

# Walking in the Word

## Don't forget to register

### ***Virtual convention to be Sept. 10-11***

--- Beth Rockelman, vice-president

Participants who plan to attend the convention via Zoom, must complete a registration form by August 31. Voting members must complete and send the registration form by August 15. Registration forms should be sent to Anna Prockish, registrar, 2430 Village Lane, Salina, KS 64701 [aprock7778@gmail.com](mailto:aprock7778@gmail.com).

This will help our technical team in several ways. The registrar must know where to send the link for the meeting and also to track the number of participants.

Voting members will be asked to assist on committees during the convention such as nominating, resolutions, etc. by President Alice Burnett. Voting members also will need to attend

the ZOOM business meeting on Saturday following the convention.

The registrar will contact individuals by email or telephone to confirm receipt of each registration.

The Central States Synod office kindly set up a virtual link for an electronic method of giving an offering. It is active now and will continue to be available through September 30. To access the link, go to [www.css-elca.org/give](http://www.css-elca.org/give) or website home page. If you do not have an account, you will be asked to create one.

A three percent processing fee will be added to each transaction (for example -- \$100 gift + 3% = \$103 total).

Financial gifts for the Love Offering will be greatly appreciated in lieu of physical in-kind products for "The Gathering Table", and the Restoration House, Greater Kansas City. The Love Offering will be distributed to: churchwide, 50 percent; Gathering Table, 25 percent and the Restoration House, 25 percent.

You may wish to consider a gift in the amount of what you would have spent for registration, food and lodging. Checks may be sent to CSS Women of ELCA Treasurer, Vickie Donnell, 4672 E Hidden Oak Place, Springfield, MO 65802. Note your designation on the memo line.

Please contact Tim Anderson, CSS Office, if you can help with the

Zoom experience, such as chat room, muting, or opening a channel from a waiting room, at [tanderson@css-elca.org](mailto:tanderson@css-elca.org) or 913-948-9701. He will host a meeting prior to convention to review status of functions.

## **Students awarded college scholarships**

-- Loretta Holmes, board member

Two applications were submitted for the educational scholarships given by Central States Synodical Women of the ELCA. They were reviewed by the board and granted to Natasha Braun of Mulvane, KS and Amy Schill of Clearwater, KS. Both young ladies are members of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Haysville, KS. Each was awarded \$800 that will be divided between semesters.

Braun will attend Bethany College in Lindsborg, KS. Schill will attend Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.

*(Following payment of the above scholarships, the fund will have about a \$600 balance. Convention offerings designated for educational scholarships will be appreciated. -- Vickie Donnell, treasurer)*

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## ***Declare your praise to the Lord*** -- Alice Burnett, president

Greetings Sisters in Christ,

This will be the last newsletter before the virtual convention. I hope you have access to the registration packet and information that was sent to your unit. You can also find the entire packet on our website <https://www.css-elca.org/welca-convention>.

We will be electing Board positions for both 2020 and 2021. Nomination forms (page 6 of packet) need to be submitted ASAP to Carolyn Olson at 785-272-6428, email [colson3958@yahoo.com](mailto:colson3958@yahoo.com); or Carolyn Bauer at 660-829-2597, email [carolyn1501@hotmail.com](mailto:carolyn1501@hotmail.com)

Registration is FREE, but please REGISTER so a Zoom link can be sent to the participant's email.

We encourage you to meet as a unit if you like to view and enjoy the convention together! You will be able to give your love offering via the

**"O God open our lips that we may declare your praise." Psalm 51:15**

website. The link is [www.css-elca.org/give](http://www.css-elca.org/give). A form is available that may be filled out to digitally send the offering. The first field of that form is "To:" be sure to select CSS-WELCA.

Our Theme, "My Story, Your Story, Our Story" has touched me during my journey as president. I have a story about my relationship with **God** and how he has sustained, encouraged and given me courage through the past two years. You have stories of these unprecedented times, some sad and tragic, some of joy, love and hope. I pray that we can be in partnership to make it "our story".

See you at the convention. [kaburnett@cox.net](mailto:kaburnett@cox.net)

## ***A Home and A Hope – Restoration House*** -- Kathy Steinke, board member

Restoration House of Greater Kansas City is a faith-based, comprehensive residential program for survivors of sex trafficking in the Greater Kansas City area. As Lutheran women located in Kansas and Missouri, with Kansas City at the crossroads, we are donating 25 percent of the Love offering collected at the Central States Synodical Women of the ELCA convention on September 10 and 11, to the Restoration House. Together we can help bring hope to survivors of human trafficking through love, guidance, and a long-term home.

R/H Farms is located on property located 30 minutes outside Kansas City, where survivors reside and are given the time and space needed to rest, recover, and undergo therapy necessary to rebuild their lives and become healthy and self-sustaining children of God.

The average age of entry to sex trafficking in the U.S. is 12-13 years of age. R/H is committed

to expanding housing and services for minors (11-17 years old). In 2019 in partnership with Missouri Baptist Children's Homes, they opened the Mabee House, also located outside of the city, to house seven minor survivors at one-time. Their mission is to expand housing and services to more victims.

Find out more about the mission of this organization at [www.restorationhousekc.org](http://www.restorationhousekc.org) or on Saturday, Sept. 11, during the convention. Hope to "see" you at the convention!

[kathysteinke81@gmail.com](mailto:kathysteinke81@gmail.com)

### **CONVENTION REGISTRATIONS**

**VOTING MEMBERS -- DUE AUGUST 15**

**PARTICIPANTS -- DUE AUGUST 31**

**Send to: Anna Prockish, 2430 Village Lane, Salina, KS 64701** [aprock7778@gmail.com](mailto:aprock7778@gmail.com)

## ***FY 2022 budget proposed*** -- Vickie Donnell, treasurer

A thorough report that includes a summary of the financial status of our treasury at the close of the most recent fiscal year that ended on January 31, 2021, a status report for the current fiscal year budget, and the proposed budget for FY 2022 were included in the convention packets and the convention pages sent via e-mail last week by WITW Editor Mary Liby. At the end of FYE 2021 the checking account had a balance of \$21,762.44. The current budget reflects year-to-date

revenue, \$4,459.42 and \$1,734.61, expenses. One payment of \$1,206.36 has been sent to the churchwide organization.

Arriving at an appropriate FY 2022 proposed budget was challenging with much still unknown about our 'new normal'. The primary reference used was the final outcome of revenue and expenditures for the fiscal year that ended in pre-COVID January 2020. A balanced budget of \$29,300 for FY 2022 will be presented at the convention for approval.

The churchwide W/ELCA financial challenges faced in the 2020 pandemic year followed two decades of reduced revenue. Expenses have been significantly trimmed, resulting in only two of the 10-member staff working full-time. A conservative budget (31% less than the 2020 budget) was presented at last week's virtual Triennial Convention. The board is exploring additional ways to generate support and a feasibility report is expected October 2021. [vickiedonnell@yahoo.com](mailto:vickiedonnell@yahoo.com)

## ***Kara tells her story***

-- Kara Jecha, board member

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you as Cluster Liaison these past four years. What would my story be of that time?

- **Fellowship** – Meeting new sisters in Christ and seeing how they carry out the teachings of Jesus.
- **Hospitality** – Witnessing hospitality at its best at unit meetings, cluster meetings and conventions!
- **Leadership** – Witnessing current leaders not only doing a great job of "leading", but also encouraging others to take on new roles; cheerleaders if you will.
- **Patience** – 2020 was a year of waiting. Churches, women's units/clusters, vacation Bible school were put on hold. But there was beauty in the waiting: time to reconnect with Jesus, family, friends, and SELF.
- **Creativity** – Women still found ways to connect, whether it was on social media, email, ZOOM video, telephone calls, cards (LOVE the hand-made cards), or weekly gatherings in our cars (drive-up style).
- **Endurance** – Our women endured, always hopeful that we would once again be able to meet in person and life would become more "normal". Faith overcame fear.
- **Faithfulness** – Once the vaccine became available, our women began discussions about in-person gatherings. Through it all, they remained faithful to Jesus and their calling as women of the Church.

I pray the new leaders you choose will continue the legacy of our women, in new and creative ways, and that you, sisters in Christ, will support them in these roles. Keep telling YOUR story. Keep telling OUR story. God's Peace to each of you!

[churchlady@gbta.net](mailto:churchlady@gbta.net)

## ***Convention speakers***

**Bishop Susan Candea** was ordained on September 25, 1983. In 1989, she accepted a call to be the solo pastor at Our Savior's Lutheran in Topeka, KS where she served for 17 years.

She returned to the Central States Synod in 2013 to serve on the synod staff. On June 8, 2019 she was elected to serve as the Bishop of the Central States Synod and began her term September 1, 2019.

During her 30 years of parish ministry and six- and one-half years as a synod staff member, the Rev. Candea has been involved in many aspects of ministry throughout the church. She has three grown sons and a granddaughter.

**Patti Shepard Winkler** will present the "Quilts in the Classroom" workshop. She will share stories of history using historical and original quilts created by her sister.

**The Rev. Kimberly Frederking** currently serves Prairie Faith Shared Ministry, a five-point parish in western Kansas. The Rev. Frederking has held numerous positions in civic and political organizations while employed as an emergency medical technician and hospice volunteer. The Rev. Frederking pursued the Parish Ministry Associate program and served Prairie Faith Shared Ministry for nine years. During that time, she served as a CSS W/ELCA board and cluster coordinator. She was ordained in February 2020 after completing TEEM – Theological Education in Emerging Ministries. The Rev. Frederking and her husband, David, have three sons and seven grandchildren.

**CENTRAL STATES SYNOD WOMEN OF THE ELCA CONVENTION REGISTRATION****September 10 and 11, 2021****VIA ZOOM – Held virtually**Theme: **My Story, Your Story, Our Story**Bible Verse: **Psalm 51:15** *Oh Lord, open my lips...and my mouth will declare your praise*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a home or cell?

Preferred Time of Day to call \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note: It is important to have an email listed so the ZOOM meeting link can be sent to you.**

Church Name and City \_\_\_\_\_

Cluster \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Voting Member registration due by **August 15**\_\_\_\_\_ Participant/guest registration **POSTMARKED by August 31**. Registrations after this date may not have a zoom link. Please honor this deadline.

Voting Members are to be e-mailed by August 31 any resolutions and nomination forms for officers and board members. They will also be asked to assist on committees during convention such as nominating, resolutions, etc. by President Alice Burnett prior to convention. They will also need to attend the ZOOM business meeting on Saturday following the convention.

## ***33<sup>rd</sup> CSS W/ELCA Convention agenda***

*The following schedule amends the tentative agenda included in the convention packets that were mailed in July and the convention pages sent via e-mail last week by WITW Editor Mary Liby.*

### **Friday, September 10**

**6:50 p.m.** Musical prelude by Vicki Hedger

**7:00 p.m.** Welcome/Convention Opening – Alice Burnett, President, CSS Women of the ELCA  
Introductions: churchwide representative; Central States Synod Bishop Susan Candea;  
CSS WELCA Education Fund Scholarship recipients  
Announcements: Offerings and in-kind donations  
Love offering, designated financial gifts, i.e. education scholarships, may be given via zoom link or mailed to treasurer. Monetary donations will be appreciated in lieu of physical in-kind products for “The Gathering Table”. (Please consider donating traditional registration, food, or lodging expenses).

**7:05 p.m.** Churchwide women’s organization greetings and report

### **SING TWO SONGS**

**7:40 p.m. – 8:10 p.m.** Bishop Candea greetings and Central States Synod report

**8:10 p.m.** Five-minute break

**8:15 p.m.** Rev. Ann Rundquist – “The Gathering Table” – video program with slides

**8:45 p.m.** Worship service

### **Saturday, September 11**

**8:30 a.m.** Bible Study (approximately 45 minutes) with breakout sessions/question/answer time

**9:15 a.m.** Five-minute break

**9:20 a.m.** Vendor videos – Loretta Holmes

**9:35 a.m.** Five-minute break

**9:40 a.m.** Workshop – “Quilts in the Classroom” by Patti Winkler

**10:20 a.m.** Musical interlude

**10:25 a.m.** Keynote Speaker – “Our Blessed Stories” by the Rev. Kim Frederking

**11:10 a.m.** Song/closing prayer

**11:30 a.m.** Business meeting for voting members, election of board members and officers

Official Newsletter of  
The Central States  
Women of the ELCA

## **WALKING IN THE WORD**

The newsletter written and published by the  
Central States Synod Women of the ELCA

### **Keep up-to-date with events, news, etc. concerning the CSS W/ELCA**

Subscriptions available by email alert (free) or USPS mail, \$10 a year (4 issues) for printing, postage.  
Checks should be payable to CSS WELCA.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive *Walking in the Word* by: EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ USPS \_\_\_\_\_

Return form with payment to:

Vickie Donnell, 4672 E Hidden Oak Place, Springfield, MO 65802

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