

# **Carolina Lutheran Women's Convocation 2025**

## **Minutes**

Board members present: Debbie Little, Chair, Linda Scott-Gaston, Robin McLaughlin, Treasurer, Paulette Abernethy, Historian, Linda Ketner. Also present were Pastor Tonya Britain, spiritual advisor and Caitlin Rimmer, CLC/IT.

The 2025 convocation was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Pomaria, SC. 147 attendees were present and 3 vendors. Debbie Little had opening remarks and noted the distance traveled by the women, which this year included Virginia and Georgia. The opening prayer was led by Pastor Dawn Rister who also led the Bible study based on 2 Timothy 1:1-14. Women had time during the day to visit tables set up by various churches to showcase areas of interest of the church bodies. There was also a display on prison ministries and the NALC disaster response.

Mission speakers included: Mary Hutchens from Union Lutheran Church, Salisbury, NC. She spoke about her involvement with the SON ministry in Slovakia. Wendy MacCaull from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Troutman, NC. She spoke on her involvement with ministry in Guatemala. Two sister, Ashley and Kelsie Myers, spoke on being teen disciples. They reported on some of the decisions that they have made as Christians when they had encountered cultural situations which were disrespectful to God.

The Reverend Dr. Amy Little led the women in a craft titled "quilt as you go". Each attendee received a swatch of cloth, needle and thread, and other bits of cloth which was used to make a quilt square as the bits of cloth were sewed into a flower. She spoke on how busyness can be overwhelming and the need for women to engage in self-care. The quilting was meant to help us slow down in our busy lives and was quite meditative.

Lunch featured a Mexican themed meal of Tacos which reinforced the play on words of "Taco about Jesus" which was the theme for convocation. It was noted that we are women who "wanna taco 'bout Jesus". The theme included "lettuce pray" continuing with the play on words. Numerous sweets were available for dessert.

Following lunch the women played speed dating where various leaders visited tables for a set number of minutes. During that time the leaders were asked about the area they represented whether missions, the Carolina Lutheran Women, or ministries. We also enjoyed playing Bible Trivia.

Another craft allowed each person to have a small block of colored clay. The women at each table had different colors of clay. Each woman shared a piece of her clay with others. Then each person made a cross with the clay they had received. It formed a colorful cross and was accompanied by a copy of the "Prayer for Friendship".

The convocation concluded with a service of Holy Communion led by Pastor Rister and the installation of the new board by Pastor Tonya Brittain. Thanks to Pastor Tonya for accompanying our hymns on piano.

The new board members are: Linda Ketner, Paulette Abernethy, Karen Lyerly, Laura Sharp-Waites, Sheila Drum, Caitlin Rimmer, and Mary Smith. The evaluations from the convocation were handed to the new board and the out-going board members met with them briefly. They elected to chose officers at their first meeting in January.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Scott-Gaston