

New England Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 Seventh Biennial Convention - "The Earth is the Lord's" - September 10-12, 2010
 Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, West Hartford, Connecticut

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
STREET CITY/STATE/ZIP

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Church: _____ City/State: _____

Circle if Attending as a: Delegate Participant SWO Board Member/Officer Conference Officer Guest

If you are a delegate, form must be signed by a unit leader: _____
(Current SWO board/officers should not be delegates)

Is this your first convention? Yes No

CONVENTION COSTS

Registration:

Early Registration Fee (if postmarked by July 1 st)	\$74.00	\$ _____
Registration Fee (after July 1 st)	\$99.00	\$ _____
Single Day Registration Fee	\$50.00	\$ _____

Lodging/Meals:

***Full details on reverse side of this form.
 For those registering for both nights, six meals are included.
 For those staying only one night, four meals are included.
 Friday \$150. Saturday \$150. Both Nights \$192. \$ _____

My Roommate will be: _____ OR

Please assign me a roommate: _____

Meals: (all meals are served in the Retreat Center Dining Room)

Commuter Meals:

\$135.00 For commuters coming for both days, five meals included	\$ _____
\$95.00 Saturday commuters will be served three meals	\$ _____

Special Dietary/Physical Needs? Explain _____

New England Women of the ELCA Convention Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

(Help make the Convention Scholarship Fund grow by adding \$2. or more to your registration total. Supplemental funds have been requested from a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Chapter in New England.)

ARE YOU A THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERAN BENEFIT OR ASSOCIATE MEMBER?

Yes _____ No _____

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED (Makes checks payable to NE/WELCA) \$ _____

Mail Registration Form and Fees to:
 Nancy Wogman, 52 Court Street, Cromwell, CT 06416-1621
 Phone: 860/635-2623 E-Mail: nancywogman@aol.com

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 20, 2010

*****Lodging/Meals at Holy Family:** There are a limited number of single and handicapped rooms available. These rooms will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Bathrooms and showers are communal. Full linen service is provided in all rooms. (For those who remember the former Mont Marie Conference Center in Holyoke, MA, Holy Family is similar in bedroom/bathroom layout.) Holy Family is completely handicapped accessible with an elevator servicing all levels. All meals will be served in the Retreat Center Dining Room. Women staying both nights will be served six meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch); women staying only one night will be served four meals (Saturday lunch through Sunday lunch); commuters coming both days will be served five meals (Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch); and those coming for Saturday only will be served three meals (Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner).

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center has lovely grounds for walking and/or relaxing. There is an outdoor labyrinth and gardens for your enjoyment. Wear comfortable walking shoes if you plan to enjoy the outdoors. Also, you are encouraged to **dress comfortably** for the convention. "Dress up" is not necessary! It will be late summer so it could be very warm in the daytime and cooler in the evenings. After all, this is New England! A bookstore, complete with cards, books, music, and gifts, is on premises for your convenience.

Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center is easily accessible from major Interstates. Driving directions will be sent with your confirmation letter.

Registration begins at 3:00pm on Friday. The Festive Closing Eucharist will end at about 2:15pm on Sunday.

Questions can be directed to the convention chairperson:
Paula Rosenbeck - 860-567-9505 or teetee108@yahoo.com
or to the registrar:
Nancy Wogman - 860-635-2623 or nancywogman@aol.com

INFORMATION FOR 7TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

The convention will take place at [Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center](#), 303 Tunxis Road West Hartford, Connecticut, easily accessible from interstates throughout New England. A registration form is attached to this information sheet. Holy Family has lovely grounds for walking and/or relaxing. There is an outdoor labyrinth and gardens for your enjoyment. Wear comfortable walking shoes if you plan to enjoy the outdoors. Also, you are encouraged to dress comfortably for the convention. "Dress up" is not necessary! It will be late summer so it could be very warm in the daytime and cooler in the evenings. After all, this is New England! A bookstore, complete with cards, books, music, and gifts, is on premises for your convenience.

Convention theme is "The Earth is the Lord's," based on [Psalm 24: 1](#). Convention chair is **Paula Rosenbeck**, former member and president of the New England Women of the ELCA synodical board. Committee members include: **Marci Sharp**, current synodical president, (Prince of Peace, Brookfield, CT), **Carolyn Bascetta** (Good Shepherd, Laconia, NH), **Liz Burgess** (Prince of Peace, Augusta, ME), **Alice Carlson** (First, Brockton, MA), **Clare Gordon** (University Lutheran, Cambridge, MA), **Jackie Greenwood** (St. Paul's, Torrington, CT), **Lisa & Mark Proffitt** (St. Paul's, Torrington, CT), **Noreen Noll** (Holy Trinity, Trumbull, CT), **Denise Puisto** (Ascension, South Burlington, VT), **Cynthia Stroschein** (Lutheran Church of Framingham, MA), and **Nancy Wogman** (Bethany, Cromwell, CT).

Convention chaplain and keynoter will be the **Reverend Nancy Wright**, Ascension, South Burlington, VT; **Rev. Elaine Hewes**, Redeemer, Bangor, ME, will be Bible Study leader and preacher at the closing Eucharist; **Nancy Stone**, former synodical board president, will serve as Parliamentarian for the plenary sessions; **Denise Puisto**, Ascension, South Burlington, VT, will be convention musician; and **Sharon Machuga**, St. Paul's, Torrington, CT, will be song leader; and **Kathe Bruno**, member of Ascension Lutheran Church, South Burlington, VT, will serve as the worship coordinator for the weekend event.

Please Note: This is the first year that [NE / Women of the ELCA](#) has changed the days of our biennial convention to **Friday through Sunday**. In an effort to allow more working women to attend our event it was decided to "think outside the box" and come up with new ideas to involve more women. This same weekend is Hammonasset Weekend for the high-school youth of the synod. Plan to leave Dad at home with the little ones and both the teenage youth and Mom can enjoy an inspirational weekend away, growing spiritually and walking together with our Lord.

A brief outline of the **agenda** finds registration **beginning on Friday afternoon at 3:00pm**. Dinner is at 6:00pm and business begins at 7:00pm for all registered delegates and those wishing to attend the plenary sessions. Plan to come early and enjoy the lovely grounds, settle into your room and enjoy the fellowship of other sisters from New England! The Friday night program will begin at approximately 8:00pm with a Puppet Ministry presentation by St. Paul's, Torrington, CT, fellowship and a "meet and greet." Plenary sessions continue on Saturday morning while workshops run simultaneously. Following lunch we will hear our keynote address on our theme, "The Earth is the Lord's." With business complete by mid-afternoon, all women can enjoy another workshop and free-time to explore the grounds, relax, or fellowship. Saturday's banquet will be preceded by a service of installation for newly elected officers, board, and triennial delegates. We will end our day with a Talent Show (see tear-off in this packet of info). Sunday we will gather as a large group for morning devotions, to hear an overview of the business conducted during the plenary sessions as well as to do some visioning for our organization. Another opportunity for workshops will take us to lunch and then the festive closing worship service. We will be **on our way rejoicing by 2:15pm**.

The **Theme Basket Ticket Auction** will benefit the All [God's Children Orphanage and Deaf School](#) in Fedja, Haiti, operated by Global Vision Citadelle Ministries. All congregations are invited to make a theme basket for the auction. Bring your basket to the registration table. Tickets for these baskets will be sold and the drawing will be held on Saturday evening during and after the banquet. (More details of the Deaf Ministry are on the reverse of the Theme Basket Ticket Auction poster.

Congregational Unit Offerings will be received during the convention. One-half of the offerings will stay here in New England to benefit the many missions and ministries we support with the other one-half supporting [the Churchwide Women of the ELCA](#).

Personal monetary offerings will be received at the Festive Closing Eucharist early Sunday afternoon. One-half of offerings received will go to **New England Women of the ELCA** for the many missions and ministries we support and one-half will benefit **Mosaic**. [Mosaic](#) is a faith-based organization serving people with intellectual disabilities. They believe that every individual is a person of worth. Together Mosaic staff members, volunteers and the people they support work as partners. Mosaic's mission is "In partnership with people who have disabilities, Mosaic provides support and advocates that all may realize God's gift of wholeness of life." Mosaic supports more than 3,500 people and has a staff of more than 5,000. There are 40 agencies comprising more than 250 communities in 14 states including Connecticut. CT offices are located in Cromwell.

In-Kind Gifts will be collected to benefit the [Oak Hill School for the Blind Group Homes](#) serving clients from throughout Connecticut. Oak Hill is an organization that was established in Hartford, CT in 1893 to provide services and solutions for people with disabilities, especially the visually impaired. They currently serve 500 people in their group homes and day activity centers everyday. Oak Hill camp and summer programs serving children and adults with autism and visual impairments provide social and recreational activities to 275 people. The Eleanor Brooks Blindness Related Support Center at Oak Hill provides computer access training to U.S. veterans in Connecticut and is expanding its service into Western Massachusetts. Suggested items to bring include: Stop n Shop, Walmart, CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreen's, Target gift cards; American Express, MasterCard, Visa gift cards; and interactive electronic Wii games that clients can use. Also, personal care products for men and women are invited: toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, deodorant, baby powder, combs & brushes, mouthwash, dental floss, sanitary products, etc.

Personal monetary offerings will be received at the Festive Closing Eucharist early Sunday afternoon. One-half of offerings received will go to **New England Women of the ELCA** for the many missions and ministries we support and one-half will benefit Mosaic. [Mosaic](#) is a faith-based organization serving people with intellectual disabilities. They believe that every individual is a person of worth. Together Mosaic staff members, volunteers and the people they support work as partners. Mosaic's mission is "In partnership with people who have disabilities, Mosaic provides support and advocates that all may realize God's gift of wholeness of life." Mosaic supports more than 3,500 people and has a staff of more than 5,000. There are 40 agencies comprising more than 250 communities in 14 states including Connecticut. CT offices are located in Cromwell.

A total of fifteen (15) One-Hundred (\$100.00) Convention Scholarships will be awarded to women who need financial assistance. See the May issue of *Nellie's Notes* for details or call the chair or registrar listed below for an application in mid - late spring.

Jackie Greenwood, workshop coordinator, reports that some of the **Workshops*** being scheduled include:

Chrismons - make a Chrismon from recycled foam and beads or pearls. (You are invited to bring gold or white beads or pearls to help make your Chrismon more personal). A small fee will be collected to cover costs, payable at the workshop. Led by Denise Puisto

Create Your Own Journal - Bring a piece of fabric (at least 18" square). Perhaps you have a favorite outfit you no longer wear, or a favorite blanket that you don't use, or a piece of your child's clothing you want to remember! It can be new, of course, but something meaningful would be great! A small fee will be collected to cover costs, payable at the workshop. Leader to be announced.

Nurturing the Seedling - families growing together spiritually and building a strong relationship with God. Led by Jackie Greenwood

Creation Care - simple ways we can all care for creation - at home and in the community - we can care for God's creation in many fun ways. Led by Alice Carlson

Guided Labyrinth Walk - Enjoy a guided contemplative walk through the lovely stone labyrinth at Holy Family.

Book of Faith Bible Study - bring your favorite Bible! Led by Rev. Elaine Hewes

Disability Awareness - ways we can support and include our brothers and sisters in Christ who are individuals with challenges. Led by Kristin Fredrickson

*Participants may attend multiple workshops.

At the *Feed the Woman* Event held last September at Trinity, Worcester, MA, women requested a time to share **needlework patterns and projects**. We will have a room available where these things can be shared with one another. If you have a special pattern you'd like to share with others, please bring some copies. This will also be a space where you can sit and knit, crochet, quilt, or stitch and enjoy fellowship while working on your project.

First-ever **New England Women of the ELCA Talent Show!** Saturday after the banquet we will see the talent we have here in New England! A form to reserve your spot is included with registration information. Anything goes! Who remembers Gisela Koester's liturgical dance at the Paths to Wholeness event at Mont Marie? We can't forget the Christ the King Ladies as they have treated us on a number of occasions with their singing and acting. Does anyone remember Betty Callahan's church aerobic routine at a convention in the early 1990's? Start working on your act now! Solo and group performances are invited!

Questions can be directed to the chairperson:

Paula Rosenbeck - 860/567-9505 or teetee108@yahoo.com

Or to the registrar:

Nancy Wogman - 860/635-2623 or nancywogman@aol.com