The RIPPLE

Expanding the Circle of SC Women of the ELCA



Check out our **website** for up-to-date information and pictures.

Go to http://www.scwelca.com.

Winter 2020



South Carolina
Women of the ELCA
2020 CONVENTION
JUNE 12 & 13, 2020

ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWBERRY, SC



CHAPLAIN FOR THE SC WELCA CONVENTION THE REVEREND KATHY HARRIS

"Women ministry groups (WELCA) are powerful in faith development."

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

"As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Dear Sisters in Christ,

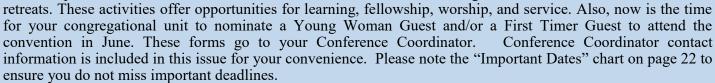
"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing." Isaiah 43:18-19. As we begin a new year and a new decade, the Holy Spirit is working in us and through us. When my son was small, I cross stitched a picture of a young boy with the saying, "Don't give up. God ain't finished with me yet." I reminded myself of this when my patience grew thin. I think about this saying now when I feel God is calling me to do something new. Here is what I love about God. He thinks and works outside our own box of thinking. He sees the big picture. He knows what he is doing, and He is not

finished with our lives yet. Our future awaits, and God has more in store. What new thing is the Holy Spirit calling you to do this year?

Our theme this year, "Just Love," reminds us that God is calling us to love one another, just as He first loved us. We have a responsibility to speak out for those who live in darkness and who have no voice. For this reason, we have chosen to support the SC Network for Children's Advocacy Centers and Lutheran Disaster Response. Back by popular demand: the Silent Auction. Funds from the auction will go to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Maybe the Holy Spirit is calling you to do something new by using your gifts to serve SC WELCA as a board member or Treasurer. Sometimes we have to take a leap of faith and let Him work through us to reach others. You may not realize you have gifts to share, but I ask that you prayerfully consider this possibility.

The Board and convention staff have been busy making plans. Please make note of the important deadlines, as well as events such as conference meetings and



As we begin this year, may we resolve to show more gratitude for the grace and blessings the Lord has bestowed on each of us and let the Holy Spirit push us to new heights. Do things that challenge you. Be brave. May your days be filled with peace, love, and good health as we act boldly on our faith in Jesus Christ.

May all we do be done in love.

Becky

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Spring 2020 Conference Meetings

Conference	Date and Time	Host Church
#1 Foothills	Saturday, March 14 th ,	St. John's Lythonon Chynol
#1 FOOLIIIIS	1	St. John's Lutheran Church,
	10:00 am; reg. at 9:30	Walhalla
#5 Heartland	Sunday, April 19 th ;	Silverstreet Lutheran Church,
	3:00 pm	Silverstreet
#7 Coastal	TBD	TBD
#8 Saxe-Gotha	Sunday, March 15 th ;	Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church,
	3:00 pm	West Columbia
#9 Western	Sunday, March 8 th ;	St. Paul Lutheran Church,
	3:00 pm	Aiken

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As your Vice President, I am honored to be your Convention Chair. Hopefully, you have heard that our 2020 Convention will be held at St. Phillip's Lutheran Church in Newberry, SC on June 12-13 2020. The THEME for the Convention will be "JUST LOVE" and the scripture comes from 1 Corinthians 16:14 "Let all you do be done in love." This scripture calls on Christians to let everything they do be done in love and show God's love and grace by loving one another. The theme and scripture were chosen as we are supporting our 2020 Triennial Gathering.

Our Project this year is working with SC Network of Children's Advocacy Centers. This project is dear to me and many others in our state as we all love helping children in their time of need. Please turn to the Mission Action section in this *RIPPLE* to get all the details on our project. Our

project chair, Rae Davis and her committee, have been busy putting this project together for us.

Please find the Convention Registration form included in this *RIPPLE*. Please don't let your deadlines run out. We had to make a change in the no sweat exercise workshop and it will be replaced by Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands. Please use the new registration forms when registering for convention. Ladies, we need board members, young women guests and first timers. Please consider running for the board or sending a young woman guest or first timer. If you are not sure what you would be doing on the board, please reach out to me and I will be glad to explain. If you know a young woman guest or first timer who might be interested but not sure what to expect, please reach out to me and I will explain. We have so much fun and it's not hard work but a time to grow with ladies who turn into friends.

The convention committee has been busy and our host conference coordinator, Jan Piersol, has been a busy bee. She has been reaching out to the churches in the Heartland Conference and the churches are stepping up to help serve at our convention. Thanks for all the ladies that have turned in your sheets. If you have not had a chance to turn in your sheet to Jan please do as soon as possible. We still have a few slots where we need assistance so if you are in the Heartland Conference and you have not been notified and you would like to take part in our convention, please contact Jan Piersol or myself so we can get you involved.

2020 Convention Staff

Chair: Amanda Boatwright
Co-Chair: Sarah Cheesman
Churchwide Rep: TBA
Registrar: Sherry Sheppard
Asst. Registrar: Kaye Heins
Mission Action Chair: Rae Davis
Keynote Speaker: Thomas Knapp
Photographer: Olivia Fulmer
Song Leader: Sara Coffman

Banquet Entertainment: Becky Starnes Chaplain: Rev. Kathy Harris

Musician/Organist: TBA Nominating Committee Chair: Jennifer Nuovo

First Timer Guest Coordinator: Dianne Pitts Technology Coordinator: Pat George

Young Women Guest Coordinator: Jessica Walker Host Conference Coordinator: Jan Piersol (Heartland)

Host Church Pastor: Rev. Terry Amick

Triennial Gathering Promoter: Risse Snelgrove

Your sister in Christ, Amanda Boatwright

South Carolina Women of the ELCA Conference Coordinators

Foothills – Karen Waltz 912-667-8060

kwaltz48@gmail.com

Upstate – Andrea Rousey

864-680-3648 No email

Epiphany – Cheryl Johnson

570-335-2340

cjohnson@doveprintsolutions.com

Amelia – Diane Wicker

843-538-5618

thewickers@lowcountry.com

Heartland – Jan Piersol

803-276-0083

Jan piersol@yahoo.com

Midlands – Emily Wright

803-479-5271

free2gogma@yahoo.com

Coastal - Carol McDougall

843-860-2799

nursecmcdougall@gmail.com

Saxe Gotha – Jessica Walker

803-979-1752

jlkwalker@icloud.com

Western – Sebrena Matthews

803-924-6808

sblattimore@yahoo.com



REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The Board met on November 9, 2019 at St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Newberry. Also attending were Virginia Herlong, and Jan Piersol. After devotions from Merri and Sarah, Jan informed us of the many plans already in place to help with the convention set up and other needs. Minutes from August were approved and are now available on the website. We received another thank you from Lighthouse for Life after we sent another \$25 to them after the convention. We also sadly received notice from two congregations about disbanding their WELCA chapters and one of disbanding one of their circles.

REPORT Summaries

President's Report: Since the last meeting Becky has attended five fall conferences as well as a luncheon at St. Timothy's in Camden. Becky wrote an article for The SC Lutheran and letters to WELCA groups that have disbanded: the Elizabeth Circle at Redeemer, Columbia; Augsburg in Union; and Faith in Newberry. Her efforts to find a good global project for the Colombia Synod in time to use for the convention did not pan out. In order to speed our Board meetings along, she has requested all reports be sent out electronically ahead of our meeting so everyone can have the information ahead of time and know what questions they need answered by the time we meet.

Treasurer's Report: Our bank balance on February 1, 2019 was \$32,224.73 and on October 31, 2019 is \$34,619.70. This includes a checking account balance of \$8,812.91, a savings account balance of \$10,806.79, and Mission Investment Fund CD of \$15,000.00. In addition, there is the Edna Corley Estate CD balance of \$35,630.71 from which the interest income for the first three quarters of \$660.91 has been transferred to our checking account for the SC LTSS Scholarship Fund.

Vice President's Report: Plans are moving along well for the 2020 Convention. You can see more about the convention in her report.

Nomination Committee: Jennifer Nuovo reported that the committee has been trying to recruit nominees at the conference meetings and with an article in the *RIPPLE*.

Mission Community: This committee deals with how we relate with each other. They reported their goals for the year.

Mission Growth: Merri reported that the Camp Kinard retreat will be very interactive per Pastor Pursey. The craft project will be decorating a mug to use while there and save on disposable waste.

Mission Action: The Action Committee will be placing an article in the *RIPPLE* asking for items to be brought to the convention for South Carolina Network of Children's Advocacy Centers once they get an updated needs list from Mr. Knapp. The Action Committee recommends supporting Lutheran Disaster Relief as our global project.

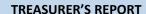
Triennial Gathering Report: Risse has had four people apply for stipends so far. As In-kind gifts, churchwide has sent out information about making Hygiene Purses from the website "Sew Powerful". She is hoping some of our South Carolina women will make them and she will get them to the Triennial Gathering.

Business

We reviewed the 2019 – 2020 goals. We voted on some changes to Convention Rules and Procedures.

We set up a committee to plan something special during the convention to recognize that 2020 will be the 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women. Also, we reviewed why in 2011 SCWELCA voted to have Joy Offerings.

Respectfully Submitted, Linda Roland REMINDER! Please send your congregational unit leader/officer updates to either my email or home address which is provided at the bottom of the form.





A preliminary review of our February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020 financial year is as follows:

- 1. Regular Offerings of \$25,066 have been received (78% of the budgeted amount of \$32,000) of which 65% or \$16,290 are sent to churchwide.
- 2. Joy Offerings of \$10,001 have been received (100% of the budgeted amount of \$10,000). 100% of these offerings are sent to support ELCA Good Gifts.
- 3. Designated gifts for Katie's Fund, Thank Offerings and Lutheran Domestic Disaster of \$550 have been received and forwarded to churchwide.
- 4. Conference donations of \$4,095 have been sent to support numerous SC and ELCA organizations.
- 5. Monetary donations totaling \$9,801 were sent to Lighthouse for Life, the 2019 convention project.
- 6. Donations totaling \$3,500 have also been made to Katie's Fund and Lutheran Disaster Response.
- 7. Net income from the Edna Corley Estate and Honorary and Life Memberships for SCLTSS Scholarship is \$1,456.
- 8. In total for this fiscal year, expenses are projected to be equal to income.

In summary, Regular Offerings are \$4,500 less than budgeted, donations to Lighthouse for Life exceeded budget by \$1,300 and expenses have been about equal to income for the year.

Thank you for your support of the SC WELCA programs and projects. In February all congregational units will receive a statement of contributions for the February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020. Please review these statements and let me know if there are any questions.

May we continue to be able to be a blessing to others.

Rachel Quesada

Nominating Committee

God Is Calling. Are you listening???

Yes, your help is needed to complete the nominations for WELCA board members and a treasurer. We are all aware of the goals we strive to meet as women of WELCA. The synodical board partners with units to build community to fulfill the purpose of the Women of the ELCA with the 4 board meetings held throughout the year. The focus of the board meetings is to provide opportunities and experiences for learning and leadership development, joint ministry, stewardship and action, and convention planning. Board members attend conference gatherings. The requirements for nomination are participation in a congregational unit of the ELCA and the willingness to serve a 2-year term. Ladies, our organization is only as effective as our leadership. Please prayerfully consider allowing your name to be put into nomination. If you do not feel led to serve, please identify someone you feel would make a good board member and offer to put her name into nomination. Nomination forms are available in this publication of The RIPPLE or by visiting our website.

The deadline for nomination forms for Treasurer and Board members is March 30, 2020. They may also be obtained from one of the nominating committee members who are happy to answer any questions. May God bless you as you make your decision.

Jennifer Nuovo, chair; jennscwelca@yahoo.com 803-622-4714 cell or 803-808-3421 Betty Jo Amick, abjamick72@att.net (803) 345-5060; (803) 315-5174 Cell Margaret Shirer, margaretshirer@aol.com (803) 826-6187; (803) 308-1044 Cell Gail Kane, gkane590@aol.com (843) 902-7652

COMMUNITY

Now that you have a new 2020 calendar it's time to get out your pens and write down some uplifting and exciting events for the year! We'll start with the World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 6th hosted by Zimbabwe. In John 5:2-9, Jesus comes upon a sick man who hasn't taken the opportunity for healing that lies in front him. Jesus asks, "Do you want to be made well?" World Day of Prayer is an opportunity for women across the world, of all religions, to unite as one and "Take up your bed and walk." We again have an opportunity to unite in prayer on Thursday, May 7th during a National Day of Prayer. All religions across the United States will come together to unite in prayer. Be on the lookout as these days draw near for information regarding prayer services and gatherings.

We have our annual convention on June 12-13 at St. Phillips in Newberry and I would like you all to star on our wall of "Just Love" as examples of what that looks like. You can send me pictures of church gatherings, small groups, quilting groups, pot lucks, the possibilities are endless! You can mail them to 912 Riverwalk Way, Irmo SC 29063 or e-mail them to ksnelgrove2005@yahoo.com. Let me know who's in it and where you are.

Your Sisters in Christ,

Kristin Snelgrove, Amanda Baker, Karen Freeman, Sherry Fowler

BOLD WOMEN'S SUNDAY

Bold Women's Day—observed annually on the fourth Sunday of February—celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers. Other women are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out our baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ. Are you bold?

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO CELEBRATE BOLD WOMEN'S SUNDAY ON FEBRUARY 23, 2020?

On Sunday, February 24, 2019, the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Newberry celebrated BOLD Women's Sunday at both services. At each service, women participated in all phases of the service. During the sermon time, we had three BOLD Women portrayed about their efforts in the Reformation. It was quite interesting to listen to their actions as BOLD women. Kelly Bannister and Ianna Rombauer portrayed Katharina Schultz Zell, Jessica Draeger and Maria Manaeva portrayed Olimpio Morato, and Amanda Zobel and Sophie Maybay portrayed Argulo von Grumbach.

Katharina von Bora Luther was a practical and bold woman of faith.

Prayer:

Gracious God, by your spirit empower us. Give us courage, grant us wholeness, and fill us with love. Help us to live with the certainty that we are better off together than we are separated, from you or from each other. Because we have you, nothing can shake our confidence in this world or the next. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.





Greetings to all from your **Mission Action Committee!** Like you, we are looking forward to another enlightening annual convention of the SC Women of the ELCA to be held June 12-13, 2020. We hope you are making plans to attend and are ready to TAKE ACTION in response to our convention theme this year of "Just Love"!

As you know, our 2020 Convention Domestic project will provide us an opportunity to share our love with children in our state who are victims of abuse and their caregivers through our partnership with the South Carolina Network of Children's Advocacy Centers (SCNCAC).



The SCNCAC is the accredited state Chapter of the National Children's Alliance (NCA) in South Carolina which provides coordinated, evidence-based response in all 46 counties including oversight for the 17 Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) across our state. The CACs provide a safe environment for children who are victims of primarily physical and

sexual assault. For more information, please visit their website at https://www.cac-sc.org or watch the short video on our website at www.scwelca.com.

Please help build awareness of this tragic situation in our state so the children can get the help they need to live safe and productive lives! The SCNCAC has provided a list of supplies that can comfort victims and caregivers and help the service providers build trust and rapport with these people facing very scary circumstances. Please see the form in this publication of the Ripple for details. Please fulfill using recommended package sizes, and all clothing items must be NEW items in their original packaging.

Financial support can be provided through general gift cards (\$15-\$25 value preferred), fast food gift cards, or gasoline gift cards. Lower increments are best as these cards are responsibly used and distributed by the CACs to support the victims and their caregivers in their journey to healing and recovery. Many times, these cards can be the difference between a caregiver getting the child to therapy or missing an appointment. Checks of any amount will also be accepted and can be made out to SC WELCA with the abbreviation "SCNCAC" placed on the memo line of the check.

2020 Convention Global Project

Love has no boundaries! In support of those who have been confronted with tragedy such as Hurricane Dorian, we will be supporting Lutheran Disaster Response as our Global Project. All of our support will be financial here, so please make your checks out to SC WELCA with the abbreviation "LDR" placed on the memo line of the check.

Honorary Life and Memorial Recognition Program

Another way to show your love is to support the Honorary Life and Memorial Recognition Program. You may honor a woman, man, or young person in your congregation who is always there when needed. The recipient will receive a certificate and a pin. Memorial recognition may be made in memory of someone who has died and who had a positive impact on you or your church during their lifetime. Proceeds go to the South Carolina Women of the ELCA Scholarship Fund at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. An application is on the WELCA website or contact Virginia Herlong, 813 Silver Point Road, Chapin, SC 29036; email: vherlong@sc.rr.com; or phone 803.932.0155 (home) or 803.206.2493 (Cell).

Thank you in advance for your support! See you at Convention!

Action Committee:

Rae Davis, chairperson

Amanda Cruse

Risse Snelgrove

*denotes non-board members

Amanda Boatwright (Convention Chair)

Jan Piersol (Host Conference Coordinator)*

Virginia Herlong (Honorary/Life Memberships)*

A publication of the SC Women of the ELCA



DONATION FORM 2020 CONVENTION PROJECT

We will have the opportunity to actively share our love with children and their caregivers who are victims of abuse in our state through our partnership this year with the South Carolina Network of Children's Advocacy Centers "SCNCAC". As we know, Love has no geographic boundaries so SC WELCA will also be supporting Lutheran Disaster Response to support hurricane victims of Dorian and other victims of natural disasters. Please make all checks payable to SC WELCA and designate charitable organization (SCNCAC, Lutheran Disaster Response) on the Memo/For line. Write Gift card values on cards or they will not be accepted.

Item	# of units	Monetary/Gift Cards	# of cards/checks	Total Value
Bottled Water - (8 oz bottles - 24 count)		SCNCAC - General Gift Cards (\$10 - \$25 value preferred)		
Bottled Water – (8 oz bottles – 12 count)		SCNCAC - Fast Food Gift Cards		
Juice drinks (8-count)		SCNCAC - Gasoline Gift Cards		
Snacks – Goldfish (single serve snack size) – 12 count				
Snacks – Pop-tarts (8-count)				
Snacks – Rice Krispies treats or Gummy treats - individually wrapped - boxes		SCNCAC - Checks		
Coloring Books, Colored Markers, Colored Pencils, Crayons (# of Books/Boxes)				
Tissues - boxes				
Paper Towels – 6 roll packs		Lutheran Disaster Response - Checks		
Baby or Body wipes - containers				
Deodorant (Travel Size)				
Feminine Products – Pads or Tampons (Boxes)				
NEW Clothing items – various Underwear, Socks, Sports Bras - # of items				
Diapers – various sizes (minimize adult sizes, if any)				-
Subtotal # of Units		Subtotal Gift Cards SCNCAC		
		Subtotal Checks SCNCAC		
	1	Subtotal Checks LDR		
Total Units		Total Monetary		

Submitted By:	
Church:	Conference:
Church Address:	Contact Person and Mobile Phone Number (Texts):

The annual Camp Kinard Retreat is just around the corner! On Feb. 7-8, 2020 we promise a time of fellowship and Bible study. Camp Kinard's Spiritual Director and Chaplain, Pastor Christi Pursey will lead us in a study of 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 entitled "What's Love Got To Do With It?" She promises to bring in other relevant passages and involve us all in discussions and activities pertaining to the



ways we, as Christian women, express love in our lives. This Bible study will tie right in with the 2020 SCWELCA convention theme, "Just Love."

The retreat begins with dinner at 6 PM on Friday and ends after lunch on Saturday. Pastor Christi will also lead us in Holy Communion.

Your Sisters in Christ, Merri Lewis, Sarah Cheesman, Denise Warren, Agnes Folk and Sallie Folk

SILENT AUCTION



At our June 12-13 SC WELCA Convention we will once again hold a Silent Auction. Proceeds will to go to Lutheran Disaster Response. Please plan to donate a gift basket, art work, jewelry, plant/floral arrangement, or decorations (wreath, wall hanging, etc.). Bring your items to convention and please email Merri Lewis lewismerri@yahoo.com that you are bringing auction items by May 11.

2020 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Friday, June 12		Saturday, Ju	Saturday, June 13	
8:30 am	Registration Opens	8:00 am	Registration Opens	
10:00 am	Formal Opening	8:30 am	Workshop Session C	
12:00 noon	Lunch	9:30 am	Convention Reconvenes	
1:00 pm	Convention Reconvenes	12:00 noon	Lunch	
3:45 pm	Workshop Session A	1:00 pm	Convention Reconvenes	
4:45 pm	Workshop Session B	3:00 pm	Closing Worship	
5:45 pm	Concert			
6:30 pm	Banquet			



CWO Representative: TBA

Please join our churchwide Representative for a Bible Study and a time of sharing. She will be bringing updates from the Chicago office and will have time for a question and answer session. **Fri. 3:45pm, 4:45pm, Sat. 8:30am**

Loving Yourself Through Loss: Rev. Karen Young

Learn more about how to cope and love yourself when you lose a loved one. Learn how the Bible teaches us about loss, how we can love ourselves through loss, and then how to go on with life without our loved one. **Fri. 3:45pm**, **4:45pm**, **Sat. 8:30am**

<u>History of Chrismons: Edith</u> <u>Hawkins and Debby Fulmer</u>

This workshop will take both workshops times on Friday. You will learn the history, shapes, sizes, colors and reason why the Chrismons exist. Then you will make a small Chrismon to take home. Fri.3:45pm and 4:45pm workshops. This will take both workshops on Friday.

<u>Healthy Heart Awareness: Sara</u> Burton

In this workshop you will learn about a Happy Healthy Heart and how we show God's love by being healthy and using our hearts to show love to one another. **Fri. 3:45pm, 4:45pm, Sat. 8:30am**

How to do/have a Bible Study: Sarah Bowers

You will learn how to take a Bible story and make it into a study for a group of people. Then learn how to be the leader of that Bible study and share that story with others. **Fri. 3:45pm**, **4:45pm**, **Sat. 8:30am**

Craft/Service Project: Trina Floyd

This workshop allows you to paint a cross for the girls dormitories in Tanzania. This craft project ties in with our global project two years ago. This way the girls will have a decoration of God's love to hang in their rooms. We are showing our sister synod love by giving crosses to the girls. **Fri. 3:45 pm, 4:45pm, Sat. 8:30am**

SC Network of Children Advocacy Centers: Thomas Knapp and Liz Szarkowski

Learn more about South Carolina Network of Children Advocacy Centers and how they help children across the state. You will learn more about their programs, services and just how real child abuse is across our state and the United States. **Fri. 3:45pm, 4:45pm, Sat. 8:30am**

<u>Sexual Trauma Services of the</u> <u>Midlands: Sarah Goode and Erin</u> <u>Hallman Thomas</u>

Learn more about Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands and what their organization does for human trafficking. They will teach you about human trafficking and how to detect, prevent, and protect yourself and communities. Also how to love yourself or others who have been traumatized by someone. **Fri. 3:45pm**, **4:45pm**, **Sat. 8:30am**

<u>Making Cards for Crosses: Dina</u> <u>Sherwood</u>

Making a card to be attached to craft/service project of painting crosses. This way the girls will know who made them for their dormitory rooms. If times allows you will also make card to take home. **Fri. 3:45pm, 4:45pm, Sat. 8:30am**

2020 CONVENTION INFO

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tom Knapp is the executive director for the South Carolina Network of Children's Advocacy Centers (SCNCAC). Prior to that he was the Executive Director for the Michigan Chapter of the National Children's Alliance.



His work with Children's Advocacy Centers started during his career in law enforcement where he detective а was assigned to major cases and to the local Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) investigating crimes children. against During his years serving on the CAC multidisciplinary team, he was trained as a forensic interviewer

and received specialized training related to investigating crimes against children. He became the executive director for the Michigan Chapter of the National Children's Alliance after retiring from the sheriff's department.

He reminds all that will listen that the known statistics for child sexual abuse are overwhelming. For example, it is estimated that one in ten children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday. There are approximately 42 million survivors of child sexual abuse in the United States. Statistics also show that over 90% of sexually abused children are abused by someone known by the child or family. Child sexual and physical abuse have an impact on every community and every person in South Carolina. He will share messages of Hope, Healing, and Trust from his childhood and years as a child abuse investigator. SCNCAC is proud to partner with individuals, businesses, non-profits, and faith-based communities to empower all South Carolina communities to deliver a best practice response to child abuse which is a major public health crisis. Do you know how your community responds to allegations of abuse?

CONFERENCE ENTERTAINMENT

Becky Starnes lives in Sandy Run, SC, located in Calhoun County. She grew up in Lexington and is the daughter of Oneille and Faye Lindler. She is married to Gerald Starnes. They have two grown children, Stephie and Gerald, Jr. There are three grandchildren, Christopher, Rachel, and Rebecca and they are the apples of grandma's eye.

Becky retired from Voridian, formerly Carolina Eastman, in October of 2002 as an Administrative Assistant in Communications and Public Affairs and International HR Assistant.

She is a member of Beulah United Methodist Church, the Sandy Run Ruritan Club, completed a three year tenure on the board of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, member of the Sandy Run Museum Board of Directors, served as a member of the Tri-County Electric Cooperative Advisory Committee in 2002, and is active in her community.

When Becky was 10 and 12, her family went to Nashville and attended the Grand Old Opry in the old Ryman Auditorium. She saw Minnie Pearl and Rod Brasfield perform. She realized how much fun they were having and wanted to impersonate Minnie. She came home and asked her mother if she thought her grandmother Mama Alice would make her a Minnie Pearl dress. Her first dress was made from the colorful chicken feed sacks that you purchased at the feed store. She recently retired her third pair of pantaloons — and not a minute too soon. She is wearing her eighteenth Minnie Pearl dress.

At the age of twelve she began her impersonation of Minnie and she celebrated her 78th birthday in May. She has performed her Minnie for sixty-six years and has given over 4000 performances. Over the years she has met and made many wonderful friends. Becky has performed for churches, civic organizations, community clubs, senior citizen groups, conventions, nursing homes, etc. She was honored with the *Order of the Silver Crescent* award from Governor Mark Sanford.

Minnie Pearl was a wonderful person. She wanted to be a great dramatic actress; however, God had other plans for her. He put her in this world so she could help us all laugh more and laugh we did at her down home humor. Minnie loved God, her family, and her fellow man. As "Minnie" would say,

this "old world" doesn't laugh enough. We need to look for the humor in all situations, because laughter is good for the soul.







Rev. Kathy Harris was born in NC, grew up in Georgia, but has lived in SC for most of her adult life.

She received a BS degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. Rev.

Harris shares that her love of children led her to serve as a Pediatric PT which is where she served until the call to seminary became a stronger tug on her heart.

Rev. Harris received a Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, SC. Ordained in 2006, she currently serves at Faith Lutheran Chapel, Pickens, SC. Faith is a missionstart congregation. Rev. Harris shares that she enjoys the mission focus of the congregation: "The folks of Faith truly understand that we are to be reaching out to our local neighbors in the love of Christ and that all are welcome!"

About WELCA Rev. Harris shares, "I have enjoyed Women's Lutheran groups since I was a young teen in our rural congregation in Georgia. I am sure now that participating at that young age began shaping me for ministry; I learned much about how to love and care for one another as Christian women as well as caring for our neighbors near and far. Women ministry groups (WELCA) are powerful in faith development."

Rev. Harris is married to Rick, a high school science teacher and cross country/track coach. They have 4 children and 3 grandchildren. Andrew, their special needs son, lives in the home with them and attends a sheltered workshop day program.

IOP RETREAT



Isle of Palms Retreat

April 24-26, 2020

Name:
(Please Print) Address:
Telephone:
Email:
Home Church:
Roommates:
(2 to 4 ladies to a room)
Full Retreat: \$130.00 / Day Timers: \$65.00
Amount Enclosed:
First time attendee:YesNo
Bed linens are included in the registration fee. Please bring your own towels. Please document any special needs you have (dietary or otherwise) below. If you have a specific need, please bring items to supplement what we serve. Please bring a favorite snack or dessert to share.
Please send this registration with your deposit. Register Early. Space is limited. Only 10 rooms have 2 double beds. The others have a Queen and a set of bunks. One form per participant. *Please make checks

payable to Sallie Folk, 422 West Pine Street, Florence, SC 29501

50th Anniversary of Women's Ordination in the Lutheran Church

Opening the Door



This year marks the 50th Anniversary of Women's Ordination in the Lutheran Church in the United States. Elizabeth Alvina Platz was ordained in November 1970 and Barbara Andrews was ordained in December 1970, by the LCA and the ALC respectively. South Carolina Synod ordained their first woman pastor in 1981, with Beverly Dennis Alexander's call to serve at St. Paul's in Columbia. Amaretta "Amy" Onstad was the second woman ordained in 1982 and served Our Savior's in West Columbia. Rev. Kathleen Panning, the Rev. Dr. Beverly Aurand,

and the Rev. Dr. Mary W. Anderson, the longest serving women pastors in the South Carolina Synod, were honored at the Dasher Dinner in

November.

These pioneers in ministry to the Church have blazed a trail for thousands of women who have entered the Ministry of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the predecessor Bodies. Their years in ministry have been a series of "firsts" and we thank them for their tenacity, and joyful service to Christ.

Reverend Elizabeth Alvina Platz was the first woman to be ordained in the Lutheran church in North America on November 22, 1970. In 1991, the percentage of ordained women in the ELCA stood at 8%. In 2007, that number increased to 20%. Today, women make up at least 50% of our ELCA seminary student populations. We continue to encourage women to boldly accept their call as deserving teachers of the Gospel.

SC WELCA will recognize this special occasion at our convention in June. Please looks for details in the Spring issue of the Ripple..

SOCIAL HOUR



This year at our convention we will have a wonderful treat during our social hour on Friday evening. We have invited Huger Caughman and Christopher Dukes to come and play the organ and piano in the sanctuary. They will be playing hymns to go with our theme "Just Love" and a few favorite hymns we all know and love. They will leave you filled with spirit. When this duo played at the spring Heartland Conference this past year



all the ladies enjoyed them and gave the gentlemen a standing ovation. They surely left me filled with the spirit and ready to go share God's love with everyone. I know each of the ladies that will attend will be blessed and filled with God's love.



Attention! All Young Women (YWG) and Ladies Who Have Never Attended Convention (FTG)

It is time to nominate women from your church congregation to participate in the 2020 South Carolina WELCA Convention. Nominations may be made as a Young Woman Guest or as a First Timer Guest. This opportunity allows new women to build relationships with other Lutheran



women, to learn about the business side of WELCA and to enjoy the fun and fellowship of a group of wonderful, dedicated women. They might march in the banner parade, participate in a skit, collect offering, or help with a service project.

This year's South Carolina Women of the ELCA Annual Convention is June 12-13, 2020, at St. Phillip's Lutheran Church in Newberry. The nomination form can be found in The *RIPPLE* (also online at the SC WELCA website). Nominations are due by April 20, 2020. Turn in all nominations to your Conference Coordinator.



Hi Ladies!

I sure hope you are having an awesome start to 2020 and I'm sending love your way! As you all know the SCWELCA State Convention is fast approaching and I am in desperate need of some amazing young women that are willing to have fun, stand out and grow in faith together. If you have a young woman in mind that you'd like to see come to the 2020 Convention, contact me at 803-979-1752 or ikwalker@icloud.com and I will make sure you get all of

the information you need as well as paperwork. The Board will sponsor one YWG from each conference and each conference may choose to sponsor one YWG. I have attended a SCWELCA Convention as a Young Women Guest and had a blast. Young Women Guests are invited to participate in workshops that range from crafts, fitness, meditation, bible study and much more. Along with workshops, they'll attend the business segment of convention and be able to observe Business being conducted. Young Women Guests are invited to the 2020 Convention banquet on Friday night where they can experience awesome fellowship, fun, wonderful food and fantastic entertainment. I cannot wait to see all of our amazing young women in Newberry! If you need any information or have questions please contact me at (803) 979-1752 or email me at ilkwalker@icloud.com.

Thanks so much & God's love be with you always!

Jessica Walker Young Women Guest Coordinator



SC WELCA is supporting Lutheran Disaster Response as our global project through our offerings.

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. The organization has recently provided assistance for: 2020 Wildfires in Australia, U.S. Wildfires, U.S. Flooding, 2019 Hurricane Response, U.S. Tornadoes, Cyclone Idai. Indonesia Earthquake and Tsunami, South Sudan Relief, Africa Drought, Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis, and AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors.

Lutheran Disaster Response strives to help the church continue to be church in the midst of disaster — following Christ's call to bring hope and healing to our neighbor in need. Some key areas of work include:

- Providing emotional and spiritual care for people who have been affected by a disaster and for leaders who respond to a disaster
- Coordinating volunteers through our local affiliates
- Assisting refugees in a holistic way by meeting the varied needs of the community



- Promoting disaster risk-reduction by helping communities build their assets thereby reducing the effects of likely disasters
- Providing long-term recovery efforts by addressing the unmet needs months or even years after a disaster strikes

Proceeds from our Silent Auction will support Lutheran Disaster Response.

	Important Dates and Deadlines	
February 7-8	Camp Kinard Retreat	Outhor
March 30	Deadline – Nominations for Board and Treasurer	
April 20	Deadline – Nominations for YWG/FTG to Conference Coordinator	
April 24-26	Isle of Palms Retreat	
April 27	Deadline – YWG/FTG Names to Registrar	
May 1	Deadline - Voting Member Registrations to Registrar	
May 15	Deadline - No Refunds for Voting Member/Visitor Registr	rations
May 30	Deadline – Visitor Registrations to Registrar	
June 12-13	SC WELCA Convention	



Gathering 2020 | Phoenix, Arizona July 16-19, 2020

Renew your spirit with thousands of faithful women just like you who are eager to grow, learn, pray, and party—together! Join us in Phoenix, and live your faith in love that leads to justice.

Register online: welcatg.org

Opens Sept. 30, 2019





WOMEN OF THE ELCA GATHERING JULY 16-19, 2020 | PHOENIX WELCATG.ORG

Early bird discount through Jan. 6, 2020!

Registration materials are online only.

Renew your spirit with thousands of faithful women just like you who are eager to grow, learn, pray, and party-together! Join us in Phoenix, Ariz., July 16-19, and live your faith in love that leads to justice. Watch this spot for more information about the gathering as we add it and sign up for Bold Connections for monthly updates. View and share our video inviting you to the gathering. There is still time to join me and other women from South Carolina Synod at the Women of the ELCA National

Gathering in July. Matter of fact we still have six \$200 Supplemental Stipends from SC Women of the ELCA to attend the 2020 WELCA Triennial Gathering this coming July. If you are interested in receiving one of these stipends, please register for the event at www.welca.org then complete the application and mail it to Risse Snelgrove (her contact information is on the bottom of the application. You may also contact Risse by emailing her at snelgroverisse@gmail.com. Deadline to apply is January 30, 2020. (Roz Eckardt has found that she is unable to go to the Gathering. She paid \$250 for her registration and would like to sell lit. She also received one of the \$200 stipends. If you are interested in buying her registration, please call her at 847-609-1398 to negotiate a a price.)



One Day Spring Retreat

Our Saviour's Women of the ELCA (1500 Sunset Boulevard, West Columbia) will be sponsoring a one-day Spring Retreat "Each One Can Reach One" at the church on April 18 from 9:30 am – 4 pm. The

morning speaker will be the Reverend Mary Havens followed by lunch. The afternoon will be led by Cherie Nettles (cherienettles.net), local humorist, speaker, and writer. President Sandra Hughes says "she has the wonderful God-given talent of entertaining while teaching the word of God." Registration is limited and the deadline is March 15. Please call Linda Hill (803-794-4697) or Linda Griffith (803-920-3975) for tickets. Cost is \$25 for the entire day!



SC Women of the ELCA Annual Convention

Theme: "Just Love"

June 12-13, 2020

St. Philip's Lutheran Church, Newberry, SC

REGISTRATION FOR VOTING MEMBERS & VISITORS

	Check one:		
	Voting Member		Visitor
	Two voting members are allowed from each Congre	gational Unit.	All visitors are welcome!
	Please complete one form	per person	
NAME	CHURC	н	
ADDRESS	CHURC	H CITY	
CITY, ST, ZIP	CONFE	RENCE	
HONE (home)_	PHONE (cell)		
MAIL			
	Registration will be confirmed by email. If no email, c	onfirmation wi	Il be made by phone.
	ost workshops will be held three times – Two Frido v offered Friday afternoon as two workshops toge		
History of C	he following workshops (required for planning purp Chrismons How to do/have a B	ible Study	Making Cards for Crosses
			Loving Yourself Through Loss _SC Network of Children Advocacy
Craft/Servi		ices	
Craft/Services	ce Project -Crosses Sexual Trauma Serv	ices	
Craft/Service REGISTRATION: Voting Mem	ce Project -Crosses Sexual Trauma Serv Bulletin of Reports for Voting Member and Visitor	r included.	SC Network of Children Advocacy
Craft/Servion: REGISTRATION: Voting Mem MEALS: Friday Lo	Bulletin of Reports for Voting Member and Visitor ber – \$35.00, after May 1, 2020- \$40.00; Visitor – \$ anch - \$10.00; Friday Banquet - \$18.00; Saturday Lu	r included. 520.00 inch - \$10.00	\$
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DEFINITIONS OF AND FEES DUE FOR VOTING MEMBERS AND VISITORS

Voting Member Two from each Congregational Unit - Late substitution is allowed.

Pay for mileage, meals, lodging and registration.

Please submit registration by May 1, 2020 so that convention committees can be selected

and the Bulletin of Reports prepared for print.

Visitor (non-voting) Those attending the convention either not on the agenda or assigned a specific responsibility

Pay for mileage, meals, lodging and registration.

Please submit registration by May 30, 2020 for meal counts.

NO refunds after May 1, 2020

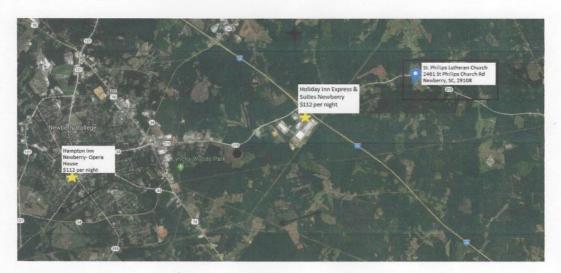
The Nomination Form for Young Woman Guest and First Timer Guest will serve as their registration.

Those on the agenda or assigned a specific responsibility will be contacted and registered by the Convention Chair, Amanda Boatwright. Such a person may also be a Congregational Unit voting member, in which case fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Registrations will officially close 9:00 am Saturday morning of the convention, June 13, 2020. However, please register as early as possible to assist us in convention planning.

LODGING AVAILABLE NEAR ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IN NEWBERRY

All have hot breakfast, free Wi-Fi, microwave, refrigerator, TV, 1 king or 2 queen bed(s). Suites include fold-out sofa.



Hampton Inn

Group Code: SCW \$112 plus tax is a nondiscounted rate but personal discounts may be applied; inside rooms, 7 ½ mile from church 1201 Nance Street Newberry, SC 29108 (803) 276-6666 Must book by May 11, 2020 St. Philip's Lutheran Church 2461 St. Philips Church Rd Newberry, SC 29108 Holiday Inn Express
Group Code: SCW
\$112 plus tax
Inside rooms
2 ½ miles from church
121 Truman Ave
Newberry, SC 29108
(803) 321-3955
Must book by May 11, 2020



S.C. Women of the ELCA Annual Convention Theme: "Just Love" June 12-13, 2020 St. Philip's Lutheran Church, Newberry, SC

NOMINATION FORM FOR SPONSORSHIP OF:

(Check only one)YOUNG V	VOMAN GUESTFIRST TIMER GUEST			
To be completed by the Congregational Unit President. Send no more than 2 nominations from your unit <u>to your Conference Coordinator to be received by April 20, 2020.</u>				
Nominee Information				
Name				
Address	(if Young Woman Guest)			
Telephone (home)	(cell)			
Email				
Home Congregation				
City	Conference			
Please give a brief summary of why this person	n would be a good choice.			
	•			
Submitted by (Congregation Unit President)				
Congregation	_ City			

Email

Rev. 09/16/19

Telephone_



GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATION OF YOUNG WOMAN GUEST/FIRST TIMER GUEST

Sponsored Young Woman Guest:

Any woman between the ages of 18 and 35 who has never attended a SC Women of the ELCA Convention is eligible for nomination. The Sponsored YWG will have her convention expenses (fee, lodging and meals) paid for by either the Synodical Board or Conference. She will be housed with the other Young Women Guests at the convention. She will be a non-voting member at the convention, will attend the Young Women Guests Orientation, and will be seated with the other Young Women Guests during the convention. It is hoped that the sponsored Young Woman Guest will return as a Voting Member to following years' conventions.

Sponsored First Timer Guest:

Any woman of any age who has never attended a SC Women of the ELCA Convention is eligible for nomination. The Sponsored First Timer Guest will have her convention expenses (fee, lodging and meals) paid for by either the Synodical Board or Conference. She will be a non-voting member at the convention, will attend the First Timers Orientation, and will be seated with the other First Timer Guests during the convention. It is hoped that the sponsored First Timer Guest will return as a Voting Member to following years' conventions.

CONGREGATIONAL UNIT PRESIDENT:

Complete no more than two (2) Nomination Forms and mail to your CONFERENCE COORDINATOR to be received no later than April 20, 2020. The order in which nominations are received will be a factor in the selection decision. The Synodical Board will sponsor (pay for) one Young Woman Guest and one First Timer Guest from each conference. The Conference may sponsor additional persons as their funds permit.

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR:

- Ask for vote at the Fall Conference Meeting how many nominees will be sponsored by your Conference. A sponsorship is approximately \$100.00.
- 2. After April 20, 2020, confer with your Officers and Board Conference Liaison to select the Board-sponsored nominees and, if applicable, the Conference-sponsored nominee(s). Alternate nominees should also be selected in the event the primary nominees are unable to attend the convention. Mark the method of payment on each sponsored nomination form (by Synodical Board or Conference). The Nomination Form will take the place of the Registration Form for the sponsored persons.
- 3. Notify each of the unit presidents and nominees of decisions made.

Nominee will be (check only one): ☐ Primary Nominee ☐ Alternate Nominee ☐ Not sponsore	C
Nominee will be sponsored by (check only one): ☐ Synodical Board ☐ Conference	

NO LATER THAN April 25, 2020:

 Mail all of the completed forms to the Convention Registrar: Sherry Sheppard, 128 S. Main St., Ste. 3, Summerville SC 29483

NOTE: It is understood that the alternate nominee will be sponsored if the first nominee is unable to attend the convention.

Rev. 09/16/19



South Carolina Women of the ELCA Annual Convention

Theme: "Just Love"

June 12-13, 2020

St. Philip's Lutheran Church, Newberry, SC

NOMINATION FOR ELECTION

Complete both sides of this form; include a "head shot" photo of nominee and return by March 30, 2020 to: Jennifer Nuovo, Nominating Committee Chair; 140 Shirway Road, Lexington, SC 29073; jennscwelca@yahoo.com; 803-622-4714

Check all that apply:	Board Member	Treasurer
PLEASE PRINT or TYPE		
Name		
Address		
Phone (home)	(cell or we	ork)
Email		
Occupation		
Age Category20-29	30-3940-49	50-5960 and over
Ethnic/Racial HeritageA	sianAfrican American	HispanicWhiteOther
Primary Language		
Home Congregation		Conference
Church Address	·	
	which would help this pe ne position for which she	rson in performing the duties is being nominated
	PURSUAL ARTHUR A	
Rev 10/6/19		



Experiences that would help this person to serve in this position. Beginning with most recent, list significant experiences, if any, in each area.

Women of the ELCA Congregation	nal Unit (may include experience in previous church bodies)
	ce, SWO, Churchwide (may include experience in previous church bodies)
ELCA Congregation, Conference, S	Synod, and Churchwide (may include experience in previous church bodie
Ecumenical (include local, state, a	nd national/international organizations/affiliations)
2	
Other comments (Why do you thi	ink this person would be effective in this position?)
Submitter Information	
Name (print)	Signature
Address	
Phone (home)	(cell or work)
Email	
Rev 10/6/19	

South Carolina Women of the ELCA

Synodical Board 2020-2021

President (term exp 2020)

Becky Koch (July 8) 864-344-1786 (c) beckykoch01@gmail.com Immanuel, Greenwood

Vice-President (term exp 2021) See

Amanda Boatwright (Oct 13) 803-674-6112 (c) msangelwingschurchchick@yahoo.com St. James, Leesville

Secretary (term exp 2021) Linda Roland (March 1)

304-382-2895, lindajroland@gmail.com Lord of Life, Bluffton

Treasurer (term exp 2020)

Rachel Quesada (Mar 8) 561-866-3011 (c) arachelq@gmail.com University, Clemson

Board Members Terms Expire 2020

Amanda M. Sease-Baker (Aug 13) 949-547-4557 (c) manda4ever25@gmail.com St. Paul's, Gilbert

Amanda West Cruse (Aug. 31) 803-917-7625 acruse1958@gmail.com St. Peter's, Batesburg Rae F. Davis (Jul 5) 803-360-4968 rdvs297@gmail.com Mt. Horeb, Chapin Kristin Snelgrove (Nov 16) 803-629-2287 ksnelgrove2005@yahoo.com Living Springs, Columbia

Board Members Terms Expire 2021

Sarah Cheesman (Aug. 19) 803-332-6825 (h) 803-528-0797 © sarah.cheesman@yahoo.com Bethel, White Rock Merri Lewis (Feb 18) 803-732-5429 (h) 803-445-9989 (c) lewismerri@yahoo.com Redeemer, Columbia

Risse Snelgrove (July 14) 803-378-7696 snelgroverisse@gmail.com St. John's, Wahalla Denise Warren (Nov. 19) 803-297-2153 vdwarren13@gmail.com Transfiguration, W. Columbia

Non-Board Positions

RIPPLE Editor/Circulation Mgr

Sherry H. Fowler (Oct 12) 843-442-3593 (h/c) 843-795-4855 (w) shf.welca@gmail.com Martin Luther, Charleston

SC WELCA Retreats

Sallie Folk and Agnes Folk 843-307-1417 (Sallie-c) sfolk@fsd1.org 843-662-1210 (Agnes – h) 843-992-1978 (Agnes-c) aebfolk@yahoo.com St. Luke, Florence

Honorary Life/Memorial Recognition Coordinator

Virginia Herlong (Jul 18) 803-932-0155 (h) 803-206-2493 (c) vherlong@sc.rr.com Bethany, Lexington

The RIPPLE

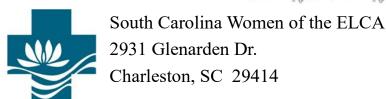
The *RIPPLE* is published four times per year. It is normally mailed to the churches for distribution to congregational unit presidents and pastors at no charge, as well as to the churchwide office. It is distributed to other subscribers at an annual subscription rate of \$7 annually or e-mailed for free to anyone. The *RIPPLE* is published under the Mission: Community Committee of SC Women of the ELCA. Online subscriptions may be sent to Sherry Fowler at shf.welca@gmail.com.

Subscribe to The RIPPLE

Complete the information below and send to
Sherry Fowler, RIPPLE Editor/Circulation Manager
2931 Glenarden Drive, Charleston, SC 29414
along with a check for \$7.00 annually
made payable to SC Women of the ELCA if you'd like to receive a
hard copy via US Mail—OR FREE if e-mailed.
PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION BELOW.

Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Church & City	
Phone	
Email	





Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Columbia, SC Permit #241

Expanding the Circle of SC Women of the ELCA

Check out the WELCA.ORG Website for Devotional Resources

Lutheran women have a long history of Bible study, discipleship, and desire to deepen their spiritual life and learn about issues. Women of the ELCA (WELCA.ORG) offers free, downloadable program resources—all in English and many in Spanish—to help you grow in faith and engage in ministry and action.

STAY CONNECTED

There are so many ways that Women of the ELCA can stay connected;

Daily Grace, Gather magazine, Interchange,

Café, Bold Connections

The Ripple

All of these publications may be accessed from our SC WELCA website—www.scwelca.com.



STAY CONNECTED

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Café, Bold Connections

The RIPPLE

All of these publications may be accessed from our SC WELCA website www.scwelca.com.

Join us on our Facebook group - SC Women of the ELCA