



Kearney Convention Coming



Keynoter Elizabeth Styffe

A "Spirit-Driven Woman," Elizabeth Styffe of Saddleback Church is the keynote speaker for the Nebraska Women of the ELCA convention in Kearney, Sept. 23-25. She will speak Saturday morning concerning her

spiritual journey and will also conduct a workshop, "Who Is Driving Your Car?"

Pre-convention workshops on Friday will begin at 3 p.m. That evening's worship service will be conducted by convention chaplain Michelle Olson, with Bishop David deFreese bringing the message. He will also lead the Saturday Bible Study.

Delegate orientation on Saturday morning will precede formal opening of the convention at 8:15 a.m.

Chief business of the convention will be election of officers. The president will be elected by an ecclesiastical ballot, with the first ballot be-

ing a nominating ballot.

The nominating committee will present a ballot for other officers and board representatives.

A Spice of the Spirit Variety Extravaganza is scheduled for Saturday evening, with performances by Women of the ELCA members from across the state.

Nancy Christensen of Minnesota, vice president of the Women of the ELCA Executive Board, will represent churchwide at the convention, and lead a workshop on prayer.

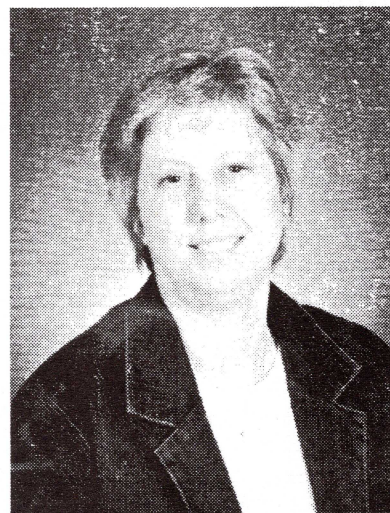
Music leader will be Pastor Linda Witte Henke of Aurora,

(continued on page 6)

Lincoln Woman to Board

Diane L. Brauer of Lincoln, who was elected to the churchwide Executive Board of the Women of the ELCA, is a recent arrival in Nebraska, having moved to Lincoln last summer where her husband, the Rev. Brad Brauer, became pastor of Grace Lutheran Church.

She had a wide history with Women of the ELCA in other states where he has served, and immediately became involved in the Nebraska SWO, serving as a committee mem-



Diane L. Brauer

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A Devotional Study

*By Judy Stahlecker
Northeast Conference Board Representative
Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization*

Learn To Love Them

*I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.
Matthew 5:44*

It is not hard to love our friends and to return their favors. Much the same can be said about loving people who have the same cultural background that we have. But things get more difficult when we must first build bridges to reach people on the other side -- people on the "wrong" side of the railroad tracks, people who are different, people whom we have consider a nuisance.

A property owner inquired of an agricultural expert how to get rid of dandelions. The expert replied, "Learn to love them." When applied to people we consider undesirable, this is a hard lesson to learn and put into practice. But that is what our Lord wants us to do -- learn to love them!

What about your relation to people who, at work, in community life, in school, even in church and home, get on your nerves? Learn to love them -- and to favor them with words and deeds that come from love. Love does wonders for them and for you.

Learning to love the unloved and unlovable would be difficult -- in fact, impossible -- without help from God. Jesus realized this, saying that when we love our enemies we are the sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father. Here is where the family resemblance shows -- like Father, like children. The Father makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and unjust. He sent his own Son to die for the sins of all.

What about you and the people in the garden of your like who are more like dandelions than daisies? For Jesus' sake -- and yours -- learn to love them.

PRAYER: O God, the Lord of all, your Son commanded us to love our enemies and to pray for them. Lead us from prejudice to truth, deliver us from hatred, cruelty and revenge, and enable us to stand before you, reconciled through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Expressions of the Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization, Women of the ELCA

Expressions provides information concerning programs and projects of the Churchwide and Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization, Women of the ELCA, and helps for congregational units. It is distributed free to congregational unit presidents and pastors of congregations.

The newsletter is published four times a year, in February, May, August and November. Deadline is the first of the month preceding the issue date.

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Send subscriptions to Linda Fuhr, 1158 132nd Rd, Osceola NE 68651. \$4 per year.

Upcoming Event
NSWO Convention
'Spirit Driven Woman'
Sept 23-25, 2005
Kearney Holiday Inn

Message from the President

"So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who testified to the words of his grace by granting signs and wonders to be done through them." Acts 14:3 RSV

As I am contemplating the content of this article, I have completed the preparations to travel to San Antonio to our 6th Triennial Gathering. My bags are packed, my itinerary hung on the frig, my flowers thoroughly watered, the laundry done, the dirty dishes washed and in the cupboard!!!!

But I wonder. . . am I ready to embrace the theme of our triennium? **ACT BOLDLY** has been chosen as our focused direction for the next three years. I have never considered myself a bold person. In fact, at times, I feel rather timid.

Listening to and for God's call compels us to the next step. Now it is time to move on. . . to a place of bold action, to participate in making a difference in our congregational units, in our synodical organization and in the world.

We are being pressed to enhance our "bold." Bold calls us to be "not-quite-ordinary." As reflected in the Bible verse, the power of gathering in community will help us to expect bold actions. Ultimately, we are being called out of our comfort zone and safe places to serve as Jesus served.

An estimated 40-50 Nebraska women will experience the power of gathering in community in San Antonio. The Executive Board plus 12 delegates plus others will be reminded that discipleship calls for action beyond our closest neighbor or our checkbook. Our lives will be changed. Our witness will be bolder and stronger. Our call in this investment will prepare us to act boldly in daily prayer, study, worship, invitation, encouragement, service and giving.

Seek out those who can share their San Antonio experience. My dream is that the excitement, the energy, the awesomeness will drift within and throughout our units in Nebraska and will permeate actions as a result of our participation.



Have you taken the bold action of registering for our Biennial Convention to be held Sept. 23-25 in Kearney? The Spirit will be moving in us, around us, through us as we conduct the business of our organization, grow in faith through various venues, support each other, and prepare to move on to the next biennium.

It is hard to believe that this is my last article as President. In September the Spirit will move among us and within us as we elect the next woman to lead us. Give her your support with prayers and words of encouragement and thankfulness, just as you have given them to me.

This has been an amazing journey for me. I treasure the relationships developed, the awesome opportunities experienced, the deepening of my faith, and the realization that each person can make a difference using the gifts God has given to us so freely.

In traveling the next road that God calls me to take, I look forward to becoming bolder and speaking more boldly in testifying to the word of his grace.

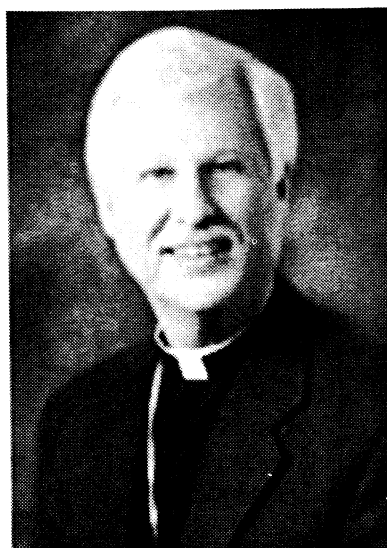
Blessings and peace be with you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ardi".

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402-364-2142
jahoins@navix.net



Nancy Christian



Bishop David deFreese



Pastor Linda Witte Henke

Colo., who is also an award-winning textile artist. She will do a workshop on Spirit-Inspired Art and bring the worship message on Sunday.

Other workshop leaders will include Becky Mortvedt of Buffalo, Minn., a former president of the Nebraska SWO, on "Dancing With the Spirit," and Mary Mayfield, former board member, on the Spirit at work in Tanzania. There are 12 different workshops from which to choose.

The Mission offering is designated one-half for Mission Field, Nebraska, and one-half to the CWO. The Worship offering will go to the Vision Fund.

Each participant is asked to bring with her a picture of a woman who has been an influence on her spiritual journey.

Early bird registration deadline is Aug. 20, cost \$85. Late registration is \$100. The registration fee pays for four meals, speakers, workshop leaders and all convention expenses.

Hotel registrations should be made by Aug. 25.

A Drop in the Bucket

by Shirley Splittgerber

Both of our Companion Synods share the problem of unsafe drinking water. In the April report of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, it is noted that "roughly 4,000 children die each day of diarrheal diseases caused by contaminated drinking water." Lutheran World Relief, a world-wide relief agency, says "... half the human race must drink unsafe water."

For our convention "Tangible" Offering, we will be providing 20 ounce bottles of water for a suggested donation of \$10 each. The money will be sent to national church boards in both Argentina and Tanzania to assist them in providing education and materials to help with purifying their water. This will probably be done in small areas surrounding some of their local churches. We realize this is literally "a drop in the bucket" when considering the magnitude of the problem. However, if even one child's life can be

spared it will be worth every effort we make.

This is your invitation to participate. Your unit could purchase a case of boiled water and set up a display for the whole congregation so everyone can be involved. Or you can take \$10 donations in your circle meetings in September, bring the money to convention, and take the bottles of water home to your donors.

Walmart in Kearney is donating 500 bottles of water for this project. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has pledged to match our donations at the rate of \$1 for every \$3 donated up to \$7,500.

If each bottle brings in \$10, that will be a total of \$5,000 before the matching funds.

**CAN WE DO IT ?
OF COURSE WE CAN!!!**

~ ~ ~ ~

What is the best vitamin for a Christian?

B-1.



God's Gift of Laughter

"Dear God" letters written
by Sunday School kids:

Dear GOD,
Did you mean for the giraffe
to look like that or was it an
accident?

Norma

Dear GOD,
Instead of letting people die
and having to make new ones,
why don't You just keep the
ones You have now?

Jane

Dear GOD,
Who draws the lines around
the countries?

Nan

Dear GOD,
I went to this wedding and
they kissed right in church. Is
that okay?

Neil

Dear GOD,
What does it mean You are a
Jealous God? I thought You had
everything.

Jane

Dear God,
Did you really mean "do unto
others as they do unto you"?
Because if you did, then I'm
going to fix my brother!

Darla

Dear GOD,
It rained for our whole vaca-
tion and is my father mad! He
said some things about You that
people are not supposed to say,
but I hope You will not hurt
him anyway.

Your friend (but I am not
going to tell you who I am).

Mosaic and Children of Romania say 'Thanks'

On behalf of Mosaic and the children in Romania, please accept my sincerest appreciation for the wonderful support the Women of the ELCA expressed at the Spring Gatherings in Nebraska. Your very generous contribution to the Embrace One fund-raising project will help support 22 children with disabilities currently living in the three group homes, as well as many others who are receiving services and support in host homes or in their family homes. The lives of these children have been changed dramatically with the help of donations received from groups such as yours, churches and concerned American citizens. The children are happy, well cared for and thriving in their new homes outside of the Romanian institutions. With your generous contributions, as well as those of other groups and private donors, the work of Mosaic and other international organizations will continue to bring more and more children out of these dreadful conditions and open doors to extraordinary futures for them.

As you may know, Mosaic has had a long history of participating in global advocacy. . . first in Great Britain, then Latvia. . . and now also in Romania, Russia and the Dominican

Republic through its work with the international alliance, IMPACT. Last year, Mosaic implemented the fundraising project, *Embrace One*, to help sustain support for children being removed from Romanian institutions and placed in group or host homes. The donations received

For more information on Mosaic, please
visit our website at www.mosaicinfo.org

for *Embrace One* also provide in-home support for families who have chosen to keep their children with disabilities at home, rather than placing them in institutions, and for other children who have been living in institutions and are now reunited with their natural families. Many of you heard about this work at Spring Gatherings.

Again, thank you for your generosity to the *Embrace One* project.

Sharon Walters

Advocacy coordinator

Mosaic

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sharon.walters@mosaicinfo.org

August, 2005 - 5

Spring Gatherings 'Seize the Day'



The Notables sing at Midlands Gathering.

Bishop David deFreese led the Bible Study for three of the last four Spring Gatherings, exploring the "Seize the Day" theme. He talked about what keeps Christians from "seizing their days." The vast majority of people who say they are Christ followers cite being "busy, busy, busy" as the primary enemy to their full devotion to Christ.

Bishop deFreese said the Bible calls this "idolatry." Four examples of idols that get in the Christian's way are achievement, approval, security and fruitfulness.

"God wants us more than he wants our time, talents and money," the bishop said.

He was leader for Midlands, Northeast and Central confer-

ences, and Assistant Judy Gifford led the study at High Plains.

President Ardith Hoins and Treasurer Joan Rohrs reported to all the gatherings. The first three gatherings were reported in the May *Expressions*. Details concerning the last four gatherings follow:

Midlands - 170, \$975

Units from Alma/Mead and American/Ashland were hostesses at Camp Carol Joy Holling.

The main speaker was Stephanie Grace Whitsen. Music was provided by the Notables.

Tangible offering was given to the camp.

Election: Mari Jo Sue, Fremont, Coordinator. Planning Committee, Estelle Riemann, Lincoln; Megan Nygren, Ithaca; Evelyn Westerholt, Fremont; Jane Flores, Hooper. Nominat-



Northeast: Planning Committee: Joan Spencer, Carole Nordby (coordinator), Shirley Papenhansen, Sharie Flannery. Nominating Committee: Phyllis Rahn, Becky Bahnfloth

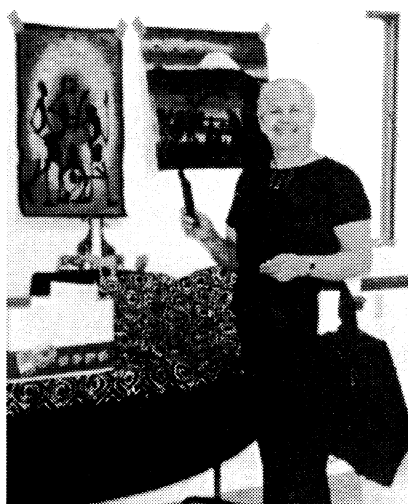


High Plains: Nominating Committee: Jan Knicely, left, and Joan Snyder, center. Planning Committee: from second to left, Laurie Schmidt, Sharon Bohling, Ruth Frass, Fauniel Johnson. Coordinator, right, Karlene Gramberg

ing Committee, Norma Flynn, Lincoln; Marian Vermeline, Malmo; Marion Schenzel, Fremont; Sandra Husar, Oakland.

Northeast - 82, \$1,630.

Sharie Flannery, president at St. John/Atkinson, did a power point presentation on the theme. Keynote speaker was Mary Mayfield, who gave a slide show presentation concerning the trip to Tanzania. She shared



Mary Mayfield shows souvenirs from Tanzania as she speaks to the Northeast Gathering.

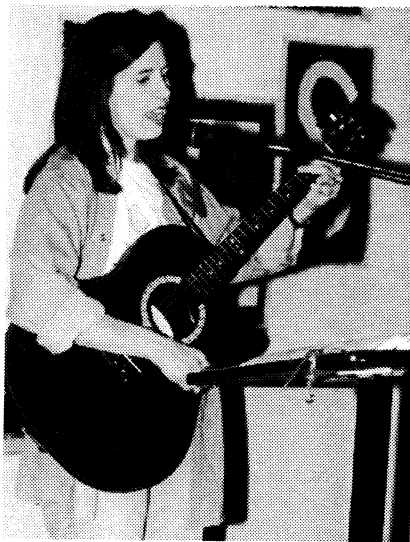
6 - August, 2005



Phyllis Tishendorf welcomes Florene Burton to High Plains.



Midlands: Coordinator Mari Jo Soe (center), Planning Committee Evelyn Westerholt, Jane Flores, and Norma Jean Flinn, right. Nominating: Marian Schenzel, (second from right).



Pastor Rhonda Bostrom plays gathering music for Midlands

More from Spring Gatherings

baskets, music, batiks and presented a style show., with volunteers as models.

Opening devotions were led by Pastor Nancy Nyland.

Tangible offerings went to Bright Horizons.

Election: Carole Nordby, Hartington, Coordinator. Planning Committee: Sharie Flannery, Atkinson; Shirley Papenhausen, Coleridge; Joan Spencer, Hubbard;. Nominating Committee: Lorraine Marvin, Bloomfield; Becky Bahnfletch, Pierce; Phyllis Rahn, Wayne.

Central - 87, \$1,395

Pastor Tom Lovan spoke about when he first came to America and how God has guided him. He is now associate pastor at Morningside/Sioux City, Ia., and pastor at Salem/Dakota City. Two women accompanied him. They were Chansamon Vongphakdy and Somalee Hunte.

Sharon Walters from Mosaic

explained *Embrace One*.

Tangible offering went to the Columbus Rescue Mission.

Election:: Alane Nelson, Osceola, Coordinator; Marilyn Williamson, Grand Island, recorder. Planning Committee: Lois Dunham, Grand Island; Marilyn Steel, Stromsburg; Mary Ann Jenson, Norfolk. Nominating Committee: Amy Lindsley, Stromsburg.

High Plains - 80,\$1027

Leslie Marchando was keynote speaker. Pastor Judy Gifford, assistant to the bishop, led the Bible Study. Devotions were led by Pastor Dawn A. Coffey.

Tangible offering was for Sullivan Hills camp.

Election: Coordinator, Karlene Gramberg. Planning Committee, Laurie Schmidt, Sharon Bohling, Ruth Frass, Fauniel Johnson. Nominating Committee: Jan Knicely and Joan Snyder.

Elected Board Nebraska Synodical Women of the ELCA

2003-2005

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Highlights from San Antonio Triennial

A Nebraska woman was one of 17 elected to three-year terms on the Women of the ELCA Executive Board at Triennial.

She is Diane L. Brauer of Grace/Lincoln.

Carmen Richards of Hope, N.D., was elected president. Other officers are Elizabeth Gaskins, Smyrna, Ga., vice president; Kathryn Schneirle, Cincinnati, Ohio, secretary, and Robin Bert, Chester, Ill., treasurer.

Resolutions included:

*Asking the U.S. government's help in restoring tax-exempt status to Augustana Victorian Hospital, operated in Jerusalem by Lutheran World Federation.

*Resolving to continue to promote awareness of the effects of economic globalization and its effect on women and families living in poverty.

*Holding in prayer all those working for peace in their lands, especially Gladys Beyan, Des Moines, Iowa, who is returning to her homeland of Liberia to run for president of that nation.

*Promoting awareness on water issues, such as shortage and pollution, affecting women and children.

Notes from delegate **Donna Bathke of Lincoln:**

The business sessions went smoothly with special guests stopping in, accolades peppered through the sessions and joyful and tearful moments added to spice up the six plenary sessions. We even completed the business ahead of schedule!

There were three worship services. Opening with Holy Communion and guest speaker-

ers Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop, and Pastor Sue Gamelin on Wednesday.

The Thankoffering Service on Thursday evening was awesome, with Bishop Vashi Murphy McKenzie sharing the message. She had us shouting resounding "Amen's" throughout her message on the church, and we ourselves serving as reservoirs or rivers. "Wherever the river flows. . . everything will live where the river goes."

At the closing Sunday morning worship service, again with Holy Communion, the Rev. Melanie McRae spoke about leaving the weeds to grow with the wheat and to enjoy the sharing that they do in the moment of the fields.

The choir led by Dr. Sally Cherrington Beggs sang three wonderful choral selections. Amy Kiesner, daughter of outgoing president Mary Ellen Kiesner, signed while Executive Director Linda Post-Bushkofsky led us in singing "Here I Am Lord," which had us

all in tears.

The Triennial Convention was wonderful and I enjoyed it and meeting with my sisters from around the world.

And from **Marydae Eigenberg, Hastings:**

Two thousand plus were in attendance at the Gathering . . . \$25,121 offering on Wednesday morning . . . Thursday evening Thankoffering was \$58,700. . . 707 health kits assembled . . . phone cards purchased totalled 100,042 minutes . . . 599 quilt kits were brought and by Friday 108 had been assembled. . . \$412 was given for shipping the quilts. . . nearly 2,500 teddy bears were created by the gathering goers to be given to children in need.

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, the first woman bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, used the image of water to encourage us to be Bold Women. Reservoirs are built against the time of drought; the church is like a

(Continued on page 11)

Special WELCA Handicraft Items

At the Triennial gathering Lutheran World Relief introduced five new Handicraft Project items made exclusively for the Women of the ELCA. They are Guatemalan prayer cloths, lotus-shaped candle holders, breadbaskets with a terracotta bread-warmer, silk scarves and etched-glass vases. The bread-warmer, scarf and vase all feature the Women of the ELCA water-lily logo.

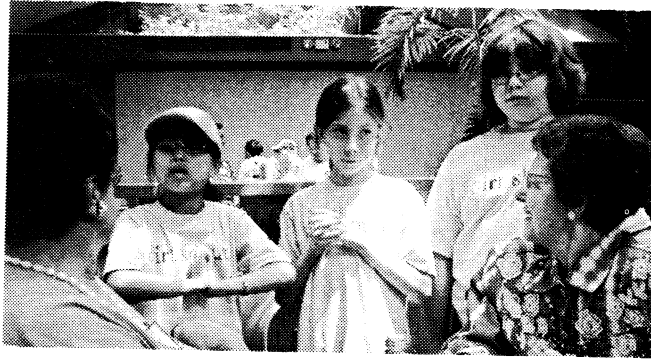
Handicraft income enables women in developing countries to feed and educate their families and acquire medical care.

Lutheran World Relief and



Equal Exchange also introduced a new fair-trade coffee blend. Called Organic Sisters' Blend, it honors women coffee farmers for their hard work and high-quality coffee, and Lutheran women in the United States for their leadership in advocating for fair trade and buying coffee.

Saved To Serve Includes Outing at Zoo



Girl Scouts from Missouri visit with an Immanuel resident and Saved To Serve participant at the Henry Doorly Zoo.



Residents who missed out on the zoo trip enjoy Bingo game at Immanuel Courtyard.

Fourteen women attending the Saved To Serve retreat at Immanuel Courtyard in Omaha rented 14 wheel chairs and took 14 residents of the assisted living residence to the Henry Doorly Zoo.

"We all had a super, super time," reported Mary Mayfield.

The weekend began with a tour of the Immanuel campus conducted by Lowell Nelson, CEO. Participants toured the hospitality house, where they left cookies in the freezer, and had a bus ride around the rest of the campus. They got a first-hand look at an apartment in Immanuel Village.

The weekend's four-session Bible Study was on "Immanuel

Help Spruce Up Bethany

"Sprucing Up Bethany" is the focus of the Saved To Serve weekend scheduled for Aug. 26-28 at Bethany Home, Minden.

Participants will be wallpapering, painting and doing those redecorating things that Saved To Serve has become known for.

Louise Wheeler, Saved To Serve chairman, said, "We will also be relating to the residents, doing our Bible study, leading worship and having a great time!"

Those attending will stay at Bethphage, Axtell, Friday and Saturday nights. Wheeler promises some "surprise fun" on Saturday evening.

- God With Us."

The women played bingo with the residents who hadn't gotten to go to the zoo and finished 60 centerpieces for the nursing home and assisted living center.

Evening entertainment was by the Hillbilly Clown Band, and included dancing and singing along. Sunday morning participants conducted two worship services, at the Courtyard and the Village.



Saved to Serve participants make patriotic centerpieces for Immanuel residents.



Clowns for Christ pantomime Sunday morning's message, lead two services.

Argentine Sisters' Struggles Similar

We received a report from our sisters in Argentina concerning all the projects and activities that they did this past year. They struggle

Companion Synods

Pearl Anderson, Coor.
14529 Parker St.
Omaha NE 68154
402-493-6326



with many of the same issues that we do. They find that the most work is done by the older women of the congregations.

Following is a summary of the report.

The projects they did were designed to meet the needs and problems of the communities that they served. The IELU women:

- * Participated in Bible Studies and workshops.
- * Made blankets for day-care centers and nursing homes.
- * Collected clothing and toys to deliver to the neediest of children.
- * Participated in community feeding programs.

Copies of the full report will be available at the Companion Synod display at the NSWOC Convention in September.

* Struggled with the issues of abortion, AIDS, homosexuality, poverty and illiteracy.

* Worked with organizations to value volunteer work.

* Hosted workshops on parental skills, family violence, how to start small enterprises such as community gardens, food programs and clothes making.

* Held lunches, teas and arts and crafts sales to generate revenue for their projects.

The executive board attended conferences dealing with globalization, gender justice, social responsibility, family violence and human rights.

The report concluded:

"To our dear and most beloved sisters of our

Companion Synod of Nebraska:

"In this report you can see the scope of the reality which surrounds us at this time, which presents a number of difficulties and challenges. In spite of that, we can still see that the transforming message of the Gospel continues to shine its light in the midst of the darkness. We thank you for your constant support, for accompanying and praying for us in our difficulties, and we always remember with great fondness the time that we have spent together both in Nebraska and here in Argentina! We await your visit with great joy!

"We send our warmest greetings to all of you, in the mission we share in Christ Jesus."

Graciela Gonzalez, Ana M. Papdopulos,
Nelly Papdopulos, Isabel Bezbach,
Pastor Judith Von Osdol.

Resources Abound

It is time to explore the wealth of resources which can be downloaded from the Women of the ELCA internet site (www.women.womenoftheelca.org)

Click on "Resources" on the bar just under the logo. That will take you to the Resources page, with separate listings for Bible studies, devotions, leadership materials, identity items, publications, and theme-related and topical materials. Many of the resources can be downloaded directly from the computer. Guidance for downloading is provided.

Under "Theme Related" the "Act Boldly" logo marks the first resource available on line for this triennium's theme. It is a copy of the hymn, "Signs and Wonders Lead the Dancing," written by Susan Palo Cherwien especially for Women of the ELCA.

The eight "Listen God Is Calling" programs, still applicable in this triennium, are also ready to download.

Topical programs span subjects such as child advocacy, anti-racism, domestic violence, hospitality and stewardship, to name a few.

The web site also provides a copy of the Resource Catalog for 2005-2006, with easy directions for ordering materials which are not available for download.

NEBRASKA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Kearney, Nebraska
September 23-25, 2005

~~~~~  
Early registration deadline - August 20  
Late registration deadline - September 9

Registration includes Saturday breakfast, noon and evening meals and Sunday breakfast.

~~~~~  
NOTE: YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATIONS WITH THE KEARNEY HOLIDAY INN

PHONE: 308- 237-5971, 800-248-4460

Deadline to get convention rate is August 25th

Ask for the block of rooms for the Women of the ELCA convention.

(Check-in time is 4 pm)

If you cannot climb stairs, ask for room on the first floor.

~~~~~

- Please return to Registrar: Vicky Hingst Phone 402-635-2365  
87134 587<sup>th</sup> Ave. Email vvhingst@nntc.net  
Allen NE 68710

- Make checks payable to: Women of the ELCA

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you wish it to appear on your name tag)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Conference Central  
High Plains

Check one: Delegate (Register by 7/15) Appointee MetroEast  
Participant Presenter Midlands  
Clergy Vendor/Display Northeast  
Board Member/Officer Invited Guest Southeast  
Conference Coordinator So. Prairie

I am a scholarship recipient      No      Yes (If yes, please check one of the following)  
     First Timer Young Woman  
     First Timer  
     First Timer Differently Abled Person

Registration enclosed: Early bird (received by August 20) \$85 \_\_\_\_\_  
Late (received after August 20) \$100 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Late registration deadline September 9<sup>th</sup>)

**Registrations are  
transferable, but  
not refundable**

List any special needs you have (dietary, Braille, Sign/Language Translation, other) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first NSWO convention?      Yes      No

If you wish the registrar to help to find a roommate, please check (✓) below:  
Yes, I need      one      two      three roommates.

If you have attended Saved To Serve event in the past, do you plan to attend reunion held  
Saturday noon during the convention?      Yes      No

## World Relief Ingathering Nov. 7-11

The 2005 Ingathering for Lutheran World Relief will be Nov. 7-11. Especially needed this year are quilts, health and school kits.

In 2004 Nebraska shipped semi-trailer loads of quilts, parish projects, used clothing and soap to LWR.

Wilma Steinman, LWR coordinator, says there is a great need around the world for quilts, clothing, soap, health kits, school kits, layettes and

### Triennial . . .

(Continued from page 8)

reservoir. She suggested that we be "like a river." A river that takes us not where we want to go, but where God wants us to go. "The river is a process, not an event. The river is a mandate from God! And takes us places that can't bless us back! Let the river take you where it will and don't stop until God says it's over."

A workshop I attended was given by the Rev. Sue Gamelin, the author of the coming year's Bible Study in Lutheran Woman: "Acting Boldly in the Fruit of the Spirit." (Galatians 5:22-23) The study will also cover women's health issues.

sewing kits. Instructions for making these things are found in the "Be Involved!" LWR Parish Projects brochure.

The brochure can be ordered by calling 1-800-LWR-LWR2, faxing 410-230-2882 or emailing [lwr@lwr.org](mailto:lwr@lwr.org).

"I hope every congregation will make a special effort to become involved in assisting our neighbors in need," Steinman said.

More information about collection sites for the Ingathering will be coming to congregations in *Update*, the Bishop's newsletter.

### Lincoln Woman . . .

(continued from page 1)

ber for the upcoming synodical convention in Kearney.

In her statement concerning why she would be an effective board member, Brauer said, "I have a strong commitment to the women's organization. It has provided a faith-based opportunity for me to grow, serve, study, experience affirmation, stretch my horizons and develop friendships. I think it is important to share that and encourage others to participate so they may grow as well."

## Our Own Clown



*Joyce Olson from St. Mark/Valley was both a Saved To Serve participant at Immanuel and "Ida-No" in the Hillbilly Clown Band which entertained on Saturday evening.*

### Need Altar Cloth?

Peace/Alma announces that they have altar cloths available for anyone who needs one. They are 38 x 100 inches in size, and various colors. To learn more, call Wanda Brugh, Women of the ELCA president, 308-928-2016 or email [wmbrough@magavision.com](mailto:wmbrough@magavision.com).

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# Check List for Congregational Units

## To Do Every Month

- ☐ Remind women to use their Thankoffering boxes
- ☐ Share information received from SWO and CWO
- ☐ Send offerings to synodical treasurer

## To Do on Specific Months

(S applies to units whose year starts in September - J to those starting in January)

### August

- ☐ Early bird registratopm deadline, NSWO Conv.
- ☐ S - Prepare budget
- ☐ S - Prepare yearbook

- ☐ (S) Send list of officers to Linda Fuhr, 1159 132nd Rd. Osceola NE 68651 or [lfuhr@alltel.net](mailto:lfuhr@alltel.net)

- ☐ Circulate *Expressions* among participants.

### September

- ☐ Plan Convention Offering
- ☐ 9 - Final Registration deadline for Convention

### 23-25 - NSWO Convention

- ☐ Send news for Nov. *Expressions*
- ☐ (S) Did you send officers to Linda?

### October

- ☐ 1 - *Expressions* deadline
- ☐ (J) Elect officers
- ☐ (J) Send list of officers to Linda Fuhr, address above
- ☐ Prepare kits, blankets, etc., for LWR
- ☐ Plan Thankoffering Service

### November

- ☐ (J) Plan yearbook.
- ☐ 4 - World Community Day
- ☐ 7-11 LWR Pickup
- ☐ Hold Thankoffering Service

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