

Welcoming the Stranger



March 8, 2014

Eden Lutheran Church, Riverside

8:30am to 4pm

Matthew 25: 35

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in”

*Registration and more information available in this issue,
February’s Pacifica Partners and at www.Pacificawomen.org*



Dear Women of the ELCA SWO,

*Today I send you my resignation as President of the SWO.
May God bless your time together.*

Paula Rennegarbe

Dear God,
Please blanket
my heart with
Your peace and
give me strength
today.

Amen

FaithTap.com



Reflect, pray and prepare for the day. Need an on-the-go companion for your faith journey? Daily Grace offers brief reflections every day in which you'll encounter God's extravagant, boundless and often surprising grace. Be comforted, challenged, inspired, consoled and confronted.

See more at: <http://www.womenoftheelca.org>



On the night before Christmas and all through the house, you could smell the gingerbread cookies, baked fresh from the oven that afternoon, oh but you couldn't see a mouse.

On our front door their was a beautiful wreath, that grandmother had made. Hanging on the fireplace inside were many decorations of garland and ornaments, 14 stockings with a peppermint candy cane inside, just waiting to be eaten.

Grandma's table was set for Christmas supper with a candelabra in the center of the table on a special lace tablecloth.

Outside our nice warm home, the snowflakes were falling fast over the snowman that I had just finished building before dinner. I looked up and on the roof was a sleigh, being pulled by 8 reindeer. The one with the red nose was called Rudolph (so the story says). There were 2 elves in the back of the sleigh holding a bag of toys, but the front seat was empty (you know the story).

You could see in the night there was an angel looking down from the heavens keeping watch over all of us.

One of our neighbors had a Chanuka menorah sitting on their table a couple of days before, while another was celebrating Kwanza.

Everyone on our street enjoys the holidays. Hope you do **as well.**

Blessings to all

(anonymous)

A word from your New President

January 2014

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As we enter the year 2014, we face some challenges, yet know that it will be a wondrous year.

Our first challenge will be appointing a new vice- president and then a new board member. We will be excited about serving the Pacifica Women of the ELCA. I feel truly blessed to be in a position to lead you, and will with God's help do my best. My focus will be working together as a team, using each of our individual talents to better serve our Lord. I ask for each of you to pray for me and my board as we begin this new year.

The March Event (previously known as MAAD) is rapidly approaching. What a fun and informational day it will be. "Welcoming the Stranger" is the theme. Matthew 25:35, is our theme verse, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in". This sums up what our values as a Christian should be. On the first day of 2014, while watching the Rose Parade, I saw a float presented by the Lutheran Laymen's League win the Princess Trophy (awarded to floats under 35 feet). Its theme was "We Welcome All". This was another awesome thought, so similar to our theme.

We will be gathering at Eden Lutheran Church in Riverside, beginning with registration at 8:30. Our program will be presented by our own Dona Jenkins, a past Churchwide Women's Organization Board Member as well as a past Pacifica SWO Board Member. She will be utilizing a resource offered by the Women of the ELCA called "Welcoming the Stranger....a hospitality workshop". Our love gifts will be going to Olive Crest – Inland Empire. Their mission is dedicated to Preventing child abuse, to Treating and Educating at-risk children and to Preserving the family.....One Life at a Time. We hope you will be able to join us for fellowship and for a day of expanding our abilities to welcoming the strangers in our midst.

*May God's Peace be with each of you, each day and night,
Sue Connors*

March Love gifts Recipient: Olive Crest Homes

Items needed:

Plastic plates, cups, bowls & silverware, bath towels (Neutral colors), and gift cards (Target, Kohl's, Wal-Mart and movie theatre passes).

Pictures from Convention at the Ayres Hotel & Suites
Sent by the Hawaiian School Children on the Waianae Coast

January 2014

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Registration—March Gathering

January 2014

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March 9, 2013

Eden Lutheran Church

4725 Brockton Avenue

Riverside, CA 92506

(951) 684-3336



This event is from 8:30am - 4pm.

Registration / continental breakfast begin at 8:30am, program starting at 9am to include lunch.

Early Bird - "postmark by 2/28"	\$25.00
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Postmark after 2/28	\$30.00
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Make checks payable to:

Pacifica Women of the ELCA

Mail to:

Jo Ann Longerbone

4678 Coconino Way, San Diego, Ca 92117

(858) 274-0483

Please Print: (or affix an address label)

Name: _____

Address & City: _____

Telephone: () _____ Email: _____

Church: _____ Church City: _____

Child Care needed: Y or N Number of Children: _____

News from Convention

January 2014

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Parliamentarian Joanne McGavran and Past President Andrea Campbell arriving at convention and sharing a quick pose.



Beautiful baskets provided by our wonderful women and their units for our silent auction to support the SWO Scholarship Fund!



Welcome to Kris Brugamy, our churchwide representative from Chicago and one of our Seminarian Scholarship recipient and former SWO board member Juli Patten from Maluhia Lutheran, Waianae, Hawaii.



Rev. Heidi Hester lead a workshop on Saturday and our closing worship on Sunday.



Celebrating worship and Holy Communion together.

News from Convention

January 2014

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Pacifica women business session. You can tell everyone is so focused on business!



Another group of beautiful women getting ready to listen



SWO Board women in action putting on a skit. Women of MANY talents!

News from Convention

January 2014

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Convention Banquet . . . An evening of good food, great music by Woven Image and priceless friendships!



This very special banner celebrating the Women of the ELCA's 25th anniversary was presented to Pacifica SWO last November

TRIENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Pacifica Women of the ELCA

January 2014

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Triennial Gathering 2014
Charlotte, North Carolina
July 24-27, 2014



Age Group: ☐ 18-25 ☐ 26-35 ☐ 36-45 ☐ 46-55 ☐ 56-75 ☐ 76-90

Active member of an ELCA congregation and an active participant in Women of the ELCA This will be a monetary scholarship. The committee shall determine the number of scholarship recipients. The available funds are to be evenly distributed amongst the recipients. Total funds available this year are up to \$1000. Any additional expenses will be covered by the recipient.

(Please print clearly)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Cluster: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

Congregation/City: _____

E-mail address: _____

Is this your first time attending a Synodical Convention? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(if not, when was the last time you attended?): _____

What is your involvement in your unit? _____

What is your involvement in your cluster? _____

Why do you wish to receive a Scholarship? _____

If you are awarded the Scholarship, do you wish to remain anonymous? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Any other comments: _____

(This information will be kept confidential) **Return by February 7, 2014** to

Inga Sanders
9871 Vicksburg Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92646
(949) 463- 6642, E-mail: inga.sanders@gmail.com



It's an inspiring weekend for mothers, daughters, sisters and best friends you call sisters.

Experience enriching workshops, stirring worship, engaging Bible studies and much more! Enjoy a variety of optional tours to learn about Charlotte and the surrounding area.



Don't miss this time together with Lutheran women from all around the world. The memories of those I met and who now are Facebook friends keeps the spirit of Christian love fresh, uplifting and just plain fun. Don't look back and wish you were there....be there!

Mary Dixon, Colleyville, Texas

Ninth Triennial Gathering
July 24-27, 2014 Charlotte, North Carolina
of many generations

Start saving now! You can't afford to miss the powerful messages that will revitalize your spirit and lift your soul.

Women of the ELCA


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

JULY 24-27, 2014
Ninth Triennial Gathering
of many generations

It's time to do something for yourself. No excuses allowed.

You need time away for rest and renewal. You need time with women of bold faith and courage. You need time to dance and sing and praise God. You need time with women of many generations.

FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE



BECCA STEVENS ...
bringing a servant's heart to our multi-generational conversations. An Episcopal priest serving as chaplain at Vanderbilt University, Stevens founded a community and social enterprise for women in need.



SUSAN SPARKS ...
keeping us laughing, giving life to the adage "there's truth in jest." A stand-up comedian and trial lawyer, Sparks is also pastor of the historic Madison Avenue Baptist Church in New York City and offers a comedy course to clergy of every faith.

WORSHIP, LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, FILM SCREENINGS, OPTIONAL TOURS AND MORE

Ninth Triennial Gathering
July 24-27, 2014 Charlotte, North Carolina
of many generations

Women of the ELCA

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

JULY 24-27, 2014
Ninth Triennial Gathering
of many generations



Ninth Triennial Gathering—July, 2014

By Karen Ronchetti, Triennial Gathering Promoter Pacifica Synod Women

The theme for the 9th Triennial Gathering of Women of the ELCA, "of many generations", is based on Isaiah 58:12.

REGISTRATION RATES:

REGISTRATION (January 6 through July, 2014) \$350.00

SPOUSE/PARTNER \$100.00

GIRLS (13-18) \$50.00

CHILDREN UNDER 13 FREE

If you are currently pre-registered (22 Pacifica women as of July 2012) or you are thinking of registering come this September, please let me know ASAP. We will have a pins for everyone to trade as we did in Spokane. Please let me know what hotel you are staying at as we also are trying to schedule a breakfast or lunch with our sisters in the Nebraska Synod.

Anyone who pre-registered should have received your registration packets by now. Please remember to send in your registration letter that you also received with your "sticker" on it. Stay tuned and keep saving your money! It's a wonderful, priceless and amazing experience!

MORE EXCITING NEWS . . . Learning Opportunities!

Learning opportunities take multiple forms at **of many generations**, the Ninth Triennial Gathering, July 24–27, 2014, in Charlotte, N.C. Whether you attend a workshop (ten offered), view a film (3 to choose from) or engage in a servant project such as sewing, knitting, assembling school and health kits (all on site), these learning opportunities allow you to grow your faith, explore new possibilities and connect with other women, while bringing ideas home to your unit.

Keep watch on more information about the Triennial in the up coming newsletters.

Blessings,

Karen Ronchetti, Pacifica Women of the ELCA Triennial Promoter email: welca@verizon.net



“GET INSPIRED”

You need time away for rest and renewal. You need time with women of bold faith and courage. You need time to dance and sing and praise God. You need time with women of many generations. Experience enriching workshops, stirring worship, engaging Bible studies and much more!

Event Information

JOIN THE CONVERSATION AS WE EXPLORE THE TRIENNIAL GATHERING THEME OF **MANY GENERATIONS**. LISTEN TO INSPIRING SPEAKERS; PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP AND PRAISE; LEARN BY ATTENDING WORKSHOPS, VIEWING FILMS AND ENGAGING IN SERVANT EVENTS. VISIT THE EXHIBIT HALL WHERE YOU CAN GATHER, SHOP AND CONNECT. AND DON'T FORGET OUR SPECIAL EVENTS WHERE WOMEN IN THEIR 20S AND 30S CAN EAT CHOCOLATE AND JOIN OTHERS TO RUN IT OFF LATER. AND WHERE'S IT ALL HAPPENING? THE [CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER](#).

Worship and praise

Worship at the triennial gathering promises to be an uplifting, joy-filled experience. Singing and praying with so many sisters in Christ is a moving experience, one you won't want to miss. Our preachers are the [Rev. Linda Norman](#), treasurer of the ELCA, and the [Rev. Claire Schenot Burkat](#), bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA.



Worship is always a highlight



Run, Walk and Roll

Tours

They say Charlotte's "got a lot" and you can experience Charlotte with optional tours, offered Thursday and Sunday. There's the ever-popular city tour, plus a visit to the Billy Graham Library, Childress Vineyards, a botanical garden, to name a few.

Women of the ELCA 2014 Winter Cluster Gathering
“HOPEFUL HOMECOMING”
Honoring our Military Veterans and Families

Saturday, February 22

10:00am to 12:00pm

Hope Lutheran Church ~ Social Hall

45-900 Portola Ave., Palm Desert

Welcome home is a simple phrase but it may have many different meanings for veterans. The statistics of unemployment, homelessness and domestic instability are staggering. Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministry is an outreach dedicated to addressing the spiritual, mental and physical needs of veterans and their families nationwide. What better way to welcome them home, than to learn about their needs, listen to their hearts and give them hope in God's love.

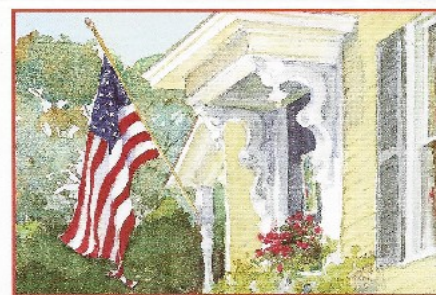
Guest Speaker ~ Pastor Kris Madsen - former LMVFM Board member

Musical Entertainment ~ Hope Men's Quartet

All American Picnic Luncheon

\$5.00 Luncheon Registration

Men and women are invited to attend



Thank You, Veteran!

*For Reservations and further information, contact
Tina Gates 760-346-1273; email tgates@hope-lutheran.com.*



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**THAT'S WHAT
LWR QUILTS
ARE ALL ABOUT.**

GOD PROVIDES simple fabric, thread and needles.

GOD PROVIDES us time together around the quilting table.

GOD PROVIDES by turning these items into extraordinary gifts, wrapped in love.

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Tied in Faith. Sent in Hope. **Wrapped in Love**

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LET GOD PROVIDE THROUGH YOU.
Join the **2013 LWR Quilt Campaign**
and help send **500,000 Quilts** to
people in need around the world.
lwr.org/quiltcampaign



Contact the Pacifica Synod office at
www.pacificasynod.org
or
(714) 692-2791

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

FEATURING BECKY WHITE

"TRANSITIONS: NOW WHAT"

Becky White is a single mom of four grown sons. Her oldest son, Trevor, is 23 and in graduate school at Seattle Pacific University. She has triplets that are 18. Boone and Logan attend California Baptist University and her other son, Cameron, is severely handicapped. An avid athlete, Becky was an 8-time All-American at BIOLA University where she was recently inducted into their inaugural Hall of Fame class. She is also a member of the City of Riverside Sport Hall of Fame Class of 2013. Becky currently works on the ministry team at The Grove Community Church in Riverside and as Director of Women's and Parent/Child Ministries at Forest Home. As an author and speaker, Becky brings the experiences and learning from raising her sons into a vibrant and engaging teaching ministry. In this presentation, Becky talks about the transitions we go through in life. So, what happens when I no longer get to do what I used to do? When do I find out what is next for me? How long will this time last between what I used to do and what I get to do next? Those are questions all women ask through the transitions of our lives. Becky will help us look together at how to survive those seasons in life when change is the only thing that seems consistent. If you have ever met Becky or heard her speak, you know how her smile, attitude, and cheerful demeanor are contagious. If you miss this event, you are missing a fabulous opportunity to be uplifted!

A donation of \$10 will be taken at the door.
Everyone is welcome! No reservations necessary.

Friday, January 24, 2014 at 7:15 p.m.
In the Sanctuary of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
4800 Irvine Center Drive, Irvine

BRING YOUR FRIENDS FOR A SPIRITUAL BOOST!

For more information, contact the church office at (949) 552-1918

- January 18, 2014 SWO Board Meeting
Location: Eden Lutheran Church, Riverside
- February 22, 2014 “Hopeful Homecoming”
Location: Hope Lutheran, Palm Desert
See page 12 for more information
- March 8, 2014 Synodical Spring Event
Location: Eden Lutheran Church, Riverside
Registration on page 5, love gifts page 3
- April 30- May 3, 2014 Pacifica Synod Assembly - Hawaii
Location: Marriott Hotel, Honolulu, HI
- July 24-27, 2014 Women of the ELCA Ninth Triennial Gathering
Location: Charlotte, NC
- November 7-9, 2014 Pacifica Women of the ELCA Annual Convention
Location: San Diego, Ca



PACIFICA PARTNERS provides news and information to congregational units of the Pacifica Synod. *Pacifica Partners* is published monthly (except August, November & December). 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.

Address changes and corrections should be sent to the Secretary:

Nancy Worley
892 N. Elmwood Street, Orange, CA 92867
714-633-4317 him, 714-335-3968 cell or Email: PGiraffe@aol.com



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.

WHAT DOES OUR LOGO MEAN?

Our logo—with the cross, water and a white lily—identifies women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as children of God; baptized, forgiven, adopted into God's family, full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty, and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptismal water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA

2013-2014 Synodical Board Members

January 2014

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President: Sue Connors (Term expires 2014)

251 Rancho Drive, Unit D

Chula Vista, CA 91911

(619) 427-6033 hm, (619) 972-1795 cell

Email: s.connors1@cox.net

(voted to replace Paula Rennegarbe who resigned 12/2013)

Vice President: Vacant (Term expires 2015)

Secretary: Nancy Worley (Term expires 2014)

892 N. Elmwood St.

Orange, CA 92867

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(714) 654-8919 cell

Email: welca@verizon.net

MENTOR:

Pacifica Partners Editor & 2014 WELCA Triennial Promoter



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 20-35 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.thebreastcancersite.com

Click on this site once a day to provide free mammograms for those who otherwise would not be able to have them.

www.cherishchildren.org

Information on Cherish the Children

www.giveaminute.org

Click on this site once a day and the sponsor will contribute funds for a minute of care for the needy Indian children of the Tarahumara Children's Hospital in Creel, Mexico. This site has a mission information link and photo gallery which shows pictures of the area as well as some of the children. This site also links to the Hunger Site where sponsors will give a cup of grain for a click.

[Christina Watson](#)

Lutheran Maritime Ministries. Provides "special" Christmas gift to seamen.
(562) 431-1112

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

February 5th, 2014

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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