WOMEN

of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America,
Nebraska Synodical
Women's Organization



Triennial Draws Near

There's so much going on at "Come to the Waters!" in Salt Lake City.

Some things have changed, starting with the separation of the Triennial Convention (July 8–10) from the gathering (July 10–13). Because the days are fewer (as requested) servant opportunities will be in the exhibit hall rather than off site.

Dynamic speakers and preachers, powerful workshops, uplifting worship, friendship-building camaraderie, support-giving in-kind gifts, a gathering choir, optional tours, and a healthy run/walk/roll continue to be part of the event.

#• *	
Inside	
Devotions	2
President	3
Winter Retreat	4
High Plains	. 5
Mission:Action	. 6
Global Advocacy	. 8
Companion Syn.	. 9
Budget	10
Saved To Serve.	11

Keynote speaker is Sister



Joan Chittister, OSB, a visionary voice and spiritual leader on topics concerning women,

Sister Joan peace and justice, and contemporary spirituality.

Workshops will focus on helping women better understand their faith and what it means to live it out in congregations and communities.

The program includes an evening with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Women (Continued on p. 11)

NSWO Delegates

NSWO delegates to the Triennial Convention will be Winnie Tong Voss, Scottsbluff; JoAnn Rohrs, Auburn; Jeanette Allen, Lincoln; Carol Bosshardt, Hastings; Arlene Johnson, Wahoo; Mary Mayfield, Omaha; Lynn Echternkanp, Clay Center; Carol Bierman, Falls City; Rose Miller, Adams; and President Beth Meyer, Fremont.

Aut. Renewal Bringing Comp. Synod Guests

An opportunity to become acquainted with Sisters in Christ from the Companion Synods and to learn more about their lives and their churches awaits all who attend Autumn Renewal, 2008.

Two women from each of Nebraska's Companion Synods in Argentina and Tanzania will be special guests at the Autumn Renewals, and

(Continued on p. 11)

'Stay-at-Homes' Can Still Help

If no one from your unit is going to Triennial, you can still participate through the offerings. Two offerings will be taken at convention; both will be divided:

1/2 to CWO for ongoing ministries

1/4 to LIRS for its work on sexual exploitation

1/4 to LWF Stand with Africa Water Project

Units can either take a special offering for Triennial, or contribute from their treasury. The offering may be mailed to the CWO office or taken to Triennial.

A Devotional Study

By Jeannine Christensen

We got a new road this week. That is to say, we got a new surface on our road. One morning we woke up to a flurry of road graders and backhoes, and after a day of scraping and digging, what was once the familiar gravel road I had walked every day now resembled a furrowed cornfield. I had an uneasy feeling about the whole process. Not only was there unending chaos and commotion in our normally peaceful neighborhood, but the new surface was higher and wider than what I had grown accustomed to. Everything just looked different from this new perspective.

The next day the gravel trucks came. They smoothed and raked and spread gravel, and just when I thought they were all finished, and my world would be peaceful again, the process started all over -- more dirt, raising the road even higher, then more gravel, leading to even more raking and smoothing. Finally, just as suddenly as it had appeared, the equipment was gone. We were left with a beautiful new road. Oh, it still leads to the same place, but it's much more solid now and has a much better way to drain when those torrential rains come.

Sometimes life seems kind of like my experience with the new road. We become accusomed to our everyday routines and relationships. Then somethig or someone comes along and completely upsets our sense of normalcy -- a child leave home, we get a new job, move to a new city -- any number of things that seem for the moment to leave the road of our life looking more like a furrowed cornfield than the smooth path it had once been.

At first we are uncomfortable with the newness -- things look different from a new perspective, just as with the new road. Many of the changes we undergo in life leave

us feeling alone, confused, even lost at times. Some changes are indeed inevitable. As we walk the new road with God, we can begin to realize that everything has its season. God begins to smooth and rake the surface of the path ahead, if we will just take his hand and walk with Him. Oftentimes the road we are left with is more solid, better able to withstand the torrential rains of life. All we need to do is have faith that God indeed does have a plan and will work everything together for the good.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NIV)

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Heavenly Father, help us to remember that you keep us in your care, even when the road ahead seems bumpy and uncertain.

Help us to look for the good that will come of whatever situations life find us in.

Bless and protect our families and friends.

Amen

A Message from the President

Today as I was returning home from taking my grandson to preschool, I was listening to the radio. The inspirational message from workday.org was a story about a contest. Each team of two people was to navigate a half mile of the river and then climb up the canyon a certain distance and then jump into the river from the canyon's ledge. You needed to do this without one of the team members touching the water or the ground until you hit the water after the jump. Some of the teams couldn't quite grasp the idea, but one team understood immediately. You see, one member of that team, whom we will call John, was a paraplegic. When they made it to the ledge and jumped, John "whooped." The member of the team provided the legs and John provided the joy.

It is that way with the Women of the ELCA. Some women on the team provide the legs (or the work) and some provide the joy. Which one are you? Are you one that just sits and lets the others do the work? Are you just sharing the joy? It is okay to just share the joy if you are unable to do the work, but in most instances, it is important

The Spring Gatherings were all about joy. The theme verse was "For the joy of the Lord is your strength!" Nehemiah 8:10b NIV. Bishop deFreese reminded us through the Bible study that

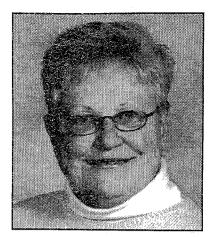
to be an active participant to receive the joy.

- * Joy is not circumstantial. . . but a deep sense of trust in God.
 - * Because of God's love, we are strong.
- * What we do with God's love becomes our strength.

The strength we receive because of God's love should be all that we need to encourage us to be active participants in the events of Women of the ELCA. Some times we need a gentle reminder of what those events are and where they will be held. This is that gentle reminder and I pray that you will be a willing participant in some, if not all, of these events.

Have you ever attended the **Nebraska Synod Assembly?** If you have never attended I encourage you to register to attend. It will be held in Grand Island May 30 through June 1. The speakers and workshop presenters will inspire you, the music will uplift you, and the worship service will be an awesome experience.

The **Triennial Convention and Gathering** at Salt Lake City will be July 8 -13. There is still time to register, and you can attend just the gathering or both. To go to the convention doesn't cost anything unless you want the Bulletin of Reports, which is \$10. The registration fee for the gather-



ing is \$325. Registration can be done online at www.womenoftheelca.org or contact Sandy Boots at 402-372-5677 or by email sanboots@hotmail.com for more information.

The Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization's **Autumn Renewals** will be held at First Lutheran in Fremont on Sept. 20, and at St. John in Eustis on Sept. 27. We are so excited because we know the names of the women who will be coming from Tanzania and Argentina for this event.

The women from Tanzania are Mrs. Dominica Mmari, acting chairman of the Women's Department and Rev. (Mrs.) Faustine Kahma, acting secretary. Coming from Argentina are Maria Elena Parras, deaconess of Iglesia Evangelica Luteranan Unida (known as Malena to those of us who met her in Argentina) and Isabel Bezbach Furlan, president of the IELU Women's Organization (We called her Chabela when she was here in 2001).

These women and Anne Hennigs and Pr Melody Brindel will be our presenters. Our Companion Synod sisters will travel throughout Nebraska during the week between the gatherings, visiting some of the mission projects of the Nebraska Synod and some of the local mission ministries.

I ask you again, how are you going to share in the joy of the work of Women of the ELCA? Will it be as an active participant? The work that I do for Women of the ELCA brings me great joy! This joy that I feel comes to me because of God's love and this gives me strength.

Called and Saying Yes!

2061 Fairacres Dr. Fremont NE 68025 402-721-3053 tmeyer10@neb/rr.com

Author speaks on Christian Life

What's a woman to do when some of the worst things imaginable happen?

Stephanie Whitsun asked and answered that question at the NSWO Winter Retreat in January. Whitsun is a Christian writer who lives near Lincoln. She said there never was a time in her life when she didn't know that Jesus was her savior.

She used her personal story to answer the question.

It's really easy to believe when the bad things are happening to someone else, but its entirely different when it's your life, she said. You need to take things one day at a time. You have to learn to do widowhood, for instance.

She said the phrase: "Lord, I believe; help my un-

belief" had been a heart-felt prayer.

Specific things which Whitsun said helped were 1) having a Christian mentor, 2) music, and 3) the Psalms.

In the afternoon, Whitsun likened life to a two-patch quilt, with the patches being "trust" and "obey" or "think right" and "do right."

She cited Philipplians 4:8, which lists the things a Christian should think on.

Shirley Daire spoke about what Lutheran World Relief does in 35 countries of the world, together with other denominations. It is really the actions of the churches together which get things done, she said.

The two projects LWR does most often are providing schooling for children,



Stephanie Whitsun with one of her quilts

and clean water.

Daire illustrated her talk with slides from her LWR coffee trip to Nicaragua.

Clowns from the Life in Christ Circus performed a program of humorous skits which also had a Christian meaning. They are from Omaha.

They illustrated how the word of God can be spread through laughter.



Women at Winter Retreat take a real "stretch break" during morning.



Clowns from the "Life in Christ Circus" present one of their thought-provoking skits.

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

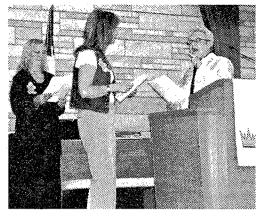
Expressions provides information concerning programs and projects of the Churchwide and Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization, Women of the ELCA, and helps for congregational units. It is distributed free to congregational unit presidents and pastors of congregations.

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.

Editor, Beth Bohling, 1345 North Commercial, Superior NE 68978-1023. Phone: 402-879-3494 e-mail: beth.b@windstream.net

Send subscritpions to Nancy Johnson, 12777 A St. Omaha NE 68144-4060 \$4 per year. Make check to NSWO.

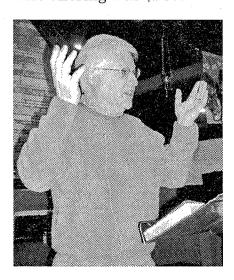
High Plains Initiates Spring Gatherings





Nancy Johnson, Kandy Pflaster and Beth Meyer do a skit to advertisetheTriennialConvention/Gathering.

The only Spring Gathering held before the Expressions deadline was High Plains, which met March 29 at American/Cozad. Fiftyone persons were present. The offering was \$987.



Bishop David deFreese

Bishop David deFreese led a Bible study based on the theme verse, Nehemiah 8:10b: "For the joy of the Lord is your strength." (NIV) For the first time ever, he said, he incorporated group singing in the study. Among the

High Plains women join in singing hymns as they gather to consider that "The joy of the Lord is (our) strength."

joy, joy, joy. . ."

(See "A Message from the President," p. 3, for more on the Bible study.)

President Beth Meyer based her report to the conference on a "Time" theme, saying, among other things, that "taking time for yourself better prepares you to reflect God's grace to the world."

Treasurer Nancy Johnson outlined different ways to give through the Women of the ELCA.

The afternoon's program was devoted to workshops based on Mission: Action, Community and Growth. Two were held off-site, at the South Central Develop-

Leslie Marchan do-Cook, left, is the new High Plains coordinator. Others presentwho were elected to com- mittees are Sharon Larson, nominating, and LaDene Rutt, planning.

songs was "I've got that joy, mental Center and the Cozad Food Pantry. pantry was the recipient of more than 100 items in the tangible offering.

> The on-site workshops featured faith stories and business meetings, and Saved to Serve and quilts.

> Leslie Marchando-Cook of Holy Trinity/Sidney was elected conference coordinator.

> Planning committee members are Ruth Frass, Gloria Dei/Lodgepole, and Rutt. LaDene Berea/ Chappell: nominating committee, Sharon Larson, St. John/Eustis, and Sharon Bohling, Our Savior/ McCook.

April gatherings will be



in the August *Expressions*.

'To Act on Their Faith as Disciples'

Mission:Action

To enable women to articulate and act on their faith as disciples of Christ and in all areas of life.

Mission:Action

Bernice Gengenbach 203 W. Anthony St. Eustis NE 69028-3517 308-486-4261 bgbach@nebnet.net

At the November Excutive Board meeting, the Mission: Action committee reviewed the goals that have been part of the NSWO for the past 20 years. If you are like me, it has probably been some time since you read them.

They are as follows:

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are committed to **using our God-given gifts** to build up the body of Christ which is the Church and to bring Glory to God. **Through prayer**, we are guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit in the endeavor.

Commit ourselves to becoming knowledgeable about health issues and other situations facing women and children in crises and to use that knowledge to advocate and work for justice and wellness so that we might walk together sharing each other's burdens on the path to wholeness in Christ.

Enable others to participate fully in Christ-centered activities by providing resources necessary to accommodate the special needs of the non-English speaking, blind, deaf, handicapped, etc.

Provide information about opportunities that exist for **service to others** and encourage participants to act boldly. For example, support local food pantires and shelters, Saved to Serve, Mosaic, Campus Ministry, Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministry,

Lutheran World Relief, Global Health Services, etc.

ACTION means doing, moving, helping. At the beginning of the year, Floyd and I decided to use a book of devotions written by Dr. Alvin Rogness in 1981. In the devotions for Jan. 24, he states "a third of the world's population will go to bed hungry tonight, another third suffer from chronic malnutrition. Can it be that for the next 20 years, maybe more, food shortages and hunger may be the most pressing problem the world faces?"

It is 2008, 27 years later. Has there been change?

When I opened the February 2008 issue of *The Lutheran*, the first sentence of the article written by editor Daniel Lehmann stated "if you read no other line in this issue, make it the following: Every day almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes --one child every five seconds."

Also in this issue is an article written by Cindy Novak, "**There Really Is HOPE.**" She quotes David Beckman, president of Bread for the World, a Christian movement to end hunger, and a partner of the ELCA hunger program.

He states:

"The kind of mass hunger that has characterized most of humanity for most of history can be ended in the next 10 to 20 years."

These are his reasons for hope:

- The proportion of people going hungry in developing countries has fallen from one in three in 1970 to one in six today.
- The number of people in these countries who live on \$1 a day has dropped from 1.25 billion in 1990 to 980 million in 2004.
- Many countries like China, Uganda and Chile have reduced hunger despite scarce resources.
- The UN Development Program estimates that basic needs of the countries could

be met with an additional \$13 billion a year. (The United States and European countries spend more than that on pet food each year.)

• There is a sufficient food supply to feed the earth's population.

Novak continues, "Even though these are positive signs, the lines at food pantries and soup kitchens have grown longer in the United States. If the countries like China, Uganda and Chile can reduce hunger, we in the United States can do it also. A stronger public and political commitment is needed."

Beckman states that advocacy is a key part of what need to continue to happen..
"It's important to get our government to do its part."

We must share our blessings with the hungry here and in the world.

Let us look back over the goals: Use the gifts God has given to us, pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to advocate and work for justice, provide information and resources, and be of service to others. This is Mission: Action.

To learn more about projects that your congregational unit can become involved in, log on to www.lwr.org.

If you don't have internet access, contact Lutheran World Relief at 700 Light St., Baltimore, MD 21230.
1-800-LWR-LWR2

(Carolyn Schlake read this at Winter Retreat, while a couple of helpers shopped on stage. She said it came from her file of many years. If anyone knows the author, we would be glad to give credit. Reprinted by request.)

Heaven's Grocery Store

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago. One day I saw a sign that read HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE. As I got a little closer, the door came open wide. And when I came to myself, I was standing inside.

I saw a host of Angels that were standing everywhere. One handed me a basket amd said, "My child, shop with care."

Everything a Christian needed was in that Grocery Store. And all that you could not carry, you could come back next day for more.

First, I got some PATIENCE. LOVE was in the same row. Further down was UNDERSTANDING, you need that wherever you go.

I got a box of two of WISDOM, a bag or two of FAITH. I just couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST, for he was all over the place.

I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE to help me run this race.

By then my basket was getting full but I remembered I needed some GRACE.

I didn't forget SALVATION. SALVATION, for that was free! So. . . I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me. Then I started up to the counter to pay my Grocery Bill, for I thought I had everything to do my MASTER'S WILL.

As I went up the aisle, I saw PRAYER and I just had to put that in, for I knew when I stepped outside I would run right into sin. PEACE and JOY were plentiful, they were on the last shelf. SONG and PRAISES were hanging near, so I just helped myself.

Then I said to the Angel, "How much do I owe?"

He just smiled and said, "Just take them wherever you go."

Again, I smiled at him and said, "How much do I really owe?" He smiled again and said,

"MY CHILD, JESUS PAID YOUR BILL A LONG, LONG TIME AGO." May 2008 - 7

Choose Your Way(s) To Make a Difference

As I have been thinking about our women's ministry of global education and justice I know that all of us have different interests and gifts. Together we can be a voice and a gift of action in a world where

Global Awareness

Shirley Daire 311 James Street Alma NE 68920-2024 308-928-2839 sdaire@yahoo.com

there are so many needs. We cannot, by ourselves, do everything, but we can accomplish much together.

In this article let me review a few of the areas which are of great need. Let me emphasize that this is NOT a complete list, but aimed to help you focus on possibilities.

FIRST: World Hunger. I have not been able to get an email address for this article, but it shows photos of families in eight countries and the food they will use in one week. The cost of the food is also included. A family in Germany uses \$375, the USA family \$341 and on around the world until we come to a family in a refugee camp that has \$1.23 to spend on food! What a difference and what a challenge!

As a church we support three main organizations that work for better food supplies around the world. First is the ELCA World Hunger, second is Lutheran World Relief, and the third is Bread For The World. Their main emphasis is education for us and action within the government on bills going thru the legislature and federal programs which will provide assistance throughout the USA and the world. We help with letters to our congressman and keeping informed of our government programs. Although it is not as visible a way to help, it is vitally important. The latest newsletter focuses on families and their growing struggles to make ends meet with the work they can find available.

SECOND: Child Trafficking -- children sold into prostitution and slavery in factories, etc. The first part of our action is in not turning away from this disagreeable subject! You can get more information by googling "child trafficking." The State Department's site is called "TIPS" and it ranks 150 countries according to their efforts to end trafficking.

THIRD: Water -- a growing issue in our church publications. I read somewhere that our next major war will not be about oil, but about water. (For now that is an unknown, but I see it as possible.) Climate changes are affecting many areas of the world, including our country, and water can be a very scarce commodity. Villages need access to wells that will bring them clean water so that women will no longer have to walk miles to get it! It will also prevent many diseases and physical problems if there is a good water supply. World Hunger, ELCA, LWR and many other organizations are trying to tackle this problem.

The "Life Lines" published by World Hunger in Spring 2007 devotes the whole issue to global water needs. Call the ELCA and ask for a copy. The Center for Global Education Winter 2008 issue also is devoted to water struggles and environmental justice. Their web site: www.centerforglobal education.org.

FOURTH: Medical needs and kits. You have become very familiar with them at our conventions and workshops. The two primary organizations we work with are Lutheran World Relief and Global Health Ministries (ghmoffice@cs.com or www.ghm.org.) HIV/AIDS and malaria are major health needs in so many countries!

LAST OF ALL: Read. There are many books that tell about needs and how to help. One I will mention again is very worthwhile: *The End of Poverty* by Jeffrey Sachs.

Good hunting for the ministry you can help support and make a difference!

Companion Sisters Coming Soon

The visit from our companion synod sisters is almost here. The plans are nearing completion. Besides the Autumn Renewals, there will be several opportunities for you to meet the women. They will visit churches

Companion Synods

Pearl Anderson 14529 Parker St. Omaha NE 68154 pja@cox.net

around the state where they will see the ministries of the Women of the ELCA in Nebraska. They will see the accomplishments of the Saved To Serve event at Wayne State. They will visit a cattle ranch, see quilt making for LWR, visit a preschool and day care, have lunch with senior citizens at a senior center, visit Mosaic, Lutheran Family Services, and the welcome center in Lexington.

Take the opportunity to visit with our

companion synod sisters when they are in your area. It is over a cup of tea or sharing a meal that you will get to know these sisters in Christ. When we share with each other our eyes are opened to the challenges and similarities that we have. It is through these one-on-one conversations that we can encourage each other and strengthen our faith for the journey.

W/ELCA Game Available

A new Women of the ELCA game can be borrowed from Beth Meyer, president, for use in your unit. Meyer introduced it at Spring Gatherings.

The game, The 20th Anniversary Edition of the Women of the ELCA Life Stories, was developed by Region 4, of which Nebraska is a member. It grew from a game which Region 4 presidents and vice presidents played at their annual retreat, and involves talking about subjects posed by questions.

So far only 64 copies of the game exist -one for each of the synodical organizations in the United States and the Caribbean.

Elected Board

Nebraska Synodical Women of the ELCA 2007-2009

President

Beth Meyer 2061 Fairacres Dr. Fremont NE 68025 402-721-3053 tmeyer10@neb/rr.com

Vice President

Gwendolynn Edwards 3402 Castile Dr. Bellevue NE 68127 GFEdwardsNSWO@ aol.com

Secretary

Jane Johnson 302 North 9th Street Newman Grove NE 68758 402-477-9486 senora@cablene.com

Treasurer

Central

Nancy Johnson 12777 A Street Omaha NE 68144-4060 402-330-8649 nancy.johnson5@cox.net

Board Representatives

Laura Hunt PO Box 293 Stromsburg NE 68666 402-764-3321 jh30956@windstream.net

High Plains

Bernice Gengenbach 203 West Anthony St. Eustis NE 69028-3517 308-486-4261 bgbach@nebnet.net

Metro East

Emily Laaker PO Box 107 Bennington NE 68007 402-238-2583 elaaker@cox.net

Midlands

Jane Flores 466 County Road 19 Hooper NE 68031 402-654-2246

Northeast

Becky Bahnfleth 518 South Second St. Pierce NE 68767 402-329-6316 mdbandrjb@ptcnet.net

Southeast

Carolyn Schlake 1520 Darwin St. Beatrice NE 68310 402-228-9646

Southern Prairie

Teresa Christensen 1349 N. Kansas St. Superior NE 68978 402-879-4530 tchriste@hotmail.com

NEBRASKA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION REVISED BUDGET 02/01/08 TO 01/31/09

	Income	Expenses
Audit *	3000	3000
Autumn Renewal Offering	6500	6500
Autumn Renewal Registrations	3600	3600
NSWO Board Offerings	600	600
NSWO Convention Expenses	2000	2000
Expressions	2000	2000
Interest	1000	1000
Regular Offerings	57000	57000
Saved to Serve	2000	2000
Spring Gathering Offerings	12500	12500
Spring Gathering Registrations	13800	13800
SWO Leadership	500	500
Travel Fund	3000	3000
Triennial Expense Fund	4000	4000
Triennial Offerings	2000	2000
Triennial Thankoffering	1000	1000
Vision Fund	4000	4000
Winter Retreat Offering	2500	2500
Winter Retreat Registration	2400	2400
TOTAL	\$123,400	\$123,400

TO CWO:

1/2 Regular Offerings	\$28,500.00
1/2 Spring Gathering Offerings	\$ 6,250.00
Triennial Offerings	\$ 2,000.00
Triennial Thankoffering	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL	\$37,750.00

REVISED BUDGET APPROVED January 19, 2008 at the NSWO Board Meeting.

^{*} Item changed

Saved To Servers To Sew. Plant

Sewing, planting and cleaning will be the main activities at the Saved To Serve opportunity at Wayne Campus Ministries June 13-15.

Those attending will be making banners in church vear colors (bring sewing machines) for the Welcome Center on the Wayne State State College Campus. In addition, they will plant a prayer garden to provide a place for students to meditate. They will also clean the center. Registration deadline is May 26.

About 24 women were signed up to participate in the Saved To Serve refurbishing of Camp Tomah Shinga, near Junction City, Kan., from April 18-20.

They were to paint, clean and add caring touches to the camp, which is to be used for a camp and retreat ministry of the Central States Synod beginning this summer.

Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries is partnering with the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Association of Kansas in this ministry.

LWR Needs Quilts, Layettes, Kits

Lutheran World Relief is in need of quilts, health kits, layettes, sewing kits and school kits to meet current and anticipated needs in the world.

LWR says soap is also needed, but the way to supply it is to send money, not product.

Currently, LWR has several shipments requested from partners responding to humanitarian needs in Af-

to NSWO

rica, Latin America, and Asia:

Mauritania is expecting refugees who were expelled in 1989-1990 to Senegal and Mali to begin returning.

Uganda is bracing for an influx of refugees due to the ongoing violence in Kenya.

Among other nations now needing help from the international humanitarian agency are Thailand, Azerbaijan and Peru.

Omaha NE 68144-4060

New Subscr	iption Blank —Renewal
Name	Address
City	State Zip+4 (nine numbers)
Subscriptions are \$4 per year. Please make check	Send to Nancy Johnson 12777A Street,

... Triennial

(Continued from p. 1) attending will receive new resources to use when they get home.

Registration can be accomplished on-line www.womenoftheelca.org, For questions, contact Sandy Boots, triennial coordinator, 402-372-5677 or by email sanboots@hot-mail.com.

. . . Aut. Renewal

(Continued from p. 1) for a week of travel in Nebraska between the two dates.

The East Renewal will be Sept. 20 at First/Fremont and the West Sept. 27 at St. John/Eustis.

Two Nebraska women will share their experiences working with the companion synods.

Anne Hennigs, Lincoln, has visited and lived in the village of Kimangaro, Tanzania. She is a member of Our Savior/Lincoln, which has a companion partnership with the Kimangaro church. Our Savior helped financially to build a kitchen for the Kikoro School.

Pastor Melody Brindel, American/Filley, served her seminary internship in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 2003-4. In 2007 she participated in an ELCA consultation in Costa Rica.

Units and individuals are urged to contribute to the NSWO Vision Fund, which will pay travel expenses of the overseas guests.

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

Do on Specific Months
(S applies to units whose
year starts in September
- J to those starting in

IS YOUR ADDRESS LABEL COLORED?

If so, that is a signal that your subscription expires with this issue. Subscription blank on page 11.

May

- __ 2 CWO World Fellowship
- __Get 2008 Resource packet from pastor (plastic wrap)
- __Send new officer list to Nancy Johnson, 12777A Street, Omaha NE 68144-4060 nancy.johnson5 @cox.net
- __Circulate *Expressions* among participants
- __ Send travel fund assessment (\$16) to Nancy Johnson, address above.
- __26 Registration deadline for Wayne Saved To Serve
- __30-31 Nebraska Synod Assembly

June

_1 Synod Assembly concludes

- __13-15 Saved to Serve at Wayne
- _S Install officers
- __S Have you send new officer list to Nancy Johnson?
- __Did you send travel money?

July

- __1 Expressions deadline.
 Did you send items for "Light" or "Laughter"?
- __8-10 Triennial Convention
- __10-13 Triennial Gathering

August

- __S Prepare yearbook
- __ S Prepare budget
- __Circulate *Expressions* among participants

The Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the ELCA 1345 N. Commercial Superior NE 68978-1023

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
SUPERIOR NE
PERMIT # 6

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

GWEN EDWARDS 4 3402 CASTILE DRIVE BELLEVUE, NE 68123-1437