

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.

Oregon SWO Mission Statement:
To promote spiritual growth through faith in Jesus Christ.

Please don't throw me away or stick me in a file! Take me apart, copy me! Share me with your friends. Your editor and I thank you.

Women of the ELCA
Mission Statement:

“TO MOBILIZE WOMEN TO ACT BOLDLY ON THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.”

The Oregon Grapevine
Oregon Synodical Women's Organization
Volume 23, No. 2 - April 2009

Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

I trust you all had a blessed Easter.

As I write this, it's a typical April day of rain showers, with sun breaks, but still that early Spring chill in the air. I need for it to get a little warmer for me to enjoy those softball games that have already begun for my granddaughters. (14, 10 & 6)

In this edition of the Grapevine you will find all kinds of updated information. Please read through carefully and fill out necessary forms that pertain to you and get them back to the appropriate contact person. Your board has been working hard to plan for the upcoming bible study event at Peace Lutheran and to secure plans for the convention in October in Salem, OR. Look for convention packets to go out to each unit this month.

A blessed & happy Spring to you all!
Becky Smith,
Grapevine Editor

**Oregon Synodical Women of the ELCA
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October 7, 2007 to October, 2009**

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marilync818@hotmail.com

Two vacancies effective 1/17/09

Cluster Liaison assignments made. Call the board member assigned to your congregation with any questions or concerns you may have.

Columbia Coast: Judy Ann Johnson, 503-543-2031

(First and Peace in Astoria; Faith, Clatskanie; Our Saviour's, Seaside and St. Peter, Tillamook)

**Southern Coast: Cindy Greaves, 541-396-4342 or Judy Ann Johnson,
503-543-2031**

(Gloria Dei, Coos Bay; Faith, Coquille; New Life, Florence; Bethany, Gold Beach; Atonement, Newport; Faith, North Bend and Zion, Port Orford)

Sunset: Sonja Hoffman, 503-282-8119

(Light of Life, Aloha; Mission of Atonement, St. Matthew, St. Andrew, Shepherd of the Valley and Portland Taiwanese, all Beaverton; Emanuel, Cornelius; Trinity, McMinnville; Calvary and Community of Christ, Hillsboro; Joyful Servant, Newberg and Christ the King, Tigard)

Mt. Tabor/Rose/Plum: Marcia McClanahan, 503-659-3440

(Augustana, Holy Trinity, Bethel, Luther Memorial, Bethany, Bethlehem, Central, First Immanuel, Messiah, Mt. Carmel, Peace, Portsmouth Trinity, St. Mark's, Redeemer, St. Paul, St. James and St. Luke, Portland; First, St. Helens and Bethany, Warren)

Mt. Hood: Ruth Vandenbos, 503-666-7273

(Trinity, Gresham; Our Redeemer, Hood River; Gethsemane, St. Timothy, Resurrection and Good Spirit Mission, Portland; Zion, The Dalles and Hoodland, Brightwood)

Oregon Trail: Naoma Lee, 503-655-7655

(Christ, Aurora; St. Paul of Damascus; Macksburg and Zoar, Canby; Creator, Clackamas; Colton; St. Stephen, Gladstone; Our Savior's, Lake Oswego; Milwaukie and King of Kings, Milwaukie; Prince of Life and Zion, Oregon City; West Linn; and Community of Hope, Wilsonville.

Vineyard: Charlene Beedle, 503-581-7588

(Faith and Good Shepherd, Albany; Grace, Corvallis; Christ the Good Shepherd, Holy Cross, Our Savior's and St. Mark, Salem; Trinity, Dallas; Faith, Keizer; Our Saviour's, Lebanon; Immanuel and Trinity, Silverton; FirLawn, Sweet Home; Emmanuel, Willamina; and House of Zion and Immanuel, Woodburn)

Emerald: Gloria McCuchen, 541-344-1969

(Bethesda, Central, Emmaus, Good Shepherd, Our Saviour's, Our Redeemer and United, Eugene; Faith, Junction City; Faith, Roseberg; and Springfield Lutheran)

Crater Lake: Margrethe Farnstrom, 503-526-1025

(Good Shepherd, Cave Junction; St. Matthew, Central Point; Calvary, Grants Pass; Hope and Klamath, Klamath Falls; Ascension and Zion, Medford; and Trinity, Tule Lake)

High Desert: Margrethe Farnstrom, 503-526-1025

(Grace First and Nativity, Bend; Peace, Burns; Good Shepherd, Madras; Our Savior, Prineville; Zion, Redmond; Shepherd of the Hills, Sisters; and Shepherd of the Mountains, Sunriver)

**Blue Mountain: Marilyn Crawford, 503-559-5245 and Margrethe Farnstrom,
503-526-1025**

(First, Baker City; Good Shepherd, Boardman; Grace, Enterprise; Hope, Heppner; Trinity, Hermiston; Valby, Ione; Zion, La Grande; Christ the King, Milton-Freewater; St. Paul, Ontario; Peace, Pendleton and Grace, Vale)

**Highlights of the Oregon Women of the ELCA
Synodical Board Meeting Minutes
St. Mark Lutheran Church, Salem
January 17, 2009**

The Oregon Synodical Board met on January 17, 2009 at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Salem.

Margrethe opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Gloria presented devotions on “newness”.

Sharing: Board members shared news about their lives since the last meeting, including snow stories. Ruth’s cancer is in remission, and Marcia walked away from a car accident uninjured. Marilyn spent some time in Hawaii, and Sonja expects her first grandchild soon.

Treasurer’s Report: Naoma presented a treasurer’s report showing a current balance of \$6607.61. Report was accepted with the motion made by Judy Ann, seconded by Gloria.

Grapevine: The January issue is out. Some members had received email notification, others had not. Some could not open the issue through the link provided. Margrethe pointed out that the .htm or .html is needed at the end. A suggestion was made to pass out a sign-up for the Grapevine at the convention in an effort to gather as much current information as possible.

Cross Cultural: Becky Smith & Margrethe attended a cultural event which they both thought was interesting. Becky shared a review of the day in the Grapevine. Also in attendance was Peggy Jefferies, former board member.

Clusters and Units: Updated contact information and roster pages were distributed. CWO is requesting updates to the affirmed units list prior to March 31 so that delegate numbers for the next triennial convention can be determined. Marcia suggested sending a form for each unit to complete about what they are doing. She will work on creating a form. Cluster events scheduled are Mt. Hood on April 18. A few units plan Bold Women’s day events in February, including “I am She” at Peace Lutheran. Naoma has been invited to Creator Lutheran on February 22 and will gather ideas to share with them about what other units are doing.

OLD BUSINESS

Bible Study Event: Peace Lutheran in Portland’s invitation to host the event was accepted. Dr. Sarah Henrich of Luther Seminary will be there on Saturday, June 20 to present information about her study on the book of Romans. It was suggested that the registration form include directions to the church, along with opportunity to order the leader’s guide and companion Bible. Naoma will serve as registrar. Ruth made a motion that the fee be \$15 per person, seconded by Sonja, passed unanimously.

New Business:

Insurance: Naoma has determined that the liability insurance coverage which CWO provides for SWO events, such as board meetings, conventions, other sponsored events, and cluster meetings should be paid twice yearly. The charge is 10 cents per person per day for attendees.

Resignation: Margrethe shared a note from Gini Van Nortwick Abbott requesting that she be allowed to resign from the board. Sonja moved, seconded by Marilyn, to accept Gini’s resignation. Motion passed unanimously. Judy Ann will send a note to Gini.

CONVENTION:

Nominating Committee: Charlene has agreed to chair the committee, with Sally Miller also serving. Marilyn volunteered to be the third member. All 12 board member positions will be on the ballot, with five current members eligible for re-election to any position (Naoma, Sonja, Marcia, Gloria and Cindy). Ruth can run again, but must accept an officer position to do so. Triennial delegates must also be elected at this convention. Application forms will be revised by the secretary and available via email soon, included in the March Grapevine, and distributed in the convention packets when they are mailed the first part of May.

More on Convention:

Date & Location: Friday and Saturday, October 2 & 3, 2009. Black Bear Inn in Salem. Breakfasts will be served in the Rogue room for all hotel guests, or a at a charge of \$6 for non-guests.

Coordinator: Sonja Hoffman – **Theme:** Reflecting God’s Glory –
Verse: 2 Corinthians 3:18 – “All of us then reflect the glory of the Lord.”

Logo and banner Marcia will do. **Quilt:** Sonja will ask the group at Peace. **Decorations and Set up:** Marcia had an idea for making reflective boxes in which will be placed a potted plant for use on the tables during Saturday night dinner. There will not be a head table. Round plastic table covers are available if needed to protect the tablecloths prior to dinner, or St. Mark’s in Portland will bring round cloths if needed. Fall colors will be used.

Convention Packets: Judy Ann. Packets will be mailed early in May, after our next meeting.

Registrar: Marcia **Registration Table:** to be determined.

Exhibits: Units will be asked to bring posters about their activities. Exhibits will be limited to Women of the ELCA information.

Souvenirs: Refrigerator magnets as favors were suggested in lieu of other souvenirs.

Book Store: Ruth will ask the same people as attended the 2007 convention. **Hospitality:** Coffee will be available.

Catering: Sonja is working on this. Saturday lunch will be sandwiches served buffet style if possible, rather than in boxes.

Friday evening: Informal gathering will be in the Santiam room from 7 to 8:30 p.m., followed by evening devotions. Light refreshments will be served.

Worship: Convention will open on Saturday morning with simple communion service. Susan Kintner has agreed to be our Chaplain/Pastor.

Visible and Regular Offerings: Monetary offerings will be shared, with one half to Church Wide, one fourth to a local agency and one fourth to our treasury.

Music: Marilyn and Gloria, with Sally Miller’s help, will lead music.

Bible Study Leader: Pastor Dayle Askey of Creator in Clackamas has agreed to present the Bible Study.

Saturday night dinner program: Dinner will be served buffet style. Naoma will emcee.

Speaker: Pastor Chuck Hunt of Portland, who leads a Native American ministry with offices at St. Timothy Lutheran. He requests reimbursement for mileage only and not an honorarium.

Tentative Saturday Schedule: A rough idea of the schedule was discussed, including a delegate information session at 8:30 a.m.; opening worship at 9; business meeting begins at 10; Churchwide rep to speak at 10:30; lunch at noon; Bible Study from 1 to 2; Polish exchange rep at 2; followed by servant opportunities and roundtable discussions until 4; free time until 6, then dinner and the evening program.

Saturday afternoon activity ideas:

1. Assembly of kits, such as health, school or?
2. Fleece no sew premie caps
3. Back pack buddy lunches for kids on weekends
4. Conversations with Polish guest and with Churchwide rep
5. Simple aerobic exercises

Gifts: Ruth

Hosting Guests: Polish and Churchwide: Linda Bradshaw will be asked to serve as liaison for the visit of our Polish guest, as Peggy Jefferies has indicated she would like to be relieved of that duty this year.

Cost: Registration fee was set at \$95 prior to August 1, with \$120 after that. There will be no refunds after September 20.

Budget: The proposed budget for fiscal 2009 in the amount of \$26,698.00, which includes a convention section of \$10,100.00 was approved. Sonja made the motion, seconded by Ruth. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 27, 2009 at St. Luke in Portland at 10 a.m. Meeting closed at 3:20 p.m.

Judy Ann Johnson,

Secretary

FROM THE PRESIDENT

COMMUNICATE. COMMUNICATE. COMMUNICATE.

How often have you heard these words? Are we doing a good job of it? I feel so much more energized for anything I do if I know there are others supporting me and praying for me. Shouldn't we be doing this for each other in our families, churches, communities, and the larger church community and the world?

I have just recently been to Chicago for a long weekend at the Conference of Presidents of Women of the ELCA. It was such a fun time together with 64 other Synodical Presidents – meeting with them, worshipping with them, sharing stories, and learning with them. Since it was my second year attending it was fun seeing old friends and meeting new. All of this is a part of communication, especially with the staff of our church wide Women of the ELCA. There are only eighteen on that staff and the amount of work they do for us is incredible. One learns that they are just ordinary people like us and are so friendly and willing to answer questions and help with any problems we might have on any level of the organization. And do not overlook our church wide board of WELCA, all volunteers but providing leadership as well. If you ever need any help with anything please feel free to contact anyone on the Synodical board, church wide staff or board. If you do not know who to call, contact anyone and they will help steer you to the right person.

In June and October we will benefit more from that communication. June 20th we will gather at Peace Lutheran, Portland, to hear Dr. Sarah Henrich of Luther Seminary, our Bible Study author of our 2009-2010 Lutheran Women Today study lessons from Romans. Look for more information and registration forms in this issue. Our Lutheran Women Today is a wonderful means to have communication with other Lutheran women.

In October we will meet together for our Synodical Convention at Black Bear Inn in Salem. This will provide us another opportunity to communicate as we meet, study, conduct business, and informally visit with each other.

Most importantly, do not forget to communicate with God and Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Lenten Season was a good time for self reflection. Let's open our Bibles and see what God wants to tell us during this Easter Season. Then talk with Him in prayer and hear what He wants to share.

May God's Peace be with you.

**Margrethe Farnstom, President
Oregon Synodical Women's Organization**

Oregon SWO Budget 2009

Adopted 1/17/09

Income:

Cash Forward	1000.00	
Unit Offerings	10000.00	
Cluster Offerings	250.00	
Other Offerings	500.00	
Cluster Offering, Designated	500.00	
Newsletter Subscriptions	48.00	
Travel Fund	1000.00	
Bible Study Introduction	1300.00	
Convention Registrations	10100.00	
Convention Offerings	2000.00	
		26698.00
Total Resources		

Expenditures:

Offerings to Churchwide	5000.00
Cluster Designated Offerings	500.00
Financial Review	150.00
Computer Supplies	200.00
Board Expenses	4000.00
Bible Study Introduction	1300.00
Grapevine Newsletter	698.00
Convention Offerings Disbursement	1500.00
Convention Expense	10100.00
Hotel Meeting Rooms	850.00
Decorations 300, centerpieces 100	400.00
Catering	3000.00
Board Rooms (6@80 plus tax)	1000.00
Board Mileage	1200.00
Speaker (including room)	330.00
Bible Study Leader	300.00
Chaplain/Worship Service	150.00
Rooms and meals for above	200.00
Gifts	200.00
Printing/Postage	600.00
Souvenirs	150.00

Polish Exchange Expenses	1500.00	
Other & Miscellaneous	220.00	
Polish Exchange Speaker Costs		250.00
Travel Fund expenses		2000.00
Miscellaneous		1000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total Expenses	26698.00

UNIT LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Please remember to send all changes in unit leadership to the Synodical secretary, currently Judy Ann Johnson. The SWO board keeps a roster of units and contact information and try to have that be as up-to-date as possible. Send the name of either the president or other designated contact person, along with her complete mailing address, phone number(s) and email information. Don't forget to include the name and address of the congregation!

Any unit who would like to receive the Grapevine electronically should also be listed. For these, just the name and email address are sufficient. This information will be forwarded to the Synod office, who also have a page on their web site where individuals can sign up for themselves. Use the box on the right side of the page at www.oregonsynod.org/growingfaith/ministries/women.

Send changes and information to Judy Ann via judyanni@centurytel.net or mail to 52068 SE 5th, Scappoose, OR 97056. Thanks for helping keep our records current.

OREGON SYNODICAL TREASURER:

Another friendly reminder to send your offerings to Treasurer: Naoma Lee, 8960 S.E. Dean Dr., Clackamas, OR 97015.

Checks are still being sent to Marilyn. If your check has not been returned to the bank, please make sure you are sending it to the correct address. With the 2009 Convention in October, the following churches are sending in their travel fund: St. Stephen, Gladstone; Central Lutheran, Eugene. Thank you.

Offerings have arrived from: St. Luke, Beaverton; Peace Lutheran, Astoria; Emanuel, Cornelius; Bethany Lutheran, Portland; St. Timothy, Portland; Trinity Lutheran, Gresham; Springfield Lutheran, Springfield; First Lutheran, St. Helens; Our Savior's, Lake Oswego; Central Lutheran, Portland; St. Marks Lutheran, Portland; Portsmouth Trinity in Portland; Zoar Lutheran, Canby; Klamath Lutheran, Klamath Falls; Emanuel Lutheran, Hillsboro; Central Lutheran, Eugene; St. Luke Lutheran, Portland; Immanuel Lutheran, Silverton.

Many thanks and blessings,
Naoma Lee

Greetings:

Your Oregon SWO is updating Cluster contact information (form attached). Please email me any changes or let me know if all is correct. Thank you for your continued support of the Women of the ELCA.

Marcia McClanahan
Oregon SWO Board Member

P.S. Also, please pass on to your unit the dates for our upcoming activities.

Women of the ELCA 2009 Unit Update

Congregation:

Unit Contact Person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Thank you for providing your unit's update.

You may respond via email or by phone call.

If you have any questions, please call me at 503-659-3440 or email me at mcclanahan001@comcast.net.

God's peace,
Marcia McClanahan
Oregon Synodical Board Member

MARK YOUR UNIT'S CALENDAR:

June 20, 2009 State Wide Bible Study at Peace Lutheran, Portland.
Registration information follows in this issue of the Grapevine.

October 2 & 3, 2009 Oregon SWO Convention, Salem
Unit packets will be out soon.

Bible Study Event Registration Form

“To God's Beloved: Paul's Letter to the Romans”

by Rev. Dr. Sarah Henrich, Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN

Peace Lutheran Church

2201 N. Rosa Parks Way (former Portland Blvd.), Portland

From I5 north or south, take exit 304; turn west on Rosa Parks Way, through the light at Interstate, and continue a few blocks to the church on the right. Parking lot is behind the church.

Saturday, June 20, 2009

Coffee & check in 9a.m. Bible Study session from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\$15.00 per person includes lunch.

Need Leaders Guide(s) and Companion Bibles? SWO will order them to be available at the event, but full payment must be received by May 31, 2009. Absolutely no late orders will be accepted. Complete the order line below and include your full payment with your registration. No extras will be ordered, so sign up early if you want to take advantage of this opportunity. No refunds. Leaders Guide \$6.95 each; companion Bibles \$3.95 each.

Please send one form per person. Make checks payable to Oregon SWO.

Registration for: Name _____ \$15.00

Complete Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Congregation (name/city): _____

____ Bible Study Leaders **Guide** _____ @**\$6.95** _____ **Total** _____

____ Companion **Bible** _____ @**\$3.95** _____ **Total** _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Ordering materials? Mail by May 31, 2009

Registration only? Mail by June 14, 2009

to: Marcia McClanahan
11895 SE Kehrli Dr.
Milwaukie, OR 97222

Questions? Call Margrethe at 503-526-1025

Can't come on our date? SW WA SWO will hold their event on Saturday, August 22, 2009 at Trinity Lutheran, Tacoma. Contact Carol Fossum for information: 360-620-5368 or carolfossum@comcast.net.

Prayer Concerns

Board Member Concerns:

Cynthia Greaves diagnosed with pancreatic cancer (board member).

Update on Ruth Vandenbos: (Board member) – I am in remission. I have a blood test every four weeks and an IV Med. to give my bones strength. I'm feeling real good now. Thanks for all the prayers.