

Reflections...

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

May 2022

2022 Fall Convention and Retreat Issue

Celebration of Women”

Luke 1: 45 *“And blessed is she who believed that there would be fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord”*. NRSV

Dear Sisters in Christ,

We are excited about our Women's Fall Retreat coming up in September 16-18 at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp and our annual Convention Friday September 16. Our retreat theme this year is "Celebration of Women"

We look forward to having Pastor Terry Frankenstein as our convention retreat chaplain and Bible study leader for the weekend. Pastor Terry is the pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church in Escanaba, MI.

Our planning team consists of SWO Board Members. We entertain the idea of having a host committee come forward to host the 2023 Retreat. The planning team for all conventions is the SWO Board Officers and members. While all the specifics aren't nailed down and planning is still ongoing, rest assured there will

be worship, workshops, bible study, good meals, singing and lots of fellowship!

The retreat starts Friday with registration in the Dining Hall at 4:00 with dinner at 5:30. The remainder of the schedule will be revealed when you arrive at camp. And don't forget to pack your Bible!

Information for the convention and retreat is contained within this newsletter along with registrations forms, scholarship forms, nomination forms for those willing to serve on the SWO Board

Come to camp and "Celebrate Women"!
Your Retreat Planning Team



Please read what the constitution says about

Nomination and Election of Voting Members of the Triennial Convention

- Nominations for voting members of the Triennial Convention shall be made by the units. Each unit shall submit the name of only one person, who shall be a voting member of an ELCA congregation and shall strive to be a participant in the unit.
- A unit may submit the name of a nominee even though the synodical president (or convener, coordinator, or

co-chair), or a churchwide officer, or a churchwide board member (voting member by virtue of her office)

- The Nominating Committee in selecting nominees for voting members to the Triennial Convention shall follow these guidelines:
 - o as nearly as possible, at least 10 percent shall be persons of color and/or persons whose primary language is other than English; and
 - o consideration shall be given to geographic location, variety of ages, and diversity of experience, including living with a disability.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, instructs the hearts of the faithful, grant, that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and every rejoice in His consolations. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

We have traveled through an unprecedented journey over the past 2+ years. We have slowed down with all our activities and had time to discern and evaluate a new normal in our lives. It is time that we pray to our Father in Heaven for guidance and His will as to what we are being called to do in our churches and as Women of the ELCA. There are three expressions in this organization. The rock expression is that of the Unit (Women of each local congregation). Next comes the Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) Board that works on behalf of all the units and conferences in the Synod. Then comes the Churchwide Women's Organization (CWO)

which consists of the Executive Staff and the Executive Board which is elected every three years at a Triennial Meeting of all 64 Regions of Synodical Women's Organization in the United States and Puerto Rico.

The past 2+ years has been one of many changes in the organizations.

On the unit level: We have seen

- A decrease in active women in the organization in our congregations
- A decrease in active units within the churches

- After 35 years since the organization of Women of the ELCA, we see that we can no longer be the organizations that our mothers and our grandmothers were active in. Passions and energy of those coming of age have changed.
- We need to build relationships with the young women who are active in our churches and our communities. We need to look at our world and what is happening to see where we as women can minister, share the Good News, work for justice issues, become involved

with protecting our children who face a world much different than the one we grew up in.

- We need the matriarchs of our church communities to share their wisdom and talents with all of us. Experience and education and wisdom is important to share with those who follow us.

On the synodical level: We have seen

- A lack of willingness of women to step forward into leadership roles.

Your local synodical SWO has

- Gone to meeting monthly via Zoom. We used to meet once a quarter at FLLC from 9 am to 3:30 pm. By going to Zoom we have eliminated the obstacle of geographical distance that hinder members in the outer edges of our synod from participating on the board. We have also cut our meeting time from all day to one to one-an-a-half hours. This has also allowed a decrease in funds paid out for mileage to and from the meeting site. In August we plan a face-to-face at FLLC which also allows us to bring materials to the camp early for the convention and retreat.
- In the past year we have had three board members resign. The SWO board appointed two members to finish out the year and those two members are Mary Ellen Perkins from Cluster 2 and Sandy Feleppa from Cluster 7.
- We held Zoom gatherings with members to discuss events, issues, projects, and ideas to share with units to create some enthusiasm. These things will be listed on the website and were issued in a recent Reflections newsletter.
- The Board members have been

planning both the 2022 Convention and Retreat. The board is always responsible for planning the convention; however, we are also always looking for a group to host the retreat and we pray that a group will step up to plan the 2023 retreat.

- The board liaisons have worked during the past couple of years to stay in contact with the units. In the future, we ask that the leaders or contacts for the churches will communicate with their liaisons especially when they have events, projects or events happening.

Again, we prepare for our Annual Convention and Retreat to be held September 16-18, 2022, at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp.

This year's elections will include all Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer along with Board Members (8 one from each cluster), a member at large and Triennial Voting Members (2).

The President and Treasurer along with half of the board members will be elected for a two-year term. The Vice President and Secretary along with the other half of the board will be

elected for a one-year term. We must do the elections this way because of the Pandemic keeping us from meeting and electing offices as we would normally do thus following constitutional guidelines.

We will begin with a Communion Service along with prayers on Friday morning. The Prayer Boxes will be located at the Registration Table, so please be prepared to bring your prayer requests with you. We will have a box for prayers to be shared and a box for prayers for God's Eyes Only.

Our Churchwide Representative has not been identified as of this printing. The Churchwide Executive Board met on April 23, 2022 and voted to send representatives to the conventions this year. Come and meet her.

We invite every church in the Synod to send a voting member to the Convention this year and a guest who can join them on the drive, especially if it is a distance.

(Section 2, Item 1 and 2 of the NGLSWO (Northern Great Lakes Synodical Women's Organization Constitution) **Voting members of a convention shall be the elected officers or SWO leaders and board members of the synodical women's organization and one voting member from each unit on the role of this synodical women's organization. Those congregations not represented by a unit shall be invited to send to the regular convention one representative who shall have seat and voice.**

We also invite those who need to come on Thursday night because of the distance to join the board at FLLC. There will be a minimal cost for housing that night (dependent on where you sleep) and you may join the board for supper (on your own) if you would like.

The cost for convention attendees is \$45.00 per person. We encourage that if you do not

have a unit treasury that you seek assistance from your church council to attend. Each woman in an ELCA church is a woman of the ELCA.

As we all know we ask the next generation to join us. Invite them to come with you. Give your cluster liaison a call (listing at the back of this newsletter) if you have any questions or call Melzee Jacobson, Registrar 906.282.0169 (leave your name, number and a message.)

Our Synodical Constitutions identifies our purpose:

ARTICLE II—PURPOSE

SECTION 1. Purpose of the Synodical Women's Organization

The purpose of this synodical women's organization shall be to assist units within its territory to fulfill the purpose of Women of the ELCA.

SECTION 2. Purpose of Women of the ELCA

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.



2022 ANNUAL NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNODICAL WOMAN'S ORGANIZATION CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

(Please save this page for your
information)

CONVENTION INFORMATION

Every church in our *Northern Great Lakes Synodical Women's Organization* should send **ONE VOTING MEMBER** to attend convention each year.

We welcome guests to come with you to convention.

Please choose your voting member and register as early as possible.

Registration deadline is July 31, 2022.
Final payment is due August 15, 2022

- Each person attending the convention whether a voting member or a guest is required to pay the \$45.00 registration fee.
- Please send the check made out to SWO along with the registration form and the voter member credentials form to Melzee Jacobson, Registrar, 527 E Margaret St, Ironwood, MI 49938
- Information packets will be sent to voting members and guests two weeks prior to convention.
Please read the materials and bring the day of the convention. Be ready with any questions or comments about the materials that you have.
If you need your answers before the convention, please call your assigned liaison or 906.282.0169.
- **Convention check-in: FRIDAY 9:00 am - 9:45 am CDT, September 16, 2022** unless an unforeseen delay in arrival occurs or an emergency arises, in which case the

convention registrar must be contacted at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. (You may call the Camp Office at 906.214.2267 or text 906.282.0169).

- Business and elections of the Convention is a 1 DAY EVENT (begins at 10:00 am with worship CDT and ends at 3:30 pm).
- **Friday lunch is included in the cost of your registration**; however, **no other meals** are provided.
There will be coffee, hot water for tea and cold water provided along with an assortment of snacks Friday morning.
- Housing is available for Thursday night for those who have a longer distance to travel, contact Melzee Jacobson for information (906-282-0169 or imlizrd@yahoo.com).

OFFERINGS

- o Your personal/individual offering will be received during the convention opening worship. Distribution of this offering is ½ to help Ukrainian Refugees and ½ to SWO.
- o Convention offerings (In-Gathering offering) from the Congregational Units will be received during the business meeting. You can also bring a regular offering from your Congregational unit at this time. Please be sure to include a ***Form A*** with the unit offering.
- o In-kind this year will be designated for Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. You will find a Wish List of small items and large items in this newsletter.

meet at 9:30 a.m. CDT on Friday,
September 16, 2022 with your assigned
advisor

INFORMATION FOR VOTING MEMBERS

The Convention Voting Member:

- Is required to be present at all business sessions of Friday, September 16, 2022.
- Registration begins 9:00 a.m. CDT on Friday, September 16, 2022, prior to the opening of worship at 10:00 am CDT.
Please be aware that a voting member MUST BE REGISTERED IN ORDER TO VOTE. If the voting member is not registered before 9:45 a.m. CDT on Friday, September 16, she cannot vote in the session of business.
- Be aware that if a substitute is registering in her place, this substitution must officially register by 9:45 a.m. CDT on Friday, September 16, 2022.
- Name badges will be given at the time of registration and there is a requirement that the name tags be always worn during the entire convention. If you have no name tag, you will not be eligible to vote.
- Must sit at a table designated for voting members in the front of the chapel during convention business sessions.
- If assigned to a Convention Committee (listed in the Convention booklet) you will

INFORMATION FOR OTHER CONVENTION PARTICIPANTS

The non-voting member participant:

Must register on Friday, September 16, 2022,
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CDT

You will receive a name badge at registration, as well as a Convention Program and Reports book.

- You are required to wear your name badge to all meetings of the convention.
- You may sit in the chairs behind the voting members.
- You are encouraged to attend the voting member orientation session.
- You may leave the chapel as needed during the Convention but must do so quietly.
- Please do not talk during the business sessions from the back of the room, take your conversation outside.

The Northern Great Lakes Synodical Women's Convention provides an opportunity for each women's church group to take part in the decisions of the organization. Please send a voting member from your congregation.

Come for the Convention.... stay for the Retreat!!

NGLSWO T-SHIRTS / SWEATSHIRTS

NOTE: The previous Print Shop that we were working with had a change in management recently. We are now working with the new owners to see if they inherited our artwork. As soon as we have information about ordering shirts, we will post an order form on the <https://nglsynod.org/welca> website and will include an order form in the September newsletter/convention booklet.

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.

**Fall Retreat:
General Information
SEPTEMBER 16-18. 2022**

Check-in from 4-5:00 pm Friday in the Dining Room or Saturday Morning until 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

The Fall Retreat activities begin Friday evening, September 16, with an evening meal and ends Sunday at 11 a.m. September 18

***What to bring: Bible, flashlight, comfortable clothes and shoes, swimsuit (for sauna), soap and toiletries.
This year we are asking that each attendee bring a snack to share in the Café area which you can leave at the registration table.***

Accommodations at Camp:

- **Duplex:** A Duplex has two bunkhouse rooms with full bath facilities/showers (connected by a shared lounge area, which includes a refrigerator). Each side of the duplex holds up to 5 women using only the bottom bunk which has a thick mattress. **Bring your own bedding and towels.**
 - You may bring snacks and drinks, to be shared in the duplex.
- **Grace Lodge:** Double occupancy. There are seven rooms. Each bedroom has a sink and two single beds. A bathroom is shared with the adjoining room. Bedding and towels are provided. (The eighth room is reserved for the Chaplain).
 - If you bring snacks or drinks, there is a refrigerator you may use in the commons room.
- **Emanuel Lodge:** Quad occupancy means two queen beds, two people per bed, four per room. Each room has a full bath. Bedding and towels are provided. There is a futon in each room so a fifth person can sleep on it if needed and willing. **There has to be a minimum of 3 persons to a room to have the \$140.00 registration fee.**
 - Snacks and drinks may be kept in the refrigerator in the common room but must be labeled, as the host committee will be using that room for the Café on Saturday afternoon.

Sorry, no single rooms available. If a single room is desired, motels in the area are available. A state campground is directly across the lake from camp if you prefer to bring a camper. It is recommended to make reservations ahead of time. Information listed on registration form.

Sorry, **no dogs or other pets are allowed** at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp.

If you have any dietary restrictions, you may need to bring a cooler with whatever you will need. We can't accommodate special diets although we will be serving heart-healthy meals.

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/)



Rooms will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.

1. ***EXCEPTION:*** *Handicap rooms will be held and assigned after registration is closed, unless requested by an individual in need of them. There is one handicap room in Grace Lodge and one in Emanuel Lodge.*
2. If you have a group that wants to share a facility/room, then all registrations must be submitted together by the registration deadline. The sooner you submit your group registration; the better opportunity you have of reserving your room.
3. Grace Lodge tends to fill the quickest. Recommendations are that if you wish to have accommodations here that you submit your registration(s) as quickly as possible.
4. Scholarships

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF AN ELCA CONGREGATION FROM THE NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP FOR EITHER THE CONVENTION, THE FALL RETREAT or the TRIENNIAL GATHERING

*** Convention Scholarship is \$25.00; Fall Retreat Scholarship is \$75.00
Scholarship forms are due by July 31, 2022***

***EACH scholarship form, retreat or convention, MUST BE SUBMITTED ALONG WITH A PERSONAL CHECK FOR \$25.00. Whether you are granted a scholarship or not your personal check will be returned.
Please note, if you are granted a scholarship and do not attend, your check will not be returned, but will be cashed.***

*Full payment must be received no later than August 15, 2022. A late fee of \$15.00 will be added to the cost of the convention and a late fee of \$25.00 will be added to the cost of the retreat if full payment is not received by the above stated date.
Cancellation refunds will not be given after September 6, 2022.*

Convention/Retreat

We will be having a used Christian Book Table.

- If you have any books you would like to donate, please bring them with you. A free will offering will be taken for any books that you would like to take home from the table.

Displays

There will be numerous displays available. Gather Display, Lutheran World Relief Display, FLLC Fall Fest Display, Trades of Hope Products, Triennial information.

Registration
2022 SWO Convention
September 16, 2022
FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Church _____ Voting Member _____ Guest _____

**IF YOU NEED TO SPEND THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE CAMP, PLEASE CALL
MELZEE JACOBSON 906.282.0169 FOR MORE INFORMATION.
THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER AND FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST ARE ON YOUR OWN.**

Convention cost is \$45.00, check payable to: SWO

- ❖ Send in this registration form along with your full payment for the convention and housing, if required.
- ❖ If applying for a scholarship, please send completed scholarship form for the convention scholarship, **along with a \$25.00 check payable to SWO.**
 - If you receive a scholarship and attend the weekend, this check will be returned.
 - If you receive a scholarship and do not attend the weekend, this check will NOT be returned.
 - If you do not receive a scholarship, this check will be returned.
- ❖ The Synodical Women's Organization will be awarding a limited number of scholarships (in the amount of \$25.00 each) available if you are attending the Convention and need assistance. Consideration will be given to hardship and/or first-time attendees and to those who have not received scholarships in the past.
- ❖ Please indicate the amount that you are sending \$ _____
- ❖ Registrations are to be sent to:
Melzee Jacobson, Registrar, 527 E Margaret St, Ironwood, MI 49938
*Questions may be directed to the above at 906-282-0169, if you leave a message, your call will be returned as soon as possible.

**There will be no refunds for cancellations
received after September 6, 2022.**

VOTING MEMBER CREDENTIALS
2022 SWO Convention
September 16, 2022 – Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

CONGREGATIONAL UNIT INFORMATION

Church Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

If you are willing to serve on any of the following committees during the convention, please mark your choice. Should you mark more than one, we will place you where you are needed. Also, circle the name of the committee if you are willing to be its chairperson. Thank you.

_____ Credentials

_____ Offerings

_____ Elections

_____ Resolutions



Registration Form
2022 Women's Fall Retreat
September 16-18, 2022
FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP

Please complete both sides of registration form.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Church _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Roommate(s) preference name: _____

Duplex: (<u>Bring your own bedding & towels</u>)	\$125.00	Spruce	Maple	Oak
Emmanuel Lodge (bedding and towels provided)	\$140.00	4 occupants/2 queen beds	6 rooms	
Grace Lodge (bedding and towels provided)	\$140.00	2 occupants/2 single beds	7 rooms	

Indicate your housing choice: (Prices are per person).

If you do not need housing for the Retreat, cost is \$80.00 \$ _____ (Fri, Sat, Sun)

\$50.00 \$ _____ (Saturday only)

See off site motel information on reverse side of this registration form.

**A \$50.00 DEPOSIT PER REGISTRATION/PERSON IS REQUIRED AND IS
NONREFUNDABLE. THE REMAINING BALANCE IS DUE NO LATER THAN**

AUGUST 15, 2022.

(A LATE FEE WILL BE ADDED FOR ANY BALANCE NOT RECEIVED BY AUGUST 15, 2022)

Send in this registration form along with your full payment or the minimum deposit of \$50.00 for the retreat.

Please indicate the amount that you are sending \$ _____ .

- Please make check payable to: SWO
- Registrations are to be sent to:
 - o *Melzee Jacobson, Registrar, 527 E Margaret St Ironwood MI 49938*
- Questions may be directed to the above at 906-364-7184 or 906-282-0169 imlizrd@yahoo.com. If you leave a message, your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Please complete reverse side - OVER

Off-site Motel Information below:

AmericInn	40 W Adams St, Iron River, MI 49935	906.265.9100
Lakeshore Motel	1257 W Ice Lake Rd, Iron River, MI 49935	906.265.3611

Pease make your own reservations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED

- If, for whatever reason, you do not plan to stay both nights during the retreat, could you please indicate below which night you **WILL NOT** be staying

Friday _____ Saturday _____

Please indicate below which meals you will be present for:

1. Friday: Dinner _____
2. Saturday: Breakfast _____ Lunch _____ Dinner _____
3. Sunday: Brunch _____

If you will be joining the Board and staying on Thursday night, please indicate here _____ so arrangements can be made.

Do you have dietary restrictions? _____

Do you have any allergies? _____

There will be no refunds for cancellations received after September 6, 2022.

NOMINATION FORM
2022 SWO Convention
Northern Great Lakes Synodical Women's Organization

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Church Name and town – Cluster Name and Conference Number

OFFICES AND/OR ACTIVITIES DURING PAST SIX YEARS

You're Invited!

In your church:

Community Activity:

In your occupation and/or education

Please check where you are willing to serve:

SWO Board Member (2 yrs.) _____
SWO Board Member (1 yr.) _____
SWO Member-At-Large (2 yrs.) _____
SWO Secretary (1 yr.) _____

SWO Treasurer (2 yrs.) _____
Nominating Committee (1 yr.) _____
Triennial Voting Member _____

President (2 yrs.) and Vice President (1 yr.) is elected on a Nominating Ecclesiastical Ballot, but we are inquiring if you would like to have your name on the nominating ballot. At the convention, a voting member would have to write your name on the first ballot for the position.

President Yes No

Vice President Yes No

Nominee's Signature _____ Date _____

MAIL THIS FORM TO: Melzee Jacobson, Registrar, 527 E Margaret St, Ironwood, MI 49938

MAILING DEADLINE: **July 12, 2022**

JOB DESCRIPTIONS

(FROM THE UPDATED 2017 SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION)

Item 1. The president, convener, coordinator, or co-chair shall

- a. preside at all conventions of the synodical women's organization and at meetings of the board and executive committee;
- b. ensure that the constitution and bylaws of the synodical women's organization are duly observed and that the actions thereof are carried into effect, and appoint all committees not otherwise provided for;
- c. be an ex-officio member of all committees of the synodical women's organization except the Nominating Committee;
- d. submit a report to each regular convention of the synodical women's organization concerning her work, with observations and recommendations affecting the synodical women's organization as she may deem important;
- e. serve as liaison with the churchwide women's organization and attend the meetings of the Conference of Synodical Presidents;
- f. represent the synodical women's organization at, or appoint representatives to, inter-Lutheran and ecumenical associations and councils in which the organization participates; and
- g. serve as representative to the Synod Council, or appoint a representative.

Item 2. The vice president, co-convener, co-coordinator, or co-chair shall

- a. act in the absence, disability, or resignation of the president, a convener, coordinator, or joint co-chair. She shall assume the duties of that position until the vacancy is filled by the board of the synodical women's organization at its next regularly scheduled meeting; and
- b. perform such other duties as requested by the president, or a convener, coordinator, or joint co-chair or the board.

Item 3. The secretary or secretary/communicator shall

- a. be the secretary of the board and the executive committee of the synodical women's organization;
- b. be responsible for recording and distributing minutes of the synodical convention, the board, and the executive committee;
- c. give the units notification of the regular convention at least three months in advance and of a special convention at least one month in advance;
- d. keep a correct register of the roll of units, along with the names of the officers or leaders of these units;
- e. secure from the units such reports as from time to time may be required;
- f. perform such other duties as the board may from time to time direct; and
- g. provide for the gathering and preserving of historical records and documents.

Item 4. The treasurer shall

- a. provide for the keeping of all records and be accountable for all funds;
- b. be responsible for disbursing funds in accordance with the financial policies of Women of the ELCA and the budget of the synodical women's organization; and
- c. present a complete report, including an accounting compilation or review, to the synodical women's organization convention and an interim report to each board and executive committee meeting.

SECTION 6. Board Members

- There shall be three or more members of the board elected by the convention of the synodical women's organization for a term of two years. Each board member shall be a voting member of an ELCA congregation and shall strive to be a participant in a unit.
- No elected board member shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms.
- No elected board member shall serve on the board in the capacity of SWO leader, and/or board member for more than seven consecutive years.

- Should a vacancy occur in the membership of the board, the board of the synodical women's organization shall fill the same until the next regular convention. Each election by the convention shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- The terms of the board members shall begin immediately following installation.

Board Duties

- Transact necessary business and make programmatic decisions between conventions.
- Set policies required for effective and efficient functioning.
- Supervise and coordinate the work of all committees that the board may appoint.
- Identify board members for networking between the churchwide organization and the unit in both programmatic and organizational concerns.
- Determine the time and place of each convention. Conventions may be held solely by one or more means of remote or virtual communications, provided that the number of participants is sufficient to constitute a quorum.
- Prepare the proposed agenda, rules of procedure, and program for adoption by each convention.
- Report its actions to each regular convention.
- Recommend the budget to the regular convention.
- Fill vacancies among the SWO leaders until the next convention.
- Determine the fact of the incapacity of a SWO leader or board member to perform her duties and determine if she shall be removed from her office in accordance with the policies and procedures of the churchwide Executive Board. For removal of a SWO leader or board member, a two-thirds vote of the total board shall be required. A mail vote shall not be used to affect the removal of a SWO leader or board member.
- Act as Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Whenever a synodical women's organization proposes to amend its constitution and bylaws, the board of this organization shall submit prior to September 15 or March 15 the proposed amendments to the churchwide Executive Board for review and action.
- Act in such other matters as may be delegated to it by the convention of the synodical women's organization.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Synodical Women's Organization will be awarding a limited number of scholarships available if you are attending the Fall Convention and/or Retreat. Please see the attached scholarship application to apply. Consideration will be given to first time attendees and to those who have not received scholarships in the past.

Northern Great Lakes Synodical Woman's Organization

You must be a member of an NGLS/ELCA Congregation.

Complete this form, mail by deadline.

Event for which you are Requesting a Scholarship: (check only one)	Amount	Deadline
_____ Synodical Women's Organization Convention	\$ 25 each	July 31, 2022
_____ Fortune Lake Camp Women's Fall Retreat	\$ 75 each	July 31, 2022
_____ 11 th Triennial Gathering	\$300 each	January 1, 2023

*Only covers full weekend attendance along with lodging at FLLC

Please remit the required \$25 with *EACH SEPARATE APPLICATION* for convention and retreat 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 _____ When _____

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

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Mail this application to: Melzee Jacobson, Registrar, 527 E Margaret St, Ironwood, MI 49938

- **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS DISCUSS A NEW CAMPAIGN TO GROW THE ORGANIZATION'S IMPACT**
- *by Staff*

When the Women of the ELCA executive board held its spring 2022 meeting, the mood was thankful and celebratory. Board members recognized the organization's nearly \$700,000 surplus—its first significant revenue surplus in

many years—as they met Saturday, April 23, 2022, via Zoom. Those positive results came after generous giving by the organization’s donors and synodical women’s organizations, and an organizational restructuring in 2020 that included staff reductions and cost savings from various efficiencies.

- As churchwide treasurer Raeann Purcell reported, this “significant surplus” came after “staff not only worked very hard to come in under budget but also our giving increased. . . . We determined that expenses came in at 87% of the budgeted amount and revenue came in at 129% of the budgeted amount, providing us with a surplus for the 2021 fiscal year.” Purcell lives in Deland, Fla., and is part of the Florida-Bahamas Synodical Women’s Organization.
- Expressing deep gratitude, board members said that, in addition to thank you notes that have already gone out to individual donors, they wish to send thank you notes to the synodical women’s organizations that responded so generously.
- “This is an opportunity to communicate [to donors] about the great things we are doing because we have their support,” said Lorie Garcia (Corpus Christi, Tex., Southwestern Texas Synodical Women’s Organization).
- Executive director Linda Post Bushkofsky told board members that turning a ship or an organization around does not happen quickly. “When I came on board [as executive director] in 2002, the organization had to use reserves to cover the cost of the triennial convention and gathering that year,” she said. “It’s taken all of us, working together for 20 years, to get to a point where our treasurer can report that we had nearly \$700,000 in excess revenue over expenses for fiscal year 2021.”
- In a later discussion, several board members spoke in favor of a recommendation from the board’s budget and finance committee that the surplus be used to cover expenses for the Twelfth Triennial Convention (2023). “If we’re able to say, we’ve got three-quarters of the convention costs covered, that’s better than having the funds look like they’re in a rainy-day fund,” said Laura Krueger (Avondale, Az., Grand Canyon Synodical Women’s Organization).
- **A little background**
Every three years, the triennial convention draws together representatives from synodical

women’s organizations across the ELCA to study Scripture, set policies, call for change, elect leaders and make other decisions for the Women of the ELCA. According to the Women of the ELCA constitution, the cost of the triennial convention is borne by the churchwide expression of Women of the ELCA.

- Over the years, the board approved annual budgets that called for setting aside one-third of the total cost for the triennial convention. The expectation was that by the year in which the convention was held the set aside money would be available to cover convention costs. Unfortunately, with reduced revenue coming from Thankofferings and Regular Offerings—the two primary sources of revenue for the churchwide women’s organization—it was not always possible to follow this savings plan. To cover convention costs, the board has sometimes had to use board-designated funds (as opposed to annual revenue).
- In 2018 the board had made a special appeal to the 64 synodical women’s organizations, asking them to contribute \$2,400 (or roughly the cost of one voting member’s attendance at the convention), in anticipation of the convention to be held in 2020. Approximately two-thirds of the synodical women’s organizations contributed a total of about \$70,000 in response to that request. The convention was postponed due to the pandemic and ultimately was held in August 2021 via Zoom. Those synodical contributions helped defray the costs of the online convention.
- **New horizons**
“It’s taken many steps, many people and many boards to bring us to this point, where all aspects of the organization are in a better framework,” Post Bushkofsky told board members. “We have a smaller, more nimble board. We have a smaller staff that is responding to the challenges that were thrust upon us in March of 2020. We are slowly getting to the idea across the organization that we can do things differently. This is an important place for us to be.”
- According to Post Bushkofsky, the Women of the ELCA is now a decade older than its direct predecessors were at the time of the ELCA merger.
- “Our predecessor bodies only existed for 25-27 years,” Post Bushkofsky said. “Here we are at 35 years [old] now. We’ve reached a different maturity, living through huge cultural shifts.”

- Today, Post Bushkofsky said, Women of the ELCA is a leader in its anti-racism and anti-trafficking efforts, among other things.
- “We’re ready to set sail to new horizons,” she added. “Certainly, Katie’s Fund will help us do that. It has not been without pain to get us here, but God has walked steadfastly with us throughout.” The Katharina von Bora Luther Endowment Fund, lovingly known as Katie’s Fund, was created at the organization’s tenth anniversary. It provides funding for programs, resources and opportunities in leadership development, global connections and living theology.
- **June 11 kickoff for 2022**
The board received an update about the upcoming June 11 kickoff for “2022”, a major campaign to raise \$1 million for Katie’s Fund. The campaign seeks to foster the future sustainability of the organization, focusing on the next 100 years of women’s ministry.
- “Much of the behind-the-scenes work has been accomplished,” said executive director Linda Post Bushkofsky. “Two essential teams doing this work have been established. We are working right now to finalize the case statement that will be provided to major gift donors.”
- After June 11, “we’ll begin making individual visits with people to support the campaign,” Post Bushkofsky said.
- In other actions, the board:
 - Revised the board’s policy on board member participation in synodical women’s organization conventions in ways that now allow executive board members to participate/represent the churchwide president at their own synodical women’s organization conventions and events.
 - Denied a request that first-time 2021 triennial convention voting members also be designated as first-time attendees at the 2023 convention.
 - Approved a plan to update and revise the triennial theme of “Just Love” in any way necessary for the 2023 event in Phoenix.
 - Moved Bold Women’s Day to the first Sunday in March in order to not cause overlap with Black History Month and to better connect with International Women Leaders Day.
- Directed the offering from the March 2022 executive board meeting to the ELCA’s Slovak Zion Synod, to add to that synod’s donations to the church in Slovakia aiding refugees from the war in Ukraine.
- Amended the 2022 budget to include \$40,000 for travel to SWO conventions, with funding coming from the 2021 budget surplus.
- Placed the balance of the 2021 budget surplus in reserve for the 2023 Triennial Convention expenses.
- Heard that Spanish language resources are now featured, in Spanish, on welca.org’s homepage.
- Directed the Women of the ELCA president to convene a task force charged with developing concrete ways to effectively communicate the organization’s commitment to inclusion and welcome of LGBTQIA+ participants, in keeping with the Women of the ELCA Constitution (Article III, Section 3; Article XIII, Section 1).
- Directed the task force to craft language to add a proposed Section 14 to Article III (Principles of Organization), that will affirm and welcome the LGBTQIAA+ community to Women of the ELCA and refer the language to the constitution review committee.
- Directed the executive director to develop an expanded administration plan for grants made possible through Katie’s Fund.
- Directed the churchwide president to convene a task force to review all the policies adopted by the churchwide executive board, in order to ensure their continued relevance to the work of Women of the ELCA, ensuring all recent policies adopted gathered in one document and to make recommendations of any changes and/or updates to the policies to the executive board at the next meeting of the churchwide executive board in Fall 2022.
- Extended a four-year term to executive director Linda Post Bushkofsky, beginning July 31, 2022, at the close of her current term. Post Bushkofsky has served in this role since August 2002.

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp – Our 2022 In-Kind Offering Recipient

<http://fortunelake.org.amazon-wishlist>

AMAZON WISHLIST (Small Item List)

We invite you to visit our Amazon.com Wish List, a registry of smaller items used for summer and

year-round ministry at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp!

When using Amazon Wishlist, please include your name, address and email when checking out so we can send you a thank-you!

For tracking purposes, you are welcome to forward your purchase confirmation to **officemanager@fortunelake.org** so that we can update you on its arrival.

Chance Premium Rubber Outdoor / Indoor Basketball (Size 5 Kids & Youth, 6 Women's Official, 7 Men's Official) (Size 27.5, 28.5, 29.5) Need 6 have 2 \$29.99-\$59.99

Rubbermaid Cleverstore Stackable Containers with Durable Latching Clear Lids, Visible Organization, Ideal for Large Item Storage for Garage and Basement, 95 Quart - 4 Pack Priority: High Needs 4 has \$106.15 Free Shipping

Amazon Basics Fast Drying, Extra Absorbent, Terry Cotton Washcloths - Pack of 24, White, 12 x 12-Inch \$15.59

Mr. Sketch Chiseled Tip Marker, 2054594, 22 Assorted Scented Markers Needs 12 has 8 \$14.19

Dixie Bathroom Cups, 3 oz 200 ea., Assorted designs - 2 Pack (400 Total) \$17.99

For Health Officer to deliver medications Needs 2 has 1

GT USA Organic Cotton Elastic Bandage Wrap | Hook & Loop Fasteners at Both Ends | Latex Free Hypoallergenic Compression Roll for Sprains & Injuries (3" Wide, 2 Pack) \$9.50

We don't know when or if this item will be back in stock. Go to the product detail page.

Needs 2 has 1

Curad Bulk Variety Pack Assorted Bandages, Flex-Fabric, Waterproof, Plastic, Knuckle, Heavy Duty Bandages (320 Count) \$11.49

Basic First Aid for Health Office Needs 2 has 1

Rubbermaid Touch Top Lid Trash Can for Home, Kitchen, and Bathroom Garbage, 13 Gallon Garbage Can with Lid, Waste Basket, White \$27.99

Color: White Style: Touch Top
For Health Office main room and bathroom Needs 2 has 1

Matty's Toy Stop 14" Kids Long Handle Sand Scoop Plastic Shovels for Sand & Beach (Red, Blue & Green) Complete Gift Set Bundle - 3 Pack \$15.95

We love sandcastle building at Fortune Lake, but our tools bit the dust! Needs 3 has 1

Shark NV352 Navigator Lift Away Upright Vacuum with Wide Upholstery and Crevice Tools, Lavender \$178.50

Vacuums are essential to keeping each of our lodging areas clean and ready for our next campers. Each year we replace two. Priority: Highest Needs 2 has 1

Rubbermaid Commercial 1788372 Stream Recycling Top for Slim Jim Containers Priority High Needs 6 has 4 Priority: High Needs 6 has 4 \$33.72

Color: Blue Style: Co-mingled Recycling

To up our recycling game, we plan to provide bins in retreat lodges, duplexes, and strategic outdoor locations. These covers would help prevent trash from being thrown in, as well as critters.

Rubbermaid Victory Jug, 2 Gallon, Orange

We don't know when or if this item will be back in stock. Go to the product detail page.

Needs 2 has 1

Spalding Rookie Gear Youth Indoor-Outdoor Basketball

We don't know when or if this item will be back in stock. Go to the product detail page. \$29.99 + \$7.99 Shipping.

These will be used in our play kits for the summer.

Priority: Highest Needs 10 has 3

Keystone 35 Pint Dehumidifier with Electronic Controls

For staff cabins. Help our hard workers be comfortable!

Priority: High Needs 2 has 0 \$266.40

Notrax 231 Prelude Indoor/Outdoor Entrance Mat, for Home or Business, 4' x 6', Black \$125.72

Size: 4' x 6' Color: Black

Notrax - 231S0048BL 231 Prelude Indoor/Outdoor Entrance Mat, for Home or Business, 4' X 8' Black

163.83

Size: 4' x 8' Color: Black

For Entry Way of Dining Hall, Grace, and Emanuel

Priority: High Needs 4 has 1

Scotch Contractor Grade Masking Tape, 0.94 inches by 60.1 yards (540 yards total), 2020, 9 Rolls

Needs 4 has 2 \$29.98

Stearns Adult Classic Series Vest

\$35.99 Size: Universal Color: Blue

Needs 12 has 4

STEARNS Youth Boating Vest (50-90 lbs.)

\$22.99 Color: Red

Needs 12 has 5

bonsai Paper Shredder, 18-Sheet 60-Minutes Paper Shredder for Office Heavy Duty Cross-Cut Shredder with 6 Gallon Pullout Basket & 4 Casters, Anti-Jam High Security Mail Shredder for Home Use(C149-C) \$169.99 Size: 18 Sheet / C149-C

US Games Standard Hoops, 36-Inch (Pack of 12)

\$76.02 & FREE Shipping Priority: High Needs 4 has 0

An increased quantity of hula hoops will assist us in limiting the sharing of equipment in Bible Studies and games during COVID-19.

AMAZON WISHLIST (Large Item List)

N95 face masks (youth & adult)

Woodchipper

Hammocks with mosquito nets

Smart tv (x2), at least 55"

Golf Carts

Dehumidifiers

Free standing projector screen

Easel with flipchart

Heavy duty indoor/outdoor extension cords

- You can purchase direct from Amazon, providing information as to who purchased the item, and have it delivered directly to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, instructions are at the beginning of the list.
- You can provide a check with the name of the item you are giving the money for, or a list of items included with the check so the office knows what you would like purchased.
- You can provide a check with the memo use to purchase whatever is needed.
- You can give a personal check, a unit check, or a check for a congregation offering with an annotation of where the monies are to be directed.

For more detailed information, contact you board liaison or 906.282.0169

Treasure in clay jars

May 03, 2022 01:00 am

In 2 Corinthians 4:7 we hear: “But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.”

Just as the clay jar’s basic purpose was to hold water, a life necessity, we, too, carry “Emmanuel, God with us” in our hearts and souls for a purpose: to spread the Good News and share God’s love.

In my first reading of this verse, the phrase this treasure caught my attention. The word treasure—singular; not treasures. This treasure is the Good News. One reference from the NIV Study Bible notes that “it was customary to conceal treasures in clay jars, which had little value or beauty and did not attract attention to themselves and their precious contents.” God uses us, ordinary and unassuming—the clay jars of life—to accomplish God’s plans!

May we share the treasure from our jar of clay. May we share God’s message of Good News.

This message is excerpted from “God uses the ordinary, the unassuming” by Ann Hanley in the May 18, 2017, [blog of the Women of the ELCA](#)

We need each other as we all have unique treasures (gifts) given by God in our jar of clay. Now is the time for us to all come together and begin this new journey into the future. No one is too young, No one is too old, No one is not Lutheran enough, No one should be left behind. There is wisdom from those who have led before us, there is new adventures that others have led us through in the last decade, there are fresh ideas and knowledge about those that are living in the culture and society which is rapidly changing. We need each other, won’t you join walk with us.

Let me close with this: ***Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen***

Reflections Newsletter Subscription Form

One year (3-4 Issues) \$5.00

Subscriber's Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Congregation _____ City/State _____

Number of years you would like to subscribe:

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

Make check payable to: **NGL/SWO-Reflections**

Mail to: Melzee Jacobson, Registrar, 527 E Margaret St, Ironwood, MI 49938

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

2019-2022 BOARD

Revised 5.13.22 (mlj)

OFFICERS

Melzee Jacobson, President (2013-2022)

527 E Margaret St

Ironwood, MI 49938

906-282-0169

imlizrd@yahoo.com

Cluster 6 Tri-County Board Liaison

Holly Guerin, Vice President (2018-2022)

4540 Loggers Run Rd

Eagle River, WI 54521

715-891-2690

holly94@gmail.com

Cluster 1 IGO Board Liaison

Pamela Chouinard (2016-2022)

P O Box 137

Little Lake, MI 49833

906-280-2918

pam@chouinards.com

Cluster 8 Superior Central Board Liaison

Kristine Carlson (2016-2022)

304 Lake Street

Ironwood, MI 49938

906-932-0476

kriskarin@sbcglobal.net

Cluster 3 Headwaters Board Liaison

NON-ELECTED REFLECTIONS NEWSLETTER EDITOR

BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Ellen Perkins (2021-2022/Board appointed)

P O Box 57

Mass City, MI 49948

906-883-3050

312.259.7837

meperkins55@hotmail.com

Cluster 2 Copper Country Board Liaison

Dawn Holmgren (2019-2022)

10995 T.65 Road

Rapid River, MI 49878

906.280.2615

dmholmgren10@gmail.com

Cluster 5 Menominee Board Liaison

Karen Reitz (2019-2022)

876 Woodland Drive

Rhinelander, WI 54501

715-362-9610

718-437-8007

klbreitz@charter.net

Cluster 4 Four Rivers Board Liaison

Sandy Feleppa(2021-2022/Board Appointed)

Barbara Rice

725 Hamilton Ave

Kingsford, MI 49802

906-396-3742

barb.strong.rice@gmail.com

W830 Bashore Road

St Ignace, MI 49781-1304

906-430-8010

sfeleppa1969@gmail.com

Cluster 7 Three Lakes Board Liaison

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Melzee Jacobson, President

527 E Margaret Street

Ironwood, MI 49938

Reflections Newsletter May 2022

2022 Fall Convention and Retreat Issue



women

If this box has an X in it your subscription time is up! Please help support the
of the ELCA by renewing your subscription today!



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.