## Semi WELCA Annual Report - 2025

Last year on May 24, 2024, we held our 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Katy York Honoring Women event at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Livonia where we honored 12 women in the synod. It was attended by over 150 people.

We had planned an event involving workshops in the fall of 2024 but it had to be cancelled due to lack of pre-registrations. We are looking forward to planning such an event again this fall and are hoping that there will be more opportunity for individuals to attend now in 2025.

This year the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Katy York Honoring Women event was held was held on 3/29/25 at Holy Cross Lutheran church in Livonia where we honored 9 women from various churches in our synod. We collected "Purses with a Purpose" filled with toiletries for the Michigan State Police project to be able to distribute the purses to victims of domestic violence and human trafficking. We collected so many purses and toiletries that the MSP trooper wasn't sure he could get them into his Chevy Tahoe. We also collected an additional \$181.00 to be able to purchase additional toiletries for the program. Thank you to all those who contributed to the project!

Our synod WELCA biennial convention is being held this year on June 21, 2025, at Zion Lutheran Church in Ferndale. At the convention we will be electing new officers as well as delegates to the WELCA tri-ennial convention to be held virtually next year on July 13 - 14, 2026. All women of the synod are welcome to attend our convention but only members of the 16 active units in the synod are eligible voters. If you would like to obtain more information on the synod WELCA you can go to our synod WELCA website at www.semiwelca.org.

Following the WELCA tri-ennial churchwide convention a Gathering will be held in Des Moines, IA from July 16 - July 19, 2026. The theme for the Gathering is "I Am Worthy". More details can be found at the churchwide WELCA site at www.womenoftheelca.org. The event is open to all women and provides a time for inspiration and to renew our commitment to Christ's work in the world.

Molly Eklund-Easley President, Southeast Michigan Synod WELCA