



**Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

March 2024

Dear Friends,

After a 4-year hiatus, The Women of the ELCA (WELCA) of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod are once again holding an Ingathering in conjunction with the Annual Synod Assembly. Lutherans have a long history of serving the most vulnerable communities, and in the SEPA Synod, we have hosted Ingatherings to provide for people in need, both locally and globally. In past years, we have collected as many as 500 quilts and 100's of kits, all of which were donated by over 30 congregations. We are excited to continue the tradition of gathering quilts and kits and transporting them to the Lutheran World Relief's warehouse in Maryland, a round-trip distance of 300 miles, taking more than 4 hours total.

The 2024 LWR Ingathering will take place at the Synod Assembly at Franconia Mennonite Church on Saturday, May 4, 2024. Congregations are invited and encouraged to bring quilts and kits (personal care, baby care, school and fabric kits) to load on the truck between 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m., which is before the morning worship service. Everyone making a donation that morning is invited to stay for the worship service and a blessing as we send the donations to Maryland, and then on to the world.

In order to make this a success, please:

- Review the instructions for assembling and packaging LWR quilts and kits, which can be found at <https://lwr.org/quilts-and-kits> or downloaded from our Assembly website.
- Consider participating, even if your congregation has not participated in past years. Kits are easy to assemble and even one quilt or kit can make a difference!
- Contribute towards transportation costs by making a monetary donation to help offset the cost of delivering the donations to the LWR warehouse in Maryland. The cost of the truck rental, gasoline and tolls will be around \$950.

Checks can be made out to WELCA – SEPA and sent to:

Carolyn Edwards  
35 Bliss Blvd  
Shillington, PA 19607

God calls us to share the light of Christ with the world! Please prayerfully consider participating in our Ingathering this year and help make a difference in the lives of our world-wide brothers and sisters in Christ.

*Patricia A. Davenport*

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Davenport  
Bishop, Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod

*Linda Garcia*

Linda Garcia  
President, Women of the ELCA  
Southeastern Pennsylvania Synodical  
Women Organization

**God's work. Our hands.**