

September 2020 -- Volume 30, Issue 5

From the President's Desk



It is now official – we have cancelled our Convention and Gathering scheduled for November 6-7. We will meet again November 5-6, 2021. Back in March when COVID-19 became a pandemic, November seemed such a long way off and surely things would change by then. As you all know, it has been a roller coaster ride! San Diego area has been getting better and maybe in November we would be allowed to meet in larger groups, yet it is too uncertain and we have too many women that likely will not feel comfortable, even if technically it is allowed.

Our board considered postponing until March 2021, rather than “cancelling.” In the end we decided it is still best to cancel until November 2021. Which means that all board members will carry over one more year. A term ending in 2020 will now end in 2021 and a term that was to end in 2021 will now end in 2022. That way we will stay on track for staggered terms.

We do have exciting news to share!! We are planning to hold a Zoom event called “Celebrating Women” on November 7th in place of our cancelled event. Our speaker, Pastor Jean Bozeman, is eager and excited to participate in a Zoom event. Pastor Patrice has been speaking and working with her for several months and we don’t want to miss out!

At this point we are thinking the event will begin at 1 pm Pacific Time. Not sure how long yet, perhaps two – three hours. Pastor Jean won’t be the only active participant. And we are hoping to include music – if you have an idea for a music video which you could send, please let us know.

The link to the event will be sent by email from our website. We plan to research/check on best possible way/s to use technology. By November, we perhaps can meet in small groups. So someone with a computer and ability to use Zoom may invite a few others from same congregation or circle or Bible Study group and participate in the event together. One idea is to unmute such a group one at a time and have each introduce which church you are from.

If this event goes well, the idea is to do another in perhaps January. Then we’ll see by March whether that will also be via Zoom or if we can gather in person once again.

In this issue is an article from Keala, our VP. We would like to find out more about what ministries women in our synod are doing. You may or may not identify as Women of the ELCA, but most likely women in most congregations are still doing ministry. Individuals may email through our website and those are forwarded to me and will be shared with our board. Another way we are hoping to get information is each board member has been assigned to a Cluster/Conference and will be trying to communicate with someone in each congregation. With offices closed right now, phones are not always answered. Below is the list of the assignments. If you would like to call the board member for your cluster/conference, please do so!

Harvest Conference, Karen Lloyd, 717-440-5386
Big Bear Conference, Rosemarie Peterson, 951-267-0680
Big Bear Conference, Melissa Anderson, 909-214-1059
Raintree Conference, Viola Angebrandt, 949-636-0380
East San Diego Conference, Laura Ortiz, 619-823-3017
West San Diego Conference, Eunice Hanson, 760-717-2646
Saddleback Conference, Jeanne Sandvig, 714-904-9883
Sun & Surf Conference, Pr Patrice Nordstrand, 626-354-5714
Rejoice Conference, Marlene Rosselli, 805-405-6338
Hukilau Conference, Keala Simoes, 760-464-2309

Anew in Christ!

President Eunice Hanson

What Are You Doing?

Aloha Lutheran Sisters,

First and foremost, I hope this letter finds you doing well in this changing world of ours. I am sure your lives are quite different than they were six months ago. There are lots of new things we have to do like wearing masks, hand sanitizing, and not seeing our church families on Sundays. I am hoping that you can share with me and all the other ladies some of the fun/new things in your life that you are doing.



Having a collection of masks to choose from makes me almost as happy as a new pair of shoes and certainly costs a lot less. I even have seasonal masks and for someone in Hawaii that is a bit crazy yet adds to the fun of it.

Writing letters and sending cards has always been a favorite way of communicating for me, so please take a look at the WELCA “[Dear Friend in Christ](#)” project (see article in this issue). There is just such a happy feeling when you receive a handwritten envelope in the mail. I decided to send out cards but was not willing to risk going to the store, so I checked to see what I had at home. Well, imagine my friends and family’s reactions when they got Christmas cards from me in May. It made for lots of laughs, confirmed that I am a bit crazy, and helped me stay in touch.

We are truly blessed to have our faith to help us get through this – so I am asking that you [email](#) or send an old fashioned letter to our Pacifica Partners to share something that you are up to and we might want to try.

***Aloha & God bless,
Keala Simoes***

P.S. I have a few Hawaiian masks I’d like to mail to the first few ladies who send me their fun ideas (so include a return address)!



A word from the Churchwide Executive President



2020 has certainly been a trying year. Isolation and uncertainty, two words that describe what everyone is feeling due to COVID-19. This summer was to be the 11th Triennial Convention and Gathering of the Women of the ELCA in sunny Phoenix, AZ, but due to the circumstances this event was postponed until August of 2021. Many other events were also cancelled or postponed, events that we, as women of the ELCA look forward to. Retreats, conventions, Bible studies, regular worship just to name a few. We are all in the same boat!

Over the past several weeks, myself and Executive Director Linda Post Bushkofsky have been meeting with the regional Synodical presidents over ZOOM. We use this time to connect and brainstorm ideas on how to thrive as a community of women. Yes, there is some lamenting, but the common denominator is shared through the words of our purpose statement “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.”

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you that this amazing organization is there for YOU! Yes, we still need to practice social distancing and conduct much of our business virtually – but it can be done. Whether you need ideas to revitalize your group or simply inspiration on how to live out our ministry as individuals, we're here for YOU!

Please take some time today to remember your calling. Go to womenoftheelca.org and re-familiarize yourself with the many resources available. Take advantage of simple things like Tuesday prayers at noon. This is an opportunity to pray with Lutheran women across the church every Tuesday at noon (in your time zone) in prayer. Design a Thankoffering container and make a conscious decision to look for things to be grateful for each and every day. Drop a few coins in the container and forward these Thankofferings on to churchwide. Reach out to the Region 2 liaison

Valora Starr (800-638-3522, ext. 2741) for support. These small gestures will help you feel connected to your siblings in Christ across the entire churchwide expression.

Hang in there, my Friends, for soon we will be celebrating together in fellowship and praise in Phoenix in August of 2021!



Dear Friend in Christ

Want to sustain the community that is a hallmark of Women of the ELCA? Then join Dear Friend in Christ, a unique letter-exchange project to which all participants are invited.

How does it work?

1. Write a letter. Use the “Dear Friend in Christ” salutation. Fill a page or two, however you are inspired. Among other things, please share your thoughts on these questions: How is your faith in Jesus Christ sustaining you during the global pandemic? What words of encouragement can you offer the person who receives your letter?
2. You can handwrite or type the letter.
3. You could include a drawing, a photo, or a recipe, anything that fits into an envelope.
4. Offer up a prayer for the recipient.
5. You may include your mailing address in the letter if you do not wish to remain anonymous.
6. Print and sign the [Dear Friend in Christ release form](#). If you don't have access to a printer, please [use our online form](#). We cannot exchange letters without a release.
7. Mail your letter and signed release form to Dear Friend in Christ, Women of the ELCA, 8765 W Higgins Road, Chicago IL 60631. **Deadline for mailing letters to the churchwide organization is October 15, 2020.**

What else do I need to know?

1. When you write to Dear Friend in Christ, your letter will be swapped with a letter from another writer. They will get your letter; you will get their letter. The exchange is anonymous (unless you provide your contact information), so you can share as little or as much information about yourself as you like.
2. Dear Friend in Christ is open to all participants, although **writers under 18 must have parental consent**. [Download the release form](#).
3. Letters are paired at random, and we will try to match participants with someone in a different geographical part of the ELCA. Women of the ELCA staff read all letters before the exchange happens.
4. Letters will be mailed to participants on a rolling basis, beginning in June 2020. We will continue exchanging letters received through All Saints Day, November 1, 2020.

Source: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/special-initiatives/dear-friend-christ>

WE'VE MOVED



(DATES, NOT LOCATION)

We are moving this life-changing event to **August 5-8, 2021!** Join your sisters of faith in Phoenix for the Gathering 2021. Then begin living out your faith in new and invigorating ways.

August 5-8, 2021
Phoenix, Arizona

Visit welcatg.org for details and registration.



Women of the ELCA Updates



Churchwide Women of the ELCA Updates...

By now, you have probably heard that the Churchwide Executive Board postponed the Eleventh Triennial Convention and Gathering at their April 2020 virtual board meeting.

“We are postponing not canceling,” said Linda Post Bushkofsky, executive director of Women of the ELCA.

The Eleventh Triennial Convention is rescheduled for August 3-5, 2021. And the “Just Love” Gathering, is rescheduled for August 5-8, 2021. So mark those calendars and let’s see lots of Nebraskans in attendance.

Postponing the convention means that the current executive board will serve another year until “replacements are elected and installed,” Bushkofsky said. Then, the board elected in 2021 will serve a two-year term.

For the 2023 convention, “we would be back to our three-year cycle. That works best with the churchwide assembly, the youth gathering, and the rostered leaders’ event.”

Source: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/news/executive-board-postpones-triennial-convention-gathering-until-august-2021>

Continued support...

The Pacifica Women of the ELCA continue to support the Churchwide Women of the ELCA. Thank you to the congregational units who have continued to send their offerings to the Pacifica SWO.

Faithful Friends...

“Faithful Friends” supports the Women of the ELCA general fund, which makes it possible for our churchwide organization to act quickly and flexibly in response to any need that may arise.

Visit www.womenoftheelca.org/faithfulfriends where you can support them automatically. The funds will be charged to your credit card or withdrawn from your checking account monthly.

Congregational units should use caution when planning events

The churchwide executive board of Women of the ELCA strongly encourages congregational units to carefully monitor current federal, state, and local governmental orders and recommendations in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, along with the recommendations of their synod.

All caution should be taken to protect the health of participants and their families. Where appropriate, postponing or canceling in-person events may be necessary. If in-person gatherings are being considered, the pastor and congregational council should be consulted.

Congregational units are encouraged to explore virtual opportunities for gathering, and the churchwide staff stand ready to consult on ways to gather virtually.

The churchwide executive board previously encouraged all synodical organizations, conferences, and clusters to postpone or cancel all in-person events through the end of 2020.

Source: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/news/congregational-units-should-use-caution-when-planning-events>

Faithful Friends

“Faithful Friends” is an easy way for you to support Women of the ELCA – automatically! You can start giving online right now.

How does it work?

When you sign up for “Faithful Friends,” you choose the amount to be automatically charged to your credit card or automatically withdrawn from your checking account.

“Faithful Friends” supports the Women of the ELCA general fund, which makes it possible for your churchwide organization to act quickly and flexibly in response to any need that may arise.

The prophet Isaiah tells us that God says, “I am about to do a new thing” (43:19a). And Faithful Friends” is one way you can help Women of the ELCA be ready for whatever new thing God has in store.

Thank you!

Source: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/faithfulfriends>



Mark Your Calendar

September, Share *Pacifica Partners* with members

September 20, *Pacifica Partners* Deadline

October 20, "Dear Friend in Christ" Deadline

November 7, Pacifica Zoom Event, "Celebrating Women"

August 3-5, 2021, *Women of the ELCA Eleventh Triennial Convention*, Phoenix, AZ

August 5-8, 2021, *Women of the ELCA Eleventh Triennial Gathering*, Phoenix, AZ

November 5-6, 2021, Pacifica Annual Convention & Gathering

Do you have events within your Congregational Unit that you want to invite other ladies to attend?

That you want listed in this "Mark Your Calendar" section? If so, please e-mail them to

pacficiapartnerswelca@gmail.com.

**Pacifica Synodical Women's Organization 2019-2020 Officers and Board
Members**

Officers:

President Eunice Hanson (2020)

eunicehanson@cox.net

760-717-2646

Vice President Keala Simoes (2021)

bossyboots930@yahoo.com

760-464-2309

Secretary Rosemarie Peterson (2020)

peterson237@yahoo.com

951-267-0680

Treasurer Laura Ortiz (2021)

laurasd05@gmail.com

619-823-3017

Board Members:

Melissa Anderson (2020)

custernut@aol.com

909-864-5607

Viola Angebrandt (2021)

idiotic_puppy@earthlink.net

949-636-0380

Karen Ford (2020)

karen.kareniam@yahoo.com

909-996-1061

Karen Lloyd (2021)

kjlloyd53@hotmail.com

717-440-5386

Pastor Patrice Nordstrand (2020)

patrice1978@me.com

626-354-5714

Marlene Rosselli (2021)

marosselli@yahoo.com

805-405-6938

Jeanne Sandvig (2020)

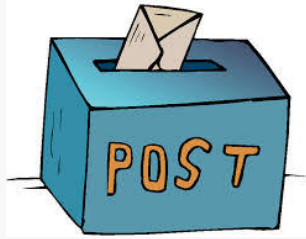
jeanne.sandvig@gmail.com

714-904-9883

Janet Wood (2021)

janmich6@aol.com

858-334-8017



Submit a letter to the Editor

We want to hear from you! Send us an email to pacificapartnerswelca@gmail.com with suggestions, ideas for events, Bible studies, and events you would like to share with all Pacifica Women of the ELCA participants.

Thank you for subscribing to *Pacifica Partners* or giving us permission to add your email address to receive communication from the Pacifica Synodical Women's Organization. If you know other ladies who are not receiving our emails, please share this with them and encourage them to sign up.

[Subscribe to Pacifica Partners Newsletter](#)

[De la Mesa de Nuestra Presidente](#)



©2020 Pacifica Women of the ELCA | Oceanside CA 92056

[Web Version](#)

[Preferences](#)

[Forward](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by
[GoDaddy Email Marketing](#)®