

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN (ALCW)

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Cluster, Synod and National Events attended by the ladies of Ascension:

St. Rita's Retreat, Gold Hill, March. This event celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Annual Crater Lake Cluster Women's Retreat! It was a time to celebrate our 20 years in friendship, fellowship and faith together!

Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering was held in Spokane, July 14-17 with six ladies from Ascension attending. The "Gatherers" were: Kathy Bausano, Susan McKinnon, Shiena Polehn, Delores Thomas, Dee Wittenberg and Debbie Wright. The ALCW paid for the \$300.00 registration for each of the attendees for which all of us are very grateful. The event was something that is just too awesome to try to put down in a brief report. The ladies did share their experiences at the August Summer Circle meeting. It was also the privilege of those attending to meet the future Nobel Prize Winner, Leymah Gbowee, a most gracious and awesome woman!

Women of the ELCA, Oregon Synodical Organization -- Tenth Biennial Convention held at the Best Western Agate Beach Inn, Newport, Oregon from September 30, 2011 - October 2. Jeanette Eliason attended as a delegate and Diane Barnes serves on the Synod Board.

The Spring Luncheon was a wonderful event celebrating the arrival of Spring and watching a very talented group of ladies participate in orchestra tryouts!! Thanks to all who made this so much fun. Our mission project was providing layette items for teen parents in Jackson County.

Combined Summer Circles were held in July and August with delicious salads and desserts served up. The Triennial "gatherers" shared their goodies, pictures and stories of the event.

8 college scholarships totaling \$6,000.00 were awarded in 2011. Praise the Lord! The recipients include Debbie Wright, Scott Higgins, Kyle Wehage, Samantha Edgerton, Stephanie Risner, Michael Mapes, Kayla Strahm and Travis Van Horn.

Thankoffering Sunday, October 23rd – a meaningful worship service with 174 quilts on the pews. The ladies participated in the service with recent seminary graduate, Joy Proper preaching and Kathy Bausano doing the Children's Sermon. Can you believe that 12-16 ladies can make 174 quilts? AND, we even get in our talking! You are invited to join the Quilters each Tuesday morning (excluding the 2nd) at 8:30 am for fun, friends and fellowship and the greatest gift of all – helping those less fortunate.

The Bazaar – well, what can be said for the bazaar! It was a success and lots of people pitched in to help make it the success it was. We want to pay particular homage to our men who so graciously helped in the setup and tear down. Awesome job, gentlemen!! The bazaar and pie sales fund our scholarships and benevolence within the community. We send our monies locally to Salvation Army, Access Food Share, Gospel Mission, White City Swim lessons, Oregon Stewardship, Food & Friends, Hearts With a Mission. From Circle Offerings we send 60% to ELCA State & National, 25% to National Disaster and 15% is retained for our ALCW budget.

A final note: The Advent Luncheon is a business meeting with a program and a Service Project: Christmas gifts for Dunn House, a shelter from domestic violence.

Submitted by Kathy Bausano, ALCW Secretary 2010-2011