# The Ripple

Expanding the Circle of SC Women of the ELCA

Check out our website. Google SC WELCA

Published by South Carolina Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)



Winter 2014-2015

# 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

South Carolina
Women of the ELCA

June 12-13, 2015

Theme: "Be Thou My Vision" (Inspired by Pastor Jane Mitcham's 2014 Convention Keynote Speech.)

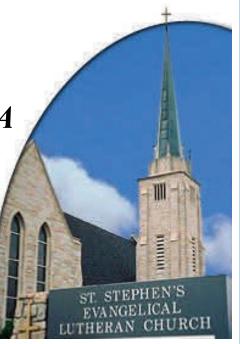
We have to be grounded in the Gospel before we can try new things and risk new thoughts.

We have to be focused first on God's grace, mercy and love, before we can model our faith to others.

We must be led by the Spirit before we can serve in ministry and mission.

### Scripture: Matthew 6:19-21

<sup>19</sup> "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."



St. Stephen Lutheran Church 119 North Church Street Lexington, SC 29072 803-359-6562

See inside for registration and Convention Spotlights

### **Inside This Issue**

The President's Page	2
Vice President's Corner	3
Treasurer's Report	3
From the Secretary	4
Mission: Community	5
Tanzania Updates	5

Mission: Growth	6
Nomination Requests	6
Need YWG Coordinator	6
Pins / WELCAWARE	6
Mission: Action	7
2015 Convention Spotlights	8-9

Nomination Form	insert
Convention Registration	insert
Daily Grace	12
SC WELCA Directory	11
Thrivent Action Team	10



# The President's Page...

Hope all of you are staying well and warm!

Your Synodical Board enjoyed participating in our **Thrivent Action Team** project after our last board meeting. (See page 10.)

Virginia Herlong

We are also gearing up for the **upcoming convention** this year. Put June 12-13 on your calendar for St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Lexington. Hope to see you there!



- Jennifer has done a great job in planning all the details and with getting together some wonderful workshops which she lists elsewhere in this issue of *The Ripple*. If you would like to see a particular workshop not on her list, let her know.
- ♦ Becky has worked with *Lutheran Services Carolinas* put together several wish lists of the needs of all the by LSC in South Carolina. Your donations can be one or more "kits." Even a partial kit will be greatly be complete.



for our **convention project** and has children and families who are served monetary or can include items in appreciated, but suggest Kits 2 & 3

- Our **convention hostesses** this year are Upstate and Foothills. They have met twice already with Jennifer and have come up with some great ideas.
- Please fill out the enclosed Convention <u>Registration Form</u> and send it to Susan Jackson as soon as you can. We would like to have all delegates to be registered by April 20th so that we can start assigning the Convention Committees. However, you can register as late as the day before the convention. We ask that you make your own hotel reservations by mid-May to receive our group rate.
- ♦ We've added something NEW this year a <u>reduced registration rate of \$10.00 for visitors</u> who would like to come just for the meetings to see how the voting is coming along, and/or to hear the keynote speaker and the greetings from our churchwide representative. We encourage more ladies to attend, to meet old and new friends, and to learn more about what's going on in our South Carolina Women of the ELCA. This rate includes a registration packet with agenda, "goodies" and ID, but does not include participation in the workshops or to receive a Bulletin of Reports.
- We encourage you to make copies of the registration form and <u>invite your friends!</u>



Hope you are staying tuned to the pulse of our South Carolina Synodical Organization of the Women of the ELCA by checking out our **WEBSITE**. New to the website are the minutes of our board meetings. If you notice the Updated Date on the bottom right is more recent than the last time you looked, then you'll know something else has been added!

Hope you are also encouraging more **email subscriptions** to Your board believes in open communications.



*The Ripple*. (FREE)

We are ready to serve you any way we can. Let us know how we can help!

In Christ's love, *Virginia* 

# Vice President's Corner

I have missed talking and seeing you. I pray that you are healthy and had a wonderful holiday. Now that we are into the New Year, I hope you have heard that our 2015 Convention is well on its way. It is right around the corner! As Vice President, the Annual Convention is one of my primary duties and our committee has been working to provide you a spiritually refreshing convention while conducting the business of the Women of the ELCA.

Our date is set for **June 12-13 at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Lexington**. Our theme is "Be Thou my Vision." We are excited about returning our convention to St. Stephen! The Convention hostesses have been in touch with these ladies and they are ready to get the ball rolling! We have some great workshops lined up for you, as well as some wonderful entertainment.

Please plan to join us in June! If your church already has delegates, come join us as a visitor! Everyone is welcome!

# God Bless, **Jennifer Nuovo**

### 2015 Convention Staff

Jennifer Nuovo, Chair

Jan Long, Co-Chair

Susan Jackson, Registrar

Rachel Quesada, Assistant Registrar

Carolyn Torrence, Parliamentarian

Rev. Dr. Jane Mitcham, Chaplain

Nickie Riley / Pastor Dick Webber, Musicians

TBA, Young Women Guest Coordinator

Sharon Ganis / Dianne Pitts, 1st Time Guest Coordinators

Linda Wilkerson, Nominating Committee Chair

TBA, Banquet Entertainment

Rev. Jackie Utley, Keynote Speaker

#### Jane Potter

# Treasurer's Report

I hope all of you are enjoying the blessings of the new year. Thank you all for your dedication to the Women of the ELCA. All congregational unit (CU) offerings received and deposited by January 19 have been credited to your CU for the accounting year which ended January 31, 2015 and will be reported in the 2015 Convention Bulletin of Reports. **Regular offerings** received since February 1, 2014 were \$34,288.75 against our budget of \$40,000. Money forwarded to our Churchwide Women's Organization (CWO) for their support was \$22,287.69 or 65% of our regular offerings. In addition the board voted to send \$2,750 from our benevolence budget as additional regular offering. **Joy Offerings** received for 2014-2015 accounting year were \$14,072.85 against our budgeted amount of \$18,000. Joy Offerings are sent to the CWO for the ELCA Good

Gifts Program. **Designated Gifts** were \$1,560 and were distributed as follows:

\$685 Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls

\$380 Thankoffering

\$360 Tanzania Sleep House

\$135 Katie's Fund



Interest from our **Mission Investment Fund** and proceeds from **Life Memberships** total \$3,161.87 and will be sent to Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary for our Scholarship Fund. The conferences sent \$4,040.76 of their offerings to local, state, national and international charities. The Board has not yet determined who will be the recipient of the proceeds from the sale of Lucinda Pins. This amount is \$1,546.67. Do not hesitate to call me if you have questions regarding our WELCA finances. Again, thank you for your support of Women of the ELCA.

God's Peace, **Jane Potter** 



# From the Secretary...



Following are the highlights from the SC WELCA Board Meeting held on November 15, 2014, at the Sandy Run Lutheran Church in Swansea:



Elsa Hope

- Approved a one-time gift of \$1,000 to the South Carolina Retreat Centers from Benevolence funds.
- Approved to use \$250 from Benevolence for the Board's Thrivent Action Team Project expenses.
- ♦ Approved to send \$2,750 remaining in Benevolence to Churchwide in addition to the 65% budgeted.
- Reviewed options for Lucinda Pin profits for 2015.
- ♦ Reviewed the 2015 SWO Convention staff, tasks, projects, workshops, meals and lodging, and prospective keynote speakers.
- Approved the 2014-2015 SWO Goals submitted by the Goals Setting Committee. (These are listed on the website.)
- ♦ Approved Constant Contact be used for emailing *The Ripple*.
- Approved to publish convention dates for the next 5 years in future issues of *The Ripple*.

More details regarding the above can be found on the SC WELCA website on the Events page. The complete minutes are under the magnifying glass by the November 15th Board Meeting.

The next Board meeting will be held at Camp Kinard Retreat Center beginning at noon on February 27, 2015.



Blessings and see you in June,

**Elsa Hope**, Secretary



Last but not least –

\*\*\*

### Please submit your Congregational Unit Officers Listing to me at

rmehope@bellsouth.net. You can access the SC WELCA website to download and print the form for \*\* completion. If your preference is to mail, my address is listed on page 11 of this Ripple.

Thank you!

Elsa \*



# **Mission: Community**

Conference	Date	Church	Liaison
1. Foothills	March 14, Saturday 10:00 am	St Matthias, Easley 501 Powdersville Road	Jennifer Nuovo
3. Epiphany	March 21, Saturday 11:30 am	Shepherd/Sea, Garden City 2637 Hwy 17 South	Shari Donelly
7. Trident	March 21, Saturday 11:00 am	St. Mark, Isle of Palms 300 Palm Boulevard	Margaret Shirer
8. Saxe Gotha	March 15, Sunday 3:00 pm	Faith, West Columbia 1717 Platt Springs Road	Becky Koch
9. Western	March 15, Sunday 3:00 pm	St Mark, Leesville 255 St. Mark Road	Sherry Fowler



Mary McKeen

In service to the community of Women of the ELCA,

Mary McKeen, Chair

Margaret Shirer

Sherry Fowler

### Baskets, Baskets...



The ladies in the South Western Diocese of **Tanzania** spend a lot of time making baskets. They are very useful in their everyday lives. On one of the Mission Trips the church ladies groups asked us if we would buy some of their baskets so that their group would have some funds to do their ministry. We of course bought some of the baskets. Since then the ladies spend time making baskets just for us to buy. One of the groups is the widow's group who are trying to pay tuition for children who cannot afford to go to school. This past trip we brought extra money to buy the baskets and it was a good thing because they had made over 600 baskets for us to

buy! We are selling the baskets to replenish our fund so we can buy more baskets on our next trip. They will be available at the February retreat, the March conference meetings and, of course, the convention in June.

Cathy Milejczak

### Update on The Children's Enrichment Center's Sleep house.

Many thanks to the WELCA women for helping to build the "Sleep House" for the Children's Enrichment Center in the South Western Diocese. Sixty children attend the programs at the Enrichment Center. The new house built next to the center will provide a place for the students to take their naps. The building is state of the art for the region with hand washing stations (sinks) and bathrooms. It was such an honor and privilege for me to dedicate this building while in the diocese last year. It is good to know that these children are being taken care of by the women of the church. We could not have completed this house without the help of the WELCA women.

Many thanks to all of you!

Cathy Milejczak



Bishop Mbwilo looks on as little girl holds pillow with scissors for Cathy to cut curtain over dedication plaque. Currently laying cement for the floors.

It is so exciting!

### **Mission: Growth**



These who can full Women at full better

Drue Bridges & Christine Price

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The Women Digging Deeper retreat at Isle of Palms April 10-12 this year is almost full. Megan Lineburger is presenting the Bible Study. Contact Sallie Folk at 842-662-1210.

World Day of Prayer is Friday, March 6. Go to www.wdp-usa.org/2015-bahamas to order free materials.

Respectfully submitted,

### Christine Price and Druscilla Bridges, Co-Chairs

# From the Nominating Committee...



Hey Ladies,

Linda Wilkerson, Nominating Committee Chairwoman, here. It's the time of year to think about running for office for our Synodical Board. Hopefully you have received news of my letter

via your Conference Coordinator or Unit President. This year we will be electing four board members and a secretary. I need your nomination forms by **March 31st**. Please be thinking about who to put on your nominating ballot at Convention for VP. Encourage women you think are able to run. Prayerfully consider this opportunity. Ours is a very worthy organization. Women of the ELCA are God's hands and voice all over the world and it starts at home.

Looking forward to seeing you in Lexington,

Linda Wilkerson

# Would you like to help with the 2015 SC Convention but not sure how?

We might just have the task you are looking for. We are seeking someone that would love to work with our **Young Women Guests** during the convention and help them understand what we are all about and to get involved in our ministry. We are working on a detail description so stay tuned and check our website as we will have a description after our board meeting in February.

In the meantime, if you are interested please contact me so I can stay in touch with you during the planning process. You can email me at <a href="mailto:jnuovo16@gmail.com">jnuovo16@gmail.com</a> or call 803-622-4714. We are reaching out to our women and I look forward in hearing from you!

Jennifer Nuovo, Vice President



# WELCAWARE... a new name for our pins

Don't forget to check out the new jewelry options at our *WELCAWARE* table (formerly called our Pin Table). Yes, we will also have the pins but they are re-glossed. These will be available for sale at the February retreat and the spring conference meetings! We hope to see you at our table soon and, of course, we will be at our annual convention in June. You can contact me at *ahearn susan@hotmail.com*, 864.380.5881 cell.

Susan Mitchell

Susan Mitchell

## **Mission: Action**



# \*\*\*CALLING ALL SC WELCA LADIES HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO PUT YOUR FAITH IN ACTION!\*\*\*

### 2015 Convention Project - Lutheran Services Carolinas

For our project this year we will be supporting Lutheran Services Carolinas, a not-for-profit charitable agency which serves North Carolina and South Carolina.



Becky Koch



### We are focusing on the area of Child and Family Services.

Refugees, asylees, and victims of human trafficking; homeless veterans at Kinard Manor or Angels House; children and youth who are emotionally distressed, developmentally disabled, or medically fragile; adults with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities in community training homes in SC -- these are a few examples of the men, women and children we support through our donations to the Child and Family Services program of LSC.

### Child and Family Services program needs are divided into **five kits** detailed below.

Each kit should be labeled with its contents and the name of your church and city. Please bring a list of the items for our records.

Gift cards and monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Checks should be made payable to SC WELCA.

### KIT 1 - CLOTHING & RECREATIONAL

(packed in a box or large bag)

All types of new clothing for infants to 18 years old, including new hats and sneakers; books, arts & crafts supplies; DVDs and CDs; computer games; board games.

### **KIT 2 - SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

(packed in a book bag or drawstring back sack)

Book bags, spiral notebooks, notebook paper, markers & colored pencils, pencils & pencil sharpeners, rulers, safety scissors, erasers, pencil bags.

### KIT 3 - HYGIENE KITS (packed in a gallon size Ziploc bag and labeled "Adult" or "Child"

"Adult" - Shampoo, bar soap, toothbrush & paste, lotion, deodorant, hair brush/comb, razors, shaving cream, nail clippers, wash cloth, hand towel

"Child" - Children's shampoo, small toothbrush & paste, deodorant, small hair brush/comb, wash cloth, hand towel

### **KIT 4 - CLEANING SUPPLIES**

(packed in a cleaning bucket)

Dish soap, dishwasher detergent, laundry detergent, glass cleaner, all purpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, paper towels, Pledge or similar for dusting.

### **KIT 5 - NEW HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

(packed in a large box or large bag)

Bath towels & washcloths, kitchen towels, dishcloths, potholders, blanket or quilt, bed pillow, sheet set (twin or queen), pots, pans, cooking utensils.

Kits 2 and 3 should be complete sets.

### Thank you for ACTING BOLDLY and putting your faith in action!

Becky Koch (chair), Jennifer Nuovo, Shari Donley, Karen Freeman, Allyn Bedenbaugh Nancy Fulmer, Foothills Coordinator Kitty Hagglund, Upstate Coordinator

# **2015 Convention Spotlights...**



The **UPSTATE AND FOOTHILLS** Conferences met on Saturday, January 24, 2015. Ten ladies were present in Greenville at St. Michael's. Our two conferences will be the hosts of Convention in June and we met to begin making plans. One of our decisions was to **collect eyeglasses** to use as part of our convention theme "Be Thou My Vision." After

Convention these eyeglasses will be

donated through the Lions Club to help children and adults see better. Please begin rounding up used (but usable) eyeglasses from your congregations. We will have collection boxes at Convention. Both prescription glasses and "cheaters" (the drug-store reading glasses) are acceptable. We are excited about convention and hope to see you there!



Nancy Fulmer and Kitty Hagglund

### CONVENTION WORKSHOPS...

**New Leadership Styles** - Pastor Jane Mitcham will bring new ideas about leadership in today's world. **Human Trafficking** - Stephanie Johnson will discuss what it is, how it happens, who are the victims, how outreach affects the victims, and how the community can get involved.

**Zumba** - lead by Melissa Davis.

**Advocate for the Homeless** - Michael Chesser has worked for 20 years with the homeless and affordable housing issues. He is a member of St. Michael Lutheran Church in Greenville.

Churchwide Representative - Dawn Smith of the Executive Board of Women of the ELCA.

**Craft Corner** - Jan Long shares her talents with crafts again this year.

Go Red for Women - Valerie Bridges will share how we can wipe out heart disease in women.

**Prayer Journaling** - Peggy Porter will present tools to energize you to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Thrivent Financial** - Sherry Sheppard will share living faith through wise financial choices.

**Police Department -** Victim Assistances / Safety.

\*\*\*\* Some may change, others may be added. \*\*\*\*\*

We will offer three workshops again this year at 10 am, 3:30 pm, and 4:30 pm. More detailed information will be posted in the next *The Ripple* so stay tuned.

Jennifer Nuovo, Convention Chair

### CONVENTION SCHEDULE...

### Friday, June 12

8:00 Registration begins

10:00 Pre-Convention Workshops

1:00 Formal Opening of Convention

6:30 Banquet

### Saturday, June 13

9:00 Reconvene

3:00 Closing Worship

# 2015 Convention Spotlights... continued



Dawn Smith has been chosen to represent Patti Austin and the Churchwide Women's Organization at our South Carolina's W/ELCA Synodical Convention. She has served on the Executive Board since 2011 and is Chair of the Program and Communication Committee. She lives in Midland, Michigan and has served as president and board member of the Northwest Lower Michigan SWO. At her church she teaches Sunday School, serves as a Stephen minister and works with a hospice spiritual care team. She and her husband Greg have four children. She enjoys Scrabble, reading, baking, gardening, exercising, and running with her son. She writes: "I am very excited to be joining you and the W/ELCA of South Carolina in June. We are called to love and serve our neighbors and this is a wonderful chance to truly serve them."

# **KEYNOTE SPEAKER, Pastor Jackie Utley**



The Rev. Jacqueline Utley (fondly called Jackie) is energetic, passionate, and has a heart for God and God's people. She is a native of Lake View, SC and lived in Connecticut for 21 years before returning to the south in 1996. She earned a BA in Sociology from Coker College, Hartsville in1996 and a Master of Divinity from LTSS, Columbia in 2009 as a non-Lutheran . A product of Pentecostal and Methodist (AME) traditions, Jackie has served in previous minis-

tries as a licensed Evangelist Missionary of the Church of God In Christ. In 2011 she joined the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Ascension, located in the Eau Claire community of Columbia.

In June 2013 she was ordained at the SC Synod Assembly as a rostered leader of the SC Synod of the ELCA. This was a historical event, as she is the first African American female to be ordained in the SC Synod. Jackie now serves as Pastor of Ascension in Columbia and also as Mission Developer of The Jericho Community, a multi-cultural worshipping community in the predominantly African American neighborhood of Eau Claire.

## **Pastor Jane Mitcham**



**♦** 

Convention Chaplain

and also to lead another

workshop - this time on New Leadership Styles.

We welcome her back!

### Convention Registrar



Susan Jackson

Be sure to send me your registration form by May 10 for your "early-bird" rate. This year we're offering a reduced rate of \$10 for visitors who just want to see old friends, meet new friends, and catch up with the happenings in our SC Synodical Women of the ELCA. This rate does not include workshops or the Bulletin of Reports, but you will receive a registration packet with agenda and name tag. Hope to see you at convention!

Susan Jackson

Assistant Registrar



Rachel Quesada

# Thrivent Action Team Report

The Synodical Board of our SC Women of the ELCA chose to help beautify the inner courtyard of the 120-resident Calhoun Convalescent Center in Saint Matthews as their **Thrivent Action Team** service project. Most of the residents can see this courtyard from their rooms and we thought that the beauty of the yard would boost their morale and be a health factor in their rehabilitation. The project took place after the Board's regularly scheduled meeting on **Saturday, November 15, 2014**.





Board member, Margaret Shirer lead us in planning the project and making all the necessary preparations ahead of time. Donations tripled the original Thrivent \$250 Community Impact Card for a total of \$770 which was used toward the purchase of all the plants and many plants were donated. The staff at the center

prepared the courtyard ahead of time by cleaning windows, painting tables, repairing the fountain, and general "sprucing up." Over 60 plants were purchased or donated (crepe myrtles, lirope, hydrangea, lantana, pansies, clematis and iron plants), 10 flats of pansies, cabbage and kale, a garden hose, pots, a trellis and 20 bales of pine straw.





That Saturday afternoon the Board was joined by four ladies from Pine Grove Lutheran Church in Lone Star (Margaret's church), all with gardening gloves, rakes, shovels and spades. Even four members of the staff and three children joined the group. Residents came out into the courtyard to watch and others watched from their rooms. Refreshments were served by the Board to everyone.



Even though the forecast was for rain and very cold weather, the sun came out and the temperature was about 60 degrees. There were lots of smiles and camaraderie. Within two hours everything

had been planted and watered. We closed by making a circle, thanking God for the opportunity for this service, asking for His blessings on all the residents, and singing the doxology. We had felt the presence of God in our midst.









# South Carolina Women of the ELCA

### **Executive Board 2014-2015**

#### President

Virginia Herlong (exp 2016) 813 Silver Point Road Chapin, SC 29036 803-932-0155 hm 803-206-2493 cell vherlong@sc.rr.com

#### Vice President

Jennifer Nuovo (exp 2015) 140 Shirway Road Lexington, SC 29073 803-808-3421 hm 803-622-4714 cell jnuovo 16@gmail.com

### Secretary

Elsa Hope (exp 2015) 2952 Broad River Road Pomaria, SC 29126 803-276-1988 hm 803-944-1744 cell rmehope@bellsouth.net

#### Treasurer

Jane Potter (exp 2016) 202 Regency Circle Anderson, SC 29625 864-225-6460 hm 864-276-5290 cell jnbpotter@att.net

### **Board Members**

Mary McKeen (exp 2015) 109 Center Drive Greer, SC 29681 864-561-3229 cell mommamac1943@live.com Becky Koch (exp 2015) 336 Nautical Way Greenwood, SC 29649 864-227-3634 hm 864-344-1786 cell bbkoch@embargmail.com Druscilla Bridges (exp 2015) 1029 Indigo Avenue Cayce, SC 29033 803-477-2798 cell aboo1211@yahoo.com Karen Freeman (exp 2015) 46 Blueberry Trail St. Matthews, SC 29135 803-397-6728 cell lkfreeman68@gmail.com

Shari Donley (exp 2016) 3369 W. Forest Lake Drive Florence, SC 29501 843-662-5159 hm 843-409-5592 cell kipcorp07@aol.com Sherry H. Fowler (exp 2016) 1860 Bairds Cove Charleston, SC 29414 843-442-3593 hm/cell 843-795-4855 other sherry@fowlersc.com Christine H. Price (exp 2016) 4410 Briarwood Road Columbia, SC 29206 803-782-9109 hm price8752@att.net Margaret J. Shirer (exp 2016) 2652 McCords Ferry Road Cameron, SC 29030 803-826-6187 hm 803-308-1044 cell margaretshirer@aol.com

### **Non-Board Positions**

### Pins Coordinator Susan Mitchell

PO Box 190 Cross Anchor, SC 29331 864-969-2929 hm 864.380.5881 cell ahearn susan@hotmail.com SC WELCA Retreats Sallie Folk & Agnes Folk 422 W. Pine Street

Florence, SC 29501 843-307-1417 (Sallie) 843-662-1210 (Agnes) aebfolk@yahoo.com

# Honorary Life/Memorial Recognition Coordinator

apbedenbaugh@gmail.com

Allyn Bedenbaugh 127 Sheath Drive Columbia, SC 29212 803-732-2767

# The Ripple Editor/Circ. Mgr. Linda Griffith

3963 Brutus Pass West Columbia, SC 29170 803-359-1278 hm 803-920-3975 cell lindagriffith2@aol.com

# 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 churchwide office. It is distributed to other subscribers at an annual subscription rate of \$5 or e-mailed for free to anyone. The Ripple is published under the auspices of the Mission: Community Committee of S.C. Women of the ELCA.

To submit material for publication, contact *The Ripple* Editor, Linda Griffith at (lindagrifith2 @aol.com).

The current Ripple can also be found online under Publications of the SC Women of the ELCA link on the SC Synod website at http://scsynod.com. The Subscription Form is also on this Publications' page.

# Subscribe to the Ripple

Complete the information below and send to Linda Griffith, Ripple Editor/Circulation Manager

3963 Brutus Pass, West Columbia, SC 29170-1309

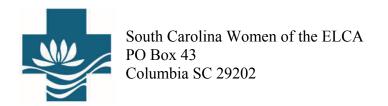
803-359-1278 lindagriffith2@aol.com

803-920-3975 cell

along with a check for \$5.00 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 make sure all information is complete and legible.

Name	
Address	
Church & City	
Phone	
Email	
New	Renewal



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Columbia, SC Permit #241

# WINTER 2015 Ripple

Expanding the Circle of SC Women of the ELCA



We are intended to live in relationship with one another. When we reach out and develop a relationship, we connect. We touch one another through conversation and our shared journey. In the process, we are transformed. We learn from each other, and we grow. Naomi and her daughter-in-law Ruth had such a relationship. Their bond was deep. Yet, our relationships can be double-edged. They can be a blessing in our lives, but they can also be a challenge. Sometimes it takes hard work to get through to another person and reach common ground. When faced with a difficult relationship, we must keep it grounded in prayer. We are called to love as God loves us, even when it is difficult. What one small thing can you do to reach out? Something that may appear small to you may help build trust and love in a heart that has never experienced it.

See **Daily grace** at: http://www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/category/daily-grace



# SC Women of the ELCA Annual Convention June 12-13, 2015 St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC

# REGISTRATION

This is my first SC WELCA Convention! (any category) **VOTING MEMBER NON-VOTING ATTENDEE** Young Woman Guest \_\_\_\_ First Timer Guest Board Check only one \_\_\_\_ Visitor Volunteer (host conference) Delegate 2 delegates allowed from Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ each Congregational Unit Please print clearly NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CHURCH CITY \_\_\_\_ CITY, ST, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ CONFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (home) PHONE (cell) EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_\_ Reservation will be confirmed by email. If no email, confirmation will be made by phone. **HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** Please make your own lodging reservations. See back of sheet for options. **REGISTRATION:** non-refundable Delegates & Visitors, with workshops and Bulletin of Reports - \$35.00/person If received AFTER May 11 - \$40.00/person or Visitor, without workshops or Bulletin of Reports - \$10.00/person MEALS: Friday Lunch \$8.00; Friday Banquet \$20.00; Saturday Lunch \$8.00 (Total \$36.00) Circle meal choice(s) if less than total TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ Deadline for all DELEGATE registration is April 20, 2015 & NO refunds after May 11, 2015 Make check payable to SC WOMEN OF THE ELCA Send this form with check to Convention Registrar: Susan Jackson 1515 Boundary Street, Newberry, SC 29108 For questions, contact Susan at (803) 276-2003 or by email at redeemermc@bellsouth.net \* DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

Date Received Check Date Check # Date Deposited Initials

#### **DEFINITIONS OF and FEES DUE FOR CONVENTION ATTENDEES**

**Board** The four officers and the eight board members of the SC Women of the ELCA;

(voting member) Pay for mileage

**Delegate** Two are allowed from each Congregational Unit; a First Timer Delegate may be Sponsored;

(voting member) Pay for mileage, all meals, lodging and registration

Young Woman Guest One from each Conference is Sponsored by the Synodical Board, plus

(non-voting) one or more may be Sponsored by her home Conference.

Sponsored means that registration, lodging and meals (but not mileage) are paid for her.

First Timer Guest One from each Conference is Sponsored by the Synodical Board, plus

(non-voting) one or more may be Sponsored by her home Conference.

Sponsored means that registration, lodging and meals (but not mileage) are paid for her.

**Visitor** Those attending the Convention either not on the agenda or assigned a specific responsibility;

(non-voting) Pay for mileage, all meals, lodging and registration

**Volunteer** Those from the host Conferences assisting with Convention duties;

(non-voting) Pay for mileage, all meals and lodging

**Other** Those on the agenda or assigned a specific responsibility at the Convention;

(non-voting) Check with the registrar for fees covered or due

### LODGING AVAILABLE NEAR ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH IN LEXINGTON

All have hot breakfast, free Wi-Fi, microwave, refrigerator, TV, 2 queen or 1 king bed. Suites include fold out sofa.

#### **Hampton Inn**

\$99 (\$109.89 with tax)
inside rooms; ½ mile from church
601 Columbia Ave
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 356-8300

#### Quality Inn ~

\$69.99 (\$77.69 with tax)
outside rooms, 3 blocks from church
328 West Main St
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 359-3099

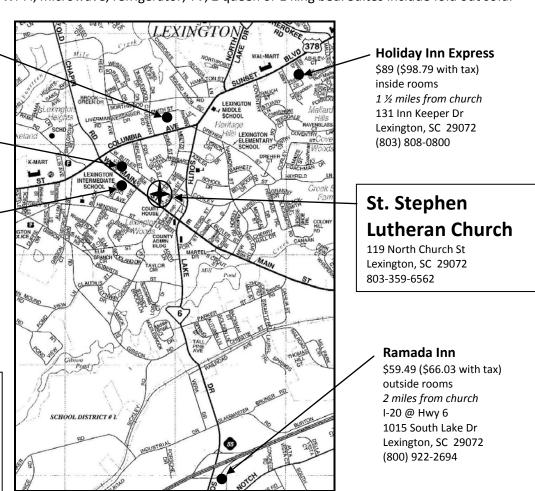
### **Comfort Suites**

\$99 (\$110.89 with tax)
inside suites with fold out sofa
3 blocks from church
325 West Main St
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 996-2000
Hotel of choice by Board
because can sleep 3/room

Prices quoted are our WELCA group rates.

#### **Book EARLY !!!**

Rooms must be booked by mid May to receive the group rate.





# SC Women of the ELCA Annual Convention Theme: "Be Thou My Vision" June 12-13, 2015 St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Lexington, SC

# **NOMINEE FOR BOARD MEMBER OR SECRETARY**

Complete both sides of this form, include a "head shot" photo, and return by March 31, 2015 to: Linda Wilkerson, Nomination Chair,

118 Old Leonard Rd, Woodruff, SC 29388, linda@bertsautomotive.com, 864-303-8161

Board Member Nomination	Secretary Nomination
PLEASE PRIM	NT or TYPE
lominee Information	
lame (Last/First/Middle Initial)	
ddress	
elephone w/area code (home)	(cell or work)
mail	
Occupation	
Age Category20-2930-3940	0-4950-5965 and over
thnic/Racial HeritageAsianAfrican America	nHispanicWhiteOther
rimary Language	
Iome Congregation	Conference
Church Address/Phone	
Qualifications which would help the of the position for which	

# 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, Synod, Churchwide (may include	e experience in previous church bodies)		
<b>ELCA</b> Congregation, Conference, Synod, and Churchwide (may include	le experience in previous church bodies		
Ecumenical (include local, state, and national/international organiza	tions/affiliations)		
Other comments. Why do you think this person would be effective	in this position?		
Submitter Information			
Name (print) Signature			
Address			
Telephone w/area code (home) (cell of	or work)		
Email			
Congregational Unit			