



President's Prose

By Jean Crumb

March is here – Winter is almost over! The executive board has been busy planning events for 2018. On April 21st is the DAY OF RENEWAL AND LEARNING. Mary Woods will present her workshop on BEING PEACE. The enclosed flyer has directions on how to get to Christ Lutheran Church in Milton as well as other information. See you there! In this issue of SHARE, you will find the “Call to Convention.” with all kinds of forms and information regarding our SWO Convention, July 21 st at Camp Mount Luther . Jodi Ellis will be back to present a bible workshop. Remember how enjoyable her presentation was last year! Our theme is “CALLED TO SERVE.”

Becky Shureson who was elected Vice President of our church wide executive board will be our representative.

Finally, our FALL RETREAT/CLUSTER meeting will be October 20, 2018 at Camp Mount Luther. I am very excited about this upcoming year and am looking forward to seeing everyone!

Jean

This is the day the Lord has made, we shall rejoice and be glad in it!

Psalm 118:24

FROM THE EDITOR

By Ruth Doran

It has been a joy to send SHARE to you ... to inform you of upcoming events ... to give you glimpses into the lives of the Executive Board Members ... and now to invite you to the Annual Convention of the Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization at Camp Mt. Luther on Saturday, July 21.

So what lies ahead of us???

I would like the Presidents of Congregational Units to "bombard" me with news of their meetings and special activities so these can be "shared" with other Units. I would like to hear from Cluster Leaders and their plans for Fall Cluster Gatherings or urging attendance at the Women's Retreat/Cluster Gatherings at Camp Mt.

Luther (set for October 20th this year). I hope for continuing and increasing support for "Blanket Sunday" and the "Christmas-At-Sea" Gift Sacks for Seafarers; also collecting items for the many "Kit" Projects promoted by Lutheran World Relief. But most of all, I want everyone to enjoy the fellowship that a WELCA Unit brings to a congregation. At Messiah, South Williamsport, we fill Cookie Boxes for our college students and military personnel every November and, each February, we "knot fleeces" to be given to graduating High School Seniors. Every two years we have a special event for the congregation. This year we had a "Valentine Tea"; two years ago we asked the

Williamsport Chapter of the American Guild of Organists to put on a "Bach Birthday Bash" to celebrate his 331st birthday and raise money for Messiah's Pre-School Scholarship Fund. We had a lovely afternoon of Johann Sebastian's compositions and also those of PDQ Bach!). We've had a "Presidents' Day Tea" (with a visit from the "President") and a "St. Patrick's Day Tea." The initial event--some ten years or more ago--was a "Birthday Tea" where people sat at the table celebrating their birth month; each table having a cake relating to that month. A lot of ingenuity went into the cake designs and table decorations!

What news/activities/ideas in your Unit?? Your stories would be most welcome and will find a place in future issues of SHARE. Please write to me ... Ruth E. Doran (email ruthedoran@comcast.net) or mail to 77 Linvic Drive, Muncy, Pa. 17756

**Upper Susquehanna Synod
Invites YOU to attend
DAY OF LEARNING and Renewal
April 21, 2018**

Christ Lutheran Church, 1125 Mahoning St. Milton, PA

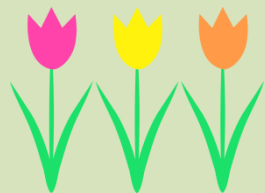
Directions to the church:

***From Interstate 80 take the Limestoneville exit (Route 254). Head west on Route 254 to Cemetery Road. Turn left on Cemetery Road to Route 642. Turn right on to Route 642. The church is about 1/8 mile on the right. *From Route 147 take the Mahoning Street exit (Route 642). Head west on Route 642. The church is about 1/8 mile on the right.**

**Mary Woods will present a workshop entitled:
"Being The Peace You Want To See In The World"**

Peace of mind is an internal matter. It must begin with your own thoughts and then extend outward. How can I take personally the responsibility to be an instrument of peace? What can I do to be part of the answer and affect positive change?

Please join us in this interactive and experiential workshop and learn about the authentic peace that we want in our lives and our world. We will be transformed by the renewal of our minds and feel inspired by living more fully in our hearts.



9:30 – 10:00 Registration & Snacks

10:00 Welcome

10:15 – 12:00 Program part 1)

12:00 - 1:00 PM - a light Lunch will be provided

1:00 – 1:45 Program (part 2)

1:45 – 2:00 Closing



***There will be a \$5 fee collected at the door.**

Checks should be made payable to USSWO



BIOGRAPHIES

Bio for Carol Winter

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Carol Winter, I am a resident of Montoursville, PA and member of Messiah Lutheran Church, South Williamsport, PA.

I am a graduate of Susquehanna University and taught in the Loyalsock Twp. School District, Williamsport, PA, for 37 years.

Since I retired, I have volunteered in the United Churches Food Pantry, in Williamsport, Pa.

A lifelong Lutheran, involvement in the church, has always been an important part of my life. I have taught Sunday School and Confirmation classes, as well as served on Christian Education and Social Ministry committees, Altar Guild, and the Church Council. I have also been a delegate to the Synod Assembly.

Being part of the women's organization has offered me many opportunities for service and growth. I was president of my local women's group, in my previous congregation. There we organized service projects benefiting the seniors and youth, dinners and visitations, to those confined to their homes or to nursing homes. With this Board and previous ones, I have worked on our own USSWO conventions. I was also honored to be elected as president of the USSWO for 2 terms (2007-2010), and attended the triennials in San Antonio, Salt Lake City, and Spokane.

Bio for Doris Mertz:

Doris is a Member of Holy Spirit Evangelical Church, in Turbotville where she is active in the choir.

She has served as the President of WELCA and the Financial Secretary.

She was a previous Sunday School Teacher and is a retired LPN from Warrior Run School District with 23 years of service.

Bio for Ann Spicer

God has never really “talked” to me! However, he has often nudged me. At times the “nudges” have been rather strong! His last nudge prodded me to volunteer to be on the executive board of the USSWO.

My name is Anne Spicer. I grew up in Watontown, attended First Lutheran Church, and graduated from Warrior Run High School.

After graduating from Shippensburg State College, I became one of Mifflin County school's elementary teachers. I also became a member of St. John's Lutheran in Lewistown. Later, I married my husband Arthur, at St. John's. We both are active members of the congregation.

In 2005, I retired and became active in St. John's unit of W/ELCA. Unfortunately, our active number of circles has diminished. Our unit is much smaller, but we are still productive. Our quilting group continues to be active meeting twice a month. Our women are also involved in altar guild and kitchen activities. One of our outreach activities is providing a “make and take” activity for children during Lewistown's Ice Festival. We also had a Cookie Walk/Sale at the same time. Our unit has been successful in starting a “Meet and Eat” group. It meets on the first Tuesday of the month for lunch at different restaurants. This group seems to be growing. It provides the opportunity for our older members who no longer drive to get out and socialize.

In November, St. John's Lutheran welcomed a new pastor, Rev. Jerri Carlin. She was installed on November 12, 2017. Since then Pastor Carlin has been very busy leading worship services, becoming acquainted with members of the congregation, attending meetings, and providing guidance in many ways.

JOB DESCRIPTIONS FROM THE CONSTITUTION

BOARD MEMBERS

SECTION 4. Officers in General

Item 1. The officers of the synodical women's organization shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer. Each shall be a participant in a unit and a member of the ELCA.

Item 2. Each officer shall be elected by the convention to a term of two years. All officers shall be eligible for one reelection to the same office.

Item 3. Upon completion of her term(s) as president, the president shall be ineligible for election as an officer or board member for two years.

Item 4. No elected person shall serve as an officer or board member for more than seven consecutive years.

Item 5. Should a vacancy occur in any of the four offices, the board of the synodical women's organization shall fill the same until the next regular convention. The election by the convention shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Item 6. The terms of the officers shall begin immediately following installation; except that of the treasurer, which shall begin February 1 following election.

Item 7. There shall be an executive committee consisting of the four officers, which shall act between meetings of the board of the synodical women's organization.

Section 5. Duties of Officers

Item 3. The secretary shall

- a. be the secretary of the board and the executive committee of the synodical women's organization;
- b. be responsible for recording and distributing minutes of the synodical convention, the board, and the executive committee;
- c. give the units notification of the regular convention at least three months in advance and of a special convention at least one month in advance;
- d. keep a correct register of the roll of units, along with the names of the officers of these units;
- e. secure from the units such reports as from time to time may be required;
- f. perform such other duties as the board may from time to time direct; and
- g. provide for the gathering and preserving of historical records and documents.

Item 4. The treasurer shall

- a. provide for the keeping of all records and be accountable for all funds;
- b. be responsible for disbursing funds in accordance with the financial policies of Women of the ELCA and the budget of the synodical women's organization; and
- c. present a complete report, including an accounting compilation or review, to the synodical women's organization convention and an interim report to each board and executive committee meeting.

Section 6. Board Members

Item 1. There shall be 5 members of the board elected by the convention of the synodical women's organization for a term of two years. Each board member shall be a participant in a unit and a member of the ELCA.

Item 2. No elected board member shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms.

Item 3. No elected board member shall serve on the board in the capacity of officer and/or board member for more than seven consecutive years.

Item 4. Should a vacancy occur in the membership of the board, the board of the synodical women's organization shall fill the same until the next regular convention. Each election by the convention shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Item 5. The terms of the board members shall begin immediately following installation



SECTION 7. Board Duties

Item 1. Transact necessary business and make programmatic decisions between conventions.

Item 2. Set policies required for effective and efficient functioning.

Item 3. Supervise and coordinate the work of all committees that the board may appoint.

Item 4. Identify board members for networking between the churchwide organization and the unit in both programmatic and organizational concerns.

Item 5. Determine the time and place of each convention.

Item 6. Prepare the proposed agenda, rules of procedure, and program for adoption by each convention.

Item 7. Report its actions to each regular convention.

Item 8. Recommend the budget to the regular convention.

Item 9. Fill vacancies in the offices and board membership until the next convention.

Item 10. Determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer or board member to perform her duties and determine if she shall be removed from her office in accordance with the policies and procedures of the churchwide Executive Board. For removal of an officer or board member, a two-thirds vote of the total board shall be required. A mail vote shall not be used to effect the removal of an officer or board member.

Item 11. Act as Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Whenever a synodical women's organization proposes to amend its constitution and bylaws, the board of this organization shall submit prior to September 15 or February 15 the proposed amendments to the churchwide Executive Board for review and action.

Item 12. Act in such other matters as may be delegated to it by the convention of the synodical women's organization.

UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION SUPPLEMENTAL JOB DESCRIPTION FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Board members must subscribe to the purpose statement and the constitution of the Women of the ELCA. Board members will also subscribe to the constitution and standing rules of the Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization.

1. Board members attend all board meetings, regular and special called meeting dates, usually 5 meetings a year (including the SWO Convention). In case of illness or emergency, the president must be notified of the absence prior to the meeting. (Standing Rule # 5)
2. Board members will serve on a Mission Area Committee, Convention Planning Committee or other committee that the president deems necessary. The board member **may** be appointed chair of above mentioned committee. Board member will attend all committee meetings held during the convention year, usually 4 meetings a year. (Standing Rule # 5).

3. Board members **may** serve as liaison to a cluster within the SWO, usually the cluster in which they are associated. This responsibility means that the board member will meet with the cluster coordinators to help plan the cluster gathering and give the Executive Board presentation/report at said cluster gathering. The liaisons should communicate with congregational/inter congregational units as opportunities present themselves.
4. Board members who are liaisons to a cluster may be invited to attend conference cabinet meetings or gatherings. The liaisons are encouraged to attend if their schedule permits.
5. Board members are encouraged to attend all functions sponsored by the board and committees. This support will help strengthen the bond of personal faith as well as fellowship within the SWO.

LETTER OF CALL TO: Congregational/Intercongregational Unit

Presidents, Contacts, participants of the Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women Organization

From: Jean Crumb, USSWO President

You are invited to attend the Thirty-first Annual Convention of the Women of the ELCA, Upper Susquehanna Synod, July 21, 2018 at Camp Mount Luther, Mifflinburg, PA. Please plan to be present for this one-day convention as it brings an excellent opportunity for you to meet your sisters from neighboring churches and become informed about the workings of the Women of the ELCA.

CONVENTION THEME: "CALLED TO SERVE"

SCRIPTURE TEXT: 1 COR 12:4-6 and 1 PETER:10

CONVENTION HYMNS: "I the Lord of the Sea and Sky" and "Jesu, Jesu"

REGISTRATION: The registration form is enclosed and may be copied for additional registrations. I encourage you to bring several (many) women from your unit to this one-day convention. I would like to encourage participation especially by women under the age of 40. We anticipate a day of worship, Bible Study, business and Workshops to uplift us in the name of Christ. Every person who attends convention must pay a registration fee (\$40) which helps to cover the cost of printed materials and other items such as rental fees for Camp Mount Luther, refreshments, lunch, insurance and honorariums which are necessary to carry out a convention.

It is essential that every affiliated congregational/intercongregational unit send a delegate (Constitution Article IV, Section 3, Item 1) to have proper representation. Those congregations not having an affiliated unit are encouraged to send a non-voting delegate who will have seat and voice. All women of the Upper Susquehanna Synod are encouraged to attend as a delegate, a non-voting delegate, or participant. The convention can truly be a life-changing experience. We need YOU.

Delegates must be present at all business meetings and the orientation session.

DELEGATE CERTIFICATION FORM: Please return by June 29, 2018. It is extremely important that you comply with this deadline as this information is needed for appointing the working committees for convention. Send to: Elizabeth Baylor, 364 Kaseville Rd, Danville, PA 17821

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM: Included in this mailing is a scholarship application form for registration fee. Scholarships are available for either a delegate or a visitor. The applicants DO NOT need to be attending the convention for the first time. All scholarship applications should be sent to SWO President Jean Crumb, 239 Railroad St, Bloomsburg, PA 17815 no later than May 1, 2018.

NOMINATION FORM: Included in this mailing is a nomination form for nominees for three board positions (each position is for a 2-year term). We will be electing a *new President and Vice President*

by ecclesiastical ballot. .. I encourage you to give prayerful consideration to submitting someone's name within your Congregational/Intercongregational Unit who has leadership qualities.

There are many women within our organization who have God-given abilities and may just be waiting for a nudge from one of God's I encourage you to give prayerful consideration to submitting someone's name within your Congregational/Intercongregational Unit who has leadership qualities. There are many women within our organization who have God-given abilities and may just be waiting for a nudge from one of God's servants. Look carefully within your unit- pray for guidance.

According to the constitution, only one person at a time from each Congregational/Intercongregational Unit may serve on the Board. Please send names on the nomination forms by May 15, 2018 to Kathy Whitesel 337 Hammer Hollow Rd, Mifflintown, PA 17059

RESOLUTION FORM: New business may be brought to the SWO Convention floor in the form of a resolution. All resolutions should be sent to: Elizabeth Baylor by May 15, 2018 so they can be reviewed by the Administrative Committee and be readied for the Bulletin of Reports for the Convention.

OFFERINGS: Opportunities for giving...

1. Freewill – This offering will be received during the worship service on Saturday morning. This offering will be used to support the on-going ministries of the Women of the ELCA.

2. Mission Ingathering – This year our Mission Ingathering will support funding for solar panels for Curran Lutheran Hospital. and Camp Mount Luther.

You may designate which ministry to support.

3. In-Kind Offering – We will be accepting offerings for Camp Mount Luther to purchase blinds.

WORKSHOP – Workshop leader will be our church-wide representative, Becky Shureson, to discuss programs of the Women of the ELCA . Bible study will be led by Jodi Ellis.. Kristy Phillips Lair will be presenting a workshop also.

WORSHIP: The worship service will be led by Bishop Collins of the Upper Susquehanna Synod, assisted by Peggtly Bohart.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO:

1. Mail Registration Form and Check by
June 29, 2018 to: Elizabeth Baylor
Make check payable to: USSWO 364 Kaseville Rd
Danville, PA 17821

2. Mail Delegate Certification Form by
June 29, 2018
to: Elizabeth Baylor
364 Kaseville Rd
Danville, PA 17821

3. Mail Resolutions by May 15, 2018 to
Elizabeth Baylor
364 Kaseville
Rd, Danville, PA 17821:

4. Mail Scholarship Requests by May 1, 2018 to:
Jean Crumb
239 Railroad St
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

5. Mail Nomination Forms by May 15, 2018 to:
Kathy Whitesel
337 Hammer Hollow Rd
Mifflintown, PA 17059



Treasurer's Tidbits

At the board meeting on February 17 the board voted to send \$500 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Mission In Gathering This year we will be collecting for "Current for Curran" The hospital is trying to raise money to get solar power at the hospital. Make checks out to USSWO and mark in the memo "Current for Curran"

Mission In Kind will be given to Camp Mt Luther to help with purchasing Blinds for on the windows of the Evergreen Center

Day of Learning/Renewal April 21 \$5 Registration fee payable that day