



The *RIPPLE*



Winter 2021

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>.



**SC WELCA Board votes to
host a Virtual Convention.
Details will be announced
at a later date.**

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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,

March is an “in between” time of the year (in between Christmas and Easter and in between Winter and Spring). At this time of year, I enjoy seeing the first daffodils, Lenten roses, and snowdrops, reminders that winter will soon come to an end, and spring is just around the corner.



This issue of *The RIPPLE* finds us in the season of Lent. The period of forty days is a time for reflection, prayer, and Bible study.

It can also be a time for action. While we make this journey with Jesus to the cross, we might consider doing something for someone else: make masks, sew quilts, send cards, make phone calls, participate in Bible studies via Zoom, or engage in other meaningful activities which create a connection with others.

Normally in February, I would have gone to the Conference of Presidents in Chicago. But we know nothing has been normal for a year due to COVID-19. Instead, the conference was a virtual event and I was allowed to invite five board members to participate. We joined 270 Lutheran women via Zoom for an event titled “**Pivot, Don’t Panic.**” When basketball players pivot, they keep one foot planted on the floor as they turn or rotate with the other foot to change direction or to protect the ball. During this time of COVID, we have had to keep ourselves grounded in our Lord, Jesus Christ as we adjusted to our circumstances. Plans have changed; trips have been cancelled; lives have been lost, and our world is in turmoil. But what has **not** changed is the assurance that God is with us, and He promises to give us what we need to get through this. We need to pivot, not panic. God is in control. “And I will be with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:20

One of the ways SC WELCA has pivoted is by changing our convention from an in-person convention to a virtual one. Our number one priority is the safety of our ladies. I know people don’t like virtual meetings, but we are going to do our best to make this convention spiritually uplifting as we fulfill our responsibilities as a board. The Vice President’s article expands on our decision.

We continue to support the SC Network of Children’s Advocacy Centers and Lutheran Disaster Response for our projects. Please read the Action Committee’s report on how our ladies are supporting these organizations and how you can continue to help.

Churchwide WELCA is pivoting as well due to the pandemic. You can find information about decisions they have made in this issue. ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton joined us during the meeting and brought news of the Future Church. She explained that the new church strives to be a thriving church “rooted in tradition and radically relevant.” I like that!

The chaplain for the Pivot event talked about staying focused and grounded in what is important. She used the story of Mary and Martha to make her point. She summarized her thoughts with these words: “**If Jesus is in your living room, you should not be in the kitchen.**” So let’s count our COVID blessings and stay balanced as we look for opportunities to shine God’s light and serve our neighbors. And make sure we are in the right room.

Peace, hope and joy,

Becky



VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Happy early Spring ladies. This is the time of the year that makes me feel like new life is sprouting in our circle of life from the cold winter weather. We have the beautiful flowers of spring blooming which reminds us that Christ has risen from the dead. The smells of flowers reminds us of the oils that were used to preserve his body. The caterpillar going from a cocoon to a beautiful butterfly reminds us that the death and resurrection of Jesus is sad but becomes a beautiful blessing to us. I hope everyone has a Happy Easter. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you ladies as always. Praying for everyone's health and safety during this pandemic.

My convention committee team and I wrote a recommendation for a virtual convention this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The recommendation passed. The convention committee, Becky Koch and myself are working on finding a company that can help SC WELCA with our need to have a virtual convention as well as help us with our voting process. Once we have that information we will be able to give more detailed information. At the virtual convention we will have all the board members, employees of the company we choose, a few other ladies, and voting members. This virtual convention all depends upon a vote from the 2017 Church Wide Organization Triennial voting members. Voting members will submit their decisions by the end of July 2021. The convention committee is planning to have a 2021 virtual convention in the fall.

Your sister in Christ,
Amanda Boatwright, Vice President

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY



I pray you have been able to stay healthy through these recent months. I also pray that those who have not been that fortunate can still feel God's love and peace as you cope with your situation.

Our last SC WELCA Board meeting was held on November 7, 2020 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Newberry. At the time we were planning to hold our 2021 Convention there. Most of us met there in person, with a couple of members attending via Zoom.

We always begin with devotions. Merri Lewis and Sarah Cheesman worked together using a devotion from Billy Graham based on I Corinthians 13 and Proverbs 21:22. They talked about dealing with anger and choosing love instead. Just Love is still our current theme.

At the time so many things were still up in the air both on our synodical level and the churchwide level. Becky reported about all that. Please see her *RIPPLE* report. Rachel's Treasurer's Report can be found on her *RIPPLE* page.

We voted to disperse the \$2,900 in our budget for benevolence. We certainly never have to look far for great need. Churchwide has felt the same lag in support that we have felt and as hard as it may be to remember back past the last couple months of news, hurricanes and tornados were another big problem in 2020. So, we decided to split the money between Churchwide WELCA and Lutheran Disaster Response.

Please see the Vice President and Committee Reports for the most up to date information about what is happening now as so much has changed since the past minutes were recorded.

Please either email or snail mail the latest updates in the leadership of your units and conferences to me.

Linda Roland
18 Yonges Island Dr.
Bluffton, SC 29909
lindajroland@gmail.com



TREASURER'S REPORT



Like so many things in our world, the financial results for our February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021 fiscal year have also been significantly impacted by the pandemic. To those congregations who were able, thank you so much for your financial support to SC WELCA programs and projects this year. As with many things this year SC WELCA programs and projects were significantly limited due to the pandemic.

We began this year with a checking account balance of \$13,164 and ended the year with a balance of \$14,787. Regular Offering of \$17,145 were 57% of the budgeted amount of \$30,000. Joy Offerings of \$3,910 were 39% of the budgeted amount of \$10,000. As budgeted, 65% of Regular Offerings were sent to Churchwide WELCA and 100% of Joy Offerings were sent to ELCA Good Gifts. The total income for the fiscal year was \$29,745 and the total expenses were \$28,122 compared to the total budget of \$64,800.

Receipts of Offerings for February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021 were sent to each congregational unit treasurer during February. If you have any questions concerning this statement, please contact me.

During this time, as we have been blessed, may we find new and different ways to be a blessing to others.

Rachel Quesada

Women of the ELCA – Faithful Friends

Like so many things in our world today, the financial health of our SC WELCA as well as the churchwide WELCA has felt the impact of our “new way of living”. One way to support the churchwide ministries of WELCA is to participate in Faithful Friends.

Enrolling in Faithful Friends monthly giving program is one way to pay forward your love for Women of the ELCA. Faithful Friends provide ongoing and sustaining support for the churchwide ministries of WELCA. It's easy, safe and a powerful way to give to the next generation. To participate in this program visit <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/faithfulfriends> for the details or call 800-638-3522, ext. 2730.

COMMUNITY

St. Matthew, Lexington

The WELCA group at St. Matthew, Lexington did not let COVID-19 prevent them from reaching out to bring Christmas cheer to a family in need. Through the help of a local school counselor, WELCA adopted a family with four children. The project became a joint effort of church members and WELCA. They were able to purchase all the toys and clothes on their wish list, a \$50 gas card, and gift cards totaling \$250. Out of God's abundance they made this family's Christmas brighter. Information provided by Gale McCartha.



Our Saviour, West Columbia

On Sunday, November 8, 2020, WELCA recognized six ladies and honored them with Life Memorial donations to the South Carolina Women of the ELCA Scholarship Fund at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary/Lenoir Rhyne University. Information provided by Linda Griffith.

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer, Newberry

On Sunday, February 23rd, 2020, The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer celebrated BOLD Women's Sunday at both services. At the second service, Helen Fellers and Kathy Riggan were presented Honorary Life Memberships in SCWELCA.

Thank you - Anne Caughman, WELCA President at Redeemer

ACTION

First and foremost, greetings to and prayers for all of you after what has been such a daunting year since the Lenten season of 2020! Looking back a year ago, we anticipated the following June, a face-to-face convention where we knew plastic tubs, boxes, and bags full of supplies would have been rolling in on carts as we hectically tried to find room to stack those goodies and make accurate notes of your many donations. If prior conventions are any indication, no doubt the board and committees, and the various ladies' circles from across the state, would have all felt the pressure and stress to ensure the process and its lead-up all went smoothly.

And now, a year later, we recognize the face-to-face convention cannot be our reality just yet. Instead, we know our new norm is to adjust, reorganize, prioritize, and accept. We know that the prior how's and where's of our typical 'gatherings' are not going to happen any time soon, and instead we know the format of our 'gathering' is not the critical aspect of who we are and what we do.

Instead, we know we are a group of women who find many 'ways to gather' so we can do what we know and do best - to extend our love to each other, to grow in our faith together, and to serve others in our own special ways. None of these actions, we know now, is dependent on anything but our collective loving and faithful hearts who trust in our Lord and Saviour to help us through, while still finding ways to help and serve others in need.



So, MANY THANKS to all who have continued the diligent and loving task of sewing or donating pre-made masks for the SC Network of Children's Advocacy Centers (SCNCAC), continuing to send in your monetary donations or gift cards for the sake of both the SCNCAC and Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), and generally just taking action in your own loving ways.

We encourage all who can to continue making monetary gifts to LDR and gift card or mask donations to SCNCAC. Both of our project organizations are engaged in important service to others: SCNCAC is focused on the safety of children and LDR addresses many tragic situations such as its efforts in helping victims of the severe weather events in Texas.

So far, your cumulative contributions to our specified projects include:

SCNCAC Mask donations: 947

SCNCAC: \$2,828.10 Check Donation

SCNCAC: \$305 Gift Cards Donation

LDR: \$1,713.65 Check Donation

For our mask-focused ladies: Hand-sewn or purchased pre-made masks are perfectly acceptable. The centers prefer adult size and child size masks for 4-12 year-olds. The centers do not need masks for children under the age of 4 due to the risk of suffocation. The links to patterns we had shared previously are <https://thestitchingscientist.com/2020/04/child-size-face-mask.html> and on the CDC site <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.

Finally, if you find it in your heart to do so, please continue your prayers for victims of disasters everywhere and all children needing advocacy and their caregivers, that all may be kept safe during this time of need.

Please contact Rae Davis at 803.569.1568 or rdvs297@gmail.com with questions.



GROWTH

As you know, the February retreat at Camp Kinard has been canceled for this year due to the current global pandemic. However, the Isle of Palms retreat which was on the calendar for April 30-May 2 has been postponed until next year. The new dates for the Isle of Palms retreat are April 22-24, 2022. The cost will be the same - \$130.

At this time, most WELCA congregational units are not meeting in person and there are not likely to be any spring conference meetings. My own home church offers an online daily morning Bible study, and perhaps your own church is doing the same. However, if you are missing a women's Bible study or daily devotion, or you miss hearing the thoughts of other Lutheran women, you may be interested to know that www.welca.org offers several options. For example, <https://womenoftheelca.org/blog/category/devotions> offers a monthly devotion. Also, many women enjoy Daily Grace entries for a quick devotional. You can put an app on your smart phone or visit <https://womenoftheelca.org/blog/category/daily-grace> for the latest daily posts. You may even want to simply look at some of the blog posts at <https://womenoftheelca.org/blog>. If you have more time (or maybe want to organize a Zoom Bible study for your own circle or congregational unit), then there are 40-plus resources found at <https://www.gathermagazine.org/> You may also be interested in Bold Connections or Bold Café which can be found at <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/publications>.

If you do not already subscribe to the Gather magazine, we encourage you to do so. You can subscribe to an online version or to receive a hard copy by mail. If you have not seen an issue lately, I think you will be pleasantly surprised by the current Bible study series. Perhaps a Zoom meeting is something your congregational unit may be interested in doing if you have some tech-savvy women as members.

We on the SCWELCA Growth Committee hope you are staying safe, and staying connected in some way with your sisters in Christ. We pray that the days of in-person gathering are coming before too long!

Your sisters in Christ,

Merri Lewis, Chair, Sarah Cheesman, & Denise Warren

Spread the Word About WELCA Scholarship Opportunities!



Did you know that the Women of the ELCA has a scholarship program that offers financial support to lay women and those studying to be ordained?

While the individual scholarship amounts are modest, every little bit helps as a woman is furthering her education! Unfortunately, the number of women applying has been declining over the past couple of years. For instance, last year only 11 applications were received and three were rejected because they did not include all the necessary information.

The churchwide organization would like your help in spreading the word. Do you know someone who could benefit from applying? The deadline to complete an application is April 5, 2021.

All the information is available online at <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/scholarships>. Specific questions can be sent to Valora Starr who coordinates the program. Remember that assisting women students is important to our synodical organization, especially since we have a seminary right here in our state!



Merri Lewis, Chair, SC WELCA Growth Committee



CHURCHWIDE NEWS:

TRIENNIAL CONVENTION AND GATHERING UPDATE



In a specially called meeting December 23, 2020, Women of the ELCA's executive board decided how and when to hold the organization's convention and gathering. The meeting and Just Love Gathering were initially scheduled for July 14-16, 2020. When the coronavirus pandemic hit, the board, in its April 2020 meeting, rescheduled the convention and gathering for early August 2021.

"Since the April board meeting, the coronavirus has spread in ways that few would have imagined," said Linda Post Bushkofsky, churchwide executive director. As of December 23, more than 323,000 people have died in the United States due to the coronavirus, she said. More than 18.2 million people have been infected to date in the U.S. Leading epidemiologists describe the current trajectory of the virus as a "surge upon surge upon surge."

Therefore, believing that in-person meetings will be unsafe into 2021, the executive board approved three recommendations:

- 1) That the Eleventh Triennial Convention, currently scheduled for August 3-5, 2021, be held virtually (or digitally) on those same dates. "The triennial convention cannot meet virtually until the 2017 voting members amend the constitution to allow for virtual meetings," said Bushkofsky. Before the organization can hold a virtual convention, she said, voting members of the Tenth Triennial Convention (2017) must approve it. "So, the staff will take steps necessary to be in touch with the voting members regarding proposed changes to the constitution." Those proposed changes were made by the executive board at its October 2020 meeting.
- 2) That the Just Love Gathering, currently scheduled for August 5-8, 2021, be postponed and registration refunds be offered. Staff will then find other ways to build community and bring women together virtually in 2021 and 2022.
- 3) That the Twelfth Triennial Convention and a Gathering be held in Phoenix, Arizona, during the week of September 18, 2023.

"The executive board recognizes that the recommendations carry with them several other implications," Bushkofsky said. "Despite the challenges, we feel that these are the best options at the current time."

OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN BY CHURCHWIDE WELCA

- 1) **Churchwide WELCA has taken the necessary steps to allow virtual conventions by sending proposed amendments to the constitutions to the 2017 Triennial voting members for approval.**

The first set of proposed amendments allows our various churchwide and synodical conventions and meetings to be held virtually. The second set of proposed amendments makes clear that terms in office last until another person is elected to that office.

- 2) **Giving to the organization is down significantly.**

Women of the ELCA's executive board adopted a 2021 budget that will change the staff configuration. Eight of 10 on staff will move to part-time positions on February 1, and two will remain full-time.

Risse Snelgrove
Triennial Gathering Promoter



CARING FOR THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA



There is a blog on the WELCA website and one of them asks the question, “*what is one reason you care about Women of the ELCA?*” Below are a few who answered this question for *The RIPPLE*. I know we, as Lutherans, don’t like to open up about our feelings. But this might be a simple way to express your love for our organization.

Becky Koch, Board President

Throughout my adult life, WELCA has been an integral part of my Christian foundation. This community of women has been my support group through life’s joys and challenges and my path for answering God’s call to put my faith in action. It is a physical and spiritual “place” where women are connected to each other – to pray together, to study the Bible together, and to serve our church and our neighbors locally and around the globe - together. It is a “place” where I find grace.

Sarah Cheesman, Board member

One of the reasons that I feel strongly about the Women of the ELCA is that women can and do play a very large part of our church community! We support our loved ones, husbands, children, parents throughout our lives. We can and do influence all of these people and others in our lives to live and love Christ as he loves us. I believe that from the Virgin Mary going forward to now and the future, that women in the church are a vital part of sharing and growing the love of Christ with others! Thanks and love to all our women!

Linda Roland, Secretary

For me WELCA is a sisterhood of Lutheran women; a group of women I love, respect, and appreciate for being a community that reflects my faith. They inspire me by their faith and that gives me joy and encourages me to grow in my own faith.

Risse Snelgrove, Board Member SC SWO WELCA

I wouldn’t be the woman I am today without Women of the ELCA. I have been involved in the Lutheran Women’s Organization since I was in my early twenties. I grew up in Mount Tabor Lutheran Church in West Columbia, where I was encouraged by Alice Pollock to start a young women’s Bible Study/Unit. I was delighted to take on that challenge but scared to do it alone. I recruited my best friend Kathy Rodgers – Risinger to help me. We had no idea what we were doing but with time we ended up with 10 to 15 young women joining. We bonded in ways that we had never anticipated. We prayed together, we studied the Bible together, we laughed together and we cried together. We supported each other through so many phases of our young adulthood. There were weddings, babies born, and even divorces. Together, we made it through happy times and difficult times. We depended on each other.

After I married my husband Keith, we moved to Texas and then Virginia. With every move I was able to join a unit and I found that place that was so familiar to me. Meeting other women that I could bond with and being able to study together, pray together and yes even laugh and cry together helped me settle in and find home. There was no better feeling than to be accepted, supported and loved everywhere I lived by women.

As I got more involved with Women of the ELCA I gained confidence to lead Bible Studies and hold officer positions. As president of my unit in Houston Texas I attended my first Synodical Women’s Organization Convention. It was one of the best experiences I had ever had. I quickly decided that I wanted to be part of the SWO. I was elected as a board member and then I served as Vice President of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. It was then that I was able to attend my first Triennial Convention and Gathering in St. Louis Missouri.

I was so amazed to be in the presence of over 3000 Lutheran Women in one place. I realized that women all over the country were praying, studying, laughing and crying together. But, most of all we were supporting one another in our callings. As I became more involved in WELCA I grew more confident in my abilities to serve and lead within this amazing organization. When our family moved to Northern Virginia, I quickly joined a unit, attended the Virginia SWO convention and a few years later I was elected to the Virginia SWO Board and then served four years as President of the Virginia SWO. It was such an honor to serve the women in the Virginia Synod. Those women loved and supported me unconditionally.

I have been given so many opportunities being a part of Women of the ELCA. My passions for helping and advocating for women and children in poverty, domestic violence and human trafficking came from our missions and focus within WELCA. I can tell you without a doubt that becoming a leader and being a part of this organization helped me in my 40-year career in Healthcare Administration, serving in other organizations and being a better wife and mother.

I thank God everyday that He placed this organization in my life and in my heart.



THANK YOU SHERRY!



After five years as The *RIPPLE* editor and website manager Sherry Fowler has decided to step down and hand the reigns over to Cindy McManus.

Sherry has been a vital part of the SCWELCA organization. She has made sure that the women across South Carolina have stayed connected and informed. Sherry has been masterfully piecing together articles, updates and pictures into a cohesive newsletter that's easy to follow and always looks great. I also know she's pulled more than a few late nights putting The *RIPPLE* together to print and send out which is only a testament to the dedication she

has put in. Please join us in thanking Sherry for her hard work and welcoming Cindy, whose skills we are lucky to have and looking forward to seeing.

WELCOME CINDY, NEW *RIPPLE* EDITOR



Cindy has been an Administrative Assistant and Office Manager for non-profits on and off for the past ten years, including three ELCA churches. She moved to SC from Winston-Salem NC last year to live close to her son and his family. She also has two daughters, both living in Milwaukee WI, with their families. She has three grandsons, Alex 19, Freddy 9, & Will 7.

Cindy is originally from Ohio and has lived in 7 states during her lifetime. She has a Chihuahua mix named Sweet Pea who is 12 years old. She enjoys reading, playing with her grandsons, movies, and playing with Sweet Pea.

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 church-wide 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 Cindy J McManus at cjm.welca@gmail.com.

Subscribe to the *RIPPLE*

Complete the information below and send to
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1682 Riverwind Dr. Apt. A, Columbia SC 29210

**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 _____

Email _____ Phone _____

New _____ Renewal _____



50th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE



The 50th Anniversary Committee for Ordained female pastors had come together and made the decision to mail the gifts to the female pastors. Our committee brought the prices to the board meeting. It was approved by our committee recommendation to mail out the gifts to the ordained female pastors.

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to all the female pastors in South Carolina. South Carolina WELCA is honored to celebrate the 50th anniversary of ordination of female pastors. We thank each and every female pastor for their services as pastors of God's word and work.

Your sisters in Christ,
Amanda Boatwright, Chair
Sarah Cheesman
Amanda Cruse
Amanda Baker
Merri Lewis

NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Hello to All Sisters in Christ. God calls out to people by name. Do you hear God calling you to serve "with love"? We need a bold woman to step up and place her name on the ballot for Treasurer. We need a Treasurer who will use her gifts of finance and accuracy to keep up with the money flow and perform other duties required of the office. Her duties will include: keep all records and be accountable for all funds; be responsible for disbursing funds in accordance with the budget of the synodical women's organization; present a report to the convention; and present

an interim report to each board and executive board meeting.

There is an enclosed Nomination for Election application in this issue of *The RIPPLE* to be completed (see page 11). Feel free to contact me or any of the ladies on this committee with any questions and also let us know if you would like your name placed on the ballot for Treasurer.

Encourage and pray for women in your churches and conferences that have these gifts of financial accountability to consider this position. Nominations for Board members are also welcome.

Sharing God's Love,

Betty Jo Amick, Chair
abjamick72@att.net
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Gail Kane
gkane590@aol
843-902-7652

Margaret Shirer
margaretshirer@aol.com
803-826-6187
803-308-1044

Ruth Morgan
morganruth@charter.net
864-859-2996



South Carolina Women of the ELCA



NOMINATION FOR ELECTION

Complete both sides of this form; include a "head shot" photo of nominee and return by May 30, 2021 to: *Betty Jo Amick, Nomination Chair, 1208 Jake Eargle Rd., Little Mountain, SC 29075 or email Betty Jo at abjamick72@att.net.*

Check all that apply: Treasurer Board Member

PLEASE PRINT or TYPE

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell or work) _____

Email _____

Occupation _____

Age Category 20-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60 and over

Ethnic/Racial Heritage Asian African American Hispanic White Other

Primary Language _____

Home Congregation _____

Conference _____

Church Address _____

Qualifications which would help this person in performing the duties of the position for which she is being nominated



Experiences that would help this person to serve in this position.

Beginning with most recent, list significant experiences in each area.

Women of the ELCA Congregational Unit (may include experience in previous church bodies)

SC Women of the ELCA, Conference, SWO, Churchwide (may include experience in previous church bodies)

ELCA Congregation, Conference, Synod, and Churchwide (may include experience in previous church bodies)

Ecumenical (include local, state, and national/international organizations/affiliations)

Other comments (Why do you think this person would be effective in this position?)

Submitter Information (*No more than one person from a unit shall be nominated.*)

Name (print) _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell or work) _____

Email _____

Congregational Unit/City _____



PRAYER OF GRATITUDE



O God of abundance,
I know that everything I have comes from you. Yet sometimes life feels so complicated that I cannot find the words to say thank you. When that happens, forgive me, and send your Spirit - the one who intercedes with sighs too deep for words. Lead my heart to a place of gratitude and to a realization of the abundance that you provide. Amen.

This prayer is an excerpt from "[Faith Reflections: Reclaiming gratitude](#)" by Emily K. Hartner in the November 2020 issue of Boldcafe.



GIVE A LIFE MEMBERSHIP OR MEMORIAL



This past year thirteen ladies received Life Memberships and two were recognized with Memorials. Give an honorary or memorial recognition to one or more special ladies in your church by requesting the certificate (and pin if honorarium) from Virginia Herlong at vherlong@sc.rr.com or calling 803-932-1055.

The complete form can be found on page 14 and 15 or on our SC WELCA website: <https://www.scwelca.com>. The certificate will include a citation of your choosing. There is a minimum donation of \$25 per honorarium.

All proceeds from the Honorary Life and Memorial Program go to our SC Women of the ELCA Scholarship Fund at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary/LRU. The scholarship supports female students at LTSS.

The 1-inch pin comes in a presentation case and looks like this:





Honorary Life & Memorial Recognition South Carolina Women of the ELCA



Honorary Life

Honorary recognition may be made for a minimum donation of \$25 and is a way to pay tribute to a woman, man or young person in your congregation who is always there when needed and never finds an excuse to not help anyone in need, regardless of the situation. The application for Honorary Life Memberships has space for a citation (reason for recognition). This will be printed on the Honorary Certificate. The certificate and pin will be sent to the requestor for presentation.

Memorial

Memorial recognition may be made for a minimum donation of \$25 and is given in memory of a woman, man or young person who has passed on to the church triumphant and who had a positive impact on you or your church during their lifetime. The Memorial application has a space for a citation (reason for the memorial) if desired and printed on the certificate. The certificate will be mailed to the requestor for presentation.

All proceeds from the Honorary Life and Memorial Program go to our SC Women of the ELCA Scholarship Fund at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary/LRU.

_____ **Honorary Life** _____ **Memorial**

RECIPIENT INFORMATION (please print)

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Presentation Date _____

PRESENTED BY _____

Church Name _____ City _____

CITATION ON CERTIFICATE _____

_____ Ready to Frame _____ Presentation Folder

SUBMITTED BY _____ Phone _____

Send Certificate/Pin to: _____

Address _____

Special Instructions _____

DONATION (minimum donation of \$25; make check payable to SC Women of the ELCA) Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____



South Carolina Women of the ELCA 2020-2021 Board

President (term exp 2021)

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

Vice-President (term exp 2022)

Amanda Boatwright (Oct 13)
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Back row: Amanda Boatwright (Vice President), Rachel Quesada (Treasurer),
Linda Roland (Secretary), Denise Warren, Rae Davis

Front row: Merri Lewis, Amanda Cruse, Kristin Snelgrove, Becky Koch (President),
Amanda Sease-Baker, Sarah Cheesman, Risse Snelgrove



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