

## **SC Women of the ELCA Goals 2024-2025**

**“A Community of Women”** - We are a community of women created in the image of God and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We are called to develop and engage an inclusive movement to bring all women into fellowship and ministry for the community.

- Encourage all women to participate in congregational unit activities, conference events and SC Women of the ELCA Events, ( i.e, convention, training, retreats, Bible studies, etc.)
- Facilitate an annual convention that conducts the business of the SC Women of the ELCA that meets the needs with regards to spirituality, leadership development, family health, and stewardship
- Assist and Encourage Congregation Units to revitalize after a pandemic break
- Assist and Encourage Congregations with no active units to become an active member of SC Women of the ELCA
- Promote and encourage women to use our SC WELCA website [www.scwelca.com](http://www.scwelca.com), SC Synod website [www.scsynod.com](http://www.scsynod.com), and the Churchwide WELCA website [www.welca.org](http://www.welca.org)
- Continue to expand our Ripple Newsletter by offering free online and paid email subscriptions for those who would like a hard copy
- Promote and Encourage attendance of the 2026 Triennial Gathering in Des Moines Iowa
- Encourage Congregations to host World Day of Prayer, Bold Women’s Day and Rachel’s Day events.

**“Disciples of Jesus Christ”**- We are followers of Jesus who strive to live Christ like.

- Follow the seven marks of discipleship; praying, studying, worshiping, inviting, encouraging, serving, and giving.
- Grow in our own faith and share what we have learned with friends, family and neighbors.
- Promote peace; seek justice; advocate; and serve others out of the spirit of love; give freely of our time and resources so that we can be good stewards of all we care for.

**“ Grow in Faith”** - Through faith opportunities and ministry to one another allows us to relate to God as we grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as we experience grace at work in our lives.

- Provide and Promote Resources and Bible Studies for Conference Meetings and Congregational Units to use for their needs

- Offer our own talents to be leaders for Bible Studies, Conference Programs and Retreats.
- Hold online events to host Bible studies and training events for unit leaders and conference leaders
- Hold in person training events for new board members, conference leaders and unit leaders
- Encourage attendance to retreats; Camp Kinard, Isle of Palms and Lutheridge Wild Women's weekend
- Promote attendance in CWO Events and World Events (i.e., World Day of Prayer, Bold Women's Day and, Rachel's Day)
- Promote Churchwide WELCA Resources on their website [www.welca.org](http://www.welca.org) for program ideas and initiatives

**“ Affirm our Gifts”** - We engage in a discernment process of our best gifts and use these gifts to serve God and serve others.

- Affirm our relationship with Christ through worship and prayer
- Value the mutual support and friendships as sisters-in-Christ
- Encourage the support of local ministries and global missions.
- Promote and support Katie's Fund through Churchwide WELCA
- Encourage women to share their talents, time and resources throughout all expressions of Women of the ELCA
- Educate on Gift Planning

**“ Support one another in our callings”** - Provide financial support and offer opportunities for women to grow in knowledge, to follow God will allow us to relate to each other..

- Provide information that encourages building relationships between generations through mentoring
- Learn about and partner with other organizations that are working on social issues determine by Churchwide WELCA, SC WELCA and Congregational Units
- Encourage and Support SC WELCA Scholarships; (Lutheran Theological Seminary through Honorary Life Memberships and Memorial Recognition Program, Newberry College Scholarship and Newberry College of Nursing Scholarship.
- Encourage and Recognize Women who are discerning a call into ministry
- Support SC WELCA Board Leaders, Conference Leaders and Congregational Unit Leaders. Showcase activities at the annual convention
- Continue to give regular offerings to the Churchwide WELCA Organization, Joy Offerings, Katie's Fund Campaign, Faithful Friends and SC WELCA regular

offerings. Strive to increase offerings that will help meet the annual budgets for our organization.

- Connect with our Sister Synodical Women's Organization

**“ Engage in Ministry and Action”** - We respond to God's love for us by serving, acknowledging and advocating for those who need our help.

- Promote Thrivent Financial resources and other ministries to do community service.
- Promote Awareness and support
  - Lutheran Social Services,
  - Lutheran Family Services of the Carolinas
  - Refugee Programs,
  - Lutheran World Relief,
  - Lutheran Disaster and Relief Programs,
  - Prevention Teen Suicide
  - Prevention of Human/Sex Trafficking,
  - Women and Children in Poverty Programs,
  - Anti Racism Training,
  - Prevention of Domestic Violence
- Prayer on Tuesdays at noon with all Women of the ELCA
- Wearing black on Thursdays for Human/Sex Trafficking Awareness
- Support our Companion Synod Sisters in Tanzania, Japan and Colombia.

**“ Promote healing and wholeness”** - United in love for Christ and one another, we are called to promote healing and wholeness for the church, society and the world.

- Continue to honor nurses who work hard and put their lives at risk during the pandemic we celebrate them by establishing a Nursing Endowment Scholarship Fund at Newberry College School of Nursing in hopes that we will support students in the nursing program for years to come
- Create awareness of Churchwide WELCA resolutions such as human trafficking, domestic violence, women and children in poverty, anti-racism and raising healthy women and children and prevention of Teen Suicide.
- Provide monetary support through Katie's Fund for Churchwide WELCA's global projects
- Educate on Women's Health issues, (i.e., Heart Disease, Breast Cancer, Ovarian, Cervical and Uterine Cancer and Mental Illness)