

Central States Synod Women of the ELCA
9:00 AM, June 20, 2025 Pre-Convention Board Meeting
Hilton Garden Inn, Independence, MO

Present: Gloria Sharp, Kathy Steinke, Susie Borgstrom, Janice Gerken, Pat Dunavan, Louise Ahrens, Gaye Mizell and Jill Duis. Rev Dutta could not join us.

Greetings: Gloria greeted everyone and thanked them for setting up everything that was in place. She commented that the signs for the convention looked really good. Gloria then introduced our churchwide representative, Jennifer Armstrong-Schaefer, and welcomed her.

Devotions: Kathy gave devotions and prayer.

Purpose Statement: Everyone joined in the reading of the Purpose Statement.

Approval of the Agenda: Gloria presented the agenda. There were no additions. Jill moved to accept the agenda. Janice seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes: Susie presented the minutes of May 29, 2025 for approval. The board members corrected the minutes, as needed. Pat moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected. Louise seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Janice reported \$27,828.70 in the operating account, \$17,228.32 in the Barbara Nelson Memorial Fund, and \$3,768.93 in the Lynn Starr Educational Scholarship Fund. Kathy moved to accept the treasurer's report, Louise seconded. Motion carried. Gloria read a Thank You note from churchwide for receiving a regular offering.

Churchwide Representative: Jennifer was given time to speak with the board and she was informed that our challenge donation for Katie's Fund was ready to send in. She informed us that the campaign had ended, but they were still accepting money towards it.

Old Business:

Papua New Guinea: Gloria read a letter from Pastor Teske. Pastor Jenny Jackson and Pastor Janice Hawley have signed up to go. There is time and space for a couple more women to go. Having a fundraiser for this was discussed. Getting a Katie's Fund application for a grant was discussed. It was decided to wait until after convention to take action.

New Business:

Printer: A new printer was purchased for convention use.

Promote Triennial Gathering: Gloria was on a Zoom meeting with Elizabeth McBride from Churchwide; plans are being made to do fundraising and promotion for the Triennial. Gloria is helping with a video and hoping to get the new Bishop of Central States Synod involved.

Convention Updates:

- The convention program booklet was checked for corrections. They were listed and will be read at orientation for everyone's information.
- 70 are registered, 24 are voting members and a list of attendees is available for all.
- There will be 60 for Friday Dinner, 60 for Saturday Lunch, and 77 for the Banquet
- Louise has arranged the in-kind gift pick up. Everything here at 3:45 will be picked up today and the rest will be picked up tomorrow afternoon by Ryan Hudnall, Executive Director of Della Lamb.
- The Bridge had some bad luck and we decided to waive the room fee to make sure they were able to come to the convention.
- The resolutions from the board were signed and ready for committee review.
- The audio/visual items are going to be checked and set up by Kathy and Louise.
- Introductions:
 - Kathy- Mayor Pro Tem John Perkins
 - Rev. Kentra Nolde
 - Rev. Kim Frederking
 - Pat- Evelyn Clark
 - Louise- Della Lamb
 - Susie- ReHope/Heidi Olsen
 - Janice- Sing-a-long Our Savior's Praise Girls
 - Potter's Wheel
- Elections- Elections were discussed. Rank Order Process for the Triennial voting members was explained.
- Meal tickets will be collected at each meal: Jill and Gaye-Friday night, Janice and Pat-Saturday noon, Kathy and Susie-Saturday night
- Kathy will set up the Prayer Labyrinth
- At the Banquet, there will be introductions and recognitions first. The Potter's Wheel will perform for about 45 minutes. There will be a short break and then we will end with the silent auction and raffle.

Closing: We prayed the Lord's Prayer and Gloria closed the meeting at 11:18 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Susie Borgstrom, Secretary