



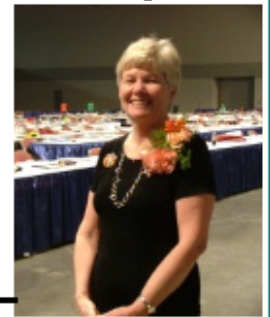
Sisters, let me apologize for my tardiness. I could offer lots of reasons, but the truth is I got swamped with our RHS staff reunion, which ended at around 11 P.M on 7/26, so I have a minute or two to work on what I have committed to the good women of Northwest Indiana (you're supposed to go, "Yea, NW!"). Anyway, I decided pictures from our own Margo Parker's first Triennial experience would be a lot more exciting than I.

Margo Myles of Bethel shares her photo gallery with the rest of the Northwest. Come on in...



I could tell Margo was excited about attending Triennial, and she made use of the messaging kiosk where women access their e-mail. *Wednesday, July 9, 2008 12:38:10 PM To:maslivend@sbcglobal.net Hello. It is going well here. We have just elected our new President, Beth Wrenn. (below)Will catch you up when I return. Margo*

I answered back: *Hey! I know it's a brand new experience! Met any interesting women? Have the IK women embraced you? By the way, don't believe anything they may tell you about me. If you happen to see Sarah Smith from Arkansas, tell her hi.* That evening she found her way back to the computers: *Wednesday, July 9, 2008 8:48:02 PM Yes, we have totally embraced. I will try to find your friend. Later, Margo.*



IK SWO Delegates bond: L-R: Pat Teverbaugh, Florence Bright, Deb Rieselman, Margo Myles, Jill Watson, president, and (my roomie) René Siria.

Come to the Waters: For Margo Myles, it was like experiencing Women of the ELCA for the very first time

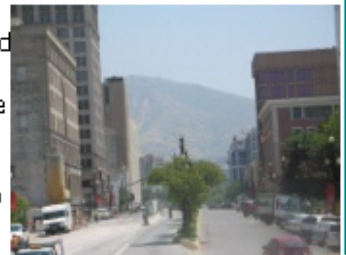
"There are so many words I could use to describe my experiences at Triennial, but 'spiritually and emotionally uplifting' is what comes to mind first. There were over 3,000 women involved from start to finish and we all connected in some way.

"This was the first year doing wireless electronic voting. All things considered, it went smoothly. We were able to get most of the voting done without major glitches. All of the candidates for president gave very personal and moving speeches. We were able to e-mail results to our units as soon as the voting was completed.



"The high point for me came when Bishop Mark Hanson (left) addressed us on the last day. He was able to speak on so many relevant topics with clarity and expression. One phrase that really made me stop and take note was that we should devote *more thought to revival vs survival.* "It was truly an awe-some experience to see the friendship, camaraderie and love shared among so many women from different parts of the country come together so beautifully.

"I was honored and humbled to have represented Indiana-Kentucky and NWI. Thanks to all who helped make this experience memorable."



Our president Jill surrounded by sisters.

You could experience the same spiritual awakening by becoming Bold with Women of the ELCA. Be a delegate to the '09 Synodical convention.

Holy Shepherd's Nancy Walter receives Women of the ELCA's Cronk Scholarship

Nancy Walter heard about Women of the ELCA's scholarship opportunities at her opening seminar for the Lutheran Deaconess Program at Valparaiso University, checked our website, and filled out an application. She was pleasantly surprised to receive the \$1,000 award. She will receive half and LDA the other of the renewable award.

Since that time, Nancy has jumped (BOLDLY) in with women at Holy Shepherd who have wanted an active unit to make it happen. Hers was also the first hand up to work on the cluster planning committee. Read more in the upcoming *KINswoman*, and on back.



I-K Women of the ELCA, NW Cluster
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Why not download a copy and share.

(Never fear. You can print this in black and white to avoid the high cost of colored ink...straight from iksynod.org)

And while you're there, check out the *KINswoman*.

Cheri Cupa, one of our newest SWO board members, is battling amyloidosis (AL). You can learn about this disease and walk with her through the treatments through her blog at <http://www.carepages.com>. Keep her in your prayers.

I have not been able to contact my good friend Louise Andrews. Valpo, especially, I need to know if she is okay.

I'd like to feature **BOLD** leaders in NW. Do you have your own business, head up an organization, or in any other way "break ground" or "water the community"? E-mail me. Send pics, please.

COMING...Sooner than you think...

The NW Cluster Planning Committee is gearing up for **FALL GATHERING** at Christ in Valpo. Tentative date is October 4. Watch your mailbox and/or bulletin board for more...

Creation

Caring for God's Creation

Gen 2:15

I see in church kitchens all too often something that makes me sad, and I wonder why we whom God has called as His people continue to do such sinful things without a second's thought. I have written about this before, but too many of us continue to fill bag after bag with groceries, and cart them out of the store.

I'd like to share some info and websites to help you break the habit of throwaway bags. Visit poconorecord.com/plasticbags and watch a slide show *that will blow your mind!!!*

- In 2002, Republic of Ireland became the first country to introduce a plastic bag tax, resulting in a **90% drop** in consumption, and approximately **1 billion fewer bags** consumed annually. www.reusablebags.com
- Thousands of marine **animals die** each year from eating bags mistaken for food. www.environmentalleader.com/bags
- Municipalities spend **millions of dollars** cleaning bags from streets, recycling systems and trees. reusablebags.com/facts
- According to the U.S. EPA, paper bags generate **70% more air** and **50 times more** water pollutants than plastic bags. www.eco-ethical.co.uk/plasticbag
- Plastic bags' petroleum-based plastic eventually breaks into tiny particles that contaminate soil and waterways and enter the food chain. current.com/topics/75888702_plastic
- In the USA, we use 100 billion bags a year. greenerloudoun.wordpress.com/2008/02/20/

Google *plastic bags environment* and see why you need to start taking bags **TO** the market, not just **FROM** them.

Our Units in Touch

Holy Shepherd Women-A Work in Progress

by Nancy Walter

This summer, a group of women who have for some time wanted to form a congregational unit of the Women of the ELCA at Holy Shepherd, 9770 Keilman Street, St John, has been meeting to make preparations for our kick-off event on Saturday, September 27, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

Carol Wagner has been very helpful, and we are thankful for her sisterhood. Darlene Deck and Annette Holtan have graciously agreed to join us on September 27th, not only to share the facts about Women of the ELCA, but their experiences, as well. If you'd like to attend, you are more than welcome! A continental breakfast will be served.

We crave your prayers that God will bless our efforts, but you can help in other ways, too. If you can't be with us in person, but would like to send your thoughts about your involvement in Women of the ELCA and how it has blessed and "grown" you, that would be very much appreciated.

If you would like to lend your expertise in the planning stages, please join us for a meeting on Wednesday, August 20th, at 8 p.m., at Holy Shepherd.

To make a reservation or to share your thoughts, e-mail me at nanjackwalter@sbcglobal.net, contact me at 219-322-8999, or drop me a note at 1057 Poppyfield Place, Schererville, Indiana 46375.

We are looking forward to getting started and becoming an active part of the NW cluster!

(Psst! Sisters, save a space for me! Dorothy)

Mark your calendars for Bethelhem Women of the ELCA's "Treasure Sale," August 16, at 601 Fillmore, Gary. Rummage through all kinds of treasure, and enjoy refreshments, too.

IT'S TIME TO START PLANNING

If you haven't done so, now is the time to lay out your mission for next year. Elect officers, delegates, and alternates and plan your calendar. Incorporate Bible study, mission projects, support for SWO and CWO, Thankoffering, and, if needed, constitution review & updating.

The *Northwex*, the bimonthly publication of IN-KY Women of the ELCA Northwest Cluster, can be downloaded at iksynod.org. For questions, submissions, or comments, or to inquire about subscribing via USPS or email, please contact me at 219-886-0201 or maslivend@sbcglobal.net.