



Be refreshed. Be inspired. Be connected!



COME TO THE WATERS

July 10-13, 2008 ~ Salt Lake City, Utah

Seventh Triennial Gathering Registration



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"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink.
As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'"
John 7:37b, 38

Be refreshed, inspired, and connected! This weekend will teach, encourage, and challenge you to come to a greater understanding of your faith and what it means to live it out as together we are called to act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ.

At "Come to the Waters," we will celebrate the life-giving waters of our baptism and recall Jesus' words in John 7. We come to the water—and to the gathering—and drink in all that Jesus offers: love, wholeness, forgiveness, grace—and Bible study, speakers, community, service, worship. We leave with an overflowing sense of love, life, and hope. We come to the waters, and then we go forth to love and serve the Lord with rivers of living waters to share with others.

Speakers include Pastor Heidi Neumark, author of the highly

acclaimed book *Breathing Space: A Spiritual Journey in the South Bronx*, and Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B., who has been a visionary voice and spiritual leader for more than 30 years. (See page 5.)

Workshops will explore topics like how Lutherans read the Bible, what discipleship means, how to revitalize and reinvigorate your women's group, how our faith compels us to advocacy and making a difference, and much more. (See page 6.)

And get your walking shoes ready for another 4K Run/Walk/Roll to support our Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls initiative. (See page 8.)

Salt Lake City combines the best of being a major city with Western small-town friendliness. The surrounding area offers an abundance of natural beauty and places of historical interest,

and we will be offering several tours in and around Salt Lake City before and after the gathering. (See page 10.)

Organize a group from your congregation! Maybe there are women in your church who have not been involved with Women of the ELCA but who would be uplifted and strengthened by experiencing the Gathering. Your synod's Triennial Gathering promoter can help! (Contact your synodical president or the churchwide office if you need her contact information.)

More registration booklets can be requested at any time. Call us at 800-638-3522, ext. 2730, or email women.ELCA@elca.org. You'll also find everything you need to know about the gathering—and be able to register!—at www.womenoftheelca.org

What participants said after the last Gathering:*



"I love seeing so many Lutheran women from all over the country and all over the globe gather and be excited about God, worship, and becoming bold."

"Coming together with some 2000 other Christian women to worship, praise God, hear dynamic speakers, and socialize—just wonderful!"

"So many people singing, praying, and praising God together is always a highlight."

"I realized how very bold our women of the ELCA are and all that they do."

"Being with and around women who share my faith was so great."

* from the 2005 Triennial Gathering evaluations

WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS BOOKLET

This booklet contains all the information and forms you need to register for the 2008 Triennial Gathering of Women of the ELCA. The entire contents, including forms, may be photocopied. It is also online at www.womenoftheelca.org, where you can register electronically.

This booklet contains important information, so hold onto it after you complete your registration. We also

recommend that you keep a copy of your completed forms for your records.

The Gathering begins with an opening inspiration session Thursday, July 10, at 5:30 p.m. The Gathering concludes with worship Sunday, July 13, at 9:00 a.m.

The Seventh Triennial Convention begins Tuesday, July 8, at 6:30 p.m., and concludes Thursday, July 10, at 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING SCHEDULE

Thursday July 10, 2008	Friday July 11, 2008	Saturday July 12, 2008	Sunday July 13, 2008
6:30 a.m. Food court open; food service ends 6:30 p.m.	6:30 a.m. Food court open; food service ends 6:30 p.m.	6:00 a.m.–8:00 a.m. 4K Run/Walk/Roll	7:00 a.m.– 9:00 a.m. Food court or concessions open for breakfast
7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (various times) Optional tours		6:30 a.m. Food court open; food service ends 6:30 p.m.	
	7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Registration desk open	7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Registration desk open	8:00 a.m. choir practice for closing service
	8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. Exhibit hall open	8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. Exhibit hall open	
10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. Gathering registration	9:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Inspiration session: worship with Holy Communion and keynote (doors open 8:30 a.m.)	9:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Inspiration session: worship with in-kind gifts collection and bold women panel (doors open 8:30 a.m.)	9:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Inspiration session: Gathering closing and Service of Holy Communion (doors open 8:30 a.m.)
10:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. Exhibit hall open			12:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Optional tours
	1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. 90-minute workshops	1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. 90-minute workshops	
	1:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 3-hour workshops	1:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 3-hour workshops	
	3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 90-minute workshops	3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 90-minute workshops	
5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Inspiration session: Gathering opening and worship (doors open 5:00 p.m.)			
7:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Evening with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir (at the Tabernacle, Temple Square)	7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Inspiration session: Bible study and Thankoffering Service (doors open 6:30 p.m.)	7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Inspiration session: Bible study and looking ahead to the future (doors open 6:30 p.m.)	
9:30 p.m.– 11:30 p.m. Young Women's Gathering		9:30 p.m.–11:30 p.m. TDTR Mix and Mingle	

Schedule and program subject to change.

THE SEVENTH TRIENNIAL CONVENTION

Tuesday, July 8–Thursday, July 10

The convention is Women of the ELCA's highest legislative authority. Voting members—synodical presidents and elected delegates—will vote on proposed constitutional changes, deliberate and vote on ministry directions for the 2008–2011 triennium, elect the churchwide board, and approve the 2009 budget.

Attending the convention is free, and all are welcome to observe all convention business sessions. Please check the box on the registration form to let us know you are coming, and enclose \$10 to cover the cost of convention-related materials if you would like to receive them.



PROGRAM FOR THE GATHERING

Thursday, July 10–Sunday, July 13

PLUNGE INTO THE LIVING WATERS INSPIRATION SESSIONS OVERVIEW

THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 10

Join us for a high-energy opening with music, song, and video highlights of Women of the ELCA's first 20 years. We will celebrate our purpose and mission by remembering our baptisms in worship. After a fun "who's here" rally, we will journey together to Temple Square to hear the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's rehearsal concert.

FRIDAY, JULY 11

After song and some brief greetings, we plunge right in this morning with worship. Following the service, our featured speaker, Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B., will address the assembly in her characteristic warm, stirring way.

After an afternoon of educational opportunities we gather again for an evening plunge into the living waters. We will drink deep from the well of the Bible with the Rev. Karen Bockelman, who will help us understand baptismal living. Following this immersion into our understanding of our covenant relationship with God, we will live it out

Tuesday, July 8

Business plenary 1

6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 9

Bible study

8:00 a.m.

Business plenary 2

8:30 a.m.–noon

Business plenary 3

1:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

Business plenary 4

8:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 10

Bible study

8:00 a.m.

Business plenary 5

8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

in worship, which includes a Thankoffering service with preaching by the Rev. Marysol Diaz.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

Be warmly welcomed into this new day with worship featuring preaching by the Rev. Heidi Neumark and an opportunity to offer in-kind gifts. Dive into this morning's stimulating exchange among a panel of bold women who will share their baptismal calling experiences. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and share feedback.

Our evening immersion calls us to the depths of scripture study with leader the Rev. Karen Bockelman. Following the Bible study, we will discover new ideas and opportunities, as we build on our strengths to forge our future as women mobilizing to act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

What a week! We gather one last time to give thanks and praise together. We'll begin with reflection and thanksgiving, and close with a service of Holy Communion. The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton will share a message of bold faith as we "go in peace and serve the Lord."

Worship and Inspiration Sessions Leaders



The Rev. Heidi Neumark currently serves Trinity Lutheran Church of Manhattan (ELCA), a multicultural, bilingual community with ministries that include a Latina support group, a resource center run by and for immigrants, an after-school program, and a shelter for homeless youth. For 19 years before that, she was pastor of Transfiguration Lutheran Church in the South Bronx. She was a founding member of South Bronx Churches, an ecumenical community organizing group that has trained local leaders and built hundreds of low-cost homes. Her experiences in congregational and community ministry in the Bronx led to her highly acclaimed book, *Breathing Space: A Spiritual Journey in the South Bronx* (Beacon Press).



Joan Chittister, O.S.B., has been a visionary voice and spiritual leader for more than 30 years. She is an award-winning author of 35 books, the most recent being *The Tent of Abraham: Stories of Hope and Peace for Jews, Christians and Muslims* (Beacon Press), and *The Ten Commandments: Laws of the Heart* (Orbis). Sister Joan writes and lectures on issues of peace and justice, human rights, women, contemporary religious life, and spirituality.

She serves as co-chair of the Global Peace Initiative of Women, a partner organization of the United Nations, facilitating a worldwide network of women peace builders, particularly in Israel and Palestine.

She is working on two books that will be published by the time of the Triennial Gathering: *The Gift of Years* (BlueBridge) and *Welcome to the Wisdom of the World* (Eerdmans).

Her commentary from Rome in April 2005 on the death and election of a pope aired on CNN, the BBC, and all national U.S. media networks. On Easter Sunday 2006 she was a panelist on "Meet the Press with Tim Russert." Her weekly Web column, "From Where I Stand," can be found at www.natcath.org.

Sister Joan is a member of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Pennsylvania.



The Rev. Karen Bockelman has served as assistant to the bishop of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod since 1997. She chaired the ELCA's sacramental practices task force (*The Use of the Means of Grace*) and participated in the Renewing Worship process as a member of the Holy Communion and Related Rites editorial team. She was also a member of the churchwide *ELW* training team.

She is the author of *Marriage: A Worship Handbook*, *Christian Burial: A Worship Handbook*, *Welcome to Worship*; and *Gathered and Sent*, all worship resources published by Augsburg Fortress.

She is also writing the *Lutheran Woman Today 2008* summer Bible study, which is the Gathering Bible study, "Come to the Waters." This three-session study will guide readers through the rich images and meanings of baptism and will look at the waters of baptism through the lenses of scripture, Lutheran tradition, personal experience, and the call to act boldly in and for justice.



The Rev. Marysol Diaz has been a pastor serving the Caribbean Synod since 1987. In 1995, she completed a doctorate in ministry from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and wrote her thesis on the topic of inclusion of children in worship. She is currently pastor of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, and an adjunct faculty at the Evangelical Seminary in Puerto Rico, teaching courses in pastoral care, ministry with the elderly, and Christian education.



The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton is bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod. She was ordained in 1981 and began her ministry as pastor of All Saints Lutheran Church in Worthington, Ohio. In 1991 she accepted a call to become pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church in Ashtabula, Ohio, where she served until her election as bishop.

Among her many community activities, she serves on the boards of the Community Care Ambulance Network and Samaritan House Homeless Shelter. She also works with the High School Consolidation Effort and is a basketball referee. She was co-founder of Imagine Ashtabula and has received the NAACP President's Award.

AN EVENING WITH THE MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR

On Thursday we will enjoy the evening as special guests of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. The choir will be rehearsing for its weekly 30-minute radio and TV program, *Music and the Spoken Word*, which airs on Sunday mornings and is the world's longest-running continuous network broadcast—more than 75 years—carried on over 2,000 radio and television, cable, or satellite systems.

All 360 members of the choir are volunteers. They rehearse and perform about five hours in an average week—Thursday nights for two hours and Sunday mornings for more than three hours, culminating in the broadcast of *Music and the Spoken Word*.

MEET AT THE WELL WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES

Quench your thirst among more than 20 different workshops, many of which are the result of your suggestions.

Each 90-minute workshop will be offered a total of 4 times, twice each afternoon on Friday and on Saturday. Each 3-hour workshop will be offered a total of 2 times, once each afternoon on Friday and on Saturday.

This year, advance sign-up for workshops is required. You'll be asked to list your top choices on the registration form. Each workshop session will have limited space, so sign up early! Workshops will be assigned based on availability. (If we reach capacity on your first or second choices, we may bump you to another preference. We may also cancel a workshop based on lack of interest.) Don't go away empty!

Workshop leaders will be announced regularly throughout the fall of 2007.

Visit www.womenoftheelca.org and check our monthly newsletter, *Interchange*, for updates.

90-Minute Workshops

S1. Anti-racism: all we need is love

What have we accomplished in the 10 years since Women of the ELCA made anti-racism an organization principle? Why is anti-racism important to all of us no matter where we live or work? This basic 90-minute workshop will review our progress and ask important questions for the future. If you have never been to one of our anti-racism presentations, here is your chance to learn what we do!

S2. Lutheran Woman Today Bible study introduction

A lively introduction to the 9-session Bible study that begins in the September 2008 issue of *Lutheran Woman Today*, by authors Gwen Saylor and Ann Fritschel. This study focuses on the Wisdom literature, specifically the books of Ruth and Esther, and part of the book of Daniel.

S3. Boldly growing where your organization has not gone before!

How do you inspire women of all ages to participate in your Women of the ELCA unit? Is your Bible study circle open to all the women in your congregation? Have you truly invited them? How are you living out Women of the ELCA's purpose statement? If it's been a while since you've seen our latest resources and publications, held a retreat, or organized an advocacy effort in your community, this is your opportunity to rediscover the many ways we can help you connect with a community of women, deepen your faith, and support your calling as a Lutheran woman.

S4. The balancing act

Do you crave rest and relaxation from an overworked and over-scheduled life that seems to be perpetually on fast-forward? Come explore God's healing gift of sabbath. We'll learn how sabbath-keeping offers rest, redemption, and renewal for individuals, communities, and all creation. Sabbath-keeping is not just about Sundays; it's about a way of living. Bring an open mind and a willing spirit.

Two special workshops for girls

Girls 13–18 are welcome to register for any workshop, but the following two workshops will be offered once each day and are only, and specifically, for girls 13–18.

S16. From child of God to woman of God

Your body, mind, and spirit were designed by God, created for holy purpose and work. But how do you find your way with all the confusing messages, from parents to school to magazines to Sunday school? How do you grow into a woman of God, and why would you want to be one?

S17. Bold girls: Why would you wannabe?

From "it's all about me" to "it's all about the rules" to knowing when rules need to be challenged. What do the stories of bold girls in the Bible say about your own story?

S5. Follow the leader

The women who followed Jesus along with the 12 men named as disciples were disciples as well. Our faith teaches that we are all disciples by virtue of our baptism into Christ Jesus. In this workshop, discover what's in a name and what it means to be a disciple. And through the women who followed Jesus, discover your blueprint for discipleship.

S6. Grace–full living: a workshop on money and spirituality

How is our relationship with money related to our relationship with God? What does it mean that we are called to be faithful stewards? We are all called to, and have enormous capacity for, caring for others, which includes stewardship. This workshop explores the role and power of money in our lives and in our community of faith, and explores the inherent connection between our responsibility to be good stewards and our confidence in the ministry of the church. Participants will receive our latest resource on stewardship, spirituality, and money.

S7. B.Y.O. Bible

The Bible is the most important way God is revealed to us. Is there an especially Lutheran way to read and interpret the Bible? What helps us understand the Bible? What helps us live it? Bring your own Bible, come ask these questions, and participate in discussion and study using our most important book.

S8. Many ways to pray

Centering prayer, walking prayer, lectio divina, spontaneous prayer, sung prayer—there are as many ways to pray as there are people. Come with an open spirit and experience some of them.

S9. Our public church: The ELCA's social statements

Did you know that the ELCA has 8 standing statements on social issues such as peace, healthcare, abortion, and the environment? There are also 3 statements currently in process on education, sexuality, and genetics. What do these statements say? What is the process the church uses in creating statements on behalf of such a diverse church body? Join us in conversation as we look at the development of these documents and why this process is important to our roles as believers and members of a greater society.

S10. Paths to Wholeness

The popular Paths to Wholeness retreat has gone high-tech! Come learn how easy it is to hold a Paths to Wholeness

retreat, and why you should. This program helps you connect with your best spiritual practices and teaches ways to discover other practices that might help you achieve a fuller spiritual balance. Participants in this workshop receive a resource kit to take home with them and help their community deepen their spiritual path.

S11. Sacred spaces

Sacred spaces bring balance and healing, welcome wholeness, and can fill a universe or a corner. Sacred spaces can be created in your home, office, or backyard. This workshop will teach you how to clear a space and create a sacred space using things that are at hand as well as in heart. Temporary sacred spaces can even be created for meetings and in your hotel room, even if all you take on a trip is a carry-on. Come and learn how to create and maintain your own sacred space.

S12. Sing out loud! (choir)

Join the Triennial Gathering chorus for song and worship during this 90-minute rehearsal workshop. If you would like to sing in the choir, you are required to attend *at least one* of these 90-minute choir sessions. Note that there will be a final warm-up/rehearsal at 8 a.m. on Sunday prior to closing worship.

S13. In the midst of other flocks (a panel discussion)

Jesus said he had other sheep in other flocks, and we all live in the midst of those other flocks. Utah is the home of another religious group. How do Lutheran women here respect their neighbors' beliefs and stay true to their own? How do they work together for the common good?

An interactive panel discussion with Lutheran women who live and minister in Salt Lake City.

S14. Women building global community

Accompaniment is a model of companionship with our global family that teaches us to walk with each other. Come share time with global guests from our church's companion synods around the globe. Hear how we are living accompaniment from a panel of global sisters and how these relationships shape our ministry here at home.

S15. Worship matters

Worship is where we experience Word and Sacrament. Summer Bible study author the Rev. Karen Bockelman tells us more about living liturgy in the Lutheran tradition. Join us as we wade into tradition and our faith.

3-Hour Workshops

L18. Act boldly

Boldness is a call to action. As women who are claimed and called by God, we believe that a life lived *boldly* is a faith-filled celebration and an investment in the world we want for ourselves and our children. Women of the ELCA are called "to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ." The avenues for bold self-expression are limitless, and we celebrate that broad range of voices. This workshop is based on the Act Boldly events held in 2007 and provides an opportunity for you to discover your bold and put it into action. Participants receive a workbook and other helpful resource materials.

L19. Let it out!

To paraphrase the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4, "Come and see! Meet the one who knows us and all we have done." Why does it often seem that the Good News is hard to share? The Samaritan woman was so taken by her encounter with Jesus that she had to tell others. She simply could not contain herself. Come discover and experience the Witness of Women evangelism resource and the new Women of the ELCA resource for evangelism that will help you learn to NOT contain yourself.

L20. Raising up healthy women and girls

An intensive, compact version of the Women of the ELCA health event, including sessions on physical, emotional, and spiritual health. We will also show you how to hold a similar health event in your own community, and we will discuss where we are 3 years into our initiative and the women and organizations that have benefited. All workshop participants will receive a complimentary copy of our life stages journal, *Living from the Heart of God*.

L21. Spirit of wholeness, make us one

Anti-racists imagine what can be and ask, why not? In this workshop you will gain further understanding of how to live and walk more closely in the ways of racial justice and racial reconciliation. Exercises, ritual, and healing meditations will strengthen our resolve and enable us to envision progress. More than 10 years after beginning our bold work in anti-racism education, this three-hour workshop takes a look at where we have grown as well as where we need to focus more energy.

L22. Why not in public!?

Politics and religion are two subjects most people avoid

in the public realm, but we are called to share our faith and to live it out. Come dive into an opportunity to learn and practice boldness and faith in action. Discover what advocacy is, why it is important, and how it can make an active difference in your community, state, and world. This will be an interactive experience with lots of take-home material.

4K RUN/WALK/ROLL FOR RAISING UP HEALTHY WOMEN AND GIRLS

Reaffirm your commitment to our ongoing health initiative by collecting pledges and joining hundreds of Lutheran women in a fundraising 4K run/walk/roll on Saturday, July 12, 6:00 a.m.– 8:00 a.m. The event will take place in Liberty Park, near our Gathering hotels. The park features beautiful wooded areas, historic buildings, and an aviary housing more than 100 species of birds. We'll provide a well-marked and staffed course with water/refreshment stations. A pledge kit will be mailed to you after you register.



ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The chocolate lounge: A young women's gathering!

Kick off the Triennial Gathering at a special evening get-together for women in their 20s and 30s. Catch up with friends from past gatherings and meet new ones.

Thursday, July 10, 9:30 p.m.–11:30 p.m.

Dessert and cash bar

\$10 (you must pre-register!)

Today's Dream, Tomorrow's Reality mix and mingle

This informal gathering is for all past and current members of Women of the ELCA's Today's Dream: Tomorrow's Reality network. We'll connect, catch up, and look ahead to the future together.

Saturday, July 12, 9:30 p.m.–11:30 p.m.

Dessert and cash bar

\$10 (you must pre-register!)

GENERAL GATHERING INFORMATION

GATHER AT THE RIVER: EXHIBIT HALL

Be sure to spend some time in our interactive exhibit hall, where you can learn more about the many ways Women of the ELCA and our partners throughout the ELCA are reaching women in the United States and around the world. You can also shop at the Augsburg Fortress store and many other vendors.

New this year, the exhibit hall will be the place for you to participate in service activities.

Servant opportunities and in-kind gifts

Get into the bold flow of service by serving others locally, domestically, and globally. We invite you to make a difference in a variety of ways that best utilize your bold. Plan to spend time each day learning and serving.

Servant opportunities, all of which will take place on-site in the convention center, will include projects like sewing quilts, knitting caps, and assembling school and health kits. Or learn about home-building projects, write advocacy letters to your legislative leaders, or see a water project that can change lives and communities. Come dive into the many opportunities for service!

Information on items to bring for assembling school and health kits can be found at www.lwr.org.

In-kind gifts are tangible offerings you bring with you that are then distributed to local organizations in support of their ministries. Women of the ELCA continues the tradition of making a difference by inviting you to bring in-kind gifts to the 2008 Gathering. Opportunities will include gift cards and prepaid phone cards.

Do not mail gifts to the churchwide offices. Bring them with you to the Gathering or send them along with a friend. Drop them off at the designated location in the exhibit hall.

To learn more about our servant opportunities and the in-kind gifts focus, check our newsletter, *Interchange*, and visit www.womenoftheelca.org in the coming months.

MISSION INVESTMENT FUND SERVICE CENTER

The Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA (MIF) will staff a service center at both the Convention and Gathering for your convenience. If you open a personal MissionPlus account, you will be able to cash checks against your account at the Gathering. Another benefit is that your investment will count toward MIF's Women of the ELCA Challenge. Call the Mission Investment Fund at 877-886-

3522 (toll free) or visit www.missioninvestmentfund.org for more information.

COMMEMORATIVE COMMUNIONWARE

Women of the ELCA will once again be arranging with a local artist to create one-of-a-kind communionware for use at the Triennial Gathering that will then be available for purchase. Each set (a chalice and paten) is \$80, prepaid with your registration, and can be picked up after the closing Service of Holy Communion.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for both church professionals and lay people. Learning opportunities eligible for CEUs include workshops and plenary sessions. Each five hours spent in one of these learning opportunities earns 0.5 CEU. For more information, contact Laura Barkenquast at Laura.Barkenquast@elca.org, or 800-638-3522, ext. 2737.

PRE-REGISTER FOR THE EIGHTH TRIENNIAL GATHERING IN 2011!

All those attending the Gathering in Salt Lake City will have the opportunity to pre-register for the 2011 Gathering in Spokane, Washington, at the special reduced rate of \$200. Everyone who pre-registers will be entered into a drawing for a free round-trip ticket to the Gathering from anywhere in the continental United States and a free hotel stay for the Gathering. The first 100 persons to register will also receive a free gift. Your pre-registration will be non-refundable, but it can be transferred to another person without penalty if necessary. Stop by the exhibit hall for more information.



ARRANGEMENTS FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Salt Palace Convention Center and the Gathering hotels are wheelchair accessible. Please indicate your need for an accessible hotel room on the housing form. If you will need to rent a wheelchair or scooter while attending the Gathering, please check the appropriate box in section 4 of the registration form, and we will send you further information on providers and costs.

All plenary sessions will be open captioned. We will also make every attempt to seat people with hearing impairments near the front of workshop sessions.

If you need translation services, please check the box in section 4 of the registration form. We will attempt to make arrangements but cannot guarantee them at this time.

OPTIONAL TOURS

Salt Lake City and the surrounding area offer an abundance of natural beauty and places of both contemporary and historical interest. Explore all that surrounds this fascinating city on one of the following tours, which are offered Thursday, July 10, and Sunday, July 13.

The tour operator is also offering two 3-day extended tours beginning Monday, July 14, to: Yellowstone, the Tetons and Jackson Hole; and Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks. Please contact Western Leisure directly at 801-233-0600 for more information on these tours.

All prices include transportation by deluxe motor coach, guide, and entrance fees to venues, plus meals where indicated.

Alps of Utah

With the Rocky Mountains as your backdrop, make your way through Provo Canyon to Robert Redford's Sundance Resort, home of the Sundance Film Institute. Your tour then continues to the charming Swiss village of Midway and the Homestead Resort, situated on a landscape of rolling hills dotted with natural hot springs at the base of the beautiful Wasatch Mountains. Enjoy a delicious lunch (included) at an award-winning restaurant. Continuing to Utah's most famous resort town, Park City, and explore the many unique shops in the historic district.

Price: \$85

Thursday, July 10, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Antelope Island and Great Salt Lake

We first head north along the majestic Wasatch Mountains, then west across the Great Salt Lake to visit Antelope Island, home to a unique ecosystem that includes pristine beaches and unspoiled natural areas. Our tour will stop at Buffalo Point, which provides a stunning view of the Great

Salt Lake. Antelope Island is home to mule deer, bighorn sheep, antelope and a bison herd.

Price: \$45

Thursday, July 10, 7:30 a.m.–noon

Sunday, July 13, 12:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Crossroads of the West City Tour

Salt Lake City was built out of a desert by industrious pioneers. This tour is a complete look at what makes Salt Lake City so unique. Begin in the historic downtown area, including the world-famous Mormon Temple Square. Next visit the beautifully restored 1908 Union Pacific Depot, Olympic Legacy Plaza, and the beautifully restored Utah State Capitol. Next drive through the residential area known as the Avenues, listed on the State and National Historic Registers. We continue past Fort Douglas, which was started during Abraham Lincoln's administration in 1862, and on to This is the Place Heritage Park, where Brigham Young said, "This is the right place, drive on." Finish with a visit to the Olympic Cauldron Park at Rice Eccles Stadium, site of the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Price: \$40

Thursday, July 10, 8:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

or 12:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 13, 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Gardens of Salt Lake

(Temple Square and Red Butte Gardens)

We begin with a visit to Temple Square, the heart of Salt Lake City and headquarters of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Square shows a naturalistic approach to planting design. The Mormon Conference Center Roof Garden (4 acres) imitates native grassland, with wildflowers and water channels. We then travel to Red Butte Garden and Arboretum for a 1.5 hour guided tour through their 20

acres of display gardens. The 1,500-acre arboretum has over 9,000 specimens and is the largest botanical and ecological center in the Intermountain West that tests, displays, and interprets regional horticulture.

Price: \$45

**Thursday, July 10, 8:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
or 12:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.**

Kennecott Copper Mine and Great Salt Lake

Begin by visiting "America's Dead Sea," the Great Salt Lake. You'll hear about its origin and the many legends the lake has spawned. Continue on along the base of the Oquirrh Mountains to Kennecott's Bingham Canyon Copper Mine. The largest open pit mining operation ever undertaken, the Kennecott Mine is one of only two man-made objects visible from space. While there, you'll have time to see the actual workings of the mine.

Price: \$45

**Thursday, July 10, 7:30 a.m.–noon
Sunday, July 13, 12:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.**

Quilts and Handicrafts of Salt Lake

This Is The Place Heritage Park will be your first tour stop. The park is home to the Deseret Quilt Museum, an impressive collection of quilts dating from the 18th century. Next we will visit Quilt, Quilt, Quilt, Etc., one of the largest and oldest shops in Utah. Our next destination is historic Gardner Village, featuring over 30 unique boutiques including the Village Quilt Shop and Pine Needles. We will enjoy lunch (included) at Archibald's Restaurant, located in a historic grist mill silo with artwork depicting the pioneer immigration to Utah.

Price: \$75

Thursday, July 10, 8:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Snowbird Mountain Resort

Follow the ancient shoreline of Lake Bonneville to Little Cottonwood Canyon in the Wasatch Mountain Range, the westernmost face of the Rocky Mountains. At Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort, one of Utah's premier ski resorts, we will take a thrilling aerial tram ride (included) to the "Roof of the Rockies," where breathtaking vistas unfold in every direction. Keep a sharp eye out for moose, deer, golden eagles, mountain goats, squirrels, marmots, Steller's jays, and more.

Price: \$55

**Thursday, July 10, 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 13, 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.**

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Air travel reservations

You can make your travel arrangements, if you wish, through the ELCA travel agency, Best Travel. They may be able to find you more discounted fares on United, Northwest, and Delta. Call Best Travel at 800-543-8016, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central Time.

Ground transportation in Salt Lake City

Shared shuttle service is available for the Hilton, Marriott, or Radisson through Express Shuttle. Check in at the Express Shuttle desk in the baggage claim area of each terminal; \$7 each way. Telephone: 801-596-1600.

The Shilo Inn has a complimentary hotel shuttle (call from the courtesy phone in the baggage claim area at the airport).

Transportation time each way to/from the airport is about 10–15 minutes. 24-hour advance shuttle reservations are recommended.

Taxi service is available outside the baggage claim area for approximately \$15–20 each way.

Wheelchair accessible shuttles

24-hour advance notice required

Express Shuttle	801-596-1600
Handi Van	801-281-8416

Parking

Hilton	\$12/night	\$15 valet
Marriott	\$10/night	\$14 valet
Radisson	\$10/night	\$14 valet
Shilo Inn	complimentary	
Convention Center	\$7/day	

*All prices are current as of July 2007
and are subject to change.*

Utah Olympic Park and Park City

In February 2002, athletes from around the world gathered in Salt Lake City for the 2002 Winter Olympics. During the summer, aerial ski jump training is held at the facility and the public is invited to watch as the athletes practice their freestyle jumps and land in an enormous pool of water. You will also tour Park City (home of the Sundance Film Festival) and learn its fascinating history as a mining boomtown.

Today, Park City is a skiing mecca and getaway for the rich and famous, yet still retains the charming qualities of a quaint mountain town. Explore the shops, boutiques, and art galleries lining Main Street.

Price: \$55

Thursday, July 10, 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 13, 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

GATHERING REGISTRATION

Questions about the Gathering programs and events can be directed to the Triennial Gathering coordinator at Women of the ELCA, Linda McKinsey, at 800-638-3522, ext. 2497, or Linda.McKinsey@elca.org.

Confirmation. You will receive a confirmation of your Gathering registration by postal mail or e-mail.

Gathering registration cancellations and refunds. A \$50 cancellation fee will apply if the cancellation request is received by May 1, 2008. From May 1 through June 15, a cancellation fee of \$150 will apply. **No refunds will be**

given after June 15. Registration cancellation requests must be submitted in writing to:

The Housing Connection
175 South West Temple, Suite 140
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1410

Gathering materials. You will receive Gathering materials and program details when you sign in at the registration desk in Salt Lake City. **For additional assistance with registration or housing, please call 800-217-0002.**

HOW TO REGISTER

REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 4, 2007!

There are three ways to register:

1. Online www.womenoftheelca.org (credit card only)

2. Mail The Housing Connection
175 South West Temple, Suite 140
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1410

Both your housing AND registration forms should be sent to the address above. Provide credit card information or enclose a check (or cashier's check or money order) made payable to The Housing Connection.

3. Fax Fax completed forms (credit card only) to:
801-355-0250

Completed registration and housing forms must be received **NO LATER THAN JUNE 15, 2008.** After June 15, 2008, you will only be able to register on-site. This form may be copied for others to use. We recommend making a copy of your completed form for your records.

PICTURES AND VIDEOTAPING: Women of the ELCA will be taking pictures and videotaping at the gathering. By registering for this event, you give Women of the ELCA permission to use your image and comments in educational, informational, and promotional materials in a variety of media, including electronic media.

Registrations will not be accepted by phone.

TRIENNIAL GATHERING 2008 REGISTRATION FORM

I. YOUR INFORMATION *(Please type or print clearly!)*

MRS MS MR REV SISTER OTHER (SPECIFY):

LAST NAME FIRST NAME PREFERRED BADGE NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER (DAY) PHONE NUMBER (EVENING)

E-MAIL ADDRESS

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME PHONE NUMBER (DAY) PHONE NUMBER (EVENING)

SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION NUMBER LETTER

CONGREGATION CITY STATE COUNTRY

I am a first-time Triennial Convention/Gathering participant

2. REGISTRATION FEES AND OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

All registration categories listed below include all Gathering activities scheduled for July 10-13, except where additional fees are indicated.

REGISTRATION CATEGORIES	September 4, 2007 through January 31, 2008	after January 31, 2008 (including on-site)
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult registration	\$275	\$325
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/partner <i>Please list spouse or partner's name:</i>	\$100	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Girls 13-18 <i>Please list name(s):</i>	\$50 each	\$50 each
<input type="checkbox"/> Children under 13 <i>Their registration is free, but please list their names:</i>		

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

<input type="checkbox"/> 4K Run/Walk/Roll, July 12	# people: ____	\$15/person
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Women's Gathering, July 10	# people: ____	\$10/person
<input type="checkbox"/> Today's Dream Tomorrow's Reality Mix & Mingle, July 12	# people: ____	\$10/person
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Education Units	# people: ____	\$10/person
<input type="checkbox"/> Commemorative Communionware	# of sets: ____	\$80 each set

OPTIONAL TOURS

Please circle date and/or time where applicable

<input type="checkbox"/> Alps of Utah	# people: ____	\$85/person	July 10	
<input type="checkbox"/> Antelope Island and Great Salt Lake	# people: ____	\$45/person	July 10	July 13
<input type="checkbox"/> Crossroads of the West City Tour	# people: ____	\$40/person	July 10 morning	July 10 afternoon July 13
<input type="checkbox"/> Gardens of Salt Lake	# people: ____	\$45/person	July 10 morning	July 10 afternoon
<input type="checkbox"/> Kennecott Copper Mine/Great Salt Lake	# people: ____	\$45/person	July 10	July 13
<input type="checkbox"/> Quilts and Handicrafts of Salt Lake	# people: ____	\$75/person	July 10	
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowbird Mountain Resort	# people: ____	\$55/person	July 10	July 13
<input type="checkbox"/> Utah Olympic Park and Park City	# people: ____	\$55/person	July 10	July 13

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

TRIENNIAL CONVENTION

Would you like copies of the convention reports and materials? yes, and I am enclosing \$10 no

Will you also be attending the Triennial Convention July 8-10? yes no

Registration fees total \$_____

3. WORKSHOP PREFERENCES

This year, advance sign-up for workshops is required. Please list below, in order, the numbers corresponding to your top workshop choices. Keep in mind that some workshops are 3 hours long and others are 90 minutes. Each workshop session will have limited space and will be assigned based on availability. If we reach capacity on your first or second choices, we may bump you to another preference. We may also cancel a workshop based on lack of interest. Confirmation of your workshop assignments will come with your registration confirmation. If you decide later that you would like to go to a different workshop than assigned, go to that workshop at the Gathering, and you will be seated if space is available.

Primary registrant:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Spouse/partner:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Girls 13-18 Name:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Girls 13-18 Name:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

If you have signed up for the Gathering choir: soprano #____ alto #____ tenor #____ bass #____

4. OTHER INFORMATION Check the box if you need ...

- To rent a wheelchair To rent a scooter
- To have the Gathering Guide in Braille To have translation services. Specify language (including ASL): _____

NOTE: If you have indicated here that you need to rent a wheelchair or scooter, we will forward you information on providers and pricing. All plenary sessions will be open captioned. We will do our best to accommodate your needs.

5. VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Check any boxes that apply. Staff will contact you regarding specific assignments.

- Translator? Specify language (including ASL): _____ Bilingual greeter? Specify language: _____
- Gathering Volunteer Convention Volunteer

PAYMENT

Total fees from Part 2 above: \$_____

- Form of payment >>> Check (made payable to The Housing Connection)
- VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD

ACCOUNT #

EXPIRATION DATE

SIGNATURE

I agree to pay the total amount of fees.

TRIENNIAL GATHERING HOTELS

Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown \$132

75 South West Temple
Across the street from convention center

Shilo Inn Suites Hotel \$115

206 South West Temple
Across the street from convention center

Hilton Salt Lake City Center \$123

255 South West Temple
Half block from convention center

Radisson Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown \$129

215 West South Temple
Adjacent to the convention center but about 2½ blocks
indoor walk to our location inside the convention center

- Rates are per room, per night, for 1–4 persons per room.
- Rates are valid July 7–15.
- Rates do not include taxes of approx. 12.7% (subject to change).
- All hotels are handicapped accessible.

Instructions

Reservations must be made by June 15, 2008. After this date, unbooked hotel rooms in the Women of the ELCA blocks will be released, and the hotels may charge significantly higher rates. Only one person per room should submit a housing reservation form (include names of all occupants on the form).

Acknowledgments

An acknowledgment of your reservation will be sent after booking. Please review it carefully for accuracy and retain this acknowledgment for your records.

Room guarantee

A valid credit card or check deposit guarantee is required for all housing reservations. Some hotels require a non-refundable first night room and tax deposit. If this applies, the credit card provided on the housing reservation form will be charged for that amount. You also may make a check deposit in the amount of \$200, made payable to The Housing Connection. Housing reservations received without a valid guarantee will not be processed. One deposit guarantees the room for all occupants. (Note that guarantee with a debit card may result in a hold being placed on the required funds.)

Changes and cancellations

Housing cancellations received after May 1, 2008, are subject to a \$50 cancellation fee. Additional cancellation penalties may be assessed by hotels for cancellations after June 15, 2008. Also note: Your confirmed hotel may assess an early departure fee for departure date changes at check-in.

HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

If you are sharing a room, send only one completed housing reservation form with the names of all the persons sharing the room. Include ages of children under 18.

Housing reservation will not be processed if form is incomplete. Telephone requests will not be accepted. Keep a copy of this form for your records.

1. Please send housing reservation acknowledgment to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

2. Select hotel: Rooms are first come/first served and based on availability.

First choice: _____

Second choice: _____

Third choice: _____

Fourth choice: _____

3. Please indicate what synod you are from by name and letter/number:

(For example, Northeastern Iowa, 5F. Also note: Your SWO may have a block of rooms set aside at one of the hotels; check with your synodical president or Gathering promoter.)

4. Arrival date: _____ 5. Departure date: _____

Requests for more than 3 nights pre/post-Gathering may not be available through the housing bureau and may not be available at the special Gathering rates. Your confirmation will advise you to call the hotel directly if necessary.

6. Room type: one bed two beds

7. List names of all occupants in room (don't forget to include yourself). If only one person is listed, a single room will be assigned.

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

8. Do you need a handicapped accessible room? yes no

9. Room guarantee: A valid credit card or check deposit guarantee is required for all housing reservations. See details at left on this page.

Type of card: VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

Name as it appears on card: _____

Account number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Cardholder signature: _____

List special needs or other requests:



8765 West Higgins Road Chicago, IL 60631-4101

800-638-3522, ext. 2730

women.ELCA@elca.org

www.womenoftheelca.org

Seventh Triennial Gathering Registration

