



PACIFICA PARTNERS



Pacifica Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Helen Riggs, Editor

FEBRUARY

Volume 19, Number 2

Pacifica Women of the ELCA proudly presents a historic, first-time event:

It's A Small World...One Bread, One Body

"For we, though many, are one bread and one body..." 1 Corinthians 10:17

A Springtime One-Day Gathering of Pacifica Women of the ELCA

Date:

Saturday, March 1, 2008

Location:

Hope Lutheran Church – 29141 Vallejo Avenue – Temecula

Schedule:

- 8:00-9:00 *Arrival, Registration & Continental Breakfast*
9:00-10:30 *Opening & Bible Study*
10:30-12:00 *Belated New Year's Resolutions*
12:00-2:00 *Lunch & Speakers from Amelia's Light*
2:00-3:00 *Preparation of Gift Baskets*
3:00-4:00 *Worship with Communion*

Registration Fees:

Early Bird \$25 if postmarked by February 15; \$30 from February 16-March 1

*Church with the most attendees will receive a discount of \$100
to apply toward registration costs for November 2008 Gathering!*

Things to Bring:

Love Gifts consisting of:

*Grocery Gift Cards, Restaurant Gift Cards, Luxury/Spa Items,
Loaves of Freshly-Baked Bread, Devotional Materials***

and

An ethnic bread (with recipe) from your unit to share at breakfast if possible

*** During the Gathering, we will use all of the love gifts to assemble
22 gift baskets for the mothers and children of Amelia's Light,
a residential program of Lutheran Social Services that
focuses on homeless women and children as they transition to self-sufficient living status.
Amelia's Light is located in former base housing at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside.*

Send questions and registrations to:

Eunice Hanson, Registrar (eunicehanson@cox.net), 3627 Cerro Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92056 (760-945-9716)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**March 1, 2008 Springtime Gathering at Hope Lutheran,
29141 Vallejo Ave., Temecula 8 AM—4 PM**

**What's missing?
News from you!**

**Opportunity may knock only once....
Temptation leans on the doorbell.**

**As you slide down the banister of life, may the
splinters never point the wrong way.**

**Faith is not believing that God can...
It's knowing that He will.**



* **Monday Prayer at Noon** is a weekly opportunity to join in prayer with women throughout the United States, the Caribbean, and Canada. Check www.womenoftheelca.org for specific weekly prayer concerns.

PACIFICA PARTNERS provides news and information to congregational units of the Pacifica Synod. *Pacifica Partners* is published monthly except for July/August and November/December, which are combined issues. Copies are distributed as a courtesy to each congregational unit (CU) in the Pacifica Synod. It is also sent to Women of the ELCA churchwide office, other SWO presidents, Synodical Bishop, current and former board members.

Address changes and corrections should be sent to the Secretary:

Becky Shurson
13848 Meadow View Lane
Yucaipa, CA 92399

Deadline for news is the **first** of the month prior to the month of publication.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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.

As I write this on January 31, we have had a great response so far for **“It’s A Small World...One Bread, One Body”**. We received a request that since there are no hotel contracts, that the early bird registration be extended. The much updated flyer included in this issue states that we will accept postmarks until February 15 for the \$25 registration amount. But we really do appreciate all who have honored the January 31 deadline as we are really working to make this a special event. That means not just food, but special name tags, table favors, worship bulletins, and the like. Those items take time and \$\$ so we do need to have numbers earlier than the week before the event.



Becky Shurson, our secretary, has done a wonderful job on the flyer for this event that was introduced at convention, updated in the last issue of this newsletter, and now updated and expanded to give you even more information and also directions to the church.

Last month I noted in my article that we would like you to bring ethnic type breads which we will serve at the continental breakfast to start off our day. Other items will be available as well. And this month on the flyer, a freshly baked loaf of bread is included on the list of Love gifts. The idea is that the baskets we will put together for the women at Amelia’s light will have bread and body lotions etc – bread to eat and spa items to pamper their bodies. “One Bread, One Body”!!

I may be jumping the gun a little on this – but I was reminded that we have set aside some of the funds raised for scholarships to our convention, for a scholarship/s to “Come to the Waters” in Salt Lake this July. Early bird registration for that ended today but for a few dollars more, you can still register. So watch for more details of how to apply for that scholarship money in the next issue and likely on our web site. And a reminder that Melissa Anderson is our triennial promoter so direct questions to her – and also let her know you are going. It will be helpful to know how many from our synod are planning to attend. We will have five delegates attending. Four were elected in HI and then your president is automatically a delegate.

Our board will be meeting February 16 at First Lutheran Church in Vista. This is our first meeting of the new fiscal year. Also later that day and into the evening, our convention planning team will hold their first brainstorming session. Watch for that information in forthcoming issues and on the web site as well!

ACTING BOLDLY IN CHRIST!
Eunice

You Too Can Be A Good Steward

Five things you can do today

- Read one Bible verse about God’s love for his creation, such as Psalm 24:1
- Pick up and throw away any trash you see on the ground.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth and shaving.
- Give something away.
- Spend at least 10 minutes quietly in nature (it’s okay if that means your backyard or your town park).

Five things you can do this week

- Take a day of rest—no shopping, no working, no driving.
- Recycle everything you possibly can.
- Change at least some of the light bulbs in your home from incandescent ones to compact fluorescents.
- Air dry your laundry on a clothesline (hard to do in California)
- Find out about an organization that is working to save the Earth.

Five things you can do this month

- Organize a prayer group to study how the Bible talks about caring for creation.
- Stock up on cloth shopping bags to kick the paper habit.
- Talk to your school or workplace about using recycled paper in the printers.
- Donate clothes you haven’t worn in the past year.
- Install low-flow showerheads in your bathroom.

Surrounding ourselves with “stuff” we don’t need wastes the planet’s resources and doesn’t make us any happier.



Take part in the Seventh Triennial Convention offering

Not able to attend the triennial convention this summer? Your congregational unit can still participate in the triennial convention offering and make a significant contribution to the life and ministry of Women of the ELCA. Our organization has more than 7,000 congregational units (CUs) but fewer than 400 delegates to the convention. We are making it possible for every CU to contribute to the triennial convention offering because we know how much you care about the ministries it will support.

Two offerings will be taken at the convention, one at the opening of business on Tuesday, July 8, and one at the close of business on Thursday, July 10. They are designated as follows: half to the Women of the ELCA churchwide organization for its ongoing ministries; one quarter to Lutheran Immigration Refugee Service (LIRS) for its work in the area of commercial sexual exploitation; and one quarter to the Stand with Africa/Lutheran World Federation Water Project. These designations were made by action of the churchwide executive board and are in response to resolutions passed at the Sixth Triennial Convention in 2005.

By contributing, your unit will be making a difference for women and children who are sexually exploited or do not have clean drinking water. Please consider contributing generously, as the work of these organizations need your help to make a difference in the world.

How might you collect this offering? You could designate your Bold Women's Day offering for this purpose. Or at a spring meeting, you could collect a special offering after having shared this article with the women in your CU. If you are holding a fundraiser to help women in your congregation attend the triennial gathering, you could add in a special free-will offering for this purpose. As you review your CU's treasury, you might choose to designate a gift from the treasury for the triennial convention offering.

Whatever creative way you choose, you will find an envelope enclosed in this issue of *Interchange* for your convention offering. You can mail your offering to the churchwide office in this envelope, and your unit's gift will then be publicly recognized during the convention in Salt Lake City. You can also ask someone you know who will be attending the convention to carry it to Salt Lake City on your behalf. There's no better way for your support of the organization to be witnessed by others

[Reprinted with permission from *Interchange*, the churchwide newsletter of Women of the ELCA. Copyright 2008, Women of the Evangelical Church in America.]

Running into time by Valora Starr

Lent is here—can you believe it? If you are like a lot of people, you're still finding pine needles and bits of tinsel in the carpeting and telling yourself to get all those boxes of decorations neatly back to where they go in the basement every time you walk past them. All those reminders of a hectic December and Christmas are part of our blurred memories . . . just what did happen over those days?

Then consider that even before the Advent wreath was prepared and the Christmas pageant was a hit, we already were running out of time for planning our Lenten journey. Running out of time? How could that be? Yes, this is the year Lent and Easter come early, in the thick of winter with no sign of spring.

We often say we are "running out of time" when we feel overwhelmed by a task or are facing the possibility of not accomplishing what has been set before us. But if we focus on, or think too much about, running out of time to accomplish the tasks we set out, we put ourselves at a deficit before we even get started. The focus of the season will be lost to the tasks.

Our Lenten journey is all about time. It is a time to relive the real stuff in Jesus' life in real time. It is a time to grow and stretch ourselves beyond who we are right now. It is not just about who will bring what to the soup supper; more importantly, it is about bringing and preparing ourselves through prayer and listening.

Suppose we use this Lenten season to change—better yet, turn around—our thoughts and hearts about time and about God, who has given us all our time. Instead of worrying about running out of time, let's run into it. When we run into the season, we are open to walking with Jesus and experiencing the journey rather than planning it. Instead of 40 fast-paced days with checklists, the season becomes 960 hours full of possibilities and of ultimately making the journey with Jesus to the cross. It is in this journey that our time, our lives, all that we are, is freed up.

Imagine running into a waterfall or into a sprinkler in the backyard. Running out of water wouldn't be your first concern; instead, you experience the joy of being in the water, and that is all you need to keep you in it.

When we run into the journey, we do not run through it, as in a race, toward a finish line. Instead, there will be time to turn around completely and see it all, including what has been behind us and tucked away, out of focus, in our lives.

This season, instead of running out, run in—and experience the journey.

Water is a women's issue by Linda Post Bushkofsky

Did you know that 1.1 billion people worldwide lack access to safe drinking water or that 2.6 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation? (Source: Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council) Did you know that every day more than 25,000 people die from waterborne diseases or that a child dies every 15 seconds from bad water and sanitation? (Source: *Women*, August 2006, Lutheran World Federation)

It's easy for us in North America to shut our eyes to these realities. But as Women of the ELCA, we cannot. Water is a women's issue. Around the world, women and girls are responsible for getting water for their families' daily needs (drinking, food production and preparation, care of domestic animals, personal hygiene, care of the sick, cleaning, washing, and waste disposal). Getting water often requires walking long distances to a water source, carrying heavy containers of water back over those same long distances, limiting one's use of water, or worse, using dirty water.

When clean and safe water supplies exist along with proper sanitation, amazing things happen for women and girls. Young girls attend school more and drop out less. The level of education and literacy for girls rises. Child mortality and maternal morbidity drop. There is increased privacy and dignity for women and girls as they care for their personal hygiene and go through their monthly cycles. There is less physical injury. There are lower risks of sexual assault; women's safety increases.

As Lutheran women, we "walk wet" by virtue of our baptism: In our affirmation of baptism, we confess before the assembly that we will, among other things, strive for peace and justice throughout the world. In our Women of the ELCA purpose statement, we agree that we will seek to bring healing and wholeness to the church, our society, and the whole world. We are in relationship with God and all of God's creation, including lakes and ponds, rivers and bays, ice floes and oceans. World Water Day, observed each year on March 22, gives us the opportunity to learn more about water issues and solutions. World Water Day also gives us the opportunity to promote awareness of the spiritual mandate to care for creation and how our choices affect the just distribution of safe water (an action taken at the Sixth Triennial Convention 2005).

Visit these Web sites to learn more about how you

and the women in your church can observe World Water Day:

www.womenoftheelca.org

www.worldwaterday.org

www.un.org/waterforlifedecade

Linda Post Bushkofsky is executive director, Women of the ELCA.

[Reprinted with permission from Interchange, the churchwide newsletter of Women of the ELCA. Copyright 2008, Women of the Evangelical Church in America.]

It's good news

As of January 3, women have given \$47,377 to the projects selected for our 20th anniversary offering: the Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, a Stand With Africa water project, and the ongoing ministries of Women of the ELCA. Thanks for your support. If you've not yet sent your anniversary offering, you may still do so. See mailing information on the anniversary Web site.



The conflict in the Middle East is challenging Augusta Victoria Hospital's ability to provide life-saving and life-sustaining services to people in the region.

Photo courtesy of Lutheran World Federation

If you have something that you would like to share with other women, please submit by sending it to:

Helen Riggs, 5446 Trevino Way, Banning, CA 92220

Or email:

helen.riggs1@verizon.net

Some months there is plenty of news and articles to share while other months are not so plentiful. I would ask that you keep it simple, short and interesting. It can be a devotional item, and item your unit is doing or planning. Share your news and help me as well.

Thank you!

You're Invited !!!
Please join us as we learn how to . . .

Cherish Our Children



at the
Raincross, Big Bear, & Mariposa
Cluster Event Saturday, April 19, 2008

PROGRAM PRESENTED BY

Pr. Judith Miller

Chairperson of the Pacifica Synod Ministry Team

EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
4725 Brockton Ave.
Riverside
SATURDAY,
APRIL 19, 2008
9am - 12pm

Registration at 8:30am: \$5.00 at the door
Continental Breakfast & Lunch Included

Reservations (*not required, but much appreciated*):

Contact Dona Jenkins
dona.jenkins@pacificawomen.org
(951) 784-1188

What is your cluster doing? Why not publicize your event in the Pacifica Partners!

Your AD could be posted here and maybe your attendance would increase. Give it a try. You certainly have nothing to lose.

Send to: helen.riggs1@verizon.net

PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA - EQUIPPING WOMEN IN FAITH

Women of the **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA** 

It's A Small World...One Bread, One Body
A Springtime One-Day Gathering of
Pacifica Women of the ELCA

March 1, 2008

Directions to Hope Lutheran Church
 29141 Vallejo Avenue - Temecula

If you're coming South on I-15 –

Exit at 79 South (Old Town/Temecula Parkway),
 turn left under the freeway,
 through the light for the northbound on-ramp,
 through the light at Bedford,
 left at the next light onto La Paz Street,
 then immediate 1st left onto Vallejo Avenue,
 to the church on the left.

If you're coming North on I-15 –

Exit at 79 South (Temecula Parkway)
 turn right from the off-ramp onto Temecula Parkway,
 through the light at Bedford,
 left at the next light onto La Paz Street,
 then immediate 1st left onto Vallejo Avenue,
 to the church on the left.

If you're coming West on 79 South
(on Temecula Parkway) –

Go through the light at Pechanga Parkway, and
 a couple of blocks before you reach I-15
 go right at the light at La Paz Street,
 then immediate 1st left onto Vallejo Avenue,
 to the church on the left.



Some notes on parking:

The 1st left turn into the church takes you around the side and back of the building to the main parking area;
the 2nd left leads to a small handicapped-accessible/visitor lot;
and the 3rd left takes you directly to the main parking area.

**Note: If you are use a GPS device for directions, be sure
 the GPS takes you to Hope's Vallejo Avenue address
 and not to the church's former location on Rancho California Road!**

PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA - EQUIPPING WOMEN IN FAITH



“It’s A Small World...One Bread, One Body”

A Springtime One-Day Gathering of
Pacifica Women of the ELCA

March 1, 2008
Hope Lutheran Church, Temecula

Registration

Early-Bird Registration –
Postmarked by 2/15

\$25

Registration is from 8:00-9:00 am
with Continental Breakfast

Regular Registration –
Postmarked after 2/15

\$30

Program is 9:00-4:00 pm
and includes Lunch

Please make check payable to:

Pacifica Women of the ELCA

Mail to:

Eunice Hanson, 3627 Cerro Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92056
eunicehanson@cox.net, 760-945-9716 home, 760-717-2646 cell

Please Print: (or affix an address label)

Name: _____

Telephone: () _____ - _____ Email: _____

Church: _____ Church City: _____

Websites to Check Out

'www.pacificasynod.org' (Pacifica Synod)

'www.elca.org' (This will access the national churchwide office)

'www.womenoftheelca.org' (NOTE: new domain name for churchwide website of the Women of the ELCA; *Café*, for free website for women 20-35 is part of this website.)



'www.lutheranwomantoday.org' (This website will access the LWT magazine directly.)

'www.lwr.org' (ever wanted to know where the quilts go that your units have made or the school and health kits that you assembled and sent to Lutheran World Relief?)

'www.hisrosesandthorns.com' (a Christian website of Wanda Scott Bledsor and Janet Sannipoli)

'www.thebreastcancersite.com' (Click on this site once a day to provide free mamograms for those who otherwise would not be able to have them.)

'www.creative-memories.com/suzanne_kusik' (Your Memory Album and Business Coach—Suzanne Kusik—Creative Memories Consultant, 714-968-4808)

'www.giveaminute.org' (Click on this site once a day and the sponsors will contribute funds for a minute of care for the needy Indian children of the Tarahumara Children's Hospital in Creel, Mexico. The site has a mission information link and photo gallery which shows pictures of the area as well as some of the children. This site also links to the Hunger Site where the sponsors will give a cup of grain for a daily click.)

'www.bread.org' (Bread for the World for information.)

If you know of a website that would be of interest to others feel free to let me know inclusion in this area.

E-mail to helen.riggs1@verizon.net

The Deadline is.....

March 1, 2008 *Pacifica Partners 2008*

PACIFICA WOMEN OF THE ELCA 2008 Synodical Board Members

President Eunice Hanson
3627 Cerro Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92056
760-945-9716, e-mail: eunicehanson@cox.net

Vice President Keala Simoes
518 Cummins St., Honolulu, HI 96814
808-261-8844, e-mail: bosseyboots@hawaii.rr.com

Secretary Becky Shurson
13848 Meadow View Lane, Yucaipa, CA 92399
909-790-4864, e-mail bshurson@verizon.net

Treasurer Andrea Campbell
6555 Jaluit Street, Cypress, CA 90630
714-891-2556, e-mail: campbell6555@earthlink.net

Board Members

Viola Angebrandt
1380 W. 48th Street, Unit 36
San Bernardino, CA 92407 909-887-0799
e-mail: idiotic_puppy@earthlink.net

Sue Bodenschatz
2306 W. Hemlock, Santa Ana, CA 92704
714-754-6925 e-mail: mamaschatz_99@yahoo.com

Lynda McClellan
4996 Via Campeche, Riverside, CA 92507
951-788-3934, e-mail: LKMC4996@sbcglobal.net

Therese Moore
15401 Don Roberto Rd., Victorville, CA 92394
760-955-5517, e-mail: pacificawoman@earthlink.net

Juli Patten
84-740 Kili Dr. #1123, Waianae, HI 96792
808-696-4980 e-mail: alohaboo@hawaii.rr.com

Violet Quist
13300 Del Monte Dr. #7-M, Seal Bch, CA 90740
562-431-8339, e-mail: violetquist@peoplepc.com

Karen Ronchetti
8305 Magic Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92646
714-842-3760 e-mail: kronchetti@hbuhsd.org

Inga Sanders
16370 Jupiter Circle, Westminster, CA 92683
949-679-2990, e-mail: inga.sanders@tristargroup.net



WHAT'S INSIDE

Springtime Gathering	Page 1
Calendar of Events	Page 2
President's Message	Page 3
Triennial Info/Devotion	Page 4
Water is a Woman's issue	Page 5
Cluster Event Info	Page 6
Spring Gathering Info	Page 7
More Spring Gathering Info	Page 8
SWO Directory	Page 9



Dated Material—Please Do Not Delay
Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Banning, CA
PERMIT No. 30

Pacifica Synodical Women's Organization of the
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
5446 Trevino Way
Banning, CA 92220-6459