



New England **WELCA**

Newsletter

Winter 2019

from our President

Greetings!

As I'm starting to write this message, I realize it already is the first day of March. Two months of 2019 have passed. I thank and praise God for His guidance and blessing for a good start of the year.

The New England Women of the ELCA held its Biennial Convention at Calumet in October last year. The women who attended the convention would share about a sense of community in the New England Synod and the importance of staying connected, women doing more outreach as part of WELCA, about human trafficking, world hunger, and the Gather – a publication of the Women of the ELCA.

With the new board members elected at the convention, the projects that we will take on for the period of 2018-2020 are Racism and Gender Bias, Addiction and Trafficking, Global Missions, Raising up Healthy Women and Girls.

Spring is almost here, Spring Gatherings within the New England Women of the ELCA are lining up in almost all conferences. Please see details in this newsletter.

As we enter the Lenten season, if you want to fast this Lent, here are Pope Francis' words as an option:

Fast from hurting words and say kind words
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

May you all have a blessed Lent.

Peace and blessings.

Ade Monareh

President – New England WELCA

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Biennial Convention

On October 25 & 26, 2018 the New England Women of the ELCA met at Camp Calumet to conduct the business of the organization. We heard reports of what has been happening including a report from the WELCA Churchwide Representative, Lois Byland. We elected Alice Carlson as our Vice President. To the board we elected Karen Blanchard, Patricia Kelly, Leah Seleman and Stephanie Sherry. We also elected Voting Members to the next Triennial Convention to be held in Phoenix, Arizona in July of 2020. Those elected were: Ade Monareh, Karen Blanchard, Pamela Little and Stephanie Sherry. Alice Carlson was elected as 1st alternate with Lynn Zeltman as second alternate.

The budget for 2019 was also approved.

After convention the board appointed Ade Monareh to serve as President and Donna Hudson to serve as Treasurer.



LOOKING AHEAD



☪ Spring Gatherings – 2019

For more information contact a board member.

April 6: RI/SE MA at Our Church of the Redeemer in Foxboro, MA. “Cultivating Grace”, growing the church with grace

May 4: Greater Hartford, Central & Eastern CT at Gloria Dei, Bristol, CT

May 4: NH/NE MA at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Woburn, MA. “Women Journeying with Jesus”

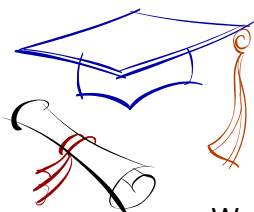
May 18: Naugatuck Valley at Immanuel in Oxford, CT

May 18: Southern & Greater New Haven, CT at Salem in Bridgeport, CT

TBD: Maine, Vermont and Western Mass.

☪ Rachel’s Day – May 5th

Rachel’s Day is observed by Women of the ELCA annually on the first Sunday in May, though it can be observed any time of the year. It is a time set aside to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of violence and fear. The 2015 Rachel’s Day resource includes a litany for use in a special Rachel’s Day service. *Please considering doing something this year.*



New England Women of the ELCA Scholarship

In 1992 New England Women of the ELCA began

awarding a scholarship to aid a mature woman who has experienced an interruption in furthering her education. Most years a woman has benefited from this scholarship. 2016 marked the 25th year of this program. We recently had an applicant after several years of none. Please help us spread

the word. We want women to publicize the availability in their congregations.

The Scholarship Fund has been maintained through donations to the Gifts in Tribute Program. Those wishing to memorialize or honor a woman in their midst can make a contribution at any time. Scholarship applications are available electronically by contacting Stephanie Sherry. The application deadline for 2019 is June 1st. The scholarships are in the range of \$500 to \$750 and may be awarded for a second year of study.

☪ New England Women ELCA Fall Gathering

Save the Date

PLAN AHEAD AND SPEND A WEEKEND ON THE CAPE WITH FRIENDS/FAMILY

Date: Saturday September 28, 2019

Time: 10am-2pm registration and coffee starts 9:30 am

Place: St Peter's ELCA, Harwich, MA

Theme: Cultural and Society Gender Bias

Keynote speaker: Rev. Linda Forsberg, First ELCA, East Greenwich, RI

Workshop: 'In the image of God ' and Creative Variety: Use of silk flowers to create a take home gift or centerpiece

☪ Triennial Gathering – July 16-19, 2020 in Phoenix, Arizona

Oremus



Addresses have been added for some for those who would like to send cards

- ☪ Pat Kelly as she recovers from a fall and hurting her leg.
- ☪ Pam Little as she recovers from a cardiac incident.
- ☪ Dianne Boucher as she recovers from a fall that hurt her back.
- ☪ Remembering the women of the SE Minnesota Synod, our partner synod.
- ☪ All service men and women stationed in war torn areas of our world.

Gifts in Tribute Contributions In Memory of...

GIFTS IN TRIBUTE PROGRAM

Is there someone special that you'd like to honor or memorialize? Perhaps, you'd like to remember your Secret Sister, or someone in your organization that you'd like to thank, or someone who is celebrating a birthday or anniversary, etc. Then why not send a gift of \$5, \$10, \$15, \$25, or whatever amount you chose to the "Gifts in Tribute" program!

Through the "Gifts in Tribute" program, contributions are made to the New England Women of the ELCA Scholarship Fund. Each year the New England Women of the ELCA awards a scholarship to a mature woman who is continuing her education. This program provides an opportunity to remember someone who has been important to others and to also contribute to the scholarship program.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amount of Contribution: ___\$5 ___\$10
___\$15 ___\$20 ___\$25 ___Other

Gift Acknowledgment should be sent to:

Donations can be sent to: **Pat Kelly**

249 Maple Street, Bangor, ME 04401

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

New England WELCA Newsletter

A Source of Information for Congregational Units
Sent by the

New England Women of the ELCA Board

This newsletter is for New England Women of the ELCA. It is sent to those who subscribe four times a year. It is also available on our website. If you would like a personal copy mailed to your home address, the cost is **\$5.00** per year. Gift subscriptions are also available for that special friend you may wish to honor. The check should be made payable to New England Women of the ELCA. E-Mail subscriptions will arrive sooner and at no charge.

(detach and mail)

PLEASE PRINT

Check one:

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Your Name: _____

Send subscription to:

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(Street Address)

(City) (State)

9-digit zip code: _____

Telephone No: () _____

Church: _____
(Name)

(City)

(State)

Complete the form and mail it to:

Stephanie Sherry

5 Sherry Circle

West Haven, CT 06516

Or send e-mail address to

sssherry5535@gmail.com



Suggested reading list:
 Acts 16-19

Paul: A Biography by NT Wright

Byzantium: From Antiquity to the Renaissance
 by Tom Mathews

Imago Dei: The Byzantine Apologia for Icons
 By Jaroslav Pelikan

Trip leaders:
 G. Thomas Ryan and
 Rev. Tiffany Nicely Holleck

To express interest
 Notify
 Pastor Tiffany at
 St. Peter's Lutheran Church

310 ROUTE 137
 HARWICH, MA 02645
 (508) 432-5172

CALLEDBYNAME@COMCAST.NET

PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE & TURKEY:

In the footsteps of Paul & John

More details are now available

Dates: Oct. 24 to Nov. 7, 2019

Flying from Boston to Thessaloniki via Munich, returning from Izmir to Boston via Munich.

The trip will be for St. Peter's members, friends and relatives, between 20 and 40 people.

Sites to be visited: Thessaloniki, Philippi, Athens, Corinth, Laodicea, Colossae, Hjerapolis, Kusadasi, Ephesus, Selcuk, and Miletus.

We'll also be in Thessaloniki for the main festival (Holy Martyr Demetrius) and for the Greek national holiday (Ochi Day).

More information can be found online at

<http://stpeterslutherancapecod.org/pilgrimage.html>

2018-2020



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Dated Material



Winter – 2019

New England **WELCA** Newsletter

Women of the ELCA 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.*

NEW ENGLAND WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

**A Source of Information for Congregational Units Sent by
your New England Women of the ELCA Board**

Opinions expressed within this newsletter are not necessarily those of your Synodical Board, but of the individual authors