

2023



Women of the ELCA
Directory

Women of the ELCA Constitution Highlights of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

To accomplish the purpose of Women of the ELCA, as stated on page 1 of this directory, women in this unit shall commit themselves to:

- a. Come together for study, support and action.
- b. Participate in the ministry of Women of the ELCA beyond the congregation.
- c. Support financially the total program of Women of the ELCA.
- d. Designate leadership that shall be in communication with the synodical and church-wide women's organization.

How does one join this Women of the ELCA?

This unit shall be composed of those women who participate in activities which indicate a commitment to the purpose of Women of the ELCA.

Participation shall be open to all women in the congregation and other women who subscribe to the purpose.

Women elected to leadership in this unit and elected as delegates to a convention of the Synodical Women's Organization shall be members of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

What does it cost to take part?

There are no membership dues, but offerings are taken which are given to the total work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and to other special local projects.

**East Central Synod of Wisconsin
Officers 11/2021-11/2023**

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Appleton Conference - Women of the ELCA

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Conference Coordinator

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Open Door Editor

Shirley Paulson
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National Women of the ELCA

8765 W. Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631
800-638-3522

2023 Calendar of Events

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| January 21
9 am | Epiphany Brunch/Annual Meeting |
| March 1, 8
15, 22, 29 at
5 pm | Lenten Suppers |
| March-May | East Central Synod Spring Events |
| July 19
6 pm | Salad Potluck at Prince of Peace |
| September | Fall Retreat at Imago Dei Bible Camp |
| September
21-24 | Triennial National Gathering "Just
"Love". Phoenix, AZ |
| October | Thankoffering Sunday |
| October 21
noon | Triennial Gathering Recap |
| November | ECSW Biennial Convention |
| December
11:30 am | Christmas Program/Potluck Luncheon |
| January 6 | Epiphany Brunch/Annual Meeting |

Ministries of Women of the ELCA Prince of Peace,
All women who are members of Prince of Peace are invited to participate in any of the activities below. You do not need to participate in all the ministries listed. Choose what fits your interests and time availability.

Circle Bible Study Groups: Bible study groups meet monthly using the study in the *Gather* magazine. See contact information in this directory. There are currently 3 Circle groups meeting monthly. Ruth Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10 am in the Prince of Peace Library (contact Jeannine Bultman 733-2209). Esther Circle meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 pm (contact Stephanie Allaire 843-4443). Naomi/Sarah Circle meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 1:30 pm in the Prince of Peace Gather Room (contact Leach Johnson 722-7379).

Lenten Suppers: Women of the ELCA at Prince of Peace provide suppers before services during the Lenten season. Assistance is needed including providing food, help with set-up, serving and clean-up. Sign-up sheets will be posted at church about a month before Ash Wednesday.

Quilting: Quilters meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 to 12 at church. No sewing experience is necessary. The quilters will teach you everything you need to know. Contact: Ruth Reichelt at 733-4157. 138 quilts were made and donated in 2022.

Ministries of Women of the ELCA Prince of Peace

Advocacy: Our current areas of advocacy focus are : anti-racism, domestic violence prevention, stopping human trafficking and assisting families with special needs children. Opportunities include contacting legislators by email or phone, writing letters, attending advocacy events and becoming more informed about issues affecting women nationally and internationally. Visit our website at www.womenoftheelca.org to learn more about how you can participate.

Lutheran World Relief Kits: Women of the ELCA collects items needed for Lutheran World Relief Kits throughout the year. We collect items needed for baby kits, personal care kits and school kits. In 2022 we assembled 81 baby care kits, 31 personal care kits and 41 school kits. After the kits are dedicated at our yearly Thankoffering Sunday they are shipped around the world to areas of greatest need. In 2023 we are participating in Lutheran World Relief's kit tracking program. Watch for announcements in the fall to see exactly where our kits were donated. A full list of needed items is included at the end of the directory. Items can be dropped off in the room at the back of the library. Assistance is needed with organizing and packing kits throughout the year. Watch the announcements for opportunities. Contact Jeannine Bultman at 733-2209 or Nancy Wittrock at 257-1077 for more information.

Ministries of Women of the ELCA Prince of Peace

Prayer Chain: Both email and phone prayer chains are offered at Prince of Peace. Please call Joanne Tompkins at 739-7276 to start a prayer request or to join a prayer chain.

Prince of Peace Women of the ELCA Events: Our group holds a number of events throughout the year. These include our January Epiphany Brunch/Annual Meeting, July Salad Potluck and Christmas Program/Potluck. Information about these events will be available in the POP email newsletter and Sunday announcements throughout the year. All women who are Prince of Peace members as well as friends and family are welcome to attend.

East Central Synod and National Events: Women of the ELCA East Central Synod hold yearly Fall Retreats at Imago Dei Bible Camp and our Appleton Conference holds a yearly Spring Event. The East Central Synod also holds a Biennial Convention. Every three years we hold a national gathering and convention. These events are a wonderful way to connect with Lutheran women from other churches and often feature nationally recognized speakers. Information about these events is included in the "Open Door" publication and will also be posted on the POP WELCA bulletin board in the narthex

WELCA Websites and Publications

The East Central Synod of Wisconsin publishes a digital and paper newsletter “Open Door” which provides information about events, conferences and activities throughout the East Central Synod. Yearly paper subscriptions are available by sending a check for \$6 made out to Women of the ELCA-ECSW along with your name, address and phone number to: Carol Grom, 2124 Mahogany Court, DePere, WI 54115.

To receive a free digital version of the “Open Door” please email Shirley Paulson with your name, phone number and email address.

Information about WELCA publications is available on the national website: womenoftheelca.org. *Gather*, the magazine of Women of the ELCA, offers a mix of articles, theological reflections, devotions and stories of comfort and challenge that help readers grow in faith and engage in ministry and action. Our monthly Bible studies are based on the studies in the *Gather* magazine. A print subscription is available for \$19.95 a year. You can subscribe online at gathermagazine.org or by calling 1-844-409-0576. Digital access is free to print subscribers.

WELCA Websites and Publications

Café (<http://boldcafe.org>), an on-line magazine, shares stories written by bold young adult women who write about faith, relationships, advocacy and more. Readers and writers of *Café* include pastors, seminary and college students, and other young adult women who use *Café* as a Bible study resource individually or with a group. Join Boldcafe writers and friends for conversation and dinner via Zoom the first Thursday of every month at 7 pm(CDT). For more information go to: boldcafe.org/dinner/.

Bold Connections is our monthly e-newsletter that features the latest news and information about our programs and activities. *Bold Connections* is delivered via email on the first of every month. To subscribe, go to womenoftheelca.org and click on publications.

Daily Grace is a daily email that is your on the go companion offering a faith reflection. To subscribe, go to womenoftheelca.org and click on publications.

Offerings

Offerings are gathered at our monthly Circle bible study meetings. 50% of these offerings are kept by our WELCA unit and 50% are sent to our East Central Wisconsin Synod group. The East Central Wisconsin Synod keeps 50% of the money sent for local programs and the other 50% is sent to the national WELCA organization.

Each year we have a Thankoffering Sunday in September. We offer gifts made in gratitude for blessings received throughout the year. Thankoffering donations are sent directly to the national WELCA group.

At events throughout the year (Christmas Potluck, July Salad Luncheon) we collect monetary offerings and in kind gifts for local and/or international causes as designated by the Board.

Our national WELCA organization also accepts contributions for it's designated funds. These include:

Katie's Fund: This fund is named for Katharina von Bora Luther, the wife of Martin Luther. The fund supports leadership development, living theology and global connections.

WELCA General Scholarship Fund: This fund supports leadership education for members.

Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls: This fund supports seed grants to congregational units in order to promote better health-physical, mental or spiritual.

Most needed: offerings are directed to priority causes as determined by Women of the ELCA.

Offerings

Offerings to the national organization may be made be sent by mail, made by phone or through electronic giving.

Mail: Make checks payable to Women of the ELCA. Mail to: ELCA Gift Processing Center. P.O. Box 1809. Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Phone: To pay using a credit card by phone call 800-638-3522 Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm Central Standard Time.

Electronic Giving: You may set up electronic giving through the group's Faithful Friends program at community.elca.org/faithfulfriends. Visit the Women of ELCA website at www.womenoftheelca.org and click on donations.

What Does Our Logo Mean ?

Our logo-with the cross, water and a white lily identifies women of the Evangelical Church in America as children of God, baptized, forgiven, adopted into God's family, full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptismal water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations, baptize them in the name of the Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

