

# Rocky Mtn Synodical Women's Organization

## Detour Ahead



A year ago, the Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization had a busy year planned! Some of us were to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention and Gathering in Phoenix, Arizona and our own Synod Women's Convention was to be held last fall. But, of course, last March, along with everyone else, we found ourselves having to take a DETOUR from what we knew to be normal schedules and routines. During the past year, with the Lutheran Center in Chicago closed, the Women of the ELCA Churchwide staff began working from home. The Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization (RMSWO) board continued to meet, but by Zoom instead of in person or by phone. Many congregational women's groups either ceased meeting in person or began Zoom Bible studies. Quilting, sewing and craft groups, however, managed to be productive as many groups continued to deliver quilts and kits to the Urban Servant Corps in Denver for Lutheran World Relief.

So, what does the rest of 2021 entail?

The Churchwide Women's 11<sup>th</sup> Triennial, "Just Love," will be a Virtual-Digital convention held August 3-5.

The RMSWO Fall Convention will also be virtual/digital and will take place Friday, Oct. 8 and Saturday, Oct. 9.

With few women's groups meeting in person, and then not collecting offerings, financial support for the churchwide organization dropped off dramatically. As of Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, Churchwide Women of the ELCA is keeping only two staff on full time, with the remaining staff cutting back to part-time. During these continued difficult times, the RMSWO remains committed to helping women in crisis, families in need of food and shelter, and helping to end sex trafficking of our young people.

Julie Elmquist, president, RMSWO  
[sjelmquist@msn.com](mailto:sjelmquist@msn.com)

### Questions for Reflection

**What women do you know who need some support – materially, emotionally, spiritually?**

**What can you do to lift up the women of your community?**