



We hope that Circles and Piecemakers will start again in April when all of United's activities can resume. In the meantime, don't forget to read through the January/February and March issues of *Gather* where you will find the winter Bible Study: Journeys with Angels. Although circles aren't meeting, you can work through the studies so you'll be ready for the April study when, we hope, we can all be together again.



Women of United POSTPONED Until April 19 @ 9:30

We plan to resume our meetings beginning April 19 at 9:30. Pastor Karen will lead us in a discussion of angels. Check next month's Voice for details.



Things to know about *Gather Magazine*

Lots of us use *Gather* for our Circle Bible Study, and most of us read at least some of the excellent articles available each month, but you might not know that *Gather* has other resources available to us.

***Gather* has a Facebook page**

www.facebook.com/gathermagazine/
where you can find links to articles and videos and lovely graphics. On the page now is a video of a group acting out the parable of the sower, which is very entertaining. There is also a link to a devotion for Lent (it's free, but you have to sign up for it) and a link for videos produced by the writer of the current study on Angels, Christa von Zychlin.

***Gather* also has a website:**

www.gathermagazine.org

If you search for *Gather* on the web, you will find many other resources with the same name, so using this gathermagazine.org address will get you there faster. This site also has a link to Lenten devotions, (click on Resources) as well as links to articles and previous years' Bible Studies. You can also find information about subscriptions, learn about upcoming studies, link to videos about our studies, and get more information about the writers of those studies.

Things to know about *The Women of the ELCA*

The Women of the ELCA has a website:
www.womenoftheelca.org

On this site you will find everything you need to know about W-ELCA, from our mission statement to our plans for the next Gathering in Phoenix in August 2021. You can read about the need for restructuring as contributions are down more than 30%. You can learn about what we do on the churchwide level. You can find resources for events like BOLD WOMEN'S DAY and a blog called "What is one reason you care about Women of the ELCA?" where you can read other women's ideas and add your own thoughts. There are many links to projects and programs and devotionals.

W-ELCA also has a Facebook page and a website called Bold Café.

www.facebook.com/WomenoftheELCA
www.boldcafe.org

So if you are tired of reading mysteries or putting together puzzles, try these Women of the ELCA sites for inspiration.

BAKELESS BAKE SALE

Envelopes for the Bakeless Bake Sale will be available on April 4.

A SAMPLE OF BLOGS available at womenoftheelca.org

“God invites us to reveal the depth of our faith even in uncertainty”
by Jennifer Michael

“How do we observe the Sabbath during Pandemic Standard Time?”
by Linda Post Bushkofsky

“How can you love? Let us help you count the many ways”
by Sonia C. Solomonson

“Honoring bold African American women for Black History Month”
by Women of the ELCA

From the Blog “What is one reason you care about Women of the ELCA?”

I have been involved in ALCW and WELCA since the 70s. The thing I appreciate the most is the purpose statement of WELCA. This statement has encouraged me and given me strength since it was developed. Brilliant foresight by the women who formulated the mission and purpose statement. I have tried to live my life according to that purpose statement.

The most important reason for me is that I know that from the North Western part of Alaska to the South Eastern part of Florida there are women just like me who enjoy being with and chatting with other Lutheran Women. We are in one big happy family. I have lunched with a group from Alaska at a Triennial and I had dinner with some women from the Islands south of Florida. There was not one feeling we were different, we might look a little different but in our hearts we love each other. Lutheran and Love both start with that special capital “L” for me.

SOME THINGS SUPPORTED BY THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA CHURCHWIDE:

- We engage in ministry; we take action through advocacy; we promote healing and wholeness, and we support one another in our callings.
- We offer anti-racism training; address domestic violence, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking; and support families with special needs.
- We assist participants in their desire to discern God’s call in their lives and to discover their spiritual gifts through workshops, retreats, resources, scholarships, and global education.
- We offer grants to not-for-profit organizations, both domestic and international, that support healing and wholeness for women of all ages through the affirmation and advancement of women’s emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

BOLD WOMEN’S DAY:

Ways to celebrate on your own

(Even if Bold Women’s Day was February 28 and you are reading this on March 1.)

Reflect on the question, “Who have been the bold women in my life?” Use Journaling: Create Your Own Sacred Writing as a guide in putting your reflections in written form. Make a gift to Katie’s Fund (welca.org/katiesfund) in honor of a bold woman who has inspired you. If you can, let her know what a difference she made in your life. Or invite her out to lunch and tell her why you think she’s bold. Capture your own life story. Reflect on the question, “How have I acted boldly on my faith in Jesus Christ?”

Record this in some way—in a journal, a blog post, a video, a letter to your future children or grandchildren. Use your favorite search engine and learn more about some bold women. Start with Elizabeth Fedde (1850-1921), a Lutheran deaconess who established the Norwegian Deaconess Home and Hospital in New York, and Dr. Anna Sarah Kugler (1856-1930), who was the first of several female doctors sent as Lutheran medical missionaries to India.

FROM BOLD CAFÉ

February: Long Live Galentine’s Day, and a devotional about Naomi and Ruth.

Each month has a Monthly Topic and a Faith Reflection, and although Bold Café is aimed at younger women, the topics and reflections are meaningful to all of us. It’s good to know what younger people are thinking and concerned about.

Boldcafe.org