



Friends, Inc. *(in Christ)*

Newsletter of the Southwestern PA Synodical Women's Organization
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
www.swpasynod.org

Volume XXXI No. 1

Winter 2019

President's Report

1st Timothy 4:14 – “do not neglect the gift that is in you,”

Once again, the cold dreary days of winter are upon us. Christmas has come and gone. Spring is still a far, far promise away. Last year at this time after our festive Christmas season was over, I asked you to search for the one gift you might not have opened and used yet. It was the gift from God of all your special talents and abilities that make you special.

This year after reading an article in our Gather magazine, I have a different question for you. This year, my question is what gift did you give GOD? After all, God has given you many gifts in the way of your special talents but God also has given you the greatest gift of all: His Son, Jesus Christ. And in return you are giving him?? What God wants as a gift is very simple. It is the gift of **Yourself**. Look inside yourself and find what you have to give and then do it. **DO** is the important part here. God wants us to serve!

Being part of the W/ELCA offers many opportunities for you to do just that. We share the good news. We work to help raise up healthy women and children. We work to provide justice for all. We do this through our own congregations, through our synodical unit, and through our churchwide women. I am to attend the Conference of Presidents at the Churchwide office in February. At that meeting, each President is being asked to report how the congregation units and her synodical unit are addressing the memorials from 2017 Triennial Convention. Some of the memorials we are being asked to respond to are regarding the problem of domestic abuse/violence and ending human trafficking. Being involved in ways to end these problems is a way to serve the Lord.

We begin this month to support our 2019 Designated Outreach, HEARTH. You will find a pamphlet with their purpose, goals, and needs attached. This is a program to help homeless women with children that are survivors of domestic violence or other trauma. Supporting this group is a way to DO justice for local women in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Our 2019 Convention theme is “Chosen to Serve”. On Friday May 3rd and Saturday, May 4th at the Christ Our Shepherd Center, we will explore through our Bible study, workshops, worship and talk with Bishop Kusserow how we can answer the Call to Serve. The convention is a time for all women to come together. Please plan to come as a delegate, alternate delegate or a participant. We will have elections for president, treasurer, board members, and 2020 Triennial voting members. We need women to SERVE in these capacities. Please think and pray about submitting a nomination form for any of these. Nomination forms can be found in this newsletter. Some women are a little hesitant to step forward and wait to be invited to serve. So here is your invitation: I, President of the SWPA SWO invite YOU to become an active participant in the W/ELCA. I hope your RSVP is: Yes, I will come, Yes, I will serve!

God Bless you in your boldness

Betty Albright, President

Vice President's Report

I would like to thank ALL our Cluster Planners for all their hard work and time to bring us our Fall Clusters! Job well done Ladies! Can't wait to see what you come up with for the Spring Cluster Meetings.

Spring Cluster Meetings

Cluster 1 & 6: Rehoboth Lutheran Church, Baden on April 27, 2019

Cluster 2: Nativity Lutheran Church, Allison Park on April 13, 2019

Cluster 3: First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Apollo on April 27, 2019

Cluster 4: Zion Lutheran Church, Greensburg on May 25, 2019

Cluster 5 & 6: St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Uniontown on April 6, 2019

The Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee consists of representatives from our Clusters and the Vice President. We will be meeting in January or February to get the process going. We are in need of a Treasurer and Board Members and 4 voting members for the 2020 Triennial Convention! We will also be electing a new President! Please prayerfully consider filling one of these positions or nominating some who will. If you need nomination forms, they are located in this issue.

May God Bless,
Debbie Wright
Vice President

Dear Sister in Christ – It is with a heavy heart that I step down as your Vice President. I have been diagnosed with ovarian cancer and I need to concentrate on my treatments and upcoming surgery and recovery. I feel very blessed to be part of this wonderful organization of strong faithful women. Please keep me in your prayers as I face this challenge, I know I am not alone in this! – May God Bless, Debbie Wright

Due to Debbie stepping down, we will need to elect a new Vice President at the convention. This is in the constitution, Article VII, Section 4, Item 5 – “Should a vacancy occur in any of the four offices, the board of the synodical women's organization shall fill the same until the next regular convention. The election by the convention shall be for the remainder of the un-expired term.” Until our convention, Joan Orr will be organizing the nominating committee and the nomination forms and Jen Armstrong-Schaefer will be communicating with the cluster planners.

Nominating Ballot

Each year at convention we have some women unfamiliar with the nominating ballot process. We use this means of selection for our president and vice-president. This eliminates “unintentional politics” and gives us a clear way for God to help us choose our next leader.

This is the way it works-on the first ballot you may write the name of anyone you feel is ready for the task of President or Vice-President. Every name on the first ballot is nominated for President or Vice-President. The second ballot is cast using only the names from the first ballot. Voting continues until someone emerges as the choice. No names can be added to the ballot after the first ballot.

2019 Retreat

The retreat committee will be meeting in January 2019 to start planning for the 2019 joint retreat with our sisters from the Northwest PA synod. The retreat is scheduled for September 13-15, 2019 at Lutheryn. Make sure to get the date on your calendar so you do not miss this weekend of fellowship, worship, and spiritual renewal.

We Continue to Pray

We continue to pray each week for the ministries of the Women of the ELCA and those who lead them.

Jan. 27-Feb. 2: Women's Congregational Unit at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Coraopolis(Moon Twp.)

Feb. 3-9: Patricia Pluck, Cluster Planner for Cluster 4

Feb. 10-16: Synodical Women's Organization of Southwestern Minnesota

Feb. 17-23: Betty Albright, Synodical Board President

Feb. 24-Mar. 2: Elizabeth Burgess, Churchwide Board Member

Mar. 3-9: Gabriela Contreras, Triennial Convention & Gathering Coordinator & Meeting Planning

Mar. 10-16: Women's Congregational Unit at Rehobeth Lutheran Church in Baden

Mar. 17-23: Velma Knell, Cluster Planner for Cluster 3

Mar. 24-30: Synodical Women's Organization of Central States

Mar. 31-Apr. 6: Eldora Crist, Synodical Board Member

Apr. 7-13: Keala Simeos, Churchwide Board Member

Apr. 14-20: Sarah Carson, Associate Editor of Gather Magazine

Apr. 21-27: HEARTH, 2019 Designated Outreach Origination

The Growth Committee Report

The new Bible study for Winter 2019 is a four-session study entitled "The Gospel of John: meetings with Jesus" by the Rev. Julie A. Kanarr. We will meet Jesus through his interactions with various characters within the Gospel. Jesus engages people in honest and sometimes difficult conversations that lead to faith, renewal and transformation. If you don't subscribe to the Gather Magazine, you can download the study online at www.gathermagazine.org/biblestudy.

There will be grants available for the 2019 Convention and the 2019 Retreat at Lutherlyn. Anyone who is interested or needs information about grants, should call Donna Earnest at 724-834-5849. The form for grants for the Convention is included in this issue and are due by April 1, 2019.

This committee will make visits to any congregations who would like help or support in starting a congregational unit or working on ideas to improve their exiting unit. Anyone who is interested in having a visit should contact Donna Earnest at 724-834-5849.

The Growth Committee,

Donna Earnest & Helen Williams

Action Committee

As you read this all the preparations for Christmas are a memory. The tree is down and the decorations have been carefully stored away until another year. New Years resolutions have been made and some have been forgotten. As the year 2018 has ended so has our formal support of Ready Yourself Youth Ranch as our Designated Outreach. Many items were collected and given to them. Through your generous donations money was also collected. A report of the final amount will be reported as soon as it is tabulated. Thanks to all of you, Ready Yourself Youth Ranch is able to continue their ministry of mentoring to children in need.

As the new year begins so has our support of our new Designated Outreach. For 2019, HEARTH – "a transitional housing program for homeless women and children who are survivors of domestic abuse or other trauma" – from Glenshaw will be our focus. Look for the brochure for HEARTH to learn more about their ministry and how we can support them in that ministry.

As always, we are thinking ahead and in May at the convention we will select the 2020 Designated Outreach. If anyone knows of a ministry that we should consider, contact any board member or give that ministry the Designated Outreach nomination form included in this issue.

The Action Committee

Linda Reed & Helen Williams

Community Committee

We are encouraged to continue to collect for Katie's Fund. Katie's Fund was established in 1997 by The Women of the ELCA to honor the legacy of Katharina von Bora Luther, to raise bold leaders for women's organizations and to support creative ministries for generations to come. The churchwide board has

challenged the Women of the ELCA to triple the endowment for Katie's Fund with the All Anew Campaign by the 2020 Triennial Convention and Gathering. The goal of the churchwide board is to increase Katie's Fund from \$1.5 million to \$4.5 million. Katie's Fund supports leadership development by providing opportunities for current and future leaders to participate in and to further the mission of the Women of the ELCA.

To meet the goal of The All Anew Campaign for Katie's Fund, we need to develop fundraisers. Then, contact Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and request that they donate the money to Katie's Fund. Request that the donation goes to the Women of the ELCA of SWPA and designate it "Katie's Fund" and forward to our interim treasurer: Janet Fishovitz; 227 Brewer Rd.; Freedom, PA 15042

May 5, 2019 is Rachel's Day. Rachel's Day was established in 1994 to support children facing violence and for mothers mourning for their children killed by gun violence in the past year. In 1994 in Chicago, one woman urged her congregation, Bethel Lutheran Church, to create a garden as a place for mourning mothers. A vacant lot was cleared and a garden was created with a white cross and flowers. Two years later, the Metro Chicago Synodical Women's Organization brought a memorial to the 3rd Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA to broaden awareness of violence children face and to address it. The convention passed the memorial, resolving "That the Women of the ELCA encourage their congregations to recognize the first Sunday in May as Rachel's Day". Rachel's Day is based on Jeremiah 31:15-17 wherein Rachel grieved for her children to mourn the loss of her children and to renounce the forces of evil and fear that plagues the nation.

Dates to remember:

Feb. 14: Valentine's Day
Feb. 18: President's Day – Fly your Flag
Feb. 24: Bold Women's Day
Mar. 6: Ash Wednesday
Mar. 20: First Day of Spring
Apr. 14: Palm Sunday
Apr 19: Good Friday
Apr. 21: Easter Sunday
May 5: Rachel's Day

God Bless,
Community Committee
Eldora Crist & Donna Earnest

Stewardship and Finance Committee

The fiscal year is drawing to a close and we are wrapping up our support to Ready Yourself Youth Ranch. So far we have donated \$3,560.00 in monetary contributions as well as all the items that have been collected at Convention, Retreat and Cluster Meetings. I spoke with Michelene and she is so appreciative of the overwhelming response from our ladies and so happy that they have additional items to carry them into the coming year.

Remittance forms are available and can be found on the website: www.womenoftheelca.org and may be copied as often as needed. Continue to send all offerings along with Form A to the Interim Treasurer: Janet Fishovitz, 227 Brewer Rd., Freedom, PA 15042 along with checks made payable to SWPA Women of the ELCA. Please remember to make sure your Cluster number is included on your remittance form, this is extremely helpful as there are numerous churches with the same name! Cluster numbers are 1 through 6 and your Region is 8B.

I continue to serve as your Interim Treasurer while Susan Brown is recuperating from her surgery. Remember to keep Susan in your prayers for continued healing. At the Convention in May it will be time for elections. Prayerfully consider having your name submitted for either an Officer or a Board position. You may feel you are not qualified, but this is not true, we all are hesitant at first but working together as a team we combine all our strengths, and with God on our side – nothing is impossible!

Happy New Year to all and looking forward to seeing your smiling faces and welcome your participation in the coming year.

Your sister in Christ,
Janet Fishovitz

Please note that the name of The Bishop Connare Center has been changed to Christ Our Shepherd Center. It is the same place as we have meet for our convention the past 25 years.

2019 SWPA Women of the ELCA Convention

May 3-4, 2019

Christ Our Shepherd Center

Our theme this year is: Chosen to Serve and the scripture verse is Ephesians 1:4, "Even as He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him". The theme hymn is: "We Are Called". Our business sessions will include electing a new President, Treasurer, 5 Board Members and 4 Triennial Voting Members. We will also be adopting the 2020 budget and voting on our 2020 Designated Outreach Organization. Fair Trade shopping will be available Friday and Saturday.

Saturday morning will be a time for workshops. You will have three to choose from

1. Special Needs: Making Church Inclusive with Beth Smaligo. Beth was blind at birth but has gone on to pursue a college degree. She is quite independent and will share how being involved in the church fulfills her.
2. Biblical Herbs with Joan Wesley. Joan will talk about what herbs are in the Bible and how they are still used today.
3. LWR Mission Quilting with Mary Lou Millward. Mary Lou will have fabric to show how the quilts are made and information on where they go.

We are looking forward to sharing business, activity and fellowship with you.

To His Glory,

Your Convention Committee

Mary Lou Millward, Robin VanDyke, & Jeanne Christensen

Deadlines for Convention Forms Please Note!

This Convention Newsletter Contains numerous forms for participating in the 2019 SWO Convention. Please duplicate forms, if necessary, as some forms are printed on the back of another form to save printing costs.

Delegate Form: To Betty Albright by April 1, 2019

Board Members, Treasurer & Triennial Voting Member Nomination Form: To Joan Orr by April 1, 2019

Designated Outreach Nomination Form: To Linda Reed by April 1, 2019

SWO Convention Grant Form: To Donna Earnest by April 1, 2019

Registration Form: To Lori Ashton by April 8, 2019

Resolution Form: To Betty Albright no later than 8:30am Saturday, May 4, 2019

Convention Information

Delegates

Each CU/ICU should send a delegate to the convention. Please also name an alternate delegate and complete the necessary information on the form included in this newsletter and return it to Betty by April 1, 2019.

Delegates must be present at all sessions and be seated for the beginning of the first business session. Any delegates not seated at the first business session will not be able to serve as a delegate at the other business sessions.

Inform the Registrar, Lori Ashton, of any delegate or alternate delegate changes prior to the start of the convention.

Convention Offerings

Regular Offerings received at the convention are designated as follows:

½ to Churchwide Organization

½ to Synodical Women's Organization

The "Love Offering" will go to the Designated Outreach program
"HEARTH" of Glenshaw

Resolutions

A resolution is an idea put into a form so that it can be voted upon by a formal group. In this case, the formal group is a Convention of the Women of the ELCA of SWPA and the time is our May 3-4, 2019 Spring Convention. If the word "resolution" seems big and scary, here are some other words: proposal or motion. It is someone's good idea thought out and written down. Take your resolution to the Convention, show it to other people and get the signatures of three delegates. Give it to the Resolutions Committee as soon as possible and before the posted deadline.

A number of things could happen to your resolution. The Resolutions Committee may pass it on to the Convention for an up or down vote. If several resolutions deal with the same issue, the Committee may consolidate them into one motion for Convention vote. They may direct it to the Executive Board for further study to be brought back to the Convention for vote next year.

If your resolution deals with the whole Women of the ELCA and is passed by our SWPA Convention, it will be taken to the next Triennial Convention where it could be adopted. So don't let your good idea go to waste. Form it into a resolution and bring it to the Convention! – H. Earlyn Martz

A Resolution form is included in this newsletter. We encourage you to prayerfully consider your concerns and present them to the convention by way of a Resolution. The Resolution would require the signature of three delegates and must be present to the Resolutions committee before 8:30am on Saturday May 4, 2019.

Convention Snacks

Anyone who would like to share some snacks during the Convention are asked to bring packaged snacks only. Please respect Christ Our Shepherd Center's policy and bring only small packaged snacks.

A donation basket will be available to help defray the costs of drinks.

Tentative Convention Schedule

Friday May 3, 2019

3:00-5:30pm Registration at the Dorms

3:30-4:30pm Pre-Convention Workshop led by Bishop Kusserow

4:30-5:00pm Conversation with Bishop Kusserow

5:00pm Dinner

6:45-7:00pm Orientation for Delegates

7:00pm **Business Session I**

Opening of Convention

Opening Prayer & Call to Order

Report of Credentials Committee

Adoption of Rules and Procedures

Adoption of Agenda

Announcement of Convention Committee

Introduction of Synodical Board & Guests

Report of Conduct of Elections Committee

Nominating Ballot for President

Report of Resolutions Committee

Report of Conduct of Election Committee on Nominating Ballot for President

Second Ballot for President

Report of Churchwide Representative

Presentation of Proposed Budget for 2020

Report of Conduct of Election Committee on Second Ballot for President

Third Ballot for President

Report & Recommendations of the Board

Report of Conduct of Election Committee on Third Ballot for President

Report of Conduct of Election Committee

Nominating Ballot for Vice President

Report of President

Report of Conduct of Election Committee on Nominating Ballot for Vice President

Second Ballot for Vice President

Report of Nominating Committee

Ballot A for Triennial Voting Member

Report of Vice President

Report of Secretary

Report of Conduct of Election Committee on Second Ballot for Vice President & Ballot A
for Triennial Voting Member

Third Ballot for Vice President

Report of Treasurer

Report of Conduct of Election Committee on Third Ballot for Vice President

Regular Offering & Closing Prayer

Saturday May 4, 2019

7:30am Registration in Dining Room

8:00am Breakfast

8:30am Dedication of items for HEARTH

8:45am Business Session II

Opening Prayer & Call to Order

Report of Credentials Committee

Vote on Constitutional Change

Report of Nominating Committee

Ballot for Treasurer

Report of Achieves Committee

Report of Resolutions Committee

Report of Conduct of Election Committee for Treasurer

Report of Nominating Committee

Ballot for Board Members

Report of SW & NW Retreat Committee

Report of Conduct of Election Committee for Board Members

Love Offering for HEARTH

10:15-11:00am Bible Study

11:00-11:45am Workshop

Noon Lunch

1:15pm Business Session III

Opening Prayer & Call to Order

Presentations for Proposals for 2020 Designated Outreach

Report of Nominating Committee

Ballot for 2020 Designated Outreach

Report from HEARTH

Report from Conduct of Election Committee for Designated Outreach

Second Ballot for 2020 Designated Outreach

Report of Action Committee

Report from Conduct of Election Committee on Second Ballot for Designated Outreach

Report of Nominating Committee

Ballot B for Triennial Voting Members

Adoption of Budget for 2020

Report from Conduct of Election Committee on Ballot B for Triennial Voting Members

Second Ballot for Ballot B for Triennial Voting Members

Report of Community Committee

Report from Conduct of Election Committee on Second Ballot for Ballot B for Triennial
Voting Members

Report of Nominating Committee

Ballot C for Triennial Voting Members

Report of Growth Committee

Report from Conduct of Election Committee on Ballot C for Triennial Voting Members

Second Ballot for Ballot C for Triennial Voting Members

Report of Finance Committee & Report of Communications Committee

Report from Conduct of Election Committee on Second Ballot for Ballot C for Triennial
Voting Members

Unfinished Business & Final Reports of Convention Committees

Closing Worship in Chapel – Installation of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Board
Members, and 2020 Triennial Voting Members

Closing of Convention

Chosen to Serve



“Even as He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.”

Ephesians 1:4

SWPA WOMEN OF THE ELCA CONVENTION

MAY 3-4, 2019

Christ Our Shepherd Center

Greensburg, PA 15601

RESOLUTION FORM

To be presented at the Synodical Convention in May. Can be submitted now by mail to SWO President, Betty Albright, or email to: bettyleealbright@gmail.com

A resolution is an expression of a view and/or proposal by a delegate and/or congregational unit and includes the reasons for the proposal and a suggested action to be implemented. The Resolution must be presented in writing and signed by the congregational unit delegate. A Resolution submitted now needs only the signature of the delegate. A Resolution presented at the convention requires the signature of three delegates and must be submitted by 8:30am on Saturday May 4, 2019.

**Convention Resolution – 2019
Southwestern PA Synodical Women of the ELCA**

Please type your resolution using the proper form in the space below. Keep a copy of the resolution for your files. Send your resolution by mail to Betty Albright; 216 Roxburg Dr.; Greensburg, PA 15601 or email to: bettyleealbright@gmail.com or present to the Resolution Committee at the Convention.

WHEREAS:

WHEREAS:

WHEREAS:

WHEREAS:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

SUBMITTED BY: _____

REGISTRATION FORM
WOMEN OF THE ELCA – SWPA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
2019 CONVENTION – MAY 3-4, 2019
CHRIST OUR SHEPHERD CENTER, GREENSBURG, PA 15601

Name: _____ Phone No. _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Congregation: _____

Location: _____ Cluster No: _____

First Time Participant? _____

Delegate _____ Alternate Delegate _____ Participant _____ Guest _____ Board Member _____
(Each Affirmed CU/ICU is EXPECTED to have a delegate. It is strongly urged that each unit pay for the expenses of the delegate.)

REGISTRATION EXPENSES

(Check appropriate expenses – EVERYONE MUST PAY A REGISTRATION FEE)

Early Registration Fee: 28.00 _____
OR
Registration after April 15h 30.00 _____
Friday Lodging: Double 40.00 _____ Single: 55.00 _____
Saturday Breakfast: 12.00 _____
Saturday Lunch: 15.00 _____
Commuter Fee 8.00 _____
(Not staying overnight)
Round-Up Donation to SWPA SWO _____

(If you would like to make a donation, please add it to your registration and mark the amount of donation on the line above.)

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE _____

(Full time spending the night registration is \$97.00)

Payment MUST accompany registration. Make checks payable to: Women of the ELCA of SWPA. Each attendee must complete a registration form – duplicate as needed. Please complete both sides of this form

CUT HERE AND RETURN TOP PORTION TO REGISTRAR NO LATER THAN APRIL 8, 2019

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Delegate-One(1) person from each congregational/Inter-congregational unit with voice and vote.

Alternate Delegate-Substitute for delegate

Participant-All registrants who are no delegates or guests

Guest-Person with specific duties such as Bible study leader, Worship leader, Bishop, CWO Reg, Nurse, etc.

Board Member-Elected member of the SWPA SWO board who is not serving as a delegate from their CU/ICU

Refunds shall be made in total to all persons canceling reservations before the deadline. Refunds shall be made of all pre-payments except the Registration fee to all persons canceling their reservation after the deadline, but before the final count is given to the institution (one week prior). NO REFUNDS SHALL BE made to persons canceling their reservations after the final count is given to the institution.* (*Note: Exceptions may be made to this rule by written request to the SWO Administrative Board.) Onsite registration will take place Friday at the dorms and Saturday in the dining hall.

Please return above portion no later than April 8, 2019

To: Lori Ashton
237 Woodstock Ave.
Hopwood, PA 15445
724-984-4711

"Chosen to Serve"
Workshop Selection (45 Minutes) – Please Choose One

_____ Special Needs: Making Church Inclusive – Presented by Beth Smaligo

_____ Bible Herbs – Presented by Joan Wesley

_____ LWR Mission Quilting – Presented by Mary Lou Millward

CUT ON LINE AND RETURN TOP PORTION NO LATER THAN APRIL 8, 2019

TO: Lori Ashton
237 Woodstock Ave.
Hopwood, PA 15445
724-984-4711

KEEP FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The workshop I am attending at the 2019 Convention:

_____ Special Needs: Making Church Inclusive – Presented by Beth Smaligo

_____ Bible Herbs – Presented by Joan Wesley

_____ LWR Mission Quilting – Presented by Mary Lou Millward

Mailed Registration form on: _____ Check #: _____

**Directions to
Christ Our Shepherd Center
Greensburg, PA 15601
724-834-7350**

From Pittsburgh and Points Northwest:

Take the PA Turnpike to Exit 67(Route 30) Irwin Interchange. Follow Route 30 East approximately 11.5 miles to Christ Our Shepherd Center.

OR

Take Route 22 and follow to the Turnpike Route 66 Extension Exit. Take Route 66 South to the Route 30 exit, then travel East on Route 30 approximately 6.5 miles to Christ Our Shepherd Center.

From Points North and Northeast:

Take Route 22 and follow to the first of either Route 819 or Route 119. Travel south to Business Route 30 (Pittsburgh Street) in the City of Greensburg. Turn left onto Pittsburgh Street and travel East to Route 30 approximately 3 miles to Christ Our Shepherd Center.

OR

For a quicker route from 119 South, instead of proceeding into Greensburg, turn left onto Cameo Lane (marked with a small street sign at the Hannastown Family Health Center), approximately 5 miles south of Route 22. At the first stop sign at a "T" intersection, turn right; then immediately bear left at a "Y" intersection. Proceed for 2 miles to the traffic light at Route 30, and then travel East (left) for one mile to Christ Our Shepherd Center.

From Points South and Southwest:

Travel to the New Stanton Interchange via I70 or Route 119N. Continue North on Route 119 approximately 8 miles. Upon seeing Hoss's Restaurant on the right, move into the left lane, which provides access to Route 30 East entrance ramp at the stop light. Turn left onto the ramp and take Route 30 East approximately 5 miles to Christ Our Shepherd Center.

From Points East and Southeast:

Take the PA Turnpike and follow to Exit 75 New Stanton. Proceed as directed for points South and Southwest.

OR

Travel to Route 22 and proceed as directed for points North and Northeast.

Women of the ELCA
Southwestern Pennsylvania Synodical Women's Organization

2019 Biographical Information
Nomination Form for Treasurer or Board Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Name of Congregation: _____

Address of Congregation: _____

Cluster #: _____

I am running for: Treasurer _____ Board Member _____

EXPERIENCE-Beginning with the most recent, list significant experiences in each area over the last five years.

OCCUPATIONAL HISTORY: _____

COMMUNITY SERVICE: _____

WOMAN'S ORGANIZATION

CONGREGATIONAL UNIT: _____

SYNOD & CLUSTER: _____

CHURCHWIDE: _____

ELCA INVOLVEMENT

CONGREGATION: _____

SYNOD & CONFERENCE: _____

CHURCHWIDE: _____

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS: _____

PLEASE RETURN NOMINATION FORM WITH A PICTURE OR SNAPSHOT OF NOMINEE BY APRIL 1, 2019 TO:

Joan Orr
201 South 5th St.
Youngwood, PA 15697
joanamorr@gmail.com

SYNOD & CLUSTER: _____

CHURCHWIDE: _____

ELCA INVOLVEMENT

CONGREGATION: _____

SYNOD & CONFERENCE: _____

CHURCHWIDE: _____

COMMUNITY SERVICE: _____

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS: _____

PLEASE RETURN TRIENNIAL VOTING MEMBER NOMINATION FORM AND A PICTURE OR SNAPSHOT OF NOMINEE BY APRIL 1, 2019 TO:

Joan Orr
201 South 5th St.
Youngwood, PA 15697
joanamorr@gmail.com

**2020 DESIGNATED OUTREACH PROGRAM
SWPA SWO WOMEN OF THE ELCA
NOMINATION FORM
(Please type or print clearly)**

Name of Organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone No.: _____

What is the purpose of your organization/project?: _____

Is this organization/project affiliated with or receiving support from the ELCA?

Yes___ If so what Church _____ Synod _____

Congregation (list name) _____

No___ If not how is it supported/by whom? _____

Does this organization/project help support women and children living in crisis/or need? (Women of the ELCA Churchwide focus) Yes___ No___

Explain: _____

Please list various specific needs of organization/project (ie: materials, volunteers, food, etc.)

Signature: _____ Phone No: _____

Church/Town: _____

Return form by April 1, 2019 to: Linda Reed
193 Pittsburgh St.
Derry, PA 15627

MISSION: POSSIBLE

At the 1995 SWPA SWO Convention, the following resolution was passed:

Whereas: Women of the SWPA Synodical Organization would gain insight and understanding of various outreach programs going on in the Synod; and

Whereas: Women of the SWPA SWO would be encouraged to think of ways for outreach and evangelism in their own neighborhoods, therefore be it

Resolved: that the SWPA SWO focus on, highlight, and promote awareness of one outreach program in their prayers, in-kind gifts, volunteer time, and special designated offering.

Our 2018 Designated Outreach recipient was Ready Yourself Youth Ranch of New Brighton and our 2019 Designated Outreach recipient is HEARTH of Glenshaw. In order to vote for the Designated Outreach Program for 2020, we need nominations for organizations/projects which will help us as a SWO to fulfill our mission as Women of the ELCA.

If you would like to nominate a local worthy organization/project, please complete the nomination form on the reverse of this page in its entirety and mail to Linda Reed before April 1, 2019 at 193 Pittsburgh St., Derry, PA 15627.

Also, please be prepared to give a brief verbal description if called upon at convention. A representative from the organization/project will be asked to give a talk at convention on Saturday May 4, 2019 around 1:15pm. The convention is held at the Christ Our Shepherd Center located at 2900 Seminary Dr., Greensburg, PA 15601.

If you have any questions about the nominating process, please call Linda Reed at 724-433-2034.

DELEGATE FORM
SWPA SWO – WOMEN OF THE ELCA
(To be mailed back before April 15, 2019)

DELEGATE:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email Address: _____

ALTERNATE DELEGATE:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email Address: _____

Name of Church: _____

Location: _____ **Cluster No:** _____

DELEGATE TO A CONVENTION

- Be well prepared for the convention by becoming familiar with pre-convention materials, including information on nominees for election.
- Attend all convention sessions on time and be seated in the area specified for delegates.
- Speak clearly for or against issues from the convention floor.
- Take notes that will assist in reporting the convention to your Unit.
- Orally share insights, facts, and ideas gained at the convention with members of your Unit.
- Provide a copy of your oral report to the secretary/recorder of your Unit.

Please mail form to:
Betty Albright
216 Roxbury Dr.
Greensburg, PA 15601
By April 1, 2019

**SWO PA WOMEN OF THE ELCA
2018 CONVENTION GRANT**

Grant Amount – up to one-half of the fulltime registration fee
Grant Application to be returned by April 1, 2019

To: Donna Earnest
945 Old Route 66
Greensburg, PA 15601
724-875-6391

Name:

Phone

Number:

Address:

Name of Congregation:

Name of Congregation Unit Leader:

*Activities You Participated in—Church and
Community:*

Why would you like to receive this grant?

GUIDELINES

1. Total number of Grants to be issued will depend on the availability of funds and may not be awarded to the same person more than twice in a three-year period.
2. The monetary amount of each Grant is up to one-half of the fulltime cost per event to one member from each Cluster.
3. Qualifications will be based on:
 - a) Written response on application
 - b) Consideration for first time participants
4. After the deadline, award decisions will be made by the Growth Committee based on the guidelines.
5. Grant applicants will be notified of award of Grant within two weeks of the application deadline.
6. Grant recipients must mail their registration, along with the adjusted fee, to event Registrar.
7. Grant recipient names will not be published.



NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE IN CONTACT PERSON

Please complete this form when there is a change in your contact person.

Cluster # _____ *Effective Date of Change* _____

Name of Church _____

Address of Church _____

Present Contact Person _____

Address _____

New Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone #: *Best* _____ *Alternate* _____

Please return this form to: Rosemarie Henrickson, Secretary
5133 Lougean Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

A copy of this form should also be sent to:

- 1.) Your Cluster Planning Committee Coordinator (CPC) **-and -**
- 2.) Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Schaefer, 1210 Beech Drive, Latrobe, PA 15650

Please copy on colored paper (other than white) if possible

PA Synodical Women's Organization
2018-2019 Officers and Board Members

Officers:

President: Betty Albright, 216 Roxbury Dr., Greensburg, PA 15601
724-834-2677 bettyleealbright@gmail.com

V. President: Debra Wright, 543 Church Rd., Harmony, PA 16037
724-368-9449 deb-wright@live.com

Secretary: Rosemarie Henrickson, 5133 Lougean Ave., Pgh, PA 15207
412-461-8619 rosietheriverter2@verizon.net

Treasurer: Susan Brown, 341 Godfrey Rd., Leechburg, PA 15656
724-845-8258 sueellenb@hotmail.com

Interim Treasurer:

Janet Fishovitz, 227 Brewer Rd, Freedom, PA 15042
724-494-5472 jfishovitz@gmail.com

Board Members:

Eldora Crist, 903 Redmont Place, Greensburg, PA 15601
724-837-1032 redhead134@gmail.com

Donna Earnest, 945 Old Rt. 66, Greensburg, PA 15601
724-834-5849 jearnest945@comcast.net

Jeanne Christensen, 3007 Glengary Dr., Greensburg, PA 15601
724-832-8588 jgorby14@aol.com

Elvira Harencame, 2074 Saxonburg Blvd., Gibsonia, PA 15044
412-999-3540 elharen1994@msn.com

Mary Lou Millward, 115 True Ln., New Stanton, PA 15672
724-635-0218 millward115@comcast.net

Linda Reed, 193 Pittsburgh St., Derry, PA 15627
724-433-2034 decamom@live.com

Robin Van Dyke, 1530 Mars-Evans City Rd., Evans City, PA 16033
724-538-4813 robin.vandyke@intalere.com

Helen Williams, 30 Boulder Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15239
724-393-2395

Calendar of Events

2019

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| March 7: | Executive Meeting |
| March 9: | Board Meeting at Messiah
Lutheran Church in
Munhall |
| April 6: | Cluster 5& 6 Meeting at St. Peter's
Lutheran Church in
Uniontown |
| April 13: | Cluster 2 Meeting at Nativity
Lutheran Church in
Allison Park |
| April 27: | Cluster 1&6 Meeting at Rehoboth
Lutheran Church in Baden
Cluster 3 Meeting at First Evang.
Lutheran Church in
Apollo |
| May 3-4: | Synodical Convention at Christ Our
Shepherd Center in
Greensburg |
| May 25: | Cluster 4 Meeting at Zion Lutheran
Church in Greensburg |
| June 6: | Executive Meeting |
| June 8: | Reorganization Board Meeting at
Trinity Lutheran Church in
Latrobe |

2020

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| July 14-16: | Triennial Convention in
Phoenix, AZ |
| July 16-19: | Triennial Gathering in
Phoenix, AZ |

Newsletter Information

The SWPA Synodical Women's Organization Newsletter is published four times a year following Board Meetings. Each Board Member, Officer, Cluster Planning Committee Member, and Congregational Unit receives a complimentary issue.

We welcome submissions to the Newsletter of activities or news items which you would like to share. We reserve the right to reject any material deemed unsuitable as submitted and we will edit as necessary. Due to space limitations some items may not be included.

Deadline for sending articles for the next issue is March 15, 2019.

Subscription Rate: \$5.00 per year – All subscriptions begin September 1 each year. Checks for subscriptions and/or donations for the newsletter are to be made payable to: SWPA Synod Women of the ELCA and are mailed to: Jennifer Armstrong-Schaefer; 1210 Beech Dr.; Latrobe, PA 15650

Please use this form to sign up for a subscription or renew your subscription. Form may be duplicated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone No. _____

New _____

Renewal _____

Amount Enclosed _____

SWPA Synodical Women's Organization
c/o Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
1325 Mission Rd.
Latrobe, PA 15650

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage PAID
Latrobe, PA 15650
Permit #173

Return Service Requested

CONVENTION ISSUE

Women ^{of the} ELCA 