



The Southeastern Weaver

January 2020 - Vol. 1 Newsletter of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA

Hilton Hotel and Conference Center



Our **33rd Southeastern WELCA Convention** will be held in Marietta Georgia on September 18-20, 2020. The hotel is in the historical district of Marietta and just a walk away from the Marietta Confederate Cemetery and 13 minutes by foot from the Gone with the Wind Movie Museum. While the golfer in the family is out on the course, you can swim in the outdoor pool or take a sauna. This hotel also features complimentary wireless internet access, and a gift shop. There are two restaurants and a Pub. The views across the golf course and the gardens are beautiful.

Ladies, everything is located in one building with a beautiful back porch with rocking chairs. Please save the date and lets once again join our sisters to celebrate our faith with each other.

Our theme is “**Jars of Clay**” with **2 Corinthians 4:7** as our Bible verse.
“We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not us.”

We look forward to enjoying the celebration with each of you!

Reflections of the President



By
Patti
Austin

The first of November your WELCA Board met once again at “Holy Trinity House” at Lutheranch for our board meeting. We were excited to have Diana Palma from Redeemer Lutheran Church as a new board member; God always provides when there is need. We had a weekend full of planning for our Convention in September 2020 and look forward to seeing each of you again as we come together for learning, studying, business, prayer and a lot of fun. We are looking for exciting workshops, powerful speakers and activities that will inspire you and refresh your faith.

Each of you continue to amaze me with your generosity of quilts, school backpacks, soap and fleece blankets for Lutheran World Relief and food for community centers like Smokey Mountain Area Rescue Ministry. We are still collecting our Love Offerings for SES Advocacy until the end of January to help support the work in criminal justice reform, the fight for stronger human trafficking laws, care for Creation and of course safety nets for hunger and poverty. Send your checks to our treasure Karen Andrews.

Thank you for your kind invitations to attend events at your units and cluster gatherings and the opportunity to preach at your Thankoffering Services. I treasure your cards, e-mails and especially your prayers.

I encourage each of you to think about and prayerfully consider saying “yes” when asked to run for a board position. Serving on the board will give you a different perspective of what the wider church organization is about. You will make friends for a lifetime; and find fulfillment in the work we do. There is something at work greater than any one of us, please consider joining our team.

Now is the time to mark your calendars and plan to join us September 18-20 in Marietta Georgia at the Hilton Marietta Hotel and Convention Center. Our theme is “Jars of Clay” with 2 Corinthians 4:7 as our Bible verse.

“We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.”

I look forward to your Cluster Meetings and celebrating who we are as Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA. †

IMPORTANT DATES for 2020

- JAN 31** End of fiscal year - All 2019 offerings must be received by this date
- FEB 1** Start of fiscal year - Offerings for CW Women of the ELCA begins
- JAN 31-FEB 1-2** Winter Board Meeting – St. John’s, Atlanta GA
- FEB 15** Churchwide Grant and Scholarship Applications due
- FEB 21-23** Conference of Synodical Presidents - Chicago, IL
- FEB 23** Bold Women’s Day - Women of the ELCA
- MAR 6** World Day of Prayer - Church Women United MAR-APR Spring Cluster Meetings
- MAY 3-5** Spring Board Meeting – Hilton Hotel & Conference Center, Marietta, GA
- MAY 3** May Friendship Day - Church Women United
- MAY 5** Rachel’s Day - Justice for Children and Youth (First Sunday in May)
- JUN 5,6,7** Southeastern Synod Assembly - Chattanooga, TN
- JULY 14-16** Triennial Convention- Phoenix, Ariz.
- JULY 16-19** Triennial Gathering-Phoenix, Ariz.
- AUG 23-24** Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering
- SEP 18-20** 33rd Annual Convention – Hilton Hotel & Conference Center Marietta, GA.
- SEP 29** Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA Sunday
- NOV 6,7, 8** Fall Board Meeting - Lutheranch, Tallapoosa, GA

11th Triennial



By
Marjory
Kellar

The “Just Love” Triennial logo was designed by Elizabeth McBride, editor of Café magazine. Read about her inspiration here <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/news/just-love>. Registrations are still being accepted for the Triennial Convention and Gathering in Phoenix, AZ, July 14-16, 2020 (Convention) and July 16-19, 2020 (Gathering).

Visit <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page> to see registration opportunities and information regarding the Gathering. Up until 1/6/20, registration is \$325. After 1/6/20, registration will go up to \$375. Lisa Plorin, Churchwide President has been featured in two videos available on YouTube. Click on the links below to watch and catch her excitement!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=saw7eTkrVFY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUb32S9gE3s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUb32S9gE3s>

I am looking forward to seeing y'all there! †

Thank You

Southeastern Synod Advocacy would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the women of Southeastern Synod WELCA for their generous Love Offering and the support you have shown for this ministry in our four states. Together we have made great strides toward ending Human Trafficking, along with successfully supporting Criminal Justice Reform legislation.

In closing, we would like to invite all of you to join us at Redeemer on February 1, 2020 from 9 AM to 3 PM for our 5th Annual Advocacy Gathering. We have exciting news to share with you, along with some dynamic speakers. Lunch will be provided.

Sincerely,

Hilton Austin Jr

SES Director of Advocacy

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America †

Inspiritus

By Diana Palma

Inspiritus empowers those who face challenges and disruptions: children who have been abused or neglected, people with developmental disabilities, refugees and immigrants, individuals affected by natural disaster, and people in low-income communities. Our name is derived from the word *inspirit*, which means to fill with strength or courage, and that is what Inspiritus does. **We *inspirit*!** In 2019 Inspiritus joined forces of Lutheran Services in Georgia and Tennessee to better meet the needs of individuals and families to discover their inner strength and resilience, leading to a more fulfilling life. There are now 5 offices in Georgia (Atlanta, Albany, Columbus, Rome and Savannah) plus 1 in Nashville, Tennessee and most recently 1 in Birmingham, Alabama. By offering programs that help families meet basic needs including shelter, food and healthcare Inspiritus provides a foundation. From this strong base, programs support connections within the community and finding safe healthy housing as well as financial stability, leading to independent self-determined lives.

Guiding individuals
and families
on a path from
surviving to thriving.

Inspiritus



Formerly Lutheran Services of Georgia & Lutheran Services in Tennessee

Join with Inspiritus to empower a neighbor whose life has been disrupted. Lutheran Church WELCA groups are encouraged to engage in a variety of meaningful projects throughout the year that provide support to SES as well as Churchwide programs. Go to <https://weinspirit.org/> to check out volunteer and engagement opportunities for your WELCA Group to become involved. †

Lutheran World
Relief
News



By
Janice
Hawkins

Where are Your Quilt & Kits Going?

There are many times I get asked where our Quilts and Kits are sent. This past summer items were sent to Peru, Zambia, Angola, Nicaragua, Tanzania, and South Sudan. This information is on the LWR website and I also get an email twice a year from the Quilt & Kit manager with a general update of where they have sent items. But a lot of you want to know specifically where **YOUR** items went. The statement on the LWR website reads, "The LWR Quilt & Kit Tracker is one way we try to make the world between us a little bit smaller, by connecting the tireless efforts of people who make quilts and assemble kits with the people around the world who receive them with joy and gratitude." Since its inception in 2013, more than 2,280 congregations have used the LWR Quilt & Kit Tracker to see where their gifts of love go and who they help.

The Lutheran World Relief Tracker is how you can actually track **your** specific donations. First you must log into the system by visiting the Quilt & Kit Tracker portal and find your congregation's Donor ID. Then, in order to accurately track shipments, you'll need to print a barcode for each box you wish to follow. The barcode is specific to each box and cannot be changed once you attach it to the box. Also DO NOT mark through the barcode. One half of the pdf you print out goes inside the box and the other half gets securely attached to the outside (not across the opening). Please also attach your normal label to each box that shows the type of kit, quantity, weight, and congregation. We need that information, along with your reporting form, on the day you deliver your donations to the truck. Then about 6 months later you can log back into the Quilt & Kit Tracker and view the report of where your donations have gone. Print this report so you can share it with your congregation. There are more specific instructions about using the Tracker that you can print and follow on the

LWR website.

There are several videos available on YouTube that show how quilts and kits get from your home congregations to the location in the world where they are needed. My favorite is a 13 minute video that shows your barcodes being scanned and attached to the shipments. It also shows quilts and kits being assembled and the looks of joy on their recipient's faces. This is a great video to share with your congregation, at a WELCA meeting, or a Cluster gathering. Try this link to get to it, or just search Lutheran World Relief on the YouTube website to find it! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz_6djYsAgo

If you need any help using the Tracker or finding these videos you can email me at jchawkin@bellsouth.net.†

Advocacy

By Sissy Gifford

Many of you may be like me when I first heard the word "Advocacy" I was not sure of what it meant. So I looked it up and the best explanation I found was that "Advocacy in all its forms seeks to ensure that people, particularly those who are most vulnerable in society, are able to: Have their voice heard on issues that are important to them. Defend and safeguard their rights. Have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives."

Advocacy can be individuals or groups who are working toward their idea of a more just society.

The Bible has several verses and stories throughout, which point us toward advocacy. The story of Moses is probably the best known. God had Moses speak for the Israelites who had no voice or rights in Egypt. This is just one example of why we as Christians should work for a just society. The ELCA is committed to working toward this goal. If you go to the ELCA website, <https://elca.org/advocacy>, you can read about some of the ways advocacy is being done throughout our church. Advocacy is not easy as we saw with Moses, but just like Moses, God is with us in our struggles for a just society.†

**Do right, seek justice,
defend the oppressed**

- Isaiah 1:17



Tidbits from the Treasurer

By
Karen
Andrews

The 2019 SES WELCA Convention in Pigeon Forge was a success! We had a great time in fellowship, seeing the sights and worship. We spent \$28,924.79 to host the convention and raised \$31,754.67 in registration, leaving us \$2,829.88 in the black for convention income over expense.

You were also generous in your love offering, giving more than \$3500 towards the SES Advocacy programs. Friday and Sunday's offerings totaled \$5381.49.

The issue raised at convention around the budget for board members and why more was spent than budgeted last year has been researched and is a combination of things, however it essentially stems from board member travel reimbursement. One aspect is the mileage rate in the past years was \$.40 but was reduced last year to \$.32, and remains at that reduced rate this year. Another reason was the location of the board members, in four different states. While we try to be fair and have our quarterly board meetings at different sites, board members still need to travel some distance to attend the meetings. The board is aware of the costs and is mindful of the costs by agreeing to car-pool more often, reduce the number of meals when meeting and/or bring our own food to cook (depending on the location and feasibility).

The 2020-2021 budget was made with the same totals as the previous year, and thus it is expected the board will again exceed its budgeted expense. The line item for board expense will be adjusted to be more realistic in the next budget. Feel free to reach out to me should you have any questions.

God's peace be with you,
Karen Andrews

Offerings should be mailed to:

950 Eagles Landing Pkwy.
Suite 617
Stockbridge, GA 30281 †

Katie's Table 2020



By
Gloria B.
Martin

It is exciting and fun to honor the life of Katharina von Bora Luther, a bold and practical woman of faith. Women of the ELCA, through Katie's Fund, honors her life by supporting global connections, leadership development, and living theology.

The Katie's Fund Endowment was established in 1997, by Women of the ELCA, to honor the legacy of Katharina von Bora Luther, to raise up bold leaders for the women's organization and to support bold and creative ministry for future generations. Katie's Fund is an endowment that supports ministry in the following three areas:

Global Connections - building global partnerships that increase multicultural awareness and that promote service.

Leadership Development - providing opportunities for current and future leaders to participate in and further the mission of Women of the ELCA.

Living Theology - nurturing faith through Bible studies, worship experiences and educational theological forums. Your gifts to Katie's Fund, whether to the endowment or to the current fund, ensure the organization's continued commitment to community, to growth, and to action. These three areas are central to the life of Women of the ELCA. They represent ministries that prepare, nurture and sustain participants as they further the mission of Women of the ELCA: mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

At our 2020 convention, we will support Katie's Table by promoting the sale of pre-owned children's books and adult romance novels that are "**in good condition**". Please bring your items to Katie's Table before the start of convention. Stay tuned to our next edition for more information. †

World Day of Prayer 2020



By
Bernice
Bland

World Day of Prayer is a world-wide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions promoting justice and equality through prayer, partnerships, service and celebration. Using “Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action,” as its motto, the World Day of Prayer, is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. Every year, the movement focuses on a different country who selects the theme and worship program.

We are invited to join with Zimbabwe, the host country, in a common celebration on March 6, 2020. The women of Zimbabwe challenge us to take up our mats, “whatever they may be for us, and walk.” Like the Apostle Paul, the women of Zimbabwe wrote an epistle to us briefly describing their history as well as their current political, social, and economic struggles, <https://worlddayofprayer.net/zimbabwe-2020.html>.

Instead of staying on their mats, our Zimbabwean sisters are acting on Jesus’ call to action, “Rise! Take your mat and walk,” which for them is a call to love, peace, and reconciliation. Our sisters write, “The action verbs suggest that we should not be afraid to act on the word of God. God is offering us the steps for personal and social transformation.”



The WDP 2020 program is based on Jesus’ encounter with a person who, although positioned for healing, had not acted upon the opportunities given (John 5:2-9a). Jesus asked – “Do you want to be made well?” You are faced with this life-changing question. What are you going to do? Use this opportunity to reflect with

your WDP group, community and ecumenical partners. Prayer and action are what links us together around the globe.

“Rise! Take Up Your Mat and Walk,” said Jesus. Our sisters from Zimbabwe are taking Jesus’ encounter to be a call to act in love for peace and reconciliation. “The action verbs suggest that we should not be afraid to act on the word of God. God is offering us the steps for personal and social transformation.” This is the time for change!

May we hear the words of this compassionate God and the Prince of Peace to act upon the healing of ourselves and our communities to bring peace and reconciliation into the world.

Materials for World Day of Prayer 2020–Zimbabwe are available at <https://worlddayofprayer.net/zimbabwe-2020.html>.

You are encouraged to start planning now for a meaningful event on March 6, 2020. †



Love Offering

By Karen Andrews

The 2020 – 2021 SE Synod WELCA love offering, will benefit our Churchwide organization, Women of the ELCA. We are a generous group of women whether by synod, cluster, church or individual, to many organizations, and next year we will support our churchwide organization to continue to do the good works they do to assist our synod and benefit others.

WELCA was formed in 1987 with a mission of “mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ”, and that is exactly what the SE WELCA does with such vigor! You boldly collect goods, money, support others and help those less fortunate, solely because of your faith in Jesus Christ and following His word. When called to action, you come together, mobilize, and act.

Today, the organization is active in approximately 7,000 of the 9,200 ELCA congregations and in 64 of the 65 synods and since constituting in 1988, Women of the ELCA has belonged to the women; it is self-incorporated. No money from the ELCA budget is given to Women of the ELCA; all monetary support comes from the women themselves.

According to their website, the Women of the ELCA's community of women provide services in their churches, communities, and even the world. They engage in ministry, take action through advocacy, promote healing and wholeness, and support one another in our callings. They offer anti-racism training; address domestic violence, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking; and support families with special needs. They assist participants in their desire to discern God's call in their lives and to discover their spiritual gifts through workshops, retreats, resources, scholarships, and global education. An addition, they offer grants to not-for-profit organizations, both domestic and international, that support healing and wholeness for women of all ages through the affirmation and advancement of women's emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

As a part of this vibrant group, we proudly commit to supporting our churchwide organization in 2020 to continue assisting women to do more! †

2020 Southeastern Synod WELCA Convention

By Patti Austin

For our 33rd annual WELCA Convention we will be in Marietta, GA at the beautiful Hilton Marietta Hotel and Conference Center in the historical district which is a 3 minute walk from the Marietta Confederate Cemetery and 13 minutes from the Gone With the Wind



Movie Museum. The Hotel is located at 500 Powder Springs St. Marietta, GA 30064 and over looks a beautiful golf course and the beau-

tiful Kennesaw Mountain, near hiking and mountain trails.

Our theme is Jars of Clay, from 2 Corinthians 4:7. That is the great purpose behind why we are called jars of clay. It is to show the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are weak, we are frail, we are lame — and yet, we are chosen. We are loved.

So mark your calendar for September 18-20, 2020 and get ready to relax for another inspiring and powerful weekend. Be sure to check out Hilton/Atlanta Marietta Hotel for the many amenities, two restaurants, Sports Bar and picturesque views. †

Bold Women's Day 2020

By Patti Austin

Bold Women's Day—observed annually on the fourth Sunday of February—celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers. Other women are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out our baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ. Are you bold? You can find ideas how to celebrate and promote Bold Women's Day on Women of the ELCA website.

We look forward to hearing how you and your congregation celebrate being bold. †

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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



We Asked, You Answered

By Patti Austin

Our organization uses Evaluation Sheets and the answers can help us improve in the way we plan our time and sometimes our location. Of course, some things just can't be changed. Your board has read each of this past year's sheets and will try to answer some of your questions. Let's start with one of the most often asked questions.

Why don't we have bathroom breaks?

Most of our locations have two Ladies Rooms with 4 to 6 stalls, can you imagine if all 150, 200 ladies went at the same time? It would take an hour or two. So we feel that you each know when you need to go and can choose your best time and not have to wait so long.

Plenary Hall too Cold

Every location is different and not always easy to adjust the air. We try to keep it at a cool temp because 200 women can heat up a freezer in no time. (LOL) We do have the location adjust the air as much as possible. We always suggest that you bring a jacket or small blanket to keep you comfortable, I always take a small travel blanket with me to Synod Assembly and Churchwide Assembly.

Receive Convention Material When I Register

All voting members receive a Pre-Convention e-mail packet when they register to prepare them for voting and acquaint them to rules and procedure. We also send a pre-convention packet to participants.

Too Busy- Not enough time to Relax

We do pack a lot of work into a weekend especially for voting members; but this is the business meeting. Everyone else is free to explore, shop or just take a nap. Most importantly we want you to enjoy every minute of the weekend.

These were the top questions and I hope that the answers have helped. I would like to end with a comment of one attendee.

The hotel and convention center were excellent and very comfortable. As an audience member I thought the AV really good. Food was delicious, wait staff friendly. It was wonderful how Friday's sermon, the Bible Study and Keynote speaker meshed together so well. I really appreciate starting on time and how well run the sessions were.

Thank you, ladies, we really enjoyed spending time with each of you and always respect your input and depend on each of you keeping us on tract. Take time to Embrace Grace! †



Thursdays in Black: Resistance and Resilience

By Patti Austin

The campaign is simple but profound. Wear black on Thursdays. Show your respect for women who are resilient in the face of injustice and violence. Encourage others to join you.

Thursdays in Black was started by the World Council of Churches (WCC) in the 1980s as a form of peaceful protest against rape and violence – especially taking place during wars and conflicts - and was revived at the 2013 WCC assembly.

The campaign focuses on ways in which individuals may challenge attitudes that cause rape and violence. Wearing black on Thursdays can be a way to join in the awareness campaign. †

Rachel's Day

Women Boldly Standing For Children

By
Beth
Drane

What is Rachel's Day? In 1994, one woman urged her congregation, Bethel Lutheran Church on the west side of Chicago, to support children facing violence. They began by clearing a vacant lot and turning it into a garden— Rachel's Garden. It became a place where folks—mostly mothers—could come to mourn children killed by gun violence in the past year. They also planted a white cross and flowers in remembrance of these young ones. Two years later, the Metro Chicago Synodical Women's Organization brought a memorial to the Third Triennial Convention (1996) of Women of the ELCA to broaden awareness of the violence children face and actions to address it. The convention passed the memorial, resolving "That ELCA women encourage their congregations to recognize the first Sunday in May each year as Rachel's Day, based on Jeremiah 31:15–17 wherein Rachel grieved for her children, to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of evil and fear that plague our nation."



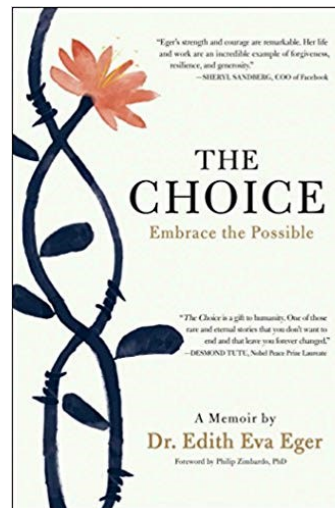
Today, children are also threatened with death by suicide, often a result of being bullied. Suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people, according to the United States Center for Disease Control. For every suicide among young people, there are at least 100 suicide attempts. More than 14 percent of high school students have considered suicide, and almost 7 percent have attempted it. Bully victims are between two to nine times more likely to consider suicide than non-victims,

according to studies by Yale University. Ending violence seems a difficult challenge today because our children's forms of play—violent online and video games, for example—create a dangerous environment and a formidable opponent for adults who want to protect them. No group of children is safe until all children are safe.

These figures are scary and troubling. Consider starting a Rachel's Day service and looking into ways you can help your community become more aware of these facts. The ELCA web site has many resources for outreach and services. †

Book Report

By Patti Austin



There is a great book I would like to share with you. It is ***The Choice*** by Dr. Edith Eva Eger. At the age of sixteen, Edith was sent to Auschwitz hours after her parents were killed. Nazi officer Dr. Josef Mengele forced Edie to dance for his amusement and survival. Edie was pulled from a pile of corpses when the American troops liberated the camps in 1945. Edie spent decades struggling with flashbacks and survivor's guilt, determined to stay silent and hide from the past.

Dr. Edith Eva Eger maintains a clinical practice in La Jolla, California, and holds a faculty appointment at the University of California, San Diego. She also serves as a consultant for the U.S. Army and Navy in resiliency training and the treatment of PTSD. Edie is still dancing—and she ends her talks with a high kick.

Reading *The Choice* I learned to be a hero requires taking action at crucial junctures in our lives, to make an active attempt to address injustice or create positive change in the world. To be a hero requires great moral courage. We can choose to embrace joy and freedom regardless of our circumstances. I finished this book with tears in my eyes and gratitude in my heart. †

Prison Ministry

By Beth Drane

In the past units have supported a story ministry. Parents in prison read age appropriate stories to their children on cassette tapes. Cassette tapes are not used anymore so send us your ideas on what you are doing now. By sharing ideas we could develop a new program where incarcerated parents can stay connected with their children. †



Hilton and Patti Austin at the Worship in Pink Service at Rock of Ages in Stone Mountain, GA. Start planning now for your Worship in Pink service for 2020. Search "Worship in Pink" for resources to use in planning your service. Send information to *The Southeastern Weaver* editor to advertise your event. †

Christmas Market

By Louise Iconis



St. John's Women of the ELCA in Atlanta held their first German-style Christmas Market on Saturday, November 16, 2019 from 9am-2pm.

We had 12 vendors who paid an application fee then sold their handmade items such as pillows, dolls, jewelry, wooden signs, and wine bottle crafts. We also had a Silent Auction which included many items such as gift certificates, handmade food items, gift baskets and items donated by our vendors.

The church was decorated for the holidays and there was Christmas music playing as well as a craft project for the kids. There were also German cookies, gluhwein and cocoa for all.

The money we raised will be divided between our local freeze shelter and the synodical organization for their ongoing programs.

We hope you will join us next year for a wonderful pre-Christmas family celebration. Watch Facebook on the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA or St. John's WELCA pages, and our website at www.seswelca.com for more information. †

I have held many things in my hands
and I have lost all of them;
 but whatever I have placed in God's hands,
that I still possess.

Martin Luther

Our Women in Ministry

By Patti Austin

January 12, 2020 I had the pleasure of attending Dawn Bennett's Ordination at Christ Lutheran Church in Nashville Tennessee. Pastor Bennett has a heart for the marginalized and the LGBTQ Community. She answers God's call through action. We are thankful to have her attend our 33rd Annual Convention and presentation of a workshop. †

By Kathy Hill

Susan Feurzeig was ordained January 5, 2020 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Atlanta, GA. It is always an honor for me to see a new pastor ordained, and especially when it is a female pastor. Pastor Susan served as Vicar at Redeemer, Atlanta before being sent to St. John's. I got to know Pastor Susan at one of our women's retreats and I know she will make a wonderful pastor at her new church. She has been called to Luther Memorial Lutheran Church in North Syracuse, N.Y. †



2019 – 2020 CLUSTER LEADERS			
Thank you ladies for your willingness to serve our organization as cluster leaders!			
LEGEND: C - Coordinator R - Recorder M - Member At Large			
CLUSTER 1 – Ebenezer			
C	Sheila Moon		912-678-5417
R	Lynne Hollenbach	colinalynne@gmail.com	912-656-7137
M	Cheryl Pannal	cheryltpannal@yahoo.com	912-667-5315
CLUSTER 2 – Good N.E.W.S.			
C	Kathy Seraphine	kathleense-	770-971-7654
R	Debbie Lundell	debrallundell@comcast.net	770-815-8918
M	Phyllis Hutchings	pmarhut@yahoo.com	770-882-8023
M	Cherie Tidwell	sheridantid@att.net	770-227-7531
CLUSTER 3 – Trinity			
C	Linda Few	fewbaby@bellsouth.net	404-556-5858
R	Louise Iconis	louise@iconis.com	404-769-8253
M	Christine Davis	davis1226@comcast.com	404-696-3736
CLUSTER 4 – Magi			
C	Alice Schuemann	schuemann@gmail.com	912-965-0615
R	Terri Lange	trlange@bellsouth.net	770-845-0958
M	Bernice Bland	bernice.bland@gmail.com	404-294-8247
M	Diane England	dmeblue@gmail.com	470-426-5415
CLUSTER 5 – Mission			
C	Barbara Ayers	bmaptcruiser@comcast.net	770-887-7031
CLUSTER 6 – Agape			
C	Donna Hoglelund	donna.hoglelund40@gmail.com	931-248-5101
R	Debbie Hampstead	dhampste@utk.edu	865-963-2840
M	Mary Smith	msmith4488@epbfi.com	423-718-1362
CLUSTER 7 – Diaspora			
C	Elise Englebert	seminolenut@gmail.com	205-300-8129
R	Paula McMillan	pfmp139@gmail.com	205-854-1462
M	Pat Barber	patriciavbarber@yahoo.com	256-536-9357
CLUSTER 8 – The King			
C	Dian Luffman	dianluff@gmail.com	615-712-3244
R	Maureen Garrett	mmemechante@gmail.com	931-580-0615
M	Jen Yamin	jenbyamin@comcast.net	615-512-7806
CLUSTER 9 – Gulf Coast			
C	Linda Johnson	lsjohnson1911@hotmail.com	504-433-4768
C	Ingrid Miscavage	dragonslair51@aol.com	228-380-2918
R	Kathy Zimmerman	kathy.zee@hotmail.com	814-623-6563
M	Betty Wilson	bmwilson521@yahoo.com	228-436-3472

2020 SPRING CLUSTER MEETINGS

***These are the latest dates we have at publication. Please contact your host church and/or your cluster leaders to confirm updates on actual meeting dates.**

CLUSTER	DATE	HOST CONGREGATION	BOARD LIAISON
1 - Ebenezer	March 7, 2020	Zion, Guyton, GA	Shirley Connelly
2 - Good N.E.W.S.	April 17-19, 2020	Lutheranch, Tallapoosa GA	Karen Andrews
3 - Trinity	April 17-19, 2020	Lutheranch, Tallapoosa, GA	Bernice Bland
4 - Magi	April 25, 2020	Living Grace, Tucker, GA	Terry Chongulia
5 - Mission		Christ Lutheran, Oakwood, GA	Gloria Martin
6 - Agape	March 28, 2020	Grace Oak Ridge, Oak Ridge, TN	Beth Drane
7 - Diaspora	April , 2020		Patti Austin
8 - The King	April 25, 2020	Christ Lutheran, Nashville, TN	Billie Goepfert
9 - Gulf Coast	April 25, 2020	Grace, Gulf Shores, AL	Sissy Gifford

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.”

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-23-2013

YOU KNOW GUYS, RUMOR HAS IT THE BABY SHIVERS IN THE COLD ... MAYBE INSTEAD OF GOLD AND PERFUME HE WOULD ENJOY A BLANKET?

**Lutheranch
News**



By
Christina
Yarnold

Labyrinth Creation and Meditation Retreat



January 24-26, 2020

\$299 per person, private rooms

Start off the new year by joining us for a week-end of meditation, contemplation and relaxation at Lutheranch. Learn new techniques to help manage stress, improve mindfulness and strengthen your prayer life as you grow closer to God. The weekend will include opportunities for group meditation, silent reflection, prayer, yoga, and labyrinth building, ending with a Taize worship service on Sunday morning. Each participant will be asked to bring a small stone to contribute to our new prayer labyrinth.

Pray, and let
God worry.

Martin Luther

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

January 31- February 2, 2020
St. John's Lutheran, Atlanta, GA

May 1-3, 2020
Holy Trinity, Marietta, GA



Lutheranch Quilting Retreat



February 20-23, 2020

\$279 double room, \$339 single room

Join us for the 3rd Annual Quilting Bee at Lutheranch. Led by Holly Anderson, the focus of this year's retreat will be Exploring with Triangles. Quilters of all ages and abilities are invited to come learn new techniques, or simply enjoy spending time together with other quilters while working on their own projects.

Let the fun and creativity begin!

To register, visit www.lutheranch.org or call
828-209-6301†

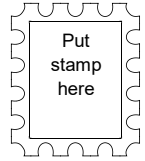
*Stress comes from trying
to do it all on our own.
Peace comes from putting
it all in God's hands.*

2019-2020 Executive Board Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA

Patti Austin, President Leadership Training	218 East Trinity Place#1020 Decatur, GA 30030	paustin562@att.net 404-819-5077
Beth Drane, Vice President; Mission: Growth, Cluster 6 Agape Board Rep	4312 Lorena Lane Maryville, TN 37804	Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com 865-681-5987
Shirley Connelly, Secretary; ARG, BOR, Mission: Community, Cluster 1 Ebenezer Board Rep	4746 Riverroad Trail Snellville, GA 30039	slconnelly@gmail.com 770-891-5513
Karen Andrews, Treasurer Mission: Action, Cluster 2 Good N.E.W.S. Board Rep	950 Eagles Landing Pkwy Suite 617 Stockbridge, GA 30281	karenand@yahoo.com 678-972-6653
Terry Chongulia, Mission: Growth, Cluster 4 Magi Board Rep	2370 Hillside Trace Monroe, GA 30655	terrychongulia@gmail.com 678-491-7348
Gabriele “Sissy” Gifford, Mission: Community, Cluster 9 Gulf Coast Bd Rep	P.O. Box 21 Midland City, AL 36350	ggiff819@aol.com 334-789-9756
Billie Goepfert, Mission: Growth, Cluster 8 The King Board Rep	3106 Laurel Forest Drive Nashville, TN 37214	billiegoepfert@yahoo.com 615-275-9745
Gloria B. Martin, Mission: Action, Cluster 5 Board Rep	3461 Tarragon Drive Decatur, GA 30034-6212	gybmartin@yahoo.com 404 510 6338
Bernice Bland, Mission: Community Cluster 3 Trinity Board Rep	4262 Village Square Lane Stone Mountain, GA30083	bernice.bland@gmail.com 404-423-6563
Diana Palma, Mission: Action, Cluster 7 Diaspora Board Rep	410 Pebblestone Circle SE Marietta, GA 30067	palmadbmax@gmail.com 404-894-1541
<u>Non-Board</u>		
Barbara Schwanebeck Convention Registrar	277 Mossy Way, NW Kennesaw, GA 30152	barbara.schwanebeck@gmail.com 770-427-7808
Louise Iconis Website and Facebook Admin	1540 Diplomat Drive Cumming, GA 30041	louise@iconis.com C 404-769-8253 H 470-239-4091
Linda Few AV Administrator	1109 Oriole Dr SW Atlanta, GA 30311	fewbaby@bellsouth.net C 404-556-5858 H 404-755-5658
Janice Hawkins Lutheran World Relief Key Leader	4315 Bending River Trail Lilburn, GA 30047	jchawkin@bellsouth.net 770-712-6090
Kathy Hill Newsletter Editor	210 Ridge Run Stockbridge, GA 30281	kathyshill1@gmail.com 404-310-7112
Carolyn Nottingham Davis SE Synod Liaison	P.O. Box 400 Decatur, GA 30031	cdavis@elca-ses.org 404-589-1977
Margery Kellar Triennial Promoter	1686 Bristol Drive NE Atlanta, GA 30329	margery.kellar@gmail.com 404-803-9404
Women of the ELCA Churchwide	8765 West Higgins Rd. Chicago, IL 60631-4189	www.womenoftheelca.org 800-638-3522, Ext. 2730



The Southeastern Weaver
Southeastern Synod of Women of the ELCA
210 Ridge Run
Stockbridge, GA 30281-3339



DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

(HARDCOPY SUBSCRIBERS: Check your mailing label for your expiration date)

Southeastern Weaver
Subscription Request Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number (hard copy subscriptions) _____

Email Address: _____

The *Southeastern Weaver* is published four times per year. The cost of a one-year mailed subscription is \$10.00 or you may subscribe for the **FREE** email version.

Send your subscription order with checks made payable to: **Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA** for the hard copy version to the Newsletter Editor at the address shown above in the upper left corner. For the **FREE** email version email your email address to the newsletter editor.

Thank you for your continued support!