

Central States Synod Women of the ELCA
January 25, 2025 Board Meeting
via Zoom at 7:00 PM

Present: Gloria Sharp, Kathy Steinke, Susie Borgstrom, Janice Gerkin, Pat Dunavan, Rev. Dinah Dutta, Louise Ahrens, and Gaye Mizell. Jill Duis was not able to attend.

Greetings: everyone was greeted by Gloria and the meetings began shortly after 7 PM.

Devotions: Gaye led us in devotions and prayer from “Jesus Calling” and let us know it was alright to be human, we just need to focus on Jesus.

Purpose Statement: The Purpose Statement was read together by all.

Approval of the Agenda: Gloria added the Papua New Guinea visitor exchange and the thank you and receipt from Churchwide for funding we sent them to the agenda. It was moved by Janice to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Louise, voted on, and carried.

Approval of the Minutes: Susie presented the minutes of November 21, 2024. They were corrected as needed by the Board. Gaye moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Louise seconded, we voted, and it carried. They will be corrected and posted on our website.

Treasurer’s Report: Janice reported \$27,122.09 in our operational account, \$3,537 in the Lynn Starr Educational Scholarship Fund, and \$17,192.79 in the Barbara Nelson Memorial Fund. Kathy moved to accept the report. Pat seconded, we voted and it carried. Gloria read the communication from Churchwide for funds received.

Announcements: Gloria has the Conference of Presidents via Zoom on February 15. They sent paperwork with questions to fill out to prepare for the meeting. Gloria went over a few of them with us.

Old Business:

Lynn Starr Educational Scholarship application: Gloria had the application updated and was ready to set it up on the website. The deadline for getting all the information in with the application is April 15.

Papua New Guinea Visitor Exchange: Gloria asked if any of the board had someone interested in this event. Gloria had one person contact her. Gloria said she would send all the information she had to Pastor Teske.

Convention Planning: Gloria asked for volunteers to meet with her and work out some of the details of the convention. This was for making calls and getting some of our loose ends tied up. Kathy, Janice, and Louise volunteered. One of the things to be checked on was confirmation of plans with the Hilton Garden Inn in Independence MO. This is what is confirmed to date:

- Bishop Candea will be available for convention.
- Pastor Kendra Nolde is Friday night keynote speaker.
- A confirmation letter arrived from Churchwide confirming that they would send a representative and another person to promote Katie’s fund. She would have a 30 minute presentation to give us.
- The Bridge will be here and has agreed to the \$200 fee for a secure room.
- Evelyn Clark will present “Women of the Reformation”.
- Sarah Kolsto with Della Lamb Community Services will be our in-kind offering.
- Pastor Kim Frederking will have a Bible Study for us on grace.
- Heidi Olsen, a forensics nurse, will give a presentation to help stop human trafficking

- Pat is bringing the BINGO set up back for us.
- Entertainment has been confirmed as a bluegrass group called “ Potter’s Wheel”.

Basket silent auction: In the past, the silent auction funded the Barbara Nelson Memorial fund. Since there were more than adequate funds to provide for the 2026 Triennial, it was decided by the board to promote the educational scholarship for 2025 convention. Kathy moved that the monies from the basket silent auction at the convention in 2025 be used for the Lynn Starr Educational Scholarship Fund. Rev. Dinah seconded, we voted and it carried.

Other Comments about Convention : We have keyboard and speakers being lent by Boyd Ahrens. Anna Borders and Bishop Candea will serve communion and have closing worship on Sunday morning. Kathy has the logo done, Gaye sent out all the letters to vendors.

It was decided by the board that registration for the convention would start at 1:00 PM on Friday, as well as the Hospitality room, the Bridge, and the vendor booths.

At 8:54 PM, Louise prayed the Lord’s Prayer for us, and Gloria closed the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susie Borgstrom, Secretary