

Call to Convention

Hello, Women of the USSWO! I invite you to attend the 34th Convention of the Women of the Upper Susquehanna Synod, to be held on Saturday, July 23rd, in the beautiful setting of Camp Mount Luther. This one-day event's theme, "You Are Mine" reminds us that we are a child of God, as He calls us each by name. The convention will feature news/business of the Synodical Women's Organization, Worship Service and Bible Study led by Vicar Jodi Ellis, Workshop presented by the Shelter Services Inc of Lewistown, displays by various organizations, opportunities to share with one another, to meet and greet our fellow Women of the ELCA, and of course a delicious meal prepared and served by the kitchen of Camp Mount Luther. All for the low cost of \$45.

Each congregation is requested to send a delegate from their congregational unit to give voice and vote on issues brought before the convention, as well as additional representatives who will have seat and voice in discussions. USSWO will be electing a secretary (Doris Mertz is willing to run for reelection) and a treasurer, plus two members to sit on the board (Anne Spicer is willing to run for reelection also). Reminder: due to the revised Constitution and by-laws established at the Triennial Convention of the Churchwide Women of the ELCA, two members of the same congregation may now serve on the board, one as an officer and one as a member. Please prayerfully consider these positions for yourself or someone from your congregation.

All registration forms, delegate forms, nomination forms, and resolution forms, are included elsewhere in this issue of SHARE. Preregistration is required. Looking forward to seeing you on July 23rd.

USSWO President,

Deb Hackenberger

In this issue..

You will find the Registration Form and Directions for **Day of Learning/Renewal** on April 30th. Make copies for your Unit members and urge them to attend. **Trooper Lesher**, our guest speaker, will alert you to just how easy it is to fall into the trap of Scams or Fraud...and if you do, it is usually too late to recover your outlay...just time to warn others to beware!

You will also find "**News from the Units**" along with a PR piece encouraging subscriptions to **GATHER**, the official publication of the Churchwide Women of the ELCA.

Also in this issue, Wendy Zajac lists the "**Responsibilities of the SWO Treasurer**", an office she has admirably filled, but must relinquish (due to term limits). *She hopes the Units will consider these "Responsibilities" when making nominations for the office of SWO Treasurer for the next four years.*

Finally, all the **Convention Forms** are printed so they can be reprinted by the Units. Please note the various deadline dates and honor them.

-The Editors

Our CONVENTION is slated for Saturday, July 23, at Camp Mt. Luther

The **Ingathering** will be for Katie's Fund. The **In-kind Offering** will go to Shelter Services of Lewistown. Consumable products which are needed: shampoos and conditioners, deodorant, toothpaste/brushes, hairbrushes, toiletries/hygiene, disinfectant wipes, tissues and paper towels, cloth laundry bags, laundry detergent, dish detergent, and cleaning supplies.

NEWS FROM THE UNITS

Himmels, Rebeck

Reported by Peggy Starr

Over sixteen years ago a group of ladies from Himmel's Church decided to organize with the purpose of visiting members of the church who were ill or no longer able to attend church services regularly. As years have gone by the group has spent the second Tuesday of each month traveling to Nursing facilities and private homes...as far north as the Scranton area and as far south as the Elizabethtown area. With the virus curtailing the visits...a monthly updated address list is now printed in the bulletin and members of the church are encouraged to send cards or make phone calls so everyone knows they are not forgotten. Birthdays are listed in the bulletin for shut-ins so members of their church family can join in a "Birthday Card Shower" for the birthday honoree. Card and phone calls are a wonderful way to keep in touch.

Pine Street WELCA, Danville

Reported by Sue Baylor

We continue to have Bible Studies.



Messiah's Women of the ELCA,

South Williamsport

Reported by Ruth Doran

At our January meeting we prepared cards and made Valentine "remembrances" and sent them to Messiah's shut-ins. Just before Ash Wednesday, we celebrated "Mardi Gras" with an "Appetizer Party and Games Night". Sandy Grier led a Bible Study in March. In April we will see a collection of "Advertising Hand Fans" and will make personal fans. May 10th is our annual "Mother's Day Dinner" with a program commentary and display (by Barb Schmouder) of her "Summer Hats." Two weeks later we've scheduled an "Indoor Picnic and Planning Meeting" as we gather programs ideas for 2022-23 and look forward to a Summer Picnic. We do love to meet and eat!

Centre WELCA, Centre,

Mifflintown

Reported by Tonya Tabb

Our unit is currently holding a Lenten collection for the Food Pantry. We designate a different item to be donated throughout the Sundays in Lent. The list is published at the beginning of Lent and we ask everyone to bring the designated item each week and add it to our "food wagon." We collect personal care and household cleaning items because those are the items our food pantry is always grateful to receive. We conclude on Easter with baby items to celebrate the new life that we all

celebrate with the empty tomb. This has become an annual tradition that is always a great success!



Are you reading **GATHER**?

New subscribers can receive this magazine for \$9.95 for a year.

GATHER is a publication of Churchwide Women of the ELCA.

It provides informative articles, thought-provoking Bible Studies, and shares the experiences of women from all walks of life. One can *learn* many things ... for instance, did you know that "Hosanna!" does NOT mean "Hooray" or "Cheers" (*according to the article by The Rev. Julia Seymour in the March-April 2022 issue*). It means "help us" or "save us." That is what the people wanted when they waved their palm branches as Jesus rode into Jerusalem.

They wanted a Savior!

In that same issue, there was also a "fun story" about "Resurrection Biscuits" ... so heavy and flat when baked by a "hopeful" baker that they bounced off the floor! Poor Granny!!

Subscribe now to **GATHER**. It's easy.

Just call 844-409-0576 (toll free) or 845-267-3074.

For first-time subscribers, the cost is only \$9.95 for a year.

You'll be glad you did!

The regular cost is \$19.95 (one year), \$35.95 (2 years - saving 10%), \$49.95 (3 years - saving 17%).

Responsibilities of the SWO Treasurer



For the USSWO

- Work with the SWO President and Board to develop a budget.
- Attend and give financial reports at SWO Board Meetings and Conventions.
- Maintain the bank account. Keep financial records.
- Process all donations and manage all financial transactions, including receipts and expenditures.
- Arrange for an annual accounting compilation review, or audit.

Congregational Units

- Use financial records to help identify active Units and maintain a list of Treasurers for each Unit.
- Support Congregational Unit Treasurers.
- Process and deposit all offerings sent to the USSWO.

Clusters

- Ensure that Clusters are handling money appropriately.
- Run Cluster funds through the USSWO treasury or that it is run through a Unit's treasury.
- Transmit Cluster offerings to the Churchwide Women of the ELCA.

Churchwide Women of the ELCA

- Transmit remittances to the Churchwide organization according to your USSWO established procedures (monthly, quarterly, semi-annually).
- Submit USSWO budget, compilation, and other requested reports to the Women of the ELCA.

2021 Blanket Sunday

**Total collected -\$9955.00, less 20%
(\$2,102.40) for "Project Comfort"**

PROJECT COMFORT is a ministry that provides quilts to Lutheran World Relief. In addition to being a cozy bed-cover, a quilt can be a baby carrier tied around a mother's back, a color covering, a market display spread out on the ground piled with vegetables, or a sack for transporting goods to market, a sunshade, a shawl, and, most importantly, a constant reminder that someone far away cares.

Total Blankets purchased...

- 490 wool blankets
- 540 cotton blankets

Looking Ahead in 2022

April 30 – Day of Learning/Renewal
United Lutheran Church, Sunbury
(See Registration Form inside SHARE)

July 23 – 34th Annual Convention of the USSWO
Camp Mt. Luther, Mifflinburg

October 2 – Blanket Sunday

October 15 – Fall Retreat, Camp Mt. Luther
The theme will be "Fruits of the Spirit" with Stina Schaeffer as our guest



UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SWO THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Camp Mount Luther

“You are Mine”

July 23, 2022

RESOLUTION

The following resolution is related to _____

(indicate topic)

I submit the following resolution:

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT (Reasons to support the resolution)

WHEREAS.....

MOTION (Recommendations for action based on the reasons)

RESOLVED, That.....

(If more than one resolution is presented, use the form outlined above on another sheet of paper)

Return form by May 15, 2022 to:

Elizabeth Baylor

364 Kaseville Rd.

Danville, PA 17821

Submitted By:

Name _____

Congregation _____

Congregation Number _____

UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SWO THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Camp Mount Luther

“You are Mine”

July 23, 2022

REGISTRATION FORM

DELEGATE'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Street)

(City)

(Zip)

PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

CONGREGATION _____

CONGREGATION NUMBER _____

CONGREGATION ADDRESS

(Street)

(City)

(Zip)

CLUSTER (Please check one):

Buffalo Valley _____ Juniata Valley _____ North Branch _____

Middle Creek _____ Tulpehocken _____ West Branch _____

Is this YOUR first time to attend a convention? _____ Yes _____ NO

I will be attending the Convention as (Please check one)

Delegate _____ Participant _____ Board _____ Officer _____

_____ My Congregational Unit is a member of the Women of the ELCA

_____ My Congregational Unit is not a member of the Women of the ELCA

Special Food Needs _____

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR \$45.00 PAYABLE TO:

Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization (or USSWO)

Return Registration form and full payment by June 1, 2022 to:

Elizabeth Baylor

364 Kaseville Rd.; Danville, PA 17821

phone 570-279-4766; email sueb123@ptd.net

NO REFUNDS AFTER July 1, 2022

UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SWO THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Camp Mount Luther

“You are Mine”

July 23, 2022

DELEGATE CERTIFICATION

DELEGATE'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Street)

(City)

(Zip)

PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

CONGREGATION _____

CONGREGATION NUMBER _____

CONGREGATION ADDRESS _____

(Street)

(City)

(Zip)

CLUSTER _____

Is this the DELEGATE'S first time to attend a convention? _____ Yes _____ NO

(It is very important that this form be sent as well as the registration form in order to form the Committees of Convention)

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED IN ORDER TO CERTIFY YOUR DELEGATE!!!

Return form by June 1, 2022 to:

Elizabeth Baylor

364 Kaseville Rd.

Danville, PA 17821

Phone 570-279-4766

sueb123@ptd.net

Responsibilities of the Delegate:

1. Attend all Business Meetings and
2. Report on the convention to congregational/intercongregational units concerning the actions and events of the convention.
3. Current CDC COVID restrictions will apply

NOMINATION FORM

Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization

This form is to be used for nominees to a position for the Women of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. The individual nominated must consent to serve if elected. Each nominee must be a participant of a congregational/Intercongregational Unit and a member of the ELCA.

NOMINEE for ___ Secretary; ___ Treasurer; ___ Executive Board (Please Choose ONE)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Street)

(City)

(Zip)

PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

CONGREGATION _____

CONGREGATION NUMBER _____

CONGREGATION ADDRESS

(Street) (City) (Zip)

CLUSTER (Please check one):

Buffalo Valley _____ Juniata Valley _____ North Branch _____

Middle Creek _____ Tulpehocken _____ West Branch _____

EXPERIENCE that would help this person serve in this position:

Please indicate up to four experiences, offices and/or other responsibilities over the last ten years for the following:

WOMEN OF THE ELCA (include congregational unit, cluster, synodical women's organization, churchwide. May include experience in previous church bodies)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

continued on back

ELCA (include congregation, conference, synod and churchwide. May include experiences in previous church bodies.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

ECUMENICAL (interchurch related activities. Include local, state and national/international)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION (Please indicate offices, volunteer service and/or other responsibilities)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

VOCATIONAL/OCCUPATIONAL EXPERIENCES (Include full or part-time)

AGE CATEGORY: 20-29 ___ 30-39 ___ 40-49 ___ 50-64 ___ 65 and over _____

Consent of the Nominee has been secured? _____ Yes _____ No

Submitted by _____

Congregational/Intercongregational Unit

Mail by May 15, 2022 to:

Chris Hollinger
371 Summerhill Road
Berwick, PA 18603



**UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION --- DAY OF LEARNING/RENEWAL
APRIL 30TH, 2022**

**LOCATION: UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
167 Seven Points Road, Sunbury, PA 17801**

(Directions to the church are on the back of this page. Event will be on ground floor – **easy access, no steps.**)

Please consider joining us for this event which will offer two learning experiences:

Part 1: “Protect Yourself from SCAMS and FRAUD”

Trooper Lauren Leshar, Community Service Officer, Troop F (Montoursville)
Pennsylvania State Police

Part 2: Mary Barr and Kathy Whitesel will be sharing pictures and experiences they had on short-term mission trips to the New Orleans area after Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005. The time and labor invested in clean-up, gutting and rebuilding is secondary to meeting the people and listening to their stories, which will be evident in the presentation.

REGISTRATION begins at 9:30 a.m. ~~ PROGRAM begins at 10:00 a.m.

(Closing at approximately 2:00 p.m.)

COST: \$10.00 which includes lunch

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 23, 2022

Call 570-850-8346 (Rita Avery) if you have questions.

.....CUT HERE

Name _____ (if any dietary restrictions, please indicate on this form)

Address _____

Phone # (____) _____ Cell phone # (____) _____

Email address (if available): _____

Congregation name and city/town _____

Please make checks payable to USSWO.

Mail to: Rita Avery, 771 Foye Road, Sunbury, PA 17801 OR email your response to tnravery@ptd.net and bring your registration payment to the event.

Directions to United Lutheran Church, 167 Seven Points Road, Sunbury

**From Route 15: 15 North (from Selinsgrove/Middleburg/Lewistown) --- OR ---
15 South (from Lewisburg/Mifflinburg/Williamsport):**

Approach Sunbury via the Veteran's Bridge which connects to route 15 at Shamokin Dam. When crossing the bridge toward Sunbury, use the right lane (overhead signs indicate Herndon/Rte 147 South). Exit the bridge and go right at the stop sign (you'll be across the street from Weis Markets ice cream plant and main office complex). Travel south on route 147 for **1 mile** (mountain on your left, railroad on the right). At the end of the mountain (**it ends abruptly**) you will need to turn **left onto Brush Valley Road**. Go 4 miles on Brush Valley Road to the stop sign (Intersection with Rte 890). This is a busy intersection with poor visibility to the right, please be cautious. Proceed straight across this intersection. If you look ahead you should be able to see the church's carillon tower (cemetery with stone parsonage are on the left). The red brick church building at the intersection is our Parish Hall and not where the event will be held.

Note: If you return this way, please watch for signs as you get close to Sunbury directing you toward Route 15... you will turn left after the gas station but before passing the Weis office complex and will travel past the homeless shelter, Haven Ministries (on the left beside the river wall), as you head toward the ramp to the bridge back across the river.

From Northumberland via either Route 11 (South from Danville/Bloomsburg) OR Williamsport (Rte 180/147 South):

Follow signs to Sunbury via route 11 **OR** 180/147 South toward route 61 South (you will cross a bridge from Northumberland to an island and then another bridge to Sunbury). Exit the second bridge from the right lane onto Front Street of Sunbury (travels along the river wall). Stay on Front Street to the second red light which will be the intersection with Market Street. Turn left at this Market Street light – Route 61 South. Follow Rte 61 South thru Sunbury. Approx. a quarter mile after you travel through an underpass watch for signs indicating intersection with Route 890. Turn **right onto route 890** and travel on this highway for 2.5 miles. As you approach the intersection (United has a lighted sign on the left side just before picnic pavilion and a red brick church). Turn **left** at this intersection. This intersection can be a busy one – be cautious! The red brick church building at the intersection is our Parish Hall and not where the event will be held. After you have turned left, the church will be at the top of the hill (you should be able to see the church's carillon tower just past the stone parsonage and cemetery on the left).