

Newsletter of the La Crosse Area Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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W-ELCA 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.

Women ELCA →

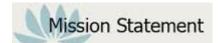
On March 2, 2020, the W-ELCA Synodical Board met at Trinity in Cashton to get ready for the Spring Convention that will be held there on Saturday, April 18. The drive to Cashton is beautiful, with easy access from all directions. Pastor Amanda Schultz Garcia gave us a tour and we were able to decide how everything would be set up. They have lots of space so don't be afraid to bring a car full - or two. We have Nickolas Butler lined up to be our keynote speaker; read more about him in this Crosswinds.

Spread the word; let the public know that the author of <u>Little Faith</u> will be speaking. The public is invited to attend. If they would like to just come to hear Nickolas, there is no need for them to register. A \$10 fee will be collected at the door. If they would like to stay for lunch, which is immediately following the speaker, a reservation call or email would be appreciated so we can plan the meal accordingly. For both the lunch and the speaker, the public would pay the \$20 fee.

Upcoming La Crosse W-ELCA

Synodical Board Dates

April 17, 2020	Set-up for Spring Convention in Cashton
April 18, 2020	Spring Convention, Trinity, Cashton
May 11, 2020	Transitional Meeting, Annex, 5:00pm
May 15, 2020	Crosswinds Articles Deadline
June 1, 2020	Crosswinds Mailed Out



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

President's Letter

Dear friends,

I write these greetings on, perhaps, the coldest day of this winter. We are also blessed with a beautiful sunshiney day to warm us and beat the doldrums of those endless cloudy days. However we rate the day, we know that "this is a day that the Lord hath made. Rejoice and be glad in it."

Greetings on behalf of your synodical board. The board have met multiple times in preparation for the Spring convention coming up April 18th at Trinity in Cashton. All women of the ELCA are encouraged to attend even if your congregation isn't active in the Women of the ELCA. What an opportunity to meet ladies from across the synod, sharing in worship, hearing updates from the churchwide office, meeting your synodical officers and enjoying a wonderful speaker.

If you haven't heard, our keynote speaker is going to be Nicholas Butler, a novelist from the Eau Claire area. Nicholas has written several books, with the landscape being rural Wisconsin, in those I have read. His latest book titled "Little Faith," explores questions and struggles of faith and religion through his characters. Feel free to invite friends from your towns who would be interested in hearing and meeting Nicholas.

Registration forms are included in this issue of the Crosswinds for members and guests with fee of \$20 which includes lunch.

And, of course, we will have some business to attend to in the afternoon. Please note: Elections will be for a two year term for a Vice President, Secretary, East and West board members, as well as a board member at large. If you are asked to accept a nomination for one of these positions, please consider responding with a "sure, I would be honored."

During the plenary session, non-voting members are welcome to attend the plenary, or take part in a planned activity related to the Triennial Gathering coming up in July.

Blessing to you all during the season of Lent. Personal Care projects during Lent are named "Season of Hope." A blessing to the recipients, as well as the givers.

Hope to see many of you in Cashton on April 18th. Jo Ann

Registration Form 2020 Spring Convention

Theme: "By God's Grace, We Are Called" Verse: 1 Peter 4:10

April 18, 2020

Trinity Lutheran Church

539 South Street Cashton, W 608-654-5236

8:00 am Registration

9:00 am Worship 3:30 pm Closing of Convention

Congregation Name	Confe	rence
1) Name		
Unit Officer? Y/N Title	Voting Member?	Y/N
Food Allergies? Y/N If yes, which food(s)?		
2) Name		
Unit Officer? Y/N Title	Voting Member?	Y/N
Food Allergies? Y/N If yes, which food(s)?		
3) Name		
Unit Officer? Y/N Title	Voting Member?	Y/N
Food Allergies? Y/N If yes, which food(s)?		
4) Name		
Unit Officer? Y/N Title	Voting Member?	Y/N
Food Allergies? Y/N If yes, which food(s)?		
5)Name		
Unit Officer? Y/N Title	Voting Member?	Y/N
Food Allergies? Y/N If yes, which food(s)?		
Daycare Needed? Y/N If yes, what age(s),	are the children? _	

Registration cost is \$20 per person. Make checks payable to **La Crosse Area Synod W-ELCA**. Send forms and funds to Mona Van Riper, W5598 County Road D, Holmen, WI 54636, **by April 10, 2020.**

After April 10, registration may be made by telephone 608-526-2284 (please leave a message) or monavanriper@gmail.com, payable at the convention.

BOARD OF THE SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

There shall be a board of this synodical women's organization consisting of four elected officers together with five elected members, four members elected from the territory of each conference and one elected at large. All board members shall be participants in a congregational unit and members of the ELCA.

Members of the board shall be elected by the convention for a term of two years with one consecutive re-election and may not serve on the board in any capacity for more than seven consecutive years.

The board shall be legislative authority between conventions of this synodical women's organizations and shall carry forward the work of the synodical women's organization, act for it and report its actions to subsequent conventions.

Board members shall attend all board meetings and all meetings of committees to which they have been assigned. They shall read and become familiar with all board and committee mailings prior to the meetings and be familiar with the budget. Board members shall attend synodical conventions and workshops and shall perform the duties as assigned by the president or executive board.

Nominees are needed for the offices of Vice-President, Secretary, East Conference Representative, West Conference Representative, and Member-at-Large for full two year terms. Elections will be held at Spring Convention on April 18, 2020.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT SHALL

- 1. Act in the absence, disability, or resignation of the president. She shall assume the duties of the president until the vacancy is filled by the board of the synodical women's organization at its next regularly scheduled meeting;
- 2. Perform such other duties as requested by the president or the board; and
- 3. Compile a notebook of minutes and events to give to your successor at the transition meeting.
- 4. Two year term with one (1) re-election.

THE SECRETARY SHALL

- 1. Be the secretary of the board and the executive committee of the synodical women's organization;
- 2. Be responsible for recording and distributing minutes of the synodical convention, the board, and the executive committee;
- 3. Give the units notification of the regular convention at least three months in advance and of a special convention at least one month in advance;
- 4. Keep a correct register of the roll of units, along with the names of the officers of these units;
- 5. Secure from the units such reports as from time to time may be required;
- 6. Perform such other duties as the board may from time to time direct; and
- 7. Provide for the gathering and preserving of historical records and documents,
- 8. Two year term with one (1) re-election.

THE CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES SHALL

- 1. Act as presiding officer of the Conference Committee
- 2. Attend Synodical Women's Board meetings as a non-voting member. Four meetings per year held in La Crosse.
- 3. Act as a liaison between the individual units and the Synodical Women's Board.
- 4. Work with the Synodical Women's Board and Conference Committee to plan the Fall Renewal.
- 5. Plan with the Conference Committee, a special event for conference members. Conference programs could include retreats, a Bible study, a day trip, etc.
- 6. Insure any necessary business of the conference is conducted at the Fall Renewal and/or special event.
- 7. Submit articles to the synod newsletter, "Crosswinds" as appropriate.
- 8. Chair the nominating committee for conference officers.
- 9. Compile a notebook of minutes and events to give to your successor at the transition meeting.
- 10. Two year term with one (1) re-election.

The following information is from the W-ELCA Churchwide in Chicago.

WHAT IS AN ACTIVE UNIT?

A unit must commit to four items in order to be recognized as active:

- 1. Come together for study, support, and action.
- 2. Participate in the ministry of W-ELCA beyond the congregation.
- 3. Support financially the total program of W-ELCA.
- 4. Designate leadership that shall be in communication with the synodical and Churchwide women's organization.

LA CROSSE AREA SYNODICAL W-ELCA NOMINATION FORM FOR SYNODICAL BOARD

Nominees are needed for the offices of Vice-President, Secretary, East Conference Representative, West Conference Representative, and Member-at-Large for full two year terms. Elections will be held at Spring Convention on April 18, 2020. Job descriptions are on the following pages.

Nomination for the office of:				
Name	Church			
Home Address				
Occupation	Phone			
Church Participation:				
Community Participation:				
Completed nomination forms must	he received by April 6, 2020, to be in	actuded in our convention		

Return nomination forms to Vice President Bette Keehner, 1920 E Brunson Street, Prairie du Chien WI 53821.

booklet; however, nomination will be taken from the floor at convention.

1 Peter 4:10: As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

NEW LWR FLEECE AND BULK SOAP POLICIES: WHAT KIT-MAKERS NEED TO KNOW

By: Janel Johnson-Momanyi Feb 20, 2020 Taken from:

https://lwr.org/blog/2020/new-lwr-fleece-and-bulk-soap-policies-what-kit-makers-need-know? utm_source=activecampaign&utm_email&utm_campaign=qkmg_2020&utm_content=button

Lutheran World Relief recently released its 2020 Quilt & Kit Ministry Guide, which outlined changes to our guidelines regarding fleece blankets and bulk soap donations.

As of March 1, 2020, LWR will no longer accept bulk soap donations. As of May 1, 2020, we will no longer accept full-sized fleece blankets.

We realize you may have some questions about how these changes impact the work that you are doing, especially in light of the spring ingathering season. Here are some frequently asked questions we've received so far. If you have any questions that are not included below, please feel free to contact us.

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are some questions we've received about the changes in these guidelines. If you have a question that isn't listed here, feel free to contact us!

Why will LWR stop accepting bulk donations of soap after March 1, 2020? Recently there have been fewer requests for bulk soap donations by our partners. In 2019 there were no requests for bulk soap donations. Many partners are sourcing soap within their own country, which is good for local economies. Considering the reduced requests, we will stop collecting bulk donations of soap.

What is considered a bulk soap donation? A bulk donation of soap would be more than four bars of soap that are donated separately from kits. Bars of soap are still included in Baby Care Kits and Personal Care Kits.

Is soap still needed for Baby Care Kits and Personal Care Kits? Yes. Baby Care Kits & Personal Care Kits still need 2-3 bars of soap. This change only relates to the bulk donation of soap.

I have a bulk soap donation, what should I do with it? Please donate your bulk soap donation to a local shelter or another organization that can use it immediately. Also, if there is a group making Baby Care Kits or Personal Care Kits, they may welcome your contribution of soap.

Why will LWR stop accepting full-sized fleece blankets starting May 1, 2020? Our goal is to reduce the use of fleece as quickly as possible because of its effect on the environment.

Why is fleece bad for the environment? When fleece is washed, microfibers are released into the environment. The older fleece gets, the more it sheds. This can have a negative impact – particularly on water sources – in the places where we work.

Why donate the fleece blankets in the U.S. after May 1, but stop shipping to other countries?

In the United States we have wastewater treatment plants that aid in reducing the amount of microfiber buildup in our water sources, but we still find a buildup of microfibers here in the U.S.

Many of the communities we serve, however, don't have the same resources to assist with cleaning the water, so the microfibers are continuing to accumulate.

What if there's a fleece square on a quilt or a fleece liner inside a quilt—will those still be accepted? At this time, quilts that contain a few fleece patches or fleece liners will still be accepted, but we encourage using a different material in the future.



50 Years of Ordained Women

With gratitude for those who have gone before and hope for the future, the ELCA gives thanks to God for the ministry of women. In 2019 and 2020 we celebrate 50 years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, 40 years of women of color being ordained, and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely.

As part of this anniversary year, we lament that women have been barred from serving and have been bullied, dismissed and excluded. We also celebrate the gifts and service that women have brought to our church and our world as pastors.

Congregations are encouraged to hold commemorative events throughout the year! Below is a link to three resources to help congregations observe these anniversaries, including a five-session adult forum, a four-session Bible study, and a liturgy with Scripture and hymn suggestions.

https://www.elca.org/50yearsofordainedwomen

See page 17 of this Crosswinds for a Celebration here in our Synod on April 29, 2020.

Have you seen the W-ELCA Banner lately?

Our La Crosse Area Synodical Women of the ELCA banner has been missing for the past four years or so. It is most likely folded up and put away for good keeping at one of the Spring Convention or Fall Renewal locations, but then forgotten. If your church has hosted the Spring Convention or the Fall Renewal in the past 5 or 6 years, please take a look in your church closets/storage areas. It would be wonderful to be able to show the banner off once again. Please call or email a board member if you find it.

Dress yourself in Just Love wear

Order quality clothing from Lands' End with the Women of the ELCA and 2020 Triennial Gathering logo at:







Wanted:

Church plates to decorate the walls of the Synod Annex. If you, someone you know, or your church has a plate of your church, please consider donating it to the La Crosse Area Synod W-ELCA to hang in the Synod Annex.

Upcoming Events

Please make copies of the attached flyers to use in your church newsletters, website, bulletins, bulletin boards, etc. to promote one another's events.

Submit your upcoming events to monavanriper@gmail.com so they can be in future Crosswinds.

Mark your calendars:

La Crosse Area Synod W-ELCA
Spring Convention
Saturday, April 18, 2020
Trinity Lutheran, Cashton

The registration form and other Convention information is in this Crosswinds.



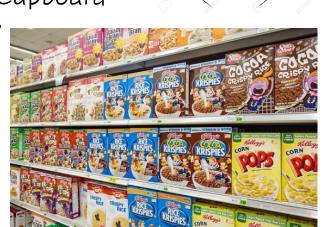
Our keynote speaker at the Spring Convention will be Nickolas Butler. He is a novelist and short-story writer from Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Nickolas is active member at Trinity Lutheran Church, Eau Claire. His first novel, "Shotgun Lovesongs", was an international best-seller. His latest book, "Little Faith", explores questions readers can identify with and care about - of faith and religion. All the characters are in one way or another struggling these issues. He was featured in June 2019 Living Lutheran. You can read the article at: https://www.livinglutheran.org/2019/06/im-a-lutheran-nickolas-butler/.

Spring Convention In-Kind Offering

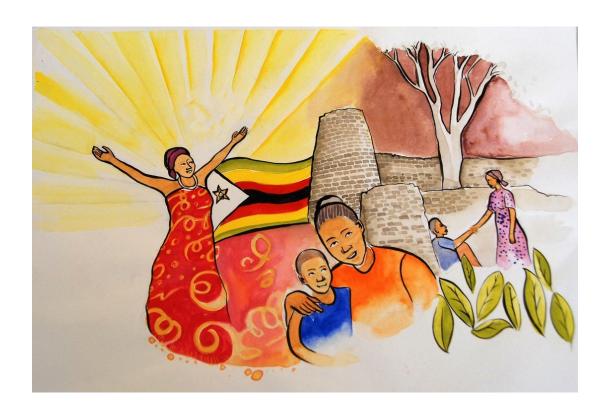
Our In-Kind Offering for this year's Spring Convention will go to the Cashton Cupboard and Closet. **Please bring breakfast cereal.** The Cashton Cupboard

and Closet, located in Cashton, is a food pantry and affordable thrift shop filled with clothes and household items.

Boxed cereal, bagged cereal, hot cereals, etc. - just not outdated cereal - are all greatly appreciated.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, MARCH 6, 2020



You are invited to join more the 170 countries and regions who will be celebrating World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 6, 2020.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2135 Weston Street, La Crosse, will host the event.

Brunch will be at 9:30am; worship will be at 10:30am. The service, written by the women of Zimbabwe, Africa, has the theme "Rise! Take your mat and walk."

Please RSVP by Monday, March 2, 2020, by calling Evelyne at 715-839-9290. A suggested \$5 donation is for the brunch.

Domen have the greatest potential to bring lasting change to their communities.



Yet, around the world, they are not afforded the same access to education due to social and political structures.

You can change that. Join us this International Women's Day, March 8, as we boldly invest in the education of women and the future of communities around the world through the ELCA's International Women Leaders initiative.

Double Your Impact

Because of the generosity of supporters of IWL, your gifts will be matched dollar for dollar until we reach \$100,000. Give a gift today and invest in the future of women leaders.

Give now:

ELCA.org/SupportIWL · 800-638-3522 ELCA · P.O. Box 1809 · Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Make checks payable to "ELCA" and note
"International Women Leaders GCS5000" on the memo line.



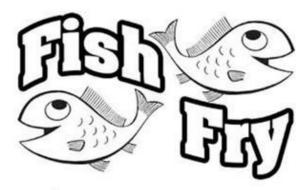
Lewis Valley Lutheran Church Fish Fry

When: Friday, March 27th 2020

Where: Lewis Valley Lutheran Church

W5402 County Road V, Holmen WI

Time: 5-7 PM



Adults - 3-piece dinner - \$10

4-piece dinner - \$12

Children - (10 and under) - \$5

Hot dog dinner - \$5

Hot dog & chips - \$3

Carry Outs - \$.50 extra

Dinner includes: baked potato, coleslaw, green beans, dinner roll, cookie, milk, water and coffee.





Fish Creek Ridge Lutheran Church 5467 County Road J, Rockland, WI



Luncheon

Featuring:

Darrell Bowman (Potter)

Saturday, April 4, 2020

Presentation: 11:00am

Lunch: 12:00pm Freewill Offering

Everyone Welcome

Questions: Darlene Pfaff 608-486-2190





Norwegian Service

French Creek Lutheran Church

N23007 County Rd. T, Ettrick, WI

Wednesday

April 8th at 1:30 p.m.

Everyone is Welcome!

Liturgy in Norwegian

Liturgy led by Pastor Harald Bringsjord of Good Shepherd Lutheran, La Crosse, WI

Sermon in English

Holy Communion given in the pews

Music by the Norwegian Singers

Refreshments (Norwegian baking) following the service - no cost - provided by Thrivent Financial

Celebration of 50 Years of Women's Ordination

You are invited to the La Crosse Area Synod's recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Women's Ordination in the ELCA.

Wednesday, April 29

6:30 pm Worship Reception to follow

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, preaching

First Lutheran Church Onalaska, WI

Women clergy are invited to process and vest wear your favorite stole! Watch for more information on the synod's web and Facebook pages.

> Bring Confirmation Classes! Childcare will be available. ALL are WELCOME!



Proclaiming • Reforming • Celebrating

LEWIS VALLEY'S ANNUAL "SPRING IN THE VALLEY" PLANT & BAKE SALE will be on Saturday, May 16, 2020, from 8:00am - 1:00pm. Tomatoes, peppers, perennials, annuals, baskets Cinnamon rolls and baked goods

Continued from Page 8

What if there's a baby cape or baby sweater made from fleece—will those still be accepted? At this time, baby capes and baby sweaters made of fleece will still be accepted, but we encourage using a different material in the future. The receiving blankets in Baby Care Kits should always be made using cotton, flannel or lightweight yarn.

Will my fleece blankets be thrown in the trash after May 1st? No! We will continue shipping items until all items received before May 1st are processed. Items not shipped will be donated to local organizations.

What about the 60 x 80 store bought blankets—will those still be accepted? Yes! Hand-made quilts are still preferred because of the love that goes into them, but store-bought blankets measuring approximately 60" X 80" will still be accepted. Please pack blankets separate from Mission Quilts when shipping to Lutheran World Relief.

These changes are outlined in the 2020 LWR Quilt & Kit Ministry Guidelines. You can download a copy of or request a copy to be mailed to you by calling 800.597.5972.

THANK YOU! Your dedication, kindness, generosity and *hard work* are deeply appreciated. Thank you for working with us to ensure our gifts of love do the most good possible around the world.



Looking forward to the 11th Triennial Gathering in Phoenix, Arizona! Theme: "Just Love"



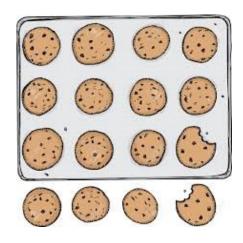
Go to the web address below to register and find answers to questions you might have.

https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page

College students started their Spring semester in January 2020 at UW - La Crosse.

Campus Ministry and the students on campus on Wednesdays greatly appreciate the cookies we bake for them.

If your church would like to make cookies for a Wednesday during the school year, please sign up by Calling Pastor Benjamin Morris at (608) 406-1556.





Mark your calendars:

La Crosse Area Synod W-ELCA

Fall Renewal

Saturday, October 17, 2020

First Lutheran, Onalaska

Look for registration and more information in upcoming issues of Crosswinds.

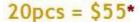
Below are a couple different ways to purchase LWR School Kit Bags. You can choose from these, make them, or purchase from any vendor you prefer.

There will be school kit bags available to purchase at the Spring Convention on April 18.



LWR SIZE SCHOOL KIT BAGS

Fair Trade Made in Bangladesh 100% cotton





With fair trade income earned at Motif, women are educating their own children and others' since 1998. When told of the LWR School Kit Bag Project Nasma said,

"You mean the bags we make are given to needy children for their school books? ... I can't think of any better work we can do!"

Feedback on the School Kit Bags:

- The cord is such good quality!
- The seams inside are finished so well!
- It's great to know we're helping kids with the kits and mothers with the bags!



- + + S & H (USPS at cost)
- Blank for VBS, crafts & more!

Nasma & Rani with their great kids!

For details contact Jackie Corlett motif@motifitd.com 217 552 0537

LWR SCHOOL KIT BAGS

Is anyone in need of schoolbags?
Please contact Sue Staples at:
stap@centurytel.net, or 608-788-8249.



Have Ideas for future Crosswinds?

W-ELCA history from your congregation?
Recipes?
Jokes/Humor?
News to share?
Upcoming Events?

If you have something you would like to share, please send it to Mona so she can put it in Crosswinds.

La Crosse Area Synod W-ELCA Board Members

La Crosse Area Synod W-ELCA Board Members					
President	VICE-PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	Treasurer		
JoAnn Salava N5963 Davies Road New Lisbon, WI 53950 608-542-0652 jams@mwt.net St Stephen's, Camp Douglas Term through Spring 2021	Bette Keehner 1920 E. Brunson St. Prairie du Chien, WI 53821 608-326-0572 rkeehner@centurytel.com St Peter, Prairie du Chien Term through Spring 2020	Pr. Joanne Richmond 1711 Lakeshore Drive La Crosse, WI 54603 608- 782-3468 pastor@oursaviors lutheranchurch.net Our Savior's, La Crosse Term through Spring 2020	Mona Van Riper W5598 County Road D Holmen, WI 54636 608-526-2284 monavanriper@gmail.com Lewis Valley, Holmen Term through Spring 2021		
East Conference Representative	West Conference Representative	North Conference Representative	South Conference Representative		
Leslie Peterson N9692 2nd Ave Camp Douglas, WI 54618 608-542-0245 Lpete1994@hotmail.com St. Peter's Shennington Term through Spring 2020	Gretchen Jacobson 2510 Hass Street La Crosse, WI 54601 608-788-2080 gretchenspj@gmail.com Our Redeemer, La Crosse Term through Spring 2020	Jacqueline Joanis W21676 Red Fox Lane Trempealeau, WI 54661 608-534-6728 jjoanis@centurytel.net Zion, Galesville Term through Spring 2021	Mary Connelly 306 E Park Street Westby, WI 54667 608-632-9125 duckconnelly@gmail.com Westby-Coon Prairie, Westby Term through Spring 2021		
East Conference Coordinator	West Conference Coordinator	North Conference Coordinator	South Conference Coordinator		
Anita Jensen 520 Central Avenue Sparta, WI 54656 608-269-2325 pconrth@yahoo.com Trinity, Sparta Term through Fall 2020	Sue Staples W5549 Southdale Drive La Crosse, WI 54601 608-788-8249 stap@centurytel.net Our Saviors, La Crosse Term through Fall 2020	Andrea Baxter 940 Linden Dr. #102 Holmen, WI 54636 608-788-3896 baxtera@gmail.com Halfway Creek, Holmen Term through Fall 2021	Pat Fisher 54303A N. Elk Run Road Viola, WI 54664 563-580-7418 elkrun2@gmail.com Good Shepherd, Viroqua Term through Fall 2021		
Board Member at Large	Liaison to Synod ELCA				
Alice Olson 621 Kent Street Sparta, WI 54656 608-487-5409 Avon.alice@hotmail.com Trinity, Sparta Term through Spring 2020	JoAnn Salava N5963 Davies Road New Lisbon, WI 53950 608-542-0652 jams@mwt.net St Stephen's, Camp Douglas				

About the Newsletter....

The Crosswinds is published by the La Crosse Area Synod – Women of the ELCA. The President (or contact person) and the Treasurer (or financial recorder) of each unit should receive an emailed copy. Please include any other interested parties' email addresses so they may receive an electronic copy of the Crosswinds. Send email addresses to monavanriper@gmail.com

Please report your officer list yearly so that we can maintain a correct emailing list.

Subscription of printed Crosswinds are available for \$5.00 per year.
Checks payable to La Crosse Area Synod WELCA and sent to Mona Van Riper,
Treasurer, W5598 County Road D, Holmen, WI 54636.

Submission/Mailing dates for future Crosswind publications:

Submission of	Emailing to
Articles:	W-ELCA:
05/15/2020	06/01/2020
08/15/2020	09/01/2020
11/15/2020	12/01/2020
02/15/2021	03/01/2021

stamp

Crosswinds Newsletter

Mona Van Riper, Editor

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