

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod
36th Annual Convention

June 13, 2026

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Breinigsville, PA
Registration - 9 AM Voting Member Orientation - 9:30 AM
Worship begins at 9 AM

Finding Your Inner Self



1 Peter 3:3-4

"Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight."

Greetings!

I am sure that you are feeling as I am that Spring cannot come soon enough! So, to help you get in a bright, sunny frame of mind, I would like to highlight all the WELCA events that are happening this Spring and Summer.

Spring Justice Event – April 11

Morning topic focuses on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women with a short film and discussion.
Afternoon session will have a presentation given by Christine Applegate from the Museum of Indian Culture on the Iroquois Confederacy.
The flyer and registration form was included in the last issue of The Flame newsletter.

**WELCA Northeast PA Synod 36th Annual Convention –
June 13, St. Paul’s, Breinigsville**

All WELCA Congregational Units have the opportunity to send a voting member to take part in the business of our Synod WELCA Board. All women are invited to attend. Information concerning the open Vice President and Treasurer Board positions is included in this mailing. Board members are also needed. Please consider joining the Board for a two year term,
Envelopes are included for a Congregational Unit offering.

WELCA Triennial Gathering, July 16-19,2026, Des Moines, Iowa

The Gathering is a time for women to come together for worship, to hear inspiring speakers, engage in service projects, participate in a 5K run, and interact with women from across the country in educational, service and shopping experiences. The Gathering follows a two-day Zoom convention. Northeast PA WELCA will have three voting members at this Church wide event to be our voice as the Women of the ELCA plan the direction of the next three years.

If you are interested in attending, please visit the Triennial webpage that can be accessed through the WELCA website. You may contact me for further information.

All churches and individuals that we have emails for have received the Flame newsletter with this information. Please check with your church’s office to see if you have received a copy. I look forward to seeing you at one of these educational and inspiring events!

Kathy Walter, President
kmwalter@ptd.net

CONVENTION OFFERINGS:

In this mailing you will find one offering envelope for presenting your Congregational Unit's (CU) offering during the opening worship. Please provide the information requested on the envelope and write one check to **NEPA WOMEN OF THE ELCA**. The CU# is the same as your congregation's synod number. Ask your church office if you do not know it.

The **DESIGNATED OFFERING** will benefit Lutheran Disaster Response.

The **CHURCHWIDE OFFERING** is sent to Chicago.

The **TRIENNIAL OFFERING** will be taken to the 13th Triennial Convention in July 2026.

We encourage each congregational unit of Northeastern PA Synod to send your offering along with your voting member to our NEPA Synodical convention; or your unit can send in its offering in advance to:

Linda Ballew-Johnson
8560 Oak Hollow Ln.
Macungie, PA 18062

Your personal offerings received during morning worship will be used for the work of the Synodical Women of the ELCA.

IN-KIND GIFTS:

The In-Kind Gift Collection will be *non-perishable food items* (no glass jars please!) for the **Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank 417 N 14th St Allentown**

RESOLUTIONS:

Information for submitting resolutions to be considered by the Convention are in this packet. This is a means for getting concerns and issues not included in the Agenda onto the Convention floor.

The form may be copied, filled out and sent, prior to the Convention, to:

Kathleen Mathews,
52 Oak Drive, Easton PA 18042-7014
Kat.mat62@rcn.com

There will also be time for submitting resolutions during the Convention. If you have a concern, but need help, talk it over with your pastor.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 8227 Hamilton Blvd. Breinigsville, PA
610-398-7000

Use your favorite GPS devices for directions to get you near to the following areas:

From Easton Area and points East

Take either 78 W or 22W.

From 78 take Hamilton Blvd exit to 222 S, left onto Cetronia Rd, first left onto Weilers Rd and then right into parking lot.

From 22 W take Rt 100 S to 222 S (follow above directions)

From Reading Area and points West

Take 222 N to Hamilton Blvd, Turn left at light for Weilers Rd and then turn left into parking lot.

From Stroudsburg and points North

Take Rt 33 South to the Rt 22 W exit and follow above directions.

REMEMBRANCES

In Memory of members of the Congregational Units in the NEPA Synod Women of the ELCA who have passed away since June 2025. Please complete this form:

Names will be included in the Convention Book of Reports.

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Congregational Unit _____ Town _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____ Email _____

**Mail to: Kathleen Mathews
52 Oak Drive
Easton, PA 18042
kat.mat62@rcn.com**

Deadline: April 30, 2026

RESOLUTIONS

Northeastern PA Synod Women of the ELCA Thirty Sixth Annual Convention June 13, 2026

Resolutions are a means for units and delegates to introduce issues that they wish to have addressed by the convention and some type of action taken. The issues may be related to the organization or to ministry concerns beyond the organization. The normal format usually includes several "WHEREAS clauses" to describe the issue, concern, problem and basis or need for the resolution.

Following the "whereas clauses" RESOLVED clauses clearly state the proposed solutions and define requested action. RESOLVED clauses clearly define

- What should be done;
- To whom the request for action is addressed;
- What the action may cost and how it is funded;
- When the action should be done; and
- To whom the results are to be reported.

If a resolution suggests a change involving the Constitution or By-laws of the organization, the proposed wording should be included in the resolution.

Resolutions should be tested against questions like these:

- Is the information complete and accurate?
- Does this matter pertain to the life and program of the organization?
- Is this a matter of significance requiring consideration by the organization?
- Can the action requested be appropriately and effectively implemented by the organization?
- Is the proposed action consistent with the policies and constitution and by-laws of the organization?

RESOLUTIONS not mailed to the Resolution Committee in advance are to be submitted to the Convention Resolutions Committee by a certain time that is announced at the beginning of the Convention. The Committee will review the Resolution and report to the Convention its recommendation (s). Convention delegates will vote on the Committee's recommendation(s) regarding adoption, defeat, postponement, or referral.

FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTIONS IS ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS PAGE. FORM MAY BE COPIED for use as needed. Resolutions may be submitted prior to Convention by sending a copy to:

Kathleen Mathews
52 Oak Drive
Easton, PA 18042
kat.mat62@rcn.com

Mail no later than April 30, 2026

2 Year Terms of Office

Job Description for Vice-President:

The Vice-President is responsible for organizing the yearly SWO Convention.

They are responsible for running any meetings if the President is unable to be there.

They assist where needed with any committee work and are there to uplift the President.

They put together the SWO Convention Flyer and Mailing.

Job Description for Treasurer:

Ongoing • Pay bills as due. • Deposit all offerings. • Keep thorough records of all financial transactions. • Make copies of all checks received and a copy of the bank-stamped deposit slip. • Count with another person all monies collected at all SWO events including conventions, retreats, special events, conference or cluster events. This includes registration, offerings, and any special fundraising events.

Monthly • Reconcile the bank statements.

For Board Meetings • Prepare reports for all synodical board members. Reports should contain: A balance sheet reporting cash and other assets. A Budget vs Actual report. A list of Transactions since the last report If there is an event (Convention, Justice) prepare a financial recap at the conclusion.

Annually • Prepare documents for Audit. • Prepare a budget for discussion and approval by the board in time for inclusion in your convention's Bulletin of Reports. • By June 15, have audit, compilation, or review completed by an independent outside accountant or committee. Send to the churchwide organization within 30 days of its completion.

• Prepare reports to include in your Synodical Convention Bulletin of Reports: Fiscal year balance sheet, Income statement, Report by congregational unit (February 1 through January 31), Completed audit/compilation/review, Year-to-date congregational unit reports, Board-approved proposed bet • Present all financial reports and a proposed budget at your synodical convention.

Job Description for Board Members:

Attend Board Meetings and support the Executive Board

Organize and run Justice Event and Fall Fun Event depending on which committee you are on

Help with yearly SWO Convention

RESOLUTION FORM
Northeastern PA Synod Women of the ELCA
Thirty Sixth Annual Convention June 13, 2026

Date _____ Resolution # _____ (assigned by Committee)

Delegate's Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Women of the ELCA Unit:
Congregation _____ Town _____

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: _____

WHEREAS:

RESOLVED:

Signature(s) of Voting Member(s)

