



# Bridges

Fall 2016

Volume 26  
Number 4

A communications link between the Synodical Women's Organization & its women

## What is coming up for the Saint Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization?

- **Bible Study Enrichment: September 17<sup>th</sup> at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church ~ See Page 8 for details and registration.**
- **Bible Study** at your church, in your home or at a nearby coffee shop? Invite someone to attend, pick them up, buy their coffee and make them feel welcome to your group. Include them in another activity at church. **This is how our organization started and some things doesn't change.** If you attend, it does not mean you have to read out loud. Take turns and pass the opportunity to one another. Feel comfortable in God's place of study.
- **Cluster Meetings:** Be sure to attend your cluster meeting as described on pages 8 and 9. Better yet, feel free to attend other gatherings as well. Many great programs to take part in. And then there is always fellowship and refreshments which adds so much.
- **Spring Convention:** Our host church will be St. Philips Lutheran Church in Hastings on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Save the date! You won't want to miss it.

## Triennial 2017 will be in Minneapolis, MN!

### The Theme All Anew!

Romans 12:2, Psalms 104:30, 2nd Corinthians 4:16, Titus 3:4-5

Preparations are in the process and well on their way. Wanda Hurtgen will be actively seeking those who are planning to attend to be sure they are signed up. It is not too early to think about the is wonderful event.

**Start putting away \$1 each day or \$5 each week to be sure you are well funded for the experience or perhaps your local Unit could**

**provide a scholarship for someone from your church.** The Churchwide Team and Board have been in our midst to learn about what we have to offer as a community, where to stay, where to shop, where to visit, and on and on. The list is very long. Minnesota has a lot to offer. Triennials sites for the next two have already been chosen! Keep saving the dates to visit with many women across the nation and the world.

**2017 Triennial: Registration opens September 6<sup>th</sup> – forms are located on line or you may have received a book in the mail (congregation received a copy). Remember that there is no airplane involved for your travel, so plan to take part in the festivities. There will be many opportunities for volunteering and being a good hostess to all the visitors coming from all across the nation.**

**Financial Assistance for Triennial is available.** A form is included on page 6 of this publication. Consider sharing a hotel room with some friends! It is going to be a great time.

**Memorials are due to Churchwide by November 30, 2016** to be considered for the Triennial Plenary Sessions. Give it some thought. What are you passionate about? The Board will be glad to assist you in writing a Memorial for Triennial. **Reminder:** Memorial is at Triennial as a Resolution is at our convention!



**Reflection! What do you see when you reflect on the past few months? Do you notice a bee buzzing and think about the convention? Blessed to Bee a Blessing!** What do you see when you look into the mirror and see your reflection? A beautiful woman created by God and serving when and where you are needed? Perhaps you are like me with grandchildren. Do you ponder and reflect about their life, choices and travels perhaps? My granddaughter Rachel is back to college starting her 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Many of you may remember her playing a violin at an earlier convention. And now she is in college, studied abroad in China for 6 weeks at an engineering university near Shanghai early summer. Rachel is “buzzing” with enthusiasm as she continues to study aeronautical engineering. She learned so much in traveling to China, got lost finding the Great Wall but the four students decided that they could call any wall “Great” and it was theirs! Creative and imaginative young students. My grandson Nathan has been reflecting on his life in the Air Force and is changing his path slightly. He currently works with satellites, moving and pointing them in the right direction for the security of our nation and will continue to do similar security related work at another base soon.

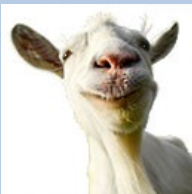
**Thinking and reflecting** – where should we go, how should we get there, what is the right path or the one with less stress and obstacles. **What path would be more fun!** Perhaps all of our thinking should be spent in prayer and reading scripture to guide us along this ominous pathway. **Gather** magazine is helpful for me to take time for myself and seek guidance when there seems to be so much turmoil around me. The rain devastation in Louisiana and other areas, fires in California and the cancer and other devastating diseases continue. It can be overwhelming. Psalm 23 and 100 are probably my all-time favorites. As a little girl, I could sit in the big chair with my Grandma and listen to her read scripture and have devotions after lunch. She often came back to those two as they were her favorites too! My Grandpa would be sitting the other chair listening as well. It was a good time of learning and reflection on how God works among us. What seems simple is often the best. No need to make it difficult – I recently read a poem on Face Book about a little boy who died in surgery from cancer. Leaving his Mom alone and devastated as to how she was going to continue without him. When she reached her home later that day, she began putting his cars back on the shelf in his room as if he would be coming back to find them. While in his room she found a piece of paper- a letter from her son; **Dear Mom, Don't cry.** I was met at the gate by **Jesus** right away and then taken to see **God.** I got to sit on His lap and he told me that now I would no longer have pain from my disease. I told Him how glad I was but that I wished I could write my Mom a letter telling her that I got here just fine and the pain is gone. He gave me a special piece of paper and a pencil to write to you. You see, no one else will be able to read this letter, it is especially written for you only. I will be eating at the **big table** with God tonight – He said it would be a **special supper** just for us. The pain is gone Mom, I know you will miss me and I will miss you too but God is taking good care of me and has been with us on this **journey** the whole way. When you and I could hardly walk, He lifted us up to ease the way. I love you Mom and God loves all of us so much that he sent Jesus to take away all our hurts and pain.

**May God's Peace and time for reflection be with us all.**

## **How can you know a good charity to support?**

**Answer = If 10% or less is spent on administrative and advertising.**

Charities are great who help people to help themselves. ELCA Good Gifts projects do all these things.



The Saint Paul Area WELCA is collecting funds to buy goats at \$50 a goat. Goats are a favorite because they provide milk, cheese, hair and more goats. They are also a medium sized animal that is easy to manage. They eat a variety of things (not paper). They survive in rocky, dry or forest areas. Goats are shipped around the world to needy families to lift the people and their villages out of poverty. Training on how to care for the goats is also provided. How about getting a group together to purchase a goat in someone's honor. Blessings - Jackie Boorman

## **MISSION COMMUNITY**

**Goal:** To enable each woman to value her and others as disciples created in God's image and re-deemed through Jesus Christ; and to build up and celebrate relationships that are global, diverse, and interdependent.

Fall is just around the corner and things will start rolling again in our busy lives. School gets underway and church schedules get back to normal. Choirs, confirmation, Sunday School, adult forums, women's groups, etc. all start fresh. Sometimes summer is a recharge, an opportunity to give our over-busy, over-scheduled lives a break. Sometimes summer is a growth opportunity. A time to read and explore a new interest or get involved in a passion. I've done a little of each this summer.

After convention last spring, I got involved in two synod wide task forces, **Cherish All Children** and **Racial Justice**. As a task force member I have read and listened to many articles or book reviews on the subjects, and participated in great discussions of how we can take these passions and present them to the people in the pews of our churches. One thing that keeps coming up is how little we really know, and how much of a problem each of these issues are. It is easy to think in terms of "us" and "them". As soon as we draw that line, we become part of the problem. I read on line that Oprah Winfrey said she had it wrong all these years. It's not about diversity, it is about inclusivity. "They" just want to be included in the "us" or the "we". Bishop Eaton has focused two webcasts on the issue of racial justice, and I believe that there are more in the works. Part of the problem is that many people still don't see a problem with the status quo. A council member in my congregation expressed frustration that when we list out all the groups that we are trying to include, the white, anglo-saxons are rarely included. "Where are we, the just plain 'white bread' folk in this picture?" North Central Cluster is hosting a synod wide **Racial Justice** event in late October or early November to explore identifying the problem and responding to it, (this is basically a reschedule of the **Racial Justice** event that had to be cancelled last January.) More information will be coming out to cluster leaders later this month.

As far as **Cherish All Children**, plans are in the works for adult forums this fall and winter as well as some social networking safety seminars. Education about this critical problem is extremely important. It is so insidious that people right next to it don't always know that it is happening, and that it could happen to them or their loved ones. We can all do something. At the very least, we can pray; pray for the children, pray for the task force as we engage in dialogues and present information to churches, and pray for the hearts of those who hear that they may be open to the facts and moved to continue to learn and grow so that they become empowered. The resolution passed at convention last spring should be making its way into churches and the synod office so that it can be acted on by those bodies. You can participate in this by taking it to your church council. (The Human Trafficking Resolution was in the last newsletter)



**F**ind your passion.

**A**sk what you can do to move forward something you care about.

**T**ake advantage of the wonderful topics at this fall's cluster meetings.

**E**mpower yourself to be a blessing in someone else's life.

Together with prayer and God's guiding hand, you will create your own **FATE**.



### **Treasurer's Report**

Mail offerings to:

Darlene Sigstad, 3701 Sun Terrace, White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Questions may be directed to Darlene:

treasurerswo@gmail.com OR 651-653-6445

## FAIR TRADE Project

### COFFEE, TEA, CHOCOLATE.....& NUTS

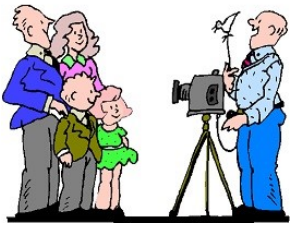


The Saint Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization (SPASWO) has a special project called **Fair Trade** in which we purchase coffee, tea, chocolate, etc. from SERVV and Lutheran World Relief Coffee Project. These **Fair Trade** gifts improve the lives of artisans and farmers worldwide by SERVV and LWR skipping the middleman and buying directly from the farmers and artisans.

SPASWO (St. Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization) provides this ministry to not only help the farmers and artisans involved with SERVV and LWR but also to provide a service to you our local women to bring these products closer to you and your taste buds.

As Vice-President, one of my duties is the purchasing and promoting of **Fair Trade** Sales. I bring the **Fair Trade** items to many of the SWO Women's events such as the Fall Bible Study Enrichment, Soup Supper (or Lunch) Event, and the Spring Convention to give our women more opportunities to shop and support **Fair Trade**.

If you want to promote **Fair Trade** I can help you with that idea. You can get the **Fair Trade** items from me and sell them at a cluster meeting, your church's women events or at your church on a Sunday. The money received would come back to the SWO treasury to further our support for the **Fair Trade** farmers. Check with me, Gail Ahrens, at 651-739-1551 to see what dates are available for your event.



### SAY CHEESE!

Photographs.....we take them frequently, have shoe boxes and albums full of them.

But how often do you take them out and view them?

I have been thinking about pictures recently because my church will be celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. As I began sorting through my own stash of photos I realized how many pictures I have of Church women events stuck away in my stuff. Wouldn't those pictures be more worthwhile being shared with those folks who were there and remember the event when taken and those friends or family who are in the photo? So I intend to gather these pieces of history together and bring them to church to add to the memory archives at my church. I plan to date and label who's who in the photos and the event.

Besides old photos kicking around, there are a lot of old stories that go along with these pictures. I figure it would be a good idea to start collecting these stories from the long-timers at church to fill in the history of our church. I am not sure how to gather these stories...maybe making an announcement in church and in our newsletter asking people to share their stories, providing paper and pen in the fellowship hall so people could sit down with a cup of coffee and jot down memories while they visit with each other. I am sure there are more ways to gather those memories before they are lost. Get inventive with this idea and have fun along the way!

Gail Ahrens



## **Tuesdays at Two**

***Tuesdays @ two is a prayer reminder for women to pray on Tuesdays for Board members, clusters and units.  
A schedule of concerns is published in each Bridges.***



- October 4 Pray that we request Bishop Lull to encourage member congregations of the SPAS to join in establishing January 11-February 5, 2017 as a time of prayer to end human trafficking.
- October 11 Pray for our senior citizens, that resources be available in the church and community to meet their needs.
- October 18 Pray for all those that have displaced due to the wars and conflicts in their counties. Pray for an end to these conflicts and that peace comes to all people.
- October 25 Pray for all women as they study God's word, that the Holy Spirit guide them in their growth of the word.
- November 8 Pray for all U.S. Citizens. May all eligible voters be encouraged and enabled to participate in the election. Pray that everyone consider the issues and ask for God's guidance.
- November 15 Pray that all those that have no place to go in the cold winter months. Pray that they find shelter, food and warm clothing.
- November 22 Pray in anticipation of the coming birth of Jesus as we enter the Season of Advent.
- November 29 Continue to hold up in prayer all those that have lost loved ones this past year. Pray that they may be granted the peace that comes from God's loving arms uplifting them.
- December 5 Pray in thankfulness for the many blessings we receive from God – the sunrises, sunsets, family, friends, faith, love and all the wonders in our lives.
- December 12 Continue to pray for the members of the SWO Board that they bring meaningful programs to all women of the St. Paul Synod.
- December 19 Pray for the coming Christmas season and that families can be together to celebrate the birth of Jesus.
- December 26 Pray for all people as we look toward the start of a New Year. Pray that the needs of all people be met—that they are safe from harm, have nourishing food to eat, clothes to wear and have a warm place to live during the cold months.

### **NEEDED! Bridges Editor**

If you would like to assist us with editing our newsletter, please contact Diane Henning @ 651-402-0493, 651-707-7257, or [diane@actmanagementinc.com](mailto:diane@actmanagementinc.com). Thank you.



Reflect, pray and prepare for the day. Need an on-the-go companion for your faith journey? Daily Grace offers brief reflections every day in which you'll encounter God's extravagant, boundless and often surprising grace. Be comforted, challenged, inspired, consoled and confronted. Sign up for Daily Grace. - See more at: <http://www.womenoftheelca.org>.

**Saint Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization  
Scholarship Application for the 10th Triennial Gather-  
ing, July 13-16, 2017  
Minneapolis, MN**



**Scholarships** will be awarded to women who are **First Time** gathering attendees. Recipients will be chosen randomly from those applying and at least **One Gen-  
eral** scholarship will be awarded at random from those applying.

**Please Print Clearly:**

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

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

City, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation & City: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended a Triennial Gathering previously? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Indicate below the scholarship you are applying for. Only one scholarship can be received.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be considered for the **First Time Scholarship**

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be considered for the **General Scholarship**

**Send applications by November 1, 2016 to: Diane J. Henning  
311 Pleasant Ave, #302  
St. Paul, MN 55102**

**Scholarship recipients will be notified in writing.**  
Recipients will receive a check for the early registration fee so the registration is received at Churchwide by December 2016.

**Log onto [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)** to get resources for devotions, retreats and other great information to help your women's group grow in the service of the Lord. Help Women of the ELCA produce more resources and offer more scholarships to women by giving generously through Thankofferings, scholarship programs and Katie's Fund. Send offerings to Synodical Treasurer.



**GATHERING TOGETHER.....**

**A mini-retreat introducing the 2016-2017 "Gather" Bible Study**

**"When God's Not Fair" and "Galatians: A Reformation Anniversary Bible Study"**

**DATE:** Saturday September 17, 2016

**PLACE:** Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 700 Snelling Avenue South. St Paul, MN. The church is located two miles south of I94 and Snelling Ave. Crossstreet is Highland Pkwy. Parking is located on the East side of the church, with a handicap access. Church phone # 651-699-1378.

**TIME:** 8:30-9:00am – Registration.  
9:00-1:00pm – Program and Lunch.  
The lunch includes chicken pasta salad, vegetable salad, fresh fruit, breads, sherbet/ice cream and beverages.

**PRESENTER:** The Rev. Dr. Sarah Henrich – Retired Professor, Luther Seminary.  
Currently Associate Pastor for Congregational Care at Westminster Presbyterian Church

**COST:** \$15.00 (includes registration, speaker and lunch). Bible Study only (no lunch) - \$8.00.  
Make checks to Resurrection Women. Memo: Bible Study Enrichment

**SPONSORS:** ELCA Women of Church of the Resurrection, Gloria Dei, Immanuel  
and St. Mark's-North St. Paul.

Nursery services available – if bringing children, please bring a bag lunch for each child.  
Milk will be provided.

**NOTE:** Bring your Bible, Gather magazine and a notebook.

Send registration and payment – due by September 14 to:  
Luella Zibell  
3422 Chandler Road  
Shoreview, MN. 55126-3914

For further information, please contact Virginia Coller 651-777-0584 or [ginnacoller@hotmail.com](mailto:ginnacoller@hotmail.com)

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Registration for the Introduction to the 2016-2017 Gather Bible Study

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

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

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

Food allergies/intolerances: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need nursery services? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, list names and ages of children \_\_\_\_\_.

Church leaders-please make copies for your congregation.

# SPAS Fall Cluster Gatherings

## NORTH CLUSTER FALL GATHERING

Saturday, October 1, 2016

8:30 a.m. Registration and Refreshments  
9:00-11:00 a.m. Program

### *Local Social Outreach Ministry Opportunities*

This will be an inspiring morning of worship, fellowship, and sharing information about what our congregational units are doing to help people in our own communities.

Women of all ages are invited to attend.

Location: Chisago Lake Lutheran Church  
1 Summit Avenue  
Center City, MN  
651-257-6300



## South Cluster

Join us for a wonderful morning of fellowship, learning and service with women of the Saint Paul Area Synod South Cluster.

Where: St John's Lutheran, Lakeville  
(20165 Heath Ave.)

When: Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 11:30 AM

We will be putting together hygiene kits for The Link and hear about The Link's outreach to homeless youth in Dakota County.

***Please bring supplies for the kits from the list below:***

Regular size (not travel or super sizes) of shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, soap, toothpaste/toothbrushes, hair brushes/combs, feminine hygiene products, shaving cream and razors for both men and women

If you have questions:  
Please call Robin Kieffer at 651-216-3611  
or  
Jackie Knauff at 952-440-4066

## South Central Cluster Meeting

Saturday, October 8, 2016

9:30 – Registration and Coffee Treats  
10:00 – Program

Grace Lutheran Church  
1730 Old Hudson Road

The program will be  
"Nursing Education in Ilula, Tanzania"

Sara Jennerjohn will share about her experiences learning and volunteering with Shoulder to Shoulder at Ilula Lutheran Hospital in Ilula, Tanzania. Sara was in Tanzania for six weeks early in 2016 with an interdisciplinary health care program from the University of Minnesota. She will share her observations from the perspective of a first-time international volunteer working with both healthcare and educational institutions.

Registration cost is \$5.00

Offering is ½ to Saint Paul Area SWO  
½ to Bega Kwa Bega

## EAST CENTRAL CLUSTER

Thursday, October 27, 2016 6:15 p.m.  
registration (\$5) and refreshments

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
3770 Bellaire Ave  
White Bear Lake, MN

Program:  
***Joy in the Journey: Tutu Much Fun!***  
By Sue Selbin

Material offering: liquid laundry soap (22-25 oz bottles) and /or feminine hygiene products, including bladder control needs (will go to area food shelves)

Monetary offering: MidEast Development  
(support for Kurdish women and girls)



**South East Cluster  
Brunch and Fellowship**

**Date: Saturday, October 1st**

**Hosted by Lutheran Memorial Church**

**315 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, South St Paul, MN 55075**

Registration at 8:45 am, brunch at 9 am.

Cost is **\$4.00.**

Our speaker and musician is **Cathy Nordheim** from Bethesda Lutheran. Cathy will in song and word address **Peace in a Chaotic World.**

A free will offering will be taken to support **Cherish All Children.**

A short business meeting will end the morning.

Questions call Carol at 651-455-3441

**All-Women's Weekend Retreat  
at Luther Point**

The women of Rush City Evangelical Lutheran Church invite you to join them at the All-Women's Retreat Friday through Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, at the beautiful Retreat Center of Luther Point Bible Camp on Wood Lake near Grantsburg, WI.

The Interdenominational retreat will feature a program entitled "God's Stew – Simmering in His Love", led by guest Pastor Beverly Robinson.

The retreat is open to all adult women and you are encouraged to bring a friend. No one is too old or too young! Space is limited to 48 participants. Cost for the weekend is \$90.00.

If you have questions or would like to register, please call Kathy Olson at 651-248-0243.

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**Annual Kroppkakor Supper  
at Spring Lake Lutheran Church**

The annual Swedish Kroppkakor (potato and pork) supper will be held on Saturday, October 22, 3:00pm – 6:00pm at Spring Lake Lutheran Church, North Branch.

The traditional Scandinavian meal will be served in a festive atmosphere by members dressed for the occasion. While waiting to be seated, all are invited to purchase creative gift items and delicious goodies from the Bake and Craft Sale.

Cost of the meal is adults, \$12; ages 6-12, \$5.00; 5 and under free. Takeouts will be sold (\$12) as long as they are available.

Let our long-time tradition become your NEW tradition!

Spring Lake Lutheran Church (handicapped accessible) is located 4 miles west of North Branch or 9 miles east of Cambridge on Highway 95, then one block north on Erickson Road (County Road 48). For information, call the church office at 651-674-4606 or email

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**ARLINGTON HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**1115 Greenbrier Street,  
St. Paul 55106.**

**One block south of Maryland between  
Geranium and Jessamine.**

**CRAFT AND BAKE SALE  
Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Delicious baked goods, creative and unique craft  
items with breakfast and  
lunch available.**

**Tables can be rented for \$30, \$35 with electricity.  
Call Cheryl at 651-771-5501 Ext. 16  
or [cheryl@ahlc-stp.org](mailto:cheryl@ahlc-stp.org)  
for additional information.**

**33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL CRAFT & BAKE SALE**

**OCTOBER 15, 2016  
9:00 AM-3:00 PM**

**YUMMY BAKED GOODS & CANDY!  
INTERESTING CRAFTS!**

**LUNCH AVAILABLE IN THE CANTEEN!**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PEACE  
47 SOUTH CENTURY AVENUE  
MAPLEWOOD, MN**

**651-739-7094**

**(1 mile South of Interstate 94 on Century)**

# 2016—2017 Saint Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization

## Executive Board Members

### **President**

**Diane J. Henning**  
651-402-0493 or 651-707-7257  
diane@actmanagementinc.com  
St. John's, Lakeville (S)

### **Vice President**

**Gail Ahrens**  
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Lutheran Church of Peace/  
Maplewood (SE)

### **Secretary**

**Sue Long**  
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prescottbirders  
@centurylink.net  
Gloria Dei, St. Paul (SC)

### **Treasurer**

**Darlene Sigstad**  
651-653-6445  
treasurerswo@gmail.com  
Redeemer,  
White Bear Lake (EC)

### **Board Members**

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South Cluster Liaison

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Christ, Lake Elmo (EC)  
Mission: Action  
South Central Cluster Liaison

**Susan Fredricksen**  
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terisu1981@gmail.com  
Our Savior's, Stillwater (EC)  
Mission: Community  
East Central Liaison

**Clarice Johnson**  
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North Cluster Liaison

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North Central Liaison

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Mission: Growth  
South East Cluster Liaison

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*Communication Coordinator*

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*Lucinda Pins*

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### **Cluster Leaders**

#### **North Cluster**

Carol Johnson 651-257-5918  
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Trinity/Lindstrom

#### **North Central Cluster**

Lu Zibell 651-482-1965  
Church of the Resurrection/Roseville

#### **East Central Cluster**

Susan Fredricksen 651-430-1111  
terisu1981@gmail.com  
Our Savior's/Stillwater

Linda Kapaun 651/777-8580  
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#### **South Central Cluster**

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#### **South East Cluster**

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Naomi Dorau 651-451-8121  
Bethesda/Inver Grove Hgts

Heather Lanka 651-246-2207  
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King of Kings, Woodbury

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dakimmes@embarqmail.com  
St. Phillips, Hastings

Robin Kieffer 651-216-3611  
rlkieffer60@gmail.com  
Easter, Eagan

### **Cluster Key:**

(N) North	(NC) North Central	(S) South
(EC) East Central	(SE) South East	(SC) South Central

To continue your present subscription or to begin receiving Bridges please send \$5.00/year and this form to: **Lois Berg, 3912 Roosevelt St. NE, Saint Anthony, MN 55421.**  
For more information call Lois at 763-789-9113 or [lois\\_berg@comcast.net](mailto:lois_berg@comcast.net)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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## WHO ME?

Do you have a problem taking compliments? Does it make you feel uncomfortable to hear nice things about yourself?

That is a very common reaction... 'I am not good enough'. It is hard to hear true and positive praise about the kind of person we are. "I'm not that good", you respond, with both modesty and conviction.

But believe it—you are a good person.....you are loved by God. And who knows you inside and out, the mixture of the wonderful and the not so wonderful but God.

He created you. Hold that in your heart and the next time someone says something good about you, believe it and say 'Yes, I am!' I am a child of God!



**Bold Connections** is the free monthly e-newsletter of Women of the ELCA. Whether you participate a lot or a little in Women of the ELCA, and no matter what your role, you'll find helpful news and information on our programs and activities, and stories of how together we are living out our purpose and mission. Sign up at [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org) for **Bold Connections** today!



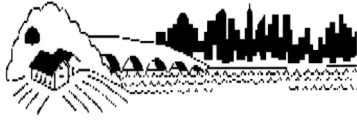
## ***Our Mission***

*To mobilize women to act boldly  
on their faith in Jesus Christ*

## ***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.*





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### ***Calendar of Events***

September 17	Intro to 2016 Bible Study	Gloria Dei Lutheran, St Paul
October 1, 9:00-11:30	SE Cluster Gathering	Luther Memorial
October 7-8	Minneapolis Synod Fall Gathering	
October 8	South Cluster Gathering	St John's, Lakeville
October 8	South Central Gathering	Grace, St Paul
October 27	EC Cluster Gathering	Redeemer, White Bear Lake
November 10	SWO Board Meeting	Gloria Dei, St Paul
May 5-6, 2017	SPAS WELCA Convention	St Phillips, Hastings

***Bridges*** is published four times a year.  
Information for the **Winter 2016– 2017** issue must be submitted by  
**November 15th.**

**Send Bridges articles** via e-mail to: Diane Henning  
diane@actmanagementinc.com (651-402-0493)

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(763) 789-9113

***Bridges*** is emailed as a PDF file to all churches in the Saint Paul Area Synod.  
***Please encourage your church to post or link it to their website, and share with other women in your church.***  
If the email is not being received, or another address should be used, please contact **Diane Henning**  
diane@actmanagementinc.com  
Thank you to the Saint Paul Area Synod Office for providing this service to us!