



Pacifica Partners



Karen Ronchetti, Editor

November / December

Volume 20 Issue Number 10



Romans 12: 10-11

*"Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in Spirit,
....serve the Lord"*

*Please extend a warm welcome to the
2010-2012 SWo Board*

Executive Board



*President:
Andrea Campbell*



*Vice President:
Karen Ronchetti*



*Secretary:
Juli Patten*



*Treasurer:
Inga Sanders*

Board Members

Britta Anderson



Sue Connors



Tina Gates



Verlette Brummell



Dona Jenkins



Violet Quist



Loretta Gerken



Becky Shurson



Pacifica Women of the ELCA

Letter from our New President

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Yes, I Andrea Campbell, member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos, CA was elected President on Friday, November 5, 2010 at our 23rd Annual Gathering and 1st Bi-annual Convention. "Best Friends... devoted to God, the World and One Another".

Yes, I now have many more "Best Friends" to share my faith and ACT BOLDLY with.

Thank you all so much for the privilege to serve in this position for the next two years. I see it as a JOURNEY, a learning experience, a way to increase our spiritual needs and gifts. This journey won't happen overnight.

Your newly elected Board, Vice President Karen Ronchetti, Secretary Juli Patten, Treasurer Inga Sanders, Board Members Britta Anderson, Verlette Brummell, Sue Connor, Tina Gates, Loretta Gerken, Dona Jenkins, Becky Shurson and Violet Quist are already busy at work. Mark your calendars, Saturday, March 5, 2011 at Eden Lutheran Church in Riverside, CA for our March Event 2011 "Building...faith, hope and future". For more information, watch the upcoming Pacifica Partners newsletters.

And as a reminder that registration has opened on-line for our 8th Triennial Gathering "Renew, Respond, Rejoice!" in Spokane, Washington in July 2011. Your Pacifica Women of the ELCA elected 4 delegates along with your President to attend. Please consider escaping the business of your life and "Renew your Spirit". It is a truly rewarding experience. Early Bird registration is open now thru January 7, 2011 @ \$299.00 (adult) and after January 7, 2011 @ \$325.00 (adult). For more information you can go to: www.womenofthelca.org/triennial11 or page 7 of your Nov/Dec Pacifica Partners.

*Blessings,
Andrea*

***Start where you are in serving the Lord,
Claim His sure promise and trust in His Word;
God simply asks you to do what you can -
He'll use your efforts to further His plan. - Anon.***

Young and above—God can use you if you're willing.



Building...



Faith, Hope, Future

Enriching & Empowering

March 5, 2011

Eden Lutheran Church, Riverside, Ca

Worship - Bible Study - Feeding the Homeless

Collecting Food & Hygiene Items

Learning and Empowering Activities

Contact: Dona Jenkins

(951) 784-1188 or (951) 237-2987 cell phone

more to follow in the January Pacifica Partners

Convention News

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Convention was. . . About choices, learning, information, food, hands-on assembly, friendships (either new ones or renewing old), and fun! Coming together as a body of women in Christ and supporting one another!



Food decisions



*Convention 2010
King of Glory Lutheran Church
Fountain Valley*



*Renewing friendships and
having fun*



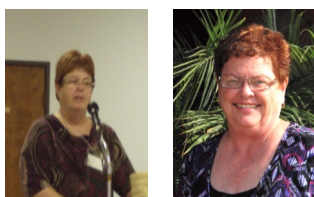
*Listening and learning with
Barbara Martyn, AiM,
Bible Study*



Business session. . . Making choices



*Listening and learning with
Diane Brauer,
Churchwide Rep.*



Triennial Gathering Promoters



*Hands-on prayer quilts,
tied for new homes,
Project: Habitat for Humanity*



Entertainment—Lee Ezell

Triennial Gathering News & Information

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

November / December 2010

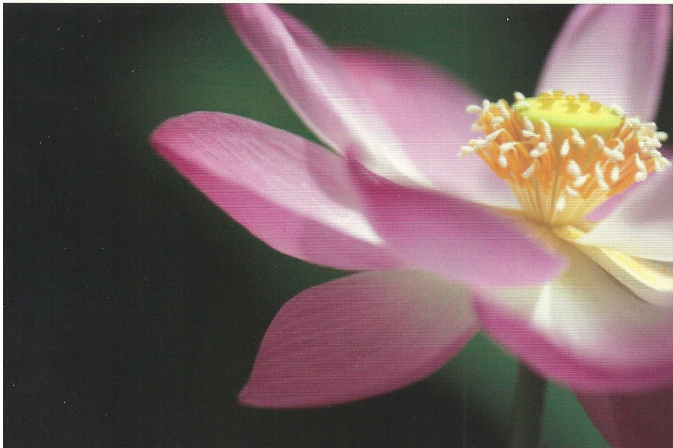
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Renew, Respond, Rejoice!

Revitalize Yourself in One Transformational Weekend

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



"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.

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.

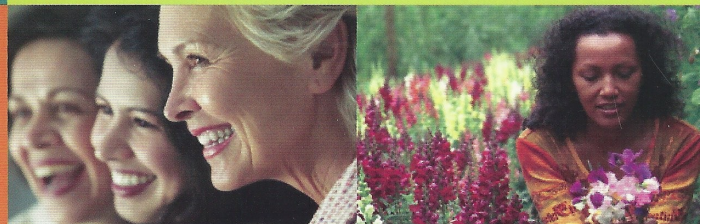
CELEBRATE your Christian faith. Revitalize and grow in faith. Witness powerful speakers, absorb soul-stirring music and interact in enriching Bible studies. Rejoice!

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.

Find out more!

www.womenoftheelca.org/triennial

1-800-638-3522 ext. 2730



Women of the **ELCA**

Around Pacifica Women of the ELCA

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WOMEN OF THE ELCA—Hope Lutheran, Palm Desert

Present:

GUIDE DOGS OF THE DESERT CHRISTMAS GATHERING and COOKIE EXCHANGE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 10:00AM TO 12:00PM

It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas...at least our desert kind of Christmas! You don't have to trudge through the snow to join the women of Hope for an inspiring presentation from Guide Dogs of the Desert and our annual Christmas Cookie Exchange. We will also be revealing our 2010 Prayer Partners and drawing names for 2011. Just bring a card to reveal to your Prayer Partner. Our own Barbara Norman, who brings her "guide dogs in training" Dolce and Patrick to worship for socializing, and representatives from the organization will be there. They will share their remarkable stories of independence and present demonstrations with their service dogs. Our Table Offering at the Gathering will be donated to Guide Dogs of the Desert. For the cookie exchange, dust off that old family recipe, if you have time. Not a baker? Slice and bake or bakery cookies are OK too. We just request no packaged cookies. We will enjoy some of the cookies you bring with coffee and cider as our refreshments and exchange the rest in ½ dozen baggies. Sign up to attend and pick up the Cookie Exchange instructions at the WELCA Corner in the information centre. We appreciate your help with food set up and clean up. Participation in the cookie exchange is *not required* to come to the gathering. Remember your Prayer Partner!!

For further information, please contact Tina Gates (760) 346-1273
Church address: Hope Lutheran Church, 45900 Portola Ave, Palm Desert

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

FEATURING DEBORAH SMALLEY "Ten Things I Know For Sure"

No one would deny the fact that there's plenty we don't know. This complements the long-held belief that we only use approximately 10% of our brain function. Even so, there's a vast amount we do know for sure. What we know and believe flavors all our days and in large part provides the impetus of our convictions, decisions, emotions and behavior. Turning our attention to what we know for sure helps bring definition to our lives as well as increase our level of gratitude. Fan-favorite Deborah Smalley returns to share some of her "10%" with us. Count on hearing practical, applicable, biblical material that goes down easy and in her typical entertaining style. She was the inaugural speaker for Girls' Night Out and has supported and participated in this event since its inception. Feel comfortable inviting family and friends to come with you to enjoy an evening that promises to be a good blend of silly and substance! If you have never heard Debbie speak, you are missing something fabulous, fun, and truly inspirational!

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

Friday, January 28, 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

Did you know.....The International Seafarer's Center started in 1982 in a bus reaching out to Merchant Seafarers, much in the same way as the USO did to the military during the world wars.

Now, they are a non-profit organization with a 13 member board of directors, located on South Pico Ave. in the center of the Port of Long Beach. The center has a large common room complete with a ping pong table, pool table, separate T.V. and reading room, computer and telephone room, chapel and small store.

This center serves seafarers from Noon-10 p.m. six days a week and is run by two women and many volunteers. They have four vans that pick the merchant seamen up from the ships and bring them to the center (at no charge to them) and take them shopping at Wal-Mart if they desire. At the center they can enjoy complimentary refreshments and browse through the "back room" where they can take a jacket, pants, shoes and anything else they need, also at no charge.

Now I want you to close your eyes and think of yourself back home. Practically everything you picture in your mind's eye (furniture, knickknacks on shelves, food, and clothing) came to us by these huge ships. At any given time there are 60-80 ships in port. Long Beach is the largest port in the U.S, the third largest in the world. A crew of only 21-24 men and sometimes women runs these ships. They are paid below poverty level salary. The top pay is around \$800.00 a month for a 12 hour, often dangerous, day.

The seafarers come from all countries around the world; places you have heard of like Russia, Bulgaria, China, and Indonesia and places you haven't heard of like Tuvalu and Kiribati located in the South Seas. These people are away from their families for up to ten months at a time. But to them it is a way to support their family (which may include parents, grandparents as well as their wives and children). Often there is no work available in their homeland and they are forced to work long hard hours on these freighters.

So where does the Lutheran Maritime Ministry come in, you ask? Well at the 2000 Pacifica W.E.L.C.A Convention, Chaplain Virginia Sharma spoke to the women about the International Seafarer's Center and explained that the Lutheran Ministry reaches out to seafarers of all nations and cultures with Christian Witness and Word, meeting personal needs and encouraging spiritual growth. This is where your donations come in. At Christmas time over 2,000 gift bags are assembled and distributed to the seafarers.

The Lutherans are the main providers of the items that make up these "gift bags."

Susan Schneider and I spent an evening last year putting the bags together and had the opportunity to meet some of these amazing people. These are the only gifts they will receive at Christmas. Let me know if you want to help, at the center, this December.

Imagine yourself in a strange country where no one speaks your language, you are away from your loved ones and you can't even communicate that you need toothpaste. In a small but important way the International Seafarer's Center in conjunction with the Lutheran Maritime Ministry (of which we are all a part) can bring some joy to these deserving men and women.

Thank you for all of your contributions. (See below)

Christina Watson, Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Volunteer, International Seafarer's Center

Seafarer's *Christmas* "Shoe Box" Gift

Recommended gift items in each box:

Shampoo (full size)/Toothpaste (full size) * Tooth brush in package * Disposable razors
White men's socks (does not have to be tube style) * Wrapped hard candy
Wrapped chocolate candy, any size * Top Ramen (flat package) * Pens, any kind
Nail clippers/nail files/emery boards

If you cannot make up a whole box, any contributions will be appreciated. For pick up or drop off information call Christina Watson at (562) 431-1112 or you can contact the center directly at (562) 432-7560.
Address: 120 South Pico Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802-6247.

ELCA Malaria Campaign Kicks Off

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Sometimes, in the midst of work, holiday preparations and news reports about the latest natural disaster or scandal, we can all use a reminder that there are wonderful, amazing things in this world. The ELCA and Pacifica Synod are involved in one. It's called the ELCA Malaria Campaign.

Malaria is rare in the United States, but in other parts of the world, including places where our companion churches are located, it kills about 800,000 people a year. According to the Centers for Disease Control, it is the leading cause of death for children under five in Africa. It kills people in some of the poorest parts of the world, people already fighting malnutrition and AIDS. And malaria is treatable and preventable; we know what causes it, how to prevent it, and how to treat people infected with it.

Jesus told us that whatever we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for him. The time has come for us to do something about malaria, and the ELCA is doing just that. Through the ELCA Malaria Campaign, and in coordination with our companion churches in Africa, the ELCA is working to control malaria deaths by 2015, and the Pacifica Synod is one of the pilot synods leading the way.

Here is how the Campaign works. Because each of our companion churches has its own unique set of circumstances, each church will submit a long term plan for how they will use the money to fight Malaria. We have already received some of the plans.

Part of the money will go to spraying and to distributing insecticide-treated nets and teach people how to use them. You see, a parasite causes malaria. Mosquitoes carry the parasite. When the infected mosquitoes bite someone, usually while they are sleeping, the parasite infects them, giving them malaria. Bed nets stop the mosquitoes, protecting people, especially children, from malaria. A bed net to protect a child costs just \$10, but many families in Africa live on less than that per month, so distributing bed nets will be an important first step.

Part of the money is likely to go to education, to teach people what causes malaria and how to avoid it. For example, because mosquitoes carry the disease, and mosquitoes breed in standing water, getting rid of standing water reduces the number of mosquitoes, which reduces the amount of malaria.

Long-term goals including things like creating a medical infrastructure where one does not already exist. Where our companion churches need them, money will go to building clinics and training first responders. This is where the project starts to get very interesting, because building a medical infrastructure has ripple effect: clinics and first responders can treat other conditions besides malaria, increasing project's benefits.

Another long term goal with ripple effects is to help our companion churches build the capacity to access other funds. Organizations exist that have funds available, but to get access to those funds our companion churches need to know how to write a grant request, put together and run a program, and monitor finances and program goals, and be able to show they can do all these things. As our companion churches build this capacity, they will gain access to additional sources of funding that they can use to improve their communities.

Evangelism works on the other end, too. When you reflect Christ's love, it reaches more than just the people on the receiving end; it changes attitudes all around you. The image of Christianity in this country has suffered in the media in the last several years. Projects like the ELCA Malaria Campaign do more than just tell people what we believe, they demonstrate it through our actions. And people here will respond. Some of them will want to know what kind of people would do such things, and why, and some of them will want to be apart of it.

All of which brings us back to the Pacifica Synod. The campaign is starting, and we are among the first synods to participate. The work we do will save lives, reduce suffering, control a disease that has been with us since before recorded history, build medical infrastructures and the capacity to reach additional funds, and reflect Christ's love in the world. And when we have done our part, we will pass the lessons we learn along to other synods.

The ELCA Malaria Campaign is starting now. Come, join us! *God's work. Our hands.*



12 Days of Christmas

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Actually the 12 Days of Christmas was developed as a teaching song. From 1558 to 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not able to practice their faith openly so they had to find other ways to pass on their beliefs. The song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is one example of how they did it. "The 12 Days of Christmas" is in a sense an allegory. Each of the items in the song represents something of religious significance. The hidden meaning of each gift was designed to help young Christians learn their faith.

The song goes, "On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me..." The "true love" represents God and the "me" represents the Christians.

The "partridge in a pear tree" is Jesus Christ who died on a tree or cross as a gift from God for the whole world.

The "two turtle doves" are the Old and New Testaments.

The "three French hens" are faith, hope and love - the three gifts of the Spirit that abide (1 Corinthians 13).

The "four calling birds" are the four Gospels which sing the song of salvation through Jesus Christ.

The "five golden rings" are the first five books of the Bible also called the "Books of Moses" or the Pentateuch.

The "six geese a-laying" are the six days of creation.

The "seven swans a swimming" are the "seven gifts of the Holy Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:8-11, Romans 12 and Ephesians 4)

The "eight maids of milking" are the eight beatitudes.

The "nine ladies dancing" are nine fruits of the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23)

The "ten lords a-leaping" are the Ten Commandments.

The "eleven pipers piping" are the eleven faithful Disciples.

And the "twelve drummers drumming" are the twelve points of the Apostles' Creed.

Thank you, God, for the gift of this day and for the opportunity to do your will today and every day. Grant that we may joyfully respond to your call and offer you thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Purpose Statement

&

Address changes / Corrections / Recognitions

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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



Thank you, Eunice!



November 11, 2010- *With deep appreciation and gratitude, the Pacifica Synod gives thanks for the leadership and dedication of Ms. Eunice Hanson who has served faithfully and capably over the past five years as the president of the Pacifica Women of the ELCA (W-ELCA). Over the years Eunice served in that capacity as a woman long connected with the Women of the ELCA and with this synodical women's organization. In the past she has held many offices and has been a very present person in WELCA gatherings, board meetings and conventions. As a member of First Lutheran Church, Vista, she has been connected on the congregational, synodical, and the churchwide levels. Not only was Eunice Hanson extremely involved with W-ELCA but she also faithfully attended the Pacifica Synod council meetings, offering her insight and her voice, giving report of the actions and activities, of the upcoming events of the W-ELCA and keeping the synod always informed of the ministry of the Pacifica Synod chapter. We have appreciated her presence at synod assemblies and other gatherings, always holding before us the partnership we have enjoyed with the Women of the ELCA in the Pacifica Synod. We know that our paths will cross often with Eunice as she continues serving in the days ahead as one who loves our Lord, his church, the ELCA and the Pacifica Synod. Again, we offer our deepest gratitude for Eunice Hanson, a faithful servant and committed child of God.*

Taken from The Pacific Light, November 11, 2010

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.*

Calendar of Events

November / December 2010

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- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| December 3, 2010 | Advent Night - Adult & children craft, music, fellowship
Location: King of Glory Lutheran Church
Time: 7pm |
| December 4, 2010 | “Guide Dogs of the Desert”
Location: Hope Lutheran, Palm Desert
More Info: see page 6 (Nov/Dec PP) or call Tina Gates (760) 346-1273 |
| January 28, 2011 | Girls’ Night Out
Location: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Irvine
Time: 7:15pm Cost: \$10.00 at the door |
| February 5, 2011 | Rejoice, Saddleback and Son & Surf President’s Planning Meeting
Location: Redeemer Lutheran, Seal Beach
Time: 9am |
| March 5th, 2011 | Empowering Women / Synodical March One Day Event
Location: Eden Lutheran, Riverside
Time: 8am to 8:45am registration, 9am to 4pm program (see page 6) |
| March 26, 2011 | Harvest Spring Cluster Event, Theme “The Lighter Side of Life”
Speaker: Richard Lederer, author
Location: King of Kings Lutheran Church, Oceanside
Time: 9am—1pm (includes lunch)
Contact: Joan Bassett at: joanbassett24@cox.net |
| April 9, 2011 | Rejoice, Saddleback and Son & Surf Spring Cluster Event
Location: King of Glory Lutheran, Fountain Valley
Time: TBA |
| May 19-21, 2011 | Synod Assembly
Location: Marriott/Irvine
More information to follow |
| July 9, 2011 | Rejoice, Saddleback and Son & Surf President’s Planning Meeting
Location: Newport Harbor Lutheran
Time: 9am |
| July 14 - 17, 2011 | Women of the ELCA 11th Triennial Gathering
Location: Spokane, WA
See page 7 for more information |
| October 1, 2011 | Rejoice, Saddleback and Son & Surf Fall Cluster Event
Location & Time: TBA |



PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA

2010-2012 Synodical Board Members / Mentor List

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President: Andrea Campbell
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Mentor: Mariposa Conference

Loretta Gerken
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Email: none at present
Mentor: Harvest Conference

Dona Jenkins
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Mentor: Raincross Conference

Violet Quist
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Mentor: Saddleback, Son & Surf Conferences

Becky Shurson
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Email: bshurson@verizon.net
Mentor: West San Diego Conference

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.womenoftheelca.org

(Note: New domain name for churchwide website of the Women of the ELCA; *Caf  *, 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



The deadline is..

January 3rd, 2011 for Pacifica Partners

Email: welca@verizon.net

Please send updates regarding activities at your unit, cluster and/or any articles that you would like to share. “ALL” are welcome!

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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