

THE VOICE

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD

Spring 2018

Easter Greetings from the SEPA Synodical Board of the Women of the ELCA,

We have a really special event coming in June – it's our Biennial Synodical Convention. This year we're meeting at Messiah Lutheran Church in Downingtown, Chester Conference, for a program entitled **"Marys and Marthas – a celebration of the diversity of our spiritual gifts"**. Our theme verse is from 1 Corinthians 12:4-6. Joining us from the Churchwide Board will be our newly elected Executive Board Secretary, Dr. Freddie Jordan. She'll bring us the latest news from our churchwide board, and be available for any questions you might have about Women of the ELCA.

Our keynote will be a shared presentation by representatives of Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and inFaith. Most of us are familiar with the work LWR does, but we'll learn about new programs and initiatives, and sample some LWR-provided coffee. InFaith is an organization that has recently partnered with WELCA on presentations about stewardship at the synodical level and at the 2017 Triennial. Their new project with WELCA is an effort to raise more than \$5M for Katie's Fund over the next 2 years. The joint keynote message should get you thinking about the array of talents, experiences and interests of the women of your church. How can we use these gifts to promote the values of our Purpose Statement?

I think we can all agree that Women of the ELCA is a wonderful organization, and we'd like more women to participate. We should all feel invigorated about the work of this organization. Start looking around at your church for women who might like to start a Café group, or a bible study, or some other type of meeting that's different from your current circle offering. Consider providing childcare or a meal so working women and moms can participate more easily. Contact a board member to help plan a special event. We're here to support you.

We encourage you to attend conference and synodical events whenever possible. They provide a great way to meet like-minded women and learn more about WELCA's programs. We also urge you to consider running for a seat on the synodical board. Our purpose is to act as a conduit between the congregational units and the churchwide board and staff by sharing information and resources.

We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events. Thank you for your continued support of this amazing organization!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Joy Grace
Synodical Board President



In this issue of The Voice:



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- Conference News – Spring Events
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Purpose Statement

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we 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.

Officers & Board Members

Joy Grace, President Email: jgrace@partneresi.com	C: 484-432-8087	Phyllis Boyer Email: frauphilly@gmail.com	C: 215-679-6626
Beatrice Parker, Vice-President Email: 54126105a@gmail.com	C: 215-888-8675	Liz Harmon Email: Lzharmon63@gmail.com	610-225-0976
Carol Herstine, Secretary Email: cahott@hotmail.com	H: 215-257-5811	CindyRyan Email: Cindyryan817@gmail.com	C:215-290-1891
Elaine Keller, Treasurer Email: elaineakeller@comcast.net	C: 215-262-5366	Arlette Stansbury Email: astans@msn.com	215-727-8582
		Helen Dungan * (webpage) Email: dunganh@lafayette.edu	H: 610-346-8829 C. 610-417-8184

*Not a current board member

<http://ministrylink.org/women>

Conference News

As an extension of the All Anew theme from last summer's Triennial, our Conference Themes have reflected the concept of newness and growth.

The theme verse for the spring conferences is John 15:5

"I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."



Delaware Conference

Coordinator: Doris Krewson

Email: dkrewson5@verizon.net phone: 610-497-9026

Saturday, April 14, 2018

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

927 S. Providence Road,

Wallingford, PA 19086

Registration – 10:00 am, 10:30 brunch and meeting

Speaker: Rev. Jen Casey, Pastor of Holy Trinity

Upper Bucks Conference

Coordinator: Paulette Gerhart

Email: gerhartpaulette@yahoo.com phone: 215-723-2044

Saturday, April 14, 2018

St. Matthew Lutheran Church (Keller's Church)

3688 Ridge Road, Perkasio, PA 18944

Registration – 8:30-9:00 am followed by breakfast

Speaker: Ms. Karen Kutzner, Program Director of The Well

In Kind Gifts – gently used adult and children's clothing or shoes for the thrift shop at The Well

Upper Montgomery Conference

Coordinator: Pat Leberman phone: (610) 326-4660

Saturday, April 21, 2018

St. James Lutheran Church

1101 E. High Street, Pottstown, PA

Registration – 9:00 Program 9:30

Speakers: Pat Leberman and Jean John will share highlights from the 10th Triennial Convention and Gathering of WELCA, July 2017, Minneapolis, MN

Each congregation is asked to bring refreshments to share as well as canned goods. The donations of canned goods will go to the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities food pantry in Pottstown.

These are the Conference events known to us when we went to print. If you have an upcoming Conference event that was not included here, please notify Helen Dungan at dunganh@lafayette.edu and she will have it added to the website.

**2018 Biennial Convention Registration Form - Women of the ELCA,
Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod**



Marys and Marthas

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 ~ "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."

**Saturday, June 2, 2018
9:00a.m. Registration**

Messiah Lutheran Church • 46 W Lancaster Ave • Downingtown, PA • 19335 Phone: (610) 269-1566

Name: _____ Conference _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Congregational Unit & Address _____

- ☐ I am a Voting Member (please complete the Voting Member/Alternate Voting Member form by May 19)
☐ I am an Alternate Voting Member (please complete the Voting Member/Alternate Voting Member form by May 19)
☐ I am a SWO Officer ☐ I am a SWO Board Member
☐ I am a Non-Voting Member with Voice ☐ I am attending for the first time
☐ I am a guest ☐ I am a STUDENT~ (ONLY \$10!!!!)
☐ I am considering taking the train to Downingtown. Please contact me about shuttle service to the church.

**Registration, including lunch, is \$25.00 (Students \$10).
Please enclose a check made payable to Women of the ELCA – SEPA. Thank you.**

Churchwide Representative: Freddie L. Jordan was elected to the Churchwide Board of WELCA in 2017, and currently serves on the Executive Committee as secretary, and as a member of the programs and communication committee. She is an active member of St. Philip Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbus, OH, leading, teaching and singing for the glory of God. Freddie has a PhD in biochemistry and currently serves as an adjunct faculty of chemistry at Central State University.

Keynote Speaker: Representatives from Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and inFaith Community Foundation will present the keynote address.

Schedule for the Day: Worship, Business Meeting, Election of SEPA Board Members & Officers, Speakers, Workshops, Displays, Discussion, Service Opportunities and Lunch.

In-kind Gifts: This year's In-Kind Gifts will be used to assemble Personal Care Kits for LWR. We are requesting the following items: (1) bath towel, preferably in a dark color; (2-3) bars of soap; (1) toothbrush; (1) comb; (1) metal nail clipper.

Please return this completed form along with your \$25 (\$10 for students) registration/lunch fee before May 19, 2018 to:

Beatrice Parker
3210 West Allegheny Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19132
215-888-8675
54126105a@gmail.com



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



inFaith
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION®



VOTING MEMBER / ALTERNATE VOTING MEMBER ENROLLMENT FORM

**Women of the ELCA – Southeastern Pennsylvania
2018 Biennial Convention – Saturday June 2, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. Registration
Messiah Lutheran Church, 46 W Lancaster Ave, Downingtown, PA
Theme: Marys & Marthas ~ 1 Corinthians 12:4-6**

This form is a voting member/alternate voting member form only. You must also register for the Convention using the attached registration form.

Congregational Unit _____

Address _____

Zip _____

SEPA Conference _____

The Women of the ELCA, SEPA Constitution states (Article VI, Section 2, Item 1): Voting members of a convention shall be the elected officers of this SWO (Synodical Women's organization) and one voting member from each unit (Congregational Unit) on the roll of this SWO.

Name of Voting Member _____ Phone _____

Home Address _____

Zip _____

Email address _____

Name of Alternate Voting Member _____ Phone _____

Home Address _____

Zip _____

Email address: _____

CU President/Representative

Return this form by May 19, 2018 to:

Beatrice Parker
3210 West Allegheny Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19132
215-888-8675
54126105a@gmail.com



OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS NOMINATION FORM

Women of the ELCA – Southeastern Pennsylvania

2018 Biennial Convention – Saturday June 2, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. Registration
Messiah Lutheran Church, 46 W Lancaster Ave, Downingtown, PA
Theme: Marys & Marthas ~ 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Board Terms are two years – Check the position in which you are interested in serving.

President____ Vice President____ Secretary____ Treasurer____ Board Member____

Name of Nominee_____

Address_____

Phone_____ Email_____

Name of Congregation_____

Church Address_____

SEPA Conference:

Chester____ Delaware____ NE Philadelphia____ Central Philadelphia____

Lower Bucks____ Upper Bucks____ Lower Montgomery____ Upper Montgomery____

Age (please circle): 20-35 36-50 51-60 61-70 71+

Give a brief listing of positions you have held in Women of the ELCA:_____

Your Congregation and / or Synod:_____

Your Community:_____

List your work experiences / skills/ interests:_____

Signature – Nominee

Signature – Congregational President/Representative

Return by: **MAY 19, 2018**
Return to: **Helen Dungan**
2967 Gallows Hill Rd.
Riegelsville, Pa 18077
610-346-8829
dunganh@lafayette.edu



PROJECT PROMISE
BUILD KITS OF CARE

buildkitsofcare.org



PERSONAL CARE KITS

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ☐ **ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- ☐ **TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ☐ **ONE** adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging*
- ☐ **ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ☐ **ONE** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

** Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap*

HOW TO PACK YOUR PROJECT PROMISE KITS

- Fold the towel in half. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Pack completed Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents



A PROJECT OF

Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Ingathering and Lutheran World Relief

2017 was a wonderful year for the synod's Ingathering for Lutheran World Relief. The Synodical Board of the Women of the ELCA was entrusted with coordinating the collection of quilts, blankets, and kits at last year's Synod Assembly, and it was a great success. Over 500 quilts were collected, in addition to hundreds of kits and blankets. We are a very generous synod!

However, this year the synod will elect a new bishop, and it was decided that the Ingathering would take more resources than would be available. As a result, the synodical InGathering event will take place **June 2 at Messiah Lutheran Church, Downingtown**, the morning of the Women of the ELCA Convention.

Donations of quilts and kits will be loaded on a truck from 8:00 a.m. until 9:15 a.m. when worship begins. Everyone making a donation that morning is invited to stay for worship, and to participate with the assembly as they bless and send the donations out into the world.



In order to make the LWR Ingathering a success, please consider:

- Instructions for LWR quilts and kits are available here: <https://lwr.org/get-involved>
- A contribution of \$50 per congregation donating quilts and kits is suggested to cover the shared cost of trucking the donations to the LWR warehouse in Maryland. It is helpful to have these funds in advance. Checks should be written to Women of the ELCA, note *Ingathering 2017* and mailed to Elaine Keller, WELCA Synodical Board Treasurer.
- Volunteers will be needed on Saturday, June 2 to collect, count and organize donations, and pack the truck. If you are interested in volunteering, or have any questions or concerns about the Ingathering, please contact Joy Grace, Synodical Board President, at 484-432-8087.



Thank you in advance for continuing WELCA's long tradition of supporting Lutheran World Relief with quilts and kits. Your Synodical Board is proud to continue the tradition of gathering and transporting these amazing gifts to New Windsor, MD on behalf of the Bishop and our entire synod.



REGION 7 SPIRITUAL GATHERING—APRIL 27-29, 2018

Holy Family Conference and Retreat Center
303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford, CT 06107

*Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others.
Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace.*

1 Peter 4:10-11

REGISTRATION FORM

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: _____ Synod: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Church: _____ City/State: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

COST: \$275.00 per person* (Includes registration fee, 2 overnights, & 6 meals)

Saturday Commuter Fee: \$100.00 (includes registration fee, lunch, & dinner)

Make check payable to: "Region 7 Women of the ELCA"

*Double Occupancy in most cases

Please indicate Roommate Choice: _____

I prefer a handicapped room** if one is available: _____

**There are a very limited number of handicapped rooms available on a first-come, first-served basis. There is an elevator to travel between floors. Community restrooms/showers are available on each floor of the retreat center.

Please indicate any dietary or mobility issues or other special needs: _____

Are you a Thrivent Financial member? _____

Please include a self-addressed stamped business-size envelope with your registration if you need confirmation by mail.

All other confirmations and updates will be provided by email to the address provided.

Please send completed form and payment to: Paula Rosenbeck, Registrar,
356 Torrington West St. #313,
Torrington, CT 06790

Questions? teetee108@yahoo.com OR 860-567-9505

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2018

CANCELLATION POLICY: A \$20 cancellation fee will be charged for registrations cancelled between March 1st & 31st. NO Refunds after April 1st.

FACTS & INFORMATION ON REGION 7 SPIRITUAL GATHERING

Celebrating all that we are as a Gift to God!

♥ The Region 7 Women of the ELCA Triennial Spiritual Gathering, “All that we have ... All that we are ... All that we hope to be ... We Are An Offering” is based on 1 Peter 4: 10-11. The event will be held April 27-29, 2018 at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center.

♥ Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center is located on 48 picturesque and tranquil wooded acres at 303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford, CT, complete with an outdoor labyrinth, walking rails, stations of the cross, lovely gardens, and ample parking. The main dining room is lovely with a superb chef on staff to provide delicious and well-balanced meals. A bookstore is available on-site. The facility is easily accessible from Interstate 84, or a 15 minute trip from Union Station in Hartford, and a 30 minute drive from Bradley International Airport. (Visit their website: www.holyfamilyretreat@cpprov.org)

♥ Full linen service is provided for each room. Bring your own toiletries. Dress for the weekend is casual. Bring walking shoes if you wish to explore the grounds or walk to the labyrinth. Since weather can be a bit unpredictable at the end of April in southern New England, bring a jacket or sweater for your comfort.

♥ Our honored guests for the weekend include: Keynoter and Preacher, Bishop Wilma Kucharek of the Slovak-Zion Synod; Bible Study Leader, Rev. Tiffany Nicely-Hollick of the New England Synod; Devotion Leader and Chaplain, former Bishop Marie Jerge of the Upstate New York Synod; and Audrey Novak Riley, Churchwide WELCA Director of Stewardship.

♥ *We will use all we learn in the Workshops for our Sunday Worship Celebration.* Those workshops will include:

- Poetry as a Spiritual Practice led by Rev. Marie Jerge
- Liturgical Dance led by Jan Walz of the Upstate NY Synod
- Angklung Music (go to You Tube to listen), traditional Indonesian instruments (provided) led by Ade Monareh, President of the New England Synod
- Acting out the Gospel led by Rev. Tiffany Nicely-Hollick.

It will be a truly interactive worship experience as we end our gathering.

Also speaking during our event are Liz Burgess, CWO Board Member, on the ELCA Social Statement on Women and Justice; Audrey Novak Riley; and Beth Walker, Upstate NY Global Missions Coordinator.

♥ **REGISTRATION** for the event begins at 3:00pm on Friday, April 27th with dinner being served at 5:00pm. The gathering will formally open at 6:15pm in the main conference room on the main floor. We will enjoy an interactive game of WELCA Bingo and a fun class on “Sex and Flowers,” led by our own Professor Alice Carlson. **(Please bring a container of any shape for the floral arrangement you will make to take home during this activity.)**

♥ Throughout the weekend we will have time for women to tie fleece blankets for Lutheran World Relief. **Please bring scissors appropriate for cutting fleece.**

♥ There will be opportunity for both monetary offerings and in-kind gifts. Personal monetary offerings and those from your congregation will be received at the festive closing Eucharist on Sunday morning. One-half of these offerings will go to the Churchwide expression of Women of the ELCA. The other half will go to Lutheran Disaster Response.

♥ In-kind gifts will be collected for the Prudence Crandall Center, a domestic violence shelter and organization in New Britain, CT. You are invited to bring new bath towels and facecloths as well as new socks and underwear in any size from infant/toddler to adult (men and women). A representative from Prudence Crandall Center will be with us on Sunday morning to accept the gifts and to tell a bit about their organization. We will also be collecting new bath-size bars of soap (4-5 oz.) for Lutheran World Relief. (The soap will be taken - along with the fleece blankets - to upstate NY for pick-up by a truck which will take them to the LWR warehouse – at no charge!)

♥ On Saturday night we will have a Talent Show in the main conference room! So, get your act together, Ladies! Showcase your talent! Please bring any props/instruments, etc. you will need. A podium, microphone and piano will be available. Solo or group acts welcome!

♥ Another opportunity that is available to you on Saturday evening but unrelated to our event, is an Easter concert, “The Joy of Easter,” at Holy Family, April 28th at 7:30pm. Tickets are available by reservation through the Retreat Center. Contact Ted Jastrzebski at 860-760-9705 or go online to www.holyfamilyretreat.org; click on retreats; scroll down to Concerts, Dinners, and Masses; you may make your reservations online. Cost is a \$40.00 offering.

♥ One scholarship per synod is available for the weekend. Contact your SWO president for details. Guidelines are set by each synodical board. PLEASE NOTE: You must still register even if you are granted a scholarship.

♥ Ten Thousand Villages, a fair trade retailer of artisan-crafted home décor, personal accessories, and gift items from around the globe is located within a few miles of the Retreat Center. If women wish to visit the store you may do so during available free time or on your way to or from the gathering. Address is 967C Farmington Ave., West Hartford, CT 06107; phone 860/233-5470; e-mail is westhartford@tenthousandvillages.com. Downtown West Hartford also has lots of cute shops and eateries!

♥ Please bring a snack to share! But be aware that there is very limited refrigerator space. Coffee and tea always available. Perhaps one person from each church could be designated to bring something so we don't have enough snacks for a large army!

♥ Please pray for this event! Spread the word to all women in your church, your conference/cluster, and your synod. Invite a friend, your pastor, or your mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, aunt, or niece! A fun and inspiring time is promised for all.

“All that we have ... All that we are ... All that we hope to be ... We Are An Offering”

WOMEN OF THE ELCA 11th TRIENNIAL GATHERING (theme TBD)

July 13-16, 2020
Phoenix, Arizona



It's never too late to start planning ahead for the next Triennial. The Women of the ELCA will be meeting in July of 2020 for another incredible and unforgettable event!

If you've never attended a Triennial Gathering before, please consider it. The Gathering registration cost is less than the 2017 event, and there's plenty of time to save for your hotel and transportation costs, especially if you find other like-minded women to attend with you!

If you're interested in the governance aspect of our organization, think about running for a Voting Member seat. Voting Members to the convention help to make the decisions that will determine the course of the organization for the next 3 years, and beyond! At the 2014 Triennial in Charlotte, the Convention voted to support bringing solar power to the Phebe Hospital in Liberia, West Africa. 3 years later, the project was complete, thanks to WELCA. Now we're a globally-recognized leader in bringing solar power to developing nations!

If you'd like a taste of the recent All Anew Triennial Convention and Gathering, go to our webpage and review the slide show presented to some of our Conferences this past Fall. If you have any questions about the Triennial, please don't hesitate to contact any of the board members listed in this newsletter. We would be happy to share our excitement about this event with you.



The following is a list of the recommendations, memorials and resolutions presented at last summer's **Tenth Triennial** by the Voting Members. They're organized by the way they were presented to the convention, either by recommendation from the Churchwide Board, a Memorial from a Synodical Convention, or from the convention floor as a resolution:

Board recommendation: Doctrine of Discovery

Memorial 1: Supporting the TDTR Network

Memorial 2: Supporting the TDTR Network

Memorial 3: Regarding tainted water in Flint, Michigan

Memorial 4: Regarding the size of synodical boards

Memorial 5: Condemning all forms of corporal punishment

Memorial 6: Regarding domestic abuse and violence and its prevention

Memorial 7: Regarding Bible Women ministry of India

Resolution 2017.01: Act to end Human Trafficking

Resolution 2017.02: Go green 2020

Resolution 2017.03: Engage Women of the ELCA in supporting leadership needs in the ELCA

Resolution 2017.04: Supporting a responsible energy future and care for creation

Resolution 2017.05: Number of board members

A summary of the actions taken at the 10th Triennial Convention can be seen at www.womenoftheelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/TCActions.pdf



PS: Go to www.welcatg.org for ways you can contribute to the Gathering, even if you won't be able to attend.



FAITHFUL FRIENDS – A New Way to Give

(taken from the welca.org website)

Do you know someone who gives regularly to Women of the ELCA, rain or shine, no matter what? Someone who's a faithful friend and steadfast supporter of the organization we all love? What does the Bible say about people like that?

"Faithful friends" are a sturdy shelter;
whoever finds one has found a treasure.
Faithful friends are beyond price;
no amount can balance their worth.
Faithful friends are life-saving medicine;
and those who fear the Lord will find them.

(Ecclesiastes 6:14-16)



Sturdy shelter. Beyond price. Life-saving medicine. Yes, we thought, those phrases certainly describe the many steadfast supporters of Women of the ELCA. So that's what we've named our new giving program: **"Faithful Friends."**

"Faithful Friends" is an easy way for you (or your congregational unit or your synodical organization) to give monthly to Women of the ELCA by automatic withdrawal from your checking account or by automatic charge to your credit card.

The **"Faithful Friends"** program supports the Women of the ELCA General Fund, which makes it possible for your churchwide organization to act quickly and flexibly in response to any need that may arise.

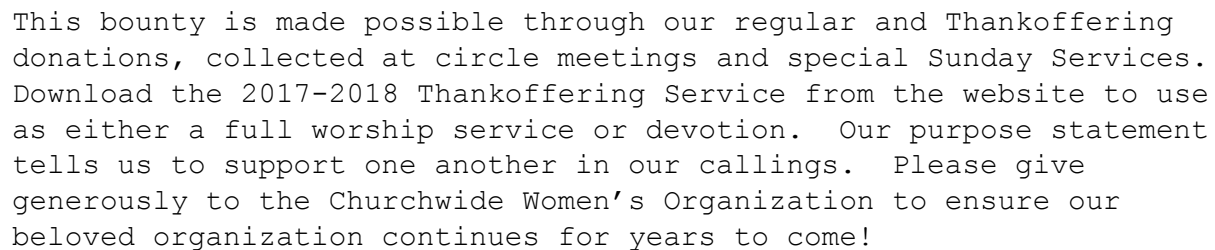
The prophet Isaiah tells us that God says, "I am about to do a new thing" (43:19a). And "Faithful Friends" is one way you can help Women of the ELCA be ready for whatever new thing God has in store.

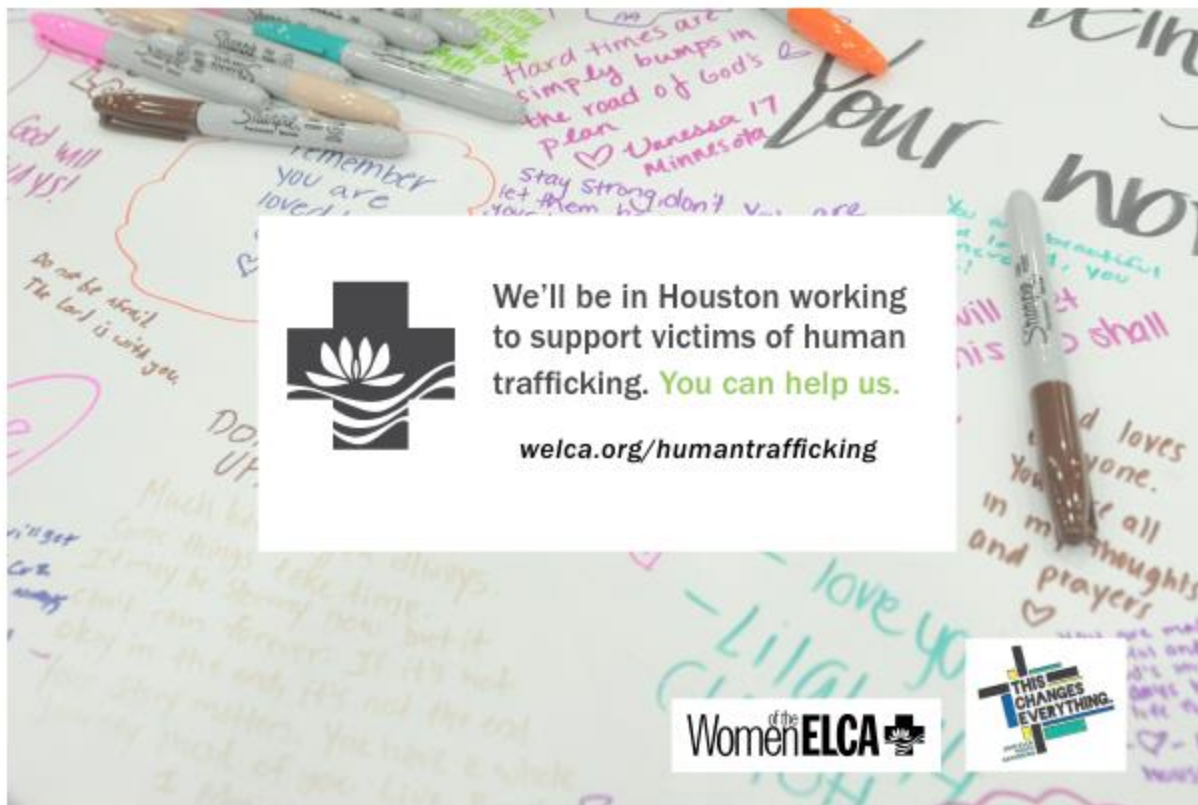
All you need to do is download the form (womenoftheelca.org/resources), print it out, fill it in, and mail it to:

ELCA Gift Processing Supervisor
8765 W. Higgins Road, 5th floor
Chicago IL 60631

You can start giving on-line right away, and you can stop any time with just a phone call to Women of the ELCA, 773-380-2730, or by email at women.elca@elca.org.

Spring has sprung - what a wonderful time to show our thanks for all the blessings we have received. That includes all the resources available to us through the Churchwide expression of Women of the ELCA. If you take a walk through the WELCA.org website, you'll find lots of news about the work WELCA is doing in your region and beyond, advocacy opportunities, craft ideas, and more - for FREE! If you have a question about something WELCA-related, you can call or email an actual staff person at the Churchwide Office. If you need a devotion, ideas for a retreat, or a leader for a workshop, there are tons of options available.

[illegible]



We'll be in Houston working to support victims of human trafficking. You can help us.

welca.org/humantrafficking

Women of the ELCA

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING.



JUNE 27 - JULY 1 + HOUSTON, TX

GATHERING@ELCA.ORG + 888-411-3522 + ELCA.ORG/GATHERING

Ephesians 2:8

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."