

Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization

Who are the Women of the ELCA?

We are of various ages, backgrounds, levels of education and in varied family/friend relationships. As a community of women, created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.

Grow...Affirm...Support...Engage

Some of the ways we fulfill our purpose statement is by attending Conventions and Gatherings. The Women of the ELCA Tenth Triennial Convention and Gathering was held July of 2017 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Hundreds of sisters in faith from all over the country attended this inspiring faith-filled time and experienced enriching workshops, stirring worship, engaging Bible study and challenging cinema.

Our own Rocky Mountain Synodical Women's Organization sponsored a Fall Gathering last October at Bethel Lutheran in Aurora. "Women of Faith: Past & Present," was the theme and attendees learned about women of the Bible as well as our own current Women of Faith. Nearly 80 women attended this weekend of retreat, renewal and community in Christ.

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Women of the Bible were featured in a skit presented at the Fall Gathering— "Women of Faith: Past & Present." They included those shown below (*from left to right*): The Widow (widow's mite), Lydia (seller of purple cloth), Mary Magdalene, Rahab (from Jerico), Martha, Mary the mother of Jesus, Bonnie (our narrator!), the Samaritan Woman at the Well, MRS. Noah, and a servant of the Queen of Sheba. Many thanks to Pastor Rebecca Aardahl (Bible Study leader), speakers: Ihoby Rakotomalala, Judy Messal, Pat Kenning (as Katie Luther), Jennifer Reali, Pastor Emily Cardin, Betty Boyd, Mary Jo Mettler, Deacon Cindy Robles, "Dolly Parton," our host churches Bethel & St. Mark's, RMSWO Board members, and all Gathering attendees.

Engage in Ministry and Action!

In even numbered years, our RMSWO holds its Convention.

Please mark your calendars and plan now to attend!

What: *A*MAZE* of Grace*

When: October 5-7, 2018 (Friday evening—Sunday a.m.)

Where: Grace Lutheran, 1128 E. Boulder St., Colorado Springs, CO

How: to attend? **Attend as either a voting member for your Congregational Unit or as a visitor.**

If attending as a voting member, we will be electing officers, board members, and delegates to the 2020 Triennial Convention. We also vote on the budget, resolutions and other business brought before the group. A representative from the Church Wide Organization will assist with elections and installations of the officers, board, and delegates.

Visitors and voting members participate in all other aspects of the Convention weekend: Bible study, workshops, keynote speaker, vendors, exhibitors, meals, fellowship and worship.

See the Feb/Mar issue of "Views from the Rockies" for more information or contact Anna Thompson at (307) 221-3218.

