

Workshops

2122 Campaign for Katie's Fund – Head, Heart, and Hands

Workshop Leader: Joy Grace

This workshop will combine a history of Katie's Fund, an update on the 2122 Campaign, and a discussion on the impact this endowment can make on New Jersey women and beyond!

Joy Grace - Biography 2024

Joy Grace is currently President of the Southeast Pennsylvania (SEPA 7-F) Synodical Board of the Women of the ELCA, as well as a member of the Leadership Team of the 2122 Campaign for Katie's Fund since its inception. She is a life-long Lutheran and is honored to serve and represent the ELCA! Joy was introduced to LCW and WELCA through her mother and paternal grandmother as a child. It was only years later that she discovered that her maternal grandmother had been a Lutheran as well! Joy's mother brought her to the Triennial Gathering in Salt Lake City, Utah, and she hasn't missed a Gathering since, and has served as a SWO representative twice.

Joy has served on the SEPA board previously as a member, president, and most recently as vice-president. She was a member of the Sarah Circle at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Springfield, PA for several years, until moving out of the area and joining The Church of the Good Shepherd in Coatesville, PA earlier this year.

As a church member, Joy has served on church councils and Christian Ed, Property, and Stewardship committees, taught Sunday School, sung in various choirs, and traveled to the Detroit Youth Event as an Adult Leader in 2017.

Joy has also recently served as board president of the Pine Flats Association of Pike County, which serves as a liaison between the PA DCNR and the cabin owners of the Pine Flats community in the Pocono Mountains. Her great-grandfather built a cabin there in the 1930's; 5 generations later, the Saeger/Grace family continues to enjoy the quiet and simplicity of the forest every summer.

Joy earned a BS degree in Interior Design from Drexel University, and later achieved an MS in management. In her 'spare time', Joy works full-time for Partner Engineering & Science as a technical writer in the Construction Services division. She lives with her 2 cats Apollo and MJ (best roommates ever!) and enjoys spending time with friends and family, including her 3 adult children: Liam, Noah, and Anna.

Here I Am ... Here We Go!"

Workshop Leader: Pastor Wendolyn Trozzo

We embrace all kinds of ministries that support our mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Understanding missions that can happen wherever we are - "some missionaries cross the ocean and some cross the street."

Pastor Wendolyn Trozzo - Biography

Pastor Wendolyn, a native of Rockville, MD, joined the NJ synod in 2005, serving as a parish pastor in Chatham before moving with her family to the island of Borneo in Malaysia through the Global Missions of the ELCA. Returning home to the US, her ministries have varied from living in a nursing home during Covid to local firefighting to becoming a bivocational EMS-pastor. She shares her stories as well as insights into what "calling" means throughout our changing seasons. She will encourage us to embrace ministries that mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ, as we celebrate that missions can happen wherever we are - "some missionaries cross the ocean and some cross the street."

Convention Bible Study

Workshop Leader: Joyce Brooks, Churchwide Rep.

As we explore the theme of our convention, Faithful Journey: Here I Am, Lord! The theme is based on the hymns... Here I Am, Lord! (ELW 574) and Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song, as I Journey (ELW 808) and the corresponding Bible Verses.

Fleece Blanket Workshop

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Hasbrouck Heights Presenting

The WELCA ladies at Holy Trinity have been making fleece blankets for a few years now. We have donated them to PERC (Palisades Emergency Residence Corporation), Lutheran Social Ministries NJ, a WELCA member in a rehab facility, and a group home where a family member of one of our members resides.

They are constructed using two different 2 ½ yard pieces of fleece (5 yards in total). The project is relatively easy enough that almost anyone can participate. No sewing involved.

We will demonstrate the process at the Annual Meeting and provide written instructions and give some hands-on opportunities to the attendees.

Holy Trinity's WELCA Group - Biography

Unit Leader: Karen Niestemski

We are a group of approximately 11 ladies. We have always operated as an Outreach Group – using the talents within the group to work together to help others in need. We meet once a month from September through June and once in the summer to assemble backpacks. We are a long time ministry at Holy Trinity.

Our projects include:

Fleece blankets

Backpacks for Back to School through Lutheran Social Ministries NJ (LSMNJ)

Health kits for Lutheran World Relief

Blessing bags for LSMNJ

Packets of greeting Cards (handmade and purchased) for shut ins through LSMNJ

Small baby quilts and stuffed teddy bears for newly baptized at Holy Trinity and St. Mary's Hospital in Passaic, NJ

Seafarers Christmas at Sea Program

Easter Dinners through LSMNJ

In the past we have made quilts for Lutheran World Relief, but the shipping costs got too costly and not everyone could work on this project. We donated a lot of the supplies we had for this to our neighbor, the Bergen County Animal Shelter in Teterboro, NJ.