



# Advent is here...

May the peace of Christ be born into this world!

As reproductive health was batted around as a political toy this year, Womaen's Caucus asked the Church of the Brethren: **How can we cherish sacred life and also support persons for whom abortion is the least destructive option?**

We invite prayerful reflection on the CoB Statement on Abortion (1984) which includes the nuanced position

"...the Brethren ideal upholds the sacredness of human life and that abortion should be accepted as an option only where all other possible alternatives will lead to greater destruction of human life and spirit."

We shared around tables at our Annual Conference Luncheon, and gathered for a Thinking Session

online.

We heard a call from one another and the Holy Spirit to equip our church with caregiving skills, and we're partway through a training on Compassionate Care with the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice. Stay tuned for a future course.

## BY THE NUMBERS

4

NOMINATIONS PER POSITION

For each position, Nominating Committee shares 4 names with Standing Committee. Standing Committee puts 2 names on the ballot for each position.

32

8 POSITIONS WITH 4 NAMES EACH

Eight positions will be voted on at Annual Conference 2023. Womaen's Caucus seeks to inspire 32 nominations at our information session.



Have you made nominations for denominational leadership?

*He Said to Take Nothing* by Debbie Eisenbise

*'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves'*—Jesus (Matthew 10: 16)

*No staff:* no walker, no mace, no whistle, no rolling papers, no pager, no phone, no lap-top, no i-pad, no sticky notes.

*No purse:* no wallet, no backpack, no plastic, no cash, no tissues, no pens, no lipstick, no mirror, no keys, no gum.

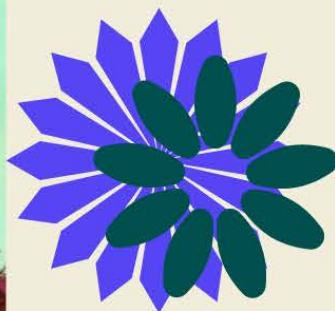
*No second tunic:* no swim suit, no safety pins, no meds, no screwdriver, no pads, no condoms, nothing just in case.

You'll be gone too long for that. Oh, and abandon all hope, root out and toss your will in that dumpster. Trample underfoot any ideals to create a better world—burn your blueprints, your minutes, your lists. Wipe from your memory all addresses and passwords, numbers and aliases.

Look to Francis, strip off all pretense, scrub away expectation, sit on your stoop naked. Let email, bills fill the house. Then, raise a glass. Light a match. Turn. Walk away.

## Welcome to the Steering Committee!

**M. Gresh** is currently serving as the pastor of the Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren in Glen Arm, MD. She lives with her dog, Rue, and spends her free time reading, playing board games and crafting.



We pray for peace and healing in your life, family, and community this Christmas.

**Sandi Evans Rogers** is serving as intentional interim pastor at Woodbridge CoB (VA). She is humbled to invest in the lives of all those God directs and allows to intersect her life. She enjoys developing innovative spiritual formation opportunities and ministry programs for the whole body of Christ to grow in loving their neighbors authentically. She is looking forward to being a part of the Woman's Caucus Steering team; discerning how she might support and encourage the Caucus to live into our purpose and goals.

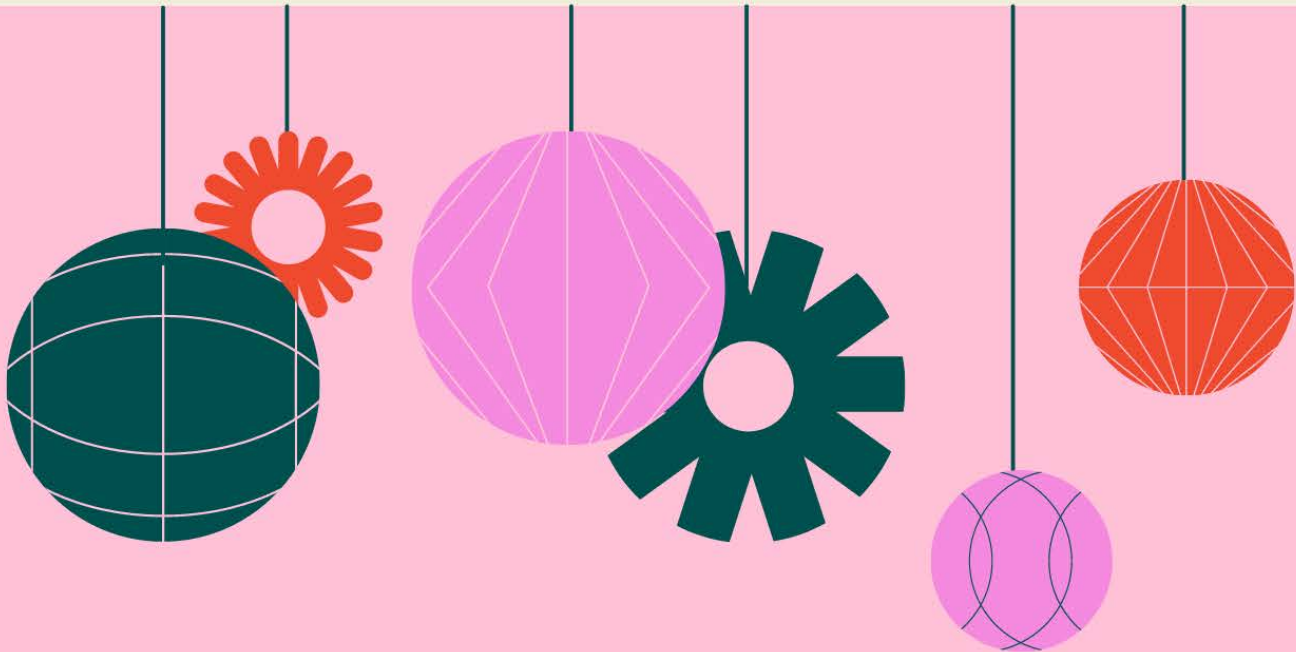
joining Jonathan Bay, Sara Davis, Bobbi Dykema, Anna Lisa Gross, Carla Gillespie, and Carol Lindquist

With your continued support Womaen's Caucus will empower women and advocate for people on the margins.



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\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_

District/Home Church (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Contribution**

\$100

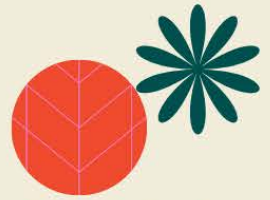
\$75

\$50

\$25

Other

## How do you want to engage?



- **Supporters** include people wanting to know about the efforts and impact of Womaen's Caucus.
- **Thinkers** include those interested in contributing to the knowledge base of Caucus by increasing our understanding of challenges facing women and the context in which those challenges exist.
- **Doers** include people interested in helping to plan and carry out the events of Caucus.
- **Funders** include people committed to assuring that Caucus has sufficient financial resources to carry out its mission.

Caucus is eager for you to choose one or more way that is meaningful for you - let us know how you want to be engaged!

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