

7th Annual Convocation 09.30.17 minutes.docx

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CLW Board Meeting Minutes 042117.docx

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**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation  
Carolinas Lutheran Women  
September 30, 2017**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation of the Carolinas Lutheran Women was held on September 30, 2017 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC. Refreshments were provided prior to the meeting, while Carol Wyndham, St. Peter's, provided prelude music. Lynn Coughenour, CLW Council Chair welcomed everyone and introduced the current council members.

The purpose statement of CLW was recited, followed by a brief Bible study on the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew on Mary at the tomb given by Vicar Todd Cook (a recent seminary graduate and member of St. Peter's).

Clyde Sanders, St. Peter's Lutheran Church Women's President and Council of WNALC (Women of the NALC) brought greetings and gave some instructions on how to send donations to WNALC for proper credit. There are two separate accounts – one is the Operating Fund and the other Mission Banks. A total of \$9226.50 was collected last year for the Mission Banks. Half of this went to the Malawi Orphanage and half to Lutheran Military Families for guide dogs. Next year the Mission Banks will be split between NALC missionaries, the Ekka family, in India to assist in building boarding schools for girls, and the Disaster Response Team.

The opening hymn of "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" was followed by the devotional by Brenda Dunn, CLW Council/St. John's Statesville, entitled "Living as 'Son' Flowers," based on Ephesians 5:1-21. Each table read the scripture, then answered a question relating to the passage. These were then shared with the entire group. Just as *sunflowers* need the *sun*, we need the SON, to grow and thrive.

Lynn Morris from the Mission Congregation, New Hope Lutheran Church, Ballentine, SC introduced Karen Pawluk, who gave us an update on their congregation. They began in 2013, and September 4, 2017 broke ground for their new building. They currently have 79 members, with average attendance of 59 each week for worship.

The business session began with CLW Secretary Janet Rash calling roll. There were 77 members and 2 visitors in attendance representing 16 of the 41 affiliated congregations in North and South Carolina. Minutes from the last meeting were published on the CLW website, and also copies placed on the tables for review. Gloria Ziemer/St. Jacob's, Chapin, SC made a motion to approve the minutes. Carolyn Wilfon/St. Martin's, Maiden seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The treasurer's report was presented by CLW Treasurer Jennie Cannon along with the proposed 2018 budget, which had no changes from 2017. Jennie moved to adopt the budget which was seconded by Peggy Moose/St. Martin's, Maiden. The motion passed unanimously.

Susanne Bebber, CLW Council, presented the nominees for Council. Two-year terms expiring are Pam Cansler, Susanne Bebber, Brenda Dunn and Lynn Coughenour, with Brenda and Lynn eligible for re-election and on the ballot. Also on the ballot was Kay Weaver/New Jerusalem, Hickory. Nominations were opened from the floor, as a fourth nominee was needed. Nelsie Lawing/Concondia, China Grove was nominated, and presented her biographical information. A prayer before voting was offered by Rev. Dawn Rister/Salem, Salisbury. Libby Brown/Holy Trinity, Troutman made a motion to vote by acclamation, which was seconded by Lisa Overcash/Faith, Faith.

The Convocation offerings were designated to the Gary Sinise foundation for their RISE (Restoring Independence Supporting Empowerment) program. A video outlining the Gary Sinise programs was shown. Janet Rash shared how the foundation provided funds for an ATV to her nephew's fire department, as shown in the video. The in-kind gifts of underwear collected would go to the LICCS (Lexington Interfaith Community Services). Floods from 2015 depleted their supplies. The offerings were received and a prayer was offered by Gloria Ziemer. Offerings received included \$1544 for RISE, \$95 plus the underwear collected for LICCS, and a yearly contribution of \$60.

Following the hymn "Shine, Jesus, Shine" those present attended break out sessions which included:

- Share-sheets (Projects/ideas for service projects)
- Resources available for programs/Bible studies
- How to rejuvenate your circles
- Youth & Evangelism/Witnessing

Each attendee could attend 2 different sessions with a break in-between.

The new CLW Council was installed by the Rev. Dawn Rister/Salem, Salisbury, followed by the singing of the Doxology as our Benediction/Blessing for our meal.

The closing hymn of "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" was sung, followed by a delicious lunch served by the women of St. Peter's.

Janet Rash, CLW Secretary

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation will be held at St. John's, Statesville (NC) on September 29, 2018.**

**Carolinas Lutheran Women Council Meeting**  
**January 28, 2017**

The first meeting of the year was held on January 28, 2017 on the campus of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Charlotte, NC. Members present were: Lynn Coughenour, Susanne Bebber, Pam Cansler, Jennie Cannon, Brenda Dunn, Janet Rash. Absent: Gloria Ziemer.

Devotions were given by Pam Cansler, taken from Psalm 37:21.

The first order of business was to elect leaders for the council. They are:

Chair/President – Lynn Coughenour

Secretary – Janet Rash

Treasurer – Jennie Cannon

Historian – Susanne Bebber

Minutes from the August 6, 2016 board meeting and the 2016 Convocation were reviewed and approved.

There are 39 churches affiliated with Carolinas Lutheran Women, with approximately 1/3 of them contributing and/or attending the convocation. Our contributions have been declining each year. Some suggestions for increased giving include:

- Send a letter to the churches with information as to where/who to send contributions
- Explain where the money goes and how it is spent
- Include in the minutes who has contributed and how increased donations can support CLW and the missions we choose to fund each year.
  - Congregations that contributed in 2016 were:
    - Advent/N. Charleston, SC
    - Christiana/Salisbury
    - Holy Trinity/Gastonia
    - Holy Trinity/N. Augusta, SC
    - Holy Trinity/Troutman
    - Immanuel/Sumter, SC
    - Immanuel/Rockwell
    - New Jerusalem/Hickory
    - Our Savior/Dallas
    - Salem/Salisbury
    - St. Johns/Statesville
    - St. Martins/Maiden
    - St. Peter/Chapin, SC
    - Union/Salisbury

President Lynn passed out an updated council contact information sheet. Lynn had a sample of a new spreadsheet that list each of the congregations & contact information, based on registration forms. The new sample will include emails.

The comment cards from the past convocation were reviewed. One suggestion was to adjust the start/end time of the next convocation to better accommodate those that would be traveling.

Lynn also passed out the “share sheets” from last year’s convocation, where attendees listed some of the projects they have doing. This is a good source for ideas for other groups. This information will be shared on the CLW website: [www.carolinaslutheranwomen.org](http://www.carolinaslutheranwomen.org)

We also discussed the need to obtain the host for next convocation prior to the 2017 convocation, so that the location (and perhaps date) can be announced one year out.

Planning for the 2017 convocation began with some brainstorming. One of the suggestions made from 2016, was that the program was too long. We decided to do a short Bible study and in lieu of a program, have 4 breakout sessions. Attendees could choose from:

- Share Sheet – looking at ideas for service projects from other congregations
- Resources that are available for programs/Bible studies
- How to rejuvenate/inspire/refresh your circle meetings/organization
- Youth & Evangelism/witnessing

Offerings were discussed. No decision was made where the main offering will go. In-kind gifts designation will be decided by the host congregation (St. Peter’s, Lexington, SC).

A tentative theme of “Growing as ‘Son’ Flowers” was chosen. This is based on a devotional by Julia Bettencourt, with a focus scripture of Ephesians 5:1-2. Brenda suggested sunflower buttons that can be made into book markers, fridge magnets, or a variety of things.

It was suggested that registration be 9:30-10:00, with the meeting starting at 10:00. Lunch would be served approximately 12:30, with installation of officers and any unfinished business after lunch. Registration would be \$8.00

Brenda will look at hymns that would reflect the theme and have suggestions for the next meeting.

Janet mentioned the need for a black & white logo that could be used for reproductions (newsletters, interchurch correspondence, etc.) that would show up better than the current color copy. Jennie will work on this with her IT contacts.

Lynn is working on a new format for the bulletin that would be done in Publisher. This would make the convocation program/bulletin much easier to create.

Brenda will have devotions at the next meeting, which will be on April 22.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

Janet Rash  
CLW Secretary  
Carolinas Lutheran Women’s Council

Carolinas Lutheran Women Board Meeting  
Minutes – April 22, 2017

The second board meeting was held at Gordon Conwell with all members present. Devotions were led by Brenda Dunn based on Psalm 16:9, and focused on Martha – a Woman of God.

Secretary, Janet Rash, presented the minutes from the prior meeting. They were approved and will now be sent to Patrick Harmon to post to the website. Current minutes will be sent to the board for approval and sent to the website at the same time as the first meeting minutes. Minutes from both meetings that are mailed will be sent together, as well. This will save on postage of those that are mailed out.

Lynn has confirmed with Clyde Sanders (St. Peter's/Lexington, SC) that the **CLW Convocation date will be Sept. 30 2017.**

The Treasurer's Report was received. Jennie reported that only six (6) churches have sent contributions so far this year. There have been no expenses so far this year, but we know we'll have some cost for the website. Jennie proposed that we keep budget the same for 2018 – as we're staying in budget currently. The board approved this, and it will be presented for approval by CLW at the Convocation. It also reported that the books have been audited by a banker/notary and no errors were found.

Some plans for the Convocation were made. There will be a shorter Bible study/devotions this year (as requested from last year's attendees), so that we will be able to have time for Breakout Sessions later in the morning. Attendees may attend 2 of the 4 that will be offered:

- Share-sheets (projects/ideas for service projects)
- Resources available for programs/Bible studies
- How to rejuvenate your circles
- Youth & Evangelism/Witnessing

In-kind gifts will be to LICs (Lexington Interfaith Community Service). They are in need of NEW undergarments – all ages/sizes/sexes.

The Love Offering will be sent to the Gary Sinise Foundation (<https://www.garysinisefoundation.org>) which is a mission to honor veterans/first responder & families. We will specify the donations be directed to R.I.S.E. (Restoring Independence Supporting Empowerment), which provides specially adapted smart homes/vehicles to wounded veterans/first responders. There are 4 such homes in NC, but currently none in SC.

Brenda is working on flyers to advertise the Convocation. These will be completed soon and posted to the website.

At the Convocation, we will need to elect 4 new board members. Those members going off the board are: Lynn Coughenour, Brenda Dunn, Pam Cansler and Susanne Bebbler. Of those four, Lynn and Brenda are eligible for reelection. Nomination forms are being updated and will be posted to the website.

Pam reported that we have one new affiliation: Bethel/Lincolnton NC. This makes 40 churches in North and South Carolina that are affiliated with CLW.

The Carolinas Mission District convocation will be held on May 19-20, at St. James/Newton, NC. Susanne and Pam will bring greetings from CLW.

We hope to have the 2018 Convocation location secured and announced at the Convocation in September. This will give ladies an opportunity to plan well ahead for the next year.

Registration deadline for the Convocation will be September 18, 2017.

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, we will meet with some of the ladies at St. Paul's/Lexington to continue planning for the convocation.

The next regular board meeting will be held at Gordon Conwell on August 19, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Lynn Coughenour – Chair  
Janet Rash - Secretary

Carolinas Lutheran Women Council Meeting  
June 17, 2017

A meeting of the CLW council was held on June 17, 2017 at St. Peters Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC which will host our Convocation on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Janet Rash had the devotions.

A checklist for the upcoming convocation was reviewed.

- St. Peters will provide the pianist – Carol Wyndham, and they will also have a sound person available.
- The room will be set up with all tables – and divided into halves. One side will be set up for our lunch and the other set (closest to the stage) will be set up for the meeting. We will plan for approximately 100 people.
- Rooms for the breakout sessions were reviewed. One group will meet in the Parish Life Center (where the meeting will be held), one in the Fellowship hall, one in the room behind the stage, and one group will meet upstairs in a classroom.
- Registration table will be set up just inside the door and Jennie will man the table. She will need one assistant from St. Peters.
- In-kind gifts have been designated for LICS (Lexington Interfaith Community Services) and will be any kind of under garments for all ages/sexes/sizes, and also include socks. We will need a bin for the collection as well as a table with a basket for gift cards and/or money.
- St. Peters will provide ushers & baskets for the offering
- The theme of the Convocation is “Living as SON Flowers”
- Each participant will receive a sunflower button/pin – Brenda Dunn is obtaining these
- St. Peters will have a laptop for us to use for the Gary Sinise video and will be operated by Rachel Price (St. Peters)
- The offering will go to Gary Sinise foundation and designated to RISE (Restoring Independence Supporting Empowerment). Checks need to be made out to Carolinas Lutheran Women with RISE in the memo line. \*\*\*Yearly donations need to come directly to Jennie Cannon and NOT included in the offering.
- The opening Hymn will be WOV 649 – “I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light”
- Mission Church Update will be from New Hope Lutheran, Ballentine, SC
- Janet Rash – Secretary will have the roll call of those present, and will present the minutes from last year’s convocation. Copies of the minutes will be placed on the tables.
- Jennie Cannon will have the treasurers report and will present the proposed budget for 2018, which is the same as 2017.
- Susanne Bebbler will be in charge of the election. We will be electing 4 new council members.
- Pam Cansler will present a video on the RISE program from Gary Sinise Foundation
- Clyde Sanders – St. Peters – will have a presentation on LICS

The 2018 Convocation will be at St. John’s Statesville on September 29.

Janet Rash, CLW Council Secretary