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.

Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization Convention

Saturday, October 13, 2018

St. John Lutheran Church
20275 Davidson Road
Brookfield, WI 53045

Theme: WOMEN CREATE CHANGE

“When anyone is joined to Christ, she is a new being: the old is gone the new has come.”
Theme Verse from 2 Corinthians 5:17 TEV

SPECIAL OFFER FOR 1st TIME CONVENTION ATTENDEES
$35.00 due by Monday, September 24th
See Registration Form on Page 4

The 31st Annual SWO Convention will open with registration beginning at 7:30 AM. Then there will be a time of “meet and greet” friends over a cup of coffee (provided by the gracious hospitality of women from St. John’s) before the exciting opening Worship Service at 8:30 AM with Pastor Angela T. Khabeb preaching.

Pastor Angela did her undergrad work at Carthage College and completed seminary at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago where she won the James Kenneth Echols Prize for Excellence in Preaching.

She is originally from Omaha, Nebraska but has lived in many other cities like, Chicago, Denver, Kenosha and Springfield, MO. From 2000-2002 she served as an ELCA Missionary in Namibia, Africa where she met and married her husband, Benhi.

The Khabeb’s have been married for sixteen years and have three wonderful children, Konami, Khenna, and Khonni. In their spare time this vibrant family enjoys world music, creative writing, leisurely walks and bike riding.
Keala Simoes was elected to the executive board of Women of the ELCA in July 2017. She serves on the constitutional review committee.

Born and raised in Hawaii, she is of Hawaiian, Filipino and English heritage. Keala and her husband, Gerard, became Lutherans 20 years ago when they were looking for a church in which to raise their son, Geramiah, who has since graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and is a marine officer stationed at Pendleton, California.

Gerard was a Catholic and Keala a Methodist. “The friendly and welcoming St. John Lutheran Church in Kailua quickly won us over, and we became the Lutheran family we are now,” she said.

After joining the church, Keala served on the church council several times. She convinced her husband to serve on the building and grounds committee, a position “he has yet to leave.”

Keala has served on the Pacifica SWO (2C) board as board member and vice president. She served as chair of the Women of the ELCA convention in Hawaii.

She has bachelor’s and master’s degrees in communication from the University of Hawaii. Since 1988, Keala and her husband have owned Motor Werkes Inc., an auto repair shop specializing in Porsches, BMWs and Mercedes.

Keala remains involved in areas of social concerns and has organized “Parties with a Purpose” with women in her church and community.

“These parties are made up of Lutheran women and women outside of the church,” she said. “They are fun social get togethers that also accomplish living the love of Christ by collecting canned goods, gowns for high school girls, and toys for tots.”

Keala looks forward to encouraging her Lutheran sisters to "have fun" while they do God's work.

Kathy serves a two-point Parish
Peace Bethlehem in Cobb and Crystal Rock in Fennimore, WI

Kathy has worked in various forms of ministry over the past 20-years, from youth and Christian education coordinator to Campus Ministry, rural Parish Ministry to Hospice Chaplain. However, her true passion is writing and she is the author of four (4) published books … Noted! “Faithful Fiction” series. She is now working on book number 5—Footnotes.

Kathy is married and the mother of 3 “twenty-something” children.

In addition to speaking, Kathy will lead a workshop (more details will be in the September Gleanings.

Kathy’s books will be on display so you’ll be able to purchase any that you want.

Kathy recently contributed to the Augsburg Fortress Publication, The Word in Season. She will have fourteen devotions in the July-September issue.

WORKSHOPS and PRESENTERS

IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct) … Presenter: Carla Schultz, IRIS Consultant with the IRIS Agency which is part of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan, Inc.

Carla began her career in social services over 29 years ago. She has a desire to help people maintain their quality of living in the most independent setting possible. Empowering people to not just survive, but to live their life to the fullest. She is eager to assist participants in creating a plan that helps them succeed in their career, health and personal life. She has a son who has grown because of services available through IRIS and is excited to offer the services to participants. Navigating all the resources available can be overwhelming and challenging … Carla is excited to be part of helping you do this.
“Styles that Flatter your Figure” … Presenter: Cheryl Groth.
After receiving a degree in Marketing and Fashion Merchandising, Cheryl has continued in the Fashion Industry for 30+ years. She enjoys seeing women of all shapes and sizes feel good about themselves as they experiment with new fashion looks for their body type. Teaming up with Women’s organizations throughout the past 15 years has been exciting and rewarding for Cheryl.

“Street Angels” … Presenter: Shelly Sarasin
Shelly is a co-founder with Eva Welch, of Street Angels. These ladies were volunteering at a warming station in Milwaukee and they got to know a few of the guests and worried about them when the station closed. So, they started loading food and other supplies into Shelley’s car and driving around looking for them. Eventually they got to know the bridges under which the homeless slept. They visited camps hidden in the woods etc. They formed an all-volunteer group called Street Angels.

We’ll offer other workshops … Face-to-Face with Bishop Paul Erickson … Face-to-Face with our Churchwide Rep, Keala Simoes and a afternoon workshop with our keynote speaker, Pastor Kathy Jacobson. More information in our September Gleanings.

CONVENTION OFFERINGS

1/2 of all offerings received will be sent to Churchwide
1/4 of all offerings will be sent to The Street Angles Project
1/4 of all offerings will stay in the Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organizations’ Treasury

IN-KIND-GIFTS

QUESTION: What is the “In-Kind-Gifts” that we bring to our Conventions?
ANSWER: Those are the “material type of gifts” that we bring for a specific cause/charity.

This year our In-Kind-Gifts will be for Hephatha Lutheran Church’s STRONG BABY SANCTUARY. It is through this ministry that we join other faith communities at setting babies, mothers, fathers and families as a TOP PRIORITY.

Hephatha Strong Baby Sanctuary serves through … monthly Women/Moms Gatherings. Those attending monthly gatherings receive diapers and wipes. We have an Infant Pantry which provides emergency infant supplies to families in need. We also provide Strong Baby Boxes which are filled with infant supplies and reference manuals to each expectant/new mom who completes Milwaukee educational syllabus through Baby Box University.

The In-Kind-Gifts we are requesting are…
1. Diapers (sizes newborn, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
2. Onesies (sizes newborn through 12 months)
3. Digital Thermometers with covers
4. Baby head-to-toe wash
5. Baby hooded bath towels
6. Baby wash cloths
7. Baby blankets
8. Baby snugglers

If you want more information about this project, please contact Nurse Louise at 414-331-1794
or e-mail her at strongbabyh@gmail.com
Early Bird Registration (must be postmarked by Wednesday August 15, 2018… $50.00)
Beginning Thursday, August 16th Registration will be $60.00

SPECIAL OFFER TO FIRST TIME ATTENDEES: REGISTRATION FEE IS $35.00

There are no registration refunds … you can, however, transfer your registration to another person

Do you have any special needs or dietary requests? ______________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

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
e-mail: jcnfx@aol.com

All registrations will be acknowledged by e-mail, if e-mail address is provided.
Check one: [ ] I am a Voting Member [ ] I am not a Voting Member
(Registration deadline is Monday, September 24, 2018)

Name_________________________________________ Phone________________________________
Address_________________________________________________________________________________________
City_________________________________________ State____________________ Zip___________________________
E-Mail Address___________________________________________________________________________________
Your Church_________________________________________ City_________________________________________

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.

A block of rooms have been reserved at the Quality Inn for those who want overnight lodging on Friday, October 12th. Please contact Lona Eubanks at 414-368-3363 for more details.
CONGRATULATIONS TO

PASTOR VIVIANE THOMAS-BREITFELD

ELECTED BISHOP OF SOUTH-CENTRAL SYNOD OF WISCONSIN

On May 6th, during the Synod Assembly, at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells, Pastor Viviane was elected to a six-year term as Bishop. Pastor Viviane is the second African American woman to be a Bishop in the ELCA.

Pastor Viviane served on our Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization Board for seven years … four of those years as our Spiritual Advisor and three as a Board Member.

We hold Pastor Viviane in prayer as she prepares for her installation on August 18th at First Lutheran Church in Janesville, WI.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church (Wauwatosa, WI) Ships Warmth from Wisconsin:

The Stitches of Love quilt ministry at St. Matthew’s has created a special connection with the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Because many reservation residents don’t have adequate heat in the winter, Bev Etzemueller led a Thrivent Action Team of ministry members to organize and run a drive for warm items. They collected afghans, fleece blankets, bedding, hats and mittens … enough to fill six large boxes. Seed money covered the cost of shipping.

This article will be published in the September Thrivent Magazine.

Every three years, 30,000 youth (and their adult leaders) from across the ELCA gather for a week of faith formation known as THE ELCA Youth Gathering. This year this event will be held in the diverse host city of Houston June 27th through July 1st.

This year The Gathering has recognized the need to lift up literacy in Houston. Building a foundation of literacy starts before entering Kindergarten. Students who read at home become strong writers, critical thinkers, and more successful students than those who do not. Houston Independent School Districts estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. This means the students begin each school year at a disadvantage. Thus, the BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS campaign was born.

At our April 21st Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization’s regular Board Meeting we discussed this issue and what was the best way to show support for the youth in our Synod? Because there is a list of forty specific children’s books this campaign is asking to be donated (you can request this list from the Greater Milwaukee Synod Office), we made the decision to give the campaign $500 to purchase the requested books.

We spent a great deal of time in making the decision of sending a check … doing this enabled all of the money to go toward books without paying shipping costs etc. etc.

To those of you reading this Gleanings, please remember that it’s through your monetary gifts to the SWO that allows us to make these decisions. That said, it’s not the Board who is making this gift, it’s all of the women who participate in Women of the ELCA Program.

Judy Lee Tarbox

Thank you for your dedicated service to our SWO

Because of health issues, Judy Lee has resigned from the SWO Board’s Mission Team. Our sincere appreciation for her energetic work. We continue to hold you in prayer as you continue treatment for cancer.
A MESSAGE FROM THE SWO PRESIDENT

Sisters in Christ,

At long last it looks like spring is finally here! I’m so glad and I’m sure you are too. Some of our members have struggled with all those snow storms, some have become a bit snowbound, stuck in their houses. It’s so nice that all of us can finally see better temperatures and no snow. Next we’ll be complaining about the amount of rain. I think we’ve gone from drought conditions to so much rain that some of us have seen flooding in their areas. With these thoughts I was reminded that water nourishes all living things. We have been nourished with the waters of baptism. Those waters have cleansed us, made us whole, and given us the name, child of God. Thank you, God, for the waters of baptism.

Your synodical board has been busy planning for our convention to be held on October 13th at St. John’s in Brookfield. You will not want to miss hearing from our keynote speaker, Pastor Kathy Jacobson. She was with the women who attended the camping weekend at Pine Lake Camp last August and I’ve heard many wonderful comments about her. You’ll also not want to miss the preaching of Pastor Angela Khabeb during our worship service. She is a powerful preacher and we’re grateful that she is able to be with us. The churchwide representative for this year’s convention will be Keala Simoes. She lives in Hawaii on the island of Oahu. She will bring greetings from the Churchwide Board and also give a workshop. Pastor Jacobson will be giving a workshop also.

At the convention in October the voting members will need to vote for new officers for the positions of secretary and vice-president. The voting members will also need to vote for three at-large board positions. Please prayerfully think about an individual in your unit who would be a good candidate for one of these positions, ask the person if she would prayerfully consider being nominated. Nomination forms will be in our “Gleanings” newsletter or can be obtained by contacting our secretary, Betty Warber.

On another note, I want to tell you that your synodical board voted at it’s last meeting to donate $500.00 to purchase books for the in-kind gifts at the Youth Gathering this summer. The board feels strongly that as Women of the ELCA we support our youth. It’s because of all of you that the board is able to give such a gift. Without your support and offerings this would not be possible. Thank you!

President, Sue Seidemann

The ELCA is developing a social statement on WOMEN and JUSTICE. As a church, we are in a period of conversation that gives all members a chance to read and respond to the “Draft Social Statement on Women and Justice” issued by the task force. There are several ways for you, and members of your congregation to share comments and reflections on the text.

If you were able to participate in the May 31st hearing which was held prior to our Synod Assembly… Great! If you were unable to attend this hearing the good news is you will have another opportunity for a second hearing:

Saturday, June 16th at 9:30 AM
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
1615 Wauwatosa Ave … Wauwatosa, WI 53213

A representative of the ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice: One in Christ will be present at the hearings. Former Greater Milwaukee Synod Vice President, Sue Cyr, will serve as the Convener.

Hearing are not debates or even discussions. Participants are led by a convener through the document and have a chance to share their comments and suggestions about each section of the text. An appointed recorder will keep track of everything said (without names) and submit a report to the Task Force. Members of the Task Force will read all the reports as they prepare to revise the text during late fall of 2018. The Task Force will conclude its work by issuing a revised statement in February 2019. To find information on other ways to participate, please visit: ELCA.org/womenandjustice.
Please send your offerings to our SWO Treasurer:

Victoria Mallak
132 S. 92nd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53214

you may also contact Victoria with your questions:
Phone# 414-257-3315
Cell# 414-530-6884
e-mail: Vmallak@wi.rr.com

Remember that the SWO sends one-half (1/2) of all offerings received to Churchwide to carry on the work of Women of the ELCA. Thank you for your faithfulness.
For our SWO to function to its fullest potential, and carry out our Mission Statement, **YOU ARE NEEDED** to step forward and volunteer your services or be prepared to say “**YES**” when contacted to serve on the Board. During the business session of our 2018 Convention we will elect a new Vice-President, a Secretary and Executive Board Members to fill the slots the Mission Team; Anti-Racism Team and someone to serve as the Convention Intern. Prayerfully search your soul, think of your gifts and be prepared to say “**YES**” when contacted to serve our God and the women in the Greater Milwaukee Synod and beyond.

### Positions needed to be filled in 2016

- _____Vice-President (2 year term)
- _____Secretary (2 year term)
- _____Executive Board Members (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____________________________________________________

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

Please return this form by Wednesday, August 15, 2018 to SWO Secretary
Betty Warber … 6517 Williamsburg Way … Mt. Pleasant, WI 53406
**Tripling our life-changing ministry through Katie’s fund**

By Audrey Novak Riley, director of development and stewardship for Women of the ELCA

Last fall, your churchwide board approved an exciting new initiative - The All Anew Campaign for Katie’s Fund - with the goal of tripling our endowed Katie’s Fund by the 2020 Triennial Convention and Gathering. That means tripling the life-changing ministry that Katie’s Fund can make possible!

The total goal of The All Anew Campaign for Katie’s Fund is to grow the fund from its current total of about $1.5 million to $4.5 million by July 2020. Your elected board members and other dedicated women from throughout the church are forming a leadership circle - Katie’s Sisters - to get the All Anew Campaign off to a rousing start, with a goal of raising $1 million in gifts and commitments.

Our friends at the InFaith Foundation are offering their gift-planning expertise to women who’d like to learn more about how they can put their assets to work with a commitment to The All Anew Campaign for Katie’s Fund.

As an endowed fund, the money held in Katie’s Fund is invested carefully to generate income. That annual income - which is generally about 4 percent of the amount invested - may be used by the churchwide women’s organization for leadership development, living theology and global connections. Your generous support of Katie’s Fund, through regular gifts and through The All Anew Campaign for Katie’s Fund, really makes a difference in women’s lives. Thank you and watch for more information about The All Anew Campaign for Katie’s Fund as it become available!

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**SUMMER BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS**

From the Gather Magazine

**PRAYER**

By Anna Madsen

For those using the monthly bible Studies in the Gather Magazine you will find yourself knee-deep in prayer for June, July and August. What better way to spend some quality time, during these lazy days of summer, than with our Heavenly Father in prayer.

June:  Session one - The paradoxes of prayer with the Biblical text from I Samuel 12:16-23.

July:  Session two - The practices of prayer from Psalm 19:14

August:  Session three – The products of prayer Romans 8:26-28

Remember that Gather is only published ten (10) times each year so sessions two & three will both be in the same Gather magazine that will reach your front door before July 1st.

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**A recipe for life**

1 cup of good thoughts
1 cup of kind deeds
1 cup of consideration for others
2 cups of sacrifice for others
3 cups of forgiveness
3 cups of well-beaten faults

Mix above ingredients thoroughly. Add tears of joy, sorrow and sympathy for others. Flavor with little bits of love. Fold in 4 cups of prayer and faith. Pour into daily life and bake well with the heat of human kindness. Serve with a smile.
Pine Lake Women’s Weekend Retreat ~ 2018

Original art by Ted Grenier

Forgiveness

Pastor Alexis Twito ~ Coordinator of the Milwaukee Police Chaplaincy Program through the Salvation Army. Weekend Worship & Bible Study Leader

Theme; Freedom To Forgive

Matthew 18:21-22

21 “Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”
22 Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”

Program; The Power of Forgiveness, by Martin Dobimeier — A moving and multilevel examination of the religious, spiritual, and scientific values of forgiveness.

Ephesians 4:31-32

31 “Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, corrupt talk and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

Pine Lake, Crossways Ministry
Waupaca WI

August 17, Friday pm –
August 19, Sunday Noon

www.crossways2camps.org/pinelake.html

Share this weekend retreat with all of your friends. Please duplicate this brochure and extend an invitation to others.

REGISTRATION: Please complete the registration form below, circle registration payment amount, cut the form along the dotted line and enclose the completed form in an envelope addressed to:

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

Make checks payable to:

WI Christian Women’s Retreat Group

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

Retreat scholarships are available. Call Nancy Sack; 414-545-5434, with questions. Email: nsack@att.net
Due by 7/15/17. First come, first served

Join us for: Sunset Sing & Meditation at Sunset Point, Bible Study, Candlelit Taize Service, Guided Meditations, Book Club, Worship with Communion, Program And Hiking, Swimming, Sistership, Campfire Sing, Massage, and Fair Trade Shopping

Read, “You Will Not Have My Hate” by Antoine Liris ~ Join the Book Club!

To register: Cut along the dotted line, complete the form, make check payable to: WI Christian Women’s Retreat Group
mail with payment in full to KATHY HOLAT, 625 N 104TH ST, WAUWATOSA, WI 53226

NAME: ____________________________________________

ADDRESS: ____________________________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP: ____________________________________________

PHONE: __________________________ EMAIL: ____________________________

MEDICAL / DISABILITIES OR FOOD CONCERNS

CHURCH AFFILIATION: ____________________________

Please circle registration payment enclosed:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration (postmarked by July 24th)</th>
<th>Late Registration (after July 24th)</th>
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<td>Cabin @ $120</td>
<td>Cabin @ $130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evergreen lodge @ $155</td>
<td>Evergreen lodge @ $165</td>
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Register Early! Send me information about the book club selection

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Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Sue Seidemann (2019)
Worship Resource Books
3729 N. 12th Street Sheboygan, WI 53083 920-452-1634 Cell: 920-946-1857
St. Peter LC - Sheboygan

Secretary: Betty Warber (2018)
Historian Books
6517 Williamsburg Way 920-452-1634 Cell: 920-308-2676
St. Peter LC - Sheboygan

Worship Resource Books
5302 Mansfield Drive Cell: 414-421-9249
Sheboygan, WI 53129 St. Stephen the Martyr LC - Greendale

Co. Vice Pres: Jan Fox (2018)
Worship Resource Books
4130 South Carnaby Lane Cell: 262-782-5680
New Berlin, WI 53151 jenfx@aol.com

Treasurer: Victoria Mallak (2019)
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132 S. 92nd Street 414-257-3315 Cell: 414-530-6884
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Mission Team Vivian Johnson (2019)
Cluster/Cong. Liaison Pam Maschke (2018)
W279 N8512 Twin Pine Circle 5271 S. 22nd Street
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mday17@wi.rr.com pamwald13@hotmail.com
St. Matthew LC - Milwaukee St. Stephen the Martyr LC - Greendale

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Cell: 262-305-0829 Trinity LC - West Bend

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Ascension LC - Milwaukee

Convention Intern Lona Eubanks (2019)
10260 W. Terra Ave. Leubanks@sbcglobal.net
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Incarnation LC - Milwaukee

Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women’s Organization
Website: www.greatermilwaukeeswo.org

“Gleanings” is published four times each year
March, June, September and December
Articles for each publication should be submitted by
the first of February, May, August and November
Submit Gleanings articles to Betty Warber
betty@warber.net

Joint Clusters I, II, III, IV Nancy Sack
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Name__________________________________________

Address________________________________________

Congregational Unit________________________________

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