



1987 -2007: Twenty BOLD Years for Women of the ELCA!



It's been pretty yucky here, but never fear... July is just around the corner ... and I can't wait!!!

There's so much to look forward to . . .

- Lunch with the Bishop- *with no men to hog the conversation*
- Augsburg bookstore to buy devotionals, Bibles, books, gifts... or one of those lovely Lucinda pins you see us wearing and ask about
- Interesting and informative workshops
- Unique entertainment
- Great food, great friends, great fellowship
- Bold Women in Worship

Get your coins together. Set some aside from your IRS refund as a treat for yourself...and for your IK sisters...



Remember there's a \$100 bill for some group in Northwest Indiana. Start planning now how you'll spend it. (Treat the youngest or oldest or hardest-working woman? Leader? Newest participant? Fill the driver's tank and buy a round of Subs for everybody in the car? Cover the hotel bill? Help rent a van?)

Registration is now in progress. Ask your leader, go online, or see the latest issue of *KINswoman* for details, and **MAKE PLANS!**

(Let me know if you need a ride or roommate and I'll work at pairing you with someone close by.)

memo

March 22 is World Water Day. Download worship materials at www.worldwaterday.org

October 18 is World Water Monitoring Day. Get details at www.worldwatermonitoringday.org/

Through Stand With Africa, Women of the ELCA supports bringing life-essential clean water to rural communities through improved conservation and irrigation systems. Make a gift in honor of our 20th Anniversary. Details on the web at

<http://www.womenoftheelca.org/20years/water.html>



Spring Cluster Gathering

The cluster planning committee met at St. Paul on January 20 to plan for Spring Gathering. Since water is so central to our spiritual well-being, as well as our physical health, and since Women of the ELCA has also selected this as a focus for our anniversary year, we chose iwater for the theme of this year's gathering.

St. Paul's president met with us, and provided a great deal of input. We're looking forward to an exciting gathering with the women of St. Paul as our hosts on April 28.

We'll meet again at 10 A.M. on March 17 at the church and, as always, you are invited (especially CU leaders) to sit in and offer ideas and insight.



Cluster Committee (l-r) Annette Holtan, Dorothy Nevils, and Hazel Schlicker, and St. Paul CU President Eileen Schoenborn work out details for Spring Gathering 2007

ALL of US...EACH of US

Are you planning to attend the I-K Synodical Women's Organization Biennial Convention, July 27-28, at Adam's Mark in Indianapolis?

I've asked that question before, and if I don't get an answer, I'm going to think you're ignoring me, and my feelings will be hurt.

Like the other 9 clusters, we have an assignment. We must put together a talent (or not!) act. Some congregation out there has (or knows of) a (or some) talented woman (or women)—singers, dancers, comics, jugglers, mimes, magicians... For heaven's sake, if you've had a husband and/or kids (and are *Lutheran*), you've had experience putting on an act! Don't wait for somebody else to do it, step on up...

Plus we have other assignments, too... and *somebody* has to do them.

If not you, who?



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

INFOBytes

We're so happy to have **Wilma Dwight** back with us, and she would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers, and reminders that they care. Ditto for **Mona Matson**. She's doing well, and appreciative of the attention she got in the form of cards, calls, and foods, Neither doubts that her progress was your prayers being answered.

Job posting: Seeking **BOLD-in-the-Lord** women to fill vacancies for coordinator and 2 members of the NW Cluster Planning Committee for 2-year term. No salary, Bonuses and fringe benefits galore. Must be willing to work swing shifts. Organization skills a plus. On-the-job training. Teamwork required...(athleticism not, since there will be no need for armtwisting with the fine ladies of the Northwest Cluster.) If enclosed form has been removed, it may be God's work. In any case, see your leader. No interview, and contrary to what you've heard from those others, we WILL call you!

Pursenal Safety: From time to time I come across information that, while not of the spiritual nature, will be beneficial to my sisters--like this video on YouTube at http://video.sheriff.org/psa_cartheft.shtml Watch it and protect yourself by securing your purse. I'd like to add also that you need to be careful while shopping. So often I've seen women, heads bent into the meat display as they carefully select just the right cut of beef or poultry, while their purses sit in the kiddie seat ready for take-off.

1. Don't leave your purse unattended.
2. Zip/snap so your wallet's not exposed
3. Strap it in with the seat belt.

Be wary. Crooks don't just want money any-more. They want your identity. Guard it.



Creation

Caring for God's Creation

Gen 2:15

Water—so refreshing, so necessary, so wasted!
A few tips for conserving God's gift...

- Don't throw paint cans or bottles with chemicals in them into your trash so the dump site run-off contaminates the water supply. Learn where these items are collected in your area.
- Don't flush old or unused medicines down your toilet. Consider working with your water and health departments to come up with a way to address this problem which is relatively new to people's awareness.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk and save 80 gallons of water every time.
- Wash your produce in the sink or a pan that is partially filled with water instead of running water from the tap and reuse the water to water houseplants.
- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.

For information about the dangers of pesticides to our water supply, visit the website below:
http://www.earthday.net/programs/currentcampaigns/waterforlife/water_pesticides.aspx

First United's "Traveling Basket"



Each participant's name is printed boldly on an index card, a number is written in the corner, and the cards are placed in an envelope and inside a picnic style basket. One person is designated to begin by taking card #1, clipping it to the outside of the basket, and placing a gift(s) inside the basket. She then places the basket in a designated place where all can see it upon entering the narthex the next Sunday.

The person whose name has been clipped on the basket takes the basket home and opens her surprise gift(s). She has a week to assemble gift(s) take the basket of gifts back to church for recipient #2. All of this is done secretly without any names being divulged.

Thanks so much, Lois Soderstrom, for sharing with your sisters in other congregations.

I'd/We'd like to hear what you're doing **at your church**. Keep reading and you'll find my address and email with **NO PROBLEM!!**

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.