# NORTHWESTER

#### **NEWSLETTER**



#### WAIT FOR THE LORD

"Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!" Psalm 27:14

"The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land." Song of Solomon 2:12

Weather-wise, this has been such an unusual winter. Not long ago we had this area's snowiest season on record, and in contrast, this year we have had very little snow and even a few record-breaking highs during what our coldest months of the year are normally. As tempting as the warm weather is, it is still far too early to do much work in the garden and flower beds. As eager as I am, I must bide my time and wait patiently.

Lent is such a time of waiting. We know that good things will come, that Christ



will rise on Easter morning, but first we hear of Jesus coming to Jerusalem, his betrayal, trial, crucifixion, and death. We wait patiently. "Patience is a virtue," I was always told. There are times, however, when I just know good things are coming! It is so hard to wait! "But, Easter is coming!" I want to shout. I have discovered that I learn just as much about myself and my God in the quiet times as I do in the joyous celebratory times.

I pray the same is true for you during this season of Lent. Just as we know spring will come and the flowers will bloom and Jesus will rise, we know that good things are coming.

Faithfully yours. Joan Moe, SWO President



On another note, there is an excellent article in the January/February Gather magazine summarizing our "Just Love Gathering" in Phoenix last September. It is worth a few moments to read.

Along that line, I must apologize. In my last article, I misnamed one of our speakers, Rev. Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy, who led not only Bible studies for the entire assembly but also several workshops. It is worth noting that she has visited our synod as a speaker for our Lay School of Ministry.

J. Moe

Mark your calendars for the Women's Retreat at Luther Park being planned for June 5-6, 2024!

#### THE SACRIFICE OF LOVE

"This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven." 1 John 4:10

In our modern society, the subject of sacrifice is either applauded or denigrated. Sacrifice is the denial of self for the benefit of others and is considered a great human ideal. We should learn about sin and sacrifice, so we can appreciate the ultimate sacrifice of Christ.

The consequence of Adam's rebellion was greater than he ever imagined. Sin has corrupted the whole of humanity, which leaves us helpless to it. As a result, in Old Testament times, the Priests continually offered sacrifices for the sins of men and women so they could be in a relationship with God. The blood of an animal was accepted by God as a covering for sin, so sinners could be in His presence.

Jesus was genuinely human, and yet at the same time he was equally God. He was in every way a moral being, having complete knowledge of good and evil. Though Jesus was tempted as we are, he remained without sin. His desire was to be the perfect substitute for sinners. Jesus willingly came into the world to perform this service and thereby offered 'one sacrifice for our sins forever' according to his Father's will.

Christ's sacrifice on our behalf satisfies both aspects of substitution. He took our place as the bearer of sin's penalty, and we take our place in Jesus as our representative before God.



Because Christ's sacrifice on the cross has forever satisfied God with respect to the sins of His people, there is no longer any other sin offering God accepts. The vital question to ask is this: do I have a relationship with God? From the beginning, this is the ultimate purpose of Christ's sacrifice, the restoration of a broken relationship with God.

The way into a genuine relationship with God has always been by faith, not human works, or religious ritual. So, during this Lent season, draw close to God in quiet contemplation and become closer to our Father through his son, Jesus. Place your trust in Christ as the sacrifice for your sins.

Gloria Rolstad SWO Vice President

# REMINDERS FROM THE TREASURER

Now is the time to send the yearly \$30 for the Convention Expense Fund (if you haven't yet). Each congregational unit shall submit this yearly to the SWO treasurer to help defray the expenses of the convention, enabling a lower convention registration fee and encouraging more to attend.

Thrivent members can request two Thrivent Action Team grants yearly, each for \$250. These can be used to purchase batting and

other quilting supplies, items for Lutheran World Relief kits, diapers for the food pantry, food for community meals--consider needs of your congregation or community and apply for the Thrivent Action Team grants.

Available for officers and especially the treasurer is the Treasurer's guide sharing information of what form to use and to whom sent. To request the Treasurer's Guide, contact Phyllis Beastrom at beastrom@redwing.net or call or text 715-821-5847.

Share the information in this newsletter with the women in your congregation. If anyone would like to receive the newsletter, send contact information to Barb Garling, dubar342@gmail.com for addition to the newsletter e-mail list.

A <u>summary</u> of SWO income and expenses for fiscal years ending January 31, 2024 and 2023 is included later in this newsletter.

Phyllis Beastrom SWO Treasurer



## News from the Northwest Synod of WI Conferences

#### Chippewa Valley Conference Diane Campbell

As I connected with churches in the Chippewa Valley Conference, I was reminded how many enrichment activities our churches provide for our members. Pastors are important as they guide our way. Men are important, as they provide the brawn and fix a lot of things around the church. The young people are important, because they provide enthusiasm, and are learning the values/benefits/friendships that being active in a church include.

As you might guess, I'm partial to the women: the people who help organize, provide food and serve special events like the Meatball Dinners, the Sweetheart Dinners and the Lenten Meals, the women who serve on altar guild, decorate, and make sure everything looks great. We all have an opportunity to use our skills and talents when we belong to a church.

You're invited to .....



## CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION

SEPTEMBER 27 - 28, 2024

2024 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization Convention

AT SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH, EAU CLAIRE

Join us for singing, praying, fellowship, laughter, worship, keynote speakers, awareness sessions, and more! Each church unit is entitled and invited to send a voting member to our business session Friday evening which includes SWO financial report, adoption of the SWO budget, election of SWO officers and board members and any other business to come before the meeting.

Saturday agenda includes worship and speakers and workshop sessions to help each of us engage in "Caring for God's Creation." We're still planning and will share lots more details in our next Northwester. Put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend.

Phyllis Beastrom, Convention Chair

At first it might seem scary to ask to be on a team/committee, but the benefits you receive are immense. Younger women providing enthusiasm and new ideas. Older women enjoy sharing the history of the church, sharing the funny things that happen over the years, and provide a shoulder to lean on when needed, as they work side by side with you.

The Chippewa Valley Board knows how important the women are in our churches. Our conference is hosting "A Day of Renewal" for the women of the Chippewa Valley, and their friends. This is a day to gather with other Christian women from around the Chippewa Valley to sing, learn, share, laugh and of course eat! Even though our winter has been mild, the nights have been long. Come and join your friends on APRIL 20, 2024 at HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN EAU CLAIRE, WI.

Our theme is: A MUSICAL JOURNEY -HOW TO RENEW OUR MINDS. Carol Mohr, of Stanley will be our Keynote Speaker. We will also hear short presentations from Jill Wendtland of TheRisingHope.Org Education for Nigerian Girls, and Days for Girls Mission. A talented group, The Good Neighbors Ukulele Ministry from Osceola, WI, made up of over 20 people, will entertain us before lunch. If you would like to join us, for this opportunity to Renew Your Spirit, please call Claudeen Oebser, 715-308-2307, or email her at coebser@gmail.com.

A bonus opportunity on April 20, involves asking two or three women to join our board. It's a great adventure. You work with other women in the Chippewa Valley to connect with the churches in our Conference and provide enrichment activities. Serving as the Chippewa Valley Rep on the SWO Board has been the highlight of my life. I love the lifelong friendships I've made and the churches I've visited. Yes, I've had to devote an hour or two periodically, but our boards work as a team, so the workload is light. If you would like more information on serving, connect with Claudeen, myself, or any of the Chippewa Valley Board Members.

Remember: Listen, God is Calling. He may want you to enrich your life by saying YES!

#### **Chequamegon Conference**

Peggy Erickson

Plans are underway for the Chequamegon Conference to host their spring rally on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at Faith Lutheran Church in Marshfield. Looking forward to gathering with friends again for the day.

I was moved by Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson's annual report to the churches. It suggested we look at the changes we are all experiencing in our personal and church lives. Look ahead to be simpler, humbler and bolder.

Simpler: How to spend more time on loving our neighbors and joining in God's mission in our community.

Humbler: We can't do everything but what one thing can we do to make a difference.

Bolder: What can we do to be a better witness to justice and relationships.

I am a firm believer that even a small change can make an impact. With God's help and prayers, I plan to make an impact. Praying the same for you.

Enjoy the upcoming Lenten and Easter season.

#### St. Croix Valley Conference Carol Hajicek

Our Conference Board has been working hard to plan and prepare for our upcoming Morning of Renewal. It will be held on

Saturday, April 20th at First Lutheran Church in New Richmond. A flyer is included later in this newsletter. Our theme of "All My Deserts are Rivers of Joy" will be presented by Ginny Rassier who will encourage us with stories of God's faithfulness through our desert seasons. Our verse for the day is Isaiah 35: 1-2, "The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy." We will also have a speaker from Grace Place to talk about their ongoing ministry to homeless families and individuals in our community.

We will be collecting packs of toilet paper and paper towels to help support their work. We'll have special music, morning coffee and treats and lunch will be served following the program. Plan to join with women from across our conference area for an inspiring morning!

Save the Date: Our fall retreat, which perhaps we should instead rename 'summer retreat', will be held August 17th at Ezekiel Lutheran Church in River Falls.

We have many 'new' faces on our conference board this year. Sue Powers and Shelly McNitt are co-coordinators. Linda Nestrud and Kathy Wettig are serving as board members at large. We need a few additional members to take the places of those who had to resigned to health and/or family needs. Please prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to join this dedicated (and fun) group of women.

# **Apple River Conference**

Suzanne Grill

The Apple River Conference is planning the Fall Gathering on September 7, 2024.

> Apple River Conference Spring into Life 2024 April 13, 2024

NUIC Deronda Lutheran Church 1239 65th Ave Amery, WI 54001

Registration \$15 begins with coffee at 8 am Guest speaker Kathy Schwanke presents "You are a Masterpiece" Special Music by Taunya Kobernick

### **Heart of the North Conference**

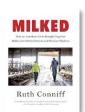
Janice Ahneman

The Heart of the North board is planning a Day of Renewal for October 26, 2024 which will be held at Bethany Lutheran Church in Rice Lake. The theme is New Beginnings. More details will be coming as plans are finalized.

#### **Dairyland Conference**

Amelie Lindberg-Livingston

The 2024 Morning of Renewal is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2024, at Central Lutheran Church, Mondovi. Guest speakers will be Mercedes Falk, John Rosenow and Roberto Tecpile. John and Roberto were



featured in the book. "Milked: How American Crisis Brought Together Midwestern Dairy Farmers and Mexican Workers," by Wisconsin author Ruth Conniff. They were also

featured in a segment by PBS Newshour in 2019 about immigrant farm laborers in Western Wisconsin. A registration fee of \$20 is due April 6. A flyer with more information about the event is included later in this newsletter.

#### **Lake Superior Conference** Kathy Rewalt

Spring is here and we are so excited to see the beginning of new life around us. Easter is right around the corner, and we look forward to celebrating with our friends and neighbors-- the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Good Shepherd in Ashland continues with their monthly bus passes for the homeless. Their Care and Support team made Valentine Bags that were delivered to shut ins. Quilters continue with their many quilts for this year. They are also continuing making Prayer shawls. Knitters have taken on projects for Knots of Love. Their mission is to provide lovingly hand-knit and crocheted beanies to people going through chemo and NICU blankets to babies in neonatal ICU incubators.

Hope in Oulu has been working on quilts to be used for their raffle this year along with sending some to LWR. They have served soup supper during Lent and are planning a continental breakfast on Easter Morning. They also continue to volunteer at the Fig Leaf in Iron River.

Peace in Poplar have an active Parish Nurse Ministry. They work closely with their pastor to give help and support to the congregation. Their Bereavement Ministry sends out sympathy cards to congregation members who have lost family members. They also continue to send pamphlets and cards to the families for a year to let them know they are being thought of.

Our Saviors in Iron River has been enjoying sharing Lenten meals and services with four other churches in the area. Our Saviors, Peace, Hope, Trinity, and First Lutheran take turns providing the meal and holding the worship service in a round robin version during the weeks of Lent. We so enjoy seeing the people from each congregation each week and having the opportunity to worship as a larger community.

All of us up North on the Lake would like to wish everyone a blessed Easter. God Bless you all during this season of worship and praise.



Stay in touch with Women of the ELCA through their e-newsletters. Connections is a monthly newsletter that includes Women of the ELCA news and events and Bold Café is a monthly online magazine for your adult women. To sign up for these newsletters go to Women of the ELCA website, click on publications and there will be a <u>link</u> to sign up.

Gather Magazine also sends informational e-mails. If you subscribe to Gather and have shared your e-mail, you receive these informational newsletters. With one click. you can watch the informational videos prepared by the Bible Study author for each Bible Study session.

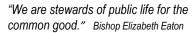


Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life."

The Dairyland Conference will hold elections at their Morning of Renewal on April 13 to replace officers whose terms are expiring. Positions that will be open for election are Coordinator, Secretary and Mission Officer. Email Kim Vlcek at vlcekkr@yahoo.com if you would like to join the board.

The Chippewa Valley Conference is looking for women to serve on the conference board. Specifically, we are in need of someone willing to act as treasurer and another as secretary. Please give prayerful consideration to serving in one of these roles. Call or email Claudeen Oebser. 715-308-2307, coebser@gmail.com if you are interested. We will hold elections on April 20 at our Day of Renewal.

#### Vote Faithfully!



Go to MyVote to update your voter registration record, request an absentee ballot, and to find out what's on your ballot.

Remaining 2024 Elections are:

- April 2
- August 13
- November 5

Chippewa Valley Votes is a nonpartisan organization in the Eau Claire area. If you would like a voter education presentation or a table at your church or event, contact Kim Vlcek at vlcekkr@yahoo.com

As editor, I am taking license to share something I've learned over the past decade or so: one is the importance of building relationships with people who don't look like me, second is how hearing their stories helps build those relationships, and third, giving platforms to these individuals to tell their stories is crucial. Hence, this page promotes the Synod's Neighbor to Neighbor program. K.Vlcek



Neighbor to Neighbor had a stand at the Cultivating Confidence ELL Event at CVTC on 3/13/24.

Let's Celebrate the Mass of Passover April 7, 2024 at 6 pm

#### Health Fair for Spanish-speaking community members

April 27, 2024 10 am-1 pm

West Immanuel Lutheran Church 447 180<sup>th</sup> St., Osceola, WI

Neighbor to Neighbor Ministry

Rummage Sale to fund scholarships for Latinx students at UWEC & CVTC







Drop-off
Donations for
Rummage
Sale

Drop-off
Donations for
Rummage
Sale
Info for our
Spanishspeaking
neighbors



#### NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN

Synodical Board Members (Officers and Conference Reps) 2022-2024

#### PRESIDENT

Joan Moe 1483 Truax Blvd. Eau Claire, WI 54703-1471 C-715-533-3820 Hope Lutheran, Eau Claire presidentnwswiswo@gmail.com moejoan@gmail.com



#### VICE PRESIDENT

Gloria M Rolstad 2178 – 120th Street Milltown. WI 54858-2818 715-554-1129 Bone Lake Lutheran, Luck



grolstad@msn.com

#### **SECRETARY**

Barbara Garling 1745 – 6 ½ Street Almena, WI 54805-9388 H-715-357-3700 C-715-641-0479 Augustana Lutheran, Cumberland dubar342@gmail.com



Phyllis Beastrom W6244 – 410th Avenue Ellsworth, WI 54011-3000 H-715-273-5847, C-715-821-5847 Bethlehem Lutheran, rural Ellsworth nwswotreas@gmail.com beastrom@redwing.net

> Articles/photos of your W/ELCA activities are welcome.

#### LAKE SUPERIOR Conf #1

Kathy Rewalt 5620 US Highway 2 Iron River, WI 54847-4700 H-715-372-6428, C-715-817-5826 Our Savior's Lutheran, Iron River springlake@chegnet.net

#### **APPLE RIVER Conf #2**

Suzanne Grill 2269 - 211th Street Luck. WI 54853-2030 H-715-825-4100, C-612-598-8197 North Valley Lutheran, Centuria sk grill@yahoo.com

#### **HEART OF THE NORTH** Conf #3

Janice Ahneman 1070 11th Ave Cumberland, WI 54829-9110 H-715-822-4475 C-715-671-8154 Augustana Lutheran, Cumberland tjahneman@gmail.com

#### ST CROIX VALLEY Conf #4

Carol Hajicek 1040 Franklin Street Baldwin, WI 54002-9315 H-715-684-4871, C-612-986-7677 Zion Lutheran, Woodville carolrh@baldwin-telecom.net

#### **CHIPPEWA VALLEY** Conf #5

Diane Campbell 4115 Jeffers Rd - Apt 208 Eau Claire, WI 54703-7900 715-832-4707 Spirit Lutheran, Eau Claire 48princessdi@gmail.com



#### **CHEQUAMEGON Conf #6**

Peggy Erickson N4710 Owen Avenue Neillsville, WI 54456-6428 H-715-743-3048, C-715-819-2243 Calvary Lutheran, Neillsville eperickson@tds.net

#### **DAIRYLAND Conf #7**

Amelie Lindberg-Livingston W1980 50th Avenue Stockholm, WI 54769-8707 C-218-340-1102 Sabylund Lutheran, Stockholm ajl55810@msn.com



#### **NORTHWESTER NEWSLETTER Editor**

Kimberly Vlcek 715-577-7198 vlcekkr@yahoo.com

#### **WEBMASTER & FACEBOOK Editor**

Dawn Wicklund H-715-394-2507, C-218-348-8557 dwicklund@gmail.com



Website http://www.nwswiswo.org

Facebook

www.facebook.com/WomenoftheNorthwestSynod/

#### The NORTHWESTER

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of the NORTHWESTER. This digital publication continues to be a work in progress and your ideas and comments are welcome! Submit individual comments and ideas, as well as news and photos from your conference, congregation or women's group to Kim Vlcek at vlcekkr@yahoo.com.

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#### Women of the ELCA

Our Mission - Mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

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.

#### YOUR OFFERINGS AT WORK!

A summary of SWO income and expenses for fiscal years ending January 31, 2024 and 2023.

Income:	2024	2023
Congregational unit offerings	\$17,721.05	\$16,346.52
Conference offerings	\$3,796.07	\$2,751.75
SWO convention fund (\$30 per unit)	\$1,660.00	\$1,385.00
Katie's Fund grant from churchwide	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Malawi Well	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Malawi Literacy	\$250.00	\$450.00
convention offerings	\$345.00	\$475.00
miscellaneous	\$195.40	\$146.97
Total Income	\$25,967.52	\$21,555.24
Expenses:		
SWO Offering to churchwide	\$9,100.00	\$8,400.00
Conference offerings to churchwide	\$3,796.07	\$2,751.75
Churchwide Katie's Endowment Fund	\$2,000.00	1, -
Triennial Convention offering	\$500.00	
Triennial Gathering Offering	\$500.00	
Malawi Well and Literacy funds to synod	\$1,250.00	\$450.00
Katies Fund Gather Subscriptions (grant)	\$119.50	
Katie's Fund Retreat Scholarships grant)	\$320.00	
Katie's Fund Malawi Well (grant)	\$500.00	
Seminary Scholarships	\$500.00	
Lay School Scholarships	\$600.00	\$300.00
Mission Investment Fund	\$2,000.00	
Luther Park & Luther Point Bible Camps	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
Triennial Gathering	\$300.00	
SWO Board expenses	\$893.75	\$1,598.94
Conv. Offering of prev years to Bible Camp	ρ	\$1,005.00
computer for treasurer		\$1,020.63
Outgoing officers gift to Katie's Fund		\$100.00
Miscelleanous expense	\$147.00	\$125.00
Total Expenses	\$25,526.32	\$17,751.32
Checking balance 1/31	\$16,346.77	\$15,905.57

THANK YOU BOLD WOMEN OF THE NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN FOR YOUR FAITHFUL FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND THE MANY MINISTRIES SUPPORTED THROUGH YOUR OFFERINGS!

Note: The disbursement of the \$1000 Katies Fund Grant from churchwide are identified as (grant)

# Women of the ELCA -- Northwest Synod of Wisconsin -- Synodical Women's Organization CONGREGATIONAL UNIT CONTACTS FOR YEAR

NAME OF CHURCH
Conference
Location, if different than mailing address
Mailing address of Church
Church Phone Number
Email address

#### **CONTACT PERSON AND/OR PRESIDENT**

Name Address Phone Email Address

#### **TREASURER**

Name Address Phone Email Address

#### PLEASE return with current information electronically at your earliest convenience:

• Your CONFERENCE Representative

**Apple River-** Suzanne Grill, 2269 211<sup>th</sup> Street, Luck, WI 54853-2030 sk grill@yahoo.com **Chequamegon-** Peggy Erickson, N4710Owen Avenue, Neillsville, WI 54456-6428 eperickson@tds.net **Chippewa Valley-** Diane Campbell, 4115 Jeffers Rd Apt 208, Eau Claire, WI 54703

48princessdi@gmail.com

**Dairyland-** Amelie Lindberg-Livingston, W1980 50<sup>th</sup> Ave, Stockholm, WI 54769-8707 <a href="mailto:ajl55810@msn.com">ajl55810@msn.com</a> Heart of the North- Janice Ahneman, 1070 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Cumberland, WI 54829-9110 <a href="mailto:tjahneman@gmail.com">tjahneman@gmail.com</a> Lake Superior- Kathy Rewalt, 5620 US Hwy 2, Iron River, WI 54847 <a href="mailto:springlake@cheqnet.net">springlake@cheqnet.net</a> St. Croix Valley- Carol Hajicek, 1040 Franklin St, Baldwin, WI 54002 <a href="mailto:carolrh@baldwin-telecom.net">carolrh@baldwin-telecom.net</a>

- SWO Secretary: Barb Garling, 1745 6 ½ Street, Almena, WI 54805 dubar342@gmail.com
- SWO President: Joan Moe, 1438 Truax Blvd, Eau Claire, WI 54703-1471 presidentnwswiswo@gmail.com

Thank you!



# Morning of Renewal St. Croix Valley Conference April 20, 2024

First Lutheran Church 218 County Road K, New Richmond, WI

# All My Deserts Are Rivers of Joy

Ginny will encourage us with stories of God's faithfulness to revive us in our desert seasons and situations. We will remember the Biblical heroes of our faith and be encouraged by their unexpected joy as God made a way where there didn't seem to be a way. Ginny will share her personal experience of finding hope in the hard places. Together we will reflect

on God's goodness and deepen our trust in His love for us.



Isaiah 35:1-2

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.



8:30—9:00 am — Registration 9:00-11:30 am — Program 11:30 am—12:30 pm — Lunch

Registration Fee \$15 (at the door)



# Speaker Ginny Rassier

- Local friend, wife, mother and grandmother who loves Jesus.
- Grateful to have been a lifetime part of the church community.
- Involved in prayer, youth and recovery ministries.
- Loves people and conversations with friends and family.

Grace Place will also be presenting

We will be collecting an in-kind donation for them. More details will be coming

# Who is Your **Neighbor?**

Saturday, April 13, 2024

8:30 am Registration, coffee 9:30 am Program, Meeting 11 am Guest Speakers 12 noon Lunch



Women of the ELCA Dairyland Conference

# **Morning of Renewal**

Central Lutheran Church 221 West Main St Mondovi, WI

"He answered, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself," Luke 10.27

The theme of our gathering, "Who is Your Neighbor?" is based on Luke 10:27. The mission of <a href="Puentes/Bridges">Puentes/Bridges</a> is to build ties between the community that immigrates to work here and our rural and farming communities. Mercedes Falk and John Rosenow will provide background of how folks from Mexico and other Latin American countries started coming to work in area farms. You will hear stories of how farmers and immigrants' lives have both been enriched by the opportunity to work together, including a firsthand story from Roberto Tecpile. The book "Milked," written by Wisconsin native Ruth Conniff, includes these stories.

All Women of the ELCA are encouraged to attend and bring a friend!! **Elections for coordinator,** secretary and mission officer will be held so please designate a delegate from your church unit. Give prayerful consideration to serving in one of these positions on the board.

Each unit is asked to send an offering payable to **"Women of the ELCA"** along with your registration. This will be used to help defray expenses for this event, and any remaining balance will be divided between the SWO and <u>Sleep in Heavenly Peace</u>. In addition, donations of 60 x 80 quilts, and <u>new</u> twin-sized blankets, sheets, pillowcases, mattress pads and plastic mattress protectors will be received for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Registration fee is \$20.00 per person and <u>due April 6, 2024</u>. <u>Because lunch will be catered, late registrations cannot be accepted</u>. The caterer is The French Press, Eau Claire. Please send one registration form for your church and make checks **payable to WELCA**. Use the back of the form for additional registrants. Mail to: Karen Zuber, S12185 S Oak Rd, Eleva, WI 54738. Contact Karen with questions at 715-287-4747 or <u>zubergirl.kz@gmail.com</u>

#### Registration form (list additional registrants on the back).

Registration is due April 6, 2024. Late registrations cannot be accepted. Registrations are transferrable, but not refundable.

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Name:	Phone:	
Name:	Phone:	-
Name:	Phone:	
	Delegate	\$
	Members at large	\$
	Offering	\$
	Total	\$

#### Meet our presenters:

Mercedes Falk is the director of Puentes/Bridges, an organization that works to build bridges between the community that immigrates to work here and our rural and farming communities. She works with dairy farmers and their employees from Mexico to help them understand each other better through interpretation, trips to Mexico, and cultural understanding. She enjoys learning about all forms of agriculture and has a deep appreciation for the diversity that makes up our world.

John Rosenow operates a 600 cow dairy farm and a composting business that sells and distributes organic compost near Waumandee, Wisconsin, with his wife, Nettie and 20 employees. He is a cofounder of Puentes/Bridges and his advocacy work has been featured on the PBS NewsHour, NPR Marketplace, and the BBC, among others. As an employer, John has discovered the importance of understanding cultures that differ from ours and has implemented many strategies that complement that difference to achieve success as a business.

Roberto Tecpile was born in the Mexican state of Veracruz. He came to the United States when he was 18 to help provide a better life for his family. He has worked in several different states since then and in a variety of jobs before landing on dairy farms in Wisconsin, where he has worked for the last ten years. He has spoken about his experiences at the University of Minnesota, UW-River Falls, UW-Eau Claire, local libraries, and several other community groups.

## ELCA Women's Chippewa Valley Conference

#### DAY OF RENEWAL 2024

Saturday, April 20, 2024 9 am – 1 pm

LOCATION: Hope Lutheran Church

2226 Eddy Lane, Eau Claire WI 54703

**REGISTRATION:** 9:00 to 9:45 am Coffee and breads will be provided.

## THEME: A Musical Journey - How to Renew our Minds

- · Keynote Speaker: Carol Mohr of Stanley, WI
- Jill Wendtland Rising Hope Organization Education for Nigerian Girls
- Days for Girls Mission
- Good Neighbors Ukulele Ministry

Cost is \$20.00 per person

Payment is required at the time of registration. No refunds.

Lunch will be provided.

# Make checks payable to WELCA Send registration & check to:

Linda Stock CVC Treasurer 3367 37th Street Elk Mound, WI 54739

# Any questions contact: Claudeen Oebser

Call, text or email 715-308-2307

Coebser@gmail.com

## Please return by April 8th

37.02.02.0		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Email		
Phone	Church Name & City	

