



TRINITY W/ELCA FUNDRAISER
Spring Silent Auction
April 19-April 26

We are looking for creative donations from circle members. Suggestions: food, jam, plants, sewing projects, wood work, jewelry, books, antiques, art work, candles, garden art, spa baskets, etc. Please fill out a donation form, available in the W/ELCA mailbox slot near the office or email amber. We need the descriptions and all items for the sale (except baked goods) by April 16. We are setting up the auction on April 18th in the morning. Remember this is a W/ELCA fundraiser for Outreach Projects. We need your support!

St. Paul Area W/ELCA Spring Convention
Gloria Dei (on Snelling)
Saturday, April 25

This is the first time the convention will be a one day event. The theme this year comes from proverbs 31:25. “She is clothed in strength and dignity and laughs without fear of the future.” We will be collecting a material offering for the convention. We will be collecting socks and underwear for men, women, and children. All items will be distributed in the Chisago County area. A basket will be in place for donations in March and April. We will also be looking for a delegate to represent Trinity at the conventions. Consider this opportunity for learning.

Trinity Garage Sale
May 13-15

Set up May 11-12. We will have many volunteer opportunities. Consider helping with this church project!

St. Paul Area Women Synod Annual Soup Luncheon

SWO’s Annual Soup Luncheon was held on Saturday, February 8th at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Inver Grove Heights. The luncheon speaker, Sandy Iverson, introduced us to the 2016 ELCA’s AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities). Strategy focusing on:

- “Accompaniment” and support of exported migrants back to their home country,
- “Awareness Building” through education of the public on migration issues, and
- “Advocacy” for migration polices to address the root cause of migration.

In 2017, the St. Paul Synod focused their efforts on “awareness building” and the Guardian Angel’s Program, which aid migrants through the Immigration Court System located in Bloomington.

Sandy is a member of St. Paul Reformation Lutheran Church (a small congregation) which has had a long history of social justice. She shared their experience and blessings of being a sanctuary church which is housing a Nigerian Mother and her three young children, who are seeking asylum. They expect it will be a minimum of two and a half years by the time the family’s asylum hearing is held. Therefore, it takes a community of support— from lawyers, to housekeepers, to educators, to drivers, to medical resources and financial supporters because asylum immigrants are not eligible for any federal or medical assistance. St. Paul Reformation does get some support from ISALAH Sanctuary Network of Minnesota which is a network of places of worship working together on immigration reform and immigrant justice.

What can our congregations do? A few suggestions are:

- Sponsor speakers to learn about the immigration issues
- Have a book discussion, for example: “Dear America, Notes of an Undocumented Citizen” by Jose Antonio Vargas; or “Just Immigration– American Policy in Christian Perspective” by Mark Amstutz.
- Train to be a Guardia Angel who accompany an unaccompanied minor through the Immigration Court System
- Provide financial support for Sanctuary churches such as St. Paul Reformation.