



March 24, 2026

Greetings!

The Women of the ELCA Churchwide Executive Board is inviting the SWO's, Conferences, Clusters, Units, Circles, and individuals to consider donating luxury items, vacation packages, and themed baskets for our silent auction at the Triennial Gathering in Des Moines, Iowa July 16-19th, 2026. Proceeds from the silent auction will make it possible to keep the cost of the Gathering more affordable for all.

Luxury Items ideas to consider:

Perhaps you own (or have a local) jewelry business and would be willing to donate earrings and a necklace from your collection.

Perhaps you have inherited a piece of antique furniture, autographed sports memorabilia, a rare book, Bible, or collection of Luther's writings you wish to donate.

Perhaps you have a travel company, or know someone who does, who would be willing to donate a vacation package.

Perhaps you have season tickets to an NCAA team or a national sports team, or ballet, opera, etc and would be willing to donate a pair alongside of a stay in your home.

Themed Basket ideas to consider:

Gardening Basket, Lefse equipment or Baking Basket, an assortment of gift wrap, ribbons, gift bag Basket, Winter Hygge Basket, Kitchen Equipment Basket, or Coffee/mugs Basket.

If you live in Des Moines we are also inviting you to consider gift card to local businesses or restaurants for the silent auction. Examples of items appropriate for the auction are the following:

Gift cards for restaurants and coffee shops, bookstores, gift shops and breweries.

Let your creativity soar! This is a wonderful opportunity to work together, have fun, and support the Gathering, while also giving an opportunity to market your own or other women-owned businesses and local shops. Our goal is to be able to offer an assortment of items at a variety of price points.

In order to contribute: Please fill out this form:

[2026 WOMEN OF THE ELCA SILENT AUCTION FORM – Fill out form](#)

If you have questions email Jennifer.hockenbery@elca.org

Please plan to bring your item to the registration table Thursday, July 16th, by noon. (Or alternatively, you can mail the item ahead of time—information given on the form)

Thank you! We look forward to seeing you at the Gathering!