



DIRECTIONS

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America Southeasteren Iowa Synodical Women's Organization
Spring Issue



Valora K Starr, director of discipleship, from WELCA wrote about bold African American women in our history. Here is one Bold Woman.

MARY FIELDS, "STAGECOACH MARY": FREIGHTER, COOK, DOMESTIC WORKER, STAR ROUTE MAIL CARRIER
Mary Fields (c. 1832–1914) was born in Hickman County, Tennessee. At almost 60 years old, she was hired as a mail carrier because she was the fastest at hitching a team of six horses. Her star route contract delivered U.S. mail from Cascade, Montana, to Saint Peter's Mission (unclaimed territory) in 1885. Her only partner was Moses, her mule.

Mary lived with many families. The final person she lived with was Mother Mary Amadeus, Mother Superior of an Ursuline convent in Toledo, Ohio. In 1884, Mother Amadeus was sent to Montana Territory to establish a school for Native American girls. When Mother Amadeus was stricken with pneumonia, Fields hurried to Montana to nurse her back to health and run the school.

"All I have is God, my hands and Moses." — Mary Fields

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Words from our President Ardy Proehl

“We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.”
Ps. 33:20

We now have not one but two vaccines to fight covid-19. God gift to us is our bodies and we are to take care of them. God gave us our minds to study and learn about diseases and the making of vaccines so encourage friends and family to get their shots when they are available. So by the time you get this many of you may already have either your first or both shots. God is Good!

Remember to send in your offerings even if you are not meeting in person or not.

Any Cluster wishing to have your gathering this spring via zoom, contact Lynda Miller by address, phone or email (see board page) to make arraignments first come first serve to use our account.

The LWR is asking for personal kits this year. There are changes to what goes into the kit and how to be bundled. West side of the synod pick up is April 16 at 4-6:30 pm at the Windsor Heights Lutheran Church. East side of the synod is April 17, normal drop off site and times.

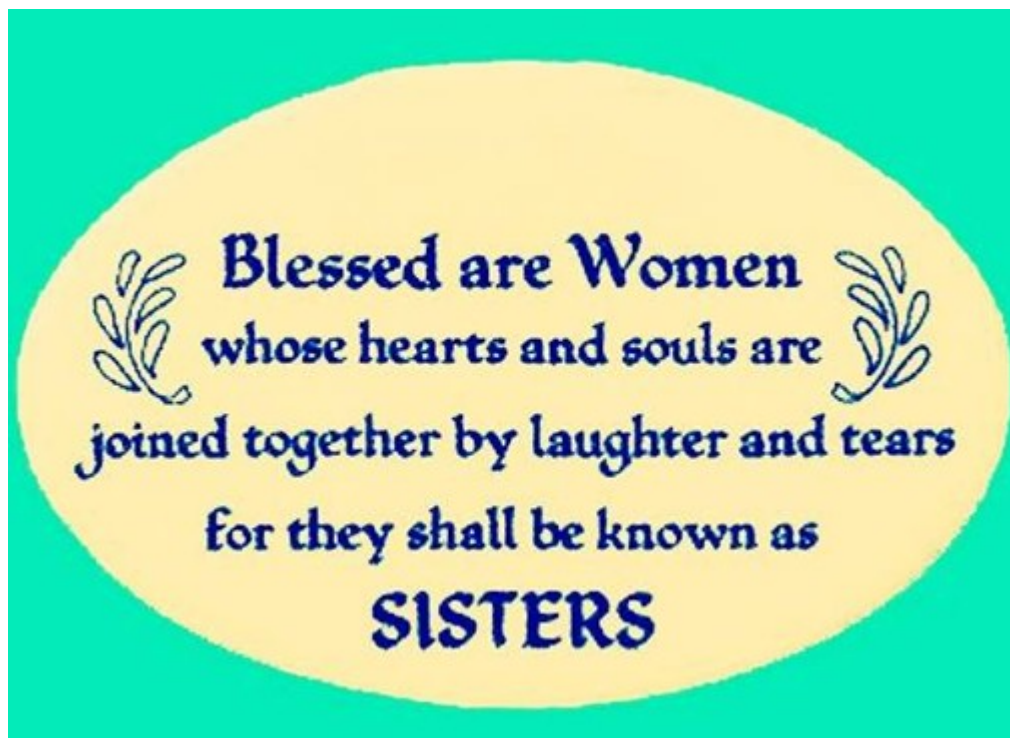
Blessings to all

VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER
Ardy Hinds

If you received a letter from me, in regards to changing our constitution/bylaws for virtual voting please remember to get your vote back to me on virtual voting. The deadline is April 1.

Our March 6 Board meeting is open to all Cluster Leaders and board members. This will be via Zoom and Lynda Miller will send out the invitation for you to join the meeting a week before the meeting. If you have any questions in regards to attending the Zoom meeting contact Lynda Miller. Her contact info is on page 14.

Blessings.





Lutheran World Relief

Kits & Quilts Donations

April 17th, 2021 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Bring a copy of this sheet along with your items

Keep a copy for your own records

Name of Church donating items _____

Church Affiliation: _____ ELCA _____ LCMS _____ Other

Church Address _____

Shipping Donation \$ _____ \$30.00 is required

Cash only for Cedar Rapids

If want to donate more to LWR make checks out to Southeastern Iowa Synod Women Org. (SEIASWO).

Directions: Trinity Lutheran Church, 1363 1st Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, Take the Business 151 exit off of Interstate 380 follow 151 (1st Ave. NW) west. Church is on the left. Or take Business 151 (1st Ave SW) off of Highway 30 going North. Church is between 15th Street and Murray Drive SW on Business 151 (1st Ave.)

Windsor the Heights Lutheran Church 1240 66th St. Windsor Heights, IA. Take 235 W to the 63rd street exit and go north on University Ave. Turn west onto 66th St. The church is behind the Strip Mall on 66th St Parking lot on the west side of the church Remember this time you have to bring items April 16th between 4:00 & 6:30.

ITEM	# OF ITEMS	# OF BOXES
QUILTS		
HEALTH KITS		
SCHOOL KITS		
FABRIC		
BABY KITS		
No box should weigh over 35 pounds.		
Questions - call Dori Stanek 319-845-3030 or 319-558-9773		

Spring Cluster News

Cluster 6 spring meeting will be held via Zoom compliments of our speaker with Tapestry Farms, Ann McGlynn. Anyone is welcome to attend, so please contact Cindee Schnekloth: via email :Cindeeschnekloth@gmail.com, and she will forward the link to you. There is a telephone connection as well. Date is Saturday, April 24 from 9 to 11 am. Tapestry Farms helps to support refugee families in the Quad City area via urban farming and other means of assistance. If time permits, there will be a presentation for making upcycled items for Global Missions.

Cluster 6 is the only Cluster I heard from. If you do have upcoming meetings, please contact me, and I can get it to our webmaster to email out the information.

ALL CLUSTER LEADERS AND BOARD ARE INVITED TO OUR MARCH 6 ZOOM MEETING STARTING AT 9:00 A.M. AN EMAIL WILL BE SENT OUT TO THE LEADER WITH ZOOM INFORMATION.

CLUSTER CALENDAR	
Spring 2021 Cluster Gatherings	
Cluster 1.....	
Cluster 2.....	
Cluster 4.....	
Cluster 5.....	
Cluster 6.....	April 24, 2021
Cluster 8.....	
Cluster 9.....	
Cluster 10/11.....	

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 of any amount outside of budgeted amounts, big or small, are appreciated. Individuals, WELCA groups, congregations, or other organizations can give on their own, or have special offerings or projects. It is only through these gracious gifts is it possible to have the Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach(LCO) Chaplain Ministry continue.

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 _____

Summer ISSUE

Deadline:

April 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

CHURCHWIDE EXECUTIVE BOARD DECIDES ABOUT CONVENTION, GATHERING DATES

In a specially called meeting December 23, Women of the ELCA's executive board decided how and when to hold the organization's convention and gathering.

The meeting and Just Love Gathering were initially scheduled for July 14-16, 2020. When the coronavirus pandemic hit, the board, in its April 2020 meeting, rescheduled the convention and gathering for early August 2021.

"Since the April board meeting, the coronavirus has spread in ways that few would have imagined," said Linda Post Bushkofsky, churchwide executive director.

As of December 23, more than 323,000 people have died in the United States due to the coronavirus, she said. More than 18.2 million people have been infected to date in the U.S. Leading epidemiologists describe the current trajectory of the virus as a "surge upon surge upon surge."

THREE RECOMMENDATIONS

Therefore, believing that in-person meetings will be unsafe into 2021, the executive board approved three recommendations:

That the Eleventh Triennial Convention, currently scheduled for August 3-5, 2021, be held virtually (or digitally) on those same dates.

"The triennial convention cannot meet virtually until the 2017 voting members amend the constitution to allow for virtual meetings," said Bushkofsky.

Before the organization can hold a virtual convention, she said, voting members of the Tenth Triennial Convention (2017) must approve it. "So, the staff will take steps necessary to be in touch with the voting members regarding proposed changes to the constitution." Those proposed changes were made by the executive board at its October 2020 meeting.

That the Just Love Gathering, currently scheduled for August 5-8, 2021, be postponed and registration refunds be offered. Staff will then find other ways to build community and bring women together virtually in 2021 and 2022.

That the Twelfth Triennial Convention and a Gathering be held in Phoenix, Arizona, during the week of September 18, 2023.

"The executive board recognizes that the recommendations carry with them several other implications," Bushkofsky said. "Despite the challenges, we feel that these are the best options at the current time."

EDITORS NOTE: THIS WAS AN EMAIL RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM CHURCH WIDE.

Carol Gruhn provided the following information concerning Lutheran World Relief pickup locations, times, and dates. NEW ADDRESS for Lutheran World Relief Pickup on the west side of the state.

The new location is WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH. The address is 1240 66th Street, Windsor Heights, Iowa. If you are going to take your boxes of quilts or kits to Windsor Heights Lutheran Church, please CALL Jan Grannes (by 4/1/21) (515-279-8017) so she knows how large of a truck to get for the spring pickup. And be sure to tell Jan about how many boxes you will have. Pack similar items in each box and LABEL what is in each box including how many and the weight (each box should not weigh over 35 pounds). Please use sturdy boxes and tie them with heavy cord or seal them with heavy tape. Because of the VIRUS it is important that you let Jan know how many boxes you are going to send. The pickup will be Friday, April 16, 2021 between the hours of 4:00 P.M. and 6: 30 P.M. Because we don't feel there will be enough to send to St. Paul these items will be taken to Cedar Rapids to the semi. If you have any questions, call Jan at (515-279-8017) or Carol at (563-243-4484).

Here is an example of a LABEL you could use.

Ship to: LWR	From: Your Church Name	Will fit on a 3 1/3 x 4 inch label Avery #8164 be sure to tape
it down. St. Paul, MN	Address City and State	
Quilts _____		
Personal Care Kits _____	They are in need of	
School Kits _____	Personal Care Kits	
Baby Care Kits _____		
Fabric Kits _____		
Weight _____	Box # _____	

WE ARE WOMEN OF ACTION

This is our theme for our 2021 Gathering.

Please take note and help the **NOMINATING COMMITTEE.**

LOOKING FORWARD!!!

It's time to pick up our work as Women Of The Southeastern Iowa Synodical Organization as we prepare to meet again in September at our Synodical Gathering. Plans are going forward to meet at Kirkwood Hotel in Cedar Rapids and more information will be shared as plans are made .

An important part of our Business meeting is electing our Synodical Board. This year we will elect the following: President, Secretary, Three Board Members and Three Nominations Committee members.

Please prayerfully ask yourself if you can serve in any of these positions!! Do you know someone that we could contact??

Contact one of the present Nomination Committee members:

Ramona Vonsprecke 563 652 6274.

Teresa Ziegenmeyer. 641 990 1031.

LaVon Heston 515 490 3074

This is an important time and there is much for our Women to contribute! Let's Look Forward!



Discipleship Committee and Justice Committee Update

"The Discipleship and Justice Committee members are working on details for conducting a Zoom Workshop at the end of May or some time in June. The session will allow people to join together on-line for an hour or a little longer and learn some interesting, new things about LSI.

We hope to partner with them as they welcome their newest Spiritual

Life Director who comes on board in February 2021. We will learn about the important ministry LSI is doing with youth (ages 13-18) in Iowa at some of their facilities in Waverly and Brentwood.

The Northeastern Synod is working with LSI and they will give their women an opportunity for a workshop and have a presentation by some of the students who will talk about their experiences and how LSI has helped them grow and develop in positive ways.

We will provide more details as we get confirmations and will ask our

communications team to send out notices in March, April, and May.

We will work on a registration form and other agenda details to be included in the next newsletter in May. We hope you will be excited to

join other SEIA women of faith in this unique opportunity."

Linda Kortemeyer, Judy Munger, and Vicki Adamson

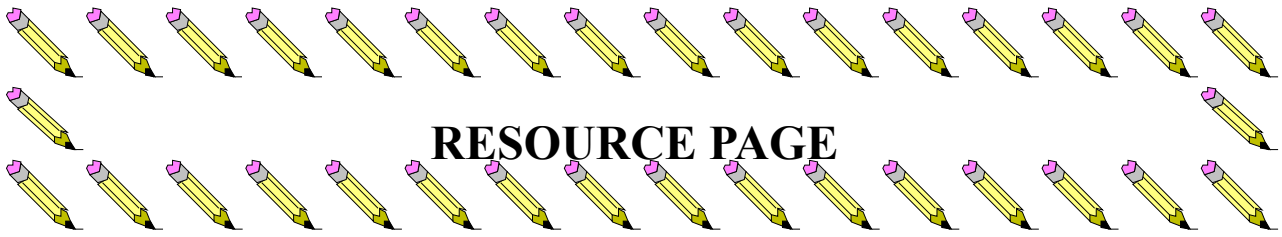


Plans are being made to hopefully hold our Gathering at Kirkwood Hotel, September 10 – 11, 2021.

So for now mark your calendars and more info will be coming out in our Summer Issue of the newsletter.

We are Women in Action. Theme Verse 1John 3:18: Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.





RESOURCE PAGE

HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMITTEE

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Kathryn Bly
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Phone-319-366-1201

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

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!

2021 Triennial Local Coordinator

Lynda Miller-569-285-8613

Lmchurchlady56@gmail.com

Contact Lynda if you have any questions in regards to the
Triennial

RESOURCE PERSONS

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**Today's Dream Tomorrow's Reality
 Racial Justice Advocate**

Deb Husak
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 rdhusak@iowatelecom.net

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:
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Southeastern Iowa Women's Organization Directory 2020-2021



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Cluster Liaison 5



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Cluster Liaison 10/11

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319-481-7332
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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 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

Your Stewardship Committee,

Carol Gruhn

Roberta Jurgersen



RETURN ADDRESS:

Lynda Miller, Editor
1808 S. 11th Avenue
Eldridge, IA 52748-1805

REF: Women of the ELCA

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit ORG.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Rock Island, IL
Permit No. 243

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.