

# EVANGEL- LINES



SHARING the GOOD NEWS of the WOMEN of the UPSTATE NEW YORK SYNOD



## Where is God Leading Us?

... for such a time as this (Esther 4:14)

October 6-8, 2023  
Notre Dame Retreat Center

This year's convention will differ slightly from our previous one in 2019. A lot has happened in the 4 years since we have gathered! Some of us have experienced changes in our own lives, others in the lives of family, friends, communities, and all of us in the world in which we live.

The planning team felt that "gathering together" was the most important goal. We are hoping you feel the same! Renewing friendships and listening to how we were able to navigate during the unusual times we faced will be one of the themes of the event, in addition to the usual business of the organization. Thanks to the current board for "hanging in there" and serving extra months/years! We will utilize the talents of participants as much as possible and provide time for chatting, laughing and sharing.

Marilyn Dyer will be our Keynote Speaker on Friday evening. She will share the story of the creation of St. Paul's Center for homeless mothers and their children and provide updates on its current and future ministries.

Rather than recruiting entertainment by a group of musicians, we thought it would be fun to entertain each other with "WELCA's GOT TALENT" on Saturday night. Do you do card tricks? Play the harpsichord or trumpet? Yodel? Brush up on your skills! (There will also be board and card games, in case no one signs up to share their talent.)

In previous years we have had an ingathering of items for a local organization. We are suggesting something a bit different. A display table or two will be available to highlight how you have been able to support outreach through your congregations, especially during COVID. Did you do "curbside pickup" like many retail businesses? What types of items were you providing? How many? Share your ministry ideas with the group by bringing an "example," e.g., VBS boxes to go, and an index card/flyer with information about it.

Our major form of communication is through the Evangeline's email list and to the last convention's attendees. We are relying on you to pass on the information to your Sisters in Christ to promote attendance.

Registration forms for both convention and room/board at Notre Dame follow. If you would like to request financial assistance or are thinking of someone who would be a "first-time attendee" the form is in this issue. Perhaps you'd like to serve on the board - there's a form for that also!

**"Stay tuned" for further information!!!**

## Why consider serving as a member of the Synodical Board of Women of the ELCA?

In addition to determining focal points for ministry for the women of Upstate New York Synod, board service affirms the gifts women already have and calls them to stretch beyond to help develop leadership skills. Sometimes, we don't even know how capable we are until we are asked to reach beyond our comfort level to grow in faith and service with the gentle help of our Sisters in Christ.

Working together, we communicate those issues and programs of special interest to women and girls that we learn about from the Churchwide expression of Women of the ELCA. We look at how we might address issues in our own conferences as well as those occurring synodically, nationally and even globally.

Information is communicated through the Evangel-Lines Newsletter to help each unit and conference determine how best to address ministries in their area or how to take part in a synodical or churchwide ELCA ministry. Likewise, conference coordinators keep the board apprised of what is going on in their units and conferences.

But the BEST part of being a member of the Board is that you meet and become close to other women from across the state who are bold, committed, active, and faithful! You will make lifelong friends who are your Sisters in Christ! They will lift you up and encourage you as you live out the purpose statement of Women of the

*As a community of women  
created in the image of God,  
called to discipleship in Jesus Christ,  
and empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
we commit ourselves to grow in faith,  
affirm our gifts,  
support one another in our callings,  
engage in ministry and action,  
and promote healing and wholeness  
in the church, the society, and the world.*

Wonderful words to live by!

The constitution of Women of the ELCA, Upstate New York Synod, allows for a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 9 board members in addition to the 4 officers. Nominations with bios are appreciated in advance, but nominations may be made from the floor as long as a bio is available.

We hope for representation from all areas of the state. This is easier now that most meetings are via Zoom with an occasional meeting in Syracuse. The Board meets every 4 months or so depending on what needs to be discussed and/or for convention planning.

All our Board member terms are up in 2023 as these dedicated women have been serving all through COVID. These positions include president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to serve in this way and return the nomination form to Sue Nalle as soon as possible. (7700 State Route 104, Oswego, NY 13126 [snalle@gmail.com](mailto:snalle@gmail.com)) Others serving on the committee are Willie Lanfear, Foothills ([wekl48@gmail.com](mailto:wekl48@gmail.com)) and Ruth Schmidt, Niagara Frontier ([walrus1973@verizon.net](mailto:walrus1973@verizon.net)).





Women <sup>of the</sup> ELCA 

Upstate New York Synod

CONVENTION 2023

# Where is God Leading Us?

... for such a time as this. (Esther 4:14)

October 6 – 8, 2023

Notre Dame Retreat House, 5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua, New York 14424

Delegate    Alternate    Participant

Board Member    Conference Coordinator/Co-coordinator    Scholarship Recipient

## REGISTRATION / ACCOMMODATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference: \_\_\_\_\_ Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Any special needs (dietary, room, other)? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a FIRST TIME ATTENDEE?    Yes    No

Age Range:    under 31    32-45    46-56    57-65    over 65

**ROOMS: ALL RATES: PER PERSON (pp) – Both Full-time & Overnight Attendees**

Five meals included in Full-time rate (Overnight Attendees – meals included while at Convention)

One set of towels and bed linens provided (bring extra towels if desired)

Friday Check-in begins at 3:00 PM

### PLEASE CHECK ROOM CHOICE & LENGTH OF STAY

**PRIVATE SINGLE:** *One twin bed; adjoining private toilet & sink (community shower on the same wing)*

Weekend \$230.00 pp

Overnight (Friday – Saturday)      (Saturday - Sunday)      \$115.00 pp

Over—

**SHARED DOUBLE:** *Two twin beds; adjoining full bath (toilet, sink & private shower)*

Weekend \$200.00 pp  
Overnight (Friday – Saturday) (Saturday - Sunday) \$100.00 pp

**SHARED DOUBLE ALONE:** *increased rate for private occupancy request)*

Weekend \$290.00 pp  
Overnight (Friday – Saturday) (Saturday - Sunday) \$145.00 pp

**THREE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE ROOMS** *(same as SHARED DOUBLE*

*\$200.00 weekend; \$100.00 overnight) Please Contact Registrar for Room Availability*

**Convention Registration Information**

**SATURDAY ONLY** *(meals included)* \$65.00 pp

Convention Registration *(Weekend or Overnight)* \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Registration for Saturday only \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Room Reservation Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL RESERVATION/REGISTRATION FEE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Make check payable to **“WOMEN OF THE ELCA”**

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ to confirm information by e-mail

***\*Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with this completed form to receive confirmation by mail.***

***\*\*Be sure to make an extra copy of this Reservation/Registration Form for your files\*\****

**MAIL THIS CONVENTION RESERVATION/REGISTRATION FORM WITH BOTH FEES TO:**

Ruth Schmidt  
185 Meadowbrook Drive  
Lackawanna, New York 14218  
(716) 827-8694  
e-mail: [Walrus1973@verizon.net](mailto:Walrus1973@verizon.net)

**RESERVATION & REGISTRATION DEADLINE – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2023**



**WOMEN OF THE ELCA— UPSTATE NEW YORK SYNOD  
LEADERSHIP POSITION NOMINATION FORM 2023**

President \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Board Member \_\_\_\_\_ VP \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Check the position for which you are nominating. This form may be reproduced and you may nominate as many women as your congregational unit desires. Be sure to have the permission of the nominee.

NAME OF NOMINEE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CONGREGATIONAL UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ CONFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

AGE CATEGORY: 18-35 \_\_\_\_\_ 36-50 \_\_\_\_\_ 51-65 \_\_\_\_\_ OVER 65 \_\_\_\_\_

Does the nominee qualify for either category?

\_\_\_\_\_ woman of color and or/person whose primary language is other than English?

\_\_\_\_\_ woman with a disability (hearing or sight impaired, physically impaired, etc.)

Highlights of present and past activities in Women of the ELCA, congregations, conference, synod, church-wide, community and career:

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What gifts/talents can the nominee bring to the Upstate New York Synodical Board?

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Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ with permission of the nominee.

Nominee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Upstate New York Synod Women of the ELCA**

**Application for Financial Assistance for 2023 Gathering in Canandaigua, NY**

[Financial Assistance covers registration costs only.](#)

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference: \_\_\_\_\_ Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

How many Conventions have you attended? \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe financial need (no numbers please)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will your Congregational Unit pay some of your Gathering costs? (Example: travel costs, meals, etc.) Yes/No

Will you be able to attend the Gathering if you are not chosen as a recipient? Yes / No

**Congregational Unit Information**

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the applicant a participant of your unit? \_\_\_\_\_

Would your unit be able to subsidize some of the applicant's costs? If so, how much? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you feel the applicant should receive financial aid?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How many women do you think will be attending from your congregation/unit? \_\_\_\_\_

**Return application to:** NANCY MORTH, 303 White Oak Lane, Grand Island, NY 14072 or [n23morth95@yahoo.com](mailto:n23morth95@yahoo.com)

**Deadline for Application: September 1, 2023**