

**NORTH CAROLINA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION**

[www.ncwelca.org](http://www.ncwelca.org)

**FEBRUARY BULLETIN**

Dear Sisters in Christ,

We are had a wonderful Committee Day II at Calvary in Concord on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Plans for spring conference gatherings and the SWO Gathering will be finalized. Next issue of the Bulletin will cover the 22<sup>nd</sup> SWO Gathering to be held May 29-31, 2009 at Lenoir-Rhyne College in detail. Registration forms will be included in that mailing and will be posted on the website. We are excited about our program and will post it as soon as all the details become available.

• **News from Women of the ELCA:**

- **Individual partnerships – a new way to grow:** For \$20 a year you can give a gift to your daughter, niece, granddaughter or friend who would enjoy learning more about Women of the ELCA. Individual partnerships provide a subscription to Lutheran Woman Today and Café, as well as access to Bible studies, advocacy efforts, global networks, and other resources. This allows you and me to fulfill one of our objectives – “Sharing our faith generation to generation. Visit the website [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org) or call 800-638-3522 – Ext. 2730 for more information.

- **Notes about the Treasurer:** Dot Fairchild’s term as treasurer ends January 31, 2009. **Please join** me in thanking her for the tremendous job she has done. All future communications regarding financial matters should be directed to our new treasurer, Karen Mitchell. Her contact information is: 280 Carter Loop Road, Rockwell, NC 28138, 704-279-8166, [math8166@netzero.net](mailto:math8166@netzero.net).

• **Leadership:**

- See the information regarding our programs for young girls and women. There have been changes made to expand the program. We are excited about it.

• **Conference Coordinator:**

- **Fall Conference Gatherings Report:** Offerings for Disaster Relief-Midwest Floods equaled \$5,160.01; Rainbow Scholarship - \$1,671.55; Pennies - \$3,802.58. Thank you all for your generosity.
- **Listing of Spring Gatherings:** All the dates are not confirmed but those we have are listed on the calendar attached.
- **Spring Gathering Offering:** See enclosed information on “Me Fine Foundation”.

• **Mission Action:**

- Watch for Fair Trade snacks – organic dried cranberries, roasted salted pecans, organic tamari roasted almonds and chocolate at the Annual Gathering.
- See the report from Rachel Price on the collection for Lutheran World Relief.

- **Mission Community:**
  - **Rainbow Scholarship:** The purpose of the Rainbow Scholarship is to assist Lutheran women who wish to pursue a seminary education. Enclosed are a data sheet and application form. Applications are due by April 1, 2008.
  - **See the Morsels** enclosed.
  
- **Mission: Growth:**
  - **One-Day Retreats: “Sabbath Keeping”** - Make plans now to attend February 28, 2009 (complete registration brochure enclosed).
  - **Spring Retreat: “Like a Child”**, Kure Beach – March 20-22, 2009. (registration brochure is enclosed).
  
- **Gathering Planning:** See the enclosed note from the **Gathering Planning Committee**. You still have time to “get your act together” for the Showcase of Conference Stars – 2009 Talent/No Talent Show.
  
- **Important Reminders:**
  - **ASK training and retreat dates:**
    - Contact Sharon Johnson at [sadj@bellsouth.net](mailto:sadj@bellsouth.net), or Carrie Graves at 704-332-4559 for information
  - **Today’s Dream – Tomorrow’s Reality – Created in His Image – God’s Gift of Diversity**
    - Contact Tamarah Hefner ([t\\_hefner@bellsouth.net](mailto:t_hefner@bellsouth.net)) for program information (see attached brochure).
  - **BOLD WOMEN’S DAY** – Sunday, February 22, 2009
  - **One-Day Fall Retreats:** February 28, 2009 (see enclosed registration form)
  - **Kure Beach Retreat:** March 20-22, 2009
  - **Created in His Image – God’s Gift of Diversity:** March 21, 2009
  - **Annual Gathering:** May 29 – 31, 2009

**Living Water – Flood of Grace**

Reach out and touch the future,

**Cathy Sell**

Cathy Sell  
 President, NC Women of the ELCA



***I feel this crazy world still has hope for a brighter future full of love for God and for one another. People are like dominos, when you inspire one you slowly begin to knock them all over with inspiration and determination.*** - Stephanie\*

***Would you like the young ladies in your congregation to be as inspired as Stephanie is?***

The North Carolina Synodical Women's Organization is happy to announce that a slightly reorganized structure will allow us to welcome more young women to our annual gathering May 29-31, 2009 at Lenoir-Rhyne University. The life of our organization depends on attracting and keeping the interest of young members so this year there will be **THREE** separate but inter-related programs for young women ages 11 through 35.

**YWGaB: Young Woman Gifted and Blessed, ages 20-35**

This program will be essentially the same as the Young Woman Guests program that we have had for years with a new name and new age range but the same enthusiasm and creative energy. Our goal is to encourage them to immediately assume some leadership role in their congregational unit, conference or a committee of the SWO Women of the ELCA.

**TGIF: Teens Gathering in Faith, ages 15-19**

Our goal is to encourage them to become active or continue to be active in worship, their church youth group or Lutheran Campus Ministry program throughout high school and college and to begin to participate as members of a congregational unit of the Women of the ELCA.

**TAGG: Totally Awesome Groupies for God, ages 11-14**

Our goal is to encourage them to become active in worship, Sunday church school, and youth group and to participate in any appropriate activities offered by the congregational unit of the Women of the ELCA in their home church.

Each group will have its own program of activities appropriate to their needs but there will also be informal and intentional activities together. The program will include fellowship within each group and with the other two groups, Bible study and other educational activities, service projects, recreational activities, and worship. We will embrace the peer ministry tenets developed by the Youth and Family Institute and use some of the peer ministry activities.

If you are or know of a young woman ages 20 through 35 who would like to attend the North Carolina gathering of the Women of the ELCA as our guest, please complete the form included in this Bulletin and submit it before April 1, 2009. Registration forms for young ladies ages 11-19 will be available in the March Bulletin.

# Young Woman Gifted and Blessed

*Application to be a Guest  
North Carolina Women of the ELCA Gathering  
Lenoir-Rhyne University  
May 29-31, 2009*

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School?  Yes  No Where: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why I would like to attend and ways I would like to be involved:

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Nominated by Congregational Unit:

Name of church: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

CU President: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference: \_\_\_\_\_ Date this form was sent: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief statement giving the reason for nominating this young woman:

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**Nominee must be between the ages of 20 and 35. Return this completed form by US mail or email no later than April 1, 2009 to:**

**Alice Nelson  
249 Chris Court  
Garner, North Carolina 27529  
Email: hakady@juno.com**



## Spring Offerings 2009 Designated to the Me Fine Foundation

The Spring 2009 Gatherings are just around the corner. The dates will be announced soon and we will make plans to attend. The 2009 Spring Gathering Offerings has been designated to go to the "Me Fine" Foundation.

The mission of the Me Fine Foundation is to provide necessary resources and financial assistance to parents and caregivers with children being treated at Duke and UNC Children's Hospitals regardless of race, diagnosis, economic status or religion in memory of Folden Lee, IV.

Me Fine Foundation, Inc. was founded by friends and family of Folden Lee IV who was diagnosed with AML Leukemia in May, 2003. He received several rounds of chemotherapy at UNC Children's Hospital but relapsed shortly after treatment. He then survived two consecutive cord blood transplants and extensive radiation at Duke Children's Hospital. In spite of gallant efforts, the leukemia cells once again returned. Folden was only 2 years old. During the 15 month battle with this disease, Folden's family found that along with the tremendous stress of caring for a child with a life threatening illness, most families are also weighted down with overwhelming medical costs.

With so many tests, procedures and medications, you might expect a two-year-old child to act fussy or, at the least, weary...but when he was going through these horrendous treatments, you could ask, "Folden, how are you today?" Without fail, his answer was always, "ME FINE!"

A North Carolina state and federally recognized not for profit organization, Me Fine Foundation boasts success in not only distributing supplemental financial assistance, but also other necessary resources for families sacrificing their livelihoods in order to provide their children with state of the art or even last chance treatment offered by these renowned facilities. With Me Fine in the trenches on a day to day basis, families with children facing a devastating medical crisis are able to receive individualized attention to their specific sets of needs without red tape, intrusive questions or endless forms. The Me Fine staff has first hand knowledge of the struggles families face during their journeys and are on call 24 hours a day to assist in any way possible.

Me Fine Foundation is financed through the generosity of contributors, periodic fundraisers and the operation of two thrift stores. Donations are appreciated and are considered tax deductible as allowed by law.

Please prayerfully consider your contribution to Me Fine at your upcoming Spring Gathering. Your support of this worthy cause can make a considerable difference in not only the life of a child, but the entire family as well. Through this organization, the Women of the ELCA are making a difference in the lives of many. To find out more about Me Fine, visit their website at: [www.mefinefoundation.org](http://www.mefinefoundation.org).

To: The congregations of the NC Synod of the ELCA

From: Rachel T. Price

Date: January 08, 2009

Re: Lutheran World Relief Collections

Thanks for all your help. We had an EXCEPTIONAL year with Lutheran World Relief collections of quilts, blankets and Parish Projects! The following is a list of collection points and the number of cartons picked up at each site. The second number is the approximate weight.

Asheville--129	2750lbs.
Charlotte--43	1110 “
Dallas--63	1260....“
Hickory--419	6963 “
Jacksonville--30	600 “
Raleigh--256	4025....“
Salisbury--100	2273.....“
Winston-Salem--40	910....“

These 1083 cartons (weighing about 19,891 pounds) were taken to the LWR warehouse in New Windsor, MD. Many thanks to the following coordinators at the eight drop-off sites for another great year. They were Eileen Cram, Sandra Taylor, Gail Summey, Joe Rhyne, Pastor Randall Cauble, Sherry Ercolanese, Peggy Koehler, Lorrie Rhea, Betty Hunt, and Phyllis Still. A very special thanks also to Deanna Robinson at Estes in Conover for giving us reduced rates of 75%. FANTASTIC!

Keep collecting items all year for our drive in the Fall of 2009.  
**REMEMBER DO NOT COLLECT ANYMORE CLOTHING FOR LWR OR PUT ANY TOOTHPASTE IN THE HEALTH KITS.**

MISSION COMMUNITY MORSELS  
FOR FEBRUARY 2009

Morsel: A tiny, tasty bite of information. Please share these Morsels with your church unit. For information updates, check this website: [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org) .

- How are you celebrating your **BOLD WOMEN'S SUNDAY** on February 22? The Women of the ELCA Interchange newsletter for November has some great ways you can celebrate your Bold Women's Day at your church. All congregation church units should receive this newsletter from church wide. If you don't why don't you subscribe today by contacting Augsburg Fortress Publishing at 1-800-328-4648. Here are some of their suggestions.
  1. Schedule a screening of our new DVD, "Created in the Image of God: A Community of Women," which will help tell our story in your congregation and community.
  2. Use the Litany for Bold Women's Day during February 22 worship, found on [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org) .
  3. Honor the women in your congregation with a Bold Women's Day Certificate (available for download from the above web site).
  4. Place a prayer petition journal in the narthex for the month of February. Invite the congregation to list and describe bold women of your congregation, past and present. On Bold Women's Day, include them in the prayer of the church.
  5. Select 5-10 women in your congregation and write down their life stories, noting ways in which they have acted boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Use this as a kick-off to your celebration of Women's History Month in March.
- Have you signed up for the One Day Lenten Retreat in your area for Saturday February 28, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.? The Theme is: Sabbath Keeping. Deadline February 13 and cost is \$8.00.
- Be sure to attend your community Church Women United World Day of Prayer on March 6. The program was written by the women of Papua New Guinea, which is titled "In Christ there are many members but one Body".
- We all have heard the catch phrase on TV "Drink Milk" or "Eat More Chicken", well I say "Eat Soup", that is Campbell's soup. Save the bar code and Campbell's soup kid on the back of the can for the children at Crossnore School. This helps them with cost of school supplies, so "Eat more Campbell's soup".
- We will be sending out our in-kind gift forms again in the April Bulletin, so please start collecting your gifts or monetary gift now. Bring the form filled out to the Gathering in Hickory. This will save you and Lutheran Family Services Volunteers time. So please help us out.

Judy Gainey, Mission Community Chair.

**NORTH CAROLINA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION  
WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP DATA SHEET**

The purpose of the Rainbow Scholarship is to assist Lutheran women from North Carolina who wish to pursue a seminary education. The scholarship is not restricted by age of applicant or ethnicity. In 2009, three scholarships of \$1,000.00 each will be awarded. Notification will be made to the recipients prior to the North Carolina Synodical Women's Organization Gathering in May. Recipients will receive the checks by August 1.

**I. Applicant eligibility requirements**

- A. Full-time seminary student**
- B. Resident of North Carolina**
- C. Completed Rainbow Scholarship application form with requested attachments submitted to the Rainbow Scholarship Chair by April 1 deadline**

**II. Data to be submitted**

- A. Completed Rainbow Scholarship application form (including financial information requested on form.**
- B. Recent photograph of applicant**
- C. Transcript**
- D. Two letters of reference, one of which must be from applicant's advisor**
- E. Paragraph explaining how applicant will serve the church when seminary studies are completed.**

Please elaborate on how applicant will assist women to reach their full potential. All or part of this information may be used to publicize Rainbow Scholarships.

**III. Agreement**

- A. Recipient can receive another scholarship for the time covered by this scholarship. However, should a full scholarship be received, recipient must notify the Rainbow Scholarship Chair and relinquish the Rainbow Scholarship.**
- B. In the event recipient withdraws from school during the summer, recipient must notify the Rainbow Scholarship Chair of this decision and relinquish the Rainbow Scholarship.**
- C. In the event an initial recipient withdraws during the summer, another recipient may be selected.**
- D. An applicant who has applied previously may reapply even if she has been a recipient.**

**IV. Name, address, and telephone number of Rainbow Scholarship Chair**

**Gelene Lineberger  
556 Royalty Court  
Gastonia NC 28054  
704-867-7771**

**RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

The purpose of the Rainbow Scholarship is to assist Lutheran women from North Carolina who wish to pursue a seminary education. The scholarship is not restricted by age of applicant or ethnicity. In 2008, two scholarships were awarded. Notification will be made to the recipients prior to the June 2009 Gathering of the North Carolina Synodical Women's Organization, Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Recipients will receive their checks by August 1, 2009.

*Application deadline is April 1, 2009.*

**Photograph**

*Please type or print.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Primary language \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnic group to which you belong:

Asian \_\_\_ African-American \_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_ Native American \_\_\_ Caucasian \_\_\_\_\_

Seminary attending \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Full-time student \_\_\_\_\_ Part-time student \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be employed during the school year? \_\_\_\_\_ Hours per week \_\_\_\_\_

School address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home address (if different)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address where you can be reached after May 1

Marital status \_\_\_\_\_ Number of dependents \_\_\_\_\_

Home congregation and address

Pastor's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

List two (2) references, one of whom must be your advisor.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Anticipated expenses per year Anticipated income**

Tuition \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's income \_\_\_\_\_

Books \_\_\_\_\_ Your job \_\_\_\_\_

Housing \_\_\_\_\_ Financial aid \_\_\_\_\_

Food \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Medical \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Loan indebtedness \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Write a brief paragraph below explaining how you plan to serve the church when you have completed your seminary studies. Please elaborate on how you will assist women to reach their full potential. If necessary, use another sheet. All or part of this information may be used to publicize Rainbow Scholarships.**

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**Please be sure to fill out the application completely and include the following when submitting:**

- Two letters of reference
- Recent photograph
- Transcript

**Mail completed application and attachments, by April 1, 2008, to Gelene Lineberger, 556 Royalty Court, Gastonia NC 28054.**

From the Gathering Planning Committee:

We hope you have been doing your “talent search” for the **“Showcase of Conference Stars - 2009 Talent/No Talent Show”**! Remember, we are looking for at least ONE act (5 minutes or less) from each of our 15 conferences. Sing, dance, recite, stand up (or sit down) comedy – solos or groups – your choice! Can you imagine more fun than our very own variety show?

Forms are available from your Conference Leader. These are due in to the committee no later than May 1, 2009 – but don’t wait till the last minute. (We’d like to have them as soon as possible so we know which Conferences to nudge.)

Also, **now is the time to make your plans to attend the Gathering!** Don’t forget the challenge that has been issued. An award will be presented to the Conference with the largest percentage of units represented and the Conference with the greatest increase of total attendees over last year. Make your plans to attend and bring as many of your Sisters in Christ with you as you can.

Registration forms will be available in the March Bulletin and will be posted on the website.

You’ve never attended a Gathering?!? Not sure about what to expect, where to go, what to do? We understand that this can be stressful and sometimes this uncertainty keeps us from participating and missing out on all the fun! We don’t want you to miss a thing - so this year we are planning to provide a little extra TLC including a “mentor” for our ‘First Timers’ and hopefully a special check in table.

Walk Wet!

# ONE DAY LENTEN RETREAT

Saturday, February 28, 2009  
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

# Sabbath



# Keeping

CITY

HOST CHURCH

LEADER

Brevard  
Dallas  
Wilmington  
Salisbury  
Chapel Hill  
Goldsboro  
Newton

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
Philadelphia  
St. Paul  
Prince of Peace  
Holy Trinity  
Good Shepherd  
Old St. Paul's

Marguerite Taylor  
Judy Schlegel  
Anne Laudatti  
Arlene Duffala  
Edna Wagschal  
Gerda Feilke  
Karen Hunt

**\*\*\*OTHER LOCATIONS TO BE DETERMINED\*\*\***

**\*\*\*PLEASE WATCH FOR THESE LOCATIONS IN THE NEXT BULLETIN\*\*\***

Cost: \$8.00

You may attend any location convenient to you.

Deadline for registration: February 13, 2008

Send registration form below with check payable to NC SWO Women of the ELCA

Send to: Marguerite Taylor, 1118 Dumbarton Road, Gastonia, NC 28054 Ph: 704-867-2653

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Congregation/City \_\_\_\_\_

Retreat Site Attending \_\_\_\_\_

# SPRING RETREAT

## "LIKE A CHILD"



rediscover

re-create

Refresh

reawaken

revive

March 20 - 22, 2009

Kure Beach Retreat Center

Leader - Judy Schlegel

Retreat. Relearn. Remember. Matthew 3:18 says that we are to become like little children if we are to enter the kingdom of heaven. That is what we will be doing at this retreat. We will be studying Bible stories from our childhood for new insights. We will be singing songs that we sang in Sunday School and Vacation Bible School as children. We will be playing games, doing crafts, engaging in other childish activities and having fun. Come and join us!

To register, complete the form below.

Enclose with a check payable to: NC SWO Women of the ELCA

Overnight guest: \$90 (includes 2 nights, 2 breakfasts and 1 lunch)

Non-overnight: \$40 (Only if you live within 40 miles of the Center. Includes 2 breakfasts and 1 lunch)

Send to: Marguerite Taylor, 1118 Dumbarton Road, Gastonia, NC 28054  
704-867-2653

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church / City \_\_\_\_\_

Overnight \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Overnight \_\_\_\_\_ Ground Floor Preference \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate Preference \_\_\_\_\_ Special Dietary requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop sponsored by the **NC Women of the ELCA**  
Mission: Action Committee - Anti-Racism Team

# Created in His image God's Gift of Diversity

Information – Understanding – Advocacy



March 21, 2009 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
St. Mark's Lutheran Church Family Life Center  
3216 West Main St.  
Claremont, NC

There is no cost for this workshop-lunch served after workshop  
Registration Deadline March 13, 2008

Mail to: Tamarah Hefner, PO Box 203, Claremont, NC 28610 or Call: 828-459-7053  
or Email: [t\\_hefner@bellsouth.net](mailto:t_hefner@bellsouth.net)

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**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City/State/Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Congregation/City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_