



Karen Ronchetti, Editor

# Pacifica Partners

April 2011

Volume 21 Issue Number 4



*SAVE THE DATE!!!!*

*November 4-6, 2011*

*Women of the ELCA Annual Convention*

*In*

*San Diego, CA*

*Theme: God's Promise; Purpose, Prayer and Praise*

*Bible verse:*

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

*Bring your laughter, prepare to have fun  
and dust off your best Hawaiian dress!*

# Greetings from your Pacifica W-ELCA President

April 2011

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

As we have entered the season of Lent, I have continued my personal journey as I gather frequently for special worship. I seem to be paying more attention to the scriptures. What will I discover? Will I appreciate God's grace?

Pacifica Women of the ELCA are happy to announce the availability of a Scholarship in the amount of \$1000.00 to attend our Triennial Gathering this coming July in Spokane, Washington. We are able to provide this due to our Silent Auction receipts over the years. Please complete the attached application found in this newsletter (page 4) and the Scholarship Committee will begin their selection at a later date. Don't miss the deadline!

**Reminder** that Registration is still open on-line for our 8th Triennial Gathering "**Renew, Respond, Rejoice!**" in Spokane, WA, from July 14-17, 2011. Be sure to make your hotel reservations soon. At last count, 1500 Lutheran women have registered. What a wonderful, uplifting and fulfilling journey you will experience. Your Pacifica Synod Women of the ELCA already have 25 registered for the Triennial Gathering. Can we reach 15more? Please drop me a line if you are going. Registration is \$325.00 (adult). Go to: [www.womenoftheelca.org/triennial11](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/triennial11). Registration packet, information and hotel choice forms are all there for you.

On Saturday, March 26, 2011, four Pacifica Board Members and I attended the Spring Harvest Cluster event at King of Kings Lutheran Church, Oceanside and 66 ladies were in attendance. The theme, "The Lighter Side of Life" was an excellent and entertaining program with guest speaker, Richard Lederer, PhD who is a renowned author, teacher, columnist and lecturer.

I will try as your President to attend all the cluster events except when they fall on the same day.

**Free resources:** a click away! Women of the ELCA offer over 30 women's ministry resources, easy to use, hour long programs, multi-session programs and longer programs ideal for retreat settings. They are all available at [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)

Hint: If you don't go on the WEB much, ask a younger woman or girl to help, or ask someone in your church office. It's good stewardship: printing resources yourself or with help, allows your offerings to be used to create even more resources.

**Notice:** A special mailing went out this week to all or congregational units regarding our Triennial offering. Please look for this letter and offering envelope.

I offer a special prayer as these offerings are collected to support ongoing ministries of the Women of the ELCA churchwide organization (50%), Evangelical Lutheran Coalition for Mission in Appalachia (ELCMA) 25% and ELCA Outdoor Ministries (25%).

*Almighty God;  
you give seed for us to sow,  
and bread for us to eat;  
make us thankful for what we have received;  
make us rich to do those generous things  
which supply your people's needs;  
so all the world may give you thanks and glory.*

*Amen*

**Save the date:** Nov. 4-6, 2011 Pacifica Women of the ELCA annual convention, San Diego, CA. More information to come as your planning team meets and prepares for another journey.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for your Pacifica Board. Don't hesitate to contact us if you need anything.

*Blessings,  
Andrea Campbell*

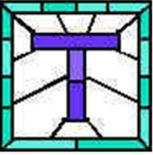


# An update from our Bishop

April 2011

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## Days of Transition-Defined by Renewal and Resurrection



here is an interesting category of hymns in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book called "Time After Epiphany." Hymns 304 through 318 are found in that section. As the ELCA Conference of Bishops meets in Itasca, Illinois these last days of Epiphany through Shrove Tuesday, it is those hymns that we are singing in our daily services of Word and Sacrament.

We Christians are in a transitional time between two extraordinary seasons of the church and its calendar. The long days of Epiphany Light and Joy are ending and the powerful drama and passion of the 40 days of Lent are about to unfold again. It is also in these days that we transition from the longer, colder nights of winter to the warmer, lengthier days of spring. Change, transition, transformation, conversion, renewal are in the air and all around us, seasonally and in the life and times of the Church.

Our Presiding Bishop was thanking the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) as he told us what happened in January while he was waiting for a plane in Los Angeles. A woman noticed his clergy shirt, collar and cross and asked "What kind of a bishop are you, Episcopalian?" Bishop Hanson said, "I'm Lutheran." And the woman literally shouted, "We love Lutherans!" Our Bishop asked, "Who is the 'we'?" She said, "I work for FEMA. We love the Lutherans, because in the face of disaster, you not only show up, but you stay until the work is done."

Then our Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson told us another story. He has just returned from a second visit to Haiti and he returned with pictures of rubble and rebuilding, of pain and problems, of hope and help, of people and promise. He spoke of the tremendous work Louis Dorvillier, Director of ELCA International Development and Disaster Response, is doing there on our behalf. Louis, formerly a member of St. Andrew's in Whittier, is leading the efforts for the ELCA and Lutheran World Federation on our behalf in his homeland. Bishop Hanson showed us pictures of rebuilding and the forward strides being made by the people there, but he also showed us how much rubble still is piled high right where it reduced great buildings to heaps of ruin on January 12, 2010. He thanked us and asked us to thank the church for its great outpouring of generosity that has allowed the ELCA to send and spend millions of dollars already and to continue this work for many more months and years to come in this devastated land. The ELCA will stay in Haiti.

Bishop Hanson told us about Renee Splichal Larson returning to the site where she and her husband, Ben, were serving and spending the J-Term of their fourth year of seminary education. They were teaching theology and living in the St. Joseph Home for Boys in Port-au-Prince. When the earthquake destroyed the building, Renee and her husband's cousin (another seminarian) somehow were able to crawl out of the wreckage, but Ben was trapped and died under the collapsing concrete rubble. Bishop Hanson told us how the Lutheran Church members in that rebuilding city came together and sang the hymn that Renee heard Ben singing as he breathed his last breaths of earthly life. At a place of death, it was a sign of resurrection.

Next Bishop Hanson told us what the Rev. Joseph Livenson Lauvanus, president of the Eglise Luthérienne d'Haiti (The Lutheran Church of Haiti), said to him. "We Haitians," said Pastor Lauvanus, "will not be defined by the rubble, but by restoration, for we are a people of the resurrection." He showed Bishop Hanson where some of the great energy and work and where some of the \$12.6 million dollars of ELCA generosity is restoring his country and bringing signs of new life and resurrection.

Bishop Hanson made reference to the last several years of our life together in the ELCA and I repeat those thoughts and words for the Pacifica Synod. We have experienced some major setbacks by the response to decisions made by this church in the past several years. We are reeling in many places from the downturn of our global, national and local economies. Faith communities everywhere are experiencing the cultural shift away from the institutional church. There certainly is some residue and rubble from all of those realities converging upon us at the same time. But here is our word of hope in the midst of it all...



the church of which we are a part "will not be defined by the rubble, but by restoration, for we are a people of the resurrection." As the Pacifica Synod has begun its work of re-visioning, re-shaping, renewal and resurrection, just as other synods and the churchwide expression are doing the same, we look with anticipation and hope to tomorrow and the days ahead. Centered in Christ, grounded in Holy Scripture, nurtured by water, bread, and wine, and sent forth and out by the very Breath of God into a world so in need of the unlimited love and compassion of Jesus, we move forward as resurrection people with hope and promise. The past is the past and now we embrace the future with the call and will of God for today and tomorrow, guiding us and giving us courage to be renewed each day.

Thank you, people of Pacifica, for being first and foremost a people of resurrection!

—Murray D. Finck, Bishop



*"...the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."  
~Revelation 21:5*

TRIENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION  
Women of the ELCA

April 2011

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**Triennial Gathering 2011  
Spokane, Washington  
July 14-17, 2011**



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.

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 April 30, 2011** to

Inga Sanders, Treasurer  
16370 Jupiter Circle  
Westminster, CA 92683  
(949) 463- 6642, E-mail: [inga.sanders@gmail.com](mailto:inga.sanders@gmail.com)

# Triennial Gathering News & Information

***Pacifica Women you are invited to join us to...***

April 2011

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## Prayer Shawl Collection

Get out your knitting needles and crochet hooks and create a prayer shawl. The shawls will be given to ministries in our host synod, the Eastern Washington–Idaho Synod. Let's see how many prayer shawls Lutheran women can amass at the gathering! "Shawls... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify." Janet Bristow, co-founder of [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com), reminds us of this.



This is a great project for individuals or women working together in congregational units. Whether you've been making shawls for awhile or just now want to start a group, you can participate. Begin your shawls with a prayer of dedication and complete them with a prayer of blessing.

These prayers and a special label to print and use are available at [www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering) or by calling 800-638-3522. Women who cannot attend the gathering in person are welcome to create prayer shawls too. Shawls can be brought to the gathering and deposited in the Exhibit Hall, Camp Dianoigo. Shawls can also be mailed to the Eastern Washington–Idaho Synod Office for arrival between June 1 and July 1, 2011.

Mail to: TG11 Prayer Shawls, Eastern Washington–Idaho Synod, 314 S. Spruce Street, Suite A, Spokane, WA 99201-5823.

*"Go with an open heart, open ears, and open mind. Be prepared to leave as a different woman, one who has grown in her faith walk and ready to share. Once you go, you're hooked!"*

Gwen Edwards, 45, Bellevue, Nebraska



Renew, Respond, Rejoice!

## Revitalize Yourself in One Transformational Weekend

Eighth Triennial Gathering • July 14-17, 2011 • Spokane, Wash.



Are you looking for a life-changing experience that will inspire you to live out your faith? Escape from the busyness of your life and renew your spirit.

Participate in workshops, exhibits, worship services, city tours and many other activities. Speakers include peacemaker Leymah Gbowee, whose interfaith efforts brought peace to civil war-torn Liberia.

**CONNECT** with Lutheran sisters from around the country. Enjoy fellowship. Seek support. Meet women like you.

**CELEBRATE** your Christian faith. Revitalize and grow in faith. Witness powerful speakers, absorb soul-stirring music and interact in enriching Bible studies. Rejoice!

**DISCOVER** your heart for service. Learn how to use your gifts and talents to nourish your community within and beyond church. Respond to your calling. Make a difference.

"The intergenerational connections made between women of faith were amazing."

—AMY SANTORIELLO, 34, ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, PITTSBURGH, PA.

"It's important for women to take time to renew themselves. I was inspired and refreshed."

—LORI BLACK, 43, ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ASHTON, ILL.

"It's fellowship with family time. I encourage mothers to invite their daughters and daughters to invite their mothers."

—SUSAN HUMPHREY, 55, JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH, TULSA, OKLA.

### Find out more!

[www.womenoftheelca.org/triennial](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/triennial)  
1-800-638-3522 ext. 2730



Women of the ELCA

## Quilt Challenge (for more information, go to [www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering](http://www.womenoftheelca.org/triennialgathering))

Make a quilt interpreting the theme, Renew, Respond, Rejoice! The challenge comes not only in interpreting the theme but also in working within certain rules. The quilt must interpret the gathering theme, Renew, Respond, Rejoice!

1. Finished size of the quilt must be 40 inches square.
2. Traditional or original patterns may be used. Credit must be given when using the pattern or design of another.
3. Quilts may be pieced or appliquéd or a combination. They may include surface embellishment techniques (e.g., dying, trapunto, stenciling, whole cloth, embroidery, batik, painting, embossing, etc.).
4. Each quilt must be quilted, not tied. Both machine quilting and hand quilting are acceptable.
5. Each quilt must have a sleeve attached to the top back for hanging. The sleeve opening must be 4 inches wide after it is attached to the quilt and must be attached in a way that it will not show when the quilt is hanging.
6. A fabric identification label must be securely sewn to a bottom back corner of the quilt (a paper label pinned to the quilt is not acceptable) with the name, address and telephone number of the entrant.
7. The challenge is open to all women who are members of ELCA congregations. The quilt must be the work of a single individual; no group or two-person quilts will be accepted. Quilt(s) must be constructed and quilted by the person named on the entry blank. The quilter need not be planning to attend the 2011 Triennial Gathering in order to participate in the quilt challenge.
8. Limit of 2 entries per person. Entry fee is \$5 which includes return shipping. Quilts may be picked up on site with proper identification at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 16, 2011, in the exhibit hall. If you are unable to pick up your quilt(s), you must notify Women of the ELCA in writing with the name of the person picking it up; that person must also show identification. Those quilts not picked up will be shipped to the entrant following the gathering.

All quilts must be received in the churchwide office by May 1, 2011, along with a completed entry form. [Download and print the entry form](#). Mail quilts to: Women of the ELCA Quilt Challenge, 8765 W Higgins Road, Chicago IL 60631.

## GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

### FEATURING DONNA EAST "A Time To Laugh"

Donna East is known as New York City's Christian Comedian and labeled by a local paper the Queen of Clean. Born and raised in a suburb of Detroit, events in East's childhood developed a sense of low self-esteem. "I found out I didn't fit in. I felt different. I felt Lonely. I felt like an outcast." (Romans 8:23) At 8 years old, she invited Jesus in her heart during a children's church service. She knew at such a young age God had a plan for her life. (Jeremiah 29:11) After moving to NYC to follow her dream of acting, East began working in comedy clubs. Then after a traumatic experience on 9-11 in New York City, Donna suffered two grand mal seizures and was diagnosed with epilepsy. (Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.") Later, when she was pregnant with her first child, the doctors asked her to terminate because of the risks of the effects of seizure medication to the baby. East explained to the doctors that she was a Christian, that God was in control and HE HIMSELF would give her wisdom, courage and the strength to care for her baby. Her baby was born perfectly healthy and A GIFT FROM GOD! Since then, her pregnancy has helped doctors to discover that women with epilepsy can have healthy babies. "There is nothing that brings me more joy than sitting in the presence of God and worshipping HIM. His touch brings so much power and healing. God has even shown me in His word that we can laugh again!" (Proverb 17:22, 15:15) Even Sarah laughed! Come and bring your friends to hear Donna's story firsthand for a night of real inspiration and fun!

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

Friday, April 29, 2011 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

You are invited to a

## Victorian Tea

Saturday, May 7

11 am - 1:30 pm



\$15.00 includes lunch

Bring your favorite tea cup. A special presentation on Victorian Clothing will be presented by Bowers Museum.

Come and enjoy a wonderful Ladies Tea with your friends.

RSVP Michelle Timothy (714)539-5202 or Susan Sauter (714) 898-4148  
Or buy tickets on the patio Sunday mornings.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
12301 S. Magnolia St. Garden Grove, CA 92841

Sonshine/West Cluster  
Spring Event  
Saturday, May 14, 2011

### "Madame Alexander First Lady Dolls"

With Avalee Smith

She will tell us "accurate stories" about our first ladies and the Presidents with her collection of Alexander Dolls in their inaugural ball gowns.

Registration: 9:15 am - \$5.00 - Breakfast/Brunch  
Each Church to bring a Breakfast Dish  
Program to follow

Love Gifts: National Stand Down for Homeless Veterans  
Suggestions are - Socks, Usable Clothes, Blankets, Towels, Wash Cloths, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Disposable razors, Toiletries for Men & Women.

Clairemont Lutheran  
4271 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego 92117

RSVP by May 9th: Joyce Boutte - 619.463.6734



Save the date!

Saturday,  
June 18, 2011

King of Kings  
Fashion Show

By Martin and CO

2993 MacDonald Street + Oceanside, CA 92054  
Telephone: 760-757-2525 (M-F, 7:30 - 4:00)

Proceeds will be given to WELCA community programs



*I am pleased to introduce our new churchwide representative...*

**Charlene Spillmann**

Executive Board Member, 2005-2008; Vice President, 2008-2011

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Charlene Spillmann was elected executive board member of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in July 2005 and vice president in July 2008. She serves on the executive committee, the constitution review committee, is chair of the executive director evaluation committee, and is the Women of the ELCA advisor to the Lutheran Men in Mission executive board. Prior to her election to the churchwide board, she served two terms as synodical board member and two terms as president of the Southwestern Texas Synodical Women's Organization. During her synodical board work, Charlene developed skits and costumes for women's events, including the annual synodical conventions. Out of the skit process, a "Bold Mama" character has evolved; she enjoys sharing humorous testimonials at women's events.

Charlene is past church council president of her home congregation, Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Maxwell, Texas. She has also served on the steering committees for the Christ Chapel Capital Campaign for campus ministry at Texas State University and the Legacy of Promise Capital Campaign for the outdoor camping ministry of the Southwestern Texas Synod. Past experience also includes serving as the Women of the ELCA representative to the Southwestern Texas Synod's Commission for Congregational Life. Since 2002, Charlene has also presented numerous Thankoffering sermons throughout the Southwestern Texas Synod.

Having been widowed in 2002, Charlene especially enjoys time with her family: three sons, Douglas (wife, Brenda), Daryl (wife, Elizabeth), and Landon. She has three grandsons, Tyler, Ryan, and Robert, and one granddaughter, Rowan.

After being employed by Southwestern Bell and AT&T for 26 years, she retired from the position of legislative assistant in the government relations office of AT&T.

She delights in serving as the churchwide representative to synodical conventions and sharing her faith story enthusiastically to further encourage women to become more involved in the work of their congregational units as well as their synodical organizations. She invites all women to be totally aware of their God-given talents and gifts, using them to the fullest to promote wholeness and healing throughout the church, the community and the world.



**Do you know where your  
"Cluster" Banner  
is ?????  
If so, please let Karen know!  
[welca@verizon.net](mailto:welca@verizon.net)**



*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](mailto: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](mailto: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

*Lord Jesus, you draw near us  
In garb of human flesh,  
An earthly form, to cheer us,  
To kindle faith afresh.  
Your body for us broken  
On the accursed tree  
Becomes a sacred token  
Of glory yet to be.*

*Reach out to us, dear Savior,  
With hands that nail prints  
show.*

*Assure us of your favor,  
And never let us go.  
O Word-made-flesh, forever  
Your name shall be adorned.  
Oh, let us cherish ever  
The hands of Christ, our*



**Information needed...**

If you have someone in your family, a friend or a church member that has military overseas, I would like their address ASAP.

My daughter and I are creating care packages for these “special” men and women.

Please send their names, address to:  
[welca@verizon.net](mailto:welca@verizon.net)

Thanks, Karen Ronchetti, SWO Vice President

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***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.*

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PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA

2010 Synodical Board Members

April 2011

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**President:** Andrea Campbell  
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Becky Shurson  
13848 Meadow View Lane  
Yucaipa, CA 92399  
(909) 790-4864 hm, (909) 496-2580 cell  
Email: [bshurson@verizon.net](mailto:bshurson@verizon.net)



## Informational Web Sites for "your" use...

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[www.pacificasynod.org](http://www.pacificasynod.org)

Pacifica Synod

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

This will access the national church wide office

[www.womenofheelca.org](http://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](http://www.lutheranwomantoday.org)

(This website will access LWT magazine directly).

[www.lwr.org](http://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](http://www.thebreastcancersite.com)

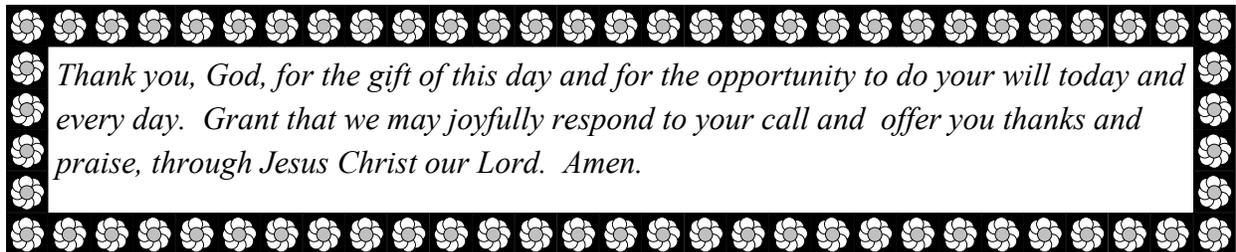
Click on this site once a day to provide free mammograms for those who otherwise would not be able to have them.

[www.cherishchildren.org](http://www.cherishchildren.org)

Information on Cherish the Children

[www.giveaminute.org](http://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.



The deadline is..

*May 5th, 2011 for Pacifica Partners*

Email: [welca@verizon.net](mailto: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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
HUNTINGTON BCH, CA  
PERMIT No. 456

**Dated Material-Please Do Not Delay**  
Return Services Requested



## *What's Inside*

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