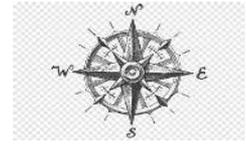




# Directions

Winter 2020



Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Southeastern Iowa Synodical Women's Organization



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## Words from our President Ardy Proehl

This time during the Covid-19 continues. We all miss the face to face activities. We still want to see family without having to use zoom for the holidays. But if we love our neighbors as our selves we will wear masks, social distance, wash our hands and isolate if we are exposed. We shouldn't need to have this mandated by our leaders. It is a health and humanitarian issue not a political issue.

"The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God my strength in whom I trust."

In this isolation we need to remember others especially those in nursing homes, assisted living and anyone who lives alone. We can phone, text, email, snail-mail and pray for them. Reassure them they are not alone.

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

We can get through this.

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." Our strength comes from above.

"The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of distress: and He knows those who take refuge in Him" God will never forsake us.

"For I know the plans that I have for you, says the Lord, Plans for peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

As a church unit, cluster and synod may we help, encourage and pray for each other.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. That whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

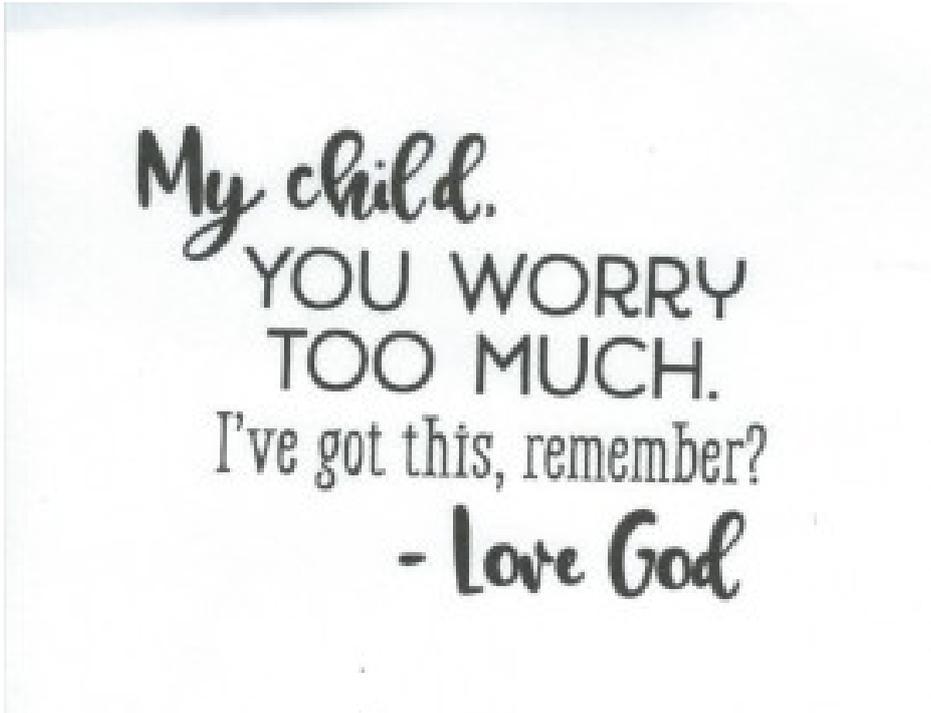
Blessings to all and a merry Christmas Ardy Proehl

**VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**  
**Ardy Hinds**

Greetings from sunny Arizona where it is 90 degrees today. At this point I do not have a great deal to report. I just ask you if you have any questions that you would normally send to the vice-president, do not hesitate to email, snail mail, or call.

I am praying for all my family and friends and each of you to remain safe and healthy. Please join me in praying for those who have contacted COVID and are struggling at this time. For many of us, it has hit close to home. Know our Lord is holding us in His arms during this stressful time and I genuinely believe He will get us through these awful times.

Signing off, yours in Christ, Ardy Hinds



*My child,*  
**YOU WORRY  
TOO MUCH.**  
*I've got this, remember?*  
**- Love God**

## Women in History to help celebrate 50 years that women have been able to serve as pastors.

Jessica Crist knew she was privileged by her race, education, social and economic circumstances. Her first encounter with sexism in the church is when the pastor of her confirmation class asked the class to raise their hands if they wanted to become a pastor and she was told, “You can’t, because our church doesn’t allow women to become pastors.”

Jessica was the third class of women admitted to the all male Yale class. She then went to Harvard Divinity School for seminary. She was involved with World Council of churches and Lutheran Women’s caucus. In 1970 American Lutheran Church allowed women to become pastors. In 2007 she was elected bishop of the ELCA Montana Synod.



### PRAYER FOR WORRY

Heavenly Father, sometimes my anxiety overwhelms me. I worry a lot, and it takes a toll on my mind and my body. Please increase my faith, remove my fears, and give me Your peace. In Jesus' name, Amen!

## Dollars and Cents

Lynda Miller, Treasurer

As all of us are still struggling with Covid our churches stay strong. I am very happy to report that the financial contributions to our Fall LWR pickup was spectacular, since we did not have any truck charges the total amount of donations that came in all went to LWR. DRUM ROLL.....\$1,793.95!

Our financial year will end January 31, 2021 and we are holding our own. Thank you to so many of the treasurers that have faithfully sent in offerings and donations; even though many of the women's groups have not met, since who knows when.

Due to no elections held this year, and at next year's Gathering in September we will hold to the schedule, and we will need to elect a president and secretary, along with 3 board members. I will continue as treasurer until 2022.

I wish you a Merry Christmas,  
Blessings,  
Lynda Miller



Women of the ELCA know how important it is to have a Lutheran Chaplain available when they go to the hospital. Please encourage your congregation to keep this ministry going by funding ½ of 1% of your WELCA/congregation budget to support the Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach Ministry at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Contributions can be sent to :  
Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach, 123 E. Market Street, Iowa City, Iowa 52245

Or through the LCO website at [www.lcoiowa.org](http://www.lcoiowa.org)

To contact the ELCA chaplain, email her at [cindy-breed@uiowa.edu](mailto:cindy-breed@uiowa.edu)

***Directions Subscription Form***

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**Mail to: Lynda Miller**

1808 S. 11th Avenue, Eldridge, IA 52748

If you are sending in a subscription for more than one person; **or** if you are a board or Cluster Leader renewing or new subscriber please put the information on a separate sheet of paper, with names and addresses

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Church and Town \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cluster \_\_\_\_\_

**Spring Issue**

***Deadline:  
February 10***

**Publication and Deadline Dates**

Issue	Deadline	Mailing Date
Spring.....	Feb. 10.....	March 1st
Summer.....	April 10.....	May 1st
Fall.....	August 10.....	September 1st
Winter.....	November 10...	December 1st

The LWR report from the Fall pickup(Oct. 17th, 2020)

Total number of	Quilts	Personal	School	Fabric	Baby
	2293	1143	2316	202	682

For a total of 6636 items shipped to St. Paul.

Total 910 boxes from the ELCA church.

The Missouri Synod had these totals.

Total number of	Quilts	Personal	School	Baby	Fabric
	896	391	491	158	3

For a total of 1939 items shipped to St. Paul. And a total of 275 boxes.

GRAND TOTALS:

Quilts 3189 Personal Kits 1534 School Kits 2807 Baby kits 840 Fabris kits 205 .

Total items going was 8575. Total boxes 1185.

The financial report for the Fall October 17, 2020 LWR Pickup can be found on page 5.



Lutheran World Relief

## Discipleship and Faith Journey

To all our faithful and patient ladies: We are all anxious to get together and believe during the next year that will be one of our goals. In the meantime, we wondered if any of you would like to try a Zoom Session lasting an hour or more where we can visit on-line, have some inspirational talks, and get up to date information about WELCA matters. We can also share what is happening at your churches or in your cities. If you are interested in a Zoom Session, please contact me: Linda Smith Kortemeyer, 3406 Forest Road, Davenport, IA 52807 or better yet, send me an e-mail at [Korte4m3@gmail.com](mailto:Korte4m3@gmail.com). If worse comes to worse, you can always call me at home: (563) 359-7364. I need to know your interest, if you can get into Zoom on your computer or laptop, and what days of the week and times work best for you.

If we get enough positive responses to hosting a Zoom session until we can meet as a group, then we can set it up. The Board approved having a Zoom account so we can have more than the free 45 minutes allowed for individuals. We have some nice material to share if you are ready for this new challenge. We can also send print outs to people who don't have the ability to use a computer or find the Zoom meetings difficult. Just think all we have learned in the last eight months. I am forcing myself to keep up with technology although it isn't easy. Always happy to assist you with a training session if you let me know your needs. Stay safe and have a great Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. Linda Kortemeyer and friends on the committee.

Linda Kortemeyer, and Vickie Adamson, our contact information is in the directory on page 14.



The Southeastern Iowa Women's board has purchased a one year subscription to Zoom. I can help you get a meeting started, as host, if cluster's or women's groups are interested. Contact Lynda Miller-find my contact information on Page 14.

## OAKS INDIAN MISSION

The history story of the Oaks Indian Mission in Oklahoma was shared with our women at an SELA Gathering several years ago. I was very interested in what the speaker said and decided to learn more about the mission. Since that time, our family has helped support the work done for the Indian children who come to the mission setting for help and shelter. They come from 12 or more tribes throughout the country and are placed here due to a number of circumstances.

This 2020 year, my husband and I were invited to take a tour of the campus, so in October we drove to Oaks, Oklahoma. We asked in advance what type of items the students needed, so our car was filled with practical items like jeans, shirts, underwear, socks, and other personal supplies. Each of the 19 students would receive a bag with gifts matched to their own needs. We received donations from other family members and along with food items we purchased there was an estimated \$700 worth of gifts for the mission students and staff.

The quilters from Grace Lutheran Church donated four beautiful tie blankets for the students. The director explained to us in advance the students get to take their quilt blanket home when they leave the mission. They had received a number of quilts from other groups, but always liked more and ours were beautiful. Another one of the women from Grace donated over 20 prayer squares personally knitted by her during the last few months. Each item had attached a little prayer so all the students had one of the squares in their gift bag.

We applied for a \$250 Thrivent Action Grant so the staff could purchase paint and decorating supplies to be used at the mission. Rev. Marsha told us the house parent, Cedric, and the boys were excited about having a chance to paint rooms and decorate their house. Rev. Marshall sent a thank you to us and said, "The items you dropped off are so very helpful and the gift from Thrivent is going to make a big difference in the Chickasaw cottage." We understand how such an opportunity for the students to be creative can really help them thrive.

We wanted to share this experience with our SELA women and to thank those who helped with donations. Our Cluster 6 women took time at their meeting to write cards to all of the children so each one was personally addressed and delivered when we went to the mission. This was a heartwarming experience for us and made us more appreciative of the work done for Indian families over the last 150 years. The mission is supported through donations from ELCA congregations and synods, and by individuals who want to assist with a financial contribution. The students attend public school which is close to the facilities and after school, they work together on projects, housekeeping, and then eat their dinner meal together in the dining room. On weekends they eat in their cottages with their house parents and do other activities.

We appreciate all the support and prayers we received as we took this journey to Oaks. We followed the safety precautions along the way and social distanced at the mission. It was our pleasure to have such a meaningful experience and we wanted to update our SELA family.

Linda and Bill Kortemeyer from Davenport, Iowa

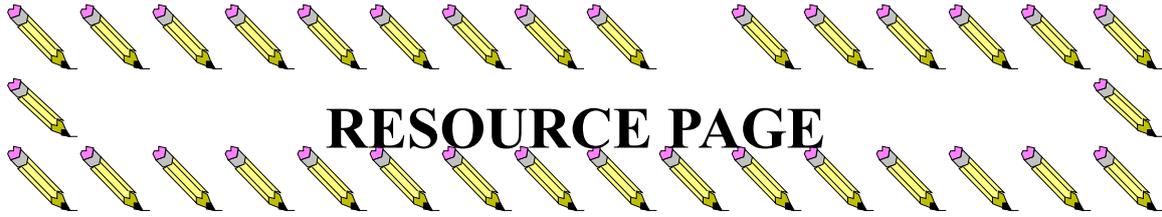
See Pictures on page 10

## Pictures from Linda & Bill's trip to Oklahoma



<https://www.oaksindianmission.org/>





## RESOURCE PAGE

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Rhonda Hershberg

### Southeast Iowa Synod Website

<http://seiasynod.org/>

To get to our web page-click on About-then click Southeastern Women's Organization to get to our page

### 2021-2022 Nominating Committee

Lavon Heston

Ramona Von Sprecken

Teresa Ziegenmeyer

These ladies will be contacting you to pray fully consider being on the board. Please respond with a YES!

### 2021 Triennial Local Coordinator

Lynda Miller 563-285-8613

Contact Lynda if you have any questions in regards to the Triennial being held in Phoenix, AZ Aug. 5-8,2021

Once you have registered, please let her know, we would like to keep a list of women going from Southeast Iowa, church wide will not pass this information on to her. It is up to you to give her your information.

# RESOURCE PERSONS

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## CLUSTER NEWS

**Cluster 5:** is looking to hold a Spring Gathering on April 24th at St. Paul Lutheran in Clinton. We will use the program from last spring's canceled meeting by the Red Basket Project of Jackson County.

We pray that we will be in a better place with this pandemic and able to gather again to see, learn and celebrate our Lord and the works we can do with his help.

In the meantime, the Cluster V board met once and also were able to send a donation of \$300 from our treasury to the Derecho Fund for the SE Iowa ELCA Synod. This is in addition to any other monies we may receive from the individual women's groups.

**Cluster 6** met on October 3, 2020 We met at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport IA. There were nine ladies present w/masks on and social distancing<sup>12</sup>. It was wonderful seeing everyone. Pastor Kris Dohrmann gave the devotion.

Pastor Kris is the visitation pastor (part time) at St. Paul's church. It was a treat to have her there with our group. The minutes from our September 12, 2020 were read and approved. We went through committee reports as follows: Rudie Eberlein discussed prayer squares to send to the military men and women who are away from their families. She showed us a quilt she made for Lutheran World Relief.

Linda Kortemeyer discussed In-Kind gifts. She had a handout called Just Love that had ideas and facts on spreading love. She and her husband will be visiting an American Indian village in Oklahoma in October and asked us to write a note to the children in the village so she could take them to them.

New business consisted of thinking about a Nominating Committee and the Spring meeting at Trinity Lutheran in Pleasant Valley IA.

We had demonstrations consisting of making hospital gowns out of men's button-down shirts, rolling bandages, t-shirt diapers, quilts, lap robe quilts, tied quilts and masks. A very productive morning.

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The Stewardship Challenge for 2021 Stamp Project

**The Southeastern Iowa Synodical Women's Organization is working with other Women of the ELCA groups to donate canceled stamps to the ministry of Lutheran World Relief. The cancel stamps are sent to a group that sorts and sells used stamps to collectors around the world. Thus far, 65 million stamps have been collected by this group in Kyle, Texas, and they have donated \$42,000 to the shipping fund of Lutheran World Relief to ship quilts and kits around the world. To help you participate, we provide the following information: not only canceled stamps but new ones as well, commemorative and seasonal stamps are most valued.**

**Cut the stamps from the envelope leaving 1/4 inch around the stamps so as not to damage the stamps.**

**Continue to save your stamps and bring them to our Gathering at the Hotel Kirkwood in Cedar Rapids in 2021.**

**Thanks!**

**Your Stewardship Committee,  
Carol Gruhn  
Roberta Jurgensen**

**Christmas will soon be here. Remember to save your cards you receive.**



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OF YOUR CHURCH, IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A**

**WOMEN'S GROUP, PLEASE PUT IT OUT FOR ALL WOMEN OF YOUR CHURCH TO SEE. THANK**

**YOU**

**SUBSCRIBERS**

**CHECK TO SEE IF YOU HAVE AN EXPIRATION DATE NEXT TO YOUR NAME. IF IN DOUBT WHEN  
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