

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Paul, Minnesota

Number 4,4,1
Effective Date 1-2011

GRACE WOMEN OF (WELCA) EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
(IN AMERICA)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The name of the unit shall be GRACE WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA) of the SOUTH CENTRAL CLUSTER of the SAINT PAUL AREA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

As a member of the South Central Cluster of the Saint Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization, the purpose of this unit is to:

1. Commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings.
2. Engage in ministry and action.
3. Promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of the Grace Women of the ELCA shall consist of the confirmed women of the congregation.
2. Such others as indicate an interest in the program and purpose of the unit may be members, but may not hold office.

ARTICLE IV

This unit shall consist of as many Bible/Service Groups as warranted by membership.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS AND BOARDS

1. There shall be a General Board consisting of the Officers of this unit and Bible/Service Group Chairpersons.
2. The Officers of this unit shall be: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Mission Growth Chairperson and Mission Action Chairperson.
3. Each Bible/Service Group shall have a: President, Secretary and/or Treasurer and any other Chairpersons needed.

ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any General Meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting, provided the proposed amendment has been presented at a previous General Meeting.

BY-LAWS

PART I

DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS

SECTION I. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. The President shall preside at all General Meetings and Board Meetings. She shall be a member ex-officio of all committees except the nominating committee and shall perform the duties usually pertaining to her office.
2. The Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of all meetings and shall perform such other duties as the board may require.
3. The Treasurer shall receive, record and compile the income and expenditures of the local unit, shall pay all authorized bills and shall give periodic reports as required by the board.
4. The Mission Growth Chairperson shall promote membership, evangelism and direct the programs in accordance with the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the local unit as necessary and as interest dictates.
5. The Mission Action Chairperson shall direct the programs of fellowship and service in accordance with the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the local unit as necessary and as interest dictates.

SECTION II. DUTIES OF THE BOARD

1. The Board shall be empowered to transact the necessary business between meetings of this unit and shall be responsible for the implementation of programs and policies.
2. The Board shall meet regularly to supervise the planning and the work of this unit.

PART II

ELECTIONS

- SECTION I. A nominating committee of three (3) members shall be appointed by the Mission Growth Chairperson and shall serve as a standing committee for the year. This committee shall present nominations for officers to be elected at the September General Meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor. Candidates should be consulted before their names are placed on the ballot.

SECTION II.

1. The election of officers shall be by ballot and they will begin their term of office January 1.
2. Officers shall be elected for one term which will consist of two (2) years and are eligible for one re-election.

SECTION III. Election of Officers and other Chairpersons shall be held within each Bible/Service Group in September with the new officers assuming their duties January 1.

PART III

MEETINGS

The number of General Meetings of this unit per year will be determined by the General Board and will be held on the third Thursday of the month unless otherwise voted by the Board.

1. All meetings shall be opened with devotions and a program devoted to Christian interests shall be a part of every meeting of the unit.
2. Two thirds (2/3) of members present and voting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

PART IV

FUNDS

SECTION I. The worship offering of each meeting shall constitute the general fund of this unit and shall be disbursed in accordance with the financial goals submitted by the Board and approved by the unit at a General Meeting. The financial goals shall provide for local needs and projects of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

SECTION II. Special funds shall be channeled through the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and shall be allocated as designated.

SECTION III. The funds of this unit, including the offerings of each Bible/Service Group, shall be processed through the general treasurer of the unit.

SECTION IV. In the event of dissolution of the unit, the distribution of the remaining funds shall be voted upon by the General Board.

PART V

AMENDMENTS

SECTION I. These by-laws may be amended at any general meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting, provided the proposed amendment has been read at a previous general meeting and is in accordance with the constitution and by-laws of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

SECTION II. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all cases not provided for in this constitution and by-laws.