

# River Channels

Newsletter of the Southeast Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization

May 15, 2016

Issue 108

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## *The Ripple Effect*

By Kay Hodge  
SWO President

Hi Ladies,

I hope your year is off to a good start. I have been excited as our new board is getting to know each other. It's amazing when you don't meet often how long it takes to know one another.

God is faithful; and he is always doing something new. It is especially exciting as we reflect on the past year and dream about what God is calling us to do this year.

We have new faces and new ideas, experienced leaders, each as important as the other.

I found in my stash of devotions a time when our Women of the ELCA had used a devotion based on Romans 12:4-5 and it fit well for this year also.

"For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one another."

We are all sisters in Christ and Women of the ELCA; we are connected around the country and around the world through our service. We have different roles to play; but it is our interaction and connection that allows us to work together for the common good.

With the theme of "The Ripple Event" based on Amos 5:24 - But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream. Take a look at where your ripples are leading you, how can you best serve your purpose?

Focus is critical to fulfilling that purpose; it doesn't just happen. Prayer is also critical in discovering our purpose; we must be consistently listening and watching for God's guidance. It's that small voice; it's all of those signs pointing the way. Remember, throwing those stones as a child, anticipating how many jumps each would make, how many ripples would be created. Our passion creates ripples just like those stones; so we wait with great anticipation to see what God might do.

Organizations like Women of the ELCA are the lynch pin in guaranteeing the success and health of women and girls in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

As we consider what all of this means, we will most certainly need to continue to make adjustments to our many ministries.

*Continued on Page 4*

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River Channels is a publication of the Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. River Channels is distributed free to the congregational unit presidents, the conference committee members, the synodical and church-wide leadership of Women of the ELCA, and the Southeastern Minnesota Synod staff. Individual subscriptions are \$5.00 for four issues a year.

Send articles, photos and other materials to Editor, River Channels, at the address in the listing on this page. The pages in this newsletter may be photocopied for educational and promotional use by Women of the ELCA members in the congregational units of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

# Cannon River 'Blooms Where We're Planted'

The women of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Red Wing were gracious hostesses for the Cannon River Conference Spring Gathering held on Saturday, April 9, 2016.

The theme for the morning event was "Bloom Where We're Planted."

Sixty-one women and six guests attended the event which culminated with a Holden Worship – Prayer around the Cross.

Prior to the worship service Temple Talkers shared many opportunities for "blooming" and the group sang "Now the Green Blade Rises" and "As Rain from the Clouds".

The offering of approximately \$1,000 will be divided among HOPE Coalition, Campus Ministries, and Tanzanian water project. The 2017 Spring Gathering will be in Wanamingo.



Participants register for the Cannon River Spring Event.

## ***Websites of interest to Women of the ELCA***

Augsburg Fortress [Publishers](http://www.augsburgfortress.org)  
[www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org)

Church Women United  
[www.churchwomen.org](http://www.churchwomen.org)

ELCA Churchwide Offices  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

Good Earth Village  
[www.goodearthvillage.org](http://www.goodearthvillage.org)

Lutheran World Relief  
[www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org)

Southeastern Minnesota Synod  
[www.semnsynod.org](http://www.semnsynod.org)

Women of the ELCA  
[www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)

Book of Faith  
Google Book of Faith and follow the links to the information you are looking for.



New officers were installed at the Cannon River Spring Event.



The day concluded with Holden Prayer and Communion.

## Upcoming Events

**June 25, 2016** — Good Earth Village Women's Day.

**July 11-13, 2017** — Tenth Triennial Convention, Minneapolis, MN.

**July 13-16, 2017** — Tenth Annual Triennial Gathering, Minneapolis

**April 1, 2017** — Blue Earth River Spring Event.  
Bricelyn Lutheran Church

**April 20, 2017** — Zumbro River at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Rochester, MN

## Stewardship

By Rose Kormann

Having attended several Spring Events, I have been most impressed by how instrumental the Women of the Lutheran Churches have been in the establishment of their churches. Many were the primary movers in the actual building projects.

In several cases the women were established before the church began.

I visited with women who told about their mothers and grandmothers, and even some great grandmothers attending 'ladies aid' groups. As far back as they could remember the women in their families have been sharing their time, talents and resources.

Today that continues, as we look at the annual financial report (and I hope you do) of just the SEMN WELCA. This report speaks only to the monetary impact the women have on the local, state, country and world stage.

To list all the activities each unit engages would take a book. While working with Lutheran Disaster Relief, I am sure I gave out thousands of quilts made by WELCA. And to think this all started with the sharing of jello in church basements or each other's home.

We have been handed a rich tradition of faithful stewardship. As Christ said "where two or three are gathered in my name there I am in their midst." No matter how small your group, great things are being accomplished.

## Discipleship

By Carmen Fingerson

### Getting to know Bishop Eaton

It makes me happy to be part of a church that recognizes and affirms the gifts and equality of women.

No where is this more evident than in our selection of presiding bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton in 2013 - the first woman to become presiding bishop.

Those of us that went to the Charlotte gathering in 2014 had the joy of hearing her speak to us and also meet her personally at a coffee she hosted.

My journal notes from that event: "I am so glad she will be at the helm of our ELCA for a number of years - humor and vision - a solid person - a great mind."

Do you know you can read some of her writings monthly? She has a monthly article on the back page of "The Lutheran" which many of us have free access to in our churches.

She also has messages on the ELCA website: (ELCA.org). Currently you will find her Easter message there. You can find this on the church website under the title of: View presiding bishop messages resources.

## The Ripple Effect

*Continued from Page 1*

But most of all we, as leaders, we must continue to act boldly, to speak boldly, and to give boldly trusting that God will complete the good work He has begun in us.

I ask that you spend the next weeks praying about our ministry together, the future of our organization, and how God is calling you, as we come together as a church for the sake of the world. I look forward to meeting more of you during the next two years.

I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.  
Mother Teresa

# Who Takes Care of You?

By Kolloh Nimley, Racial Advocate

Grace to you peace to you from God our father, the one who cares for you and me.

In times of uncertainty, fear, high level of stress from different sources including, but not limited to, political and civic unrest. During these times, who do you trust to take care of you?

As Christians we are called for care for God's creation. We perform this most important duty in many ways. Mission trips to teach our kids how to serve. Volunteering at various charitable organizations to help those in need, sometimes we feel like we are not doing enough to care for God's creation, but the question is who's taking care of you?

In this society we've been taught to care, be there when you are needed. In the Bible we learned to care and welcome everyone, by so doing you might welcome angels. But in all of this who's taking care of you?

On August 9, 2014, we learned of the killing of young Michael Brown, an unarmed black man by a white police officer. The Rochester office of the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage, in partnership with the Post Bulletin and United Methodist Church, organized a community meeting, inviting panelists as we tried to make sense of the event and learn how our community here in Rochester was feeling about this.

## Tenth Triennial Gathering News July 13 – 16, 2017 Minneapolis, MN

"All Anew" is the theme for Women of the ELCA's Tenth Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis, Minn., July 13-16, 2017.

The theme is supported by several biblical texts that speak of renewal.

The logo is in the joyful, organic shape of a butterfly-or is it a flower?

It represents transformation and growth. Splashes of color honoring the four elements (earth, water, fire and air) spill outside the lines to create an uplifting symbol that is bright, bold and vibrant.

"All Anew", Visit [welcatg.org](http://welcatg.org) to download a "SAVE THE DATE" poster for your church.



The meeting brought together some 85 community members with different views. Some people took a position in support of the Brown family and others for the officer. Who was taking care of those people as they took time to support and care for either side? One thing was clear to me, this community was saying not in our town, not in our state.

On November 15, 2015 this tragedy came close to home as we witnessed the killing of Jamar Clark by a police officer; another unarmed black man. Protest erupted across the state and the country. We still do not know who's taking care of whom, this time it was too close to home.

The political climate brings with it more uncertainty than we even expected. I have not witnessed a political climate so toxic that it contaminates the very air we breathe. There is a certain longing for peace for assurance.

My sisters, we will never know what tomorrow may bring but one thing we can be sure of is that we know who holds tomorrow and who holds your hand. It is not enough for us to talk about these things if we are not going to take action to address them. The one who is taking care of you and providing you the blessed assurance is the same one who has called us to action. It is up to us to listen and heed his call. Know who you are and know whose you are. Then step out in faith in the name of the King of heaven and earth. You are a crowned princess.

In times of struggle and uncertainty when you see only one set of footprints, it is then that I carried you.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus the risen Christ guide and protect you till we meet again

# Justice

By Judi Mickelson

## Your Loving Kindness

Over the past month I've attended 3 of the 5 conferences held in our Synod by the Women of the ELCA, along with other Synodical Board members. Being new to the Board, it's the first time I am seeing the work being accomplished by the women in our individual churches and conferences.

Our offerings have been given to Hope Coalition, Water Project in Tanzania, Campus Ministries, Backpack Program, Phebe Hospital Solar Project, Global Health Ministries, Global Health Rolled Bandage Love Offerings, and Food Shelves just to name a few. How wonderful that we can help support those projects that do such important work here at home and around the globe.

I recently read that on the average, people give approximately 3% of their income to church offerings. Years ago it was 10-20%. And, years ago it was the church community that was taking care of people in need and they had the money to support many programs. Now, without the financial support, people look to governmental agencies to help those who are in poverty and homeless.

Programs have ended because government support and funding has been cut. These programs helped those in poverty and the homeless, and regional treatment centers provided for the mentally ill. Without these programs many people go hungry and are on the streets. We see the mentally ill in confrontations with law enforcement officers and some being killed because they lacked the medications they needed to lawfully function in society. Our jails and prison system staff are dealing with people who have committed crimes and some with serious mental health issues due to the lack of treatment facilities.

The theme verse from last year's Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization Convention – Women of the ELCA was *Micah 6:8b*:

*"And what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."*

Though we may feel our offerings are small in the big global picture, be assured the people that benefit from them don't feel that way. To do justice requires your loving kindness. "KEEP ON LOVING." Thank you.



# Mission Funding

By Diane Linbo

Happy Spring!! So good to have some warmer weather along with the greener grass (mowing lawn) and watching the trees and shrubs starting to bud out.

The farmers are busy too with getting the crops planted. This is good!!

Along with spring comes our Spring Conferences. I have been able to attend Cannon River Conference, Zumbro River Conference and Minnesota River Conference. Again we have had great programs and always great food.

I want to thank all of you that purchased ABAN products and our Lucinda pins.

We always appreciate the support you are giving to Good Earth Village, Campus Ministry, Mission 21 and of course ABAN.

In the last River Channels I wrote about the three founders of ABAN (Callie, Emmanuel, and Becca) and how that got this project going. When they first started, they made all-plastic coin purses, now using recycled

water bags and the Batik fabric they create all different kinds of products, and as I had mentioned before each product comes with a key chain made from recycled glass.

Callie, Becca and Emmanuel saw a need in Ghana and came up with a plan that would address it. The idea to recycle the plastic waste and turn it into bags to sell would also create environmental awareness.

They also set up recycling bins all over their campus. This started as a class project which was focused on the economic empowerment of young homeless women, giving them a job, a safe place to sleep, and a way to save.

In the year 2010 when they started they had six girls out of 10 that graduated. {The reason some of the girls left the program included, addiction, pressure from men/ family, and broken rules.) Their lives have been transformed.

They have gone from living on the streets to providing for themselves and others. This transformation spills over into their children's lives and even their communities. In the class of 2013 they had 90% retention and one of the girls that left had come back.

Callie, Becca, and Emmanuel have learned that every life changed is their biggest success and we must rejoice in each one.

We are also selling the Lucinda Pins at a discount for \$15.00 and the ABAN is priced as marked.

If you would like to visit their websites: [www.lucinda.com](http://www.lucinda.com) or [www.ABAN.org](http://www.ABAN.org) please feel free to do so.



Diane Linbo displays the Lucinda Pins and ABAN products at the Zumbro River Conference Spring Event.

# Communication

By Sharon Northouse

Communication is important on so many levels. How you communicate can happen in many ways, but the most important thing about communication is that it HAPPENS! Never stop communicating!

We hope to revamp our Facebook presence in the near future. Once that is going, we may branch out into other online methods.

For now, I would like to share a short poem regarding our most important communication:

## Does God Get Bored

As I sit here on my front porch,  
Everything is fine.  
I thanked the Lord for my evening meal,  
The water and the wine.

But then I start to wonder  
Does He ever get bored up there?  
Does He ever get tired of hearing  
That same old evening prayer?

I've never been much for praying,  
Making up new prayers seems so hard.  
Unless I'm in a crisis,  
Seems I don't know where to start.

Maybe it's the little things  
Even things so "every day."  
Even though I'm sure God knows them,  
Would it hurt for me to say?

Just like children and their parents,  
Each should just feel the love.  
But when that love is spoken,  
That's the joy I'm speaking of.

Way beyond the love and laughter,  
Or the sorrow and the pain,  
To remind them that we love them -  
A small price for such great gain!

So, too, should we remind ourselves  
To echo back the cares.  
For though God knows above all else,  
He loves to hear your prayers!

# Book Review

By Carol Preissner

Conquering the Odds by Habibo Haji and Joseph Culhane

Conquering the Odds: Journey of a Shepherd Girl tells the true story of Habibo from her early childhood in Somalia to her adult years working as a nurse at Mayo Clinic.

Habibo grew up living with her grandmother and uncles in a remote village.

As a toddler she was left alone in her grandmother's hut all day. From the age of four, she was put to work as a shepherd of goats and sheep.

By the time she was eleven, she was taking her grandmother's cattle to grasslands far from the village and living alone as a nomad for months at a time.

She survived by drinking milk and eating what nuts and berries she could find. She fought off hyenas, jackals and crocodiles and aggressive young men. She suffered at least a dozen bouts of malaria, one that almost killed her.

At the age of fifteen the civil war in Somalia forced her into a refugee camp in Kenya, one that held 150,000 people. After a time she was lucky enough to be chosen by lottery to come to the United States.

She was alone in a country where she didn't understand the language or the customs. But through it all she remained positive, utilizing her amazing inner strength.

Through the message of her book, she encourages others to never give up.

## Easy Pickled Beets

2 cans (16oz each) sliced beets  
1½ cups sugar  
¾ cup vinegar  
2 three-inch sticks cinnamon

Drain beets, reserving liquid in saucepan. Add sugar, vinegar and cinnamon sticks to reserved liquid. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly. Pour over beets; cool. Cover and refrigerate at least 8 hours. Store in refrigerator. About 3 cups beets.



# It's 'Not Your Grandma's Circle' in Zumbro River Conference

"WELCA; Not Your Grandma's Circle" was the theme of the Zumbro River Conference on April 21, 2016 at Faith Lutheran Church in Dodge Center. This was to tie together the different generations of women and how things have changed (or stayed the same) over the years.

Over 135 women and guests were at the event. Displays were prepared by Good Earth Village, Campus Ministries and Mission 21 along with the sale of ABAN products. Paul Tjosaas and the men of Faith Lutheran Church prepared and served the meal.

Newly elected to board were Secretary Mary Anderson, Treasurer Gwen Kubista and nominating committee Sharon Northouse. Continuing conference committee members include Lisa Nordman, convener; Barbara Swart, member-at-large; nominating committee members Ila Johnson and Gloria Schaar.

V.J. Anderson continues as synod nominating committee member from Zumbro River Conference. Retiring conference committee members are Secretary Karen Skow, Treasurer Milda Weness and nominating committee June Torrison.

Our speaker was Barry Mosier who shared his experience of living with his family and doing missionary work in Africa. Pastor Barb Streed led the closing worship and communion.

Lisa Chicos was the pianist and the special music for the evening was done by a grandmother, mom and granddaughter; Sue Anderson, Alisha Selthun and Isabella Selthun.

The evenings offering designations were Campus Ministry, Good Earth Village and Mission 21. There was a collection of In-Kind gifts to Faith Lutheran's "Pantry of Faith".

Mount Olive in Rochester will host next year's spring evening in Thursday, April 20, 2017.



A look at Circles through the years at the Zumbro River Spring Event.

## 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.

“Our Hands – God’s Work in the World” was the theme of the Blue Earth River Conference Spring Event held on Saturday, April 9, 2016 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Alden. Members of Concordia Bear Lake Lutheran and St Paul Lutheran assisted. Displays in the church hall were presented by Global Health Ministries, Lutheran Refugee and Immigration Services, Good Earth Village, Campus Ministries, WELCA, and ABAN Products.

Seventy nine attendees heard Kim Dickey of Global Health Ministries speak on its mission of “helping the hands that heal.” GHM exists to aid community health systems by shipping supplies and equipment, aiding in developing sustainability and consulting in governance of health care in needy countries, emphasizing not disaster relief but basic fundamental health needs.

Tina Foster, Philanthropy and Communications Manager of Good Earth Village invited everyone to attend GEV’s annual Women’s Day on June 25 to hear guest speaker Pastor Margaret Kelly and take in afternoon workshops and explained current construction to replace cabins at the Wells Fargo cabin site.



New officers for the Blue Earth River Conference are Hazel Spiering, Nominating Committee; Alice Goemann, Publicity; Mary Thron, Secretary; Janet Peterson Member at Large; Carol Purdy, Nominating Committee and Gail Ottesen, Convenor.



Kim Dickey from Global Health Ministries was the speaker at the Blue Earth River event. Her car was packed with rolled band-aids collected for the Love Offering when she left.

The second Temple Talk was a video created by Lutheran Refugee and Immigration Services entitled “The Journey.” This timely video stressed the risks 50 million people are willing to take when they become refugees.

Gail Otteson was elected to serve a three year term as convenor. Janet Peterson will serve as a member at large for three years, a two year term will be filled by Mary Slette and a one year term by Carol Purdy as members of the nominating committee and Sandra Soli will serve a two year term on the synod nominating committee. Kay Hodge and Minnie Dunbar of the synodical WELCA board install the 2016-2017 BERC Board members.

Retiring BERC board members were recognized for their service: Denise Kluender, Lorraine Schaper, Margaret Melcher, Lorraine Jacobson and Esther Ziemer.

The 2017 BERC Spring event will be hosted by Bricelyn Lutheran Church in Bricelyn with South Blue Earth Lutheran and North Blue Earth Lutheran churches assisting.





# *Women's Day 2016*

## **At Good Earth Village**

**Date:** June 25, 2016 **Time:** 9:00am-4:00pm **Cost:** \$30 includes lunch

Women across generations are invited to encounter the hope that leads to action at Women's Day 2016. The day will begin with Keynote Speaker Pastor Margaret Kelly. After connecting over a delicious lunch, workshops ranging from hiking the trails to intergenerational ministry will be available. We'll close the day worshipping together before returning home with a spark and hope from experiencing glimmers of the Kingdom of God.



Keynote Speaker **Pastor Margaret Kelly with Shobi's Table** providing food, friendship, faith and employment skills to the homeless and near homeless people of St. Paul. Pastor Margaret's creative and passionate approach to ministry will have you seeing things differently.



**GoodEarthVillage.org/womensday | (507) 346-2494**  
**25303 Old Town Drive, Spring Valley, MN 55975**

# Women's Day 2016

## Registration Form

### Workshop Options:

W1: Holy inspired Arts-Participate in creation as we connect over creative works. Workshop includes hands-on experience with a take home skill.

W2: Creation Appreciation-Join this interactive hike throughout the unparalleled natural beauty of Good Earth Village. Inclement weather plans include the same interactive nature based activities under the protection of a shelter.

W3: Connecting the Faith-Hear the benefits of merging in generations for faith development. Learn to use generational differences to the ministry's advantages.

W4: Spiritual Stretch-Nourish your health with accessible and impactful stretches and breathing techniques. All levels are welcome, no experience necessary.

W5: Out of the (Tool) Box- Refresh your tool box for spiritual growth by experiencing new and revisiting familiar spiritual practices.

To Register: Visit [GoodEarthVillage.org/womensday](http://GoodEarthVillage.org/womensday) or  
mail this form to Good Earth Village, 25303 Old Town Dr.  
Spring Valley, MN 55975

### Participant Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Select Workshop:      W1: Holy Inspired Arts      W2: Creation Appreciation

W3: Connecting the Faith      W4: Spiritual Stretch      W5: Out of the {Tool}Box

### Payment Information

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Check Enclosed      \_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Cash Enclosed

Please Charge to my \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# SEMN Synod WELCA Board Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2016

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod Board of WELCA met at St. John's in Kasson, MN at 11am.

Present were: Kay Hodge, Diane Linbo, Judi Mickelson, Rose Korman, Minnie Dunbar, Carmen Fingerson, Sharon Northouse, Karen Jorgensen, and Carol Preissner.

Pastor Al Erickson presented information on Adults Saving Kids. After much conversation it was decided to discuss how best to promote this information at the next SWO WELCA Board meeting at GEV in June.

All articles for the May River Channels should be submitted to Karen by April 22, 2016, if possible. Because of a big price savings, it was decided to print and mail future editions of River Channels at St. John's in Kasson. Nancy Reich (Sunny), secretary at St. John's, will be paid \$100 for each edition. In addition, St. John's will be reimbursed \$20 for paper, postage and \$10 to cover returns for each quarterly mailing. An end-of-year donation will also be made to St. John's to cover printing costs.

Our discussions were temporarily suspended as Kay served us a wonderful lunch.

To start the afternoon session, Carmen led us in a relaxing meditation.

The minutes from the January 21, 2016 meeting were approved (motion by Rose, seconded by Minnie) and placed on file.

Minnie went through the end-of-year financial report. Motion was made by Rose Korman and seconded by Carmen to approve the report after making one spelling change. Also approved were the annual Money Market report (with one date change), the budget summary, and the first quarter 2016 report.

Registration forms for Women's Day at GEV June 24-25 were handed out and completed by those who plan to attend. The Conference Room will be available for us at 3pm on Friday. Sleeping rooms will be available at 5pm. Any extra snacks or drinks should be brought by individuals. Planning on attending are Judi, Diane, Sharon, Minnie, Karen, Kay, and Carol. On the agenda will be the Convention in 2017, Adults Saving Kids, and the 2017 Triennial. As an incentive for Women's Day on Saturday, five attendees will be randomly chosen to have their \$30 registration fee reimbursed.

Kay shared some information she obtained at the President's Meeting in Chicago in February. She will provide Sharon with forms that need to be completed for church wide. The role of communications in the form of Facebook and an updated SWO WELCA website were discussed without reaching any definite conclusions.

Synod Assembly will be May 6 and 7 in Rochester. On Friday, Judi and Kay will set up the display at 7am and spend the morning. Diane and Carmen will take over about 1pm. On Saturday, Judi will arrive about 7:30am, with Kay arriving later and staying until closing. It was decided to have chocolates from Aldis available to attract attendees. Drawings will be held each day. Winners will be posted at the assembly for a WELCA coffee mug, Thistle Farm candles, and WELCA tote bags. No lunch tickets were purchased this year for those working at the WELCA display table.

The meeting was adjourned about 3:30pm so everyone could attend the Zumbro River Conference Spring Event in Dodge Center.

Submitted by Carol Preissner  
Acting Secretary



**Annual Money Market Report February 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016**

**Money Market Account (MM)**

**Income**

2015 Interest	\$	0.34
Lucinda & Silver Jewelry Pins	\$	1,170.00
ABAN	\$	740.00
SWO Convention offering	\$	6,403.00
SWO Convention Vendor Meals	\$	110.00
SWO Convention Exp Fund	\$	635.00
SWO Convention Registration	\$	3,550.00
SWO Love Offering	\$	390.00
Triennial Offering	\$	25.00
Donation	\$	5.00
<b>MM Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>13,028.34</u></b>

**Disbursements**

ABAN stock purchased	\$	410.00
Bank Service Charges	\$	21.00
Convention Expense	\$	1,671.05
Transfer money to checking account	\$	9,084.51
<b>MM Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>11,186.56</u></b>

**Money Market Account**

<b>Balance Feb. 1, 2015</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>666.10</b>
MM Income	\$	<u>13,028.34</u>
Total	\$	<u>13,694.44</u>
Disbursements	\$	<u>11,186.56</u>
<b>Balance Feb. 1, 2016</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>2,507.88</u></b>

**Annual Report February 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016**

**Checking Account Income:**

Unit Offerings:		
Blue Earth River	\$	5,154.53
Cannon River	\$	4,152.10
Minnesota River	\$	2,966.49
Root River	\$	5,746.93
Zumbro River	\$	9,949.43
Total	\$	27,969.48

**Other Income**

Interest	\$	6.61
Misc Income	\$	28.00
Newsletter Subscriptions	\$	250.00
Money Market Transfer	\$	9,404.70

**Designated Offerings:**

Adams Health Care Ctr. - Activity Dept	\$	200.00
Agape Center-Tanzania	\$	500.00
Alden Food Shelf	\$	150.00
Alden Spirit of Christmas	\$	50.00
Bible Campership	\$	1,750.00
Blooming Prairie Boys & Girls	\$	100.00
Bold Women	\$	490.00
Brevig Mission - Alaska	\$	1,000.00
CADA House - Mankato	\$	600.00
Camp Knutson	\$	50.00
Community Action	\$	25.00
Cross Home	\$	100.00
Dorothy Day House	\$	400.00
Eastern European Mission League	\$	200.00
ELCA Disaster Fund	\$	900.00
ELCA Good Gifts	\$	660.00
ELCA Malaria Campaign	\$	300.00
Faith Lutheran Quilters	\$	800.00
Fillmore Central School Milk	\$	100.00
Fillmore County Food Shelf	\$	250.00
Freeborn Co. ARC	\$	40.00
Gift Cards for Youth Gathering	\$	200.00
Gift of Life Transplant House	\$	200.00
Global Health Ministries	\$	500.00
Good Earth Village	\$	1,250.00
Good Earth Village camperships	\$	900.00
Good Shepherd Foundation	\$	200.00
Grace Lutheran Church Food shelf	\$	881.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$	500.00
Healing Haiti Mission	\$	100.00
Henrytown Lutheran Church (fire)	\$	300.00

**Checking Account Disbursements:**

75% to CWO (Feb-Jan) \$ 20,977.36

**SWO Board Expenses:**

Postage	\$	98.00
Mileage	\$	1,313.66
Supplies	\$	386.29
Meals	\$	215.94
Spring Conf. registrations	\$	133.00
Convention Expense	\$	320.19
Transfer money to Money Market	\$	305.00
Newsletter expense	\$	2,136.41
Drawing for Gather	\$	15.00
Review 2014 Treasurer Books	\$	75.00
GEV Retreat	\$	879.00
Semi-Annual insurance	\$	72.10
WELCA at the ELCA Youth Gathering		280.00

**Spring Conference Expense:**

Blue Earth	\$	316.16
Cannon	\$	414.27
Minnesota	\$	734.60
Root River	\$	862.00
Zumbro	\$	1,050.08

**Conference Offerings:**

**Blue Earth River**

Campus Ministry - Mankato	\$	321.96
Women of the ELCA	\$	643.92
Channel One Regional Food Bank	\$	321.96

**Cannon River**

Doctors Without Borders USA	\$	419.91
Project Neighbor	\$	419.91
Zumbrota Food Shelf	\$	419.91

**Minnesota River Spring Event:**

LRW shipping	\$	331.79
Women of the ELCA	\$	421.88
Fair Trade Clothing	\$	421.88
Feed My Starving Children	\$	421.88
Echo food Shelf of Mankato	\$	421.88
Channel One	\$	421.88

**Root River**

Good Earth Village	\$	500.00
Lutheran Campus Ministries	\$	500.00
Winona Food Shelf	\$	450.00
Houston Food Shelf	\$	450.00
Preston Food Shelf	\$	200.00
Mabel Food Shelf	\$	150.00

Kids Against Hunger	\$	400.00
Kiester Food Shelf	\$	25.00
Le Center Food Shelf	\$	200.00
Le Center Santa Anonymous	\$	100.00
Le Center Volunteer Ambulance	\$	400.00
Little Cedar Employee Gifts	\$	100.00
Lutheran Campus Ministry - Mankato	\$	1,280.00
Lutheran Campus Ministry Winona	\$	475.00
Lutheran Social Services	\$	740.00
Lutheran World Relief & Shipping	\$	2,356.65
Malaria Fund	\$	300.00
Marie Sandvik Center	\$	490.00
Mayo Clinic	\$	25.00
Missionary in Japan	\$	1,000.00
Mission Support	\$	1,000.00
MN State Academy for Blind & Deaf, Faribault	\$	100.00
Mower County Salvation Army	\$	100.00
Open Hands Ministry in Mpls	\$	300.00
Operation Bootstrap Africa	\$	100.00
Peace and Power	\$	150.00
Plymouth Christian Youth Center	\$	540.00
Rachel's Hope	\$	150.00
Red Oak Grove Church	\$	1,000.00
Ronald McDonald House	\$	300.00
Ruth DeHoogh - Wycliff Bible Translator	\$	100.00
S.C. Resource Center	\$	300.00
SEMCAAC -Senior Dining	\$	500.00
Seminary Scholarship	\$	100.00
Southland Community Food Shelf	\$	100.00
St. John Lutheran Crisis Fund	\$	200.00
St. John's Lutheran Quilters	\$	100.00
St. John's Sr. Choir	\$	100.00
St. John's Sunbeam Project	\$	239.55
St. John's Third Grade Bibles	\$	96.00
St. Paul Lutheran - National Youth Gathering Account	\$	1,000.00
St Thomas Church in Chicago, IL	\$	200.00
SWO Breakfast offering	\$	63.00
SWO Convention Expense Fund	\$	50.00
SWO Convention Offering	\$	230.00
Thankoffering	\$	2,687.84
Tri City United Post Prom	\$	150.00
Triennial Offering	\$	25.00
Victim Crisis Center	\$	110.00
Visa Gift Card for Local Fire Victim	\$	300.00
Waseca Area Neighborhood Service	\$	200.00
Wells Food Shelf	\$	150.00
Women of the ELCA	\$	240.00
Women's' Shelter Inc	\$	200.00
World Mission Prayer League	\$	200.00

#### Spring Conf. Registrations

Blue Earth River	\$	386.00
Cannon River	\$	588.00
Minnesota River	\$	870.00

Spring Valley Food Shelf	\$	150.00
<b>Zumbro River</b>		
Women's Shelter's, Inc	\$	1,302.96
Good Earth Village	\$	1,302.96
<b>Convention Expenses:</b>		
SWO Board Convention Meal	\$	400.00
Kolloh Nimley, Speaker	\$	100.00
Pastor Shelly Olson, Convention	\$	50.00
The Rhubarb Sisters	\$	250.00
ELCA Global Church (Nate Berkas)	\$	100.00
Bishop's 5K Walk (Bishop Delzer)	\$	50.00
Pastor Marie Anderson, Convention	\$	50.00
Christ Lutheran Church	\$	250.00
Carol Preissner	\$	32.25
Marie Tesch	\$	327.16
Convention mileage	\$	181.65
Convention printing	\$	422.00
Hotel	\$	943.20
<b>SWO Convention Offerings:</b>		
CWO - 50%	\$	3,266.50
Ruth's House of Hope	\$	1,633.25
NAACP Rochester Branch Unit #4051	\$	1,633.25
Love Offering	\$	390.00
<b>Year-end distribution 2014-15:</b>		
Mouse and drive flash	\$	37.69
Laptop and Software	\$	926.25
<b>Designated Offerings:</b>		
Adams Health Care Ctr. - Activity Dept	\$	200.00
Agape Center-Tanzania	\$	500.00
Alden Food Shelf	\$	150.00
Alden Spirit of Christmas	\$	50.00
Bible Camperships	\$	1,750.00
Blooming Prairie Boys & Girls	\$	100.00
Bold Women	\$	490.00
Brevig Mission - Alaska	\$	1,000.00
CADA House - Mankato	\$	600.00
Camp Knutson	\$	50.00
Community Action	\$	25.00
Cross Home	\$	100.00
Dorothy Day House	\$	400.00
Eastern European Mission	\$	200.00
ELCA Disaster Fund	\$	900.00
ELCA Good Gifts	\$	660.00
ELCA Malaria Fund	\$	300.00
Faith Lutheran Quilters	\$	800.00
Fillmore Central School Milk	\$	100.00
Fillmore Co. Food Shelf	\$	250.00
Freeborn Cty ARC	\$	40.00
Gift Cards for Youth Gathering	\$	200.00
Gift of Life Transplant House	\$	200.00
Global Health Ministries	\$	500.00
Good Earth Village	\$	1,250.00
Good Earth Village camperships	\$	900.00
Good Shepherd Foundation	\$	200.00

Root River	\$	920.00	
Zumbro River	\$	1,434.00	
<b>Registration Total</b>			\$ 4,198.00
<b>Spring Conf. Offerings:</b>			
Blue Earth River	\$	1,318.00	
Cannon River	\$	1,086.00	
Minnesota River	\$	1,330.00	
Surprise gift bags	\$	144.00	
LWR Shipping	\$	331.79	
Donation to MN River Spring Conf.			\$ 500.00
Root River			
Exp Donation	\$	400.00	
Adv. Offering	\$	1,030.00	
Gathering Offering	\$	825.00	
From RRC Checking	\$	87.00	
Zumbro River	\$	2,218.00	
<b>Offering Total</b>			<u>\$ 8,769.79</u>
<b>Total Income</b>			<u><u>\$ 84,095.62</u></u>

<b>Regular Checking Account</b>			
<b>Balance February 1, 2015</b>	\$	10,423.29	
Income	\$	84,095.62	
Total	\$	94,518.91	
Disbursements	\$	84,222.98	
<b>Balance January 31, 2016</b>	\$	<u><u>10,295.93</u></u>	

Grace Lutheran Church Food shelf	\$	881.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$	500.00
Healing Haiti Mission	\$	100.00
Henrytown Lutheran Church (fire)	\$	300.00
Kids Against Hunger	\$	400.00
Kiester Food Shelf	\$	25.00
Le Center Food Shelf	\$	200.00
Le Center Santa Anonymous	\$	100.00
Le Center Volunteer Ambulance	\$	400.00
Little Cedar Employee Gifts	\$	100.00
Lutheran Social Services	\$	740.00
Lutheran World Relief & Shipping	\$	2,356.65
Malaria Fund	\$	300.00
Mankato Campus Ministry	\$	1,280.00
Marie Sandvik Center	\$	490.00
Mayo Clinic	\$	25.00
Missionary in Japan	\$	1,000.00
Mission Support	\$	1,000.00
MN State Academy for Blind & Deaf, Faribault	\$	100.00
Mower County Salvation Army	\$	100.00
Open Hands Ministry in Mpls	\$	300.00
Operation Bootstrap Africa	\$	100.00
Peace and Power	\$	150.00
Plymouth Christian Youth Center	\$	540.00
Rachel's Hope	\$	150.00
Red Oak Grove Church	\$	1,000.00
Ronald McDonald House	\$	300.00
Ruth DeHoogh - Wycliffe Bible Translator	\$	100.00
S.C. Resource Center	\$	300.00
SEMCAC -Senior Dining	\$	500.00
Seminary Scholarship	\$	100.00
Southland Community Food Shelf	\$	100.00
St. John Lutheran Crisis Fund	\$	200.00
St. John's Lutheran Quilters	\$	100.00
St. John's Sr. Choir	\$	100.00
St. John's Sunbeam Project	\$	239.55
St. John's Third Grade Bibles	\$	96.00
St. Paul Lutheran - National Youth Gathering Account	\$	1,000.00
St Thomas Church in Chicago, IL	\$	200.00
Thankoffering	\$	2,687.84
Tri City United Post Prom	\$	150.00
Victim Crisis Center	\$	110.00
Visa Gift Card for Local Fire Victim	\$	300.00
Waseca Area Neighborhood Service	\$	200.00
Wells Food Shelf	\$	150.00
Winona Campus Ministry	\$	475.00
Women of the ELCA	\$	240.00
Womens' Shelter Inc	\$	200.00
World Mission Prayer League	\$	200.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<u>\$</u>	<u><u>84,222.98</u></u>

**Quarterly Report Feb 1-April 30, 2016**

**Income:**

Unit Offerings:

Blue Earth River	\$	580.12
Cannon River	\$	782.52
Minnesota River	\$	320.00
Root River	\$	627.15
Zumbro River	\$	<u>986.50</u>

Total \$ 3,296.29

Newsletter Subscriptions	\$	60.00
Interest	\$	1.83
SWO Convention Expense Fund	\$	10.00

**Spring Conf. Registrations**

Blue Earth River	\$	335.00
Cannon River	\$	732.00
Minnesota River		
Root River		
Zumbro River	\$	<u>1,549.00</u>

**Registration Total** \$ 2,616.00

**Spring Conf. Offerings:**

Blue Earth River	\$	1,591.85
Cannon River	\$	1,118.00
Minnesota River	\$	50.00
Surprise gift bags		
LWR Shipping		
Root River		
Zumbro River	\$	<u>2,297.50</u>

**Offering Total** \$ 5,057.35

Donation to MN River Spring Conf. \$ 500.00

1st Quarter Income \$ 11,541.47

**Balance Feb. 1, 2016** \$ **10,295.93**

Total \$ 21,837.40

Less 1st Qrt Disbursements \$ 5,249.23

**Balance April 30, 2016** \$ 16,588.17

**Disbursements:**

75% unit offg. to CWO (Feb-Apr) \$ 2,472.22

**SWO Board Expenses:**

SWO Honorarium	\$	300.00
Mileage	\$	280.00
Supplies	\$	25.00
Meals	\$	25.98
Spring Conf. registrations	\$	184.00
Gifts	\$	86.00
Transfer money to Money Market	\$	10.00

**Newsletter expense** \$ 185.40

**Conference Expenses Paid:**

Blue Earth River	\$	220.00
Cannon River	\$	411.24
Minnesota River		
Root River	\$	-
Zumbro River	\$	<u>1,049.39</u>

**Total Disbursements:** \$ 5,249.23

**Money Market Account**

Balance Feb. 1, 2016	\$	<b>2,507.88</b>
1st Qrt interest	\$	0.04
SWO Conv. Exp. Fund	\$	75.00
<b>Total</b>	\$	<u>2,582.92</u>

**MM Account Disbursements**

Lucinda Pins proceeds	\$	1,170.00
ABAN proceeds	\$	91.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	\$	<u>1,261.00</u>

**Balance April 30, 2016** \$ 1,321.92



# Treasury Notes

By Minnie Dunbar, SWO Treasurer

We have been very busy with the Spring Events in April. It has been very interesting topic and educational. Our next event is the Women's Day at Good Earth Village on June 25, 2016. We will be doing 5 drawing for \$30 each.

Keep in mind of the Tenth Annual Triennial Gathering, Minneapolis, MN, July 13-16, 2017. Last year, the SWO Board decided to save back money for the Triennial Gathering to help with expenses. Watch for more information in future newsletters.

Thank you to everyone in the Southeastern Minnesota area to help us stay in our budget for 2015. In this issue, you will see the 2015 Annual Treasurer's Report with a list of Designed Offerings the different units give to. Thank you for letting me know what you sent out, so I could list them in the report, it is great to see so many different causes.

If you need to know where to go to get forms, they are located on the web at <http://www.womenoftheelca.org/> then at the top of the page, click on "Our Work", then on the left side of the page click on "Stewardship", then click on "Stewardship resources", then scroll down to the forms and click on "download." If you do not have access to a computer and internet, please let me know and I will send you copies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or write me.

Minnie Dunbar

13272 - 630th Ave

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## River Channels Newsletter Subscription Form

River Channels is published by the Southeastern Minnesota Synodical Women of the ELCA. One copy is sent to each unit president. If your unit has co-presidents only one will receive a copy. Conference officers also receive a copy. Individuals may subscribe for \$5.00 per year. Please use this form to order and type or print clearly.

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**WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

TENTH TRIENNIAL GATHERING

JULY 13-16, 2017