



Views from the Rockies

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume 20 Issue 2

Second Quarter / 2008

Start making plans now to attend the Rocky Mountain Women's Synodical Convention ...

“Spiritual Strength and Wellness for Today's Women”

October 3-5, 2008
Sheraton Denver West
360 Union Blvd.
Lakewood, CO



*A Beautiful setting is set for the 2008 Women of the ELCA Biennial Convention
Exciting plans have been made including worship, guest speakers, workshops, Bible studies
and even a Labyrinth Walk for a great spiritual experience.*

An Event you won't want to miss!

Guest Speakers

Ellyn Anne Geisel

Author of “Apron Memories”

and

Brad Neider, M.D.

“The Happy Humorist”

“Laughter is the Best Medicine”



Ellyn Anne Geisel



Brad Neider, M.D.



Bible Study Presenter

Madelyn Busse, DM
will lead us in worship



Charlene Spillman
Executive Board member
will bring us news from
Church wide



Rev. Dr. Dena Williams



GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

LIFE BEFORE THE COMPUTER

- * Memory was something that you lost with age
- * An application was for employment
- * A program was a TV show
- * A cursor used profanity



- * A keyboard was a piano
- * A web was a spider's home
- * A virus was the flu
- * A CD was a bank account
- * A hard drive was a long trip on the road
- * A mouse pad was where a mouse lived
- * And if you had a 3 1/2 inch floppy
...you just hoped nobody found out

Greetings and Salutations To Each and Every one of you. May the Lord be with you.

As I was contemplating what to say to all of the women who read our *Views* or check our website this card sitting on my desk caught my eye. *"The Task ahead of you is never as great as the Power behind you"* (Pass it on Message Cards) Such a powerful message. It is awesome in context and meaning. How Powerful is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? If you put Jesus in your life as number 1, numero uno, because he is the Alpha and Omega, your life will have Power beyond your comprehension. When I think of our upcoming events, the Triennial, and our Convention I have only self doubt. But the Lord has a lesson for me. Number one, I need only trust. I was attending the President's conference recently in Rosemont, Ill and was informed we already have 1623 women going to Triennial. Wow how great is that!! I have spoken with so many women who are excited about going as I am. I have been given the honor of opening the Triennial with a welcome from the Rocky Mountain Synod Women. The privilege of representing you is well it's sort of scary. But when I look at that little card and

experience it's meaning, "the task ahead of you is never as great as the Power behind you", I am comforted, in the knowledge that God will be there with me and for me and I need not have fear. In Matthew 17:20 the bible says "if you have faith as small as a mustard seed nothing will be impossible for you". Again the Lord's word is awe inspiring. The reason I say this is because our Convention is also coming up in October the 3rd, 4th and 5th to be exact. Because of the past numbers attending convention I need the faith. The faith that women will participate, the faith that women will be willing to serve. Women, all women have gifts. Maybe you don't recognize yours and maybe you do. We need your gifts. You add to the mosaic of who we are. You are what God intended you to be. If you are not, maybe you're not listening. There has been a seed, a need, planted in you. You should recognize and use this to the glory of our God. It is He that created you and it is God that has set your path. Are you following it? When I hear, (and this is every church) how young women are not attending nor bringing their children to Sunday school, I wonder what God thinks. Is He saying, oh my but she is so tired, I have her doing so much, she doesn't have time to worship me. I'm saying, woman, you **DO** have time for God. Who do you think provides all of your needs, you. I don't think so, it is God and you need to know that he loves you so much that everything you have, he gives. Your children, what other miracle do you get to see in your life? God did that. They learn from watching you, if you go to church and worship your God then your child will want to emulate you. Do you realize what an impact you are making on your child's life? You are their God until they learn the difference and they will not be able to discriminate that difference until you take them to Gods house with you by their side. How beautiful is that.

We have two new words we will be using and they are powerful. "Women's Ministries". When I first heard the

words, I didn't pay much attention. But then I heard them again and God put them in my heart and now I understand what he wants from me. "Women's Ministries" is everything we do, we learn, we accomplish, we are. I will travel from church to church this year, encouraging women to use the resources from Church wide as well as whatever I can get from the other 64 Synods. Ladies there are a plethora of ideas and bible studies for you to use in the art of encouraging all women to take an active part in our churches, clusters and Synod.

There is a need for your gift in our Synod. If I have in any way touched you and you would like to contact me my phone # is 719-599-3223. I do have an email, which is blocked, I know, but please understand it is with regret because there are so many rude and obnoxious things on the internet. I have received hundreds when I open my account and I just can't deal with them. However if you would like to contact our editor, Pat Marruffo, she will notify me and I will add your name to my list and we will soon be emailing one another. So until we talk again I encourage you to be a part of your "Women's Ministries" at church, your cluster and your Synod. Step up and be acknowledged for your gifts, don't hide them. We are searching. A quick reminder that all churches in the Rocky Mountain Synod need to elect their Delegate to Convention. The form appears in this issue of the *Views* and will be on line at RMSWO. Until next time I am faithfully and prayerfully yours.
In His Name and I ask God to Bless you all,

Ina Anders





2008 Rocky Mountain Synodical Convention
October 3-5, 2008
Sheraton Denver West Hotel, 360 Union Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80228



Registration Form

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate | <input type="checkbox"/> Participant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Facilitator | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship |

Your Information (please print clearly)

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Congregation _____ Cluster/Conference _____
 Phone number(s) _____
 E-mail address _____
 Emergency Contact Name and phone number(s) _____
 Special Needs: Diet, Language Translation, Wheelchair or other accessibility concerns; please list _____

Workshop Preferences (2 Choices)

(1) _____ (2) _____

Convention information can be viewed at the synod's website: www.rmselca.org/women/newsevent/convention2008/index.btm with a link to the hotels website.

Early Bird Convention fee paid before August 1, 2008	\$135.00
Checks must be paid and postmarked by August 1, 2008 to qualify for Early Bird price	
Convention fee after August 1, 2008	\$150.00
Checks must be made in U.S. funds payable to: Women of the ELCA, and list Convention Registration in memo line. Payment of total amount must be included with all copies of the registration forms	

Mail registration form and payment to registrar:

Karleen Cotton	Telephone: 719-633-2290
2204 N Chelton Rd	Home email: karleenpayr@aol.com
Colorado Springs, CO 80909	Church email: pofcolospgs@gmail.com

Lodging: Two ways to register for your room: online or by phone

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/booking/reservation?id=0803051335&key=9B7EE>

This is the Sheraton Denver West web site where you can register for your room.

Hotel reservations can be made by calling 1-800 325 3535. Special rates of \$89.00 are available for two people per room prior to Sept.3, 2008. (Please indicate you are with the Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization to get the special rate) After Sept. 3, we cannot guarantee room availability or the hotel may charge you significantly higher rates. A valid credit card is required for all housing reservations. There will be an additional fee of \$10.00 per person for more than double occupancy in a room. When sharing a room, one person should make the reservation for all roommates.

Cancellation/Changes and Refunds: Fees for missed meals, late arrivals and early departures will not be refunded. Convention Fees will be refunded less a \$20.00 processing fee if cancellation or change is received in writing to the registrar no later than September 1, 2008 (All refunds will be processed after the convention.)

Convention Workshops

This year, advance sign-up for workshops is requested. When registering for the convention. Please indicate at least two choices on the registration form. (If we reach capacity on your first or second choices, we may ask you to make another preference. We may also cancel a workshop based on lack of interest.) Don't go away empty! However, if there is an opening at the convention for any workshop, you will be able to make changes at that time. Listed below are the workshop opportunities scheduled for the convention.

☐ **“Movement and Stretch and Play”** with Diana Bleignier.
Diana will lead us in stretch and play exercises during this workshop. She will teach us exercises that are comfortable and that will uplift you physically and spiritually.
Diane is a certified Aerobics instructor of 17 years and a member of the RMSWO Board. Her motto is “Fit Forever” as she strongly believes that all ages can maintain a certain level of fitness which helps enhance quality of life. She teaches at a health club facility as well as her local recreation centers. She is a member of our Saviors Lutheran Church in Greeley and is a part time staff person as well as the Senior Ministries Coordinator.

☐ **“The Spirituality of Icons--Gazing through the windows to heaven”** by Peggy Furgason.

At the Spirituality of Icons workshop you will learn more about practices of Christian faith from the other side of the world. Russian icons have been a part of the Orthodox Church for

centuries. The spirituality of the east includes the visual experience of the person viewing an icon prayerfully as a window to heaven. For most of us in the west, faith grows through praying, listening, reading, and singing. With icons we will tap into another part of our senses, to experience God through a new dimension. In the workshop, we will look at the history of icons, discuss how an icon is “written”, and learn how icons are a part of the individual's faith experience.

☐ **“Depression and Suicide Prevention”**

with Sue Ann Glusenka, RN,BSN,BA

This informative and interactive workshop will provide insight and tools to help us take seriously our call as disciples of Jesus and equip us to support ministries of suicide prevention as well as treatment and prevention for depression. We will look to Jesus as our role model and the Holy Spirit to empower our journeys of wellness with spiritual strength, as we discover the 4 E's of mental health ministry. Sue Ann is an educator who started her career in elementary education before becoming an RN. Sue Ann is currently working as a staff nurse at Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver and as Clinical Instructor Adjunct Faculty for Metropolitan State College of Denver. She also works for LifeHealth in the community doing health screenings and counseling at community health fairs. While serving as a parish nurse in Minneapolis and St Louis congregations, Sue Ann developed ministry teams focused on mental health, and addiction awareness, called E4 and Faith partners, respectively. Sue Ann is the mother of three adult children and the wife of Senior Pastor Ron Glusenka at Bethany Lutheran Church in Denver. Sue Ann and Ron were coauthors of the LWT 2006

Summer Bible study. She maintains balance by being an avid runner and gardener and enjoys travel, reading historical fiction, music & dancing, taking vegetarian cooking classes as well as hiking and snowshoeing.

☐ **“A Child's Story”** by Shirley Gronemeyer.

This workshop will be about telling the children in your life their personal “story.” You will learn tools and techniques on recording your child's life story. This is a unique way to help your child celebrate his life, the beginnings, the progress, the difficulties, the joys and the promise of the future. Shirley was in the process of seeking to adopt a child and was blessed by the Lord to be able to have her own child. In response to the blessing of her son, Shirley created this unique and inspiring way to make her child the star of his life.

Shirley is a native of Colorado and lives in Swink, CO with her husband and sixteen year old son. She is currently serving on the RMSWO Board as Cluster Administrator. She is active in her church, Mission Lutheran Church which was newly formed in January of 2008. Shirley has worked as a Quality Tech at Southeast Colorado Mental Health Service in La Junta for twenty two years.

☐ **“Financial Independence: It IS Women's Work”** by Debra Martin.

This seminar is designed to introduce basic financial principals to a women's audience. It discusses the need to define dreams in order to make them achievable, ways to balance short and long term goals and processes for managing money on a day-to-day basis. Introductory-level concepts help women think about creating and maintaining their own financial independence.

Deborah is a financial Associate of Thrivent Financial in the Rocky Mountain Region.

□ **A Labyrinth workshop will be provided by Pastor**

Nita Matthews. Most of us have been taught to pray from early childhood, but our prayers are often one sided. We ask, we cry, we confess, we praise...and when we're done we say "AMEN" and our prayer time is over. God, who has listened to all we had to share, speaks to us too, but more often than not, we aren't listening. We've already moved on. 'Listening prayer' is something foreign to many of us. Being still and hearing God's response is a discipline we need to cultivate. The labyrinth provides an opportunity for us to practice this discipline. Participants in the labyrinth workshop will have an opportunity to walk and pray. They will be encouraged to be still and listen as they walk...not an easy task for most. **Please come prepared to walk with a fresh pair of socks to wear on your feet. (A limited supply of clean socks will be available for those who forget)** Pastor Nita Matthews has a BA in Sociology/Psychology at California Lutheran University and attended Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary – emphasis

in Pastoral Care. She was ordained June 7, 1986 and served several churches in Arizona and is currently serving as Associate Pastor for Bethel Lutheran, Colorado Springs. Pastor Nita and her husband Kent are labyrinth builders. They make themselves available to teach others how to build temporary and permanent labyrinths, and lead workshops on using the labyrinth as a prayer tool.

□ **"Today's Dream: Tomorrow's Reality Workshop (TDTR) "**

by Carlyn Nankervis
Members of the Anti-racism team assisting her with the workshop are Leslie White Vance, Daphne Remington, Lillian Edwards and Bobby Parish.
The Women of the ELCA is committed to developing an anti racism identity. In this workshop you will learn what this means to us as individuals, as synodical organizations and as Christians. We will discuss a definition of Racism and recognize God's call to battle against it. Participants will also be introduced to the concepts of Institutional Racism, White Privilege, Cultural Conditioning and Power Analysis. These definitions and principals will be presented with a Biblical Foundation.

Carlyn Nankervis, Secretary of the RMSWO Board, has recently attended the TDTR training. Carlyn, a Public School teacher, is committed to promoting Anti-Racism education through the Church and through the public schools.

□ **"Eating Disorders for all Ages of Women"** by Nancy Ziemke, a licensed psychologist.

□ **"Card Making Workshop for the Craft Minded"** by Darlene Carlson

A fun and creative time will be provided to all who sign up for this class. Learn several card making techniques and bring home a hand crafted card in this workshop.
Darlene is a member of King of Glory Lutheran church in Arvada and a member of the Women of the ELCA. She was a Stampin' Up representative and taught card making classes for many years.

□ **"Strong Women, Strong Bones"** by Donna Liess, M.H.E. She is an extension educator, Family and Consumer Sciences, Colorado State University.

Pre and Post Convention Activities

Friday afternoon until 5:00 pm and Sunday afternoon following the convention

Free Shuttles run continuously to Colorado Mills Shopping Center and Belmar outdoor shopping Mall from the hotel. Tours in private vans or cars driven by volunteers to Blackhawk for gambling, Denver Art Museum, Botanic Gardens, Red Rock Park, or Denver Museum of Science and Nature will be arranged if there is an interest. Please email Pat Kenning at patamk@yahoo.com or phone her at 303-794-0357 so she is able to set up these activities.

(If emailing Pat, please include your name and contact information). She is also looking for volunteer drivers

Women of Witness Awards

2008 Rocky Mountain Synod Convention

About the Award

The Women of Witness (formally known as The Lydia Fund) project was created to award outstanding women for their fine service to the Women of the ELCA. Monetary gifts given in honor of the recipient are placed in a scholarship fund providing assistance for convention attendees and educational programs. Awards will be presented at the Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization 2008 Convention on October 3-5 held at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel. All nominees are encouraged to attend the convention to personally receive her award.

Who was Lydia

Lydia was a woman who listened to Paul preach the Gospel of the Lord. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. She and her house hold were baptized and believers in the Lord. Lydia made the most of her life vocationally and spiritually. She used her life to hospitably serve others and to reach out to people. This was her *witness of faith!*





Award Recipient

Each unit is encouraged to nominate a woman that has "Acted Boldly on her faith in Jesus Christ" and willingly shared her God given talents and gifts.

Who is someone whose heart has truly been opened to the word of the Lord?

Who is someone that has touched your heart through her hospitality and outreach to others? Who is someone that has truly touched your heart in sharing and being of *witness to her faith?*

Nominations

-  To honor someone special from your unit to receive the **Women of Witness Award**, a special gift of \$20 or more will be thankfully received.
-  It is also requested that you submit a brief explanation of how this person has truly touched your hearts as to her witness of faith along with her photograph.
-  **Each unit is encouraged to submit your nomination by July 1, 2008.** Pictures and bios of each person receiving this special award will be in the Convention Program if received on or before the July 1st deadline.
-  Please send your gift, made payable to RMSWO, along with your completed nomination form to the Women of Witness Chair.



RMWSO
Diana Bleignier, Women of Witness Chair
1606 22nd Ave.
Greeley, Colorado 80631



Women of Witness Nomination Form

Award Recipient _____
(Name of Woman)

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Congregation _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is our gift of \$ _____
(Payable to RMWSO)

Picture Enclosed

Bio:

**How Has This Person Truly Touched Your Hearts as to
Her Witness of Faith**

(An acknowledgement will be sent to the honoree)

Convention Connections

“Spiritual Strength and Wellness for Today’s Women”

Connect to the convention and reap the Benefits



October 3-5, 2008

360 Union Blvd

Lakewood, CO



Connect to the Convention by signing up today. Take advantage of the Early bird discount!

Connect: to God and others.

Connect with worship, music, prayer and communion.

Connect with Charlene Spillman from the executive board of the Women of the ELCA as we listen to her message.

Relax in a beautiful hotel setting at the Sheraton Denver West in Lakewood, CO.

Connect with the Board Members. Learn how the organization conducts its business. Witness the election process and installation.

Connect with God through Bible studies led by Rev. Dr. Dena Williams, You will be inspired by her words and be actively involved in the study.

Connect by signing up for the informative and skill-building workshops.

Connect with our exciting line up of guest speakers.

Connect with the resolutions that will be passed at our convention.

Connect with shopping, sights, and local restaurants. Shopping is only minutes from the hotel at the Colorado Mills Shopping Center.

Connect with the numerous exhibitors at the convention.

What will you bring home?

**Inspiring moments, Thrilling stories, New discoveries,
And life-long memories.**

October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The RMSWO recommend supporting the Wyoming Safehouse located in Cheyenne, Wyoming at the 2008 Synodical Convention.

Safehouse is a domestic violence shelter/sexual assault service. It serves women and their children in Laramie County. The services they offer include: a shelter facility for persons who are in a violent or potentially violent environment, individual programs for domestic violence help, children, adult (senior) advocacy, sexual assault, transitional housing, advocacy and discussion groups, and volunteer opportunities.

This organization started in 1975 as a sexual assault program and has grown to include all of the previously mentioned programs and more. They will be starting a capital campaign soon to raise money to build another shelter as they are growing out of the current one. During an average week, the shelter houses six women with six to eight children among them. The victims of domestic violence often leave home with only the clothes on their backs.

To help this organization we suggest the following in-kind gifts to be collected at the convention:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) unopened cosmetics | 2) personal hygiene supplies |
| 3) disposable diapers and wipes | 4) light bulbs |
| 5) new women's & children's socks | 6) underwear for women/children |
| 7) baby food. | 8) money to purchase items |

The convention offering will be given to the Wyoming Safehouse.



At the convention we will be collecting and assembling Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please bring any or all of the following items to help the homeless throughout the world. Ordinary things become extraordinary when they are assembled into LWR Parish Projects and shared as gifts of love and comfort.

- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- One washcloth, dark color recommended
- One bath-size bar (4-5oz.) of soap, any brand, in its original wrapping
- One comb, wide tooth preferred, remove packaging
- One metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached, remove packaging (do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file)
- Six Band-Aids® (or similar brand), preferably 1/2" to 3/4"; secure together with a rubber band.



All items should be new and/or in good condition. At the convention we will wrap smaller items in the washcloth; wrap washcloth and remaining items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags. **NO TOOTHPASTE (Money can be donated to help purchase toothpaste to be given separately to complete the Health Kits.)**

On July 17, 2007, Lutheran World Relief announced, effective immediately, toothpaste should no longer be included in LWR health kits assembled and donated by Lutherans and other faith-based groups throughout the U.S. All other contents of the health kits remain the same. LWR plans to purchase toothpaste in bulk to be distributed alongside the health kits when shipped overseas. This move will allow greater control over the safety and quality of the toothpaste provided. If some women or units want to make and complete the kits prior to the convention, that is acceptable too.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN SYNODICAL
WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
CONVENTION PROPOSED AGENDA**

Friday, October 3, 2008

12:00 p.m. Registration Opens

1:00-5:00 p.m. Pre-Convention Activities

3:00-3:45 p.m. Cluster Coordinator Training

4:00-4:30 p.m. Delegate Training

4:30-6:00 p.m. Dinner on your own

6:00-6:30 p.m. Convention Opening –
Worship

6:30-7:00 p.m. Churchwide Representative:
Charlene Spillman

7:00-7:45 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION

7:45-8:00 p.m. Break

8:00-8:45 p.m. Speaker: EllynAnne Geisel
“Apron Memories”

9:00-10:00 p.m. Get-acquainted Reception

11:00-11:15 a.m. Break

11:15-12:00 p.m. Workshops

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch/Cluster Meetings

1:00-1:45 p.m. Workshops

1:45-2:00 p.m. Break

2:00-2:45 p.m. Bible Study: Pastor Dena
Williams

2:45-3:15 p.m. Break

3:15-4:00 p.m. Workshops

4:00-4:15 p.m. Break

4:15-5:15 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION

5:15-6:15 p.m. Free Time
Service Project – LWR Health
Kits

6:15-7:30 p.m. Dinner
Women of Witness Awards

7:30-8:00 p.m. Break
Service Project

Saturday, October 4, 2008

7:00-7:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00-8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Convention
Offering)

8:30-9:15 a.m. Bible Study: Pastor Dena
Williams

9:15-9:45 a.m. Break/Refreshments/Browse
Vendors

9:45-10:15 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION
(Designated Offering)

10:15-11:00 a.m. Keynote Speaker

8:00-8:45 p.m. Speaker: Dr. Brad Nieder –
“Laughter is the Best Medicine”

Sunday, October 5, 2008

8:00-9:00 a.m. Brunch

9:00-10:00 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION or Break

10:30-12:00 a.m. Closing Worship (Convention
Offering)
Installation of Officers

Noon Convention Ends

Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization
Proposed Budget Fiscal Years 08/09 and 09/10

Income	2008-2009 Budget Convention Year	2009-2010 Budget Gathering Year
Offerings		
Unit Offerings	12,271.00	12,271.00
Cluster Offerings	1,100.00	1,100.00
Newsletter Subscriptions	50.00	100.00
Board Offerings	1,250.00	1,250.00
Designated Giving	1,543.00	1,200.00
Lydia/Women of Witness	0.00	0.00
Fund Raising	0.00	0.00
Travel Equalization	400.00	212.00
Interest Income	271.00	271.00
Interest Checking	0.00	0.00
Registrations	0.00	0.00
Convention	21,683.00	0.00
Fall Gathering	0.00	3,945.00
Convention Offering	2,093.00	0.00
Fall Gathering Offering	0.00	900.00
Other Income	1,237.00	1,250.00
Total Income	41,898.00	22,499.00
Expenses		
Anti Racism	200.00	200.00
Audit Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00
Board Mtg Expense	4,710.00	4,700.00
Board Outreach/Training	130.00	250.00
Board Rep/Cluster mtg	400.00	400.00
Cluster Coordinator to Board Meetings	700.00	300.00
Other Offering	0.00	0.00
Churchwide Offering	6,184.00	5,742.00
Convention/Gathering Expense	0.00	0.00
Convention	21,683.00	0.00
Fall Gathering	0.00	3,945.00
Convention Offering	0.00	0.00
Fall Offering	0.00	0.00
Designated Board Offering	0.00	0.00
Designated Ministries	1,000.00	1,000.00
Cluster Advance Fund	500.00	500.00
Nominating Committee	0.00	0.00
Newsletter Expenses	2,000.00	2,000.00
Office	150.00	150.00
Postage	600.00	600.00
Postage Other	45.00	45.00
President/Region Mtgs	200.00	200.00
PR & Website Development	0.00	0.00
Supplies/Copies	250.00	250.00
Stephanie Bowes Scholarship	500.00	0.00
SWO Rep/Synod Assembly	250.00	617.00
Telephone	25.00	25.00
Travel Equalization	400.00	0.00
Triennial Promotion	300.00	75.00
Other Expenses/Miscellaneous	671.00	500.00
Total Expense	41,898.00	22,499.00
Net Income	0.00	0.00

Stephanie Bowes Scholarship

Scholarships for Young Women to Attend Major RMSWO Events

A scholarship fund was established following the death of the daughter of our first RMSWO President Terry Bowes. The purpose of this scholarship fund is to provide an incentive to involve young women in the life of the church by providing them with financial assistance to attend major events.

This year we are offering three scholarships to attend the RMSWO Convention in Denver, Colorado in October, 2008. Please see the rest of this publication for details of this event. The scholarship will cover the cost of registration \$135 for the event, plus \$25 towards travel or other associated expenses. We encourage each congregation to assist their young woman guest to find transportation and to provide lodging.

Please ask young women ages 17 - 35 from your congregation to apply for a scholarship to attend this worthwhile event by extending this scholarship opportunity to them we will assist them in their growth in faith, affirm their gifts, support them in their callings, and equip them for ministry and action in the church, society and the world.

Application for Stephanie Bowes Scholarship

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Congregation _____ Cluster _____

Age Group 17-25 _____ 26-30 _____ 31-35 _____

Please answer on a separate piece of paper the two essay questions listed below. Please provide a one to two paragraph answer, and send your answers along with this completed form to the address below.

- 1) What is your vision of and/or for the Women of the ELCA?
- 2) How can you serve the Women of the ELCA? This may be service in your unit's women's ministries, at the synod level, in your communities, or in some other capacity.
- 3) Yes or no question. Have you attended an RMSWO convention or gathering before? _____

The deadline for the Stephanie Bowes Scholarship application is July 15, 2008. Please mail all applications to Gail Young, your synod treasurer at the address below. Your application will be considered by a scholarship committee, who will then recommend recipients to the RMSWO board for a vote.

Mail applications to: Gail Young, 3111 Thomes Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001
For inquiries please call Gail at 307-631-4092



Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization Women of the ELCA 2008 Nomination Form

You must have the permission of the nominee before submitting the form.

Nomination For: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board Member
(Circle appropriate position)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Congregation: _____

Congregation Address: _____

Cluster: _____

Age Range: ___ 34 or under ___ 35-49 ___ 50-65 ___ 65 or over

If you are a woman of color, to which category do you belong *(as defined by the ELCA)*?

___ African American ___ Asian ___ Black ___ Arab and Middle Eastern

___ Hispanic ___ American Indian and Alaska Native Other

If you speak English as a second language, what is your primary language?

Are you a woman with disabilities? _____

The term "disability" means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual.

___ I have attended a Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention.

___ I have never attended a Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention.

___ I have attended a Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization Convention.

___ I have never attended a Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization Convention.

Please complete other side of this form and return to the address of one of the women below by: July 1, 2008.

Maren Felde
2022 Pebrican Ave
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-778-2865
marenfelde@yahoo.com

DUPLICATE THIS FORM TO SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE NOMINATION



Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization Women of the ELCA 2008 Nomination Form

You must have the permission of the nominee before submitting the form.

EXPERIENCE: Please indicate up to four experiences, offices, and / or other responsibilities over the last five years for the following:

A. WOMEN OF THE ELCA (Include congregational unit, cluster, Synodical women's organization, churchwide women's organization)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

B. ELCA (Include congregation, cluster / conference, synod, churchwide)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

C. ECUMENICAL (Include local, state, national and international organizations)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

D. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION (Please indicate offices, volunteer services and / or responsibilities for local, state, national and international organizations.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

E. VOCATION / OCCUPATION (Include full or part-time)

Please attach a statement (no more than 250 words, please) responding to the following:

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Rocky Mountain Synodical board, with the Women of the ELCA?
2. Describe the special gifts, skills and experience you would bring to the board.
3. What challenges do you expect the board to be facing, in the next two years?

Form submitted by: (If other than nominee)

Name: _____ Phone(_____) _____

Address: _____

Congregation: _____

Congregation Address: _____

I am willing to have my name placed in nomination.

(Signature of Nominee)

What is a Resolution and How do you Write It

Please Submit Resolutions for Convention

Please consider this action prayerfully, and should you, as a delegate or a congregational unit, feel there is some need not being met by the board, let us know via a resolution. If an issue excites you, or touches you, or inspires you, submit it via resolution. It will then be addressed by all women of the Rocky Mountain Synod through their elected delegates.

The **resolution** is one very long sentence directing the organization to take a stand or engage in some action. It can also commend or take exception to actions of other entities. It must not provide direct instructions to any group other than the RMSWO or its president and board of directors. The actions or other recommendations are contained in the resolves at the close of the resolution. The argument for taking the action is laid out in a series of whereas'es. Ideally each argument and only one argument should be placed in a single whereas. These should be arranged in the most logical order possible. Even though resolutions are frequently long, brevity is a virtue. Each argument should be made concisely but clearly.

The most efficient way to **write a resolution** is to make a simple outline or

list of premises which you will turn into the WHEREAS clauses and a similar simple list of phrases for the RESOLVED clauses. In fact, you should begin by determining what your RESOLVED clauses are; that is, how many there should be and what their basic thrust is. You will know how many by the number of entities we need to address or the number of problems we need to fix. After you decide specifically how you want the problem fixed, determine the smallest number of concepts you need to explain to a person unfamiliar with the problem that there is a problem. The best resolutions can be picked up by a person unfamiliar with the issue and hold that person's attention (in other words, are as short as possible) while still actually explaining the problem and the solution or solutions. This method, deciding the ending first and then crafting the arguments to reach it, will result in the simplest and clearest resolution. Then, when you actually write the formal resolution, you can focus on the writing and the style, having already done the thinking part.

Here are the punctuation and **layout rules** for writing resolutions:

1. Each argument begins with the word

WHEREAS, indented and all caps. BE IT RESOLVED and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, which introduce the resolve sections, are also indented and written in caps. Note that WHEREAS is followed by a comma, but the two versions of be it RESOLVED are not.

2. Each WHEREAS before the final one ends with a semicolon and the word "and." This is true of the RESOLVES as well.

3. The final WHEREAS ends with a colon, the words "Now, therefore," and a hard return. Please note that Now is capitalized.

4. The final RESOLVE ends with a period. This reflects the fact that the entire resolution is a single sentence. Sometimes one is taxed to refrain from writing sentences within WHEREAS'es, but inserting a complete sentence is not playing the game fairly.

5. A blank line separates the elements of the resolution.

6. In the beginning of the first RESOLVE surround the year and the state with commas. The formula looks like this:

BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of the Blind in convention assembled this eighth day of July, 2000, in the City of Atlanta, Georgia.

Delegate Name

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Congregational Unit

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

I submit the attached resolution related to:

Resolutions must be submitted to the Committee on Reference and Counsel two months prior to the opening of business Friday the first day of convention. Presentation, discussion and voting on resolutions will take place during convention.

Be refreshed. Be inspired. Be connected. Come to the Waters!

Helen Riggs, Pacifica Partners Editor

The largest gathering of women in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City this summer and you need to be there. This is a gift you *must* give yourself. This weekend of July 10-13, 2008 will teach, encourage, and challenge you to a greater understanding of your faith and what it means to live it out as together we are called to act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ.



At "Come to the Waters," Women of the ELCA's 7th Triennial Gathering, we will celebrate the life-giving waters of our baptism and be renewed in our commitment to share God's living waters with others. Our featured speaker Sister Joan Chittister (left), Bible study presenter the Rev. Karen Bockelman, and preachers the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, the Rev. Heidi Neumark, and the Rev. Marysol Diaz will bring their gifts to explore various dimensions of our theme.

As with past gatherings, there will be workshops — this time there will be two for girls only — and opportunity to share in-kind gifts, explore the exhibit hall, and take part in servant opportunities and another run/walk/roll to support our Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls initiative. Our host city, Salt Lake City, combines the best of being a major city with Western small-town friendliness. The surrounding area offers an

abundance of natural beauty and places of historical interest. Optional tours will also be offered before and after the gathering. Organize a group from your congregation! There are women who have never taken part in an event like this and who would be uplifted and strengthened by experiencing this gathering. An invitation is all they need. Your synod's triennial gathering promoter can help, too! **Contact Yvonne Page at (719) 683-2113 who is our Triennial promoter.**



Some synods are arranging group transportation. Registration booklets can be requested at any time. Call us at 800-638-3522, ext. 2730, or e-mail Women.ELCA@elca.org. You also can download and print the registration booklet from www.womenoftheelca.org/tg08/registration.html and register online. Bring yourself. Bring your niece, daughter, granddaughter, or friend. Bring a group. We'll meet you at the Salt Palace in July 2008.

PROGRAM FOR THE GATHERING

Thursday, July 10–Sunday, July 13

PLUNGE INTO THE LIVING WATERS IN SPIRATION SESSIONS OVERVIEW

Thursday evening, July 10

Join us for a high-energy opening with music, song, and video highlights of Women of the ELCA's first 20 years. We will celebrate our purpose and mission by remembering our baptisms in worship. After a fun "who's here" rally, we will journey together to Temple Square to hear the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's rehearsal concert.

Friday, July 11

After song and some brief greetings, we plunge right in this morning with worship. Following the service, our featured speaker, Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B., will address the assembly in her characteristic warm, stirring way.

After an afternoon of educational opportunities we gather again for an evening plunge into the living waters. We will drink deep from the well of the Bible with the Rev. Karen Bockelman, who will help us understand baptismal

living. Following this immersion into our understanding of our covenant relationship with God, we will live it out in worship, which includes a Thankoffering service with preaching by the Rev. Marysol Diaz.

Saturday, July 12

Be warmly welcomed into this new day with worship featuring preaching by the Rev. Heidi Neumark and an opportunity to offer in-kind gifts. Dive into this morning's stimulating exchange among a panel of bold women who will share their baptismal calling experiences. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and share feedback.

Our evening immersion calls us to the depths of scripture study with leader the Rev. Karen Bockelman. Following the Bible study, we will discover new ideas and opportunities, as we build on our strengths to forge our future as women mobilizing to act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ.

Sunday, July 13

What a week! We gather one last time to give thanks and praise together. We'll begin with reflection and thanksgiving, and close with a service of Holy Communion. The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton will share a message of bold faith as we "go in peace and serve the Lord."

➤ **RECIPE:**

OATMEAL CAKE by Shirley G. Gronemeyer

Pour 1 ½ Cups boiling water over 1 Cup (quick) oatmeal and let stand 20 minutes.

Cream 1 stick oleo with 1 Cup brown sugar, and 1 cup white sugar.

Add 2 beaten eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 teaspoon maple flavor

Add all to oatmeal.

Add 1 ½ Cups sifted flour,

1 teaspoon soda,

1 teaspoon cinnamon,

½ teaspoon salt.

Mix well. Bake 350 ° for 35 min.

Topping:

½ Cup butter

1½ Cup brown sugar

¼ Cup cream or milk

1 Cup coconut

1 cup chopped nuts.

Take cake out of oven and spread on topping and put under broiler until brown.



Do you have a favorite meal that you would like to share with women? We would like to have a Recipe section. Please include appetizer, soup, salad, relishes, bread, vegetables, main dishes and desert. Please send your recipes to pmarruf1@elp.rr.com, to be included in every issue of the Views.



Christians

by
Maya Angelou

"A woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ
that a man should have to seek Him first to find her."

When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not shouting "I'm clean
livin'"

I'm whispering "I was lost, Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say... "I am a Christian" I don't speak of this with
pride.

I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry
on.

When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not claiming to be
perfect,
My flaws are far too visible but, God believes I am worth it.

When I say... "I am a Christian" I still feel the sting of pain..
I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say... "I am a Christian" I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner Who received God's good grace,
somehow!

Pretty is as Pretty does... but beautiful is just plain beautiful!

TODAY IS BEAUTIFUL CHRISTIAN SISTERS DAY

I'm supposed to send this to BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, and
you are one of
them!!!

If you share this with other women,
you will boost another woman's self esteem,
and she will know that you care about her.

RMSWO BOARD MEMBERS 2007 / 2008



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About Views from the Rockies

Views from the Rockies is produced and circulated by the Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization (RMSWO), Women of the ELCA, and provides information concerning current programs, projects and other information.

One copy is distributed free to every church in the RM Synod, cluster coordinator, current RMSWO board members, past RMSWO presidents, the RM Synod office, and Women of the ELCA churchwide staff. Copies are also sent to individuals and groups who have subscribed. Many congregations have subscriptions for each of their circles, unit officers or their women's board, and new members of their congregations.

The Views is published quarterly (Jan/Feb/Mar, April/May/June, July/Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov/Dec.) Expiration dates are printed after each person's name and are in red if the subscription is about to expire.

Please make a note of that date and renew before the next issue. **ALSO, if your address has changed, or will change soon, please notify the editor of the new address ASAP.** Subscriptions paid for the 2007 Views will be sent the 2008 Views for free!

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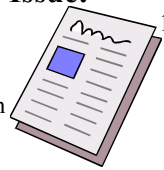
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Calendar of Events

May 2008
22 – 24 2008 Synod Assembly
Denver Hyatt
650 15th St.
Denver, CO 80202

July 2008
8 – 10 Seventh Triennial Convention
of Women of the ELCA
“Come to the Waters”
Salt Lake City, UT
100 S. West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

October 2008
3 – 5 RMSWO Convention
Sheraton Denver West
360 Union Blvd.
Denver, CO 80228

Reminder

Do you have any articles you would like to include in future issues of **“THE VIEW”**?

Please forward your article to Pat Marruffo no later than:

3rd QTR 1 JUL 08
4th QTR 1 OCT 08
1st QTR 1 JAN 09
2nd QTR 1 APR 09