

GUIDELINES FOR CAROLINAS LUTHERAN WOMEN (CLW)

(Adopted October 8, 2011)

(Amended on October 13, 2012)

(Amended on September 27, 2014)

(Amended on September 28, 2019)

(Amended on October 19, 2024)

NAME

The name of this organization is Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW).

MISSION STATEMENT

As sisters in Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, we dedicate ourselves to serve God by using the gifts we have received to reach out to others.

PURPOSE

To accomplish the purpose of Carolinas Lutheran Women, this organization shall commit to:

Come together for prayer, study, support, and action.

Participate in the ministry of women beyond our own church congregations.

Communicate with other church organizations.

TERMS OF AFFILIATION

Carolinas Lutheran Women is a non-profit organization that partners with North American Lutheran Church (NALC) and Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) and shall be open to all Lutheran church congregations in North and South Carolina (and neighboring states). Congregations wishing to affiliate with Carolinas Lutheran Women will notify Carolinas Lutheran Women's Council in writing.

LEADERSHIP

The Leadership of Carolinas Lutheran Women shall be composed of seven Council members. These seven Council members shall be elected from nominations submitted by individual congregations.

Initial election terms for the Council shall be: four members will serve an initial two-year term and three members will serve an initial one-year term. Thereafter, terms shall be two years.

If a person cannot fulfill the elected term of office, the Council will appoint a replacement to complete the remainder of the term.

The Council shall elect a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian from members within the Council.

The Council's term will begin and end at the Council meeting immediately following Convocation.

Council members may serve only two consecutive terms.

CONVOCATION

The Carolinas Lutheran Women will hold its annual Convocation on a Saturday during the Fall.

NOMINATIONS

To submit a nomination, a form is available by the Carolinas Lutheran Women to be filled out by any woman who is a member of a congregation affiliated with Carolinas Lutheran Women provided authorization has been granted.

During the Convocation, nominations may be made from the floor provided prior authorization is given.

Each nominee will be recognized before the elections take place. If the nominee is not present, a brief description will be read about the nominee.

ELECTIONS

Initial election terms for the Council shall be: four members will serve an initial two-year term and three members will serve an initial one-year term. Thereafter, terms shall be two years.

The nominees who have the highest number of votes shall be declared Council members.

Only one person from the same congregation is eligible to serve on the Council.

Council members may serve only two consecutive terms.

Representatives of congregations affiliated with Carolinas Lutheran Women are eligible to vote.

PROPERTY AND MONIES

The Carolinas Lutheran Women shall have no right to or interest in the property or monetary holdings of any congregations affiliated with the Carolinas Lutheran Women.

FINANCES

The fiscal year and budget year for this organization shall be January 1 through December 31. The Carolinas Lutheran Women shall develop and administer its own financial plan or budget which shall reflect support for the total program of the Carolinas Lutheran Women.

The Treasurer will have available an annual report during the annual convocation.

An annual audit of the Carolinas Lutheran Women shall be conducted once a year.

AMENDMENT

These guidelines may be amended at any regular business meeting or special meeting of the Carolinas Lutheran Women by majority vote of all Lutheran women present, provided the proposed amendment has been presented by a two weeks' notice of the meeting and is consistent with the purpose of the Carolinas Lutheran Women.

In the event of dissolution of the Carolinas Lutheran Women, any surplus remaining, including but not limited to, financial assets, must be presented with recommendations of disbursing of this surplus to another non-profit Christian organization at any regular business meeting or special meeting of the Carolinas Lutheran Women by majority vote of all Lutheran Women present.