. We will have prayer beads at the convention and retreat this year for sale. I learned to make the general prayer beads during Lay School. I started making them for our confirmands at their confirmation and they were graciously accepted. During the President's meeting that I attended in February in Chicago, we were able to purchase items that we will also have for sale at the convention and retreat. If you are coming, please check out the table. With that in mind, this convention again is being attended by a larger number of voting members and guests. We are so pleased that the numbers have been increasing over the past few years. The retreat this year is larger than the last two years. We have two individuals staying off site and we have at this time 64 ladies registered to stay at the camp. Every woman in our congregations is a woman of the ELCA. We know that we are all getting more mature but that does not mean that we have stopped doing ministry both within our church community but also outside. Cluster meetings are a way to fellowship with other ladies from your cluster. I pray that you will watch to see when they are scheduled and, if you have not attended one in a while, I hope that you will consider attending one this fall. The SWO Board members are available to work with the clusters and all the congregations within to see what we can do to help you with your ministries. I think that when we consider ourselves "members" of either the church or an associated church organization, we tend to become too comfortable with things. Something has been nudging me lately that I need to begin living as Jesus had shown us to live, to share our stories and the

gospel, to share what God is doing in our lives and our church communities, to partake in Bible Studies so that we can better listen to what God wants us to do. I like to think of it as becoming a Disciple for Christ versus being just a member. I pray that when the Holy Spirit comes knocking on your heart and soul that he and you will find a fire being kindled within you that will excite you and give you a new feeling of excitement to join us as we are all one in mission. None of us can do everything, but all of us can do something and I have the biggest faith that you have done and will do great things as we journey together. As the time draws near for our annual convention and retreat, I ask that you pray that the Holy Spirit will be amongst those who are making the trip to attend this year. I also ask that you pray for the Board Members as they continue to work and plan on your behalf. I also ask that if you use facebook, that you look up our facebook page NGLSWO (group) and like us and even join us in our new communication venue. May God Bless each and every one of you as you are made in His image and have been given gifts that only you can bless others with.

Melzee Jacobson

A message from...Synod Women's Organization Secretary, Barb Rice

A Word from Your Secretary:

It has been a busy summer for both NGLSWO and for your secretary. I am excited that our Synodical unit continues to be involved in outreach for justice and education for women and girls. We have continued our support of Mkuza Girls' School in Tanzania; we have made a sincere effort in informing our NGLS women of opportunities to learn about the existence and ramifications of human trafficking in our area; we are exploring ways to help women in our area who have been sexually abused; we continue to create and supply dresses and shorts to children in third world countries and in areas suffering from natural disaster. And we keep looking for other ways to reach out as we believe Our Lord Jesus would have us do. Although this summer has kept me occupied in many different directions, I continue to pray for and support my dear Sisters in Christ as you strive to be God's Hands in so many diverse ways! I thank God for all of you, for the ministries in which you offer in your home congregations, and for your support of our NGLSWO board as it continues to do the work we feel called to do. As fall approaches and the church "program year" begins, may you be blessed with all you need to carry out all you do!

Barb Rice
Secretary

A Message from...Synod Women's Organization Treasurer, Kris Carlson

Greetings, Dear Sisters in Christ:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your treasurer. Thank you for your prayers and support. There have been staffing changes at Churchwide; and I was asked to be a facilitator at the Churchwide Treasurer's training in Chicago in May. (To be honest, my first reaction was "totally floored"). It was nice to share information with treasurers from other synods. I'm also the liaison to the Four Rivers Cluster. Wasn't able to make their spring luncheon get-together. Thanks to Pam for attending. The offering taken was split between Fortune Lake and SWO. I did travel with Melzee to meet the ladies from the Copper Country at their spring gathering. Thank you again for your generosity throughout the year with your Regular (Form A) Offerings, as well as Convention and Retreat offerings. A portion goes to support Churchwide programs and missions and a portion stays in our Synod for the work of the Synodical Women's Organization to help support scholarships and other programs here in our Synod. Your cluster offerings support the work of the SWO and aid agencies

helping our neighbors in need. Thank you for your continued support of the Mkuza Girls School. We are continuing to support the school for their water project and vehicle need

As treasurer, I am the one who should receive any offerings that you are passing along to Churchwide and the Synod. My address is 304 Lake Street, Ironwood MI 49938. A Regular Offering (on Form A) makes you a "giving unit", entitling your church to have a voting member at the SWO convention in September; and also, impacts the number of delegates we can send to future national gatherings. If you need additional copies of Form A, they are available on the Women of the ELCA website; or, I will be happy to send you additional copies. You can call me at 906-932-0476 (leave a message if I'm not there) or you can e-mail me kriskarin@sbcglobal.net. **Please note that any offerings that you wish to be included in this fiscal year MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 31, 2018**

Kris Carlson, Treasurer

A Message from... Synod Women's Organization Board Members

A Message From Sue Hill:

What a busy summer, there has been little time to put newer stuff into the albums but I have been busy trying. I have received some materials from previous years and have been able to add them to their appropriate years. As is my usual message if you have anything you'd like to donate to help fill out the albums I will take it. If you would like to bring items to our convention, I will be glad to do the sorting and put in the books so future historians will be free to concentrate on current events. Hope to be seeing you in September.

Sue Hill
SWO Board Member

Thoughts by Elaine Kuhlman on what is a Disciple?

What is a disciple?

As a disciple of Christ we are to share our love of the Lord with others by the way we conduct our lives. As we relate with other people in bible studies, church functions, community activities and with family. The way we live tells a lot about who we are.

During bible studies we share our thought on theology and what we think the study has to say to us. Church functions give us opportunity to show people we act on what we believe by being involved with other Christians by sharing our time. Community functions show our compassion and love for all people of all faiths, and families see how we live our faith in their lives by our actions. There are many ways to grow in knowledge on how to be a good disciple. Go to bible studies, read daily devotions, utilize the many Lutheran magazines like the Gather Magazine and the Lutheran Magazine. Share with others your understanding of what you read.

Always put Christ in your lives.

God's Blessing
Elaine Kuhlmann
SWO Board Member

Headwaters Cluster 5 Submitted by...Cluster Liaison Gail Schmidt

On March 25th, Melzee and I took the opportunity to meet with the ladies and gentlemen of Our Savior Church in Marinette. We explained to them what WELCA is. Melzee gave an inspiring talk about the various projects we have undertaken, church wide, such as the britches for boys, dresses for girls, crocheted plastic bag mats, and LWR quilting . We also told them about our conventions and retreats at Fortune Lake. The men at their church help with funeral dinners, quilting and various other activities. We also showed them the Lutheran rosaries as well.

We explained about the ongoing projects at the Mkuza girls school, and explained that we are available to help with any of the afore mentioned projects.

They were gracious enough to invite us to dinner, which we partook of. I did send a thank you note, with my business card should they wish to talk further.

Respectfully,
Gail Schmidt
Cluster 5 liaison

Cluster Corner

Fall Cluster Meetings

#1-IGO To Be Announced

#2-Copper Country, planning meeting is September 8th at 10 am EST at Siloa Lutheran Church 218 East River St, Ontonagon, Mi

The Rally is on October 6th with registration at 9am EST meeting at 9:30 am at Siloa Lutheran Church in Ontonagon, Mi.

#3-Headwaters Saturday, October 13 – Calvary Lutheran, Minocqua, WI

#4-Four Rivers Saturday, October 6 – Grace Lutheran, Pembine, WI

#5-Menominee No cluster meetings presently.

#6-Delta October to be announced

#7-Three Lakes No cluster meetings presently.

#8-Superior Sunday, September 23, Bethel Lutheran, Ispheming, MI

Fortune Lake Fall Fest

October 6, 2018 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

A fun way to help support our ministry, come join us on October 6, 2018 for our 22nd annual Fortune Lake Fall Fest and Quilt Auction.



Come join us on October 6, 2018 for our 22nd Annual Fortune Lake Fall Fest and Quilt Auction!



2018 Upper Elementary Retreat

October 12 - 13, 2018

Ages: 4th - 6th Grade



[2018 UnFinished Object \(UFO\) Craft Retreat](#)

November 2 - 4, 2018

Join us for an opportunity to work on those crafts you haven't had time to finish, relax at Camp, and get to know other great people in the process.



[2018 JR High and SR High Retreats](#)

November 2 - 3, 2018

Fun, faith and friends! This retreat is a great way to get the year off to a great start! Expect games, singing, Bible studies, and lots more!

Reflections Newsletter Subscription Form One year (3-4 Issues) \$5.00

Subscriber's Name _____

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_____ 1 year (\$5) _____ 2 yrs \$10 _____ 3 yrs (\$15) _____ 4 yrs (\$20)

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Make check payable to: NGL/SWO-Reflections:

Mail to: Kris Carlson
304 Lake Street
Ironwood, MI 49938

If you would like to receive a digital copy you may send your name and e-mail to Melzee Jacobson
imlizrd@yahoo.com.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE:

CHECK # _____

CASH _____

DATE RECEIVED _____

DATE EXPIRES _____

NGLSWO T-SHIRTS / SWEATSHIRTS

FOR SALE! You may purchase a T-shirt / Sweatshirt with the Northern Great Lakes Synodical Women's Organization logo. A local printing shop is happy to help us out! Orders may be placed by sending them to

Kris Carlson, SWO Treasurer.

T-Shirts Quantity Long Sleeve T Quantity Sweatshirts Quantity

Small	10.00	_____	14.00	_____	16.00	_____
Medium	10.00	_____	14.00	_____	16.00	_____
Large	10.00	_____	14.00	_____	16.00	_____
X-Large (1XL)	10.00	_____	14.00	_____	16.00	_____
2 XL	10.00	_____	14.00	_____	16.00	_____
3 XL	11.00	_____	15.00	_____	18.00	_____
4 XL	12.00	_____	16.00	_____	20.00	_____
5 XL	13.00	_____	17.00	_____	22.00	_____

You may order individually, as a small group, or as a WELCA group. Orders will be shipped to one address for each order.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ (Home) _____ (Cell)

E-MAIL: _____

Please note the Board Members will have shirts with Black Lettering (to designate they are Board Members). All other shirts for NGLSWO will have White Lettering.

T-Shirts are available in teal or sapphire blue. Long Sleeve T-Shirts and Sweatshirts are available in sapphire blue.

Mail check and orders to: Kris Carlson, SWO Treasurer, 304 Lake St., Ironwood MI 49938

NGLSWO Record Only: Check # _____

Order received date: _____ Order mailed: _____

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
Northern Great Lakes Synodical Woman's Organization
You must be a member of an NGLS/ELCA Congregation. Complete this form, mail by deadline.

<u>Event for which you are Requesting a Scholarship:</u> (check only one)	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Fortune Lake Camp Women and Kids Week (Adult Only)	\$100 each	May 1, 2018
<input type="checkbox"/> Fortune Lake Camp Grand(moms)parents-Kids Week (Adult Only)	\$80 each	May 1, 2018
<input type="checkbox"/> Synodical Women's Organization Convention	\$25 each	July 31, 2018
<input type="checkbox"/> Fortune Lake Camp Women's Fall Retreat	\$75 each	July 31, 2018
<input type="checkbox"/> Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering	\$300 each	Jan 1, 2020

Please remit the required \$25 with each application; made payable to SWO (Synodical Women's Organization).
This will be refunded after you attend the event and may not be used as part of your registration monies.
If you do not receive a scholarship, it will be refunded after the participants have been chosen.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone: Home (____) _____ Work/Cell (____) _____ E-mail _____

Church Name and City _____

Please state your involvement with Women of the ELCA as well as other church activities _____

What are your reasons for requesting scholarship support? _____

Why is attending this event important to you? _____

Your age group: 18-24 _____ 25-34 _____ 35-44 _____ 45-64 _____ 65+ _____

Are you participating in this event for the first time? Yes _____ No _____

If no, have you ever received a SWO Scholarship for this event before? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, when? _____

How will you use this experience when you return home? _____

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Mail this application to: Kris Carlson, 304 Lake Street, Ironwood, MI 49938 kriskarin@sbcglobal.net

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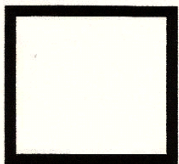
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REFLECTIONS Newsletter



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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

Our Mission

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