



Karen Ronchetti, Editor

Pacifica Partners

October 2011

Volume 21 Issue Number 9



November 4-6, 2011

Women of the ELCA Annual Convention

Hampton Inn

3888 Greenwood Street, San Diego, CA

Theme: "God's Promise, Purpose, Prayer and Praise"

Bible verse:

Psalms 138:8 God made each of us for a purpose

Just a few weeks away!!

Are you registered? There's still time!

Workshops (6), Bible Study,

Special entertainment for Saturday's banquet,

Love Gifts, Silent Auction

See page 3 and 4



Greetings from your Pacifica W-ELCA President

October 2011

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Let's see how we can continue our "JOURNEY".

"God's Promise, Purpose, Prayer and Praise"

*Join me at our annual Pacifica Women of the ELCA Annual Convention, November 4-6, 2011 at the Hampton Inn, San Diego, CA. **Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. Workshops start at 3:30 p.m.***

Three offerings will be collected during the Convention, one at each of the two worship services (will be split with 50% to Women of the ELCA Churchwide Women's Organization, 25% to Lutheran Malaria Initiative and 25% to Pacifica Women of the ELCA) and your Unit Praise Offering (50% to Women of the ELCA Churchwide Women's Organization, 25% to two Lutheran Churches destroyed by tornado and 25% to Pacifica Women of the ELCA) during the Saturday morning business meeting.

*Remember your **Love Gifts** for the Veterans Winter Shelter. See article on page 4.*

Our planning team has the agenda in place and what a busy week-end is planned for you combined with friendship, fellowship, fun and Faith 2 Grow. Even hugs and kisses.

Every unit will or should have received the 2011-2012 Stewardship Planning Guide and Thankoffering service with the September issue of Interchange. Don't just pass the guide on to your treasurer! It contains important things everyone should know! I get many phone calls and e-mails and this guide answers those questions (transmittal forms, offering envelopes, our Region Code is 2C) and covers the different types of offerings and how they are received and a report how your gifts were used in the previous fiscal year.

Of interest: Three women chosen to share Nobel Peace Prize. Leymah Roberta Gbowee, a Lutheran Liberian peace activist and a member of the Lutheran Church in Liberia is one of the three women. Those of us that attended this past summer's Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering in Spokane, WA were privileged to meet her and were inspired by her as a featured speaker. Her story is chronicled in the documentary, "Pray the Devil Back to Hell."

Save this date for your 2012 event calendar: Pacifica Women of the ELCA March Event, Sat. March 3, 2012
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos, CA

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for your Pacifica Board as we continue to work together in service and love.

*Harvest Blessings,
Andrea Campbell*

Thanksgiving Prayer

*I thank You, Lord, for harvest grain, for plums and apples, too,
For sunny days and gentle rain and skies of deepest blue.*

*I thank You for a place called home where love and laughter live,
A place where all are safe and warm and ready to forgive.*

*I thank You for the soothing peace that comes at close of day
As I my fears and cares release when I kneel down to pray.*

Taken from The Scribe, Western Iowa Synod Women of the ELCA

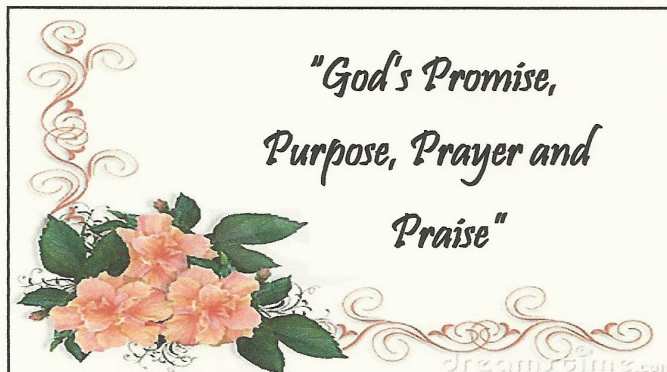


REGISTRATION

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Pacifica Synod Gathering

November 4-6, 2011



Convention

Registration Deadline: 10/15

Delegates must stay full weekend

Full Weekend/2 per room \$199 ☐
5 Meals, Registration & Hotel

Full Weekend/3 per room \$170 ☐
5 Meals, Registration & Hotel

Full Weekend/4 per room \$155 ☐
5 Meals, Registration & Hotel

Saturday Only - No Discount \$80 ☐
2 Meals & Registration

Children 0 - 12 Free ☐

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT - \$5.00
ON FULL WEEKEND ONLY

**** Extended to 10/1/2011**

Special Dietary Needs ☐

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name of Roommates:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Adult Name: _____

Children/Teens Names & Ages: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

E-Mail: _____

Church: _____

Church City: _____

☐ **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.

In Case of Emergency

Contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

REGISTRATION IS NON-REFUNDABLE, BUT IT IS TRANSFERABLE

Make checks payable to: Pacifica Women of the ELCA

*Contact Karen: 714.654-8919 cell
welca@verizon.net*

Mail to: Karen Ronchetti

*8305 Magic Circle.
Huntington Beach, Ca 92646*

2011 Convention at a Glance

October 2011

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Friday:

2:30 pm Check in/Registration

* Workshops start * Dinner *

Opening Worship * Bible Study #1

Saturday:

6:00-8:45 am Breakfast

9:00 am Bible Study #2

* Business Session #1 * Lunch * Workshops

Movie "A Walk to Beautiful"
with interactive discussion

* Workshops * Banquet & Silent Auction
conclusion *

Sunday:

6:00-8:45 am Breakfast

* Business Session #2 * Closing Worship *

A few important extra" notes...

- **Love gifts for the Veterans Winter Shelter (wish list):** Family size Shampoo/conditioners, shaving cream, razors, combs, brushes, deodorant, tooth brushes & paste, large size "white tube socks", undershirts (size large & x-large).
- We will have a "Hospitality Room" for everyone's enjoyment!
- Friday Evening Social for current SWO Board, Past SWO Presidents and Board members. Hosted by the CPT Team
- Our special "hands on" project will be going to the 2 churches affected by the tornado earlier this year.
- Last, but not least... "Awesome" fun and "Priceless" fellowship!

It is time to start preparing your wonderful silent auction baskets! This event is your opportunity to build up our WELCA Scholarship Fund. Money received from this event goes towards supporting women attending our November conventions and the Triennial Gatherings. Just think of the wonderful opportunities for shopping at November's Convention in San Diego. Please encourage your women to find items small or large (no theme needed)! We even have basket assemblers on site for those of you that are basket, tissue paper or bow challenged. Just ask Juli, she is all three and each year the assemblers (Karen and Harriet) help her be successful!



October 7, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Lutheran African peace activist 11-128-MRC



CHICAGO (ELCA) – Leymah Roberta Gbowee, a Lutheran Liberian peace activist, has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. The announcement came Oct. 7 from Oslo, Norway. Gbowee, a member of the Lutheran Church in Liberia, is responsible for organizing a non-violent women's movement that brought an end to a 14-year civil war in Liberia.

Gbowee was awarded a scholarship from the International Leadership Development Program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in 2006-2007 to support her study in peace building at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Va.

The ELCA and the Lutheran Church in Liberia are members of The Lutheran World Federation – a global communion of 140 member churches in 79 countries, representing more than 70 million Christians worldwide.

The Liberian women's movement led to the ousting of ex-President Charles Taylor and to the election of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf as president of Liberia – the first African nation with a female president. President Sirleaf also has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

The war in Liberia began in 1989, but "the women's movement, our protest, didn't begin until 2003," Gbowee said in a Sept. 19 interview at the ELCA churchwide organization.

The starting point of the women's movement was war fatigue, said Gbowee, a mother of six children. She grew tired of watching children die from hunger and "waking up every morning and not knowing whether a tomorrow was possible. You can't plan for the future." Along with thousands of other women from across Liberia, Gbowee wanted to dream of a better community.

She decided it was time to stop the war and called together women of all faiths – Christian, Muslim, indigenous and others – from across Liberia to "step out," recognizing that Liberian women can play a critical role in peace building.

"You always see your savior in someone else other than yourself," Gbowee said. "So for us women, having never been socialized to believe that we have powers to interfere in the politics of our country, were waiting for the bold men. (But) every time the bold men rose up, they rose up with guns and other things," she said, realizing that women needed to bring the much-desired peace "for ourselves."

But Gbowee does not take full credit for initiating and organizing the women's peace movement. "There were other women who came before us, emboldening us to take a stand," she said. "And we didn't just start from nothing



Saturday morning keynote speaker Leymah Gbowee encouraged women to reclaim their space, a call to action for women of faith.



Using the experiences of the women before them, Gbowee used prayer, picketing and silence to further their mission. Despite insults and other behaviors that came their way, Gbowee said, "We kept quiet because we had a sense of purpose and sense of direction." The women also put together statements of peace for African governments, engaged the media and initiated personal, one-to-one conversations with power brokers "to see how we could get the peace that Liberia was searching for," she said.

Gbowee's story is chronicled in the documentary "Pray the Devil Back to Hell." She has just completed her memoir, "Mighty Be Our Powers: How Sisterhood, Prayer, and Sex Changed a Nation at War" – a book that examines "the power of women and the power of faith in getting you (out) from the darkest place in your life," she said.

"Leymah Gbowee's life and leadership are a witness to the power of women to resist forces of violence and domination by creating a movement for reconciliation and peace," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson. "In Liberia, I experienced her passionate commitment to rebuilding a nation torn by civil war not by seeking vengeance, but through her faith to encourage dialogue and inclusiveness at all levels of society."

"The ELCA has been blessed by her prophetic voice. Leymah was the keynote speaker at (this) summer's Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering, advocated with ELCA members at the United Nations and in Washington D.C., and inspired participants in ELCA Global Mission events with her vision of God's peace for the world. She embodies a Christian faith that will not keep silent in the face of poverty and oppression," Hanson said.

"She sees the strength that comes when both women and men of different faiths join together in building a more just and peaceful world. When others may say there is no hope in the face of forces that divide and exploit, Leymah Gbowee gives a resounding 'yes' to the way of nonviolence and justice for all," he said. "This is a great day for women, for Liberia, for the world and for the ELCA, so blessed by Leymah Gbowee's courageous leadership and strong partnership."

Linda Post Bushkofsky, executive director for Women of the ELCA, said Gbowee's call "to be a peace-maker came when she was president of the women's group at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Monrovia. To-day that call has taken her to a Nobel Peace Prize." Women of the ELCA is the women's organization of the ELCA.

"Women of the ELCA has been privileged to walk with Leymah in this journey, first publishing her story in our magazine in 2004. She inspired so many at our Triennial Gathering this past July as a featured speaker. Her call there to move out of our comfort zone, rise up and reclaim our space will continue to inspire Lutheran women for years to come. We are so pleased for our Liberian sister," said Post Bushkofsky.

"The Nobel Peace Prize honors our sister, Leymah Gbowee, and all the courageous Liberian women who put their faith into action and their lives on the line in the prayerful, non-violent protest that helped end Liberia's brutal civil war," said the Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla, ELCA executive for Global Mission.

"These women showed the power of ordinary people who choose to stand together and say 'no' to violence and 'yes' to peace. The ELCA walked with Leymah and the Lutheran Church in Liberia, as they worked for peace in the darkest days of the Liberian civil war and for reconciliation in the years of reconstruction that have followed," he said. "It is a special joy to learn today that the Nobel Committee has recognized Leymah's amazing leadership of the women's movement that helped change the course of Liberian history and continues to build peace in West Africa."

Happenings ...

October 2011

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F.R.O.G.

Fully Rely On God

Rejoice, Saddleback and
Son & Surf Fall Cluster Event



Love gift to Sheepfold



Cute table deco's



Our President,

Andrea Campbell



Women, Women and more Women,
Gathering, learning, sharing,
Fellowship and caring



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Purpose Statement & Keep in our Prayers
Address changes / Corrections

October 2011

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PACIFICA PARTNERS provides news and information to congregational units of the Pacifica Synod. *Pacifica Partners* is published monthly except for July/August and November/December, which are combined issues. 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:

Juli Patten

84-740 Kili Dr. #1123

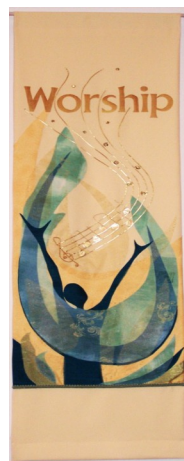
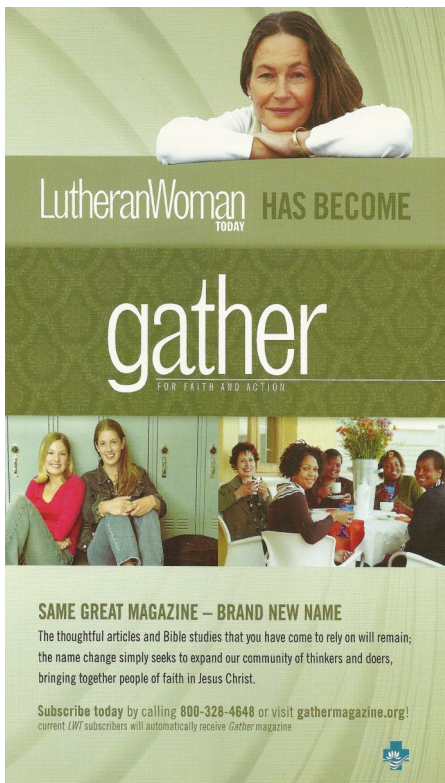
Waianae, HI 96792

Email: alohaboo@hawaii.rr.com

Just a quick reminder from the editor...

We are currently updating our contact information regarding your unit and church. Even if you have "no" changes, would you please drop me a line at: welca@verizon.net, so I can be sure all is correct in our database. I have had many returns both mail and email and just want to make sure everyone is getting all the current information.

Thank You, Karen



**Missing "Cluster" Banner for
Big Bear, Raincross, Mariposa.
Do you know where they are?
If so, please let Karen know @
welca@verizon.net!**

(will be using them at Convention in November 2011)

Purpose Statement

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*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.*



- November 4-6, 2011 **Pacifica Women of the ELCA Convention**
"God's Promise, Purpose, Prayer and Praise"
 Location: Hampton Inn, 3888 Greenwood Street, San Diego, Ca
 Flyer - *Front page of your PP*
 Registration: *Page 3 of your PP*
 Information: *Love Gifts and Silent Auction items, page 4*
- March 3, 2012 **Synodical One Day Event**
 Location: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos
 Time: 8-8:45am registration, 9am - 4pm program
 (includes continental breakfast & lunch)
- April 2012 **Rejoice, Saddleback and Son & Surf Cluster Event**
 More information to follow
- May 17-19, 2012 **Pacifica Synod Assembly**
 Locations: Irvine Marriott
 More information: www.pacificasynod.org
- October 2012 **Rejoice, Saddleback and Son & Surf Cluster Event**
 More information to follow
- November 2-4, 2012 **Pacifica Women of the ELCA Convention**
 Location: Hawaii
 More information to follow.



Find us on Facebook 



Remembering before our God and Father
 your work of Faith and Labor of Love
 and Steadfastness of Hope in our
 Lord Jesus Christ



PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA

2010-2011 Synodical Board Members

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Mentor: *Harvest Cluster*

Violet Quist
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Mentor: *Saddleback, Son & Surf Cluster*

Becky Shurson
13848 Meadow View Lane
Yucaipa, CA 92399
(909) 790-4864 hm, (909) 496-2580 cell
Email: bshurson@verizon.net
Mentor: *Raincross Cluster (as of July 2011)*

Informational Web Sites for “your” use...

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www.pacificasynod.org

Pacifica Synod

www.elca.org

This will access the national church wide office

www.womenofheelca.org

(Note: New domain name for churchwide website of the Women of the ELCA; *Café*, for free website for women 20-35 is part of this website).

www.lutheranwomantoday.org

(This website will access LWT 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.

Www.

Lutheran Maritime Ministries. Provides “special” Christmas gift to seamen. More to following November & December PP.

The deadline is..

November 5th, 2011 for Pacifica Partners

Email: 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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