

CAROLINAS CROSS CONNECTION

Volume 79 Issue 2

April 2024

Upcoming Events:

- August, 16-18, 2024—
Retreat Camp Linn Haven
- Sept. 20-21, 2024—
Carolinas
Dist. Conv., Cary, NC
- June 26-29, 2025—Nat'l
Conv., Omaha, Ne.



Dist. Convention Logo

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Carolinas District LWML Retreat

Camp Linn Haven
August 16-18, 2024

“Christmas **JOY**”

The Catawba Valley Zone invites you to the Annual District Retreat of the Carolinas District LWML at Camp Linn Haven in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of the Linville, NC area.

In these majestic mountains, God’s creation is so prevalent, so full of flora, fauna, caverns, waterfalls and wildlife. This is a great chance to allow yourself time to be filled with God’s Joy! Camp Linn Haven is the perfect place for LWML women to worship, to gather and honor our Lord. Come to retreat in the scenic mountains of NC where you can relax, be restored and be revitalized. Come to listen, to learn, to worship our mighty God, to give thanks and to sing. At retreat you will be filled with His Word and His Holy Spirit so that when you get home, you will be filled with His **JOY**.

This year’s Retreat theme is “Christmas **JOY**.” Our Scripture Focus will be from Luke 2:11 – “*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*”

Pastor Paul Neilsen will be the Dean for our Retreat and will lead our Bible Study titled “Manger to the Cross.” We will be studying the life of Jesus here on earth.

Mark your calendars to attend the Retreat the weekend of August 16-18th. In this edition of the CCC, you will find two registration forms for Retreat. We have provided names and addresses so you will know to whom to send the forms.

Continued on next page...

Carolinas District LWML Retreat continued

Please mail one registration form to our LWML Registrar, along with your check of \$10 made out to Carolinas District LWML.

Please mail the other form to Camp Linn Haven stating that you will be attending the Retreat. Please complete the form with all required information. This form goes to the Camp Director and the fee for camp is separate and payable by cash, check or credit card upon arrival at camp. The cost for camp this year is \$110.00

Total cost for the Retreat weekend will be \$120.

Since we have participants who enjoy attending for only one day, you will see on the form that there is a space with the cost. Participants will still need to pay the \$10 to the LWML Registrar/Carolinas District LWML for materials. There is a different fee for meals to be paid to the camp. The cost of each meal is specified. Again, registration goes to two separate places.

So that we'll have adequate materials prepared for you, please pre-register. This will also enable Teirsa, our Camp Director to pre-assign cabins. The deadline for registering and sending in both forms to two separate places is Thursday, August 1st.

When you arrive at Camp, you will need to check in with Teirsa Lane, Camp Director during the hours of 3-5pm. At this time you will be assigned a cabin. This will take place in the Camp Office which is located beside the Dining Hall. Supper will be served at 6pm.

You will need to bring the following items for the weekend- bedding (twin size bunk), pillow, towel/washcloth, toiletries, rain gear/umbrella, comfortable clothing/shoes, flashlight, your Bible, a heart ready to be filled with God's Joy and a positive, **JOYOUS** attitude! Bring extra cash to spend at the LWML store also!

There will be several opportunities for monetary giving during the weekend. Feel free to give from your heart for the following:

A monetary collection for the Camp Dining Staff

A monetary collection for the Pond Mountain Fire and Rescue

Coins for playing MITE BINGO (all coins will be counted and given to District for Mites.)

Don't forget to bring lots of coins!

Sandra Herman
Kim Cater
Catawba Valley Zone Co-Presidents

TIP:

For MapQuest or GPS directions to the camp use this address:
Mountainside Lutheran Church
1308 Linville Falls Hwy
Linville, NC 28646

Jr. Pastoral Counselor—Pastor Tessman



Holy Week begins with Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a “colt, the foal of a donkey, which had never been ridden before”, perhaps the older brother of the donkey pictured here. There are a couple of things that are significant in that phrase. The first thing that comes to my mind is that the passage doesn’t say anything about the donkey trying to buck Jesus off, something that would be natural for a previously unriden donkey. Perhaps it sensed Who was on his back...his maker. Even more significant is that the animal was a lowly donkey, a beast of burden...not a mighty stallion prepared to carry his rider into battle. That might have been appropriate since Jesus was riding into Jerusalem to do battle with sin, death, and the devil, but a donkey is the more appropriate symbol for carrying a heavy burden. Jesus was carrying all of the sins of humankind...from the sins of Adam and Eve, to the sins being committed when Jesus returns on the last day of human history...Jesus was carrying them to the cross, to pay their debt in our place. And because Jesus did that for us, when He said “Father, forgive them”, our Heavenly Father said, “Yes, my Son!”

Have a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

Pastor Dave Tessmann



News from Carolinas District LWML President

Easter has come and gone but we still rejoice as we say “Christ has risen! He has risen indeed!”

Spring time and new life is all around us. As I watch the flowers bloom and the trees bud, I thank God for all the beauty he provides us. The changes in the colors I see outside are a wonderful sight even if the blooms and buds bring sneezing and sometimes watery eyes.



This is also the time of year we start looking for new leadership in our National LWML, District, and Zones. Please consider running for an office. I know it is hard to step out of your comfort zone. We need new leaders with new ideas to serve. We need past leaders to step into new leadership roles. Remember God is with you in every role you take on. Your sisters in Christ are here to help you and support you in whatever role you are willing to take on. Each of you have talents that can be used to help spread God’s word. Please prayerfully consider taking a leadership role in the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League in your church, Zone, District or National level. Remember to serve the Lord with gladness.

God’s Blessings,
Paula R. Daniels
Carolinas District President

2025 National Convention



2025 National Convention

Date: June 26–29, 2025

Location: Omaha, Nebraska

Theme: Growing in God's Grace

Scripture Verse: *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (2 Peter 3:18).*

Catawba Valley Zone

The Catawba Valley Zone will be hosting the Retreat at Camp Linn Haven this year on August 16-18th. The Theme is “Christmas JOY”

Members from each of the seven churches in the zone have met twice for a Retreat planning meeting at St. John’s in Conover. All churches in the zone have been busy preparing for their part of the retreat. A group of ladies are busy sewing tote bags to use at retreat.

The Catawba Valley Zone Rally will be held on May 5th. Concordia will be the host congregation and new officers will be elected.

St. John’s has met each month this year. In January the ladies were informed of meeting times/get together and what would be going on each month. In February, District President Paula Daniels spoke to the group. Camp Director, Teirsa Lane also spoke to the group about the backpack program during Servant Event Week at Camp. In March the ladies gathered to work on table favors for Retreat in August. On March 17th the ladies held a bake sale after each church service. With the help of the GEMS, they raised over \$500 toward their mission projects. In April the ladies will host Bingo and Burgers for the Senior Citizens.

The GEMS at Saint John’s have several meetings this year. At one meeting the girls learned why the pastors and acolytes wear robes during the church service and they learned how to fix tears and hems that had come loose. They made an inspirational jar filled with hearts they sewed, stuffed and also wrote bible verses and inspirational sayings on paper hearts and flowers. The jar was given to a cancer patient. Upcoming plans are to make port pillows for Phil’s Friends, send pill bottles to Matthew 25 Ministries and learn about what the Altar Guild members do to ready the church for services.

*Kim Cater, Catawba Valley Zone
Co-President*



Central Zone

News from The Central Zone

On Saturday, March 16th, The Central Zone held their annual Spring Zone Rally at St. John's Lutheran Church in Winston-Salem, NC. A Bible study by Deb Burma, "You Are God's Treasured Possession", was led by the St. John's Society President, Kathleen Sawicki.

The women in attendance received a special gift of a treasured teacup along with jewelry treasures too. The breakfast 'green' doughnuts (St. Patrick's Day) and coffee were a hit. Everyone enjoyed the chicken salad and pimento cheese lunch with fruit and veggies.

Following the Bible study a business meeting was held. Mary Ann Boone was chosen to be the President of the Central Zone for the next two years. Janis McDaniels and Elizabeth Jones volunteered to serve on the By-laws Committee to review The Central Zone Bylaws to update them to align with District Bylaws. A third person will be sought by Mary Ann Boone to be a part of this committee. Three women will be sought by the President to serve on the Nominating Committee for the next year, to seek nominations for the offices of Vice President and Secretary.

The women present all agreed that The Central Zone would provide the food and drink for The President's Reception on Friday night at the 2024 District Convention in September. The women were reminded of upcoming District events, The Joy Event, The Camp Linn Haven Retreat and the District Convention, with specific information about each event.

The 2025 Central Zone Spring Rally will be hosted by either Resurrection Lutheran in Burlington OR Grace Lutheran in Greensboro. Information about the 2025 National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska was also shared.

Mary Ann Boone, Central Zone President

Ebenezer Lutheran – Greensboro News

During the months of January and February, the LWML and Board of Social Concern worked together to gather items needed for the homeless in our area served by the Interactive Resources Center of Greensboro. Many members of our congregation donated items. Many items were purchased with the support of Thrivent cards. Items collected were cases of water, laundry detergent, snack packs, towels, washcloths, handwarmers, socks, underwear, toiletries, gloves and hats. Our LWML has supported our HUGS project before and are very thankful for the **H**ats, **U**nderwear, **G**loves and **S**ocks that were given this time. We praise our Lord for the generous hearts of Ebenezer Lutheran Church.



The LWML also sponsored the February Covered Dish Lunch that occurs monthly for our congregation. Many bring food and our Women in Mission provide the drinks and desserts. We set up the tables with beautiful table decorations too...naturally that would be the use of purple. And the ladies wear our purple LWML aprons! We were thankful for the great turnout that day.



Foothills Zone

FOOTHILLS ZONE RALLY 2024

On Sunday April 28, 2024 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

At St. Peter's Lutheran Church

6175 St. Peter's Church Rd, Conover, NC 28613.

Theme : Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Isaiah 58:7

Program by Evie Daniels on making Mats for the Homeless. Please bring plastic grocery bags and scissors. Evie will be showing you how to make bag yarn for the mats.

Gifts from the Heart will be for the Family Care Center of Catawba Valley, Inc. They serves homeless families with dependent children through an emergency and residential program.

Supplies needed: laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, paper products, kitchen supplies, diapers, towels, tall kitchen trash bags, children bubbles and sidewalk chalk. Monetary donation may be made by cash or check.

Mustard Seed Devotions



Mustard Seed
Daily Devotions

Sign up on the LWML.org website to receive by email the **Mustard Seed Daily Devotions** or go to CPH.org and purchase **Mustard Seed Devotions**.

Metrolina Zone

Saturday mornings during Feb. & March the women of Mt Calvary & Center Grove, both in Kannapolis, got together to sew Easter baskets for a local women's shelter, which they filled with games, candy and personal care items.


The women of Messiah in Charlotte held a Retreat on March 8 & 9. The theme was Garden in the Bible. They had a Bible journaling study, flower arranging and fun and fellowship. The guest speaker was Jenny Long.

Sara Hanson, Zone President



WHAT IS BIBLE JOURNALING?

- Pray as you enter Scripture
- Read passage
- Highlight passage with colored pencil
- Write comments/notes, draw arrows, add icons/doodles, compose a prayer
- Add ephemera to page, as a tip-in/out. Add date!
- Pray as you conclude





Mission Grant Report

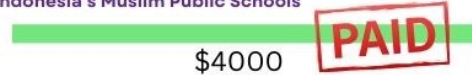
Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne



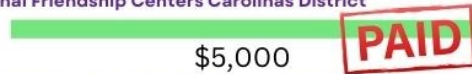
Professional Church Work Student Assistance



Bible Books for Indonesia's Muslim Public Schools



Start International Friendship Centers Carolinas District



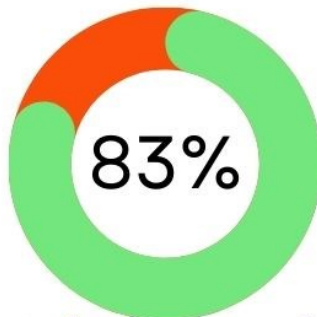
Scholarships for "in crisis" Professional Church Workers to Attend Healing Retreats



Feeding Haitian Children Physically and Spiritually



Lutheran Hands and Hearts Helping with Haitian Earthquake Response



Mission Goal: \$32,361

Notes :

As of January 29, 2024

Mission of the Quarter

Mission of the Quarter

Involved in Mission Outreach?

Send in an application for a MOQ in 2024

We continue to support missions with our MOQ money. The 3rd Qtr MOQ 2023, \$1,040.00, went to “I Wil Give You Rest” mattress campaign of Camp Linn Haven. The 4th Qtr MOQ 2023, \$1,246.00, went to St. Stephens Healthcare Ministry, Hickory, NC. The 1st Qtr MOQ 2024, (total not in yet) will go to Eastern Catawba Cooperative Ministry in Newton, NC. We praise God for this mission work and the generous hearts of our LWML ladies to fund these projects.

We have not received any new MOQ applications. Please take some time to pray about what your society can do during these uncertain times to spread Jesus’ love to people in need and hurting spiritually.

If you have a mission opportunity that takes place in the Carolinas District (NC & SC) that you would like to apply for a Mission of the Quarter, please contact Margaret White, Mission of the Quarter Chairman, at mwhite15@embarqmail.com or call 252-430-4353 for more information. You can find the MOQ form on our Carolinas District website at lwmlcarolinas.org

Please remember the new deadline for MOQ money to be sent in to the financial secretary...**15 Days after the end of the quarter!**

We continue to pray for our MOQ projects. Thank you for supporting these mission activities as we seek to be Jesus’ hands and feet to those in need of His love and care!

Margaret White, Mission of Quarter Chairman

National Mites

National Mite Report

The 2023–2025 fiscal period is July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025.

Mite Offerings Received

Amounts as of February 29, 2024

Mission Goal for 2023–2025 Biennium: \$2,350,000.00

Amount Received: \$1,158,575.37

Total Mite Offerings Still Needed: \$1,191,424.63



Convention Information Newsletter

Deadline: May 20, 2024

Delivery Method: Mail/Email

Need information from: Nominating Committee,
Mission of the Quarter, Mission Grants, Pres., Convention
Chairman, Structure Chairman, VP Human Care



Carolinas District LWML webpage: www.lwmlcarolinas.org

Please contact Lauren Olsen, Web Servant, dealaurenolsen@gmail.com, if you have articles you would like on your zone page. The site offers each Zone a page to display their Zone information **and pictures**.



Carolinas District Convention Logo T-Shirts

We are taking pre-orders for those interested in purchasing a T-shirt (100% cotton) with the convention logo on it. Prices are as follows:

S-XL	\$12.00
2X	\$14.00
3X	\$16.00

We will be taking pre-orders thru June 30th. Shirts will be available for pick up at retreat or Friday at convention. If interested in purchasing a t-shirt, please email Kim Cater at lwmlkfcater@gmail.com.

Front View



Nominating Committee

Carolinas District Women in Mission,

We thank every one of you for your support and commitment to our Carolinas District LWML. Thank you for serving in your elected or appointed roles. At this time, our Nominating Committee needs your help in securing nominees for the following elected positions that will be voted upon next September at the 2024 District Convention.

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries/YWR (4-yr. term)

Vice President of Human Care (4-yr. term)

Recording Secretary (4-yr. term)

Financial Secretary (4-yr. term)

Pastoral Counselor (4-yr. term)

Nomination Committee (3 to be elected for 2-yr. term)



It is time for all of us to seek Women in Mission to serve in these offices of our Board of Directors. We also need to seek a pastor within our Carolinas District who would serve as a Pastoral Counselor.

Please pray about the women, whom you know, who have been given gifts from God, who could serve in these offices. Please personally pursue them, pray with them and for them. Remind them of their God-given talents and that we are to '**Serve the Lord with Gladness**' in using these gifts to serve others. Ask them to consider being nominated for a specific position on our Carolinas District LWML Board of Directors. Share with them that the election of these officers, along with their installation, will occur at the next Carolinas District Convention in September of 2024.

Should you have someone to accept a nomination, please send the completed form to **Denise Johnson, Nomination Committee Chair, by email to her at sddsjohnson@gmail.com**. Or the form can be mailed to her at the following address: 10 Maple Ct. Newton, NC 28658. If you have questions, Denise's mobile number is 828.320.5370. If you have questions, feel free to email or call any of the three of us on the Nomination Committee.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.' - Numbers 6:24-26

In His Service,

Denise Johnson, Nominating Committee Chair
sddsjohnson@gmail.com or call at 828.320.5370

Sherri Marquardt, Nominating Committee Member
smarq73@gmail.com or call at 843.425.0414

Mary Ann Boone, Nominating Committee Member
lwmlmaboone2022@gmail.com or call at 336.451.4291



CAROLINAS DISTRICT LWML CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2024

WHO? ALL Lutheran Women in Mission in the Carolinas District!

WHAT? The 2024 Carolinas District LWML Convention

FOCUS? Psalm 46:10 – “Be still and know that I am God.”

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND THE CAROLINAS DISTRICT LWML CONVENTION?

It's a gathering of other LWML sisters in Christ

To participate in Worship and Communion to honor our God

To hear and vote for the Mission Grants. (LWML stands for Lutheran Women in Mission, which was the initial purpose in organizing the Lutheran women.)

To enjoy fellowship and singing, always singing to honor our God

To participate in Bible Study with Deb Burma, a nationally well-known author of Bible studies

To bring offerings for Gifts of the Heart to help others in need

To **“Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!” Psalm 100:2**

Please put **September 20 & 21st** on your calendar in **PURPLE**. It's an event you should not miss. ❤️

PLACE: Resurrection Lutheran Church – Cary, NC *We hope to see you there!*

More information forthcoming in the June issue of the Carolinas Cross Connection!

Hosted by the Central & Eastern Zones.

CAROLINAS DISTRICT LWML CONVENTION

Guest Speaker: Deb Burma

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cary, NC.

September 20-21, 2024

Deb has spoken at national and regional conferences across the country, as well as retreats and ministry events. She has led workshops and sectionals for the Best Practices for Ministry (BPM) Conferences, the Women's Leadership Institute's National Conferences, and more. Her ministry travels have taken her to 27 states and Canada, aboard a Caribbean cruise ship, and continue to lead her down the street to her home church.



Congratulations Lutheran Womens Missionary League Carolinas District!

In 2023 you received \$1,422 in Thrivent Choice Dollars[®] grant funding.

We're proud to help support the important work you do and hope, together, we can do even more in 2024!

Encourage your supporters to direct remaining 2023 Choice Dollars[®] by March 31. To help, we provide promotional resources ready for you to distribute, including:

Informational materials

Promotional materials

Posters

Web banners

Sample copy



Don't forget: 2023 Choice Dollars must be directed by March 31.

Thanks for your continued partnership in 2024!

CAROLINAS DISTRICT LWML RETREAT REGISTRATION

CAMP RETREAT WEEKEND

DATE: August 16-18, 2024

LOCATION: Camp Linn Haven – Linville, N.C.

HOST ZONE: Catawba Valley Zone



Theme: “Christmas **JOY**”

The **Catawba Zone** invites you to join them at this year’s Carolinas District LWML Retreat for fellowship, Bible study, great food and loads of fun!

Please register by **August 1, 2024** so we may plan accordingly.

Note: There are two separate forms which must be sent to two different places. The TOP portion goes to the registrar. The BOTTOM section goes to the camp.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Zone: _____ Church: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please send the above information to: Kim Cater, Registrar, PO Box 124, Conover, NC 28613

Include your \$10 registration fee, make check payable to: Carolinas District LWML.

Mail to Kim



Mail to camp

Camp Registration Form: Reservation for room and meals at Camp Linn Haven; send form, no money now.

I will be attending the LWML Retreat at Camp Linn Haven August 16, 17, 18, 2024

Name _____ Phone _____
Email: _____
Church _____ Zone _____

_____ I need a handicapped accessible cabin.

_____ I have special dietary needs. _____ Allergies Please explain.

Camp fees are separate and payable by cash, check or credit card upon arrival at camp. You may attend for a day and pay for your meal(s), plus registration.

Mail form to: Teirsa Lane
Camp Linn Haven Registration
Box 385
Linville, NC 28646

Please mark what applies:
Full Weekend with Meals _____ \$110
Friday _____ Dinner _____ \$8
Saturday Breakfast _____ \$6 Lunch _____ \$7 Dinner _____ \$8
Sunday Breakfast _____ \$6 Lunch _____ \$7

Carolinas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League Officers

President

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TBD

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Gay Van Etten, Eastern Zone Pres.

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