

Pacifica Partners



Mission Statement

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

Karen Ronchetti, Editor

May-June 2016

Volume 26 Issue 4

Blessings & Greetings Sisters in Christ,

Do you ever find yourself uninspired? What about tackling that to do list? Not just things that have deadlines, but stuff you need to do. How do you get your energy back when your get up and go, has gone and went? We all have excuses to not do the things we need to do. Too hot, too tired, I'd rather do something else, I'd rather go shopping, etc etc. Yep, I find myself in that situation often and I am sure I am not alone in that either. So where is the inspiration to tackle that list or whatever it is that needs doing? A good place to find inspiration is to read something inspiring. Devotions, perhaps? How about reading Daily Grace? Do you have that app on your phone or computer? If not, do it. It is a great place to find a quick uplifting message.

So I went to that app today (used daughter's new technology). It shows ten days at a time on the phone. Several interesting ones to use as devotions that can perhaps spur us on to get that list done, go visit that friend, do something for someone....Some titles that caught my eye, "Balancing Stress", yes we all need that. "Let Go of Negative Energy", that would be a good thing for all of us to do. "Faith as Adventure", a reminder to pray to God so to lead us on our faith journey and help us face challenges and allow change to happen, be it our beliefs, or maybe we really are moving and need to let go of things. Stuff! In the meantime, don't throw out your FAITH! That is one thing we need to keep. It helps shape who we are and how others see us. It keeps us strong, even when we don't feel strong. And our faith may be the thing that is helping keep someone else stay strong, even when we don't realize it.

Take time to see God's work in this moment and realize the only "work" we have to do is trust him to provide our happiness. "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!" Psalm 118:24 Sisters in Christ, may the Lord bless you and keep you strong. And KEEP THE FAITH!

(portions shared in part by Linnea Laufer, President, Sierra Pacific Welca)



"A Family of Faith"

Convention News Inside this Edition:

Page 3, 6 & 7

May 5-7, 2016

Pacifica Synod Assembly
Location: Marriot Hotel, Orange County

June 25, 2016

Faith Lutheran, Sun City
Fundraiser for CCLM & Luther Glen Camps

November 4-5

Pacifica WELCA Convention
Location: Bethlehem Lutheran , Los Alamitos



July 13 - 16, 2017

Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering
Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota
Information inside this issue and watch for updates

SAVE THE DATE!



all anew
WOMEN OF THE ELCA
TENTH TRIENNIAL GATHERING
Minneapolis, Minnesota
July 13-16, 2017

For more information,
visit welcatg.org
or call 1-800-638-3522 ext. 2730



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www.boldcafe.org



Purpose Statement

*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.*



PACIFICA PARTNERS provides news and information to congregational units of the Pacifica Synod. *Pacifica Partners* is published monthly. Copies are distributed as a courtesy to each congregational unit (CU) in the Pacifica Synod. It is also sent to Women of the ELCA churchwide office, other SWO presidents, Synodical Bishop, current and former board members. IF YOU MOVE OR ON VACATION, please let us know ASAP so we can update our records.

Address changes and corrections should be sent to the PP Editor:

Karen Ronchetti
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(714) 654-8919
Email: welca@verizon.net



Letter of Invitation

Dear Sisters in Christ,

It is time to once again join together as "A Family of Faith" for our Synodical convention this November.

This year hopes to be exciting with a new format, new ideas, some new faces and rekindled friendships.

I hope that all Pacifica Women of the ELCA will join with me November 4 and 5th, 2016 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Los Alamitos (Orange County), California. In this place and at this time you will be creating the ministry of the Women of the ELCA. You are the future of our organization. We can share, have fellowship, be spiritually inspired and be ready "to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."

This year, we will try to keep costs affordable for all women to attend by changing up the format of our convention. We will be meeting at a church and have reduced the time frame to Friday afternoon through Saturday afternoon. A Saturday Only option will also be offered. A block of rooms will be available for those that wish to use it, or you have another option (home or a hotel of your choice). Registration will be available through Pacifica Partners, on our webpage www.pacificawomen.org and on Facebook, on Pacifica Synod Women of the ELCA.

Keep your eyes and ears open as new information is released about a group of Pacifica Women meeting as "A Family of Faith". I am looking forward to seeing each of you in November.

God's Blessings,

Sue Connors

President, Pacifica Women of the ELCA

Pacifica Synod - ELCA

Office of the Bishop - Lutheran Center For Mission & Learning

Press Release

For Immediate Release



Congratulations to Bishop-Elect Andy Taylor!

We celebrate that on May 6, the Rev. Andy Taylor was elected as bishop of the Pacifica Synod, and will take office on August 1, 2016. Bishop-Elect Taylor currently serves as pastor at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in San Diego. He was elected on the fifth and final ballot with 174 votes. The Rev. David Nagler, pastor of Christ Lutheran in Pacific Beach, received 165 votes.

"I am humbled and honored that the people of the Pacifica Synod have elected me as their next bishop," Taylor said. "I look forward to the challenge of walking with the congregations of Hawaii and Southern California as they reach out with God's love to each other, their neighborhoods and the world, and I pray that God will grant me all I need to be effective in this important role."

Pacifica's current bishop, the Rev. Murray D. Finck, has served three six-year terms and will retire July 31. Bishop-Elect Taylor will be installed as bishop Sunday, October 23. More information will be made available as it becomes available.





Pacifica Synod - ELCA

Office of the Bishop - Lutheran Center For Mission & Learning

February 18, 2016

**Pacifica Women of the ELCA
Sue Connors
698 Felino Way
Chula Vista, CA 91910**

My Dear Sisters of the Pacifica Women of the ELCA,

God's grace surround you in these Lenten days.

It was so good to be with you again (for my last time) at your convention some weeks ago. Rhoda and I enjoyed the afternoon and evening with you on Saturday and it also was great to be together on Sunday morning as we celebrated the Word of God and the Holy Sacrament.

We thank you for the special attention you gave to us on Saturday evening. That was very kind and generous of you to remember us in the ways you did. We are grateful for the Hawaiian sweets, the WELCA ornaments, the San Diego paperweight, the Dietrich Bonhoeffer book, the huge container of pretzels, the flowering orchid, the IOU (I am still not sure where I'm supposed to turn in that IOU), and most of all for the verbal and written sentiments that you wrote and expressed that evening.

It has been a joy to be with you in a variety of capacities over these past many years. God bless and keep you as you continue your important ministry as God's holy children serving your congregations and communities in the ways that you do.

May the Spirit of God lead you day by day as you make a difference in your congregations, in and around your neighborhoods, in the Pacifica Synod and ELCA, and in the world.

May the light of Jesus shine brightly upon you all,

**+The Rev. Murray D. Finck
Bishop**

Pacifica Women Present - Convention & Gathering 2016:

“A Family of Faith”

November 4-5, 2016

Bethlehem Lutheran, Los Alamitos



Love Gift:



Precious Life Shelter

Diapers, Wipes, Receiving Blankets, Women's Socks, Hygiene items, phone card (no expiration date) & gift cards



2016 Women of the ELCA Convention and Gathering
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos
November 4-5, 2016



I am applying for:

☐ **SWO What? Scholarship**

I am 13-35 years of age, a first time gathering attendee, and an active member of an ELCA congregation. If awarded, the scholarship will include one hotel accommodations (dual occupancy) registration, and 3 meals (Friday dinner, Saturday Breakfast and Lunch). Transportation will be excluded.*

☐ **Mahalo Scholarship**

I am 36 years of age or above, an active member of an ELCA congregation, and a first time scholarship recipient. If awarded, the scholarship will include one hotel accommodations, (dual occupancy) registration, and 3 meals (Friday dinner, Saturday Breakfast and Lunch). Transportation will be excluded.*

☐ **Ohana Scholarship**

I am 18 years of age or above, an active member of an ELCA congregation located on Hawaii and a first time scholarship recipient. If awarded, the scholarship will include transportation (to be reimbursed up to \$500.00), hotel accommodations, registration, and 3 meals (Friday dinner, Saturday Breakfast and Lunch).*

Please Print Clearly:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CLUSTER _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

CONGREGATION/CITY _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Would you accept a "Partial Scholarship" to help with costs? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Send to: Andrea Campbell
13830 Hoover Street #102, Westminster, CA 92683
(714) 296-3342 cell or Email: andreacampbell@verizon.net

* PLEASE NOTE: Meals and hotel have been modified to fit structure of this years' convention.

SAVE THE DATE!



all anew

**WOMEN OF THE ELCA
TENTH TRIENNIAL GATHERING**

Minneapolis, Minnesota

July 13–16, 2017

For more information,
visit welcatg.org

or call 1-800-638-3522 ext. 2730

PENNY SAVING CHALLENGE

{Save over \$670 this year picking up pennies!}

Day 1 = 1¢ Day 5 = 5¢

Day 100 = \$1

Day 365 = \$3.65



Join us for this inspiring faith-filled weekend where you can experience enriching workshops, stirring worship, engaging Bible study and challenging cinema with hundreds of sisters in faith.

We are real women—mothers, daughters, sisters, best friends and new friends—talking about our faith, our doubts and challenges, our joys and what inspires us.

About our logo

The joyful, organic shape of a butterfly—or is it a flower?—represents transformation and growth. Splashes of color honoring the four elements (earth, water, fire, air) spill outside the lines to create an uplifting symbol that is bright, bold and vibrant.



*Do you like crafts? Volunteering of your time?
Many opportunities await you at the 2017 Triennial
Gathering in Minneapolis, MN!*

DID YOU START SAVING YET?

Just one way to start saving. Go back and start with January 1st. Add to your jar 1 cent for each day of the year. Each day the money you add to your jar, coincides with the day of the year. (example: January 6th, add 6 cents to your jar, on February 1st, the 32nd day of the year, add 32 cents to your jar, and so on. Day 100 of the year (which is April 8th) you would add 1.00 to your jar and May 5th, the 126th day of the year, you add \$1.26 to your jar, and etc..) Simple.

At the end of 365 days (December 31st) you will have saved \$667.95. That's just saving pennies!! (and it will almost cover your registration hotel and airfare). What a great idea and easy to do. AND you can keep it going until June 30th of 2017 (just for a few extra dollars)!

I've started my jar, have you? Did you pre-register in Charlotte? Please let me know. Would love to have 50 women from Pacifica attend!!

As something fun, we will also be having a meal with our "sister synod, Nebraska", so we need to know how many women are going, Can we have more women at this triennial, the Nebraska? Let's give it a try!!

Questions, you can call Karen Ronchetti anytime (714) 654-8919 or send email to: welca@verizon.net

Is there an issue or concern dear to the hearts of the women in your congregational unit – something you discuss at Circle Bible study, the Sunday coffee hour, or Board meetings? **Act now!**
Create a resolution and bring it to convention this year!

Resolutions are easy to put together...

Step 1... fear not!

Step 2... Create the "Whereas" section. Put into words the reasons for wanting to effect change or take action.

Step 3... Create the "Be it resolved" section - Identify action item(s). Here's a sample ... a silly one, but you get the idea:

Resolution to Provide Chocolate at Conventions

Whereas... many women love chocolate, and

Whereas... chocolate has proved beneficial to women in a variety of ways, and

Whereas... chocolate is tasty and affordable;

Therefore be it resolved... that chocolate be in ample supply for attendees at this and future conventions.

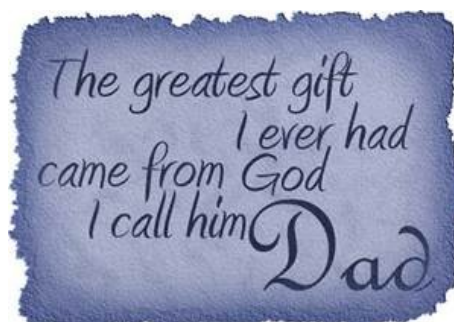
Submitted by: Faith Lutheran Women of the ELCA, Your City 06/01/2016

Step 4... mail your signed and dated resolution to the Chair of the Committee on Reference and Counsel. (Her name will be publicized in future **Pacifica Partners**.)

Resolutions to provide scholarship money to female seminarians, to reduce the amount of paper we use at our conventions, the frequency of our conventions, are just a few examples of what happens when women are moved to take action.

??Need help with your resolution?? No worries! Just give me a call and we'll work through it together!

Blessings in Christ... Joanne McGavran (951-246-7920).



Faith Lutheran, Sun City

Holding a fundraiser for



Lutheran Retreats, Camps and
Conferences (LRCC)

Entertainment, Luncheon, drawings & gift baskets

For more information, Contact: Dee Seel

(951) 672-0969 or

Email: bdseel@verizon.net



Gwendolynn Edwards

Executive Board Member, 2014-2017

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Gwendolynn Edwards was elected to a second term to the churchwide executive board of Women of the ELCA in July 2014. She serves on the constitutional review committee.

Gwendolynn most recently served as president of the Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization. She served on her SWO's convention three times, and also served as the Metro East Conference nominating chair for three years. She served as a voting member of the Eighth and Ninth Triennial Conventions of Women of the ELCA.

A member of Lord of Love Lutheran Church in Omaha, Neb., Gwendolynn is a member of the hand-bell choir and is a communion server, greeter, and member of her Bible Study circle. She has served her congregational unit in many positions, including president, board member, and treasurer. She has served her congregation as VBS coordinator, on the communication ministry team, and as Sunday school teacher, youth group sponsor, and council secretary.

Gwendolynn has served the Nebraska Synod as a voting member and on the assembly planning team.

Gwendolynn is also active in her community, including service to her son's school district, Scouting, United Way, and blood drives. She is a member of the Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska board of directors and serves on its governance committee.

Gwen has worked for the National Indemnity Company in a variety of positions for nearly 30 years. She currently works in the network systems department.

Gwendolynn and her husband John are the proud parents of Aaron, now in eighth grade. Dwen is an avid bowler and travels to compete in state and national tournaments. She and John like to spend time at the baseball park cheering on Aaron and his team.

She said, "I am excited for this continued opportunity to serve. This is a growing organization full of the Lord's daughters, where we gather for faith and action, to help each other grow in our spiritual journey, to serve the church in a variety of ways, and to foster community among our brothers and sisters."



PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA - Synodical Board Members

May/June 2016

Page 12

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Email: welca@verizon.net
Mentor: Mariposa



www.pacificasynod.org	Pacifica Synod
www.elca.org	This will access the national church wide office
www.womenoftheelca.org	Churchwide website of the Women of the ELCA;
www.boldcafe.org/	Café', free website for women 18-35 is part of Women of the ELCA website.
www.gathermagazine.org	This website will access Gather (formerly Lutheran Women Today) magazine directly.
www.lwr.org	Lutheran World Relief (Ever wanted to know where the quilts go that your units have made or the school and health kits that you assembled and sent to LWR)?
www.preciousliveshelter.org	A organization that helps abused women and children in OC. Newsletter of events, thrift shop and other activities that help the community of women.
www.lutheranborderconcernsministry.org	Lutheran Border Concerns Ministry is Threefold: HELP people who live south of the border, including both spiritual and material needs. INFORM people who live north of the border about the spiritual and physical needs of their sisters and brothers to the south. ENCOURAGE Christian congregations in the USA to meet their mission opportunities to share the Gospel with Hispanic people in their own neighborhoods.
www.LSS.org	Lutheran Social Services. Check your local area/church for a representative near you.
www.pacificawomen.org	Our Pacifica Women website
www.welcatg.org	Women of the ELCA 2017 Triennial Gathering information website.

*The deadline submit articles for
the Pacifica Partners is..*

July 5th, 2016

Please send email to:

welca@verizon.net



Pacifica Synodical Women's Organization of the
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
8305 Magic Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

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Share me with your
friends.
Your Editor and I thank
you.

What's Inside

<i>Calendar</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
<i>Letter of Invitation</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>News Around the Synod</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>Letter from the Bishop</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Convention News</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Convention Scholarship</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>2017 Triennial Gathering News</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>Writing a Resolution by Joanne McGavran</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>Faith Lutheran Event Flyer</i>	<i>Page 10</i>
<i>Churchwide Representative Intro</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>SWO Board</i>	<i>Page 12</i>
<i>Informational Site</i>	<i>Page 13</i>