

President's Prose

Greetings, women of the USSWO! Spring is soon upon us. We have been blessed with a somewhat milder winter than usual. (I hope this article doesn't encourage the snow to really pile up, now) The Executive Board has been at work planning the 2023 year of the USSWO. I look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming events and activities within the synod.

April will host a Day of Learning event in Danville; July will be our Annual USSWO Convention; October will feature the Fall Retreat.

Blanket Sunday is October 1; November is Thankoffering Collections and Seafarer Bags.

I hope your units are just as busy preparing and deciding who will be attending all of these events. Jesus commissioned all Christians to go into the world and spread the Good News. Our ministries within USSWO are one of the ways the women of the church fulfill this commission. Won't you join us?

SWO President
Deb Hackenberger

Call To Convention

I am again encouraging you all to attend the 35th Convention of the Women of the Upper Susquehanna Synod, to be held on Saturday, July 22, 2023, at our beautiful camp just outside Mifflinburg. Camp Mount Luther's Evergreen Center provides a comfortable setting which accommodates Worship Service, Business Meetings, Bible Study, workshop and, of course, a delicious lunch, all to be included in the convention format. It is a great time to get acquainted and reacquainted with women throughout our synod, make decisions concerning our organization, share in worship and Bible study, and have some fun. We hope you will plan to attend and bring a friend or two from your congregations. Cost for the entire day is only \$45.00 per person. Look for registration forms elsewhere in this newsletter.

SWO President
Deb Hackenberger

Total collected-	\$8750.34
20%for Project Comfort:	\$1750.00
Ordering total:	\$7000.34
Bought:	480 Woven Cot/Poly Napped Unbleached 70'x 90' for \$2,755.20 430 Woven 70/30 Wool Blend Grey 62' x 84' for \$4,214.00
Total cost for blankets	\$6,969.20
This made the Project Comfort donation	\$1,781.14

2022 Blanket Sunday



Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization

Women Of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Officers And Executive Board 2022/2023

PRESIDENT	<u>Term Ends</u>
Deborah Hackenberger, 8892 Wm Penn Highway, Mifflintown, PA 17059 717-363-0277 (cell) dktabb@gmail.com	2023
VICE PRESIDENT	
Elizabeth (Sue) Baylor, 364 Kaseville Rd., Danville, PA 17821 570-279-4766 (home) 570-204-8320 (cell) sueb123@ptd.net	2023
SECRETARY	
Doris Mertz, 9 Greenbriar Drive, Milton, PA 17847 570-742-3691 (home) 570-916-9612 (cell) doris.mertz@gmail.com	2024
TREASURER	
AnnMarie Hohman, 2514 Linn St. Williamsport, PA 17701 570-244-1226 (cell) hesshohman67@gmail.com	2024
BOARD MEMBERS	
Rita Avery, 771 Foye Rd., Sunbury, PA 17801 570-286-6827 (home) 570-850-8436 (cell) tnravery@ptd.net	2023
Frances Blatchley, 215 Front St., PO Box 101, New Berlin, PA 17855-0101 570-966-0288 (home) fblatchley@yahoo.com	2023
Chris Hollinger, 371 Summerhill Rd., Berwick, PA 18603 570-854-1077 (cell) chris16@pa.metrocast.net	2023
Linda Leister, 10397 Licking Creek Road, Mifflintown, PA 17059 717-436-8589 (home) 717-348-1248 (cell) lindaleister22@gmail.com	2024
Anne D. Spicer, 25 Ivy Lane, Lewistown, PA 17044 717-248-6562 (home) 717-953-5783 (cell)	2024
Tonya Tabb, 159 Swamp Road Apt. 3, Mifflintown, PA 17059 717-436-8916 (home) 717-994-4702 (cell) tabbtonya@gmail.com	2023
Kathy Whitesel, 337 Hammer Hollow Road, Mifflintown, PA 17059 717-436-2401 (home) 717-363-6144 (cell) jkwhitesel@embarqmail.com	2024
Wendy Zajac, 792 Hetlerville Road, Nescopeck PA 18635 570-759-1304 (home) 570-336-7023 (cell) wzajac61@gmail.com	2024



Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization

Day of Learning 2022

What comes to mind when you think about Spring? Spring Cleaning? Easter? Budding Plants? All of these things are signs of refreshing the old and starting new. The same could be said of the USSWO's Day of Learning event. It is an opportunity for women of the USS to come together for socialization and learning to refresh themselves and their faith. Hopefully, they will share this new enthusiasm with their congregational units.

Last April we held a Day of Learning at United Lutheran in Sunbury. The day consisted of a morning session presented by Pennsylvania State Trooper, Lauren Leshner who shared how to avoid computer and telephone scams. We had a delicious lunch served by the ladies of United Lutheran. Then, in the afternoon Kathy Whitesel and Mary Barr shared photos and stories of their experiences traveling to the New Orleans area following hurricane devastation. The entire day was informative in a relaxed setting of fellow Lutheran women.

And in 2023...

This year we will be holding another Day of Learning on April 29th at Pine Street Lutheran, Danville. This year's program will be presented by Holly Fry, the vice president of USS council. She will be telling us her faith story and leading those attending in telling their faith stories as well. Holly is very excited to be presenting and will lead us in a great program. Lunch will also be provided. The day will conclude with a closing worship service. Registration information is included in this newsletter. Plan to join us and be refreshed as we head into another Spring season!

Day of Renewal 2023

The USSWO's Day of Renewal will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at Pine Street Lutheran Church in Danville. The day's focus will be on Telling Your Story led by Holly Fry. The day will begin with registration and refreshments at 9:30 am and end with closing worship beginning at 2:30 pm. The fee for the day is \$10.00. If you do not know Holly, here is a little information about her: My name is Holly Fry I am the vice president of the Upper Susquehanna Synod and I am very excited to have been asked to lead your workshop on April 29. We will spend a good part of the day discerning and talking about our faith, our journey, and our story of how God has transformed our lives. Some of you have never thought about your story, some of you have an idea of what your story is, but not in a way to articulate it to others. There are those of you who have had an opportunity to share your story. On this day you will have time to organize your thoughts, and give you a safe place to begin to share your story. I will be sharing part of my story as we begin our day together. Pastor Barbara Collins will be joining me as well and we will walk with you through this day of discerning your story.

The following are some of the main points that will be addressed by Holly's program:

- God calls each of us to participate in God's work every day, no matter where we are.
- Transformation of myself, and my congregation begins with me.
- Transformation = our faith and understanding as God's call moves from our head to our hearts, and is lived out daily with our hands.
- Each of us has a unique faith story, and, through sharing it with others, we can model for them, examples of God's love and grace in our lives.

- God doesn't always come in a lightning bolt like Paul or Martin Luther. Sometimes He comes to us over a lifetime of faithful service.
- The road of discipleship and service to others can be both smooth and full of potholes. This is the path we are called to follow no matter how smooth or how bumpy, painful, or stressful.

Many of us have never shared or been asked about our faith stories. I encourage all of you as a pre-homework to read through the book of Acts, and especially look at Acts 9:1-19 and read about Paul's conversion, and then ask yourself are there other passages in the Bible that talk about a transformation or conversion from old life to new.

To register, please complete and detach the bottom portion of this page and mail with a check for \$10.00 (made payable to USSWO) by Friday, April 14, 2023 to Tonya Tabb, 159 Swamp Road, Mifflintown PA 17059. You may also email your registration to tabbtonya@gmail.com and pay on the day of the event. Registration by this date is important so we can adequately prepare for the day.

Directions To Pine Street Lutheran Church, Danville

Pine Street Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at 621 Pine Street in Danville.

Pine Street is located off Route 11 (Walnut Street) and is between Ferry Street and Church Street. Coming North from the intersection of Route 54 (Continental Avenue) and Route 11, you would turn right on Pine Street. The church is located in the first block from Route 11. There is limited parking behind the church with a handicapped entrance both in the front and back of the church. You can also park in the Geisinger lot on the other side of the railroad track. (weekends only). We will start in the social hall on the first floor. There is an elevator to the second floor and sanctuary so you don't have to worry about stairs.

Detach and mail to Tonya Tabb, 159 Swamp Road, Apt. 3, Mifflintown, PA 17059 by Friday, April 14, 2023

2023 USSWO Day of Renewal Registration

Name _____ Congregation _____

Address _____

Preferred Telephone Number _____ Email _____

Do you have any dietary restrictions we need to accommodate? If so, please list:

In memory of Carol Bartoe, a member, of the USSWO Executive Board (2019-2022)

Carol Yvonne Bartoe, 85, of Kratzerville passed away on Thursday, Feb. 9, at Nottingham Village, Northumberland. She was born Sept. 3, 1937, in Penn Township, Snyder County, a daughter of the late Marvin B. and Ruth C. (Hummel) Walter.

Carol was a 1955 graduate of Selinsgrove High School, where she never missed a day of school and missed only four days in her total school career.

She was married for 14 years to Charles E. Bartoe, who preceded her in death in 1983. She had been employed for 46 years, two months and 26 days at Pennsylvania House in Lewisburg. She was a member of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kratzerville, where she had served as a Sunday School teacher since 1954. She was active in Zion Youth group of the church. She was also a member of the WELCA and the church served as her base of operations for her long Girl Scout career, which she started in 1955. During her Girl Scout career she served as leader of Troops 1141, 1142, 1143, 1281, 1293 which included everything from Daisies upward. Her leadership earned her many honors, including the prestigious national recognition, the Lamb Award, along with the Hemlock One and Two Service Unit Award, twice, the Hemlock Plaque for Service to the Community and the Evergreen Award from the Hemlock Council. Her travels with the Girl Scouts took her to Europe, Canada and all over the United States.

Carol was a member of the Kratzerville Fire Company Women's Auxiliary. She had assisted her husband in Little League and also was active in softball in Kratzerville. At the fire company she participated in the steak sandwich night.

She assisted in Martha's Table in Selinsgrove and Meals for Seals, helped with Children and Youth Services, took food to families and to Haven Ministry in Sunbury and visited inmates at Snyder Count Prison. She also won the Kiwanis Richard Norman Award, twice, in recognition of her community service. Surviving is a daughter and son-in-law, Crystal and Rodney Bucher, and two grandchildren, Juliana Spigelmeyer and Philip Spigelmeyer.

The funeral was on Saturday, Feb. 18, at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kratzerville, with The Rev. Rick White and her cousin, The Rev. Dennis Beaver, officiating.



Haven Ministries, Inc. is a homeless shelter serving Sunbury and surrounding communities for a little over 30 years. Their executive director, Christy Zeigler, indicates she receives at least six calls a day requesting lodging for a homeless person/family, but she must turn them away due to being at capacity. They are able to accommodate 35-40 persons in the facility which was formerly a motel, later enlarged with a dining and storage facility. They are currently in the midst of a campaign to gather funds to enlarge the facility due to the continuing and growing need for living space. The facility maintains a food pantry which serves 50-60 families weekly with food assistance. Haven has three employees to manage the activities and functions of the facility and food bank.

Haven Ministry Wish List

Paper Supplies

Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Paper Plates
Napkins
Tissues

Cleaning Supplies

Liquid Hand Soap
Dish Sponges and Scrubbies
Brillo Pads
Rubber Gloves for cleaning
Trash Bags

Dawn Brand Dish Detergent
*(They ask for Dawn brand
because they use it for
cleaning jobs)*

Items are to be brought to the Convention as "In-kind Offering"



BLANKET SUNDAY

OCTOBER 1, 2023



Sponsored Jointly By
The Women of the ELCA and
The Committee for Global Missions
Upper Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA

Collection will be Saturday October 14 from 9 am to Noon
at the Faith Lutheran Church
2349 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg, PA

2023 Lutheran World Relief Donations Form

Please COMPLETE and RETURN this form. You may take the form to the collection point at Faith Lutheran Church, 2349 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg, PA, October 14, 2023 from 9 a.m. until noon, and give it to the person who receives your donations. If you take your donations directly to the New Windsor Processing Center and Warehouse, please mail this form to:

Elizabeth A Baylor
364 Kaseville Rd., Danville, PA 17821
Phone 570-279-4766
sueb123@ptd.net

Packing Instructions Are on Reverse Side

Name of Congregation _____

Address of Congregation: _____

Cluster or Conference: _____

ELCA Congregation #: _____

Name And Phone Number Of Person: _____

Completing Report: _____

Check One (X)

_____ Our donations were taken by us to the collection point

_____ Our donations were taken by us directly to New Windsor

No Items Will Be Accepted In Plastic Bags

Only the kits listed below should be sent in 2023

List Number of Each _____

Number of Mission Quilts (60"x80") _____

Number of Personal Care Kits: _____

Number of School Kits: _____

Number of Fabric Kits: _____

Number of Baby Care Kits: _____

Number of Blankets (60"x80") : _____

Number of Bars of Soap (NOT POUNDS): _____

Packing Instructions

1. Choose boxes that can be easily carried by one person. PREFERRED boxes can be requested from the dairy section of your local grocery store. Eggs are crated in boxes that have hand-holds at both ends of each box and can be easily carried when loaded with In-gathering donations.

They hold a great deal of material, can be stacked easily, and fit into cars and trucks easily. If you cannot carry the box, it is likely that our movers cannot carry it either.

2. Boxes must have solid lids.

3. Sort and pack each kind of item in separate boxes. **Please Do Not Mix Several Things In The Same Box.**

Please label boxes accordingly or place a bar code label on the top and cover with clear tape.

4. Boxes are not to weigh more than 40 pounds.

5. Tape boxes securely with packing tape. This holds the lid on and reinforces the boxes.

6. Mark boxes “LWR” and list the general contents (i.e. “personal care kits,” “school kits,” “soap,” “quilts,” etc.) on the outside with a marking pen.

You can expect that each box will be handled and stacked and moved several times, just like it moves through a post office. It can be dropped, pushed, heaved, lifted, and stacked numerous times by numerous people – from your church to New Windsor Processing Center and Warehouse. Your care in packing and labeling is greatly appreciated!

To finish the job:

Complete the form on reverse side and take with you when you deliver your boxes to the collection point. If you take donations directly to New Windsor, mail this form to the address on the reverse side.

Deliver to the collection point during the hours specified.

Please No Items in Plastic Bags

Upper Susquehanna SWO Thirty-Fifth Annual Convention
Camp Mount Luther
"Just Love"
July 22, 2023
REGISTRATION FORM

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 2023:

Elizabeth Baylor
364 Kaseville Rd., Danville, PA 17821
phone 570-279-4766
email sueb123@ptd.net

NO REFUNDS AFTER July 1, 2023

UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SWO
Thirty-Fifth Annual Convention

“Just Love”
July 22, 2023

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, 2023 to:

Elizabeth Baylor
364 Kaseville Rd.
Danville, PA 17821

Submitted by:

Name _____

Congregation _____

Congregation Number _____

Cluster _____

Upper Susquehanna SWO
Thirty-Fifth Annual Convention
“Just Love”
July 22, 2023

CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

\$45.00 (for either delegate or a visitor) is available (one per cluster):

President Of Unit's Name: _____

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Congregation _____

Congregation Address _____
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Cluster _____

Applicant Participates in the Congregation's Unit of Women of the ELCA? ___ Yes ___ No

First time to attend SWO Convention? ___ Yes ___ No

Has your congregational unit sent a delegate to previous conventions? ___ Yes ___ No

WHY ARE YOU APPLYING FOR THIS CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIP? (Use back if needed)

Applicant's Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ CellPhone _____

E-Mail _____

Congregation _____

Return This Form No Later Than May 1, 2023 To:

Deb Hackenberger, SWO President

8892 Wm Penn Highway, Mifflintown, PA 17059

The names must be approved by the WELCA Executive Board
You will be notified after that date if your application has been approved.

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization

NOMINATION FORM For Executive Board

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 member of the
ELCA.

Name _____

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Congregation _____

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. _____

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: _____

(Name of Congregational/Intercongregational Unit)

Mail by July 15, 2023 to:
Elizabeth Baylor
364 Kaseville Rd., Danville, PA 17821
Phone 570-279-4766
sueb123@ptd

