Official notice of the Southeastern Iowa Women of the ELCA Gathering to be held the 26th & 27th of June will now be held **OCTOBER 16th and 17th, 2020 at the same place** The Hotel at the Kirkwood Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Remember that's OCTOBER 16th & 17th, 2020. All business will be handle at this time.

Keep saving your stamps and they will be collected at the October gathering. If you have made your hotel reservation for June, email the hotel: hotel@kirkwood.edu and cancel.

The Lutheran World Relief pick-up in Ankeny will be one week later, October 24th. This is **ONLY the ANKENY** site. The Cedar Rapids pick-up will be the regular date and anyone who is coming to the Gathering who delivers the Kits will be able to do so early Saturday morning and not miss too much of the Gathering.

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Dear Sisters in Christ,

Back in February I attended the WELCA Conference of Presidents in Chicago. The theme was “Our Power of Community”.

On Friday, Lisa Plorin, our WELCA President of the Executive Board welcomed us. Also had greetings from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. She spoke about ELCA is a front runner in showing the need for social justice. We had an opening worship service before we were seated with our sister synod president for dinner. Gale Turner, the Vice President from the Grand Canyon synod was in attendance. We had a great visit. After dinner we learned that ELCA Global Mission events and educators ar like a lot of other entities, are in need money. We then brok out to our regions and discussed how effective having our CWO rep is our Gatherings. Some discussion about using Skype, Zoom, etc. if the expense to have the rep travel was to costly.

On Saturday morning Lisa Plorin challenged Cluster to increase by one ore more active units. To be an active unit they only need to send $1.00 to the synod and have one activity whether it be prayer shawl, quilting, Bible Study or another mission. She also reported that LWR has received 27 million quilts in the past 3 generations. There are new quilt and kit guides. They will no longer accept fleece blankets and no longer accept bulk soap.

We discussed preparing for the 2020 Triennial. Church wide is asking for dollars for scholarships to big international quests to the gathering. The convention and Gathering is to be fragrance free. The Bible Study was based on Hebrews 10:16-25, which is used many times for Good Friday Services. After lunch we heard about AMMPARO, Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities. They make a difference to people lives and ask congregations to prayerfully consider or commit to be a ELCA advocacy and sanctuary. They also had communication tips for active listening and ideas on how to help organize a unit. SEIA is encouraged to subscribe to the Gather magazine for a college student and get them on our communication email list. After dinner we had evening Vesper service with communion and offering, 50% of the offering went to church wide and 50% went to AMMPARO. On Sunday we had a review of the recommendations from the regional groups, followed by our sending church service.
Vice President Report

WOW. What a year we have had. We have gotten a chance to get closer to family and friends. And we have learned other ways to communicate. We have the traditional telephone, Facebook, Facetime, Skype, email and Zoom on the computer. I have also had the chance to play Chess with my grandson on the computer and had a game of Tic Tac Toe with my grandchildren and had a picnic with them through a window. It helped that my daughter and I both had cell phones. Please remember those especially that only have a phone. I have talked to several friends that I had not talked to in years.

Our church and SEIA members have also had challenges. We have found other ways of hearing our Gospel. We have such blessings all around us. There are many changes within our Synod and Churchwide events. Our SEIA convention has been rescheduled to October 16th and 17th. You will receive further information as the time gets closer. The Churchwide Executive Board will decide on April 25th whether the Triennial will be held, canceled or the date changed. There will not be a spring quilt pickup at all. Please remember that we will still need a new Treasurer, two board members and three members for a Nomination committee.

Please remember to keep in touch by calling our family, friends, neighbors and church and SEIA members that only have a telephone for communication. Even to just say Hello and how are you. Thank you to all those that have been reaching out. Be safe and remember that prayer is our strongest form of communication. Churchwide has been asking people to say the Lord’s Prayer at noon on every Tuesday. I am in a senior living facility and we open our doors and step out in the hallway to share the Lord’s Prayer.

At the gathering in Cedar Rapids in October we will be electing a vice-president and a treasurer for two-year terms; two board members for two-year terms and 3 for nominations board for one year terms. If you are interested and would like more information, contact nominations chair, Lavon Heston at lavonheston@msn.com or 515 490-3074.
Women in History to help celebrate 50 years that women have been able to serve as pastors.

Elisabeth Fedde life started in 1850 on a farm, born in Oslo, Norway. She became interested in the Norwegian Deaconess Institute (Lutheran Nuns). The training was rigorous and devout supporting the training of nurses to get better pay as a professional.

In 1883, she went to the USA to assist Norwegian immigrants. Within a month of her arrival, she established both the Norwegian Lutheran Deaconesses Home and Hospital in Brooklyn and the Lutheran Deaconess Home and Hospital in Minneapolis in 1888. She started an ambulance service and steered Norwegian patients toward Lutheran pastors for baptism, confirmation, marriage, burial and other needed pastoral acts.

In 1898, she returned to Norway in order to marry Ole Sbettebo, her childhood sweetheart, who had waited for her throughout her 27 years in the diaconate.

Her diary reveals a women who worked herself to the bones for the kingdom of God and who was filled with prayer for the salvations of others. She was “worn out” and died in Norway February 1921.

THERE ARE MANY EXCITING THINGS HAPPENING THAT YOU WILL WANT TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR.

33rd Annual Convention Southeaster Iowa Women of the ELCA will be October 16-17, 2020 at The Hotel at Kirkwood College, Cedar Rapids

The Women of the ELCA Triennial will be in Phoenix, AZ July 16-19, 2020
SPRING CLUSTER NEWS
No Cluster News this issue
If you have information about your
Fall Meetings, please get it to me by
July 10. Thank you.

Dollars and Cents
Lynda Miller, Treasurer

This has been a trying time for all of us, and more so for the churches. Sitting in your living room watching your church service on line or listening to it on the radio. Women’s Groups are not meeting, so much we have taken for granted and now it is becoming the “norm” to stay at home, talk on the phone or email family and friends instead of seeing them in person.

When we are able to Gather again, it will be wonderful. And then we can worry about catching up with the finances from your Women’s Groups to me, your treasurer. For now, stay safe and well.

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 1/2 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

To contact the ELCA chaplain, email her at cindy-breed@uiowa.edu

Directions Subscription Form
Cost is $8 annually payable to:
Make check out to: SEIA Synod Women of the ELCA
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

Date _____ ________ __________

Name ___________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________
City ________________________________________ State _____ Zip + 4 _______________
Phone __________________ Church and Town ____________________________________
E-mail Address __________________________________ Cluster _____________________

Fall ISSUE

DEADLINE:
July 10
This is a month early.
Due to finalizing the Gathering being Held in October.

Publication and Deadline Dates

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Discipleship Committee Report

Discipleship and Faith Journey

As we stay inside our homes and apartments longing to see others, there is time for us to reflect on our lives and think about plans for the future. With so many changes this spring where activities and social gatherings have been cancelled, it seems more challenging than ever to look ahead to figure out what we should be planning.

Many of us question if or when we will actually get together in a group setting. We wonder if it will be safe or even allowed. Will people want to get together for activities; and maybe our ability to trust has been shaken. Who do we trust and believe for giving us advise on what we can and cannot do? Our gatherings were something we certainly looked forward to attending and it was an opportunity to visit with friends. It was a time for learning new things and sharing our stories and experiences. Now we are put in a position where we are forced to do things a different way -- by Internet and Zoom meetings or podcast worship services.

These changes were not something we had ever dreamed would happen, but they have. Now we have more time to think and pray for each other from the comforts of our dwellings. We can send cards through the mail letting people know we think about them. Our church has a calling tree where people take turns checking in on each other and visiting on the phone.

Because our June convention is being rescheduled to the Fall, we have decided to postpone our retreat for the Southeastern Iowa Synodical Women at this time. Our committee will look at making plans for January 2021 or February 2021 and we can do the work over the phone or through e-mail notes. If any of you have suggestions or ideas on what you would like to do at a one-day retreat, please let us know your wishes. We hope to find something fun and have an uplifting opportunity for us at that time. We will give you our update with the next Directions

Linda Kortemeyer, Vickie Adamson, and Ardy Hinds
Southeastern Iowa Synodical Women’s Organization
2020, 2021 NOMINATION FORM

Please send in form by Sept. 15, 2020

I believe that ________________________________ would be a good candidate for the following position….

___Treasurer (2-year term)                             Vice-President (2-year term)_____
___2 Board members (2 years)                   ___3 Nominations committee members (1 year)

Name of Nominee ________________________________ Cluster ______

Address _____________________________________ City, State, Zip code __________

Home Phone ________________ Cell Phone ____________________________

Email Address ____________________________________

Church Name and City_________________________________________________

Experience: Please begin with the most recent and list significant Experience in each area over the last five yrs. Feel free to note this information on a separate sheet.

1. Women of the ELCA Congregational Unit
2. Women of the ELCA Cluster of Synodical Organization
3. Congregation_________________________________________________________
4. Conference/Synod_____________________________________________________
5. Other organizations (community, school, etc.)____________________________
6. Occupational history___________________________________________________
7. Some of the many talents she has to share are_________________________

____________________________________________________________

Age range ___34 and under, ____35 to 39, ____50-64, ____5 and over

Ethnic/Racial Heritage: ___American Indian. ____Asian, ____African American, ____ Caucasian; ____ Other (specify)

Form submitted by: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________ City, State, Zip _______________________

Phone: ____________________________ Email address: ______________________

Nominee’s Signature: ______________________________

Please check here for permission to be granted for Biological information to be placed on the SEIA web site prior to the Gathering

Send form to Chair:  Lavon Heston lavonheston@msn.com   6300 School Street; Apt. 309
Windsor Heights, Iowa 50324
Southeastern Iowa Synodical Women Organization

October 16 & 17 33rd Convention/ Gathering Registration

The HOTEL at Kirkwood Center 7725 Kirkwood Blvd. S.W.

WOMEN IN ACTION

Let us not love in word or speech but indeed and in truth.

Bible Verse: 1 John 3:18

NAME_______________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS___________________________________________________________________ CITY____________________

PHONE NUMBER_________________________ CLUSTER_______

CHURCH___________________________ CITY_____________________

EMAIL ADDRESS_________________________________

Age group 10-30___ 31-40___ 41-50___ 51-60___ 61-70___ 71&UP____

Check one: Delegate___( one per church) Non-Delegate____ Board___

Registration Fee(meals included) $70 for Fri. and Sat.____

After Oct. 1st $75 One day only $40 Fri___or Sat.___

Dietary Restrictions______________________________________________

Make Checks payable to: SEIA SYNODICAL WOMEN

MAIL to: Roberta Jurgersen 1025 N. 4th Street Clinton, IA 52732

Hotel information: The Hotel at Kirkwood Center
319-848-8700 or 877-751-5111 (toll free) 7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa The block rooms reserved for SWO until Sept. 25.
The cost of the rooms is $130.00 up to 4 per room
Planting Your Spring Garden

For The Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant Three Rows of Peas

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace of Heart
3. Peace of Soul

Plant Four Rows of Squash

1. Squash Gossip
2. Squash Indifference
3. Squash Grumbling
4. Squash Selfishness

Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

1. Lettuce Be Faithful
2. Lettuce Be Kind
3. Lettuce Be Patient
4. Lettuce Really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete Without Turnips

1. Turnip For Meetings
2. Turnip For Service
3. Turnip To Help One Another

To Conclude Our Garden We Must Have Thyme

1. Thyme For Each Other
2. Thyme For Family
3. Thyme For Friends

Water Freely With Patience And Cultivate With Love. There Is Much Fruit In Your Garden Because You Reap What You Sow. Pass It On!!!
HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMITTEE

Sandy Chandonia                  Kathryn Bly                             Rhonda Hershberg
chantimm1@netzero.net            kblyiowa@gmail.com                    
Cell-641-485-0360                Phone-319-366-1201

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

2020-2021 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!

2020 Triennial Local Coordinator
  Karen Miller –563-639-4246
  grammy630@msn.com
Contact Karen if you have any questions in regards to the
Triennial being held in Phoenix, AZ July 16-19,2020
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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lmchurchlady56@gmail.com

**ChurchWide**
Women of the ELCA
8765 W. Higgins Rd.
Chicago, IL 60631-4189
1-800-638-3522 ext. 2747
Women.ELCA@elca.org

**Today’s Dream Tomorrow’s Reality**
Racial Justice Advocate
Deb Husak
2071 Hwy. E43
Toledo, IA 52342
641-484-2152
rdhusak@iowatelecom.net

**Southeastern Iowa Synod of the ELCA**
2635 Northgate Drive
Iowa City, IA 52245
319-338-1273

CLUSTER LEADERS

(Note: only the Chairperson receives a free subscription to the Directions. If a Cluster wishes the Board to receive it, they should send in subscription forms with payment). I need to be informed when the Chairperson changes.

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Please send updates to:
Lynda Miller
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Eldridge, IA 52748
lmchurchlady56@gmail.com
I believe churches are meant for praising God. But so are 2am car rides, showers, coffee shops, the gym, conversations with friends, strangers, etc. Don’t let a building confine your faith because we will never change the world by just going to church, we need to be the church.
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Send corrections to Lynda Miller  
1808 S. 11th Avenue  
Eldridge, IA 52748  
e-mail lmchurchlady56@gmail.com
The Southeastern Iowa Synodical Women's Organization is working with other Women of the ELCA groups to donate cancelled stamps to the ministry of Lutheran World Relief. The cancelled 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. Save the stamps and bring them (or send them) to our Gathering at the Hotel Kirkwood in Cedar Rapids on October 16-17, 2020.
Thanks!
Your Stewardship Committee,
Carol Gruhn
Roberta Jurgesen
DATES TO REMEMBER

October 16-17, 2020 Gathering in Cedar Rapids
July 16-19, 2020-Triennial in Phoenix, AZ

NOTE TO CHURCH’S

PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR MAILING LABEL THAT THIS NEWSLETTER IS TO GO TO ALL WOMEN 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 YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS UP FOR RENEWAL CONTACT ME. THANK YOU.