



Pacifica WELCA Annual Convention

“GOD’S SPA –

Refreshing, Revitalizing and
Restoring Your Soul”

2 Timothy 1:6

For this reason I remind you to kindle
afresh the gift of GOD which is you
through their laying on of my hands”

November 6th - 8th, 2015

Where: Ontario Airport Hotel

Love gifts for:

SafeHouse (*Thousand Palms & Riverside*) and
Option House (*San Bernardino*)

Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Twin Sheets and/or sets, blankets,
hygiene products, Bath Soap, Shampoo, Laundry Soap, Lysol
Wipes, Soft Soap Hand Soap, Napkins, Gift Cards (Target),
laundry bags, hangers, slippers.



Calendar of Events, Purpose Statement ...

May/June 2015

Page 2

- June 27, 2015 Faith Lutheran, Sun City "Fashion Show Fundraiser for CCLM"
Cost: \$15 and Thrivent will match funds
Contact: Dee Seel (951) 672-0969
- July 15-19, 2015 National Youth Gathering
Location: Detroit, MI
- October 10, 2015 Harvest Cluster Event with Lutheran Boarder Concern
Speaker: Ramon Contrearras
Location: King of Kings, Oceanside
- October 17, 2015 42nd Annual "Apple Festival Bazaar"
Location: Bethlehem Lutheran, Los Alamitos
Time: 8am to 1pm
- November 6-8, 2015 Pacifica Women of the ELCA Annual Convention
Location: Inland Empire
- July 2017 Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering
Location: Minnesota



Café stirring the spirit within
www.boldcafe.org

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
8305 Magic Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
(714) 654-8919
Email: welca@verizon.net



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*

Women of the **ELCA**

Coming to terms with the times...

Creating programs, chasing youth trail telling the love of God
by Elizabeth A. Eaton

When I'm out and about in the church, I'm often asked what I plan to do to save small congregations, reverse the decline in membership, bring young adults back to church, increase mission support, make the ELCA truly multicultural, boost our relevance in the culture and fix Congress (well, not that last one). I have no plan to do any of that by myself, but I wonder if there is a deeper concern in those questions that requires a deeper answer from all of us.

The world has changed and is changing. Residents of my mother's retirement community who waited weeks to receive letters from loved ones serving overseas during World War II are now on Facebook and regularly use Skype or FaceTime to visit with grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Air travel that was once glamorous and rare for most of us is now, both in frequency and ambiance, a lot like taking the bus. It's not unusual, even in small-town America, to have Jewish, Muslim and Hindu neighbors or those with no religious affiliation at all. We are in a strange new world and don't really know how all this will shake out.

We might be tempted to overdo our efforts, to work harder and harder developing innovative programming, reading every manual on church growth, jazzing up our websites, being present on every possible social media platform. Maybe we should discover our congregation's niche: young adults, theology on tap, justice and advocacy, care of creation, ethnic specific ministry, pet blessing liturgies, urban church, rural church, big church, small church, virtual church, home where across the ELCA. And good for us. We need to be brave and daring. God can use our best imagination and innovation.

Or we might be tempted to circle the wagons and hold ever more tightly to what we have left. There is much that is beautiful about our traditions and buildings and heritage. What will happen to all of that if our particular congregation ceases to exist? Who will bury our parents or us? Who will take care of the parish cemetery? This is when congregations begin eyeing visitors for their value as replacement parts.

My daughter and her significant other, who was running for county commissioner, attended a church pancake breakfast where they were swarmed by parishioners who didn't realize he was a candidate. All they saw were *young adults! Potential members!* It was an uncomfortable experience.

But why do we want people to join our church? What does church mean to us? When I have asked that question, people often spoke about church as community or family. People talked about the good and important work their congregations carried out to feed the hungry or shelter the homeless. Some said the best thing about their congregations wasn't programs but people.

It was rare that anyone mentioned God or spoke about an encounter with the transcendent. I don't believe our people lack faith or don't know Jesus, but I wonder if we have lost the language to speak about the love of God that has been given to us in the crucified and risen Christ. Maybe we just assume Jesus. Maybe Jesus has become like wallpaper: we know it's there and everyone can see it, but we don't have to talk about it.

The best thing about the church, the thing that is uniquely the church, is not programs or people but Jesus. If we as a people, and as congregations, don't get that right it doesn't matter how many programs we come up with.

In Christ through the Spirit, God has invited us into a deeply intimate and loving relationship with God and with each other. Being church is abiding in that love. We are God's beloved people gathered around word and sacraments. That's what gives us life. That's what shapes us. That's what sends us out into the world to do justice and to love kindness (Micah 6:8). And this must be the kind of community to which we invite others—not because we want to grow or pay for the boiler or attract young people, but because we have received this incredible life-changing gift and want everyone to be touched and claimed and transformed by it too.

A monthly message from the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Her email address: bishop@elca.org. This column first appeared in The Lutheran magazine's April issue. Reprinted with permission.

Letter of Invitation



Dear Sisters in Christ,

It's that time to once again join together for our Synodical convention this November.

This year hopes to be even more exciting than last year with new ideas, new faces, and rekindled friendships.

I hope that all Pacifica Women of the ELCA will join with me November 6 - 8, 2015 at the Ontario Airport Hotel in Ontario, CA. 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!"

*As in years past, we try to keep costs affordable for all women to attend, yet we know that the cost could be "out of reach" for some. We are encouraging women to "bring a friend" to help with cost. The registration will be available in many places so watch for the **Pacifica Partners**, online at **www.pacificawomen.org** and on our new "Facebook" page, **Pacifica Synod Women of the ELCA**.*

The convention planning team is working hard to improve our conventions from year to year by listening to all the comments on your evaluations. With the new board, we are excited about convention, Refreshing, Revitalizing and Restoring your soul.

Looking forward to seeing all of the beautiful Pacifica women and please remember you are invited to bring a friend to share this experience.

God's peace and blessings,

Sue Connors

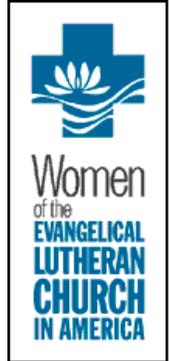
President, Pacifica Women of the ELCA

SWO Convention Scholarship

May/June 2015

page 5

2015 Women of the ELCA Convention and Gathering
Ontario Airport Hotel, Ontario, Ca
November 6-8, 2015



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 hotel accommodations, registration, and 5 meals (Friday dinner, 3 meals on Saturday and Sunday Breakfast). 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 hotel accommodations, registration, and 5 meals (Friday dinner, 3 meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast). 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 5 meals (Friday dinner, 3 meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast).

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

Silent Auction

Basket Reminder!

This event is your opportunity to build up three of our scholarships funds,

The Seminarian Scholarship Fund,

The Triennial Scholarship Fund, and

our WELCA Convention Scholarship Fund.

* Money received from this event helps support our women on their journey through Seminary, experience the "big picture" of the church-wide Triennial Gathering or be able to attend our own Synodical convention. Not only are you supporting these scholarship funds, but it's a wonderful opportunity to support the community as well (you might even find a Christmas gift or birthday gift for that special someone. Endless possibilities)! We would like to encourage all units to bring a basket for the auction.

Large or small

(no theme needed)!

Attention all Women!

A little request for our convention. . . We are asking all congregations to help us and bring:

- **2 dozen cookies to share (your favorites recipe) for our hospitality room.**

We will provide coffee & tea with all the fixings (including cups).



To kick off their "Gather" Summer Bible Study Series, the women of Hope Lutheran in Palm Desert joined with the women of Spirit of Peace Lutheran in Big Bear for a time of study, fellowship and food! After a refreshing rain the evening before, everyone could enjoy the cool peaceful atmosphere at the Big Bear home of Ella Manor. This was a real blessing coming from the 110 degree desert heat. Pastor Carl Witt lead the Bible Study on "Giving in Secret" as we savored God's creation and chatted with our sisters in Christ.

A plea from your President

As 2015 begins, please put Triennial Offering for 2017 into your unit's budget for this year, as well as the following years. This will ease the burden of coming up with the total amount of offering just prior to the Triennial Gathering. You can send a check to Harriet Morris at 1951 47th Street, Space #3, San Diego, CA 92102. In the memo space please put TG17. I look forward to sharing more details of this gathering, after returning from the Conference of Presidents this coming February. You may also want to put some dollars away monthly for your trip back to Minneapolis. It will be an awesome time of fellowship, learning and worship.

Thank you for the support of the many ministries of the Women of the ELCA.

Sue Connors





Scholarship Application Form

Female: Yes No New Applicant Renewal Applicant

Contact Information

Full Name:

Last First M.I. Preferred Name

Address:

Street Address Apartment/Unit #

City State Zip Code

Preferred Phone: ()

E-Mail Address:

Have you been approved for entrance in the ELCA candidacy-for-ordination process? No Yes Date Accepted:

Home Congregation Information

Home (Registering) Congregation:

Address:

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Synod Name:

Region No.:

Seminary Information

Have you been admitted to an accredited theological seminary in a M.Div. or other ELCA-recognized program leading to ordination in the ELCA? Yes No

Seminary Name:

Date Entered: Part-Time or Full-Time:

Program of Study: Current Year of Study:

Financial Aid Office: Financial Aid Phone: ()

Street Address

City State Zip Code

If this is not an ELCA seminary, list affiliated ELCA Seminary:

Confidential Financial Information

Annual Family Income: Under \$50,000 \$50,000-\$100,000 \$100,000-\$150,000 Over \$150,000

Number in Household: Number in household who are in college:

Applicant's own anticipated educational expenses for coming school year: \$

Total Financial Aid Received: \$ Balance Needed: \$



Describe any special circumstances affecting your ability to pay for seminary: _____

Ministry Involvement

Briefly list your involvement with ministries of the Women of the ELCA and the ELCA: _____

Future Ministry

Briefly describe your future ministry aspirations: _____

Future Potential Involvement with Pacifica SWO

To encourage the prayer and support of Pacifica Women, if selected as a scholarship recipient, are you willing to:

- 1. Be publicly named as a recipient? Yes No
- 2. Provide a photo of yourself that may be published in *Pacifica Partners* (the Pacifica SWO newsletter) and/or the website of Pacifica SWO? Yes No
- 3. Provide a short devotional that may be published in *Pacifica Partners* and/or the website of Pacifica SWO? Yes No
- 3. Share your ministry experiences and insights at an event sponsored by Pacifica SWO if requested and if geographically feasible? Yes No

Certification

I have completed all sections of this application, and the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Andrea Campbell
6555 Jaluit Street
Cypress, CA 90640

(714) 891-2556 hm, (714) 296-3342 cell

Email: andreacampbell@verizon.net

Application must be post-marked no later than July 31

Registration

Pacifica Women of the ELCA Convention & Gathering

November 6-8 2015

“GOD’S SPA”



Convention

Registration Deadline: 10/18/15

Delegates must register by 10/5/2015

Full Weekend/1 person per room \$ 397
5 Meals, Registration & Hotel

Full Weekend/2 persons per room \$ 294
5 Meals, Registration & Hotel

Full Weekend/3 persons per room \$ 259
5 Meals, Registration & Hotel

Full Weekend/4 persons per room \$ 242
5 Meals, Registration & Hotel

DISCOUNT Paid by 9/30/15 - \$ 10
(no discount on Spouse/Partner)

Full Weekend-Spouse/partner \$ 244
5 Meals & Hotel

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name of Roommates: *Please print clearly*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Meals: *(please check a box for lunch & dinner. If no boxes are checked, we will choose for you).*

Saturday Boxed Lunch

Turkey Sandwich Vegetarian Gluten Free

Saturday Evening Banquet - Plated Dinner

Chicken Vegetarian Gluten Free

Please Print Clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Church: _____

Church City: _____

Please CHECK all that apply:

- DELEGATE:** You may be assigned to a Convention Committee by the President. She will notify you.
- NON-DELEGATE:** Check if your Congregation has a unit.
- REPRESENTATIVE:** Check if your congregation does not have a unit. You will have a voice, but not a vote.
- SWO Board and/or GUEST:** CWO Representative, Pastor, member of unit outside ELCA, and/or Vendor.
- FIRST TIME ATTENDEE**
- Unit President and/or Unit Contact**

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Contact: _____

Address/City: _____

Phone (_____) _____

REGISTRATION IS NON-REFUNDABLE, BUT IT IS TRANSFERABLE

Make checks payable to: Pacifica Women of the ELCA

Mail to: Jo Ann Longerbone

4678 Coconino Way, San Diego, Ca 92117

If you have any convention questions, please contact:
Karen Ronchetti, SWO Vice President & Convention Chair
(714) 654-8919 OR e-mail: welca@verizon.net

President: Sue Connors (Term expires 2016)
698 Felino Way
Chula Vista, CA 91910
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40670 Ventana Court
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Email: tgates@hope-lutheran.com

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1951 47th Street, Space #3
San Diego, CA 92102
619-518-4484
Email: harrietmorris@cox.net

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Email: idiotic_puppy@earthlink.net
Mentor: Mariposa Cluster

Verlette Brummell
1651-B Beaver Creek
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(951) 922-6206 hm, (562) 400-4636 cell
Email: verbrummell@aol.com
Mentor: Big Bear Cluster

Andrea Campbell
6555 Jaluit Street
Cypress, CA 90640
(714) 891-2556 hm, (714) 296-3342 cell
Email: andreamcampbell@verizon.net
Mentor: Saddleback & Rejoice Clusters

Jo Ann Longerbone
4678 Coconino Way
San Diego, Ca 92117
(858) 274-0483 hm
Email: jlongerbone@san.rr.com
Mentor: Sonshine/West Cluster

Faye Cieslinski
975 Woodland Pwky. #239
San Marcos, CA 92069
(760) 690-2540
Email: fayecieslinski@cox.net
Mentor: Harvest Cluster

Lynda McClellan
4996 Via Campeche
Riverside, CA 92507
(951) 833-3934 cell, (951) 788-3934 hm
Email: lkmc4996@sbcglobal.net
Mentor: Raincross Cluster

Keala Simoes
518 Cummins Street
Honolulu, HI 96814
(808) 596-7758 wk (m-f), (808) 225-3380 cell
Email: bossyboots930@yahoo.com
Mentor: Hukilau Cluster & HKBP

Nancy Worley
892 N. Elmwood St.
Orange, CA 92867
(714) 633-4317 hm, (714) 335-3968 cell
Email: PGiraffe@aol.com
Mentor: Son & Surf Cluster



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.

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

July 7, 2015

Please send email to:

welca@verizon.net



Remember that this year the **Gather** Bible study is authored by several different women, so look for some exciting news about a possible visit from Emma Crossen, the former Steward-ship Director of Women of the ELCA who now resides in California. Emma is writing the **Gather** magazine summer Bible studies on stewardship.

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

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Please don't throw me
away or stick me in a file!
Instead, take me apart,
copy me!
Share me with your
friends.
Your Editor and I thank
you.

What's Inside

<i>Calendar</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
<i>Bishop Eaton's Message</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Letter of Invitation</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>2015 Convention Scholarship Form</i>	<i>Page 5 - 6</i>
<i>Convention News & Around the Synod</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>2015 Convention Nomination Form</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>Seminarian Scholarship Form</i>	<i>Page 9 - 10</i>
<i>2015 Convention Registration</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>SWO Board</i>	<i>Page 12</i>
<i>Informational Site</i>	<i>Page 13</i>