



The Northwester

Newsletter for Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Volume 29- Issue 1 – March 2016

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America **NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
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Sharing the 'Eggs-citement'



Using an egg carton filled with 12 colorful plastic eggs, you can make the resurrection story come to life for young children:

1. holds a cracker, a remembrance of the Last Supper;
2. holds a dime, representing the silver coins Judas received by betraying Jesus.
3. contains a piece of rope like the soldiers used to bind Jesus when he was arrested.
4. has a piece of purple cloth, a symbol of royalty and the taunts Jesus endured.
5. has a thorn, reminding us of the Crown of Thorns he was forced to wear.
6. holds a cross representing the one that Jesus died on so that we could be forgiven.
7. contains a nail reminding us of how Jesus was nailed to the cross.
8. has a piece of sponge, representing the vinegar that Jesus was given when he asked for a drink.
9. Holds a toothpick with a foil tip, symbolizing the spear that was thrust into Jesus' side.
10. contains a piece of gauze, representing how Jesus' body was wrapped for burial.
11. holds a rock, symbolic of the large rock that was rolled away from Jesus' grave by an angel.
12. Is empty! Jesus is no longer dead, but alive!



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I have so much to share with you all that I don't know where to start! With my personal traits and characteristics, this is actually a good thing. I would be bored to death if I wasn't busy doing stuff that seems to me to be worthwhile.

First, please check the picture and bio for the new church-wide representative to our NW Wisconsin Synod Women of the ELCA Convention. The convention packet showed this person would be Joan Iverson from SW Minnesota. However, she has had to cancel due to a tractor accident and ensuing surgery suffered by her husband. So now we are privileged to host Patti Austin from Decatur, Georgia. She was elected as President of the church-wide Executive Board at the Triennial in Charlotte NC in 2014.

I just finished spending a weekend in Chicago with Patti and the other 63 SWO Presidents along with a handful of Executive Board members and all 14 church-wide staff people. Like last year, the staff kept us busy from early morning until bedtime. Patti really has a heart for women's ministry and our organization. She also firmly believes in the power of prayer and our need to grow closer to the God we serve. Come to our convention in Eau Claire at the end of April to hear the rest of the story.

PRAYER
changes things



More about our convention: we do have a fun and enriching time planned for everyone with a wide variety of activities and workshops. Bishop Hoyme will be with us to lead the worship service and communion early Saturday morning. He will also preach at that service. We have added a working component to the convention, allowing you to choose to pack food, tie fleece blankets or make cards. A registration form is included in this Northwester as well.

Oops! Somehow we goofed. Because we will not have another NW Wisconsin Convention prior to the July 2017 Triennial Convention in Minneapolis, we are required to elect our voting members (delegates) at our April 2016 convention. Even though I handed out applications wherever I went this last year, many of you may not have had a chance to apply for this expense-paid portion of the Triennial CONVENTION which takes care of the business end of our organization. The form said they were due March 12th. Any member of a NW Wisconsin ELCA church who participates in an active unit of W/ELCA at their church is eligible to apply if the application is postmarked by the new deadline of April 5th.

Now here comes the clinker. This election for Triennial voting members has a way of balloting that we are required to follow called "rank order process." Because the national constitution says we will have 10% people of color or whose language is other than English, the first ballot will be just for that person. Our second ballot will need to assure that we send 25% of our delegation as first-timers. We have been allotted 7 voting slots plus 1 for your SWO President (me), so that means we need 2 first-timers. Then we can elect the balance of voting members, or 5 more people. Those who were not elected in the balloting are put on the "alternates" list by number of votes received in case someone who was elected cannot attend. If we don't have enough alternates to fill vacated spots, we could lose votes because there is no allowance for appointing at a later date. If this isn't real clear, you are welcome to phone me up and we'll talk it through. The voting members will participate in the first three days of the Triennial which are called the *Convention*.

Following those business meetings is the Triennial GATHERING which is full of speakers, exhibits, workshops, worship, music, tours, socializing, the run walk and roll, and too many things to mention here. Our Synod has already purchased 14 scholarships slots for the Gathering so we can give 2 to each Conference. I did find out that I can volunteer our Wisconsin delegation to help at the Triennial Gathering. I have mentioned this aspect several times in various places, but have received little feedback. I really would like to know if you are willing to help with communion or to act as ushers, or... Talk to me, ladies!!



Several suggestions have come through the communication channels from Eva Yeo, who is the director for membership in the Chicago Office. She works hard at getting us to reach out to more women and especially younger women who are not familiar with our organization. Good things for us to do: your W/ELCA could sponsor a first-time participant at the Triennial Gathering, befriend a college student as their "grandmother away from home," pair up inter-generational prayer partners, gift a new mom with a meal brought ready-to-eat to her home, have some of your meetings at an after-work time that might allow working gals to attend, or

highlight a WELCA resource of the month. Our organization desperately needs input from younger women that may look different from “what we have always done” in order to continue into the future. Some ladies are bringing their daughters and granddaughters to the Triennial!



More about my weekend in Chicago: a fun statement from the lively female pastor who was our chaplain for the weekend – “My grandma always said if the grass is greener on the other side of the fence, it’s because there was more manure.” A gentle reminder to SWO Presidents came from our national director and was something like, “Your job as President is to lead the board in supporting women in the units of our churches, not just to plan a convention.”

One of the welcoming speakers at our conference was a delightful lady from Bishop Easton’s Office named Kathryn Johnson. Besides stating how much she is enjoying working for Bishop Easton, she talked a lot about the 500th anniversary of the Reformation that the Lutheran Church will begin celebrating in October of 2016 and throughout the year after that. The main emphasis will be on how grace is free and “not for sale.” In addition, people are not for sale, neither is God’s creation. A new liturgy will be published in honor of this event. To add to the celebratory aspect, 2017 will be the 30th anniversary of the Women of the ELCA.

If you subscribe to our award-winning *Gather* magazine you already know that the organization handling the subscriptions has changed from Augsburg Fortress to a company in New York. The new toll free contact number is 844-409-0576. They can be reached at gather@cambeywest.com or Gather Subscription Order Center, P.O. Box 336, Congers NY 10920-0336. We have been assured that better service will be forthcoming.



I hope you are enjoying the electronic version of our own newsletter, this *Northwester*. The best part is having the cartoons and clip art in color. Thank you, Eleanor, for enriching us in that way as well as going to the extra work of sending it out electronically.

My next vote of thanks goes to Phyllis Beastron and Barb Swant. They have been actively correcting and fixing grammar and punctuation and other aspects of things like our Standing Rules for the Convention, the resolution we are hoping to pass on domestic violence, and our Policies and Procedures. Besides their extra work, they have been very patient with me!

The third attitude of gratitude this issue is being passed on to Jean Larson and Bonnie Thalacker who are co-chairs for our convention. They have worked tirelessly, attended several meetings, sent out tons of e-mails, made lots of phone calls, vetoed my stupid suggestions while accepting the good ones, and just kept the ball rolling for months. You will appreciate them also when you come to the Plaza in Eau Claire at the end of April for our convention.

Looking forward to seeing you in April at your Days or Mornings of Renewal as well as at the convention...

Your Synod Women’s Organization President, Sue Saarem

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



“I can’t find what channel we’re on.”

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*

Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

Discipleship

My Life of Bread Making

I grew up with the aromas of bread, cinnamon rolls, pies, cakes, cookies and other goodies baking in my Mother's kitchen. Her kitchen was a wonderful room with plenty of food to feed anyone who might stop by. It was also a room to stop what you were doing and enjoy the company of your visitors.

I like to think my kitchen resembles my Mother's kitchen with the aromas present and the hospitality to go with it. I enjoy making bread, cinnamon rolls and pies to share with others. Just like the yeast needs warm water and a little sugar to rise, we also need a warm hug, smile or kind word to make our lives rise a little.

Do you smile and say hi to people you meet in the grocery aisle? I am sure many of you do. You have just planted a seed to make that person think they are special.

Because yeast breads and rolls take time to rise, it teaches us to be patient. Baking also teaches us to read directions and follow through with a complete recipe. Do we follow through with ideas and plans that we have started? Do we encourage others and help them with their ideas? I know that I am guilty of not always sharing or encouraging others. It takes time, patience and really listening to accomplish this action.

Jesus listens to us, even when we think He is not listening. He is patient, kind and caring when we just want to get on with life or whatever we are doing. He is like the yeast that is rising and giving us what we need to rise and be witnesses for Him. He can teach us so much if we are willing to listen. Rising yeast can teach us to use our spiritual gifts, such as being a leader in our church, whether it is on church council; Women of the ELCA; Sunday School; leading Bible Studies; youth group; janitor; etc. Rising yeast can also teach us how to conduct ourselves in public and civic organizations to honor our faith in Christ.

Baking bread and other goodies teaches us to be good stewards of our time and follow through. It also teaches us to be disciples to share our fare and our love of Christ with others.

Luke 13: 20-21: Again he asked, "What shall I compare the kingdom of God to? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough."

Thank you for the privilege and honor of serving on this board the past 4 years. I have learned much and have made many new friends. God bless you!



Carol Johnson
Discipleship
Apple River Conference Representative



FROM THE TREASURER

Our SWO 2015 fiscal year ended on January 31, 2016. Offerings deposited before that date were credited to the 2015 year. We are thankful that offerings were up \$2,399 from the previous year. This will certainly help us maintain and extend our ministries.

Congregational units are encouraged to send an offering to the convention before the event on Form A or bring to the event so the total can be announced at the convention. I will disburse the offering by the end of May as approved by the board: 1/2 to Churchwide Women of the ELCA, 1/4 to Feed My People, and 1/4 to Malawi Famine Relief. Convention Offerings received after May will go into the general offering to the SWO.

Units are reminded to send in a Convention Expense Fund Offering of \$30 each year. This fund keeps the convention affordable. Please use Form A and write on the line convention expense fund.

The year-end summary is as following:

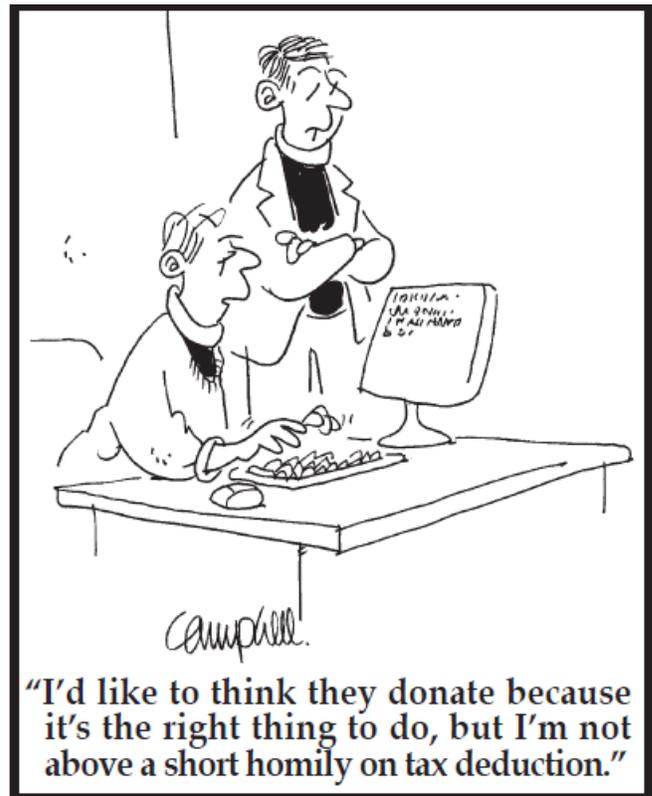
Income	
Unit Offerings	\$24,398.66
Conference Offerings	3,563.75
Northwester Subscriptions	1,723.00
Convention Expense Fund	<u>2,195.00</u>
	\$31,880.41

EXPENSES

Ministries:	
Lay School Scholarships	700.00
7 Seminary Scholarships	3,500.00
Malawi Flood Relief	500.00
Synod Resource Center	500.00
Luth Point/Luth Park Bible Camps	1,000.00
WELCA Churchwide	15,763.00
Racial Justice Presentation	40.00
Website	111.96
Leadership Training	459.20
Nominating Committee	318.73
Insurance	109.60
Convention Expenses	542.80
Board Expenses	2,577.35
Northwester	<u>2,952.68</u>
	\$25,075.32

We thank God for the faithful and joyful stewardship of Women in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. It is your generosity that supports the ministries important to the women of this synod.

Audrey Severson
N6059 530th Street
Ellsworth, WI 54011
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from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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LOCAL UNIT NEWS

The Layette Ministry of Lakeside Community Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA

The layette ministry of Lakeside Community Lutheran Church, rural Webster is two-fold: global and local. New and gently-used clothing for children ages 0-24 is collected all year long in the “Burnett Baby Bureau,” located in the church narthex. Suggested items include:

baby blankets onesies outfits t-shirts
sleepers jackets/sweaters receiving blankets hats, socks

From August through October, clothing is sorted and cleaned, and it is determined if the items would be better used locally, or delivered to the Latin American Mission site in Minneapolis. Local hospitals and family resource centers are called to determine the need for the baby bundles. A date for the assembly is set and promoted in the church newsletter.

Assembly day in October is a day of work and fellowship. WELCA women “shop” an assembly line of items to put in the bundles. They determine if the bundle would be for a boy or a girl, choose the appropriate clothing items, and bundle it together in a receiving blanket. It is held together by a pink or blue ribbon with a pink or blue card attached which says: “This Special Delivery is just a little something selected especially for you..... Things you will need in the days to come. With many blessings from the ladies of WELCA.” Sometimes, a nice baby blanket is included with the package. Of course there is a lot of “ooing and ah-ing” over the cute outfits!

This past October, 63 bundles were assembled. The hospitals and resource centers were very happy to receive them. The criteria for distribution to individuals is left up to the discretion of hospital/resource center staff members.

The Lakeside Women of the ELCA have found this project to be easy and rewarding. The bundles are given and received in love, and fulfill a need in the community.

For more information about the local layette ministry, you may contact Katie Childs kdchilds0412@gmail.com

Katie Childs, Baby Bundle Organizer



The Baby Bureau



63 Baby Bundles assembled in October



Delivery to Burnett Memorial Hospital, Grantsburg, WI

Trinity Lutheran Women of the ELCA

The second annual Ladies' Advent Tea was held December 7, 2015 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. It was a wonderful day filled with music, devotions, poetry, and the singing of Christmas carols. Some of the gals shared their Christmas dishes and decorated a table of 8. We encouraged them to tell the tales of the tea sets.

We were entertained by the Trinity Quartet made up of Warren & Mavis Hermodson and Gary & Mary Rambo, accompanied by Shirley Sands. The children from Noah's Ark Preschool also sang for us. They were so cute!

Of course a tea would not be complete without food. We enjoyed finger sandwiches and lots of holiday baking and beverages. There were over 90 women attending, which was 30 more than last year's event!

The third annual Advent Tea will be December 5, 2016. Mark your calendars now. Hope to see you there!

Phyllis Grohn, SWO Chippewa Valley Conference Representative
715.836.7055



"POTLUCK DINNERS"

Meaning: a meal in which all the guests bring a dish to share.

Origin: In the Middle Ages, cooks threw their leftovers into a pot of water that was kept boiling most of the time. This makeshift stew was eaten by the family or fed to strangers when no other food was available. Since food was thrown in at random, its quality and taste depended entirely on luck.





PATTI AUSTIN

President of the Executive Board, 2014-2017

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Patti was elected president of the Churchwide board of Women of the ELCA in July 2014.

Before her election, she served on the Churchwide executive board and was appointed to the board development and constitutional review committees. She also served for two terms on the board of the Southeastern Synodical Women’s Organization, leading leadership workshops throughout the Southeast.

Since retiring from retail work, she has been dedicated to the development of women’s leadership skills. Her company, Cfish, and Facebook page “Christian Fish” are dedicated to the purpose of spiritual growth and Christian visibility.

Both natives of Nashville, Patti and her husband Hilton have lived in Atlanta, Ga., for many years. They have two children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.



MICHELLE RAYBURN

Michelle Rayburn is a speaker, freelance writer and musician who loves to help people discover ways to find joy in the midst of the trashy stuff of life. She loves transforming flea market finds into treasures for her home and also loves how life’s difficulties can turn out to be opportunities to learn and grow.

She has been writing and speaking for more than a dozen years and she is the author of “The Repurposed and Upcycled Life” (2013). She has published articles in places such as Focus of the Family, Christian Communicator, Chicken Soup for the Soul, Vista, Queen of the Castle Magazine and online. She has also written for ChristianBibleStudies.com.

Her topic for the convention will be **‘Treasure in Jars of Clay: When God Uses Ordinary Vessels’**.

In ancient days, clay vessels were as common as our Tupperware containers or Ziploc bags for holding both everyday items like food or supplies and valuables such as jewelry or coins. Even the humblest of containers can hold great treasure! God has entrusted the gospel to us, ordinary people and filled us with his supernatural power to do his work.

2 Corinthians 4:7 “But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.”



TIMELY ADVICE FROM THE 9TH TRIENNIAL

Some words from Susan Sparks who was one of the Triennial Gathering Speakers in Charlotte, North Carolina in 2014. To those of us who are most likely facing more winter weather....

“These little flowers, [crocus] don’t spend their energy complaining about the weather, being mad that it’s snowing in mid-March. They expect the unexpected. They adapt, therefore they endure. Viktor Frankl, scientist, author and Holocaust survivor, explained, “When we are no longer able to change a situation we are challenged to change ourselves.’ A pretty smart approach if you ask me, for the world is not a predictable place, not in weather, not in traffic, not in work not in people.”



From Adapt and endure...lessons from under the snow

A Summary of the March 5th SWO Board Meeting at Faith Lutheran in Cameron

Minutes, treasurer’s reports, budgets and audits were all approved. We looked at thank you notes from scholarship recipients. Reports included one from Dawn Wicklund on some new Wisconsin legislation that takes steps toward helping victims of human trafficking to be treated as victims rather than criminals.

Approval was granted for The Standing Rules for the Convention; articles on Stewardship, Justice, and Discipleship; and the Resolution on Domestic Violence that will all go into the convention booklet. We discovered that our church-wide guest will be Executive Board President Patti Austin from Georgia. We will have a new table the convention with W/ELCA gift items for sale that include Lucinda pins, pashmina scarves, travel mugs, and candles.

Sue will check into seeing if Inez Torres-Davis can still attend our convention in April with her new materials on Racial Justice. Sue was also given the go-ahead to look at a variety of other options for future conventions that our ladies can vote upon at days of renewal or at the convention. These include moving the convention location to different sites, having the convention on different weekends, and the possibility of having a joint convention with NE Minnesota which would be held in either Duluth or Superior probably the first weekend of June. Bus transportation might be possible from a few select towns on Highway 53.

The Nominating Committee reported that they have at least one candidate for each office on the SWO Board that will be vacant. However, very few applications have been received for people who would like to be voting members (delegates) to the Triennial in 2017 in Minneapolis that we must vote for now. Also, Dawn reported only a handful of applications for the fourteen scholarships we offer for our Eau Claire convention this April.

We all signed a thank you to the ladies of Faith Lutheran for their wonderful hospitality. We closed with prayers for our convention as well as needs noted by Board members.

Submitted by Sue Saarem, SWO President



Don't' forget!

you can receive the *Northwester* via the FREE electronic version. Carefully print your name, phone, address and email address below. MAKE SURE your email address is easily read!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email address _____

Send your information to Eleanor Johnson, W5370 Century Rd, Greenwood, WI 54437-8308

Or email at hjdebjohnson@tds.net



**NOMINEE FOR THE BALLOT as DELEGATE
TO THE
10TH TRIENNIAL CONVENTION of the WOMEN of the ELCA
Minneapolis, MN July 13-16, 2017**

**Election of 7 Delegates plus Alternates will be April 29 & 30, 2016
at the NW Wisconsin Synod of W/ELCA Convention in Eau Claire**

Women of _____
(Name of Church) (City of Church)

From the _____ Conference submit the name of

Name of Nominee _____

Address of Nominee _____

Email Address of Nominee _____

To be considered by the Nominating Committee as a voting delegate to the 10th Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Please check appropriate box below concerning nominee listed: Attended/Voting Delegate

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1987 Constituting Convention, Milwaukee, WI | _____ / _____ |
| 1990 1 st Triennial, Anaheim, CA | _____ / _____ |
| 1993 2 nd Triennial, Washington, D.C. | _____ / _____ |
| 1996 3 rd Triennial, Minneapolis, MN | _____ / _____ |
| 1999 4 th Triennial, St Louis, MO | _____ / _____ |
| 2002 5 th Triennial, Philadelphia, PA | _____ / _____ |
| 2005 6 th Triennial, San Antonio, TX | _____ / _____ |
| 2008 7 th Triennial, Salt Lake City, UT | _____ / _____ |
| 2011 8 th Triennial, Spokane, WA | _____ / _____ |
| 2014 9 th Triennial, Charlotte, NC | _____ / _____ |

Person of color or whose primary language is other than English _____yes _____ no

This nominee would be a good candidate because she has been involved with the Women of the ELCA at the local, conference and synod levels. She has a good understanding of many issues within the WELCA. She would also be available to present to other groups within our Synod.

**Return by April 5, 2016 to: Susan Saarem, 1315 B 120th Ave, Amery, WI 54001 OR
email to pmssaarem@yahoo.com**

**REGISTRATION FORM
WOMEN OF THE ELCA
NW WISCONSIN SYNOD CONVENTION
APRIL 29-30, 2016**

WHERE: Plaza Hotel & Suites, 1202 W Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Fees: \$60.00 Until April 13, 2016 (No refunds after April 1)
\$70.00 Late Registration and same Day Registration

(Registration is transferable but not refundable after April 1, 2016)

Registration includes: Conference, Friday Night Reception, Saturday coffee break and lunch

Registration Check-In: Ballroom Corridor

Begins: Friday, April 29 @ 4PM-8:30PM

Saturday, April 30 @ 7:30AM-9AM

Please send check (payable to Women of the ELCA) to:

Jean Larson Telephone: 715-287-3356

N47588 Norden Ridge Road

Eleva, Wisconsin 54738

davejeanlarson@tcc.coop

Plaza Hotel Reservations are made by calling the Plaza Hotel and Suites, 1-800-482-7829 or 1-715-834-3181 – Ask for the Women of the ELCA Block #8696 for the reduced rate of \$99 per room, 1-4 per room. Bring a copy of your congregation's tax free certificate to leave with the hotel

Please detach and mail section below

Name _____ *Delegate _____ Non-delegate _____

*(Each unit is entitled to one voting delegate)

Address – Street & City _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Conference you are in _____

Congregation _____ Church Address _____

_____ \$60.00 Registration for April 29-30

_____ \$70.00 Late Registration and Same Day Registration (After April 14, 2016)

_____ \$14.00 Friday Buffet – Burgundy's Restaurant 4:15PM – 5:15PM

_____ No Charge - Feed My People (Friday) 1:00 PM - 3:00PM

_____ Total

Northwest Synod of WI Women of the ELCA

Convention Scholarship Application

April 29-30, 2016 - Plaza Hotel & Suites, Eau Claire, WI

Two (2) Scholarships per Conference will be awarded - EACH WORTH \$60.00

Preference will be given to 1st time attendees

Deadline: March 10, 2016 - Mail to: Dawn Wicklund, 612 – 3rd Ave E, Superior WI 54880

or send to dwicklund@chartermi.net

Name _____ email address _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Congregation _____ City _____ Conference _____

I have _____ have not _____ attended a NW WI Synod Women's Convention.

What Synod or Conference Events have you attended and when?

Have you received a scholarship from the Synodical Women of the ELCA? If yes, list event(s) and year(s)

Activities: (Please list activities from the past three years only)

Local Congregation

Women of the ELCA: Unit, Conference, Synod

Community

**I am applying for this scholarship
because:**

Twelve Young Men, What if...?

TO: Jesus, Son of Joseph
Woodcrafter's Shop
Nazareth 25922

FROM: Jordan Management Consultants
Jerusalem 26544

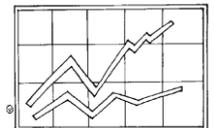


Thank you for submitting the résumés of the twelve young men you have picked for managerial positions in your new organization. All of them have now taken our battery of tests, and we have not only run the results through our computers, but also arranged personal interviews for each of them with our psychologist and vocational aptitude consultant.

It is the opinion of the staff that most of your nominees are lacking in background education and vocational aptitude for this type of enterprise you're undertaking. They do not have the team concept. We would recommend that you continue your search for persons of experience in managerial ability and proven capacity.

We have summarized the findings of our study below:

- Simon Peter is emotional, unstable and given to fits of temper.
- Andrew has absolutely no quality of leadership.
- The two brothers, James and John the sons of Zebedee, place personal interests above the Company loyalty.
- Thomas demonstrates a questioning attitude that would tend to undermine morale.
- We believe it is our duty to tell you that Matthew has been black-listed by the Greater Jerusalem Better Business Bureau.
- James, son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus definitely have radical leanings. Additionally, they both registered high scores on the manic depressive scale.
- However, one of the candidates shows great potential. He's a man of ability and resourcefulness. He is a great networker; has a keen business mind; strong contacts in influential circles. He's highly motivated, very ambitious and adept with financial matters. We recommend Judas Iscariot as your Controller and Chief Operator. All other profiles are self-explanatory. We wish you the utmost success in your new venture.



What if Jesus had chosen the twelve based on modern methods of leadership and selection? Most of them would have never had a chance to participate. Jesus chooses people not for who they are, but for what they can become in Him. Aren't you glad that when Jesus looked at you, He didn't take you for what you were...a sinner...but He took you for what you could be. Jesus sees the potential in all of us, and has called us to be disciples!



2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



2016

MARCH

- 12 – “Walking Together”, UW-Eau Claire
- 19 – Synod Council meeting at Luther Park, Chetek

APRIL

- 2 – Chippewa Valley Conference Day of Renewal, Our Savior’s Lutheran, Eau Claire
- 9 – Apple River Conference Day of Renewal, Pilgrim Lutheran, Frederic
- 16 – Heart of the North Conference Day of Renewal, Bethany Lutheran, Rice Lake
- 16 – St Croix Valley Conference Morning of Renewal, Bethel Lutheran, Hudson
- 16 – Chequamegon Conference Spring Rally, Our Saviour’s Lutheran, rural Medford
- 20 – Dairyland Conference Morning of Renewal, Trinity Lutheran of Norden, Mondovi
- 29-30 – **SWO SYNODICAL CONVENTION, The Plaza Hotel & Suites, Eau Claire.** [A room block has been reserved if you would like to make your reservations now, the # is 8696.]

MAY

- 21 – Synod Assembly, Trinity Lutheran, Eau Claire, WI

JUNE

- 11 – SWO Board meeting, old Board **and** new Board members, First Lutheran, Chetek

AUGUST

- 13 *or* 20 – Apple River Conference Retreat, Luther Point, Grantsburg
- 17-18 – Chippewa Valley Conference Retreat, Luther Park, Chetek
- 18-19 – Dairyland Conference Retreat, Luther Park

SEPTEMBER

- 24 – Synod-wide Leadership Training, location to be announced

OCTOBER

- 8 – Heart of the North Conference Fall Leadership Training, place TBA
- 12 – Dairyland Conference Officer Leader Training, Pleasant Valley Lutheran, Mondovi
- 22 – Apple River Conference Leadership Training, place to be announced

2017

JULY

- 10-13 – 10TH Triennial CONVENTION of the Women of the ELCA, Minneapolis, MN Convention Center; where the *business* of the Women of the ELCA is conducted. [Monday to Thursday].
- 13-16 – 10th Triennial GATHERING of the Women of the ELCA, Minneapolis, MN, Convention Center; the theme for this Gathering is “All Anew”. [Wednesday to Saturday].



JOY

“Jesus, Others, Self”

NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN SWO BOARD MEMBERS – 2014 – 2016

PRESIDENT



Susan Saarem
1315B 120th Avenue
Amery, WI 54001-4800
715.268.5586

Balsam Lutheran, Amery
pmssaarem@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT



Janet Allison
20454 County Highway DD
Bloomer, WI 54724-3969
715.568.5028

New Hope Lutheran, Sand Creek
jallison@bloomer.net

SECRETARY



Dawn Wicklund
612 3rd Avenue E
Superior, WI 54880-6810
715.394.2507

Our Savior's Lutheran, Superior
dwicklund.chartermi.net

TREASURER



Audrey Severson
N6059 530th Street
Ellsworth, WI 54011-5107
715.273.5019

Our Savior's Lutheran Beldenville
apseverson@gmail.com

LAKE SUPERIOR CONF #1 – BOARD MEMBER



Mary Jane Sedin
9801 E Middle River Road
Poplar, WI 54864-9105
715.364.2502

Peace Lutheran, Poplar
none

APPLE RIVER CONF # 2 – BOARD MEMBER



Carol Johnson
2110 – 170th Street
Milltown, WI 54858-7000
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