



The KINswoman

A Publication of Indiana-Kentucky Women of the ELCA · Volume 20 · Number 1 · February 2007

President's



Jill Watson
President

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12: 1-2

Convention INFO inside!

not looking to choose what is best for Jill, or what is convenient for Astrid; we are not searching for things that fit into Carol's already busy schedule, or deciding into what Mary can afford to invest her time, talent and finances. Instead, we are to renew our minds, so that we may "discern what is the will of God" (from Romans 12:2). To decide this, we will be required to have our hearts open to Him. We may need to be renewed in fellowship with other Christian women. We may need to rely on the support of others working towards the same goals. Each of us **can**— and **will**— find this in the work of Women of the ELCA.

I am calling each of you to service for our organization. I call upon you to enter into fellowship with other Women of the ELCA to *be God's body in this world*. You can do this in your families, congregations, and communities. But I ask that you consider doing this *in our synodical organization*. This July, (Friday, July 27—Saturday, July 28) we will meet in Indianapolis for two days of fellowship, support, renewal, worship, education and service. We will be determining together what we believe to be the work that God intends us to do—and *we cannot do the work without the complete body*. The work requires the voices of *all His people*. Your voice is needed in the role of delegates, in the actions of elected leaders, and in the prayerful support of the entire organization.

Your congregation will soon receive the convention registration packets in the mail. This packet will contain many different sheets of paper...each with a unique purpose, and each asking for a response of some kind. The packet will provide *information on the location, registration costs, workshop topics being offered, special guests that will be participating, and opportunities for service and worship* with others.

You will find nomination forms for leadership roles as synodical board officers and members, as well as delegate positions at the Triennial Gathering of our Churchwide Women's Organization in July, 2008. Guidelines will be included to help you determine eligibility and the best choices for your congregations. You will also find **forms for making recommendations (resolutions)** to the synodical board for action during the next two-year period. These resolutions can direct the decisions on spending for mission projects, emphasis on topics of study, or changes to methods of functioning as an organization. *Your voice matters*, and this is the best way that you have to speak to issues that are important to *you*.

You will also find information about *Fair Share*, a benevolence program that permits congregational units to share in helping units to send delegates to the convention. (page 2)

I appeal to YOU, sisters. The Indiana-Kentucky Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the ELCA needs YOU to present yourself as a living sacrifice. We need YOU to be transformed by the renewing of your minds (and spirits), so that WE, as an organization, can discern what is the will of God in our synod, and to find what IS good and acceptable and perfect in the ministry we attempt together.

How are you to do this? The Purpose statement of the Women of the ELCA reminds us that *we are called into community, and empowered by the Holy Spirit* so that we may "commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world. "

With this kind of reminder, it should be evident that *participating fully* in the activities of the Women of the ELCA places us into the *service that God calls for* in the Romans text, that we would not allow the world and its many distractions to prevent us from working in a way to discern God's will in our lives, as well as the life of His church.

As chapter 12 of Romans continues, we are reminded of the many gifts, talents and abilities that God bestows on us... though no one person receives them all. God chose to place us in communities that require us to depend upon one another. Our purpose statement tells us that we cannot do this on our own, but that we are to *be present for one another*. It is in this *community* that God's body is completed on earth. And not only are we not physically left on our own, we are provided with the *Holy Spirit* that *empowers* us to do those things that *we may not even recognize* in ourselves. *For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. Romans 12: 4-5*

We are coming to an opportunity in our organization to elect new leaders, to choose new platforms and projects, and to make decisions about the work of our organization. We are



**Barbara Dietz
Leadership**

Still don't think you're a leader? Yes, you are!

Every time you do something in the name of the Lord, you're a leader. Every time you do something for your church, you're a leader. Every time you do something to help in your community, you are a leader. Every time you reach

out to others who are in need, you're a leader. Leadership can be demonstrated by individuals, circles, and units. Here are some ideas to consider.

- Promote Women of ELCA programs, church programs, and Churchwide programs
- Assist those without a car or who cannot drive to allow them to participate in activities
- Help lead or plan retreats or women's programs
- Visit shut-ins to help them keep connected to the women's group/church
- Chair a committee
- Create a welcome/information center
- Volunteer at a community agency (e.g. YWCA, homeless shelters, etc.)
- Collect needed items for church/community projects
- Make quilts, kits, etc., that are needed for Lutheran mission programs
- Develop a program to raise money for missions

Send your ideas to bdietz59@sbcglobal.net; type *Women of ELCA* in the subject line.

Yours in Faith,
Barbara

(President's Corner continued)

Each congregation is asked to contribute to this program, and we will disperse equal portions BACK to those congregations who request assistance in meeting expenses, such as registration, lodging and transportation. Each congregation with an active unit in Women of ELCA is entitled to send one delegate, and is encouraged to also send one alternate delegate, as well as other visitors, to take part in the convention, so we share together the responsibility of ensuring representation from churches across the synod. Be certain to include an election in your congregations for these special delegates.

Consider how God may be calling you into deeper service through a position on the board, or as triennial delegate. Be prepared to be transformed by God's spirit, so that you may meet the mission of the Women of the ELCA: *"To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."*

I look forward to seeing all of you in Indianapolis this July. Let us celebrate our partnership with God—and with one another. Be **bold** in Him.

In His Service,
Jill

The
KINswoman

The *KINswoman* newsletter is a publication of the Indiana-Kentucky Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). This publication facilitates communications of the I-K Women of the ELCA by sharing ideas and programs of individuals, as well as our Clusters, Congregational Units and (SWO) Board.

The *KINswoman* is published 3-4 times a year by the Synodical Women's Organization of Indiana-Kentucky Women of the ELCA, Jill Watson, President, and online at <http://iksynod.org/ministry/WELCA/WELCA.asp>

Send all articles, photos, questions, or subscription requests to

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Indiana-Kentucky Women of the ELCA 12th Biennial Synodical Convention

July 27 - 28, 2007

Adams Mark Hotel

2544 Executive Drive

Indianapolis, IN 46241

“Acting Boldly in Christ”

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JULY 27

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Registration open

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Booths and Displays open

10:00 AM

Opening and Welcome

Opening worship with Bishop Stuck

Orientations: First Timers & Voting Delegates

Business Meeting - Session 1

Lunch with the Bishop

Workshops

1) And It Was Good: Biblical Visions of Wholeness - Pamela Smith

2) Churchwide representative - Ida Jeanne Smith

3) Making Sense of Senseless Eating - Marion County Health Dept.

Business Meeting - Session 2

Adjourn for the day

Dinner/Banquet

High Style Fashion Show & Talent Show

SATURDAY, JULY 28

8:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Booths and displays open

8:00 AM

Gathering Music

Business Meeting - Session 3

Workshops

4) “Making Campus Connections” - Kelli Skram, Pastor, IU

5) "Calling Mission Control" - Helen Garvey & Florence Bright

6) Managing Lifestyle Stress - Marion Co Health Department

Lunch - Honoring Women in Ministry

Business Meeting - Session 4

Adjournment & Closing

Sending Service w/Communion - Cindy Geisen – Presiding

Registration and Workshop Information

Registration: The full registration fee includes all sessions, lunch on Friday and Saturday, continental breakfast on Saturday, and the banquet on Friday night.

Room Reservations: Make through Adams Mark, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241; Phone (317) 248-2481 or 800-444-ADAM. Hotel information and registration available at <http://www.adamsmark.com/> Room rate: \$80.00 plus tax for each night (one to four people). Be sure to mention you are with Women of the ELCA to receive convention rate.

Cut-off Date: Thirty (30) days prior to the convention the hotel will release the block of non-booked rooms to the public. Rooms booked after June 26 may receive convention rate if rooms are available.

Check-in/Check-out: Check-in time 3:00 PM, check-out 12 noon. Late check-out can be arranged if needed.

Parking: Registered guests will enjoy the convenience of ample free parking.

Dietary Restrictions: Include any necessary dietary request with your convention reservation.

Registration Confirmation: If you would like to receive a registration confirmation please include a stamped self-addressed envelope or your e-mail address with your registration.

Convention registration deadline: June 26, 2007. Your fee may be transferred but not refunded.

► **Be sure to bring your items for the Lutheran World Relief health kits. (See page 8)**

For additional information contact:

René Siria — renersiria@yahoo.com or 502-848-4299.

Jill Watson — jill.watson1@insightbb.com or 812-634-9244

Darla Werner—(Health kits) d Werner9164@sbcglobal.net

Workshop Information for Friday, July 27, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

- 1. And It Was Good: Biblical Visions of Wholeness Pamela Smith**
Biblical Storyteller, Pamela Smith will present Bible stories about the profound, living wholeness of the reign of God. They include several stories about God's love for the earth and its creatures.
- 2. Meet with a church wide representative Ida Jeanie Smith**
Ida Smith is from Chambersburg, PA, in the Lower Susquehanna Synod. She will share information from the Churchwide Women's Organization. Includes an exchange of ideas and questions.
- 3. Making Sense of Senseless Eating Marion County Health Department**
What really drives us to eat? Subtle cues and invisible influences in our eating environment lure us into overeating, thereby contributing to our increasing weight. Discover ways to identify these cues and influences, and learn how to combat the triggers that make us overeat.

Workshop Information for Saturday, July 28, 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM

- 4. Campus Connections Kelli Skram, Pastor at IU**
Learn about the incredible service of campus ministry to the church and university community as it marks 100 years of sharing the Good News to students away from home
- 5. "Calling Mission Control" Helen Garvey & Florence Bright**
Includes a presentation and discussion of what Women of the ELCA is doing at home and abroad, and ideas for funding mission projects.
- 6. Managing Lifestyle Stress by Marion County Health Department**
Identify the major stressors in your life. Recognize sources of stress that contribute to burnout, and how to assess whether you are at risk for burnout. Learn about stress management techniques. In just 5 minutes, you can learn a few simple things to control your stress.



Helen Garvey
Mission Projects

Join the Chile Challenge

Our attention has been called to the preschool ministry of Buen Samaritano Lutheran Church in Santiago, Chile. Several of our units have already supported this ministry; however, the preschool faces danger of closing for lack of funds. This ministry provided by the church is critical to the women of Santiago, allowing them to work and support their families. The preschool is not supported by the Chilean government, but relies heavily on the support of our synod.

At our Board Meeting on January 27th, we unanimously voted to make **Mission Challenge for Chile** our mission project for January through the time of the Convention, July 27th. We challenge our units to not only match, but prayerfully surpass, a \$1,000.00 gift from the treasury of the I-K Synod Women of the ELCA in support of this ministry.

Please send your gifts to Mary Glasscock. Be sure to indicate that your gift is for "Chile Preschool Ministry."

Remember the little children, for such is the Kingdom of God.

In caring and love,
Helen



Act boldly.



Florence Bright
Finance

Your Mission: Invest in Women of ELCA

The ELCA Mission Investment Fund has agreed to sponsor *a major event* at the 2008 *Triennial Gathering* in Salt Lake City if **1,000 new individual accounts** are established by Women of the ELCA participants by December 31, 2007.

There are several ways to invest. The minimum investment amount is \$25.00. To request a packet and/or additional information please call toll free (877) 886-3522 or visit the website at www.MissionInvestmentFund.org/resources.



More information will be available at your Spring Gathering.

Your Sister,
Florence

Mary Glasscock
Treasurer

I thank my God with every remembrance of you. Ph 1:3



To borrow from Linda Post Bushkovsky in the January *Interchange*, "December may have brought year's end to most calendars, but *January* brings year's end to the fiscal calendar" of I-K Women of the ELCA.

We thank all our units who generously gave financial support to our organization during the past year. Through your gifts of love, we have been able to act boldly for Christ in strengthening the mission and goals we set for 2006. (See Chile Challenge.) You will be hearing more about the Board's mission projects as the convention draws closer.

Again, on behalf of all who are blessed through our ministry, and the SWO Board, thank you for your cheerful giving!

In thanksgiving,
Mary

A sign at the entrance to Buen Samaritano reads, "Welcome Girls and Boys: Never stop smiling, being excited, and feeling that you are in charge of your life."





Diann Zehr
Mission
Resources

Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls is Women of the ELCA's initiative to change the lives of women, and the lives they touch, by mobilizing various types of **bold** action around health and wellness.

Often women's health issues receive less attention than men's. In addition, women often put others' needs before their own.

Realizing that healthy women help create healthy communities and develop healthy leaders, Women of the ELCA set forward the goals of educating, sharing, motivating and advocating for women's health. More than 260 people raised \$28,000 at the 2005 Triennium 4K Run, Walk 'n' Roll event in San Antonio as a kickoff. Last fall "health events" were held in Chicago and Greensboro, N.C., and you may download guides for holding your own health event from www.womenoftheelca.org/resources/health.

Last March, Women of the ELCA's executive board voted to endorse the **HEART** (Heart disease, Education, Analysis and Research, and Treatment) **for Women Act**, a bipartisan bill introduced on February 14, 2006. This legislation coincides perfectly with our health initiative, and would help countless women and girls now and in the future.

The Indiana/Kentucky Synodical Women of the ELCA Board also would like to focus on these issues. We are therefore encouraging clusters to use Bible Study materials from LWT entitled, "Act Boldly for Health," along with a group of "Conversations along the Way," from *Our Journey to Wellness*, at Spring Gatherings. You may download the material at www.womenoftheelca.net/getinvolved/update or obtain a copy from your board partner.

The materials can be supplemented by having someone lead some light exercise or stretches, or perhaps a nutritionist giving a talk on eating properly balanced meals.

Of course if you have already decided on a program of your own please go ahead with your plans. This is just a suggestion and a direction in which the SWO Board has shown interest.

Blessings,
Diann

God Calls You to Be Heard— Every Voice Counts



Darlene Deck
Education
Advocate

The story is told of some young boys who set out traps to catch some birds. Their sister, who had watched them do this, told a friend of her parents' all about it. In response to her information, the family friend asked her what she had done about it. She replied, "I prayed that the traps might not catch the birds." "Anything else?" "Yes," she replied. "I prayed that God would keep the birds out of the traps." "Anything else?" the family friend asked. "Yes. Then I went and kicked the traps all to pieces."

Advocacy means recognizing injustice and doing something about it.

If you have ever gone to bat for your child when there was a problem at school, helped relatives or neighbors get care when they were sick, or asked friends to support a favorite project, then you have been an advocate.

To be an advocate means to speak up, to plead the case of another, or to champion a cause. Usually advocacy involves bringing influence to bear in order to make a change. It is something most of us do routinely for ourselves, or on behalf of our families, our neighbors, and our friends. You don't need to be an expert; you just need to care enough to be involved and to speak up.

If you want to make a positive difference for vulnerable people, then you will need to take three steps.

1. Become informed. Getting the basic facts is the first step and generally not very difficult.
2. Become involved. It makes sense to want to act once you know the need. You can contact an existing program or attend a conference on the issue.
3. Become an advocate. Advocating for a cause may not come easily, but it offers the best hope for getting at why a problem exists. You can make calls or write letters, or plan or help carry out a campaign to educate others.

Did you know... that Lutheran World Relief has long spoken out for justice? In the 1940's, LWR was among the first voices to urge the U.S. government to allow humanitarian aid into the American controlled sector of Germany. LWR related the suffering that its staff saw firsthand, and argued that aid should be provided based on need, not (Cont. page 9)

Indiana-Kentucky Women of the ELCA
12th Biennial Synodical Convention
Acting Boldly in Christ

July 27-28, 2007

Adams Mark Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241

REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print or Type

Registration Deadline: June 26, 2007

Name (Only person per form) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____ E-mail address _____

Congregation _____

Name Cong. number- check w/pastor city state zip

Cluster: NW NC NE Laf Ind ECent SE Evans SC EKy

Check one: Delegate Alternate Clergy Board Visitor Guest

Convention participant Convention Other _____

Choose one:

\$115.00- Full Registration sent by June 26, 2007 (Includes full convention participation with packet, workshops, 2 lunches, 1 continental breakfast and banquet.)

\$130.00- Full Registration sent after June 26, 2007, deadline (Includes everything above.)

\$25.00 - 1-Day Registration sent by June 26, 2007 (Includes convention packet, Bible study, workshops. No meals included) Day attending: Friday Saturday

\$35.00 - 1-Day Registration sent after June 26, 2007 deadline (No meals included.) Day : Fri Sat

\$ _____ INDIVIDUAL MEALS--AVAILABLE FOR ATTENDEES WITH 1-DAY REGISTRATION ONLY

Friday lunch \$17 Friday banquet \$26 Saturday breakfast \$7.50 Saturday lunch \$17

\$ _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED. Checks must accompany all registrations.

No refunds after June 26, 2007. You may request funds be applied toward another woman's registration.

I HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: Please state special needs. (Special needs regarding rooms must be handled with the hotel) _____

Emergency contact information: Name _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____ Cell phone _____ Alternate phone _____

WORKSHOP CHOICES: Please select two workshops you would like to attend during each session. Select the workshop numbers for your first and second choice for each day. We will do our best to fulfill your request on a first come, first served basis..

Friday: 1st Choice 2nd Choice Saturday: 1st Choice 2nd Choice

MAILING INFO: Send your registration form and check payable to 2007 Convention I-K SWO to
René Siria
108 Old Station Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

PLEASE MAKE AS MANY COPIES OF THIS FORM AS YOU NEED FOR THE WOMEN IN YOUR CONGREGATION.

Calling ALL Clusters!



Get Your ACT Together

A spot has been reserved to showcase the limitless talent of Indiana-Kentucky!

Each cluster is asked to prepare a 5-minute act for our talent show. Start NOW preparing your act—singing, dancing, comedy, magic—(almost) anything goes! Get those units busy. Perhaps you could make your final pick at Spring Gathering.



Would you believe? Some people don't even know we're on the web where you can read

or download the KINswoman. Just go to iksynod.org, click on our ministries on left side of page. On that page you will see a box. Click on Women of the ELCA in the center box in the last row. From there you can even go to the **Women of the ELCA Website**—which some don't know exists, either—where you can find all sorts of information, devotions, and materials; download forms and special programs; enjoy *Café e-magazine*; purchase logo items—plus participate in the discussion group.



Registration forms will soon be posted, and we hope that soon other interesting items will be added, *including your cluster news*. Email Darla (dwermer9164@sbcglobal.net) with your cluster newsletters, gathering booklets and photos, and anything else you'd like to share with your sisters.

Physical Offering for Convention will be items for Lutheran World Relief Health Kits.

- One washcloth, dark color recommended
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- One bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in original packaging
- One 5-7 oz. squeeze tube of toothpaste with remaining shelf life of at least 12 months remove packaging (See note below)
- One comb, wide tooth preferred, remove packaging
- One metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached, remove packaging (do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file)
- Six Band-Aids® (or similar brand), preferably 1/2" to 3/4"; secure together with a rubber band

PLEASE NOTE

- Do not add other items, or make substitutions.
- Please include items that are new and in good condition.
- Please include toothpaste with at least a 12-month shelf life. It can take months for a health kit to get to the person who receives it
- Please include items of god quality—cheap bandages often don't stick, flimsy towels don't last, cheap combs break, and hard bristles are abrasive to the teeth.

A Chosen Few

Did you choose yours yet? —Your unit's delegate? Your alternate?

And, speaking of choosing. . .

"Come to the Waters," the 7th Triennial Gathering of Women of the ELCA will be held in Salt Lake City, July 10–13, 2008.

IN-KY will be allowed delegates based on the number of active units in our synod.

Delegates to our convention this year will elect delegates to the Triennial in 2008. Before that, however, units must nominate women from their congregations as candidates. Each active unit may nominate one woman from their unit.

Your packet will contain forms for that nomination, so talk to your women, and be ready when your packet comes.

Take advantage of the chance to **choose a few** of the *women* who will represent what *you* want for Women of the ELCA.

Don't complain... Don't fret.

Vote!



In the Spotlight

Gloria Dei CU South Bend The women of Gloria Dei have volunteered at the Hope Rescue Mission for over 5 years. Ten times a year they run the chapel program and serve dinner to over 100 clients there. Recently they collected toys for the new Family Life Center in South Bend. The church was founded by Swedish Lutherans, and this year will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Santa Lucia pageant. In the spring, they hold a salad luncheon to support the missionary program.

Sharon Engstrom

Sharon, of First English Congregational Unit, Mishawaka, attended the Women of the ELCA "Journey to Wellness" health event in Chicago, and shared this information as the program leader at the North Central Cluster retreat at Lutherwald.

Sharon works in the health field, and is a strong proponent of women's health issues.



Astrid Richwine
Vice President

Grace to you and peace through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hope you are having a wonderful 2007. Rock and I are enjoying 2007 and look forward to seeing our new granddaughter Madison, born December 17, again soon.

Tax season is upon us so I am very busy at H and R Block. The IRS has issued a federal excise credit for long distance service. Madison and tax time remind me of the very reason we are Women of the ELCA. Mary and Joseph had to return to Bethlehem to be counted and taxed where Jesus was born. Jesus has made us a family, and I look forward to seeing each of my sisters in Christ at the synodical convention on July 27 and 28 in Indianapolis.

Love, Astrid

(Every Voice, cont. from page 6)

national origin, religion or political affiliation.

Advocacy is a faith commitment to be part of God's plan for a just world—a world where each person's dignity and worth is valued—a world where everyone has a say in decisions that affect their lives. Change begins with each of us.

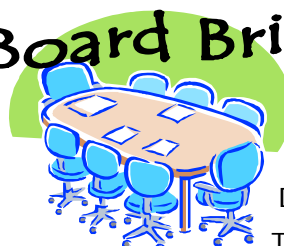
Serving Christ with you,
Darlene Deck
219/962-2197



Bold Women's Day celebrates all the Lutheran women and the many and diverse ways in which they act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. You — individually and col-

lectively in your congregation — are invited to celebrate **Bold Women's Day**, observed in 2007 on February 25th. Select from ideas offered at www.womenoftheelca.org/boldwomen/index or create your own ways to honor the **bold** women of your life.

Board Briefs



The SWO Board met on Saturday at Cross and Crown Church in Indianapolis. Present: Jill, Carol, Mary, Florence, Barbara, Rene, Darla, Diann and Dorothy (nonboard).

Jan. 27, 2007

The president shared "active unit surveys" she will send to coordinators to share with cu's at spring gathering. These surveys define the requirements, and allow the units to determine whether they are classified as "active." She also voiced concern that some units refuse to amend their constitutions to reflect revisions ratified at the 2005 Triennial..

She noted that women should voice their concerns at the synodical level, where they could be relayed to the churchwide level for action.

Jill enlightened the board on the financial straits of the synod, and shared her suggestion during their meeting the day before that all congregations be encouraged to ask for minimal gifts from each family to specifically address the shortfall. As individual members of IK congregations, and as an organization, we were encouraged to consider how we may help.

She also encouraged women to attend Synod Assembly, June 8-9, in Ft. Wayne, and help with our display.

A budget of \$29,259.00 will be presented at the convention. Biggest items include CWO offering of \$6,500 (1/2 of offerings received); \$5,000 designated offerings (received for focus projects); \$6,000 KINswoman (almost \$400 received for postage, thank you very much!!!); and \$5,500 convention expense. Board and meeting expenses continue to be held well below \$2,000, due to the members' conscientious stewardship.

Chairpersons submitted their reports, and final plans regarding costs for registration, food, and display were made, as well as assignments for convention duties, such as securing and manning the book store, pages, and registration.

Leadership chair Barbara Dietz expressed disappointment that units were not responding with examples of what they were doing so that she might compile them for distribution to all units. She is also anxious to work with units to help them get started, reorganize, or renew and revitalize.

Talent- or Not forms were distributed for an all-clusters talent show, and plans were made for a fashion show as part of Friday night entertainment.

Cluster Coordinators: Consider helping women attend the convention by coordinating rooms and rides in your cluster for women who need it.

A very special issue

Mark your calendars. July 27 and 28 are the dates of the IK Synodical Convention. I tried convincing my friend to be a delegate in 2005, but she felt unqualified. If you're uncomfortable about attending your first convention, below is an excerpt from an article by Marilyn O'Connor in *Interchange*, March 2006, which could help you make up your mind—or somebody else's.

Why should you attend your synodical convention?

Your synodical newsletter has been talking about it and promoting it, there's information on the bulletin board at church, you've heard other women talking about it, and still you are not sure if you want to attend.

Perhaps the following list of things you will experience at your convention will help you make up your mind and decide to go. At your convention, you can

- join with other women in worship. (Have you ever heard several hundred women sing together? It's awesome.)

- reconnect with friends.
- make new friends.
- participate in informative and skill-building workshops.
- hear the latest from the church-wide women's organization, presented by your churchwide board representative.
- hear inspirational and challenging speakers. (This alone may be all you need to start that ministry you've been called to but have put off responding to.)
- see the latest resources we have for carrying out the Act Boldly theme, planning an event, grow-

ing personally.

- get new ideas for programs to take back to your unit.
- learn how the business of the organization is conducted.
- witness the election process as new board members are elected.

An opportunity to learn new things, be inspired, see the latest resources, get new ideas to take back to your unit, have fun, worship, and have a day (or two) away from household chores and errands ... could you ask for more?

More is merrier...

(So get a group and enjoy!!)

For immediate delivery

DATED MATERIAL

Indiana-Kentucky Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Synodical Women's Organization
575 Johnson Street
Gary, IN 46402

The KINSWoman 

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