

Northern Highlights

January 2023 -- Volume 26, Number 1

Northern Illinois Synod WELCA

VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT

Today is a beautiful day with a new covering of white snow but not a problem for driving. It is time for a new beginning. Last week, my own church circle met in person, as they have for the past year, to discuss the first of a new four-session Bible study in the *Gather Magazine*. Pastor Christa Von Zychlin leads us to consider God's gift to the Israelites of the Ten Words, which we know as the Ten Commandments. Can we look at them as "God calling us into a relationship of goodness and delight" as a gift from God?

The NISWO Board met on Zoom Saturday, January 21, 2023, with **hope and encouragement for the coming year**. We completed the current fiscal year by sending the remaining donated funds to designated recipients that are in our budget and treasurer's report. This includes 78% of Regular offerings and 100% of Thankofferings, to support the programs and resources of our churchwide Women of the ELCA, funds for our companion women's groups in India and Tanzania, and support for other ministries, such as Grace Place at NIU, Our Saviour's, Rocky Boy, and Lutheran Social Services of Illinois.

We welcomed newly elected board member, Greta Bates for Central Conference, and Carolyn Ciaccio, who was appointed for North Conference. Representatives for East and Northwest are still needed, as well as our **President**. Please help us fill these three positions. The Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention is September 19-21 and the Gathering, September 21-24 in Phoenix, Arizona. Voting members will include Debra Quinn, Sheila Keene, and our **President**, who will be appointed by the Board. If you are interested in attending the Gathering, contact Sandy Swanson, Triennial promoter (see page 9 for contact info).

We are again planning an in-person **Spring Retreat at LOMC**, the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center in Oregon, Illinois, on **Saturday, April 29**. Registration is due April 1 and scholarship applications sent by March 15. Please arrive between 8:30 and 9:00 am, with closing about 3:00 pm. We will celebrate sing-

ing together with our music leader, Ann Terry. A poster/flyer with registration and scholarship forms will be sent soon by email from your conference representative to your church or unit. The theme is "**Women at the Well**" and the special verse is John 4:11b "Where do you get that living water?" Pastor Makayla Dahleen from St. Paul in Sterling, will lead the Bible study and the worship service. She is planning interesting activities. Please mark the date on your calendar and watch for the flyer and forms.

Katie's Fund of churchwide Women of the ELCA will present a **\$1,000 grant** for synod projects, which satisfies one or more of the three categories for support: 1— Leadership Development, 2— Global Connection, or 3— Living Theology. The grant must be used by July 31, 2023, and reported by August 1, 2023, to celebrate in September what has been possible.

Our **Annual NISWO Convention** will be held on **Saturday, October 7**, at St. John's in Peru, IL. It will include workshops this year. Synod officers and Conference representatives will be elected. The workshops and Katie's Fund project could reflect the work or study of our committees for a) Discipleship - companion synod accompaniment, b) Justice - native, racial, immigrant, and human trafficking, and c) Stewardship - "For our Daughters" and sharing our gifts. Watch for announcements and discussions as plans develop during the year.

It would be wonderful if any of you could help by serving as representative for one of the vacant conference representative positions or say yes when the nominating committee gives you a call. If you have served on the board, you know what a great experience it is to get to know others in the synod and share interests in service to others near and far.

Blessings to you and yours,

Ruth Anne Hartman

NIS WELCA Vice President

TREASURER'S REPORT

Kim Choin

	2022/23	2/1/22-1/23/23	2023/24
Beginning Balance	APPROVED	\$9,306.55	APPROVED
INCOME	BUDGET		BUDGET
Regular-Conference Offerings	\$11,000.00	\$10,986.83	\$9,000.00
Convention Offerings	\$2,000.00	\$2,857.00	\$1,500.00
Convention Registrations	\$3,500.00	\$2,710.00	\$2,000.00
CW Thankoffering		\$512.45	
Conference Offering-100% to CW		\$150.00	
Retreat Registrations	\$3,000.00	\$1,585.00	\$2,000.00
Retreat Donation toward Expense		\$100.00	
Retreat Offering-Thankoffering to CW	\$450.00	\$797.97	\$800.00
<i>Northern Highlights subscriptions</i>	\$100.00	\$80.00	\$50.00
Prison Ministry & LSSI Story Book	\$500.00	\$190.00	\$500.00
OSLC, Rocky Boy	\$500.00	\$620.00	\$500.00
Tanzania North Central Diocese Woman's Dept	\$500.00	\$3,333.00	\$500.00
TZ Triennial Guest		\$300.00	
India-Pr Jane Anitha-Siloam Boarding School		\$600.00	
India-Arcot Women's Desk	\$500.00	\$655.00	\$500.00
Grace Place (Formerly-NIU Campus Ministry)	\$500.00	\$285.00	\$500.00
Dollars For Our Daughters		\$580.00	\$500.00
Triennial Voting Member	\$1,700.00	\$100.00	
Triennial Offering	\$100.00		\$100.00
Triennial International Guest Next In-person Meeting	\$3,000.00		\$1,000.00
Total Income	\$27,350.00	\$26,442.25	\$19,450.00
DISBURSEMENTS			
Regular Offerings to CWO	\$8,580.00	\$8,570.47	\$7,020.00
Convention Offerings to CWO (50%)	\$1,000.00	\$1,430.00	\$500.00
Conference Offering to CWO (100%)		\$150.00	
2023 Retreat Offering to CWO (50%)			\$400.00
2022 Retreat Offering to CWO (Thank Offering-100%)	\$225.00	\$797.97	
Thankofferings Received from Conferences (100%-CW)		\$513.00	
Convention Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$3,584.61	\$1,750.00
Convention Scholarships	\$500.00		\$500.00
Retreat Expenses	\$2,900.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,500.00
Retreat Scholarships	\$100.00		\$100.00
Nominating Committee	\$100.00		\$100.00
Board Expenses	\$775.00	\$993.12	\$700.00
Financial Records	\$100.00		\$100.00
ELCA Federal Credit Union(NIS WELCA New Account)		\$500.00	
ELCA Insurance	\$100.00		\$100.00
Communications	\$100.00	\$411.44	\$100.00
<i>Northern Highlights</i>	\$220.00	\$16.80	\$180.00
Triennial Scholarships	\$800.00		\$800.00

Triennial Offerings	\$100.00		\$100.00
Triennial Promoter	\$50.00		\$50.00
Triennial International Guest	\$3,000.00		\$1,000.00
Triennial NIS Voting Member	\$1,700.00		\$500.00
Discipleship	\$300.00	\$280.00	\$250.00
Justice-Raising White Kids/DSM SURJ	\$300.00	\$1,210.00	\$250.00
Stewardship	\$300.00		\$250.00
Prison Ministry & LSSI Story Book	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
OSLC, Rocky Boy	\$500.00	\$2,050.00	\$500.00
Tanzania North Central Diocese Woman's Dept	\$500.00	\$3,333.00	\$500.00
India-Pr Jane Anitha-Siloam Boarding School		\$600.00	
India-Arcot Women's Desk**	\$500.00	\$1,655.00	\$500.00
Grace Place (Formerly NIU Campus Ministry)	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
LOMC Gift		\$100.00	\$100.00
WELCA Presidents' Meeting Offering	\$100.00		\$100.00
NIS Assembly Expenses	\$400.00		\$400.00
NIS Assembly Offering	\$100.00		\$100.00
Total Disbursements	\$27,350.00	\$28,545.41	\$19,450.00
Total Income less Disbursements		\$7,203.39	
Balance in ELCA Federal Credit Union		\$500.00	
Total Bank Balance		\$7,703.39	
		Designated Funds Bal	
Triennial Scholarships		\$1,200.00	
Computer Fund		\$1,000.00	
Triennial Guest (2022 Budget-\$3,000.00)		\$2,550.00	
Triennial Voting Member (2022 Budget \$1,700.00)		\$1,550.00	
Do It For Our Daughters*		\$840.00	
		\$7,140.00	
Outstanding Due Churchwide:		\$0.00	
Undesignated Funds		\$63.39	
Balance in ELCA Federal Credit Union		\$500.00	
Bank balance 1/23/23 Year:		\$563.39	
*Resolution passed at 9/17/22 Convention			
**\$1,000 from 2021 was sent in 2022 to India Women's Desk			

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Greta Bates, Central Representative

Please send your representative information on your upcoming events or a recap of the events you recently held so they can be highlighted in your newsletter.

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Sheila Keene, NISWO Secretary

The NISWO Board met via Zoom on Saturday, January 21, 2023. Devotions were led by Ruth Anne Hartman.

Kim Choin explained the Treasurer's Report, which can be found in this newsletter.

Greta Bates, Central Conference, and Carolyn Ciaccio, North Conference, have joined the Board. We are still in need of a president, as well as representatives from the East and Northwest conferences.

Joan Soltwich spoke as the Justice advocate, Ann Terry spoke as the Stewardship advocate, and Debra Quinn submitted a written report as Discipleship advocate. Their articles are included in this newsletter.

The Retreat will be held April 29, 2023, at LOMC, Oregon, and the Convention will be held October 7, 2023, at St. John's Lutheran, Peru. This year, there will be workshops offered at the Convention. Be sure to periodically check the Women of the ELCA website for news pertaining to the Twelfth Triennial Convention currently scheduled for September 19-21, 2023, in Phoenix, Arizona.

The next board meeting will be May 13, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

DISCIPLESHIP

Debra Quinn, NISWO Discipleship Advocate

This edition of the Highlights Newsletter will focus on Elimaria Wilfred of Tanzania. Her pen pal in northern Illinois is Miriam Wade-Hicks. Miriam is a retired school social worker who lives in Aurora and who currently works part-time as a social worker for Family Counseling of Aurora. Miriam is married with four children and two grandchildren. She enjoys cooking, gardening, and trips to Disney World.



Elimaria Wilfred has been married for eleven years and has four children, three boys and one girl. Her daughter joined their family five years ago when the girl's father passed away. This is very common in Tanzania for families to take in children whose parents are unable to care for them or have died. Elimaria owns a small business that is called Elimaria Collections where she sells personal garments. Elimaria and her husband are both Christians and are involved in their church.

STEWARDSHIP

Ann Terry, NISWO Stewardship Advocate

Hello, sisters in Christ in our Northern Illinois Synod and a Blessed and Happy New Year to all of you! I recently wrote out our checks for charities; something I do every year (right after Christmas when I have finally mailed all my Christmas cards, finished shopping, and wrapped up Christmas services and programs at church). The thing that strikes me every year is the personal connection I have for every charity we donate to. For every charity, there is a person that started our annual giving to that charity. I had a student teacher who suffered from cystic fibrosis, so I give to the cystic fibrosis foundation in honor of Matt. A dear friend of mine had a grandson who spent a long period of time in and out of hospitals and was blessed to be able to stay at a Ronald McDonald House near Cincinnati. I think of Jax whenever I make out that check. And on it goes... every charity we give to has a personal connection. I am challenging all women who read this article to think of

your personal connection to Women of the ELCA or an "other person connection" and choose a ministry to donate to. Maybe just sending a donation to our own Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA. Or maybe sending a donation to *Gather* beyond your subscription, in appreciation of all the good articles you find there. Perhaps you have a good friend who is a nurse, so you might make a donation to the Tanzania Nursing Project. If you have a daughter, or know of a young woman you want to see get involved in Women of the ELCA, make a donation to Dollars for Daughters and educate them about this new program. I was touched when a friend of mine donated to Dollars for Daughters as a Christmas gift to me. All of the ministries of Women of the ELCA could use our financial support, so let's make 2023 a year of personally connected giving by lots of Lutheran Ladies out there in our synod!

NORTH CONFERENCE

Representative Needed

Meet your new North Representative... My name is Carolyn Ciaccio and I am a member of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Rockford. I enjoy serving on our Church Council and the Worship and Music Committee. I also enjoy being a part of the *Gather* magazine Living Vine Women's Bible Study. I am looking forward to serving as the North Representative for the NIS Synod, meeting new people and being a part of this women's ministry organization of the ELCA!

First, Rockford Our Naomi Circle *Gather* Bible study meets on the second Wednesday at Katie's Cup. We have lunch first and then our Bible Study. Miriam Circle meets the third Wednesday at Stockholm Inn for lunch and devotions.

We did a special project in December for Constance Lane Elementary School. It was a group project with our congregation. We made enough little 'snowmen' for all four kindergarten classes and all four first grade classes. We had a waffle, bacon and sausage breakfast first and then put together

the gifts for the students. Everyone got involved and really had a good time!

We are planning a special breakfast on February 12, for our congregation and then we will be filling Valentine bags with candy and a special homemade card for the guests at Carpenter's Place. This will also be a group project with our congregation.

Our Saviors, Rockford Our new WELCA Board was installed at our annual Christmas Music event on a Sunday afternoon in December and their first Board Meeting was held in January - their work has begun.



NORTHEAST CONFERENCE

Deb Quinn, Northeast Representative

Trinity, Harvard The women are collecting dish soap and bar soap during the month of January to be given to the Harvard Food Pantry. In February, they will be hosting their annual Pre-Lenten Breakfast which is open to all. They will also reach out to other local churches to invite them to a meal and a service.

Nativity, Wonder Lake meets on Zoom the first Monday for business and a Bible study using *Gather* magazine and other materials provided through Churchwide WELCA. They are beginning a "first Friday luncheon" at a local restaurant.

R-Mission for Lutheran World Relief Projects put together and shipped - 15 Baby Care Kits, 41 Fabric Kits, 1,001 Personal Care Kits, 350 Quilts, and 494 School Kits.

The Women's Christmas Celebration Dinner was attended by 40 women on December 8, with entertainment by the Robert & Linette Chamberlin's Music Program. Prayer Shawls and Baptismal Blankets are knitted or crocheted by church women and shared at special times throughout the year.



Prelude Bible study taught by Pastor Janet Hunt using *Gather* magazine, meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday morning of each month.

Besides continuing the above activities in 2023, our annual Garage Sale is scheduled for April 15th. The proceeds will go to NISWO to be sent to our Tanzanian companion, the North Central Diocese for the Women and Children's Minis-



First, DeKalb Project Group is grateful to be back in-person weekly, but did do some sewing while at home during COVID. The group made 64 lap robes for two local Nursing Homes, made a stole for First Lutheran's Intern, stoles for confirmation kids, and numbers for acolytes' robes.

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

Representative Needed

Greetings from the cloudy Northwest Conference! Hopefully by the time you receive this, we'll have seen the sun more often. I do appreciate that for the most part, the roads have been clear. Regardless of the weather though, we should remember Psalm 118:24, *"This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."*

St. John's, Pearl City St. John's Women's Gathering in Pearl City had a busy December with the Christmas "Joy" evening that included a potluck, Christmas bingo and a fun white elephant gift exchange. Many went to the Deer Ridge Ministry Tea and Timberlake's "Plaid Tidings." We collected donations from our members and gave a \$50 gift card to each of the 22 families from the Pearl City School District to make their Christmas merrier. We collected enough to give over \$100 to the Pearl City Food Pantry. We meet the first Tuesday of each month from 9 a.m. – Noon for dominoes and the fourth Thursday from 1 – 3:30 p.m. for cards and dominoes in Luther Hall. All are invited. Our Women's Gathering Bible study and fellowship are on the third Tuesday of each month from 9:45 a.m.-11 a.m. We continue with our prayer shawl ministry and prayer chain. We will be serving a simple soup supper before our Lenten service. Soup served at 6 p.m. and service at 6:30 p.m. in Luther Hall. All are welcome!

Trinity, Lanark: Our WELCA meetings are each month (as usual) with the Bible Study from the *Gather* magazine, followed by a business meeting and light refreshments. In

March we are going to host a Birthday Party at Allure (nursing home) in Mt. Carroll. Then in May, we will have World Hunger Sunday activities that involve our entire congregation.

Lord of Love, Galena Hello from Lord of Love Lutheran Church in Galena! We meet on the third Monday of the month at 219 Summit Street at 1:00 p.m. and have a group that meets during the evening on the second week of the month for those that are unable to meet during the day. Our daytime group uses the *Gather* magazine as a focus for conversation and is led by a volunteer leader each month. We also include a Business Meeting afterwards, with the exception of July and August. The evening group discusses a book or another topic of choice and may also share a meal. We have an annual dues collection of \$25 (increased to \$35 for 2023). We used this for donations to LWR, ELCA Disaster Relief, Grace Place, ARC in Galena, Riverview Center, Almost Home, Good Gifts and Midwest Medical Center Auxiliary *Tree of Love*. The Quilters sent 22 quilts to the In-gathering in September 2022, for worldwide distribution through LWR. Sadly, we have lost two of our dear members with the passing of Wanda Luebke, 98, who was an active member until she found her Eternal Peace in October and Mary Nelson, 92, who moved to Chicago to live with her daughter. We have a feeling of gratefulness that we are able to gather and share our time and thoughts.

SOUTH CONFERENCE

Sherry Morris, South Representative

I send warm winter greetings to my fellow Lutheran women. I hope you are all safe and well.

At this time, I don't think we have any active WELCA units in the South Conference and although that makes me sad, I understand. I hope many of you are still receiving *Gather* magazine and are able to read the articles and also the Bible study. The January-February issue has parts one and two of a three part study on the Ten Commandments. It should be very enlightening.

We are fast approaching Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent... Easter seems early this year. I am beginning to see Bible studies and devotionals for the weeks of Lent. I am doing a daily devotional with my 91-year old mother this year via the phone (she lives in the foothills outside Denver). We are excited about starting. It might be something you would like to think about... keeping it simple makes it less overwhelming. I hope you can give it a try.

The ELCA has designated mid-January to February 11 as *Human Trafficking Awareness* time. We are all asked to pray daily to help put an end to the suffering, fear and hopelessness that those being trafficked and their families endure. Approximately eighty percent of the humans traf-

ficked are women and girls. Human trafficking includes involuntary servitude, slavery, debt bondage or forced labor. It is the second largest and fastest growing trade in the world. We need to find ways to educate people and put an end to all types of trafficking. Check the ELCA website to see things you can do to make a difference. And continue to PRAY!

If your church is doing activities, such as quilting or gathering items for health kits, let me know. Even if your WELCA unit is not active, the women in your congregation are still doing God's work and I would like to share that with other women in our conference. Maybe you are inspiration for another group. You just never know how God plans to use you.

Also, our board is still in need of a president. Consider listening for God's voice... He could be saying that you are perfect for the job. If you have any questions about what that would involve, please let me know and I will be sure to have someone talk with you.

God's peace to you.

2023 NORTHERN ILLINOIS SYNODICAL BOARD MEMBERS

President	Representative Needed Please
Vice President	Ruth Anne Hartman (309) 787-3351 6522 95th Ave. Ct. W., Taylor Ridge, IL 61284 <u>Email:</u> wrahartman@mchsi.com
Secretary	Sheila Keene (815) 297-3044 614 S. Rantoul St., Lena, IL 61048 <u>Email:</u> skmk93@gmail.com
Treasurer	Kim Choin (815) 728-1064 7400 E. Oakwood Dr., Wonder Lake, IL 60097 <u>Email:</u> kimchoin007@yahoo.com
Justice	Joan Soltwisch (815) 690-3658 16191 Hare Rd., Minooka, IL 60447 <u>Email:</u> jksoltwischblue@yahoo.com
Stewardship	Ann Terry (815) 434-4876 817 East 2219 Rd., Marseilles, IL 61341 <u>Email:</u> ann_terry1@aol.com
Central	Greta Bates (815) 875-7757 26779 3450 East St. La Moille, IL 61330 <u>Email:</u> maurystat@yahoo.com
East	Representative Needed Please
North	Carolyn Ciaccio (815) 262-9594 2332 Nebraska Rd., Rockford, IL 61108 <u>Email:</u> ciaccio.lawrence@yahoo.com
Northeast/ Discipleship	Debra Quinn (630) 334-0330 211 N. Cross St., Sycamore, IL 60178 <u>Email:</u> DebraQuinn1@comcast.net
Northwest	Representative Needed Please
South	Sherry Morris (815) 339-6317 PO Box 670, Granville, IL 61326 <u>Email:</u> lutheransx2@yahoo.com
Southwest	Mary Shull (309) 371-7002 262 - 340th St., Rio, IL 61472 <u>Email:</u> mjshull77@hotmail.com
West	Cindy Wildermuth (309) 524-4800 3713 - 14 Street Dr., Moline, IL 61265 <u>Email:</u> cindy5244@yahoo.com
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Triennial Promoter	Sandy Swanson (309) 525-0864 230 Birch Pl., Kewanee, IL 61443 <u>Email:</u> sandykayswanson@yahoo.com

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

Mary Shull, Southwest Representative

Please send your representative, Mary, information on your upcoming events, or a recap of the events you recently held so they can be highlighted in your

WEST CONFERENCE

Cindy Wildermuth, West Representative

Cambridge is beginning to meet and hope to serve meals during Lent.

St. James, Rock Island meets and uses the *Gather* Magazine for discussion. They have been using the recorded version because the magazine is late. They also serve a meal at the rescue mission every other week.

Trinity All four circles are meeting on different days. Two of them use the *Gather* magazine, another meets and changes the decorations and the fourth one meets off-site for a meal and discussion on various topics. We hold a board meeting on the first Tuesday every month. Each circle takes a month to serve coffee and doughnuts between services. Leftover doughnuts are wrapped and put in our small food pantry outside.

Please join us at the West Conference Spring Assembly at St. James in Rock Island, on April 22, Watch for additional details.

EAST CONFERENCE

Representative Needed

Prayerfully consider serving as your East Conference Representative. Contact any member of the Board for more information or to volunteer today!

Sacrifice LIKE Esther
Love LIKE Ruth
Serve LIKE Martha
Pray LIKE Hannah
Believe LIKE Mary
Dance LIKE Miriam

Did you see the e-mail from Candice Buchbinder with ELCA (candice.buchbinder@elca.org) on Thursday, January 19? It was titled "Bishop Eaton and Abrahamic Leaders Condemn Anti-Christian Hate in the Holy Land." The article takes a stand together, "as Jewish, Christian and Muslim leaders, in the United States, to condemn the recent rise in anti-Christian hate in the Holy Land, including the vandalism of a Protestant cemetery on January 1, and graffiti threatening, 'Death to Christians' that appeared last week both in and near the Armenian quarter in Jerusalem." It arouses emotions immediately when the hate is pointed at us "Christians." So many times we read about hate that involves another group. Do we just skip over reading about "them" too often?

I have been thinking about this lately, especially during the month we are in that celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday. January is a month that reflects on racism, Women's equality, domestic violence and human trafficking. A month too short to study and reflect, "to develop courage to speak with one voice against religious bigotry", as our Bishop Eaton, Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, Rabbi Rick Jacobs, and Imam Saffet Cotovic so courageously state.

Dave and I usually pick a film to watch the evening of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. This last Monday, January 16, we picked MalcolmX with Denzel Washington playing the lead. It reminded me of the book that I read with the Methodist Women from Rockford this summer titled, "The Three Mothers, How the Mothers of Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X., and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation," by Anna Malaika Tubbs. The book emphasizes that the three men did not develop their ideals on their own. The generational

activism that went on in the lives of the families of these three great leaders had a great impact on them. The education that the mothers received before they had children, while surrounded by family and community support was significant. They came from families that actively practiced deep faith and hope, in spite of the trauma of Jim Crow and racism occurring all around them. They had great fathers and mothers who were not afraid to believe in the deep love of God for them, despite much hardship and inequality. Their grandparents lived with this commitment that was passed down to them from their parents and grandparents, who directly experienced slavery, with a continued hope for a better life for their offspring, through education, love, and hope.

Yes, we all continue to grow and develop with our own experiences and reality now. Generations have different hardships to deal with. We have faster media, different education, world views which often times focus on the most negative aspects of our socially constructed human existence. That is often the only thing that we hear or read about, day in and day out. We still see lots of racism and cruelty as pointed out in the Bishop's email. But we can also be reminded of our common commitment and focus, like these three mothers did, which is how much each of us is loved by God. No matter where we've been, how we have sinned, or what kinds of unjust acts against humanity we have committed, we can be assured that we have a loving God who knows how bright our souls truly shine generation after generation, as God's reflection. As women and mothers we can pass that on through community activism while speaking truth to power. We **BOLD** women can do this together!

SPRING RETREAT — WOMEN AT THE WELL

Save Saturday, April 29, for the WELCA Spring Retreat Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center in Oregon, IL. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end around 3:00 p.m. Lunch is included.

Pastor Makayla Dahleen will lead the Bible Study from John 4:1-42, and a Communion service.

Cost is \$25. A Registration form and scholarship form will be provided in the coming weeks. More details will follow.

Where do you get that living water?

John 4:11b