

Report of the Women of the ELCA for the Bulletin of Reports

The annual convention of the Northwestern PA Synodical Women's Organization was held May 21 & 22, 2010 at Grace Lutheran Church, Clarion, PA. The convention with the theme, "**The Voice of the Lord is Upon the Water**" was chaired by Norma Knapp. Sally Frank was elected president for a one year term; Laura Mae Baker was elected vice-president and Donna Fisher was elected secretary. New board members elected were Helen Bash and Marnie Brown. They joined board members Donna Greger, Pr. Mary Houck and Lori Nowacki. Hellen Wescoat continues to serve as treasurer. Helen Bash resigned her position as board member and in October the board appointed Marty Johnson to this position. The convention also elected 3 delegates to the 2011 Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA. Marnie Brown, Darlene Smith and Pat Bellingham and the president will travel to Spokane, WA in July 2011 to represent the women of the NWPA Synod.

The SWO board met in July, and October 2010 and in March 2011. In the Fall of 2010 Conference 1 & 2 met and all four Conferences had a Spring event in April or May of 2011. These events provide for an inspirational learning experience and fellowship. The "Pennies for Poverty" received from Congregational Units at Conference events helps agencies involved with women and children in crisis situations throughout our synod.

Our third joint Weekend/Retreat (with the Southwestern PA Synodical Women's Organization) with the theme "**Called to a Journey With God**" was held September 17-19, 2010 at Camp Lutherlyn. Dr. Marty Stevens from the Gettysburg Seminary was the Bible study leader. Pat Stickner and Linda Cunningham were co-chairpersons of this retreat.

On February 5, 2011 a Health & Wellness Day was held at the synod office under the direction of Marty Johnson and Laura Mae Baker. Fun was had by all in attendance. The women continue to host the "Cafe" at the Synod Assembly.

The Synodical Women's Organization continues to work in the area of anti-racism. Norma Jean Griesenhofer, Anne Allen, Marilyn Ortega and Debra Johnson, our leaders, are willing and able to conduct workshops throughout the synod.

We appreciate the support and prayers we receive from the Northwestern PA Synod and with this help we will continue with our mission "to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."

Respectfully submitted,
Sally C. Frank, President