

# The Columbine

**"Spring is God's way of saying, 'One more time!'"**

*Robert Orben*

**I** was beginning to despair that I would ever see green again!" was a comment I heard over and over again the last couple of months. One of the toughest winters we have had in years and it is finally over (I hope!). I can see signs of spring all over—in the Niagara region where I live you can see the odd crocus bulb rearing it's tender head. I have seen Robins in the yard, and the family of chipmunks that live in my slate stone retaining wall have come out of their den to scoop the peanuts that my husband leaves for them.

**A**nd so we begin another season...one more time. Our calendars are full of wonderful opportunities to worship our Lord, to help our neighbours and to experience life to the fullest. Throughout the Synod, women are meeting again in the Spring to do these very things. Two such meetings are advertised in this issue of the Columbine. There is information about three others that took place in the Fall that may be of interest to you.

**T**he Praise Offering service for 2014 is also now available. This is something we women started back with ELW and it is still an opportunity for your women's group to help lead worship—with or without your pastor. Please consider having one of these services in your congregation.

**T**here is information regarding our next biennial gathering in 2015—mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend. Our theme for the weekend is "Singspiration! Making a Joyful Noise" and it promises to be a spiritual, fun-filled event. If you heard about our last event in 2013...you won't want to miss this one.

**F**inally, please remember to send in your contributions to "The Columbine". It is our best way to communicate with each other on a wide scale basis. You can send in your contributions to me at the address on the back or to my email [ccalvin10@shaw.ca](mailto:ccalvin10@shaw.ca).

Blessings to you all until next time,  
*Cathy Calvin,*  
Director of Women's Ministry  
Eastern Synod



## Coming of Age....

### We're on FACEBOOK folks!



If you are active on social media, you may already know this, but Women's Ministry has a FACEBOOK PAGE! Created only a few weeks ago, we have already go more than 75 likes and it is going strong. This page is meant as another means of communication for our women in all parts of the Eastern Synod. We will put information about upcoming meetings, events and interesting news that others may wish to share. Check out the page and make sure to "Like" us. Also post any comments or information you would like others to know.

You can access it by searching for "Women's Ministry in the Eastern Synod" in the search engine on Facebook or by typing this link into your browser:

<https://www.facebook.com/eswomens.ministry>



Eastern Synod Women's Ministry

## Ottawa-St. Lawrence Women's Ministry

### A Message from Evelyn Swanson:

**The 2013 Women's Ministry meeting** took place at Good Shepherd in Brockville. The meeting was attended by about 30 people. The Speaker was Pastor Doug Kranz who spoke to us about how to get our children back into the pews. An excellent presentation that left us all knowing that the young people had to be individually contacted not only by the congregational members but also by the Pastor.

**The food was wonderful, the music was out of this world and the Communion service was fulfilling.**

**The offering went to the Alzheimer Society of Brockville.**

**Advance notice:** The 2014 meeting will be at St. Timothy's in Pembroke on September 27th and it will again be a working meeting. WE will be quilting that day.



## Georgian Bay Conference Lutheran Women - Dorothy Frook, President

St. James – Williamsford, Ont.  
October, 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Our day started with the Service of Holy Communion lead by our Dean Rev. John Polačok in the absence of intern Rev. Helen To-man. Pastor John based his message on how women can be Tolerant, Courageous, Faithful and Forgiving. Pres. Dorothy had place a White Rose on the Altar in remembrance of our sisters who had departed during the past year.

President Dorothy Frook welcomed us and emphasized our Theme "Thankful Loving Hearts". Dorothy shared regrets from Program Co-coordinator Betty Fisher as Betty had a family funeral today. She also mentioned that the funeral was at Trinity – Ayton therefore we did not have many attending from Ayton.

Columbine – We were reminded to read the Columbine and if we have something exciting happening please notify Dorothy Frook and she will send to Columbine editor. Columbine does keep us abreast of happenings within the Synod ELW.

Dorothy shared the regrets from Cathy Calvin Director of Women's Ministry – Eastern Synod. Cathy's daughter Chrystal has cancer and had been moved to Cathy home to make it easier to look after her as she has a limited number of days left. (SIDE NOTE: - Chrystal passed away on Tues. Oct. 8th.) Cathy also mentioned in her letter that the Evaluation forms received after the SPA event at Seneca College came through loud and clear "VERY GOOD". The next event is in the planning stage for May 29 – 31/15. It will be held at Cambridge Hotel. More information to follow so mark that date on your calendars and plan to attend. Also Dorothy shared the goal for the Praise Appeal Offering - \$55,000.00 and to date only has re-

ceived \$23,000.00 therefore if your ELW has had their Praise Appeal Service please remit the offering.

CLWR has put out a request for Sweaters to be shipped to Syria. They are requesting 10,000 sweaters. They are to be collected through churches, packed and delivered to your local Home Hardware who will deliver to Winnipeg. Dorothy then shared a little story with us and the punch line was "GET UP, GET OUT, GET LOST" and spread the Word of God.



President of St. James Williamford, Phyllis Moore welcomed us to St. James, shared some housekeeping rules and lunch plans and then gave us a little history about St. James. This church was built in 1885 and a basement was added 1949-50 and an organ was purchased in 1946. The ELW of St. James is very active and prepares a Christmas Dinner for the Congregation each year.

Dean of our Conference Rev. John Polačok brought greetings on behalf of the Conf. and shared how he had been an intern at St. James & St. Peter's Sullivan back in 2004-05 under the leadership of Pastor Sheila Fletch. Also he introduced the Pastors who were with us today.

TWINNING – Most ELW's are working on their Twinning and we were reminded we have until next fall to get together with our twin congregations.

Robin Gingrich President of the ACW Deanery of the Saugeen brought greetings from our Anglican sisters. She also invited us to their fall meeting which will be held at Trinity Anglican Church – Durham, Ont. They are planning a different type of program this year. They will have a Bible Study and Workshops. Meeting begins with registration at 9:00 – 10:00, then

**Georgian Bay Conference Lutheran Women - continued . . .**

service with Holy Communion and then going into their planned day.

The minutes of the spring event were distributed with the invitations to the fall event and should be shared by the Presidents of each ELW.

The Roll Call/Offering was then received. 1/2 of the Offering will go to Eastern Synod Women's Ministry and the other 1/2 will go to Eastern Synod Lutheran Women's Project 2013-2014 Library Project in Jordan and the Holy Land. It was recommended by the Bishop that we support the Library Project.

Trinity - Walkerton lead the Sing Song to start our afternoon program.

**GUEST SPEAKER - Shirley Dimoff (Warton)** introduced our guest speaker in the absence of St. Paul's Normanby. Rev. Robert Bouchard was our guest and since he had been the pastor at St. Peter's Warton from 2000 - 2002 Shirley agreed to welcome him to our Event. Rev. Robert shared with us his experiences as Chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces. As a young person he had always wanted to be either a soldier or a priest, so in a way he accomplished both dreams. He shared his life as a Padre in the army and how the young soldiers who were troubled would come to him for guidance and understanding rather than go to their superior officers. He shared very interesting tales.

St. Paul's - Wallace Twp. thanked Rev. Bouchard for his very interesting history.

Brenda Maes gave a brief report of the attendance, stating 60 people attended our Fall Event and that the Roll Call Offering received was \$1,870.00 which would be

shared by the two ministry's previously stated.

**FALL EVENT - St. Matthew's - Hanover** will host the Spring Event, date to be announced.

Pres. Dorothy Frook shared a few closing remarks to close our day followed by Closing Devotions by St. Matthew's - Hanover, based on Luke 2: 29 -30.

It was felt we had met our goals for the day which were - Empowering Justice in our word, and Supporting Women, Supporting Women and Children in Ministry where they are.

Georgian Bay Conference  
Lutheran Women  
Spring Event





**Saturday,  
May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**St. Matthew's, Hanover**  
**A Day of Worship,  
Reflection and Fellowship**




**Time: 9:15-9:45am**  
(Note the time)  
**Registration & Fellowship**  
Muffins and Coffee

**Cost: \$10.00 (Includes Lunch)**

**10:00am:**  
**Service of Holy Communion**  
Rev. John Polačok

**Theme:**  
"Reaching Out" 

**Theme Scripture:**  
**St. Matthew 25: 31-40**

**Theme Song:**  
"Take My Life, That I May Be"

**Guest Speaker:**  
Major Sterling Snelgrove will share the history and program of the Salvation Army Food Bank, Hanover, and Singspiration by the Executive.



Come and join us  
Shop at Sperling's  
and  
Fair Trade



**God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer ~ Mother Teresa**

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Women Waterloo

October 2013

At the Christian Action Day in October, 2013, the women of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waterloo, assembled 11 Living and Learning Kits, 9 Personal Kits, 32 Hygiene Kits and 4 Leprosy Bandages for Lutheran World Relief. An offering of \$122.00 was collected to defer the shipping costs.

Knitted items were sent to Lutherwood, Monica Place, Family and Children's Services and to Welcome Home Refugee Housing



Community. Our knitting team consists of various members of St. John's who knitted 27 sets of hats and mitts, 75 baby sweaters, 30 preemie hats, 6 scarves, 6 pairs of socks, 67 hats and toques and 128 pairs of mitts. Jeanette Couture, a



member of Lourdes Catholic Church in Waterloo, is a prolific knitter and contributed an abundance of preemie hats, mitts and toques as well as Linus Blankets.

We owe a huge thank you to all of the generous knitters for their handiwork.

At Christmas time our white gift donations were sent to CLWR to buy two pairs of goats and a flock of chickens. We offer a sincere thank you to all the willing and

generous participants.

Karen Lanfranconi,

Program Chair of St. John's Lutheran Women.



The theme for the 2014 ELCIC Praise Appeal, Do Justice, Love Kindness and Walk Humbly with Our God, come from Micah 6:8 and outlines what God requires us to do in a way that is both memorable and compelling. The Eastern Synod has designated Sunday, May 11, 2014 as Praise Appeal Sunday, and it is hoped that many congregations as possible will participate, but if another day suits better, feel free to choose that day instead.

Why Mother's Day you ask? The Praise Appeal was originally an annual project of the Evangelical Lutheran Women (ELW). In the past funds were raised by having the women of the congregation lead these services. Together across Canada more than \$100,000 annually was raised for the mission work of the National Church.

The goal for the Eastern Synod is \$60,000 this year and your women's group can play an important role in making this happen.

**Whether you can make the May 11<sup>th</sup> date work or another date, plan to put this on your "To Do" list for 2014!**

**Blessed are they who see beautiful things in humble places where other people see nothing. Camille Pissarro**

Eastern Synod Women's Ministry  
Presents...

# Singspiration!

## Making a Joyful Noise.

A Weekend Retreat for Women of All Ages

May 29 – 31, 2015

Cambridge, Ontario

### SAVE THE DATE!

“Singspiration! Making a Joyful Noise” has been booked for May 29-31, 2015, at the Cambridge Hotel and Conference Centre.

Our keynote speaker for the event is **Debbie Lou Ludolph** and our worship leader is Pastor Heather Spencer-Stolz. It promises to be a weekend of music, laughter, and rejuvenation for all the participants. We will be starting on Friday evening with a concert by In-shallah (which will be a fundraiser for the Seminary) to be attended by the

participants as well as the public. A venue is still in the works, but we hope it will be one of the Cambridge churches.

Keynote addresses, bible studies, interesting and varied breakout sessions round out Saturday as well as a bus trip to St. Jacobs for any interested. We have booked some *awesome* entertainment for the Saturday evening banquet. Sunday will conclude with the last keynote address and worship.

Look to the Women's Ministry Blog and the Facebook page for updates!

## Hamilton-Niagara Conference Spring Women's Event



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**"If I send my prayer as a text message,  
will I get a faster reply?"**



May God bless all the Mothers  
That give of themselves  
And tend to their household needs  
Before the needs of 'self'  
For they are there with comfort  
For each child's broken heart,  
Bringing them to God in prayer,  
With His love to impart.

© By M.S.Lowndes

*Happy Mother's Day to all  
our Mothers, Grandmother's,  
Aunts and Special Women in  
our Eastern Synod*



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**Deadline for Fall 2014  
 September 30, 2014**

**New Life**

One of the joys of spring to me  
 Is to feel the soft earth beneath my knees.  
 And as I plant along the row  
 Spacing tiny seeds just so.  
 I think of God.  
 Does He too stoop down low  
 Planting His little seeds just so?

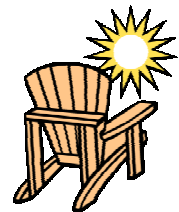


When the first sprouts begin to peep  
 My heart jumps within me deep.  
 Full of joy I want to shout  
 As those little green shoots begin to sprout.  
 And I think of God.  
 Does He too feel this excitement I know  
 When His little seeds begin to grow?

Marry Fuzzen 1919 - 2000  
 (mother of Dianne Yungblut)

Submitted by Dianne Yungblut, used with Permission

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