

Pacifica Women of the ELCA
24th Annual Gathering
and Convention
November 4-6, 2011
Hampton Inn, San Diego, CA



"God made each of us
for a purpose."
Psalms 138:8

Dear Best Friends....

What an inspiring and spirit filled weekend! With God's love and grace he brought us all together to show us how we were all made for a purpose!

With a weekend packed full of activities, there was something for everyone to enjoy. While each of the activities were different, each one was centered around the same message of God's love for us, our love for God, and our love toward one another.

Racial Justice Advocacy

Friday started off with a couple of fascinating workshops. One of those workshops was Racial Justice Advocacy given by Inez Torres



Davis. Inez inspired us all to open our eyes to injustice and to speak out against any form of racism.

We are united as Sisters in Christ.

Here is what she had to say about the workshop:

"Hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ drives us to look for God's will on earth. As we grow as ambassadors for Christ, we

learn part of our gospel call is the call to be counter-cultural. Racial justice advocacy as part of our call directs us to focus on changing systems, institutional practices, and policies so that we may be part of making racially equitable outcomes a life-changing reality.

Our shared strength is that we are women. Through compassion for ourselves and each other, we learn to identify the ways racial oppression manifests itself similarly to our shared gender oppression. This shared gender oppression is our bridge for multiplied understanding of how racial oppression works through institutions and systems.

Thank you for your hospitality and wonderful response to the message of hope at the core of racial justice advocacy! You humble me. I praise God for you. May God's Holy Spirit lead us to work for justice!"

— Inez Torres Davis

Communication

by Juli Patten

Are you a lion do you roar at injustice? Are you a turtle, great at details and move at your own pace? You must be a chameleon, ever changing and adaptable. Would you say you are an eagle, who loves to be there leader? If you have ever wondered about your animal personality you would have learned a thing or two in this workshop. we also played ball and found

out some very interesting facts about each other.

Multigenerational Keys
by Juli Patten

Traditionalist, baby boomer, Gen X or Gen Y what are you? Each of us is affected by the events that shape our lives and the events we live through. If you understand these differences you can have more successful gatherings and even grow your church. If you would like the handouts from either of these workshops you can email me at Alohaboo@hawaii.rr.com

Chrismons Gifts

Another highlight of the weekend were the creation of all the beaded Chrismons gifts for the 2 churches in Joplin, MO that were devastated by tornados earlier this year. The 57 beaded ornaments were created to help decorate the Christmas trees this holiday season in the churches. In addition to the beaded ornaments, 36 decorated Christmas balls will be included. Thank you for all the hard work!

Welcome to the Board!
Newly elected
board members are:
Paula Rennegarbe
Sheryl Matthews

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"God made each of us
for a purpose.

Psalms 138:8



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President's Message:

I am very pleased that we could continue our faith journey together with the wonderful opportunities presented (bible study, workshops, crafts, worship and fellowship).



We are so fortunate to be able to enjoy the talents our presenters showed.

Your presence and enthusiasm was such a gift.

Thank you to the board for their untiring efforts in making this week-end theme "Promise, Purpose, Praise, and Prayer" so meaningful to everyone.

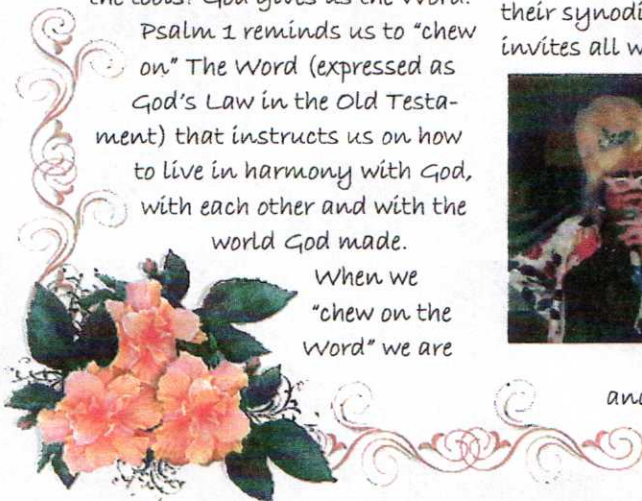
Blessings,
Andrea Campbell
President

Pastor Karla's Re-Cap

God made each of us for a purpose: to love God through serving God's people; proclaiming God's love for the world in word and deed. God equips us to fulfill our purpose, giving us the tools and talent we need to BE the blessing God intended. What are the tools? God gives us the Word.

Psalm 1 reminds us to "chew on" The Word (expressed as God's Law in the Old Testament) that instructs us on how to live in harmony with God, with each other and with the world God made.

When we "chew on the Word" we are



★
★ **Wowzers!** ★
★ **The Silent Auction raised over** ★
★ **\$1100.00** ★
★ **What an exciting time!** ★

well nourished; strengthened for whatever life brings, and like a tree growing by a stream, will bear fruit in due season no matter what hardships may come. Psalm 138 is a prayer of thanksgiving; but wait, not just in good times! It is a prayer that reminds us to be thankful ALL THE TIME and that God's purpose will not be prevented by times of trouble. Cling onto faith to drive out fear. Worship and pray with thanksgiving in our hearts rather than fear and dread on our lips! Philippians 4:4-7 and Job also remind us, contrary to popular culture both then AND now, that our task is to rejoice in God always.

Special Guests

Charlene Spillmann delights in serving as the churchwide representative to synodical conventions and sharing her faith story enthusiastically to further encourage women to become more involved in the work of their congregational units as well as their synodical organizations. She invites all women to be totally aware



of their God-given talents and gifts, using them to the fullest to promote wholeness and healing throughout the church, the community and the world.

Providing a hilarious evening of entertainment as "Bold Mama," she brought a smile to even the most conservative Lutheran woman.

Another very special guest at Saturday's banquet traveled in on the tide! Patrick Star swam in from Bikini Bottom to get all the participants excited about the WELCA convention in Honolulu, HI in 2012!



Message from Newly Elected Women of the ELCA Churchwide Executive Board Member
Dona Jenkins:

If you have any questions or concerns that I can help with, please feel free to e-mail me at donajenkins@charter.net

Thank you to all who donated Love Gifts for the Veterans Village of San Diego. The representative, Darcy, from the Veterans Winter Shelter, spoke about all of the success the Not-For-Profit organization in providing many services for homeless Veterans.



God's peace to you and yours, see you next year in HAWAII!