



PACIFICA PARTNERS

Pacifica Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Helen Riggs, Editor

SEPTEMBER

Volume 19, Number 7

Pastor Judi Miller to give Wrap-Up Bible Study on November 7th

Pastor Judi Miller is one of the pastors of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fullerton, CA. having arrived from Texas to begin her ministry there in March of 2003. Natives of Ohio, this was her and husband Jim's third move to California! Pastor Judi graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a Bachelor's degree in History and an elementary teaching certificate. After many years of lay involvement and professional work in congregational youth ministry, Pastor Judi studied at Perkins School of Theology at SMU in Dallas, Texas and Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio from which she received her Master of Divinity degree in 1991. Following a year-long residency in Clinical Pastoral Education at Methodist Hospitals of Dallas, Pastor Judi accepted a call to St. Paul Lutheran Church in New Braunfels, TX and was ordained in December of 1992. Her only child Josh and his wife Rachel have made Pastor Judi the proud "Gamma" to Cameron (6) and Olivia (4) who live in Houston, TX.



"Bad Girls of the Bible" is an interactive study and "look" at several women of the Scriptures based on the book (and terribly interesting!) and Bible Study series written by Liz Curtiss Higgs. In this hour we'll take the time to explore what the Bible's "bad girls" have to say to us; and how their stories can give our hearts and hands help and hope for our busy lives today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 19th—Bible Study in the OC at Our Savior's Lutheran church

October 3rd—Big Bear, Mariposa & Raincross clusters gathering at Eden Lutheran, Riverside 8:30—5:00 pm
Women caring for God's gift of life...Emotional—Spiritual—Physical Cost \$10 call Dona Jenkins 951-784-1188

October 10th—Sun & Surf, Saddleback & Rejoice clusters gathering at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Santa Ana, Guest speaker—Lynne Prechel, AIM \$6.00 Registration begins at 8:30. Call Diana Young 714-534-6993.

October 17th—Sonshine/West cluster event at St. Marks, Chula Vista Building Partnership. Guest speakers Penny Hovick & Sheri Bengston. Registration starts at 9:30 am cost \$6.00. Call Joyce Boutte 619-463-6734

November 7th Fall Gathering, see information elsewhere in this edition.

November 15th Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Anaheim will host a retreat "In Her Word's Women's Retreat" from 9:00 am to 2 pm. Cost is \$10. For more information call 714-772-2772



* **Monday Prayer at Noon** is a weekly opportunity to join in prayer with women throughout the United States, the Caribbean, and Canada. Check www.womenoftheelca.org for specific weekly prayer concerns.

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:

Becky Shurson
 13848 Meadow View Lane
 Yucaipa, CA 92399

Deadline for news is the **first** of the month prior to the month of publication.

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.



Pastors:

We are excited to announce our chaplain and our Bible study leader for our November event. Pastor Lara Janssen from Rialto will be our chaplain and lead our worship service. There is a picture of her elsewhere in this newsletter with a short bio. I have a connection to her as she grew up just a few miles from the town in South Dakota from where we moved when we came to CA. We are delighted she accepted our invitation!!

Our Bible study leader will be Pastor Judi Miller from Fullerton. She is the one who you've met in connection with *Cherish Our Children*. But I'm told she gives a wonderful study on "Bad Women of the Bible". As she states in this newsletter, it will be very interactive and she will help us wrap up our theme of "Hearts, Hands, & Hope" before we head to the banquet.

Pastor Heidi Hester will be with us for the morning. Bishop Finck cannot be with us though he really enjoys coming to our events. Pastor Heidi was with us in March and will represent our Bishop in November.

Remember Pastor Karla Halvorson from last year's convention? We congratulate her on her new baby girl and she is hoping to be at our event as well. She, along with board member, Sheri Berglund, will be working with the young teen women. They won't be separate from the rest of us "older" women but we want to ensure they can put their stamp and style on the day as well. Eisha Bohman who led them last year cannot be with us but has given us some good ideas and direction. So really work to encourage and personally invite young middle school and high school girls to come. Remember scholarships are available.

Scholarships:

Our application for a scholarship is again in this issue. We have extended the deadline to **October 10th** but the form does not indicate this. Since it is a one day event and the registration form does not have a deadline, we thought it appropriate to delay the scholarship application deadline. You can't wait until the very last minute however as a team does have to meet and make decisions and then inform the recipients.

Silent Auction:

Just a reminder that we will gladly accept donations for the silent auction. Some units think that must be a basket. That is

not true – many other ideas are also acceptable. Baskets relating to our theme have been a hit in the past so of course won't be turned away!

First Lutheran:

First Lutheran in Redlands has a Fireside room that has a couple of sofas. So if you felt the day would get too long and you really need a few minutes to rest and put your feet up, there will be a space for that. We are working to not give you any excuse not to come!

Children's Program:

Make sure you re-read Inga's last month's article on the program for young children. Again encourage and invite young mothers to come and bring their children.

Love Gifts:

The list of ideas for Love Gifts was in the June Pacifica Partners. It can still be found at www.pacificawomen.org. Gift cards are especially needed – and easy to give.

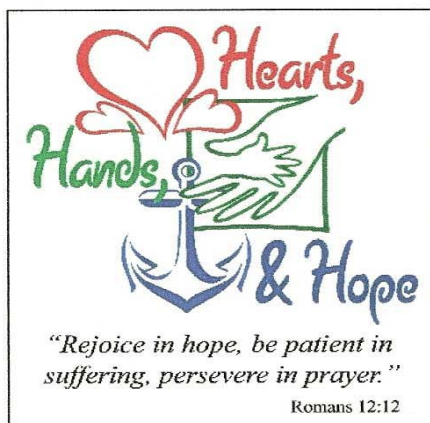
Other Questions:

You are welcome to call or email me with concerns or questions.

I have received the first registration form – so now let them pour in as this is really a day you won't want to miss!!

Acting Boldly in Christ!

Eunice



Women ^{of the} ELCA 
Pacifica Synod

Fall Gathering

Saturday, November 7, 2009

8:00am ~ 7:00pm

Registration 8:00 ~ 9:00

Ronald McDonald House
Servant Event

First Lutheran Church
1207 W. Cypress Ave.
Redlands, CA
Worship & Home Base

Edward's Mansion
Banquet

COST:

Adults (over 10) ~ \$60.00

Bring a Guest (two for) ~ \$100.00

3-10 Year Olds ~ \$25.00

Includes: Continental Breakfast, Lunch, & Banquet

Activities at First Lutheran

Worship

Box Lunch

Blanket Tie

Children's Program

Silent Auction

Bible Study

Activities at Ronald McDonald House

Tours

Baked Potato Buffet for Residents

Games with the Children

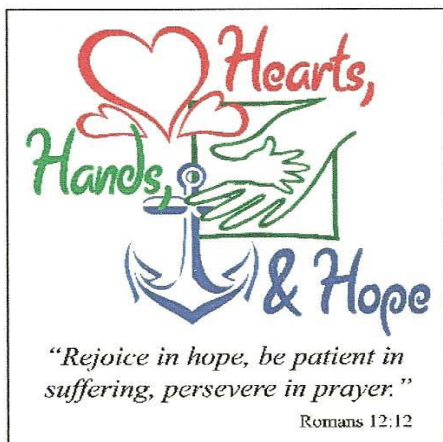
Face Painting & Balloon Animals

Prayer Walk

Love Gifts

Questions? Contact:
Eunice Hanson
eunicehanson@cos.net
(760) 945-9716 home
(760) 717-2646 cell

Scholarships Available ~ Deadline September 1, 2009
Andrea Campbell ~ 6555 Jaluit St. ~ Cypress, CA 90630
(714) 891-2556 home ~ (714) 396-3342 cell
(714) 893-2744 home fax ~ (562) 493-1901 work
E-Mail: campbell6555@earthlink.net



Women ^{of the} ELCA 
Pacifica Synod

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

FALL GATHERING

First Lutheran Church
Redlands, CA

November 7, 2009

*All scholarships include full registration for the day.
Transportation will be excluded*

Return by September 1, 2009 to:
Andrea Campbell ~ 6555 Jaluit St. ~ Cypress, CA 90630
(714) 891-2556 home ~ (714) 396-3342 cell
(714) 893-2744 home fax ~ (562) 493-1901 work
E-Mail: campbell6555@earthlink.net

☐ **SWO WHAT? SCHOLARSHIP**

I am 13-35 years of age, a first time gathering attendee, and an active member of an ELCA congregation.

☐ **OHANA SCHOLARSHIP**

I am 18 years of age or above, an active member of an ELCA congregation, and a first time scholarship applicant.

☐ **MAHALO SCHOLARSHIP**

I am 36 years of age or above, an active member of an ELCA congregation, and first time scholarship applicant.

Age Group ☐ 13-25 ☐ 26-35 ☐ 36-45 ☐ 46-45 ☐ 56-75 ☐ 76-90

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Church: _____ Located in: _____

Help us get to know you:

Is this the first time attending a Gathering? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If not, when was the last time you attended? _____

What is your involvement in your unit?

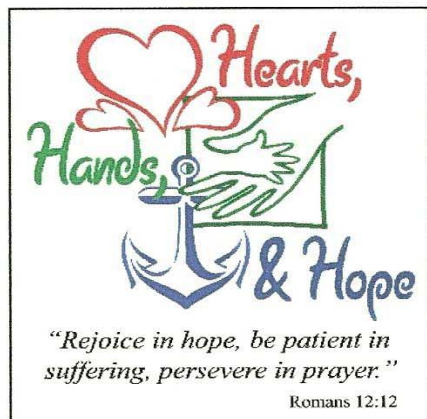
What is your involvement in your cluster?

Why do you wish to receive a Scholarship?

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

Other comments: -

This information will be kept confidential.



Please make check payable to:
PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Mail to:

EUNICE HANSON

3627 Cerro Ave.

Oceanside, CA 92056

Contact:

eunicehanson@cox.net

(760) 945-9716 home

(760) 717-2646 cell

Women ^{of the} ELCA 
Pacifica Synod

REGISTRATION FORM FALL GATHERING

November 7, 2009

8:00am ~ 7:00pm

FIRST LUTHERAN, REDLANDS

Worship & Home Base

RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

Servant Event

EDWARDS MANSION

Banquet

Adults (over 10) \$60 ☐

Bring a Guest (two for) \$100 ☐

3-10 Year Olds \$25 ☐

Includes:

Continental Breakfast, Lunch, & Banquet

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Church: _____ Located in: _____

Names: 3-10 Year Olds _____

Names: Pre-teens/Teens _____

Names: Adult Guest _____

Websites to Check Out

'www.pacificasynod.org' (Pacifica Synod)

'www.elca.org' (This will access the national churchwide office)

'www.womenoftheelca.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 the LWT magazine directly.)

'www.lwr.org' (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 Lutheran World Relief?)

'www.hisrosesandthorns.com' (a Christian website of Wanda Scott Bledsor and Janet Sannipoli)

'www.thebreastcancersite.com' (Click on this site once a day to provide free mamograms for those who otherwise would not be able to have them.)

'www.creative-memories.com/suzanne_kusik' (Your Memory Album and Business Coach—Suzanne Kusik—Creative Memories Consultant, 714-968-4808)

'www.giveaminute.org' (Click on this site once a day and the sponsors will contribute funds for a minute of care for the needy Indian children of the Tarahumara Children's Hospital in Creel, Mexico. The 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 the sponsors will give a cup of grain for a daily click.)

'www.bread.org' (Bread for the World for information.)

'www.cherishchildren.org' (information on Cherish the Children)

If you know of a website that would be of interest to others feel free to let me know inclusion in this area.

E-mail to **helen.riggs1@verizon.net**

The Deadline is.....

October 1, 2009 *Pacifica Partners 2008*

PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA 2009 Synodical Board Members

President Eunice Hanson
3627 Cerro Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92056
760-945-9716, e-mail: **eunicehanson@cox.net**

Vice President Juli Patten
84-740 Kili Dr. #1123, Waianae, HI 96792
808-696-4980 e-mail: **alohaboo@hawaii.rr.com**

Secretary Becky Shurson
13848 Meadow View Lane, Yucaipa, CA 92399
909-790-4864, e-mail **bshurson@verizon.net**

Treasurer Andrea Campbell
6555 Jaluit Street, Cypress, CA 90630
714-891-2556, e-mail: **campbell6555@earthlink.net**

Board Members

Viola Angebrandt
1380 W. 48th Street, Unit 36
San Bernardino, CA 92407 909-887-0799
e-mail: **idiotic_puppy@earthlink.net**

Sheri Berglund
807 Earth Dr., Vista, CA 92083 760-630-3891
email: **sherileab@yahoo.com**

Sue Bodenschatz
2306 W. Hemlock, Santa Ana, CA 92704
714-754-6925 e-mail: **mamaschatz_99@yahoo.com**

Dona Jenkins
2170 Hackamore Pl, Riverside, CA 92506
951-784-1188
email: **dona.jenkins@pacificawomen.org**

Sherri Kreissig
22833 Kuka Circle, Wildomar, CA 92595
951 667-0532
email: **sherribabygirl@msn.com**

Therese Moore
15401 Don Roberto Rd., Victorville, CA 92394
760-955-5517, e-mail: **pacificawoman@earthlink.net**

Karen Ronchetti
8305 Magic Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92646
714-654-8919 e-mail: **jhbower@verizon.net**

Inga Sanders
16370 Jupiter Circle, Westminster, CA 92683
949-463-6642, e-mail: **inga.sanders@tristargroup.net**

A Devotional Study

BY Laura Hunt
Board Representative, Central Conference

Could Have...Should Have...Didn't... WHO'S THE BIGGEST LOSER?

When I saw the advertisement for the TV show, "Who's the Biggest Loser," it made me think of all the things I should have done or should be doing, but didn't. Many times I find it too easy to stay home...then it's too late. Who's the biggest loser?

It's cold, windy and snowy or rainy, maybe I'll just stay home from church this morning. They won't miss me.

What a long day, the weather really wasn't all that bad. I could have gone to church. I wonder what the choir sang this morning. I missed Pastor's good sermon. Who's the biggest loser?

I'm so tired tonight, I don't think I'll go to the W-ELCA (or circle) meeting. I'll just relax and watch TV....

Sure wasn't anything good on TV. I miss my circle family, and "Ann" always does the best Bible study. I can read my *Lutheran Woman Today*, but it isn't the same as being there. Bet they had a good lunch too. Who's the biggest loser?

I hear "Mrs. X" is battling cancer. She is such a sweet lady, I should fix a casserole and visit her. I'll do it next week. I'm really busy this week...She's gone now, I put it off too long. Who's the biggest loser?

It's quilt day—should I go? Maybe next time. I think I'll just read my book. Anyway, I do have a headache....Sure was a long day and I would have enjoyed visiting with my friends. Who's the biggest loser?

"And so, dear brothers, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living sacrifice, holy—the kind he can accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with a fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you. As God's messenger I give each of you God's warning: Be honest in your estimate of yourselves, measuring your value by how much faith God has given you. Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have a different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each needs all the others." Romans 12:1-5 (The Living Bible)

Lord, why do we let these opportunities slip by? We have so much, yet we are so blind, deaf and lazy. Lord, give me strength and courage, help me not to be the biggest loser. Amen.

[Andrea Campbell wanted to share this devotional that was in the Nebraska SWO newsletter. Nebraska is our sister synod and Laura Hunt is Andrea's Flat Angel prayer partner. They keep in touch 100%, share thoughts, pray for one another, keep their Angels in sight and met in Salt Lake City at the Triennial Gathering. It has been a joy and I wanted to share her article.]

Special Request

As editor of this newsletter I have a request to make. I won't be attending the November Gathering (had a cruise booked before I knew the date) and for those of us who won't be there, it would be helpful to have articles written on what took place, reflections of the day and any other highlights you might think the women would enjoy reading. Photographs will also be appreciated. You can send these to: helen.riggs1@verizon.net or send hard copies to me at 5446 Trevino Way, Banning, CA. THANK YOU!!

Once again I like to request that when you move, please let us know so we don't have to pay the expense of having your newsletters returned. If you don't wish to continue receiving the Pacifica Partners, you can let us know that as well. It's just a small request to help keep expenses down.

Also, if you have an email address it would be great to have it so we don't have to mail a hard copy, this too keep expenses down. So if you wish to receive your copy via email let me know at the above email address. We all need to be good stewards and we have done rather well and I wish to keep it going. When I took over this job in 2006 I was mailing out 610 copies. We are now under 300. Praise God!!

'Never borrow from the future. If you worry about what may happen tomorrow and it doesn't happen, you have worried in vain. Even if it does happen, you have to worry twice.'

1. Pray
2. Go to bed on time.
3. Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed.
- 4.. Say No to projects that won't fit into your time schedule, or that will compromise your mental health.
5. Delegate tasks to capable others.
6. Simplify and unclutter your life.
7. Less is more. (Although one is often not enough, two are often too many.)
8. Allow extra time to do things and to get to places.
9. Pace yourself. Spread out big changes and difficult projects over time; don't lump the hard things all together.
10. Take one day at a time.
11. Separate worries from concerns . If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you do and let go of the anxiety .. If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it.
12. Live within your budget; don't use credit cards for ordinary purchases.
13. Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc.
14. K.M.S. (Keep Mouth Shut).. This single piece of advice can prevent an enormous amount of trouble.
15. Do something for the Kid in You everyday.
16. Carry a book of scriptures with you to read while waiting in line.
17. Get enough rest.
18. Eat right.
- 19 Get organized so everything has its place.
20. Listen to a tape while driving that can help improve your quality of life.
21. Write down thoughts and inspirations.
22. Every day, find time to be alone.
23. Having problems? Talk to God on the spot. Try to nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to try and pray.
24. Make friends with Godly people.
25. Keep a folder of favorite scriptures on hand.
26. Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is often a good 'Thank you Lord
27. Laugh.
28. Laugh some more!
29. Take your work seriously, but not yourself at all.
30. Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the best they can).
31. Be kind to unkind people (they probably need it the most).
32. Sit on your ego.
- 33 Talk less; listen more.
34. Slow down..
35. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.
- 36 Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before. GOD HAS A WAY OF TURNING THINGS AROUND FOR YOU.

'If God is for us, who can be against us?'

November Event Chaplain



Meet Pastor Lara Janssen who grew Up in Volga, South Dakota. She attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN and then decided she had had enough of cold weather so she moved to California. She worked at a recovery group home for teens in Morgan Hill, CA for a year before she started seminary PLTS in Berkeley. Pastor Lara did her seminary internship at Iglesia Luterana del Buen Pastor in Mexico City. She graduated from PLTS in May of 2008 and was ordained in October 2008 and moved here to Southern California to join in the ministry of Lutheran Church of the Cross in Rialto in November 2008.

Pastor Lara loves the warmth of the Southern California sun and frequently spends her days off basking in the sun at any one of the numerous beaches. Welcome her to Pacifica when you see her in November!!



Message from your Pacifica WELCA Treasurer, Andrea Campbell

In September look for your 2009 – 2010 Stewardship Planning Guide Packet arriving in the mail.

This packet will give all you Pacifica Treasurers, also Presidents and Board Members added tools to connect to one another in our community of faith. Our annual budget is supported thru our Unit Offerings. Be honest, have you read this packet in full? I have. It works. Please remember, none of our programs can continue without everyone's support this coming year.

If you need more Form A or B please contact me and I will mail you these transmittal forms or they can be printed off the WELCA web site.

Blessings to you, and remember to ACT BOLDLY.



WHAT'S INSIDE

Pastor Judi Miller	Page 1
Calendar of Events	Page 2
President's Message	Page 3
Fall Gathering	Page 4
Scholarship Application	Page 5—6
Registration Form	Page 7
Directory	Page 8
Devotional Study	Page 9
Message from Treasurer Meet Pastor Lara	Page 10

Dated Material—Please Do Not Delay
Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Banning, CA
PERMIT No. 30

Pacifica Synodical Women's Organization of the
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
5446 Trevino Way
Banning, CA 92220-6459