



**SEPTEMBER 23 TO 25, 2011
HOLIDAY INN HOTEL and
CONVENTION CENTER
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA**

**JOIN US
at the NEBRASKA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S
ORGANIZATION
TENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION**



Open the Door of Your Heart
Ask.....
Seek....
Knock....

"Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." Matthew 7:7-8 NLT

Top Six Reasons to Attend:

- ✚ Opening our Hearts to Christ
- ✚ Asking Christ to be at the center of all we do
- ✚ Seeking opportunities for spiritual growth
- ✚ Welcoming women of diverse ages and cultures
- ✚ Sharing Christ's love in fellowship
- ✚ Serving Jesus with love

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

TENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION of the NEBRASKA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION



September 23-25, 2011

Open the Door of Your Heart

Ask....

Seek...

Knock...

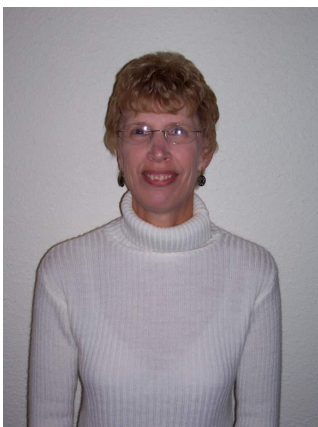
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Matthew 7:7-8 NLT



Lori Randall is a former Mrs. Oklahoma and Mrs. Christian World. She has been using her titles for the past several years, to promote a Godly self image and stronger relationships with organizations, associations, churches, and businesses. Lori has spoken and sung for thousands of people across the U.S. and been interviewed for several television, magazine, and radio programs. She has also authored two books and produced several inspirational CDs and DVDs. She resides in Meeker, Oklahoma with her husband, Carl, and two children Rachel (16) and Luke (13).

It has been life's ups, down, victories, challenges and many eye opening, life changing moments that have given Lori the desire and ability to share God's message of hope, renewal, and acceptance. Be ready to laugh, cry, and examine yourself, your motives, and your walk when we come together to hear Lori at the Biennial Convention.



Syd Brinkman was appointed to the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America executive board in February 2009. She has previously served the Northeastern Iowa Synod as a synodical president and board member. Syd has served on the Northeastern Iowa synod council as a voting member representing the Women of the ELCA organization of her synod. She has attended numerous synod functions including being a voting member of the Synod Assembly and a voting member of the Church-Wide Assembly in 2007. As a member of St James Lutheran Church in Allison, IA, Syd has served as the congregation council president, spearheaded a capitol fund drive, participated in retreats for women and has been a leader for Women of the ELCA in Bible study and programming. Syd has been married to Randy for 27 years and they have adult twin daughters, sons-in-law and are the lucky grandparents of a granddaughter, Alexandria. Syd is a self-employed hairdresser for over 28 years and Randy is an architectural technician (draftsman). Randy and Syd have lived their entire lives in Allison and

their married life in the home of Randy's grandparents which is currently undergoing an extensive remodeling

project. She enjoys the opportunity to exercise, relax on her front porch, dance and ride the motorcycle with Randy. She spends a great deal of time supporting the economy looking for the perfect “something” that will make someone’s day a bit brighter. Syd is very excited to serve on the Churchwide Executive Board and sees it as an opportunity to observe a changing organization and an evolving church. We have all been called to mission here at home and around the globe. Come with us and watch with amazement at what God will do in your life!



Bishop David deFreese was born in Hastings, Nebraska. He graduated from Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and attended the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, graduating with a Master of Divinity in 1982. He was ordained in 1982, at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, Omaha. Bishop deFreese holds an Honorary Doctorate from Midland Lutheran College, Fremont. Bishop deFreese is married to Anita, and they have three children: Elissa (Andy) Marking, Martha (Erik) Omar, and Hannah. Bishop deFreese served congregations at Christ, Pierce; Immanuel, Bellevue; and First, Kearney, prior to becoming Bishop of the Nebraska Synod ELCA in 2000. His community service involvement has included the Emergency Food and Shelter Board of Kearney, Buffalo County Community Health Partners, and United Way of Kearney Board member. He currently serves on a variety of boards, including Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska, Lutheran Services of America, and Immanuel Health Systems.



Pastor Linda Walz is a native of Denver, Colorado, and, while she still has some roots there, she has come to call Nebraska “home.” A graduate of the University of Colorado and Harvard Divinity School, she currently serves as the pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Beatrice. She has previously served calls to Dana College, Lord of Love Lutheran Church (Omaha), Highlands Lutheran Church (Denver), and as a long-term interim in the Panhandle of Nebraska.



Elizabeth McBride is the director for intergenerational programs and editor of *Café*, Women of the ELCA. She is passionate about the organization and enjoys networking with young adult women. She lives in Chicago with her husband, Aaron, and their three pets: a cat, a dog and a guinea pig.

The NSWO Convention is attended by hundreds of women who are there to sing, serve, learn, worship, and enjoy fun and sisterhood together. It entails workshops, worship, Bible study, exhibits, and the business of the Synodical Organization.

PRE-CONVENTION OPPORTUNITIES ~ Draft list, not finalized

- ❖ Renew, Respond, Rejoice! Highlights
- ❖ First Timers Celebrate
- ❖ Work in Our Communities
- ❖ Today's Dreams, Tomorrow's Reality
- ❖ Tanzania Highlights
- ❖ Lutheran World Relief School Kits
- ❖ Shopping

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS ~ Draft list, not finalized

- ❖ Finding God's Focus
- ❖ Different Prayer Styles
- ❖ Hospitality: More than Warm and Friendly
- ❖ Intergenerational Communities
- ❖ Today's Dreams, Tomorrow's Reality
- ❖ Work in Our Communities
- ❖ Lutheran World Relief School Kits
- ❖ Shopping

⇒ ⇒ **TWENTY-ONE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE** ⇐

One per Conference for First Time Attendees

One per Conference, Young Women, age 35 or younger

One per Conference, Beth Bohling Scholarship

⇒ ⇒ **DEADLINE NOTICE** ⇐ ⇐

Delegates, July 15

Early Bird Registration, August 19

Late Registration, September 9