

**4th Annual Convocation  
Carolinas Lutheran Women  
September 27, 2014**

The 4th Annual Convocation for the Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW), entitled "Women of Many Hats," was held at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Chapin, South Carolina, on September 27, 2014. Eighty-seven women and guests represented 22 congregations from North and South Carolina and Water Missions International. Prior to the meeting, guests enjoyed sampling varieties of stone-ground grits that Chapin, SC is widely known for. CLW Council member and Historian Brenda Dunn (St. John's, Statesville) provided prelude music as women gathered. Lisa Overcash (Faith, Faith), CLW Council Chair, welcomed those in attendance and introduced other Council members. Greetings and welcome were brought by Jean Frick, St. Peter Lutheran Church Women's President. St. Peter's Pastor David Tholstrup opened the assembly with prayer.

CLW Council Treasurer LaVaughn Beaver (Christiana, Salisbury) gave instructions for the Ice Breaker. Each lady who wore or brought their favorite hat was asked to tell the story or meaning of the hat. After some discussion, those who wished to share their stories were encouraged to do so.

Pam Cansler (St. Martins, Maiden), CLW Secretary, read the scripture from Proverbs 31:30-31, and everyone joined in the opening hymn, "Lord of All Hopefulness."

Brenda Dunn (St. John's, Statesville) led us in a Bible Study entitled "Proverbs 31: Women of Many Hats" (spiritual, honest, hard-working, loving, family-oriented).

The business session began with the roll call by Secretary, Pam Cansler (St. Martins Maiden). Advent, Kings Mountain – 2; Advent, North Charleston – 3; Christ United, Granite Falls – 2, Christiana, Salisbury – 4; Concordia, China Grove – 2; Crowfield Baptist, Goose Creek - 1; Faith, Faith – 1; Holy Trinity, Little Mountain - 1; Holy Trinity, North Augusta – 2; Holy Trinity, Troutman – 2; Immanuel, Rockwell – 1; Immanuel, Sumter – 3; Macedonia, Chapin – 1; Mayer Memorial, Newberry – 2; New Hope, Balentine – 1; New Jerusalem, Hickory – 1; Salem, Salisbury – 1; St. Jacobs, Chapin – 7; St. John's, Statesville – 2 and 2 guests; St. Martin's, Maiden – 9; St. Peter, Chapin – 31; St. Timothy, Goose Creek – 4; Water Missions International, Charleston – 2 guests. **Total Present: 87; Churches represented: 22.**

CLW President Overcash stated that minutes from the last convocation were on the tables and had also been posted on the website. She called for corrections or comments about them. A motion to approve the 2013 Convocation Minutes was made by Sarah Abernethy (St. Martins, Maiden) and seconded by Kay Weaver (New Jerusalem, Hickory). The motion passed unanimously.

LaVaughn Beaver, CLW Treasurer (Christiana, Salisbury) provided the Treasurer's report located in each folder. The balance as of September 27, 2014 was \$4,357.25. She explained contributions, offerings and expenditures over the past year. Contribution checks should be made payable to Carolinas Lutheran Women, Attention: LaVaughn Beaver and mailed to 1040 Asa Lane, Salisbury, NC 28146. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as information.

Beaver also presented the 2015 Proposed Expenditure Budget, located below the Financial Report in each folder. The CLW Council proposed a \$500 increase over last year's budget with \$100 more for Carolinas Mission District and a \$400 increase in the Convocation Love Offering. Beaver explained that the Convocation's Love Offering was designated for Water Missions International and would be rounded up to the nearest hundred dollars. One third, or 33% of the total budget is planned for Mission Outreach next year. Reba Reinhardt (St. Martins, Maiden) made a motion to approve the 2015 Budget, and Peggy Cannon (St. Peter, Chapin) seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Proposed changes in CLW Guidelines was our next topic of discussion. Copies of the proposed changes had been distributed prior to the annual meeting and was also printed on pages 6-8 in the program for reference. Lisa Overcash (Faith, Faith) CLW Chair, explained the Council's discussion and decision to become tax-exempt and open a separate checking account with our own tax identification number. In the event of dissolution, our guidelines would reflect that the funds would be directed to another non-profit Christian organization. Strikethroughs indicated the old version and highlighted areas were the proposed changes. Several other grammatical strikethroughs were noted. Reba Reinhardt (St. Martins, Maiden) made a motion to accept the changes with additional corrections. Jan Williams (Concordia, China Grove) seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Susanne Bebbler (Concordia, China Grove) CLW Council member, presented the following nominees for Council: Lisa Overcash (Faith, Faith) and Gloria Ziemer (St. Jacobs, Chapin). Jennifer Cannon (St. Peter, Chapin) was nominated from the floor by Pam Cansler. Kay Weaver (New Jerusalem, Hickory) made a motion to close the floor for nominations. Jan Williams (Concordia, China Grove) seconded the motion. Brenda Dunn (St. John, Statesville) made a motion to accept the three nominees by acclamation. Thelma Horres (Advent, North Charleston) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Pastor Marty Ramey from Advent Lutheran Church, Kings Mountain, NC had prayer before the voting.

CLW Chair Overcash highlighted the Council's activities since the last convocation. The Council met six times since November, 2013. They have continued to add North and South Carolina NALC/LCMC congregations to the map of affiliated congregations. Genevieve Lambert (St. Paul, Salisbury) has maintained our website ([www.carolinaslutheranwomen.org](http://www.carolinaslutheranwomen.org)). An informational meeting was held in April in Chapin, SC. Greetings and a display were shared at the Carolinas Mission District Convocation in the spring. Three Council members attended the National NALC Conference in Charleston, SC in July. CLW has a scrapbook detailing events and activities that CLW Council Historian Dunn has maintained. There are 89 project ideas on the website for inspiration, and if your congregation has ideas, we would welcome the input. Letters and emails provide updates from the meetings. Let Secretary, Pam Cansler know if you would like to receive minutes of the meetings. Finally, there are comment cards in each folder for your feedback on the event, suggestions for future programs or willingness to host the next convocation.

Carolinas Lutheran Women were blessed to have Kevin and Janice Herr with Water Missions International out of Charleston, SC to share how they are able to transform lives all over the world through sustainable safe water solutions. A water treatment system was on site for demonstrations.

Thelma Horres (Advent, North Charleston), CLW Council member, offered prayer for Sister Care and Water Missions International. The total amount collected was \$1,399.65. In-kind gifts for Sister Care, a center in Chapin, SC for abused and battered women and children totaled \$180 in gift cards, \$60 in cash, 55 school supplies, 50 canned goods, 50 toiletry items, 11 fully stocked backpacks, 5 nonperishable items and 4 paper products.

A second hymn, "Far Above Riches" was sung.

CLW President Overcash introduced Kim Sheeks from Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rockwell, NC who presented "Women Of Many Hats." This fast-paced, high-energy entertainment was a fun way to portray the many hats women wear in their life's journey. God has given every woman an individual "style" or gift. We would be wise to seek ways to honor Jesus with those gifts and proudly display our Christian hats.

Rev. Carl Haynes, Dean of Carolinas Mission District, installed the newly elected Council members. Pastor David Tholstrup from St. Peter, Chapin then had the benediction followed by everyone singing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

Following the benediction, lunch was provided by the women of St. Peter, Chapin.

Pam Cansler  
Carolinas Lutheran Women's Secretary  
St. Martins Lutheran Church, Maiden, NC