

## Quilt and marketplace ideas

**SHOW OFF YOUR CREATIVITY:** A few weeks before the assembly, display for bidding, your quilt or marketplace item in your own congregation or in a public place in your community. Those items that come in with pre-bids do much better.

**ASK:** Make a list of creative/talented people you know and ask them to become a part of this ministry.

**KNOW THE BIDDERS:** Queen size quilts seem more sought after than full size quilts. Christmas quilts, holiday themes are popular as are baby quilts.

**REACH OUT:** Don't overlook the skills and creativity of the men and young people you know.

**SHARE A LIFE EXPERIENCE FOR THE MARKETPLACE:** lead a bird watching walk, host a dinner for 6, guide a hike and picnic in your neck of the woods, give a golf lesson... there is no limit to the possibilities.

**TAKE A DAY TRIP WITH FRIENDS:** on Saturday May 5th, join us at Cragun's and also take time to enjoy the area shops. We will be excited to see you!

Below are some the marketplace ideas we came up with:



Liturgical items: Baptismal gowns, Baptismal quilt/blanket, Clergy crosses, Faith chests, Clergy Stole

Wooden items: Bowls/shelves/growing sticks, Quilt racks/quilt display systems, Garden items/pickles

Gift baskets with themes, movie night, coffee lovers, chocolate lovers

Pillowcases/embroidered dishtowels

Honey, maple syrup, jams and jellies

Jewelry/purses/bags

Artwork, Handmade Cards, Pottery

### An Addition to the Quilt Auction?

The quilt team continues to brainstorm about how to share with a wider audience, the thought, the creativity and often, the spiritual experiences that inspire the creation of a quilt. We also have looked for avenues of deeper connection with the spirit of our synod assembly.

So for this year's assembly, we have imagined creating a separate area amongst the quilts that would display quilts and their creation stories; stories that correlate and express in your own words this year's synod theme or the Theme for the youth gathering in Houston:

- "This Changes Everything" 2018 Youth Gathering Theme
- "The Lord's Prayer Changes Everything" 2018 NEMN assembly theme

It might be a quilt you have made for a first grandchild; or a quilt you created to celebrate a particular milestone; or one you created after a particularly difficult time in your life. As God accompanies us through these meaningful times, I think we are always changed. It is our hope that your reflections will also deepen the experience of all who attend the assembly.

If you are interested in or have questions about sharing a quilt and its creation story that correlates to one of the two themes listed above, please contact me by e-mail: [amyl13@hotmail.com](mailto:amyl13@hotmail.com) or text me at 218-391-4260. That way we will have an idea of the size of the display area we will need.

We give thanks always for your partnership in this ministry,

Amy Loken,  
Member of the NEMN quilt and marketplace Team

(Remember, these quilts would not be for sale, nor do they have to be newly made)

## ATTENTION ALL QUILTERS AND MARKET PLACE DONATORS

2018 is upon us, the Synod Assembly is right around the corner, May 4-6 and we quilt and marketplace team members have been putting our heads together since last fall to brainstorm about:

- Widening our bidding audience
- Working closely together so all donated items are displayed in the best way possible
- Sharing ideas that people have passed on to us about what they would like to bid on (both quilt and Marketplace-see back of letter)
- Working with Cragun's Resort to increase our advertising efforts to their clientele
- Inviting more people into this ministry (no matter what the age or gender, everyone has talents to share)
- And most importantly, raising as much money and awareness as we can to end the suffering of hunger and poverty both at home and world-wide through the ELCA Hunger Appeal

In the assembly packet sent to each congregation before the assembly, you will find a market place bid card, a quilt bid card and a quilt I.D. card. If you need more cards please reproduce them on card stock. On the back of this letter you will find ideas we have gathered for marketplace items and quilts.

**As partners in this ministry, we thank you for all you have done over the last 17 years. We want you to know that at the assembly we consider the Marketplace and quilt area "Holy Ground". ...Created purely out of love and compassion for others, it changes the hearts of all who experience them. So take a day trip to the assembly; come prepared to be "awestruck" by the beauty and creativity on display; and thru your bids make a generous donation to the ELCA Hunger Appeal!**

**Wishing you God's blessings in this New Year!**

**The Synod quilt and marketplace teams**

\*PS Please Share this information with your pastor and congregational voting members.



### Dollars for Disaster

Every year our Synod Assembly includes a Hunger emphasis with the Quilt Silent Auction, Market Place, and the Holy Cow Award. Many congregations have also gathered "Quarters for Hunger" and brought those offerings to the Synod Assembly. Thank you to all the congregations that have participated in all the aspects this Hunger emphasis at our Synod Assemblies.

The Synod Hunger, Justice, and Rural Life Committee is encouraging a different approach to the hunger offerings that congregations gather and bring to the Synod Assembly. Beginning in 2018 the ingathering of congregation offerings will be "**DOLLARS FOR DISASTER.**" In the past few months so many people, both in our own country and around the world, have been affected by disasters – hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, flooding, and ethnic conflict. Through Lutheran Disaster Response, we are engaged in helping people recover from those disasters. One hundred percent of Disaster offerings go to help people affected by disasters. The ELCA and the ELCA Hunger Program absorb all the administrative cost for this program, which makes it an especially effective way for congregations to respond to disasters.

In the first months of 2018, congregations are encouraged to gather "DOLLAR FOR DISASTER" offerings and bring them to the Synod Assembly May 4-6, 2018. This will be replace the "Quarters for Hunger" offerings at Assembly, where our Hunger emphasis will include Quilts, Market Place, the Holy Cow Award, and Dollars for Disaster.