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TASHA SCHUH
will keynote … Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization Annual Convention … October 11, 2014 Mt. Hope Lutheran Church 8633 W. Becher Street … West Allis, WI

Tasha Schuh, Inspirational Speaker and Author from Ellsworth, Wisconsin, will share her message of “Little is Huge”.

Tasha Schuh, after showcasing her talent as the lead in her high school’s production of Grease, began to dream of a career in theater. No one knew that the stage itself would steal her dream—and almost her life—during a rehearsal for the next big show.

Just days before her opening night performance in The Wizard of Oz, sixteen year-old Tasha took one step backward and fell sixteen feet through a trap door. On that day, Nov. 11, 1997, she landed on the concrete floor of the historic Sheldon Theater, breaking her neck, crushing her spinal cord, and fracturing her skull. She would never walk again.

For the next three days, Tasha prepared for a surgery that would at best leave her a C-5 quadriplegic. Post-op complications turned Tasha’s struggle and ultimate triumph into an unbelievable journey. From loss and grief to self-discovery and achievement, Tasha’s faith, resilience, and honesty have allowed her to leave the old Tasha behind while she confronts the new Tasha’s life from a state of the art wheelchair.

Survivor, believer, fighter, Tasha is an inspiration, and hope for all who face life’s greatest challenges. She was the recipient of the 2012 National Rehabilitation Champion Award and was Ms. Wheelchair USA 2012-13. Tasha travels and shares her story of resilience and triumph over tragedy. She lives in Ellsworth, WI with her husband Doug Michaels, former Eau Claire TV meteorologist.

See more Convention Information on page 2
Convention Registration Form is on page 3

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.
27th Annual SWO Convention
Saturday, October 11, 2014
Mt. Hope Lutheran Church
8633 W. Becher Street
West Allis, WI

THEME: **BOLD WOMEN LAUGH**

Verses: Proverbs 31:25-26

*Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.*

Registration opens at 7:30 AM … Delegate Orientation is at 8:15 AM
Convention begins at 8:30 AM

Our 27th Annual Convention is shaping up to be one exciting day filled with inspiration, laughs, good food and fellowship. Non-delegates will have the opportunity to attend two workshops … one is in the morning while the delegates tend to SWO business and in the afternoon everyone will be able to participate in a workshop.

While the Convention Committee is still in the process to making plans, we are excited to be able to announce the following workshops:

1. **FACE TO FACE WITH BISHOP JEFF:** This is the opportunity for our Bishop to bring us up-to-date with what is going on in the Greater Milwaukee Synod. This also gives the women the chance to ask the Bishop questions. We are so grateful that Bishop Jeff takes time from his busy schedule to be with us.

2. **LAUGH YOUR WAY TO GRACE:** Have you been lulled into believing that humor is inappropriate or disrespectful in spiritual realms—maybe even blasphemous? If so, ask yourself this … inappropriate according to whom? Laughter was honored by the ancients as a spiritual healing tool and celebrated by the world’s great religions. So why aren’t we laughing along the spiritual path today? What would happen if we did? (from the book cover, “Laugh Your Way to Grace written by The Rev. Susan Sparks who will be a featured speaker at the Triennial Gathering) In our discussion we will explore these questions and see how laughter can and should be part of our faith journey. If you haven’t read the book that is OK, our discussion will still have something for you. Who doesn’t want to “Laugh Your Way to Grace”?

**PRESENTER: Jody Smiley** who serves on the Churchwide Executive Board and will be with us as the Churchwide Representative. Coming from Blacksburg, Virginia where she is very active in her local congregation and serves on the Virginia Tech Lutheran Campus Ministry Committee. Jody is a fan of most sports and plays softball on her church’s team.

3. **BOLD WOMEN LAUGH:** God endowed us with the gifts of laughter and joy and is pleased when we share them. The spiritual work of InterPlay is to laugh, have fun, and be joyful. In the practices of InterPlay, we connect with our whole self: body, mind and spirit. Together we create a new community. InterPlay is interactive, experiential—and for people of all ages and abilities. Workshop participants will be wise women who dare with each other to laugh boldly.

**PRESENTER: The Rev. Susan Bowen** who is a Board Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC) and an ordained Lutheran minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America since 1996. She served three congregations in the Greater Milwaukee Synod and currently serves a call to Specialized Ministries at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee. She enjoys designing floral art pieces, entering floral competitions, photography, and trying healthy recipes. Susan was first introduced to InterPlay at an APC Conference and is completing her leadership curriculum. Susan and husband Thom enjoy cooking and gardening together, live in Racine and have two cats, Phantom and Hazelnut.

Watch for your September Gleanings for more Workshop opportunities
Registration Form
Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization 27th Annual Convention

“BOLD WOMEN LAUGH”
Saturday, October 11, 2014
Mt. Hope Lutheran Church
8633 W. Becher Street
West Allis, Wisconsin 53227

Early Bird Registration (must be postmarked by Saturday, August 30, 2014) ... $50.00
Beginning Sunday, August 31, 2014 ... $60.00
There are no registration refunds ... you can, however, transfer your registration to another person

Do you have any special needs or dietary requests?

All registrations will be acknowledged by e-mail, if e-mail address is provided.
Check one: [ ] I am a Delegate [ ] I am not a Delegate
(Registration deadline is September 30, 2014)

Send this form (which may be duplicated as necessary) and a check made payable to the Women of the ELCA to:

Jan Fox, Registrar
4130 South Carnaby Lane
New Berlin, WI 53151
262-782-5680

Is Child Care Needed _____yes _____no
If answer is yes ... what is the age of the child/children

By registering for this event, you give Women of the ELCA permission to use your image (picture) & comments in educational, informational and promotional materials in a variety of media, including electronic media.

If overnight lodging is needed: 10 rooms have been reserved at the Days Inn West at 1673 S. 108th St. (Hwy 100) in West Allis for Friday, October 10th at a cost of $56. You must make your own reservation - call 1-414-778-2200.

Four Convention Scholarships are available ... see form on next page 4
$50.00 Convention Scholarships will be awarded to four (4) women
To attend the Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization 27th Annual Convention

Saturday, October 11, 2014

Mt. Hope Lutheran Church
8633 W. Becher Street
West Allis, WI

Please print

Name__________________________________________________________________________________

Address___________________________________________________________________________________________
(street) (city) (Zip)

E-Mail__________________________________________________________________________________________ Phone_______________________________

Church________________________________________ City__________________________

I am applying for this scholarship because financially I could not attend the Convention without it.
This is the first time I’ve attended the SWO Convention ____yes ____no

Please sign your name_________________________________________________________ Date______________

Reason for requesting a scholarship_________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

______________

♦ Scholarship requests must be postmarked no later than Wednesday, September 10, 2014.
♦ Those who indicate a financial need will be given a higher priority and delegates will be given preference over non-delegates.
♦ Applicants must be a member of an official congregational UNIT (have Bible Studies, devotions and contribute to the SWO regular offerings).
♦ Scholarship requests will be reviewed by the SWO Executive Committee and recipients will be notified by Saturday, September 20th.
♦ If for some reason a scholarship recipient is unable to attend the convention she is expected to return the $50.
♦ Those who apply for a scholarship, and are not awarded one, may still register for the early bird $50 fee.

Please complete this form and mail to Convention Registrar

Jan Fox
4130 South Carnaby Lane
New Berlin, WI 53151
Treasurer’s Report … April 30, 2014

Receipts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Actual YTD</th>
<th>2014 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board Offerings</td>
<td>$91.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Funds</td>
<td>$814.04</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Offerings</td>
<td>$1,175.85</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention Offering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention Registration</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$4,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Event/Retreat</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Event/Retreat Registrations</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Designated Income</td>
<td>$1,155.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,235.89</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,850.00</strong></td>
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Disbursements

<table>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board Offering Disbursements</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Offerings to CWO</td>
<td>$739.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention Offering Disbursement</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retreat Offering Disbursement</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Expense</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program I Mission Growth</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program II Mission Community</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program III Mission Action</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program IV &amp; V Executive Com &amp; Brd</td>
<td>$375.19</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program VI Convention Committee</td>
<td>$862.50</td>
<td>$4,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program VII Clusters</td>
<td>$109.73</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program VIII Financial Matters</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program IX Newsletter</td>
<td>$503.15</td>
<td>$1,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program X Special Events</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program XI Scholarships</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Synod Conv.</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Triennial</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Retreat</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program XII Anti-Racism</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program XIII Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$84.44</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triennial Promoter</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Disbursements</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,674.77</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,850.00</strong></td>
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</table>

Assets

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWO Checking</td>
<td>$11,732.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWO Savings</td>
<td>$1,680.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Deposit (moved to MIF)</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Investment Fund</td>
<td>$2,863.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,276.58</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Designated Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Unit Offering</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Offering</td>
<td>$156.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Ministries</td>
<td>$74.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Offering</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship-Synod Convention</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Triennial Conv.</td>
<td>$1,210.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Retreat</td>
<td>$303.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Investment Fund</td>
<td>$2,863.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpected Expense</td>
<td>$325.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Designated Funds</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,331.47</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds Available in Checking and savings</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,292.03</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funds Available</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,292.03</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You are invited to contribute to the offering that will be collected at the opening worship of the 9th Triennial Convention. The churchwide executive board has designated this offering to be distributed in three ways, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, will receive 25 percent of the offering. Another 25 percent will go to On Eagle’s Wings Ministries, a North Carolina-based organization that restores women and girls who have been sexually exploited through the commercial sex industry. The final 50 percent will go to the ongoing churchwide ministries of Women of the ELCA. These designations were made in response to memorials on related topics that were adopted at the 8th Triennial Convention in 2011.

You and your congregational unit can participate in this offering. Mail it to the churchwide office (8765 Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL 60631-4101) and your unit’s gift will be publicly recognized during the convention.

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A Message from the Synodical Women’s Organization President

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”
Matthew 18:3

Sisters in Christ,

Just a few days ago my June issue of the Gather magazine arrived and as I looked at the cover, and especially the word “GATHER” I thought about our Synodical Women Organization. We gather together with our family and friends … we gather together in our churches to worship the one true God … we gather together in circles to study the Holy Scriptures … we gather together for our Annual SWO Convention … and in a few weeks many of us will gather together in Charlotte, North Carolina for the Ninth Triennial Convention and Gathering.

I am excited about our upcoming Convention on October 11th when we gather at Mt. Hope Lutheran Church.

I’ve had the privilege to hear our key-note speaker, Tasha Schuh. WOW! What an inspirational young woman she is! If you are one of those women who always attends the SWO Convention, you will go away feeling blessed for attending. This year invite other women to attend with you - in addition to hearing Tasha, there will be exciting workshops (see page 2) for you to attend; a luncheon prepared by the women (and men) from Mt. Hope Lutheran Church; time for a little shopping (The Faith and Giggles Bookstore will be with us, Fair Trade items as well as some things made by Mt. Hope’s Ageless Fellowship Group). In addition to all of that, we’ll squeeze in some SWO business and be entertained by the Cream City Crooners (a Barbershop Quartet). During the day we’ll receive an offering which will be divided in this manner: one half (50%) will be sent to Churchwide … one-fourth (1/4) will be sent to Lutheran Campus Ministries right here in Milwaukee and one-fourth (1/4) will stay in out SWO treasury. There will be in-kind gifts to bring for the Good Samaritan Outreach Center in West Allis, a complete list of those items will appear in the September Gleanings.

As we gather for our Annual Convention one piece of business we must take care of is that of electing new SWO Board members. Executive Committee positions which will need to be filled are Vice-President and Secretary. We’ll also be electing five Board members to fill the positions of Convention Intern, Mission Team, Anti-Racism and Congregational/Cluster Liaison. Our “nominating Committee” does not know everyone so I encourage you to step forward and say “here I am, use me”. Or if you know someone you that you feel would be a good candidate please talk with that person and ask for permission to submit their name. Prayer consider this challenge and fill out the form on page 7 and return it to Marilyn Day.

A Recipe for Super ELCA Women … Bake at 98.6º for a lifetime

Ingredients: House managers
Young Moms
Working Ladies
Senior Citizens

Utensils: Lots of mixing bowls … all shapes, sizes, colors, ages to be considered and cared for
Dull spoon, ingredients are gentle
Thermometer - individual temperatures run from high to low
Pans … church, hospital, retreat center, grocery store, anybody’s home, etc.

General preparation:
1. Does the SWO Board know what their texture and nutrition is?
2. Check the tone and flavor of those who are active … what makes them appealing?
3. Are all available ingredients (talent, resource) blending together?
4. Where is the Word … the main ingredient for any church recipe?

Prepare to add:
1. Sugar for sweetness, laughter.
2. Salt for taste, discernment, honesty.
3. Water for tears, joy and grief.
4. Spices for variety, uniqueness of individuals.
5. Flour for stick-to-it-ness
6. Yeast for reaching and activating.
7. Eggs for good yoks, sense of humor.

The above concoction may need:
1. Refrigeration - cooling off legitimate disagreements between individuals.
2. Re-heating-warming up to persons who turn each other off.
3. Patient watching-awareness of God’s great recipe of life, that all persons are special ingredients.
4. Avoid over-baking and half-baked shortcuts.

Serving suggestions: “Where two or three are gathered together in my name….“ with gladness, affirmation and loving acceptance - we gather together.

Betty Warber, President
NOMINATION FORM FOR SWO BOARD POSITIONS

For an organization to function to its fullest, leadership is needed. The Nomination Committee is in the process of preparing a slate of nominees, to serve in the leadership roles of the Women of the ELCA within our Greater Milwaukee Synod. These leaders will be elected during the Annual SWO Convention October 11, 2014. Please talk to a woman who you feel is gifted & Talented and, with her permission, send that name to the Nomination Committee person:

Marilyn Day at W279 N8512 N Twin Pine Circle, Hartland, WI 53029

Thank you for your prayers and consideration of this request. The Synodical Women’s Organization (SWO) will continue to grow because of your help.

Positions needed to be filled in 2013

_____Vice-President (2 year term)                 _____Secretary (2 year term)                  _____ Board Member (2 year terms )

Name of Nominee___________________________________________________________________________________________

Address of Nominee_________________________________________________________________________________________

Street                                                                                      City                      Zip Code

Home Phone (___)                                                                 Work Phone (___)________

Age Range

_____34 or under     _____35-49     _____50-64     _____65 or older

Ethnic Racial Heritage

______Native American   _______Asian       _______Black       _______Caucasian       _______Hispanic       _______other

Primary Language besides English______________________________________________________________________________

Name of Congregation_______________________________________________________________________________________

Address of Congregation—___________________________________________________________________________________

–——————————————————————————————————————

Street                                                                                      City                                                Zip Code

Experience Beginning with the most recent, please list significant experience in each area:

Occupational History________________________________________________________________________________________

Local Congregation Women’s Unit/Cluster/Synodical or Churchwide Women’s Organization or local ELCA Congregation/ELCA Cluster, Synod/Churchwide

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Other organizations________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Special Gifts and Talents_____________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Form Submitted by__________________________________________________________________________________________

Name                                                                      Address

Phone Number

Name/Address of Congregation________________________________________________________________________________

Note: Only one name may be submitted per congregation, Please obtain permission before submitting nominee’s name.

Please return by August 15, 2014 to …. Marilyn Day …. W279 N8512 Twin Pine Circle … Hartland, WI 53029
e-mail: mday17@wi.rr.com    cell phone # 414-388-4535
As of this writing, 30 women from the Greater Milwaukee Synod will be attending the Ninth Triennial Gathering in Charlotte, North Carolina this coming July. There is still time for you to register but I encourage you to send your paperwork in as soon as possible. It is important for the Churchwide Planning Committee to know the total number of attendees as they put the final touches on the many aspects for this event.

Whether or not you will be at the Triennial, here are a few things you can do to be a participant:

**Pray** for those who will be there, including the five delegates that will be representing all of us at the Convention from our Greater Milwaukee Synod: Betty Warber, President, Delegates Marilyn Day, Char Giuliani, Mary Ellen Kiesner and Caitlin Vang.

**A Prayer Shawl Collection** is again one of the outreach efforts of the Triennial. Ask the knitters in your church to contribute to the collection. After you have collected a dozen (or whatever number) pack them up and send them to: Women of the ELCA, Prayer Shawl Collection, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101 between May 15 and June 15, 2014.

**In-Kind Gifts** can also be contributed by your congregation. Set-up a collection box or bin in your narthex, ask your church secretary to put an article in your Bulletins or Newsletter and mail the items collected to: Women of the ELCA, In-Kind Gifts, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101 between May 15 and June 15, 2014. Choose In-Kind gifts from the following list:

- **Gift cards** (minimum $10) from Target, Walmart or K-mart. **Visa Cards** are also welcome. **Pre-paid phone cards** in any amount.
- **Hygiene Items** for women, teen girls & boys, such as Body Wash, deodorant (no aerosol cans), shampoo and conditioners, hair gels, moisturizers, toothbrushes in their original packaging, toothpaste, dental floss, disposables razors, feminine hygiene products, wide-toothed hair combs and brushes. **Clothing** for women, teen girls and boys, such as socks and underwear are needed in any size or color. Bras in any size are also needed for women and teen girls.

You might wish to just donate something on a personal level. That, too, would be very much appreciated. Perhaps you could find someone going to Triennial to take your item(s) with them, especially the smaller, lighter ones.

Call or e-mail me with and questions. Best wishes and thank you.

**Carole Ropel, Triennial Promoter** ... 262-523-4130 caroleropel@wi.rr.com

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**2014 TRIENNIAL T-SHIRT INFORMATION AND ORDER FORM**

The deadline for ordering your Triennial T-Shirt is June 3, 2014. Wearing the special shirt at Triennial is fun and helps to identify us as a group. We apologize that the photo of the shirt below does not show up very well. It is a purple with variegated pink and a cross on the left side of the shirt with the cross highlighted in white. Detail is being done by Mike Murphy, who is from the Kenosha area. The cost is $20.

If you would want to see a colored picture of the shirt, please provide me with your e-mail address and I will forward it on to you. You will receive your shirt in early July.

---

| Print Your Name |
| Print Mailing Address | Street/City/Zip Code |
| Print Phone Number | Print E-Mail Address |

**Circle Size of Shirt that You Are Ordering:** Small  Medium  Large  Extra Large

Mail Your $20 check Made Payable to: Carole Ropel  
N22 W24233A Range Line Road  
Pewaukee, WI 53072

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In this season of graduations … some of Kindergarten … some from Middle School … some from High School and others from College let us give thanks for all educational opportunities. We also pause for a moment to congratulate all those, who in this month of June, will graduate from the Diakonia Program - especially Caitlin Vang, one of our SWO delegates to the Ninth Triennial Convention.

THE LEGEND OF THE CAP AND GOWN

Long ago, in ancient Greece, when formal education was for the very rich or the very determined, a wise old teacher was approached by a group of noblemen. “Our sons have completed their studies and it is time for them to return to their homes and live in the style befitting their station. Tomorrow we will present them at a great banquet. Be sure they are appropriately dressed in their finest robes and jewels.”

The following day, the banquet hall was filled with royalty and nobility dressed in dazzling finery. The great moment came when the students entered with their beloved teacher. A cry arose from the crowd, for there were their young men dressed, not in the garments of the noble, but in simple sack-cloth robes, each carrying a mortar board - the mark of a common workman.

“What is the meaning of this?” cried the noblemen. “Our sons were to be dressed in their finest garments!” The wise teacher replied, “but they are! Your sons are dressed in the clothing of the mason, for their destiny is to build. Some will build cities, some will build lives - but all will be builders on the solid foundation of knowledge.”

And to this day all graduates wear a cap and gown proudly, symbolizing the value of education, and the fact that they are builders of their future and the future of our world.

Lutheran World Relief Quilt Campaign

We didn’t quite make the goal of 500,000 quilts in 2013 and yet LWR writes “it’s a celebration!” The warehouse workers have counted 436,584 which means that hundreds of thousands of people around the world will be wrapped in tangible symbols of God’s love. Thousands of people here in the United States discovered the joy of serving their neighbor through quilting. Bonds have been created, renewed and strengthened and ministries have flourished. For these gifts, LWR says, “thank you. Let’s celebrate together”.

HIS NEW SUIT
An e-mail story Submitted by Jan Fox

In January, leaders in Charlotte, North Carolina, invited their favorite son, 95-year old Billy Graham to a luncheon in his honor. Billy initially hesitated to accept the invitation because he struggles with Parkinson’s disease. But the Charlotte leaders said, “we don’t expect a major address. Just come and let us honor you … so Billy agreed. After wonderful things were said about him, Dr. Graham stepped to the rostrum, looked at the crowd and said: “I’m reminded today of Albert Einstein, the great physicist who this month has been honored by Time magazine as the Man of the century. Einstein was once traveling from Princeton on a train, when the conductor came down the aisle, punching the tickets of every passenger, When he came to Einstein, Einstein reached in his vest pocket. He couldn’t find his ticket, so he reached in his trouser pockets - it wasn’t there. He looked in his briefcase but couldn’t find it. Then he looked in the seat beside him and still couldn’t find it.

The conductor said, “Dr. Einstein, I know who you are. We all know who you are. I’m sure you bought a ticket so don’t worry about it. Einstein nodded appreciatively. The conductor continued down the aisle punching tickets. As he was ready to move to the next car, he turned around and saw the great physicist down on his hands and knees looking under his seat for the ticket. The conductor rushed back and said, “Dr. Einstein, don’t worry I know who you are, no problem, you don’t need a ticket.

Einstein looked at him and said, “young man, I too, know who I am. What I don’t know is where I’m going.”

Having said that Billy Graham continued, “see the suit I’m wearing? It’s brand new. My children and grandchildren are telling me I’ve gotten a little slovenly in my old age. I used to be a bit more fastidious. So I went out and bought a new suit for this luncheon and one more occasion. You know what that occasion is? This is the suit in which I’ll be buried. But when you hear I’m dead, I don’t want you to immediately remember the suit I’m wearing, I want you to remember this: “I not only know who I am. I also know where I’m going.”

May your troubles be less, your blessings more, and may nothing but happiness come through your door. “Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil - it has no point.”
WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Old & New Testament

PASTOR ALEXIS TWITO
Weekend Worship & Bible Study Leader
Pastor Alexis is the senior pastor of Capitol Drive LC, a small congregation in northwest Milwaukee.

Throughout her life she has experienced the incredible and radical gift of God’s grace and love, especially at the times when she felt she deserved it the least. And in it all, the church was there as the sanctuary it’s always been intended to be. The place where she was protected, valued, and empowered. The place where she knew she belonged and where she was affirmed and challenged. Church was a nourishing culture of grace for her.

As Pastor she seeks to be a voice in the dark, sounding out the love of Christ to a world that so desperately needs to hear: “You are forgiven.” “I have called you mine.” “I love you, just as you are.”

Interests include social justice, urban ministry, freelance writing, and working with youth and young adults.

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625 N. 104th Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
Ph: 414-258-6362 call with any questions

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WI Christian Women’s Retreat Group

A receipt will be returned to you confirming your reservation including suggestions of what to pack and what you might need to know.

Four $50 retreat scholarships are available. Call Nancy Sack, 414-545-5434, to apply.
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Please circle registration payment enclosed:

Evergreen Lodge includes bedding & towels in a semi-private room. Limited number available. Register Early! Air—controlled.

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<td>Evergreen lodge @ $130</td>
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# Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Betty Warber (2015)</td>
<td>6517 Williamsburg Way, Mount Pleasant, WI 53406</td>
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<tr>
<td>resource</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cell: 262-886-8918 <a href="mailto:betty@warber.net">betty@warber.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hephatha LC - Milwaukee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td></td>
<td>67517 Williamsburg Way, Mount Pleasant, WI 53426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register</td>
<td>Jan Fox (2014)</td>
<td>4130 South Carnaby Lane, New Berlin, WI 53151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constitution</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cell: 262-782-5680 <a href="mailto:jcnfx@aol.com">jcnfx@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ascension LC - Milwaukee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Marilyn Smithyman (2014)</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Sue Seidemann (2015)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offerings</td>
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<td>St. Peter LC - Sheboygan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conv. Chair</td>
<td>Ginny Oistad (2014)</td>
<td>3906 S. Woodhill Court, New Berlin, WI 53151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conv. Intern</td>
<td>Donna Yourell (2015)</td>
<td>S70 W14846 Dartmouth Circle, Muskego, WI 53150</td>
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<td>Conv. Liaison</td>
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<td>414-422-1837 Cell: 414-531-9641 <a href="mailto:dyourell@wi.rr.com">dyourell@wi.rr.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster Liaison</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. John LC - Brookfield</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## BOARD MEMBERS

### Mission Team
- **Vivian Johnson (2015)**
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  - Cell: 414-736-0368 VivianHouston10@yahoo.com
  - All Peoples LC - Milwaukee

### Mission Team
- **Arnita Spade (2015)**
  - 3508 N. 15th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53206
  - Incarnation LC - Milwaukee

### Anti-Racism Co-Chair
- **Gayle Cameron (2015)**
  - 8828 West Waterford Square South, Greenfield, WI 53228
  - Cell: 262-914-9083 gcameron23@yahoo.com
  - Whitnall Park LC - Hales Corners

### Anti-Racism Co-Chair
- **Pastor Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld (2014)**
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### Joint Cluster
- **Nancy Sack**
  - 414-545-5434 nsack@att.net

### Triennial Gathering Promoter
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betty@warber.net
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