



Grand Canyon Synod Women of the ELCA

CONVENING WITH OUR SISTERS IN CHRIST

**Twenty-ninth
Virtual Convention/Gathering
November 6, 2021
Via Zoom**



Purpose Statement

Mission Statement

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

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.

El Propósito

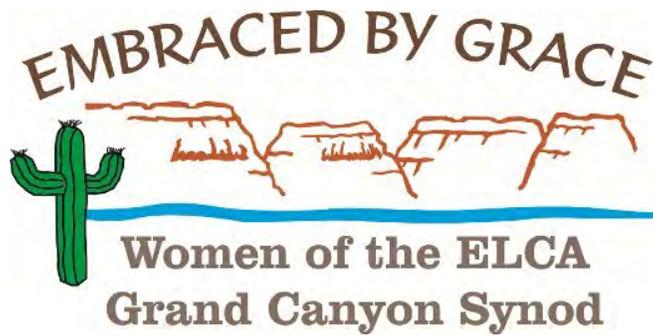
Declaración de misión

Movilizar a las mujeres para actuar con valentía en base a su fe en Jesucristo

En tanto que somos una comunidad de mujeres creadas a imagen de Dios, llamadas a convertirnos en discípulas de Jesucristo, y fortalecidas por el Espíritu Santo, nos comprometemos a crecer en la fe, afirmar nuestros dones, apoyarnos las unas a las otras en nuestras respectivas vocaciones, involucrarnos en el ejercicio del ministerio y la acción, y promover la sanación y la integridad en la iglesia, la sociedad y el mundo.

The symbol... with the cross, water and a white lily, identifies the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as children of God; baptized, forgiven, adopted into God's family, full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty, and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptism water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to "go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19





Twenty-ninth (virtual) Convention

CONVENING WITH OUR SISTERS IN CHRIST

**November 6, 2021
Via Zoom**

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• Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and with a concern for the
• safety and well-being of our attendees, this convention is
• being held digitally/virtually using Zoom technology. This is
• a required business meeting to complete elections of new
• officers and board members, elect 2023 Triennial voting
• members, approve financial reports and other business that
• comes before the assembly, and hear reports that impact
• our women's ministry here in the Grand Canyon Synod and
• beyond.

Proposed Agenda

Opening Worship Service—Pr. Rebecca Boardman

Orientation of Voting Members

Report of Credentials Committee

Call to Order

Reading of our Purpose Statement

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Announcement of Convention Business Committees

 Committee on Credentials

 Committee on Conduct of Elections

 Committee on Offerings

 Committee on Minutes

 Committee on Reference and Counsel (Resolutions)

Adoption of Convention Standing Rules

Adoption of Agenda

Prayer for Nominations—Pastor Rebecca Boardman

Report of Nominating Committee

Instructions from Elections Committee

Ballot for **President**

Report of Elections Committee—ballot for President

Report of Nominating Committee

Instructions from Elections Committee

Ballot for **Vice-President**

Report of Elections Committee—ballot for Vice-President

Report of Nominating Committee

Instructions from Elections Committee

Ballot for **Secretary**

Report of Elections Committee—ballot for Secretary

Report of Nominating Committee

Instructions from Elections Committee

Ballot for **Treasurer**

Report of Elections Committee—ballot for Treasurer

Bishop Deborah Hutterer Synod Update Report

Stand & Stretch

Report of Nominating Committee

Instructions from Elections Committee

Ballot for **Board Members**

Call for New Business

Report of Elections Committee—ballot for Board Members

Report of External Review/Audit Report—Debbie Romboletti

Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Years 2018-2020 (3 yrs)

Presentation and Adoption of 2022-2023 Budget

Rank Order Process to Elect 2023 Triennial Voting Members
Report of Nominating Committee **for First Ballot Ticket A**
Instructions from Elections Committee
First Ballot (Ticket A) for 2023 Triennial Voting Member
Report of Elections Committee—first ballot Ticket A

Report of Nominating Committee for **First Ballot Ticket B**
Instructions from Elections Committee
First Ballot (Ticket B) for 2023 Triennial Voting Member
Report of Elections Committee—first ballot Ticket B

Report of Nominating Committee for **First Ballot Ticket C**
Instructions from Elections Committee
First Ballot (Ticket C) for 2023 Triennial Voting Member
Report of Elections Committee—first ballot Ticket C

President's Report

Barbara Thistle, Churchwide President's Representative Report

Report from the Reference and Counsel Committee (Resolutions)
Report of the Minutes Committee
Unfinished Business

Brief Break as we prepare for Closing Worship

Closing Worship Service—Pr. Rebecca Boardman
Installation of New Board Members
Sending Prayer for 2023 Voting Members

Convention Dismissal

A special word of thanks to

- ♥ Suki Kisling, WELCA Ambassador at-large for the past three years.
- ♥ Pr. Maria Valenzuela, WELCA Ambassador to our Latina women
- ♥ Alma Garza Cano, our English to Spanish language translator

All of these beautiful and talented women of faith have served in building relationships across our Grand Canyon Synod as non-board members. We are grateful for your service. Gracias!



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

Fall 2021

Shalom!

Thank you for all you do for Women of the ELCA! Your time, talents and treasures are needed now more than ever, not only to WELCA, but also to the world. You make a huge difference in our churches and communities. Thank you again for all you do and continue to do!

This past August we elected a new board and passed a few constitutional amendments. One of these amendments allows for conventions and SWO meetings to be held digitally/virtually. There are great opportunities with a digital convention. It is a new way of doing business, but it opens the door for more participation. It makes the business meeting more concise and gives working moms a better opportunity to attend.

I will be praying for you and your convention. Please feel free to reach out and let either me or Linda Post Bushkofsky know of any difficulties or wonderful experiences you had with a digital platform.

So here is your challenge:

1. The SWO that comes up with the **worst story** about digital difficulties at their convention will be honored and their story will be shared.
2. The SWO that submits a story on how a digital SWO Convention **brought opportunities** will be honored. Their story will also be shared.

Please submit your responses to me at jmichali@d.umn.edu or Linda Post Bushkofsky at linda.bushkofsky@elca.org by December 31, 2021.

God's Blessings as we embark on this new journey together!

Joy Michalicek

Joy Michalicek

President, 2020-2023 triennium

Women of the ELCA

Who's Who at the Convention



Barbara Thistle (Churchwide Women of the ELCA Representative)

Barbara Thistle was elected to the executive board of Women of the ELCA in July 2017. She serves on the budget and finance committee.

Previously, Barbara served as president and treasurer of the Metropolitan New York Synodical Women's Organization (7C).

Barbara is also an active member at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rye Brook, N.Y. She is the treasurer for St. Paul's and serves on the church council. Additionally, Barbara is president of the altar guild and St. Paul's Women of the ELCA.

Barbara graduated from Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., with a major in engineering sciences and has her master's of business administration from Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business.

Barbara has two children and one grandchild. Barbara enjoys spending time with family and competitive ballroom dancing.

Laura Krueger (Parliamentarian)

Former President of Grand Canyon Women of the ELCA and currently serving her second term on the churchwide Women of the ELCA Executive Board, Laura is a lifelong Lutheran who has strived her whole life to find ways to serve her Lord. She has served on multiple committees and as an officer of several organizations and has a deep understanding of parliamentary procedures. Laura currently serves on the budget and finance committee and in the role of parliamentarian for the churchwide executive board. A wife, mother and grandmother, Laura is employed at a local community college as Director of Admissions & Records. Laura and her husband, Jim, have been members of Alleluia Lutheran Church, Phoenix since 2005 where she is currently serving as Council chairperson.



Bishop Deborah Hutterer Bishop, Grand Canyon Synod

Bishop Hutterer was elected as the sixth bishop, and the first woman to hold this position in the Grand Canyon Synod, at the Synod Assembly in June 2018. The Reverend Deborah K. Hutterer was ordained in 2004. She earned a Master of Divinity from Luther Seminary and a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication from Augsburg University.

Personal and professional challenges have caused Hutterer to grow and constantly pushed her to trust the promise of death, resurrection, and new life. As she continues this new call as bishop, she trusts God's leadership, guidance, and presence, and calls you to join her, using all of the gifts each of us has to be Jesus in the world today.



Rev. Rebecca Boardman, Chaplain

Rev. Rebecca Boardman serves as the Pastor & Director of Lutheran Campus Ministry for the University of Arizona in Tucson. She grew up in Plano, TX, but fled north for schooling at Valparaiso University (B.A. '00) & the Lutheran School of Chicago at Chicago (M.Div. '04). After serving a large parish in Wheat Ridge, CO, she found a deeper calling to campus ministry in St.

Louis. The majority of her ministry has been focused on the "first third of life," especially the hopeful but fragile journey through young adulthood. In her free time, she loves to cook & travel with her partner, Dyron (and pick cactus needles out of their beloved Pekingese).

Faithful Friends



Take your financial support of our churchwide Women of the ELCA to a new level. Become a “Faithful Friend”

“Faithful friends are a sturdy shelter; whoever finds one has found a treasure. Faithful friends are beyond price; no amount can balance their worth. Faithful friends are life-saving medicine; and those who fear the Lord will find them.”
Ecclesiastes 6:14-16

Those phrases describe the many steadfast supporters of Women of the ELCA. And that’s the name for a giving program: “Faithful Friends,” an easy way for you, your congregational unit, your conference and our synodical organization to give monthly to Women of the ELCA by automatic withdrawal from your checking account or by automatic charge to your credit card.

We are all being challenged to step up our giving to offset the decline in general offering revenues. Your synodical board and all leaders in our WELCA conferences and units have the opportunity to model faithful giving to support our churchwide organization. Individuals can also model such faithful financial support. Become a faithful friend!

Gifts through Faithful Friends support the Women of the ELCA General Fund, which makes it possible for our churchwide organization to act quickly and flexibly in response to any need that arises. The prophet Isaiah tells us that God says, “I am about to do a new thing” (43:19), and Faithful Friends is one way you can help Women of the ELCA be ready for whatever new thing God has in store.

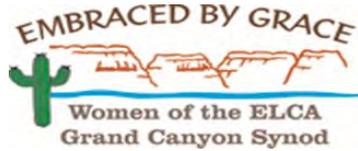
You can start giving on-line right away, and you can stop any time with just a phone call to Women of the ELCA, 773-380-2730, or by email at women.elca@elca.org

It all starts with you! Looking for ideas about how to get involved in women’s ministry in your church, in your community and beyond? Here are just some examples of how to begin:

- ♥ Support the Lutheran World Relief ((LWR) Quilt and Kit shipping fund
- ♥ Challenge your women/your congregation to support the Alleluia Diaper Closet
- ♥ Get involved with a project from Global Health Ministries or Lutheran World Relief
- ♥ Start a faith-based book discussion—over lunch, or maybe over a glass of wine
- ♥ Contact your local community college or university - support out of town students with a meal during exam week, or during holiday breaks
- ♥ Do you knit, crochet, quilt? Contact the Volunteer Services office at your nearby hospital - perhaps they need lap blankets, or baby caps or newborn layettes, etc.
- ♥ Start a ministry at a nearby Women’s Prison, or a facility housing incarcerated immigrants. A Bible study, or magazines or books? Maybe subscriptions to our Gather magazine? A prayer group? Contact the facility’s Chaplain
- ♥ Learn to speak Spanish and connect with the Latina women in your community
- ♥ Volunteer to accompany immigrants during court proceedings. Join AMMPARO
- ♥ Donate clothing appropriate for work to the Native American Urban Ministry clothes closet at Grace Lutheran in Phoenix, or their Women Prisoner Re-Entry program
- ♥ Support the Navajo Mission in Rock Point. AZ
- ♥ Support border ministries’ needs in Tucson or Yuma area
- ♥ Connect with Lutheran Social Services in AZ (LSS-SW) or Nevada (LSSN)

OFFERINGS

There are several types of offerings, which are collected either at the Synod level (“Grand Canyon WELCA”) or the Women of the ELCA Churchwide level (“Churchwide”)



Synod Level Offerings

Regular offerings are from our individual congregational units and individuals and provide ongoing income for the ‘core work’ and ministries of Women of the ELCA. They are used to cover the operational costs necessary in the development of programs and resources in support of our mission: to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Grand Canyon WELCA sends 50 percent of these offerings to Churchwide.

LOVE offerings are special offerings are collected at our conventions, retreats and/or Conference gatherings. 100 percent of these offerings stay with Grand Canyon WELCA to cover operational costs at the Synod level to provide programming and support resources to our congregational units and conferences.

Convention offering is a new offering established by Grand Canyon WELCA to help offset the expenses of our convention/gathering event, which is not self-funding. Despite our diligent efforts to control our event expenses, not all expenses are covered by registration fees. This offering is one way that you and your congregational unit can help defray our event expenses and help keep registration fees reasonable.

Gathering/Worship offerings are special offerings taken at gatherings, retreats, conventions and other events and may occur during the worship portion of a program. These offerings are generally divided so that one-half is sent to Churchwide and the remaining half is distributed to designated recipients.

All checks for the above offerings should be made out to Women of the ELCA – GCS (Grand Canyon Synod) and either submitted to the Grand Canyon WELCA treasurer or brought to the applicable event.



Churchwide Level Offerings

Designated Gifts support specific ministries of the ELCA and Women of the ELCA. These ministries are opportunities to give above and beyond regular offerings and Thankofferings. The Grand Canyon WELCA treasurer should be notified of the gift so that Churchwide is made aware of what is being done within our Synod.

Thankofferings help Women of the ELCA participants and their congregations reflect on their ministries and how they have been blessed. Historically, this long tradition of giving offerings of thanks took place in the Fall, showing gratitude for God’s blessings in a bountiful harvest and preparing for the harshness that Winter may bring. Thankofferings provide occasions to reflect on women’s mission and ministry and see where new needs are arising. Thankofferings make up part of the organizational annual gift to WELCA and support Women of the ELCA programs and services and help the church reach out to ministry worldwide.

Checks for Churchwide offerings should be made payable to Women of the ELCA and should be mailed directly to Churchwide accompanied by Form B or

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR GRAND CANYON SYNOD WOMEN'S OFFICERS

President Nominee: (none as of this date)

Vice-President Nominee: (none as of this date)

Secretary Nominees:

Phyllis Borchardt

Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church, Surprise, AZ (Cactus Conference)

Age category: over 65

Elected Board member GC SWO 2016-2018, 2018-2020, appointed Secretary Aug. 2018. A lifelong Lutheran, I was baptized and confirmed as member of an Augustana Synod church in rural MN. My life's journey has taken me far and wide with worship experiences in small and large congregations from Mt. Olivet in Mpls to a mission congregation here in the Phoenix area. Currently a member of Spirit of Grace in Surprise AZ, a past member of their congregational council, past treasurer and president of the WELCA unit at Spirit of Grace, serve on the planning committee for the Cactus Conference WELCA and participate in outreach ministries to our community at assisted living facilities. Today, my goal as a Lutheran is to support and assist voices to the issues that Martin Luther raised 500 years ago and continue to be challenges for our society and church today. Covid-19 has underscored the importance of the church relevance in today's secular society. Traditional worship has been transformed and our Grand Canyon Synod WELCA has produced Bible studies shared online to wider audiences across our synod including opportunity to share in bilingual presentation to our Spanish speaking sisters as an outreach to our neighbors. Population trends in the US and Western Europe have demonstrated a decrease in births in the Caucasian families and increased birthrate in Minority groups. This magnifies the mission of our church to build on the emerging population in today's world and the coming generations. I don't pretend to have all the answers but appreciate the opportunity to work within a framework dedicated to perpetuating the faith I have found a mainstay of my life.

Maria del Rosario Garcia Armando

La Sagrada Familia, Phoenix AZ (NE Valley Conference)

Age category: 36-50. Is a woman of color and/or person whose primary language is other than English.

Active church member, Christianity education, first Communion teacher. I offer a generous heart, spiritually, charismatic. I want to help in any way possible.

Treasurer Nominee: (none as of this date)

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR GRAND CANYON SYNOD WOMEN'S BOARD MEMBERS

Maria del Rosario Garcia Armando

La Sagrada Familia, Phoenix AZ (NE Valley Conference)

Age category: 36-50. Is a woman of color and/or person whose primary language is other than English.

Active church member, Christianity education, first Communion teacher. I offer a generous heart, spiritually, charismatic. I want to help in any way possible.

Michelle Cegon

Gloria de Cristo Lutheran, Yuma, AZ (Cactus Conference)

Age category: 51-65

WELCA Convener, Global Engagement, Senegal delegate. Mental Health ministry, Stephen Ministry, outreach. I'm a team player, enthusiastic, possess adaptability. I have good communication skills and almost 30 years in IT, so I have a strong technical background.

Susan (Drane) Holverson

Our Savior's East Mesa, Mesa AZ (Rio Salado Conference)

Age category: over 65

Past and current president of local unit. Current member of the Grand Canyon Synod Women's board (appointed 2019 to replace vacancy); past president of Grand Canyon Synod Women (2006-2011); past member of churchwide Women of the ELCA executive board. I have an enthusiasm for WELCA, a willingness to try new things, experience in serving at many leadership levels, and have been an active member of WELCA for 25 years.

Diana Miranda

San Juan Bautista Lutheran, Tucson AZ (Santa Cruz Conference)

Age category: 36-50. Is a woman of color and/or person whose primary language is other than English.

I was involved in the organization of the first Hispanic Grand Canyon WELCA retreat in 2019. I am the current parish administrator at my church. I was appointed to fill a vacant term on the current Grand Canyon Synod women's board in Feb. 2020. The values of the WELCA are very important to me and would like to extend them to my Spanish speaking community. My goal is to diversify WELCA with more Hispanic women and broaden the outreach of my church with a more involved women's group.

BOARD MEMER NOMINEES, CONTINUED

Debbie Romboletti

Community Lutheran, Las Vegas NV (Colorado River Conference)

Age category: 51-65

I am currently serving my second term as the GC Synod Women's Board Treasurer. I also currently serve on the Women's Ministry Board at Community Lutheran in Las Vegas, NV, as treasurer. Previously, as a member of New Song Church in Henderson, NV, I served on its Women's Ministry board, as a captain of one of the Hospitality teams, and as the Church's treasurer for a two-year term. Career-wise, I am a Certified Public Accountant by trade, having been in the profession for 35 years. I am a partner at HRP CPAs, a local accounting firm in Las Vegas, NV. I feel I can provide some continuity for one more term, along with serving as support for the new Treasurer and offer my knowledge as an accounting professional. I am also willing to assist with what is asked of me to help the organization fulfill its mission. In my spare time, I enjoy walking, including 5K walks for charity, doing puzzles, and keeping up with the activities of our grandchildren, who live in Georgia.



President's Report

It has been a privilege and an honor to represent you as your president in this community of faith called Women of the ELCA in the Grand Canyon Synod. I'm grateful for the women who have stepped into leadership roles, both on your board, in your conferences, and in your units. Women who give of themselves so generously to accomplish the work we are called to do. Thank you! May God continue to bless you abundantly!

I'm not much of a journal-keeper, but I have a nerdy habit of keeping a monthly paper calendar, briefly noting most of the significant things that happen in our life across the years. On these calendars I record birth and death dates and wedding anniversaries of family and beloved friends, doctor and dentist appointments, the topics of our women's Bible study at my church, and other church events, the rainfall (since we moved to the desert!), vacation plans and WELCA events! Because I'm so visual, it's a helpful way for me to plan, but also to reflect.

Thinking back to November 2018, I daresay none of us would have anticipated what we have experienced these last three years. Beginning in early 2019, we lost a good friend of our women's organization with the untimely death of leader Lea Begay from the Navajo Mission at Rock Point. May her memory be a blessing. We gathered in January at Shepherd of the Valley in Phoenix for a Gather Bible study event with author, Rev. Dr. Julie Kanarr. "Boot Camps" for conference leaders and church women's groups were initiated by our WELCA Ambassador, Suki Kisling. In-person Spring Conference Gatherings were scheduled. These Gatherings are single-day events in and near your own back yard to learn about new ministry opportunities, grow in faith and friendship with your Lutheran sisters. In between those events, I had the privilege of making a trip to the Holy Land in March 2019. Our first Latina Women's Leadership Retreat was held in September at Faith/LaFe in Phoenix. Your VP, Gail, and I attended a Border Ministries Summit in Tucson later in the fall. Up to this time, we were excited in planning to be the host Synod for the 11th Triennial Gathering planned for Phoenix in August 2020.

And then 2020 arrived! We were able to hold another successful in-person Gather Bible study event at Christ the Servant in Henderson in January, with author Rev. Dr. Kit Kleinhans. Synod Women's board meetings were still being held in person in February. Sunrise/Santa Cruz held their 2020 Spring Conference Gathering in early March and that was the last in-person event we've held, right up to today. Suddenly our sense of being community, and being connected, was challenged. We have not panicked but pivoted to hold virtual meetings, virtual Bible studies, and now a virtual convention. In 2021, we held a very successful virtual Gather Bible study event with the author, Rev. Dr. Christa von Zychlin. That experience gave us the courage to present a second virtual event in early October, a Women of the Bible study led by Rev. Dr. Marta Poling Schmitt. Our events have been recognized nationally across Women of the ELCA as a model for how to be in community in this pandemic environment. We are especially thankful for the technical expertise and support of two of our synod women board members, Heidi Urbina and Berkley Harris.

The 11th Triennial Gathering of Women of the ELCA initially planned for August 2020 in Phoenix was postponed, and eventually cancelled in 2021. An 11th Triennial Convention was held, digitally/virtually, in August 2021. A totally new experience for those of us serving you as voting members. The 12th Triennial Convention and Gathering will be held in Phoenix, now scheduled for September 2023.

We continue to invite our Latina sisters to join us at our events and are grateful for the support and expertise of Alma Cano Garzo who serves us as an English to Spanish translator. Retired Pr. Maria Valenzuela has been invaluable in helping us reach out to our Hispanic sisters. Gracias hermanas!

Now, it is time for a new chapter in leadership to begin. I'm confident the Holy Spirit will lift up those women who will lead you into the future. May the spirit of a new thing continue to call you and live in you and in your women's ministry! With all its challenges, this still remains an awesome time to be women of the church. Your sister in Christ,

Myrna Wells-Ulland

Vice-President's Report

Serving the WELCA-GCS as Vice President was not in my plans when I attended the 2018 convention. Then the Spirit intervened in the ways she's known to do sometimes. There was no woman coming forward to place her name for that nomination, and I remember thinking, "Oh, my goodness, how will that be handled?" Well, after two individuals approached me encouraging that I be that one, I felt the nudge, so answered it. It truly has been a pleasure and a privilege to be deep in a learning seat for a term...that stretched from the usual two years to three.

While taking active roles in many aspects of congregational ministries over a few decades, I had not included WELCA. I was a "newbie," and was surrounded by helpful mentors willing to give of themselves and their experience to guide me. I have found this is typical of the women in this vital organization! They walk the talk.

I made an intention early on to delve deep into the fabric of this WELCA-GCS by taking active steps to get to know the many textures and threads that make one out of the nine Conferences. This set out on a good path to attend many WELCA events around the Synod, Bible Studies, Spring Gatherings, workshops included. An especially stimulating and joyful experience was when a group of Latina WELCA members came forth to ask for a leadership event to help grow their Spanish speaking-based sisters.

A highlight of this Vice Presidency came when Myrna was unable to attend the WELCA Conference of Presidents at the Churchwide office in Chicago, and I was privileged to then attend. We are led by an awesome group of women in the Synod network, and at the overall Churchwide level! I got to present to Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton one of our GCS T-shirts in anticipation of the 11th Triennial Convention in Phoenix, scheduled for July of 2020. Little did we know then that the whole event would have to be delayed by the Coronavirus pandemic! Alas, the Coronavirus epidemic ended our in-person gatherings and took its toll on the momentum of the GCS...and across the other 64 Synods.

Not to be easily thwarted, the vibrant Board that I was privileged to be part of rose far above expectations with the planning and executing of two virtual Bible Studies in 2021. These serve now and an example to Churchwide Synod organizations to build into the future. A frontier aspect to the "make all things new" concept. The big picture here was the forward look and the collaboration across the Nation for our purpose and mission.

I encourage you to accept an active role in your own Congregation, and in the workings of the new Board to be a part of the energetic force...not only of survival, but of making the waves of the future!

Thank you for the opportunity to grow and be a part of this exciting work.

Sincerely! Gail Turner

Proposed Standing Rules of Convention

1. DELEGATE BODY

The voting members at the convention shall include: one woman from each congregational unit of the Synod **Women's Organization (SWO) and the officers and board members of the Grand Synod Women's Organization.** Visitors are invited to attend the business meeting but will not have voting privileges.

2. ORIENTATION

Voting Members are required to attend the Voting Member Orientation at 9:00 am on Saturday morning.

3. DETERMINATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The roster of voting members may not be changed after the opening of the Business Session. Voting Members are expected to remain in attendance throughout the convention proceedings and shall not be absent from any meeting of the convention without excuse. Voting members who must be absent are to be excused by the Credentials Committee Chairperson. The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall coordinate the replacement of the voting member with the alternate, if an alternate is available.

4. QUORUM

A majority of the registered voting members shall constitute a quorum.

5. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Seat and voice shall be granted to the following:

- Registered voting members from the congregations
- **All officers and board members of the Grand Canyon Synodical Women's Organization**
- **The Bishop of the GC Synod of the ELCA, or the Bishop's representative**
- **The representative of the President of the Churchwide Women's Organization**

Non-voting participants at the convention may have voice of no more than 2 minutes with the approval of the voting members but no vote.

6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The president, at the opening business session, shall announce the appointment of the following convention business committees:

- A. Committee on Credentials
- B. Committee on Elections
- C. Committee on Minutes
- D. Committee on Nominations
- E. Committee on Offerings
- F. Committee on Reference and Counsel

CONVENTION BUSINESS AGENDA

7. The synodical president shall be granted the privilege of adjusting the agenda and calling up any item of business she deems necessary in light of schedule and time constraints.

8. VOTING PROCEDURE

To be eligible to vote, a voting member must be present and identified on Zoom. All voting will be through a Zoom function (electronic or telephone). No proxy or absentee voting is permitted.

A two-thirds vote is required for adoption of:

- a. Recommendations from the SWO Administrative Board

- 1) **The Synod Women's Organization Budget for the fiscal year: February 1-January 31**
- b. Resolutions
- c. Recommendations from the Committee on Reference and Counsel to add an item to the Agenda.
- d. Other actions as specified in *Robert's Rules of Order*.

9. CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

- A. Terms of office for those elected shall be two (2) years.
- B. Consideration shall be given to persons of color and/or persons whose primary language is other than English and/or persons with disabilities.
- C. Those elected shall be President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary and eight (8) Board Members .
- D. No more than one (1) person from each congregational unit may be elected to the Executive Committee or Administrative Board.
- E. All elections shall be by Zoom ballot (voting electronic or phone voice connection).
- F. Nominations from the floor shall be accepted by completing an online nomination form no later than 5 pm on Friday, Nov. 5, 2021 and submitting it electronically. Permission to place a nomination must be granted by that person prior to placing her name in nomination. A written or printed biography of the nominee shall be provided to all voting members when nomination is made.
- G. Eight (8) board members shall be elected as follows:
 - i. Each Board Member shall be from a different unit than the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
 - ii. The Administrative Board and the Executive Committee shall strive to include at least one (1) from each of the four 4) geographical areas of the Grand Canyon Synod:
 - a. North—Colorado River and High Country Conferences
 - b. East—Northeast Valley, Rio Salado and Fiesta Conferences
 - c. West-Cactus and Capital Conferences
 - d. South-Sunrise and Santa Cruz Conferences
 - iii. If only one (1) person is needed to complete the slate, the names of the two (2) nominees with the most votes will constitute the final ballot.
 - iv. In all elections, a majority of votes cast shall elect.

10. RANK ORDER PROCESS

This election is different than balloting for officers and board members. We are required to use a Rank Order Process for electing Triennial Voting Members, and this process divides the nominees into three categories, Ticket A, Ticket B and Ticket C. Since we are only electing two voting members this year, we may use the process for Ticket A and Ticket B only. According to the Constitution and Bylaws, there cannot be nominations from the floor for this category, as the nominations must have first come to the SWO Nominating Committee. Nominees for Ticket A are women of color and/or whose primary language is other than English. Nominees for Ticket B are women who are **first-time voting members from our Grand Canyon Synod Women's Organization**. **If needed, nominees for Ticket B are women needed to fill out the number of voters needed for our voting delegation.**

11. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

If any voting member desires to add any item of new business (i.e. a motion or resolution of a general character), she shall do so by completing the proper form. Submit the form to the President of the Grand Canyon Synod no later than Tuesday, November 2, 2021. The Committee on Reference and Counsel shall report to the convention its recommendations for handling such new business, which may include the recommendation that the matter not be considered. A two-thirds vote of the convention shall be required to add the item of new business to the agenda.

Actions taken by the convention shall be consistent with the documents of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and with the documents of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

12. SPEECHES

All speeches in general discussion, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds vote of the convention, shall be limited to two (2) minutes. No person shall speak more than twice on the same issue without the consent of the

convention and only after all others have spoken. Speakers must request through Zoom as instructed by the chair and identify themselves by name, congregational unit, city and state, to be recognized by the chair.

13. DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

After the convention is in session, permission to distribute materials must be secured from the Committee on Reference and Counsel.

14. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Wearing promotional buttons or slogans or the distribution of materials to promote one candidate over another is not permitted at the convention.

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Any business which cannot be completed by the scheduled hour of closing will be referred to the **Administrative Board of the Synodical Women's Organization** for action.

16. GOVERNING PARLIAMENTARY LAW

Robert's Rules of Order, Latest Edition shall be the governing law of this convention, except as otherwise provided in the Standing Rules of the Convention.

TIPS ON PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

TO DO THIS	YOU SAY THIS	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">May you interrupt?</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Is your motion debatable?</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Is your motion amendable?</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Vote required to pass.</div> </div>			
		No	Yes	Yes	
Move a motion (called a "main motion).	"I move that... (Not "I would like to move that ...")	No	Yes	Yes	Majority.
Amend a motion.	"I move to amend by ..." (adding, inserting, striking)	Yes	No	No	Majority unless otherwise indicated.
Postpone further debate, consideration or vote.	"I move that this matter be tabled"	No	No	No	Majority.
End debate and bring to a vote.	"I move the previous question ..."	No	No	No	2/3.
Refer a matter to another person or group.	"I move that this matter be referred to ..."	No	Yes	Yes	Majority.
Reconsider a previous action at this convention.	"I move to reconsider the vote on ..." (only if you voted on the winning side).	No	Yes*	No	Majority.
Object to procedures.	"Point of order"	Yes	No	No	Chair decides.
Challenge ruling of the chair.	"I appeal the chair's decision.	No	Yes	No	Majority.
Find out when a motion you wish to make can be made.	"When would it be in order for me to move that ..."	No	--	--	--
Request information.	"I wish to request ..." (information, clarification, etc.)	No	--	--	--
Get an exact count after a close vote (voice).	"I call for a division."	Yes	No	No	--

*If the original motion is debatable.

Glossary of Terms

Adopt—to choose or accept and put into effect (by vote or consensus)

Agenda—Items listed in order to be discussed.

Approve—to confirm or sanction formally; to ratify

Assembly—**The ELCA's term for the gathering of voting members for decision-making and legislative functions.**

Bold Connections—free monthly e-newsletter of Women of the ELCA

Bylaws—standing rules governing the regulation of the internal affairs of an organization

Café—web-based magazine for young adult women who want to build community, participate in advocacy, and strengthen their faith.

Conference—The groupings of congregational units and inter-congregational units within the territory of a **Synodical Women's Organization.**

Conference Planning Committee—Members elected or appointed at conference gatherings to plan and facilitate future gatherings and who remain in **communication with the Synod Women's Board**

Congregational Unit—**The women's ministry** organization in a congregation. This may be made up of smaller groups of women in the congregation, e.g., Bible study, altar guild, quilters, Café group, prayer shawl ministry, etc., but this is the term designated for the total activity/organization within the congregation.

Convention—The gathering of voting members for decision-making or legislative functions within the Women of the ELCA.

Churchwide Organization (CWO) - The national expression of Women of the ELCA, headquartered in Chicago in the same building as the central offices for the ELCA; and the CWO Board of Officers and Members representing regions across the USA and the Caribbean.

Fiscal Year—an accounting period generally 12 months, which does not necessarily coincide with the

calendar year. The fiscal year for Women of the ELCA is Feb 1 to Jan 31.

Gather - a monthly magazine for all women, developed by Women of the ELCA.

Gathering—term for meeting of women from the Units located within a conference or of an entire synod

Grand Canyon Synod Women of the ELCA Executive Committee—officers of the Synod, including President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer

Grand Canyon Synod Women of the ELCA Administrative Board—Officers and elected board members of the synod

In-Kind—given in goods, commodities, or acts or services rather than money

Inter-congregational unit—a local organization for women from two or more congregations that have no congregational units.

Majority—one more than half of the voting delegation.

Membership—refers to the congregational/inter-congregational units who have affiliated with Women of the ELCA. It does not refer to the individual woman within a congregation.

Memorial—A statement of facts, usually with a petition on some issues to be acted upon, brought to the triennial convention by a synod or Synodical **Women's Organization; resolution**

Participants-Individual women who choose to participate in a variety of activities that fulfill the purposes of the organization.

Quorum— minimum number required by constitution to conduct business.

Region-one of nine geographic territories of the ELCA. We are in Region 2 and our GC Synod is 2D

Resolution-an item to be acted upon which is brought to the Reference and Counsel Committee by a one or more voting members.

Roberts Rules of Order-the generally accepted rules by which meetings have been conducted since 1876.

Standing Rules of Convention-Those governing rules approved by the voting members and officers pertaining to the business procedures to be followed at the convention.

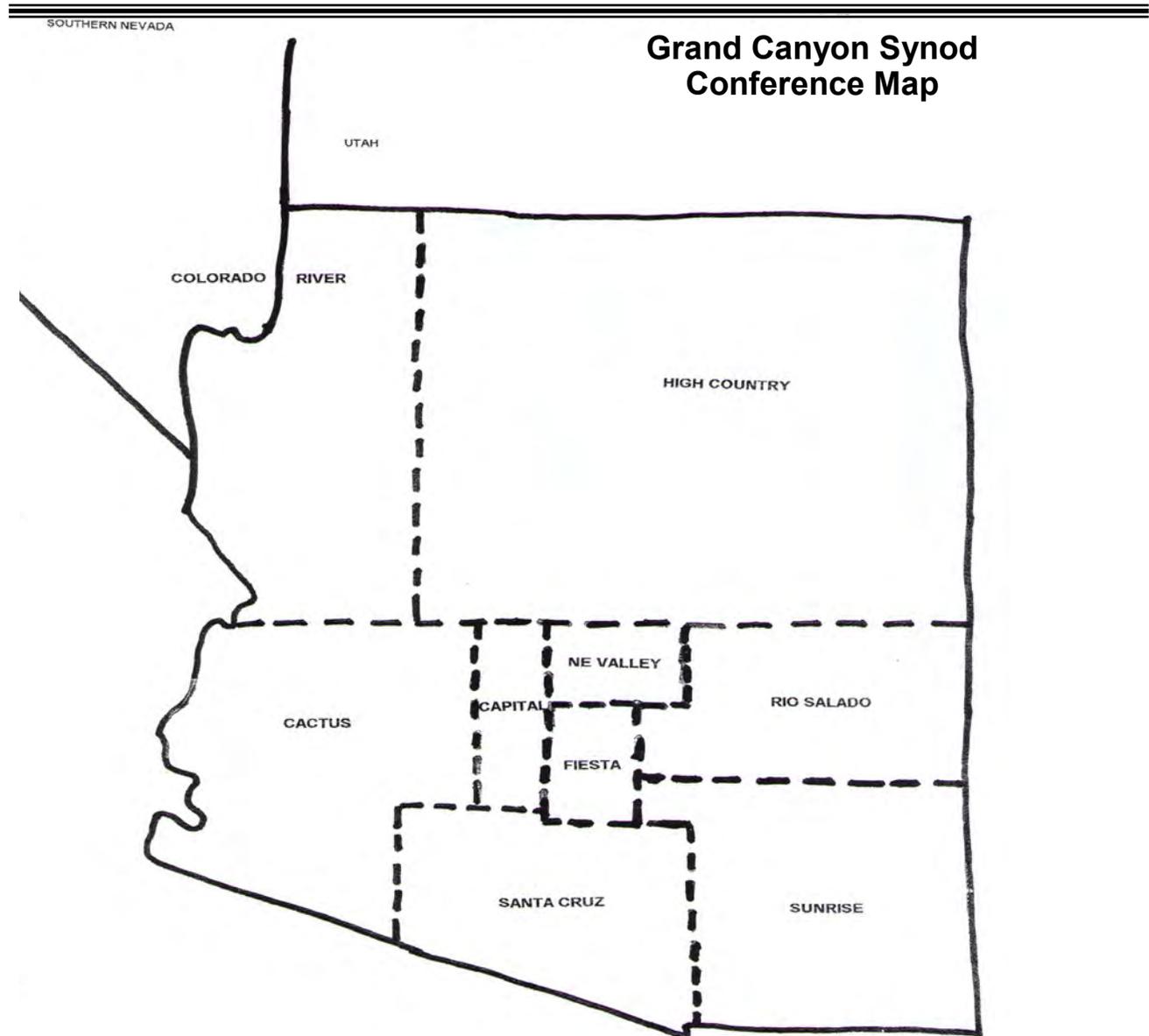
Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) - The Synodical expression of the Women of the ELCA with 4 officers and 8 board members in our Grand Canyon Synod, elected to serve and support women's ministries, programs, faith development and provide

opportunities to gather as a synod.

Synod-One of the 65 territories of the ELCA.

Triennial-Churchwide convention and gathering held every three (3) years.

Women of the ELCA-the shortened form of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. WELCA should only be used in conversation with women who have been involved and who know what you are talking about.



REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2023 TRIENNIAL CONVENTION VOTING MEMBERS

(note: these nominations are limited to one from each congregational unit)

Maria del Rosario Garcia Armando

La Sagrada Familia, Phoenix AZ (NE Valley Conference)

Woman of Color and/or Primary Language Other Than English: Yes (Latino)

Previous Triennial Voting Member: No

Age Category: 45 years or under

Congregation and Women's Ministry Service: I participated in women's ministry, there was a lot of union with the others.

Conference/Community Service: I participated in retreat of WELCA. I volunteer with my church, help and make it a better place.

Michelle Cegon

Gloria de Cristo Lutheran, Yuma AZ (Cactus Conference)

Woman of Color and/or Primary Language Other Than English: No

Previous Triennial Voting Member: No

Age Category: 56-64 years

Congregation and Women's Ministry Service: WELCA Convener 2014-2017.

Mental Health Ministry, Stephen Ministry.

Conference/Community Service: Global Engagement Team 2017-present, Grand Canyon Synod. Mental Health first-aid instructor.

Synodical Service: Senegal delegation 2017.

Diana Miranda

San Juan Bautista Lutheran, Tucson AZ (Santa Cruz Conference)

Woman of Color and/or Primary Language Other Than English: Yes (Latino)

Previous Triennial Voting Member: No

Age Category: 45 years or under

Congregation and Women's Ministry Service: I have been Parish administrator for San Juan Bautista Lutheran Church for the past 8 years.

Conference/Community Service: I participated in the first Grand Canyon WELCA Hispanic retreat in October 2019.

Synodical Service: I'm currently serving WELCA Grand Canyon Synod as a member of the board.

Julie Townsend

Spirit of Grace Lutheran, Surprise AZ (Cactus Conference)

Woman of Color and/or Primary Language Other Than English: No

Previous Triennial Voting Member: No

Age Category: 65+

Congregation and Women's Ministry Service: I am currently serving as president of SOG WELCA; am also on the SOG Church Council and sing in the Choir. Previously served as a host in Café Grace and as VP of SOG WELCA. Career-wise, I am a retired teacher of 23 years, my last 13 years I served as a middle school science teacher. I have been married for 47 years and have 3 daughters and 6 grandchildren.



ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Grand Canyon Synod Women of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
Scottsdale, AZ

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Grand Canyon Synod Women of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (a nonprofit association), which comprise the statement of financial position-modified cash basis as of January 31, 2021, and the related statement of activities-modified cash basis for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, and for determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable financial reporting framework.

We have performed the compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Management has determined this basis of accounting is appropriate for their purposes.

Management has elected to omit substantially all the disclosures ordinarily included in financial statements prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. If the omitted disclosures were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the company's assets, liabilities, net assets, income and expenses. Accordingly, the financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

We are not independent with respect to Grand Canyon Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

HRP CPAs

HRP CPAs
May 5, 2021
Las Vegas, Nevada

GRAND CANYON SYNOD WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION-MODIFIED CASH BASIS
AS OF JANUARY 31, 2021
(UNAUDITED)

ASSETS

Current assets	
Cash	\$ 20,915
Total current assets	20,915
Other assets	
Prepaid retreat expenses	4,013
Prepaid Triennial expenses	4,308
Total other assets	8,321
Total assets	\$ 29,236

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities	
Chase credit card payable	\$ 169
Cactus Conference	477
Capital Conference	477
Colorado River Conference	1,725
Northeast Valley Conference	72
Rio Salado Conference	813
High Country Conference	674
Sunrise/Santa Cruz Conference	2,324
Total current liabilities	6,731
Net assets	
Without donor restrictions	17,974
With donor restrictions	4,531
Total net assets	22,505
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 29,236

See Accountant's Compilation Report

GRAND CANYON SYNOD WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITES-MODIFIED CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2021
(UNAUDITED)

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenues			
Offerings	\$ 7,571	\$ -	\$ 7,571
Registration fees	860	-	860
Shirt sales	-	20	20
Other	109	-	109
Interest income	55	-	55
Total revenues	<u>8,595</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>8,615</u>
Expenses			
Board	318	-	318
Charitable contributions	4,172	-	4,172
Gather bible study	580	-	580
Insurance	11	-	11
Advertising and promotion	383	-	383
Bank service charges	96	-	96
Retreat	100	-	100
Rent	533	-	533
Total expenses	<u>6,193</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,193</u>
Change in net assets	2,402	20	2,422
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>15,572</u>	<u>4,511</u>	<u>20,083</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 17,974</u>	<u>\$ 4,531</u>	<u>\$ 22,505</u>

See Accountant's Compilation Report

Women of the ELCA
Grand Canyon Synod
Treasurer's Cash Report
February 1, 2018- January 31, 2021

	2/1/2018- 1/31/2019	2/1/2019- 1/31/2020	2/1/2020- 1/31/2021
Beginning Balance	\$ 23,574.68	\$ 21,932.98	\$ 19,656.92
Receipts:			
Offerings			
Congregational Unit Offerings	5,980.76	4,994.56	5,701.89
Love Offerings	5,786.80	3,867.00	1,809.00
Conference Gathering Offerings	5,608.64	6,265.00	2,398.00
Scholarship Offerings	1,900.00	75.00	-
Mission and Outreach Offerings	1,278.25	75.00	-
Gather Bible Study Offerings	1,896.50	1,311.00	-
Convention Offerings	3,215.69	100.00	-
Retreat Offerings	-	1,639.00	-
Special Offerings	-	415.00	-
Registrations			
Convention	10,690.00	-	-
Conference Gatherings	4,950.00	4,610.00	1,110.00
Retreat	-	3,730.00	-
Gather Bible Study	2,765.00	2,030.00	860.01
Latina Leadership Event	-	580.00	-
Latina Leadership Event Grant	-	2,250.00	-
Conference Gathering Fundraisers	1,410.00	511.00	400.00
Gathering Transportation Fees	1,786.00	-	-
Shirt Sales	729.50	530.00	20.00
Equipment Sale	220.00	-	-
Donations from Board	1,552.30	526.27	89.90
Interest Income-Mission Investment Fund	34.05	65.44	55.38
Amazon Smiles and Other Misc	19.77	179.38	108.78
Total Receipts	49,823.26	33,753.65	12,552.96
Disbursements:			
Offerings:			
Conference Love Offerings to GC WELCA	2,019.80	1,645.00	1,549.00
Women of the ELCA - Churchwide:			
General Offerings	6,714.05	6,913.78	2,758.95
Triennial Offering	-	2,500.00	900.00
Katie's Fund	375.00	-	-
Alleluia Diaper Closet	385.50	-	100.00
Family Promise of Las Vegas	-	655.50	-

Women of the ELCA
Grand Canyon Synod
Treasurer's Cash Report
February 1, 2018- January 31, 2021

	2/1/2018- 1/31/2019	2/1/2019- 1/31/2020	2/1/2020- 1/31/2021
Grace Lutheran Homeless Project	-	-	100.00
Lutheran Social Services of Nevada	285.00	-	-
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest	285.00	-	100.00
Lutheran World Relief			75.00
Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission:			
Hohzo Café	385.50	-	-
Love's Park	-	2,500.00	-
Other			500.00
Phoenix Dream Center	-	869.50	-
UMOM New Day Center Homeless Project	-	-	100.00
Conference Gatherings Outside Offerings	2,493.92	2,724.00	487.00
Bishop Hutterer Installation Gift	262.35	-	-
Convention Expenses	19,366.31	-	101.74
Board Travel and Meeting Expenses	1,788.23	2,799.95	317.06
Shirt Purchases	551.65	-	-
Conference Gathering Expenses	4,665.84	4,186.29	695.72
Retreat Expenses	-	3,606.64	100.00
2022 Retreat Deposit	-	2,000.00	1,911.00
Latina Leadership Event Expenses		2,235.08	-
Gather Bible Study Expenses	3,768.01	1,605.57	609.60
Mission and Outreach	1,683.84	-	-
SWO Scholarships	4,170.92	-	-
New Unit Recognition	250.00	-	-
2023 Triennial Promotional Expenses	-	368.20	231.80
Computer Supplies and Expense	169.98	-	
Advertising and Promotion	756.03	376.59	151.00
Travel Insurance (Women of the ELCA)	86.80	82.20	11.40
Storage Unit	567.96	592.68	533.04
Office Supplies	41.64	11.27	-
Credit Card Processing Charges	321.63	214.58	128.96
Interest		87.88	-
Postage	70.00	55.00	-
Total Disbursements	<u>51,464.96</u>	<u>36,029.71</u>	<u>11,461.27</u>
Net Change	<u>(1,641.70)</u>	<u>(2,276.06)</u>	<u>1,091.69</u>
Ending Balance (A)	<u>\$ 21,932.98</u>	<u>\$ 19,656.92</u>	<u>\$ 20,748.61</u>

Women of the ELCA
Grand Canyon Synod
Treasurer's Cash Report
February 1, 2018- January 31, 2021

	2/1/2018- 1/31/2019	2/1/2019- 1/31/2020	2/1/2020- 1/31/2021
(A) Summary of Cash Balances:			
Conference Funds:			
Cactus Conference	\$ 718.27	\$ 476.67	\$ 476.67
Capital Conference	432.56	476.94	476.94
Colorado River Conference	1,322.25	1,725.37	1,725.37
High Country Conference	683.33	674.07	674.07
NE Valley Conference	18.21	72.49	72.49
Rio Salado Conference	735.88	812.52	812.52
Sunrise/Santa Cruz Conference	1,585.29	1,642.99	2,323.99
Total Conference Funds	<u>5,495.79</u>	<u>5,881.05</u>	<u>6,562.05</u>
General Funds:			
Checking	9,899.21	6,971.30	7,326.62
Mission Investment Fund	6,739.12	6,804.57	6,859.94
Total General Funds	<u>16,638.33</u>	<u>13,775.87</u>	<u>14,186.56</u>
Total Balance on Hand	<u>\$ 22,134.12</u>	<u>\$ 19,656.92</u>	<u>\$ 20,748.61</u>

Women of the ELCA
Grand Canyon Synod
Budget
For the Fiscal Year 2/1/2022-1/31/2023

	Assumption Item #	APPROVED	ACTUAL*	PROPOSED
		2/1/2021- 1/31/2022	2/1/2021- 10/15/2021	2/1/2022- 1/31/2023
RECEIPTS:				
Unit Offerings	1	\$ 5,500	\$ 1,160	\$ 2,750
Love Offerings	2	700	950	1,500
Convention Offerings		-	550	-
Retreat 2022 Registration	3	-	-	10,800
Gather Bible Study/Virtual Gather Bible Study	4	600	-	800
Other Virtual Events (Zoom)	5	1,200	800	800
Board Offerings		-	120	-
Interest	6	56	23	35
Other SWO Misc		-	37	-
Operational Reserves infusion	7			600
Total Receipts		8,056	3,640	17,285
DISBURSEMENTS:				
Retreat 2022 Facilities Balance	8	-	-	8,298
Retreat 2022 Expenses	9			1,800
50% Regular Offerings to Churchwide	10	2,750	1,134	1,375
Grand Canyon Synod Growing Generosity Appeal (Yr 1 of 2)	11			600
Other Offerings		823	-	-
Gather Bible Study/Virtual Gather Bible Study	12	490	-	490
Other Virtual Events (Zoom)	12	800	400	400
Spanish Translation	13	900	100	1,050
Triennial Promotions 2-Year Reserve (\$600)	14	300	225	300
Triennial Offering 2-Year Reserve (\$1,200)	14	600	450	600
Triennial Scholarships 2-Year Reserve (\$750)	14	375	282	375
Synodical Board Expenses:				
Travel (Airfare and Mileage)	15	-	-	500
Postage and Supplies	16	75	-	75
GoogleSuite emails (President and Treasurer)	17	39	-	156
Advertising and Promotion	18	151	102	110
Storage Unit	19	678	503	728
Computer and Internet	20		120	120
Insurance	21	-	-	10
Contingency		-	-	148
Bank/Paypal/WePay Charges	22	75	60	150
Total Disbursements		8,056	3,376	17,285
Surplus (Deficit)		\$ -	\$ 264	\$ 0

See Assumptions page.

Grand Canyon Synod Women of the ELCA 2018-2021

Executive Committee

President

Myrna Wells-Ulland (*Living Water—NE Valley*)
4555 E Mayo Blvd, #6418
Phoenix AZ 85050
218-340-6735 (c)
myrna.ulland@gmail.com
president@grandcanyonwomen.org

Vice-President

Gail Turner (*Faith-Capital*)
520 W Clarendon, Unit D3
Phoenix AZ 85013
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gmturmer0123@aol.com

Secretary

Phyllis Borchardt (*Spirit of Grace-Cactus*)
17138 N Estrella Vista Dr
Surprise AZ 85374
623-521-0790 (c)
pdb12262012@gmail.com

Treasurer

Debbie Romboletti (*Community—Colorado River*)
1111 Heaton Ave
Henderson NV 89052
702-875-2013 (c)
treas@grandcanyonwomen.org

Board Members as of November 2021

Susan Holverson (*Our Savior's East Mesa—Rio Salado*)
7322 E Balmoral Ave
Mesa AZ 85208
480-980-8316 (c)
susandrane@yahoo.com

Rossy Guzman (*La Sagrada Familia—NE Valley*)
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Wanda Frenchman (*Native American Urban Ministry-Capital*)
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Berkley Harris (*University-Fiesta*)
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Heidi Urbina (*Beautiful Savior-Santa Cruz*)
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Kathy Swan (*Christ the Lord—NE Valley*)
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Alice Natale (*Mount Cross-High Country*)
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Diana Miranda (*San Juan Bautista-Santa Cruz*)
4824 E Orchard Grass Dr
Tucson AZ 85756
520-288-1438 (c)
diana07113@gmail.com

Report of Committee on Credentials

	Saturday	
Unit Voting Members		
Synod Officers & Board Members		
Total Voting Strength		
Churchwide Representative		
Non-voting members		
Guests		
Total in Attendance		

**Do not be daunted by the
 Enormity of the world's grief.
 Do justly, now.
 Love mercy, now.
 Walk humbly, now.
 You are not obligated to
 complete the work, but neither
 are you free to abandon it.**

-the Talmud



History of Women of the ELCA



Lutheran women in the United States have been gathering in mission since the 1800s, and we owe much to our foremothers who responded to God's call, created a place and lived out a purpose when women had no voice in the church.

Three groups came together in 1987 to form Women of the ELCA. These groups were the American Lutheran Church Women (of the American Lutheran Church), the Lutheran Church Women (of the Lutheran Church in America) and Women in Action for Mission (of the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches). The constituting convention was held June 13-14, 1987 in Milwaukee WI, with the theme "Embrace God's World." The organization was officially constituted January 1, 1988, with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Communication tools would soon follow. The magazine, Lutheran Woman Today, began publishing in January 1988 and Newsletter (the predecessor to Interchange) followed in June of that year. The organization's first website was inaugurated in 1995. Café, our electronic magazine for young women, launched in 2006, with podcasts to follow.

In 2011, Lutheran Woman Today changed its name to Gather, and continued providing award-winning content (Bible studies and articles) to more than 45,000 readers, with a pass-along rate of 3 additional people per subscriber.



The organization's first smart phone app, Daily Grace, was unveiled in 2011 (available for IOS and Android).

Various program initiatives were launched in 1988, some of which continue today, such as our scholarship program. Initiatives came and went, meeting the needs of the women at the time. Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls, the organization's health initiative, began in 2005. Bold Women's Day, an annual celebration of our mission and the women who accomplish it, launched in 2007.

Today, the organization is active in approximately 4,500 of the 8,900 ELCA congregations and in 64 of the 65 synods (the only synod without a synodical organization is the Slovak Zion Synod, the ELCA's only non-geographical synod).

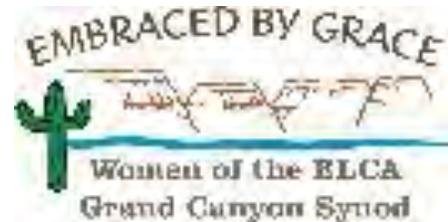
Our purpose hasn't wavered since we created our first constitution. "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world."

Since constituting in 1988, Women of the ELCA has belonged to the women; it is self-incorporated. No money from the ELCA budget is given to Women of the ELCA; all monetary support comes from the women themselves through individual and group offerings and gifts.

Thanks to you, Women of the ELCA continues its ministry today.

Grand Canyon Synod Women's Convention & Theme History

- 1987:"Joyfully United" Constituting Convention Holiday Inn/Holidome, Phoenix, AZ
- 1988:"Woven Together in Love" Radisson Suite Hotel, Phoenix, AZ
- 1989:"Aglow With the Spirit" Hilton, Las Vegas, NV
- 1990:"Go and Tell" Hilton Pavilion, Mesa, AZ
- 1991:"Empowered by the Spirit" El Conquistador, Tucson, AZ
- 1992:"Our Father's World...We Care" Sheraton Resort, Prescott, AZ
- 1993:"Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice" Hotel Westcourt, Phoenix, AZ
- 1994:"Saint's Alive" Ramada (Downtown), Tucson, AZ
- 1995:"I Am the Good Shepherd" Sheraton, Mesa, AZ
- 1996:"Fiesta of the Spirit" The Showboard, Las Vegas, NV
- 1997:"Wonder, Worship, Praise" Asilomar, California
- 1998:"Ready for the Journey" Embassy Suites, Phoenix, AZ
- 1999:"Rooted in Christ" Hilton East, Tucson, AZ
- 2000:"Living in Christ" Hilton Mesa Pavilion, Mesa, AZ
- 2001:"Share God's Gifts" Prescott Resort, Prescott, AZ
- 2002:
- 2003:"Listen, God is Calling—Called to Care" Hilton East, Tucson, AZ
- 2004:"Listen, God is Calling—Called to Action" Prescott Resort, Prescott, AZ
- 2005:"Free to Be Bold" Hilton Phoenix Airport, Phoenix, AZ
- 2006:"Act Boldly for Peace" Hilton Tucson East, Tucson, AZ
- 2007:"Pathway to Wellness" Phoenix Marriott Mesa, Mesa, AZ
- 2008:"Enriching Your Body by Loving the Lord Your God" Prescott, AZ
- 2009:"Come to the Waters....and Hear Him Call" Laughlin, NV
- 2010:"Come to the Waters...Answering His Call" Embassy Suites, Phoenix/Southdale, AZ
- 2011:"Renew Our Steadfast Spirit" Sheraton Hotel & Suites, Tucson, AZ
- 2012:"Sisters of the Faith Celebrate Faith of the Sisters" Double Tree Hilton, Gilbert, AZ
- 2014:"Lifeline Connections" High Country Conference Center, Flagstaff, AZ
- 2016:"God Acting Through Us" Alexis Park Resort, Las Vegas, NV
- 2021: "Convening With our Sisters in Christ" - virtual/digital convention only via Zoom



(convention moved to biennial years beginning in 2012)

Women of the ELCA Triennial Conventions, then Gathering Themes

- 1987: Constituting Convention, Milwaukee, WI "Embrace God's World"
- 1990: First Triennial Convention & Gathering, Anaheim, CA "Celebrate God's Creation"
- 1993: Second Triennial Convention & Gathering, Washington, DC "God's Gift of Hope"
- 1996: Third Triennial Convention & Gathering, Minneapolis, MN "Proclaim God's Peace"
- 1999: Fourth Triennial Convention & Gathering, St. Louis, MO "Live God's Justice"
- 2002: Fifth Triennial Convention & Gathering, Philadelphia, PA "Listen, God is Calling"
- 2005: Sixth Triennial Convention & Gathering, San Antonio, TX "Act Boldly"
- 2008: Seventh Triennial Convention & Gathering, Salt Lake City, UT "Come to the Waters"
- 2011: Eighth Triennial Convention & Gathering, Spokane, WA "Renew, Respond, Rejoice"
- 2015: Ninth Triennial Convention & Gathering, Charlotte, NC "of many generations"
- 2018: Tenth Triennial Convention & Gathering, Minneapolis, MN "All Anew"
- 2021: 11th Triennial Digital/Virtual Convention via Zoom (2020 convention /gathering postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic; 2021 Triennial Gathering cancelled)
- 2023: 12th Triennial Convention, Spokane, WA

GRAND CANYON SYNOD WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION PRESIDENTS

June Klar 1987-1991

Helen Johnson 1991-1993

Linda Leigh 1993-1994

Dorothy Bartos 1994-1995

Sue Gilmore 1995-1999

Shirley Rasmussen 1999-2003

Pat Collins 2003-2006

Susan Drane 2006-2011

Laura Krueger 2011-2016

Myrna Wells-Ulland 2016-2021



What is an active unit?

How to define an “active” unit

What does it mean to be an active unit of Women of the ELCA? Your unit must commit to four items in order to be recognized as “active” and it’s so easy to accomplish! Active units are the designation for the women’s ministry in your congregation. All women are therefore participants in your active unit, choosing how they want to participate.

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

Come together for study, support, and action

There is no prescribed way to come together for study, support, and action. How your particular group of women comes together can change as the makeup of the group changes or your needs change. Not everyone in a unit needs to participate in every activity. Units can have as many smaller groups of women as you’d like, each carrying out a different activity. There is no requirement to have or designate “circles” within your women’s ministry.

Study could mean coming together monthly for the Bible study found in *Gather* magazine, or a group could gather regularly to discuss the featured topic in *Café*. You could also come together using one of our many program resources. Or choose your own video-based study or a book study. Do what works and is of interest for your women!

Supporting each other can come in many forms. It could be expressed by praying together or organizing a prayer chain. It could involve a “secret sister” or “secret angel” exchange.

Action could involve working in a food pantry, writing letters to elected officials, making relief quilts or knitting prayer shawls, or advocating for the homeless or those who have no voice. These are examples of action.

Participate beyond the congregation

Programming and activities occur in several different expressions of Women of the ELCA. The women in your unit could attend an event sponsored by the Grand Canyon synodical women’s organization, such as a retreat or convention or gathering. Some local area conferences are very active and offer regular programming in which to participate. Subscribing to *Gather*, *Interchange*, or *Café* are all ways to participate in our ministry beyond the congregation, as is attending a triennial gathering or an event sponsored by the churchwide women’s organization.

Support financially the total program

Most questions about whether a unit is “active” involve this question: What does it mean to support financially the total program of Women of the ELCA?

In the fullest sense, the women in a unit would regularly be doing all of the following:

Collecting regular offerings and sharing a portion with their synodical women’s organization.

Having regular Thankoffering services and sending 100% of the Thankofferings to the churchwide women’s organization.

Supporting designated giving programs of Women of the ELCA.

Participating in occasional giving opportunities, like the anniversary of the organization, a memorial, or even disaster relief.

Subscribing to *Gather* and *Interchange*.

Purchasing other resources produced by Women of the ELCA.

Some of our units do indeed support the organization in all these ways. Others may do one or two of these things. There are likely growth opportunities for most units in this area, and so we encourage all units to grow in their financial support of Women of the ELCA.

Designate leadership to be in communication

This is a simple requirement. One person in the unit needs to be a contact person, so that information from the synodical and churchwide women’s organizations can be provided to the unit through this person.