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
“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 arrangements 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
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th># OF ITEMS</th>
<th># OF BOXES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QUILTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH KITS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL KITS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FABRIC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BABY KITS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
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 ____________________

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

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
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 # _____
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!
"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

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

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

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

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

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

Cluster #1
Marilyn Greene
305 West 5th St.
Huxley, IA 50124
515-597-2265
mmgreene48@hughes.net

Cluster #2
Pat Kolpin
400 McCellan Apt. #4
Tama, IA 52339
641-750-6661
nataliefaye592@gmail.com

Cluster #4
Vickei Adamson
13482 Ramsey Road
Anamosa, IA 52205
319-462-2096
vickia@relmach.com

Cluster #5
Dianne Strickler
401 1/2 S. 2nd.
Bellevue, Iowa 52031
diann3strick@hotmail.com

Cluster #6
Norma Bailee
2610 N. Division St.
Davenport, IA 52804
563-970-9618
bailienorma@gmail.com
Cindee Schnekloth
21539 250th St.
Eldridge, IA 52748
563-285-9219
cindeeschnekoth@gmail.com

Cluster #7

Cluster #8
Delores Stigge
11475 N. Gear Ave.
Burlington, IA 52601-8704
319-754-6997

Cluster #9
Anita Simmons
1117 D Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
641-932-7063
alsimmons@mchsi.com
@mchsi.com

Cluster 10/11
Lavon Heston
6300 School St Apt 309
Windsor Heights IA 50324
515-287-4855
lavonheston@msn.com

Please send updates to:
Lynda Miller
1808 S. 11th Ave.
Eldridge, IA 52748
lmchurchlady56@gmail.com
Southeastern Iowa Women's Organization Directory 2020-2021

President: Ardy Proehl
513 NW 3rd St. #8
Ogden, IA 50212
Cell: 507-524-3295
arproehl@gmail.com
Cluster Liaison 1

Secretary: Virginia Eggers
4393 160th Street
Clinton, IA 52732
H-563-242-4326
C-563-212-0497
virginiaeggers1949@gmail.com
Cluster Liaison 5

Treasurer: Lynda Miller
1808 S. 11th Avenue,
Eldridge, IA 52748
H-563-285-8613
C-563-343-1647
Lmchurchlady56@gmail.com
Cluster Liaison 9

Vice President: Ardy Hinds
1911 N.W. Elm Lane, Ankeny IA 50023
515-249-9216
bahninds@hotmail.com

STEWARDSHIP

Robertta Jurgersen
1025 N. 4th Street
Clinton, IA 52732
robertajanejurg@gmail.com
C-563-249-8864
H-563-242-2859
Cluster Liaison 8

Carol Gruhn
700 17th Ave. N
Clinton, IA 52732
H-563-243-4484
C-563-357-4426
Cluster Liaison 8
carolgruhn15@gmail.com

JUSTICE

Judy Munger
6300 School St. Apt. 306
Windsor Heights, IA 50324
C-515-971-1549
jam62a@gmail.com
Cluster Liaison 10/11

Send corrections to Lynda Miller
1808 S. 11th Avenue
Eldridge, IA 52748
e-mail lmchurchlady56@gmail.com

DISCIPLESHP

Vickie Adamson
13482 Ramsey Road
Anamosa, IA 522205
319-481-7332
vba76@aol.com

Linda Kortemeyer
3106 Forest Road
Davenport, IA 52807
H-563-359-7364
korte4m3@gmail.com

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
Your Stewardship Committee,
Carol Gruhn
Roberta Jurgersen
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.