



1987 -2007. Twenty **BOLD** Years for Women of the ELCAI



Headed to Indianapolis!!

Looks like somebody's
been ready ... a **LONG** time!

There's not very much time left! **July 27-28** is almost here. **R-U-E-4** the IK Synodical Women's Organization's Biennial Convention at Adam's Mark, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN.

- ✓ Did you send in your reservation?
- ✓ Your delegate and alternate's?
- ✓ Did you go online, or call the hotel at 800-444-ADAM to reserve your room?

If you answered YES to all the above, then there's not much left... EXCEPT to start packing! We're going to have a great time worshipping, learning, and getting "puffed up" (Bishop Stuck's term) for service to our Lord—through serving others.

(Bring enough money to browse the Augsburg Book Store selections.)

For all the BOLD NWI Women...

Well, you didn't make a choice, so after attending Assembly, I made it for you. I have chosen **beach towels**, and the **top 5 reasons** for beach towels are...

5. They are **colorful**, and can accent any attire.
4. No one will think you're taking hotel towels.
3. They can be easily acquired at discount stores.
2. Lake Michigan=sand, beaches, dunes, water
1. Answer: Brrrrr! Question: What are "meeting rooms"?

You can find **beach towels** at your favorite discount store--A J Wright, Value City, Big Lots, and, who knows... maybe Aldi's.

However, if you show up with a beach ball or sand shovel and pail or anything else associated with the beach--except gulls—we'll welcome you with open arms.



We still need an act—at least one.. One church?... One lady??? **HELP!!!**)

[*R-U-E-4= Are you ready (red E) for...?]

Heeding the Signs

Maybe this has happened to you. I had the cutest little rose bush with the daintiest white flowers in my back yard. A couple of years earlier I had moved it to a spot right at the corner of my garage, where I could see it each time I prepared to leave. I watched it, along with others of various colors, and as spring carefully made her way to my yard, I saw bright green stems of promise developing steadily.

A few days later, the leaves were wilting! Then, almost overnight...Phumph!

My heart sank, but I set my jaw and began a regimen. Nothing but drastic cutting—more purging than pruning, could offer any chance for survival. *(Over)*



I always enjoy attending the assembly, and this year was no different.

Besides offering the greatest excuse to see my grands, and the chance to hear great speakers and experience the pure delight of hundreds of Lutherans harmonizing, it was great to connect with sisters all over the synod.

As usual, I helped Jill man our booth, and saw several Northwesterners, including Carol Petrie, Karen Seydowski, Rebecca Bailey...and I was able to put a face with a name for Kate Knoerzer from Holy Shepherd. Then there were women whose names simply escape me (which makes them truly a part of the family since the same thing happens with my brothers and children).

It was good to see all of you. Of course, it's *always* good to see you—at convention in Indy, **July 27-28**, and fall gathering **October 6**, at Augustana.



Lillie McElroy and Rita Walls, president of Bethel's Congregational Unit stop by the Women of the ELCA booth and chat with Jill Watson, SWO president.

Please make copies available
for the women in your congregation.
 Download *Northwex* at iksynod.org,

(signs, cont.) This I followed with hefty helpings of rose food and water. I watched for days with a broken heart. Then last Friday, as I placed my key in the lock, my eyes went sadly to the painful spot, and my heart leapt into my throat. There I discovered the tiniest little perfect leaves—ALIVE!

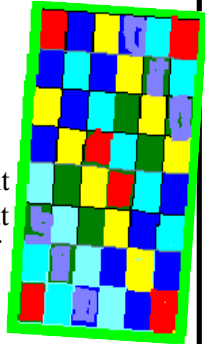
Sometimes organizations are like that. They die, not all by themselves, but by what we put in or fail to put in, as well as what we take out, or may be too afraid to take out. Before you know it, right in front of your eyes, it breathes its last..

Take a look at your congregation's women's group. Do you see signs of death? What are they?

Like a lady with pruners, you may have to be brutally honest, even take drastic measures to bring it back. But revive it you can! Cut out dead stems (NOOO! Not *people!*), retrain or redirect wayward, overgrown brambles that interfere with purposeful development, and nourish the WHOLE plant. Wel-come young shoots, for they will eventually take up the job of the seasoned branches, Don't fret. Welcome the transform-ation. You just may grow to love your new plant, realizing that YOU made it happen!

Sew Much for That...

I ran across this practice from one group of women who found scheduling quilting sessions a bit difficult. Some of the women cut 11" squares, put them in bundles of 48 to make an approximately 60" x 80" quilt, and leave them in a basket at church. Women take them as they wish, sew them together, and return them when finished. When enough have accumulated, a tacking session is set, and women add lining and backing, tack the quilts, and pack them away. New tack parties are scheduled as needed. I've been cutting squares, but I put them in bundles of 12 so the women can "design" as they like. *Real* quilters will, of course, do their own thing...and what a lovely thing they do!



Creation

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Caring for God's Creation

Gen 2:15

1.1 Billion people don't have access to clean Water

A PlayPump™ water system is a children's merry-go-round attached to a water pump that provides easy access to clean drinking water for schools and communities in Africa. This innovative design operates like a windmill turned on its side. As children play and the merry-go-round turns, the water is pumped into an above-ground storage tank and later accessed by means of a simple tap. Billboards attached to the storage tank provide public service and promotional messaging, and provide revenue to help cover the cost of maintenance for 10 years.

"Limited access to clean drinking water has a profound impact on the quality of life of children and families in sub-Saharan Africa," said Jean Case, CEO of the Case Foundation. "As Americans, we tend to take clean drinking water for granted, but in Africa it can be the difference between basic health and disease, between stability and poverty, and between life and death.

Providing a clean water solution to an African community can open the doors of opportunity in so many areas -- health, education, gender equality and economic development." Learn more at casefoundation.org



Lucinda Pin

Does anybody need a RIDE to convention? Does anybody need a RIDER to convention? Let me know; I'll play matchup.

Does anyone need a ROOMIE? Tell me that, too, and I'll see what I can do!

NOW...since I'M willing to do that for YOU, do something for me:

- **If you can bring a box or two of health kits back with you, let me know.**
- **If you will do, or be part of, an act for the talent show, call me.**

PLUS

Checklist

- √ Sent your constitution to Jill?
- √ Sent your Fair Share?
- √ Sent any resolutions you'd like considered?
- √ Submitted a Triennial delegate nomination?
- √ Submitted a nomination for an officer or board member?
- √ Encouraged someone to go with you to convention?

ALL YESSES??? *Then come on! Let's go!*

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