



June/July 2025 / NEWSLETTER

**All the Women of our Congregation are Members of the First Lutheran
Congregational Unit of the Women of the ELCA**

Check the Women's bulletin board of additional information

Girls Night Out

July 7th - 7:00 pm

Centennial Hall

We are coming to a point in the history of Women's Organization that we need to visit about what the future holds. Active membership in the Circle Groups has been lacking, making it difficult to continue with the programs that are facilitated by the Circles; such as the Christmas Brunch, Spring Salad Luncheon or the July General Meeting.

We are inviting all Women to come and share your thoughts and any ideas you may have. We are trying to decide how to move forward.

Then stay for fellowship while enjoying a Fun Activity and refreshments.

Organizational Meeting



Fun Activity and Fellowship



Refreshments



All women are welcome.

First Lutheran Women's Events Calendar

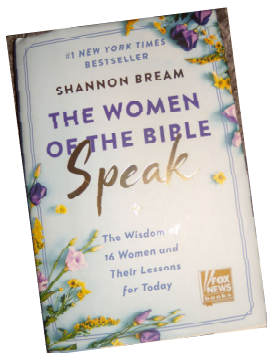
July 7 **Girls Night Out** meeting/games/dessert

The Nebraska Synodical Women's Events Calendar

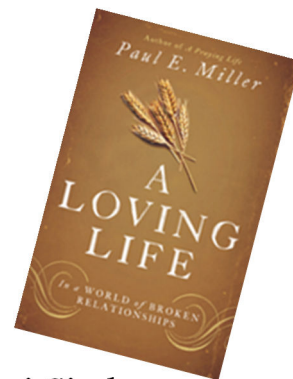
Aug 8-10 **Saved to Serve, "Mosaic"** at Beatrice. Spending time with the residents.

Sep 26-28 **Biennial NSWO Convention** at Camp Carol Joy Holling near Ashland.
The Theme is *"Wrapped in God's Love"*.

All women can attend these planned events, as they are open to everyone.



2025-2026 First Lutheran's
Women's Circle Groups
Bible Studies starting in September



Deborah Circle

5:00 pm - 3rd Monday
 Co-chairs: Deb Schauer

Naomi Circle

7:00 pm - 4th Thursday
 Chair: Judy Niemann
 308-234-4332

Gloria Circle

12:00 pm - 3rd Thursday
 Chair: Judy Workman
 308-237-2781

308-233-2669

Alicia Tracey

308-234-4793

Study:

Women of the Bible Speak

No June or July meetings

August is Girl's Night Out

Study:

Women of the Bible Speak

Study:

A Loving Life

The Nebraska Women of the ELCA
 has Seven Conferences.

1. Central
2. High Plains
3. Metro East
4. Midlands
5. Northeast
6. Southeast
7. Southern Prairie

First Lutheran in Kearney is in the
 Southern Prairie Conference

2024-2025 Women of the ELCA Officers
of the First Lutheran Congregational Unit
of Women of the ELCA

President:

Linda Fowler 308-236-7265

President Elect:

Betty Heggemeyer 308-293-1167

Secretary:

Bev Vacha 308-468-6239

Treasurer:

Jo Smallcomb 308-234-3053

Circle Groups: Facilitate Bibles Studies and Host Church Women's Programs

Work Groups: Prepare and Serve Funerals and Other Events as needed

Quilting: Makes Quilts for LWR and School bags

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Knitted or Crocheted Shawls for those in need of comfort and prayers

Cards: Sent to Church Members

Fellowship and Outreach: to New Members

We are always looking for Women to participate in our Church Women's Events by: decorating, fixing food, helping to coordinate programs and of course attending events for the fellowship. You do not have to be a circle member to participate in all the activities.

Our Church Women's Events are the Christmas Brunch, Spring Event and the July night out.

Our State Women's Events are the Autumn Renewal, Winter Retreat, Spring Gathering and the NSWO Biennial Convention

National Women's Event is the Triennial Gathering. Coming July 16-19, 2026 in Des Moines, IA



2025 Saved To Serve Opportunity Retreat Mosaic/Beatrice



Friday, August 8, 6:00 p.m. to Sunday, August 10, 1:00 p.m.

Learn about Mosaic's program and spend time with Mosaic's clients

Spend time with your Sisters in Christ, make new friends, and renew continuing friendships as we have a fun weekend in Beatrice at the Mosaic facility. Come join us to learn about Mosaic new and existing programs. Hear from individuals sharing their stories. The weekend will also include devotions, Bingo, bell ringing, sing-a-longs with Karaoke, jokes, a picnic, jewelry making, a tour of the campus, worship will be held in the Mosaic Chapel, the closing group hug, and of course, food.

Individuals, churches and women's units are encouraged to participate by collecting and bringing items for the tangible offering.

Tangible items being collected:

Large hole beads, crosses, 1/8" satin ribbon, Ty or other small stuff animals, terrycloth shower mitten, and fun pillowcases

Registered attendees will receive a letter or email with more information. For answers to retreat questions, contact Mary Mayfield, call 402-778-0291, or text 402-660-9450; or Donna Bentjen, 402-429-0745.

Saved to Served 2025 August Event Registration Form

Name			
Address			
City		State + Zip	
Phone		E-mail	
Congregation/City		Conference	
Special Needs			

Registration Deadline: Friday, August 1, 2025

Send form and \$39.00 payment to: Julie Reiser, NSWO Treasurer
Check payable to: NSWO PO Box 64
Butte, NE 68722
nswotreasurer@gmail.com

Registration fee is transferable for one-year, not refundable

6 – April 2025

Registration forms can be found
on the
Women of the ELCA
Bulletin Board

NSWO's Saved to Serve Opportunity Retreat

Mosaic in Beatrice, NE

August 8 to 10, 2025

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a fun weekend at the Mosaic Facility in Beatrice. Get acquainted with your sisters in Christ from across the state as we learn about Mosaic's new and existing programs on Friday evening. Three individuals from Mosaic will tell their stories. Following closing devotions we will head for our overnight accommodations.

Saturday there will be Bingo, bell ringing, sing-a-longs with Karaoke, jokes, a picnic, and jewelry making with the individuals. A tour of the campus is on the agenda as well. That evening we will enjoy dinner and activity with our Women of the ELCA sisters in Christ.

Sunday we plan to worship in the Mosaic Chapel, have a dedication service sharing our highlight and enjoy lunch before we have our group hug and head home.

Plans are still being made. Registration forms will be in the Expressions Newsletter, on the NE Women of the ELCA website, and at Spring Gatherings. Retreat cost remains \$39 since 1998.

For questions call Mary Mayfield 402-778-0291 or Donna Bentjen 402-429-0745 leave message

Your unit can also help by providing Monetary or Tangible Offerings:



1. Consider providing or making fun pillowcases
2. Try creating a terrycloth shower mitten
3. Collect Ty or other small stuffed animals
4. Gather large hole beads, crosses, and 1/8 inch satin ribbon, for making necklaces
5. Monetary Donations to NSWO Treasurer, Julie Reiser, Box 64, Butte, NE 68722

Yardage for making FUN Pillowcases for individuals at Mosaic in Beatrice!

Materials Needed: 3/4 yard or 27 inches by width of fabric for main part of pillowcase
1/4 yard or 9 inches by width of fabric for cuff of pillowcase
2 inch by width of fabric trim for pillowcase

You Tube Tutorial - [Make an Easy Tube pillowcase](#) with Jenny Doan (March 12, 2010)

How about making a shower mitt from recycled towels for our Mosaic friends?

Tutorials - **How to sew reusable bath gloves or mittens** with Faithwerks Designs

How to make a bath mitt from up cycled towel with Joy - Sewing (Tie Tok)