

# voices

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SERVICES  
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Loyal Service Award winners from left to right: Ines Preslar, Tammy Tilger, Burnell "Slim" Walker, Lu-Ann Auton, Sandra Cross, Robin Mashburn, and Haneen Alsafi.

## LSC honors exceptional employees

Each year, Lutheran Services Carolinas honors staff members who fulfill the mission of LSC by serving clients and residents in extraordinary ways. Nominated by their peers and supervisors, Loyal Service Award winners lead by example, whether or not they are in traditional leadership roles. In short, they are the heart and soul of LSC.

**Ines Preslar**, a certified nursing assistant at Trinity Oaks health and rehab since 2010, is known for her selflessness, compassion, and infectious energy. "Ines has the ability to awaken the dormant spirit," says Administrator Bill Johnson. She wants residents "to know they have not been forgotten." Johnson calls her "the smiling face that emulates LSC's vision for an abundant life."

**Tammy Tilger** has been a flexible team player at Trinity Ridge since 2006. Her titles have included CNA, med aide,

transportation aide, and staffing coordinator. She has an unwavering passion for residents, providing quality care consistently and with a positive attitude, says nominator Kim Price. Known for her kindness, promptness, and dependability, she is a selfless advocate for residents at Trinity Ridge.

**Burnell "Slim" Walker** works at Trinity Oaks as a utility dishwasher. Hired in 2010, Slim is described as a natural leader who puts others first and always does his best with humor, joy, and integrity. He offers exemplary customer service, going out of his way to give extra assistance to residents and accommodating requests both big and small. His positive attitude is infectious, even during stressful times in the kitchen.

**Lu-Ann Auton** is the medical records coordinator at Trinity Ridge. An LSC employee for more than 30 years, she is known for her dependability, kindness, and humility. Although her job

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Right now I am sitting in the back of a conference room in Charlotte talking about compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction. Experts from Lutheran Services Carolinas and Lutheran Homes of South Carolina are teaching 50 of the rest of us about this oft-hidden and very important subject.

When I first started work as a nursing assistant in 1978, and for much of the next couple of decades, our profession encouraged us to face problems and just “suck it up” because death and trauma are just part of the job.

Times have changed. LSC experiences life and death and trauma, and we are learning to care for our whole family: ourselves, each other, and residents/clients. We are working to equip our family with the tools and methods to cope and to grow.

Lutheran Services Carolinas deals with the most frail and fragile people in our society: foster children, nursing home residents, homeless veterans, refugees, and those with traumatic brain injury or mental illness. Problems happen, accidents happen, trauma happens, death happens. If we thought about that very long or dwelled on the risk involved, we would probably all go hide in a hole.

Why would the church do this type of work? Why would 1,800 staff members do this type of work? As usual, the answer is our mission statement: “Empowered by Christ, we walk together with all we serve.” LSC is empowered by Christ. And the world is not perfect. We walk with the people we serve on this journey together. The people we serve are the whole family. Thanks to Christ and our mission, the whole LSC family will continue to serve and grow as we all journey together. God bless you and the rest of the LSC family!

## Krushas joins LSC boards



The Rev. Jennifer Krushas, pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in High Point, is the newest member of the Lutheran Services Carolinas boards.

Krushas’ earliest memories are from living on the island of Madagascar, where her parents served as missionaries. They taught their children through example that “the truth of the Christian life is to serve,” she says.

In her first career, Krushas was a high school English teacher in San Diego, California. In 2007, she moved to South Carolina to enter the seminary. Two years ago, she was called to serve as pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

“I’m a super fan of LSC,” Krushas says. “I think the work LSC does is remarkable. I am convinced the work the Lutheran church does in the world is effective and responsible, and I’m happy to stay in the framework the Lutherans have established.” For now, she says, her role on the boards is “learner and listener.”

Krushas likes to cook, play the piano, and walk the family dog, Roxy. She has two children: son Micah, a student at Lenoir-Rhyne University, and daughter Sage, 16. Welcome, Jennifer!

# Book signing event honors Trinity Grove veterans

Thanks to Lutheran Services Carolinas supporters Frances and Allen Lamb, Trinity Grove hosted best-selling author Dan Hampton for a book signing.

Hampton recently published "The Hunter Killers," a book chronicling the first Wild Weasels, a group of elite aviators who flew behind enemy lines, provoked fire from enemy missiles and anti-aircraft guns, and then sought out and destroyed the surface-to-air missile nests.

Allen Lamb was one of the very first Wild Weasels, flying the first successful mission in 1965. Hampton was also a Wild Weasel, flying missions during the Iraq war. Lamb joined Hampton at the book signing, and both men greeted the veterans among the audience, which included many Trinity Grove residents.

Frances Lamb arranged Hampton's visit to Trinity Grove because she felt it would be an opportunity for the veterans who live there to be thanked publicly.

Frances, who is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Wilmington and a member of LSC's board of advisors, says the more she learns about its programs, the more she appreciates them. "Everything I've seen (of LSC) is remarkable," she said.



*Allen and Frances Lamb are supporters of LSC. Allen - one of the first Wild Weasels - is featured in Dan Hampton's book "The Hunter Killers."*

The Lambs have been generous supporters of LSC's veterans programs. When Frances heard about Faith Farm, LSC's transitional housing program for female veterans, she didn't just write a check. She went for a visit and met the women served there. LSC's foster care program is also close to her heart.

*Author Dan Hampton, a friend of Frances and Allen Lamb, visited Trinity Grove recently, where he signed copies of his book and greeted fellow veterans.*



# Columbia camp serves refugee children

Outdoor play, art, music, and games – whether the camp is for kids from the Carolinas or kids from Eritrea the goal is the same: summertime fun!

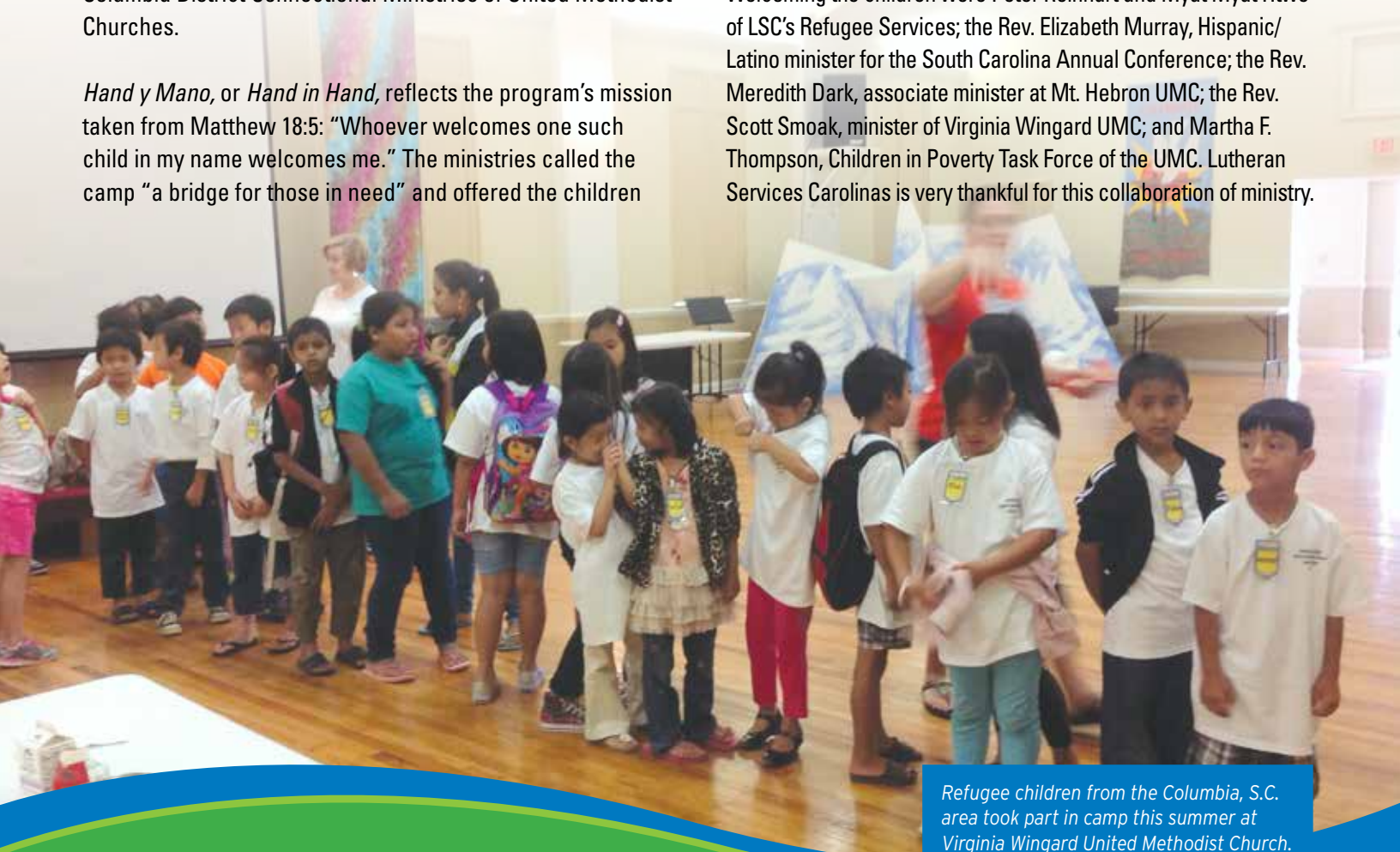
In July, over 40 kids from 5 to 8 years of age - refugee children from Eritrea, Burma, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Congo - ran, climbed, jumped, and danced their way around Virginia Wingard United Methodist Church in Columbia, South Carolina, as part of the *Hand y Mano* effort of the Columbia District Connectional Ministries of United Methodist Churches.

*Hand y Mano*, or *Hand in Hand*, reflects the program's mission taken from Matthew 18:5: "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me." The ministries called the camp "a bridge for those in need" and offered the children

opportunities to make friends, be creative, try new things, build confidence, and have fun.

The church is located in the Broad River Road corridor, which is home to many refugee families resettled by Lutheran Services Carolinas. Most of these families cannot afford to send their children to summer camps or enrichment programs, and the camp was offered to them at no charge.

Welcoming the children were Peter Reinhart and Myat Myat Htwe of LSC's Refugee Services; the Rev. Elizabeth Murray, Hispanic/Latino minister for the South Carolina Annual Conference; the Rev. Meredith Dark, associate minister at Mt. Hebron UMC; the Rev. Scott Smoak, minister of Virginia Wingard UMC; and Martha F. Thompson, Children in Poverty Task Force of the UMC. Lutheran Services Carolinas is very thankful for this collaboration of ministry.



Refugee children from the Columbia, S.C. area took part in camp this summer at Virginia Wingard United Methodist Church.

## LSC receives HEART grant

Lutheran Services Carolinas has received a \$36,190 award to fund HEART of Living, an innovative program of creative arts, physical fitness, and health education. The funding is made possible through the N.C. Coalition for Long-Term Care Enhancement and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

HEART of Living seeks to improve the overall health and well-being of those LSC serves by promoting health and art—HEART—throughout the agency's senior services

programs. This award will fund specific efforts at LSC's seven nursing homes.

HEART of Living is also part of New Pathways, the LSC culture change initiative started in 2004 to emphasize person-centered, resident-directed care and services.

The bulk of the award will be used for staff training, supplies, and equipment.



A Trinity Village resident paints a camper's foot as part of a banner-making project.



Campers and Trinity Village residents teamed up to create this banner.



Campers enjoy a bowling outing.

## Trinity Village and Lutheridge team up for innovative day camp

Think of camp, and a nursing home probably isn't what will pop into your head — but the success this summer of a Lutheroad Day Camp at Hickory's Trinity Village might make you think differently about what camp can be.

The camp experience proved wonderful not only for the young campers but for the Trinity Village residents as well, who joined in on some of the week's activities.

Five counselors from Lutheridge, a Lutheran camp and conference center in Arden, N.C., came to Hickory the third week of June to lead 17 grade-school-age campers in music, arts and crafts, games, Bible study, and nature programs. Special events included field trips for water fun, bowling, and miniature golf. The theme for the week was "A Love that Never Ends."

Although campers left at the end of the day, counselors spent the night at Trinity Village, with female counselors on one hall and male counselors on another.

"We've really enjoyed it," said counselor Katy Moran – who, along with another counselor on her hall, got a kick out of something not available in your typical camp cabin: adjustable beds. "It's been a lot of fun."

Campers had many opportunities to get to know the Trinity Village residents, including a banner-making activity in which residents painted campers' feet and campers painted residents' hands to make imprints on the banner.

"I thought it was a fantastic week," said Trinity Village Administrator Marcheta Campbell. "It was nice to see residents engage with those children. The day the campers arrived there was just a renewed sense of energy that came with them."

Lori Bode, Lutheridge assistant program and hospitality director, said she'd heard "nothing but wonderful things" following the Lutheroad Day Camp at Trinity Village. "Our staff returned with many stories of praise and thanksgiving."

## LSC honors exceptional employees

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responsibilities don't involve working directly with residents, Lu-Ann assists the nursing staff at meals by helping to deliver residents' trays. She enjoys celebrating the holidays with the residents by dressing up, bringing goodies, or playing games.

**Sandra Cross**, staff development coordinator at Trinity Oaks health and rehab, has been with LSC for 26 years and continues to work beyond retirement age for the love of her job and the organization. Knowledgeable about company policies and all things nursing, Sandra has a gift for communication. "I enjoy being productive and love to be with people and make them laugh," says Sandra.

**Robin Mashburn** has been on the life enrichment team at Trinity Living Center since 2011 and worked before that as a volunteer. Known for never having a "that's not my job" attitude, Robin is always aware of the needs of TLC participants. Patient and kind even in the most stressful situations, Robin "shows such love towards the people she serves," always meeting them where they are, says coworker Amber Dobbins.

**Haneen Alsafi** is a medical services case manager for Refugee Services. Known for always having a smile on her face, Haneen is a fearless advocate for the rights of refugees. She organized and led an interpreter training program for some past clients who volunteer and work with Refugee Services as interpreters. As a former refugee herself, Haneen brings compassion, wisdom, and humor to her job.

# Searstone/LSC committee announces grants

The SearStone/Lutheran Services Carolinas Community Benefit Committee has recently announced grant awards totaling \$145,480.

Grant recipients include the Center for Volunteer Caregiving, awarded \$25,000 to improve delivery of the organization's programs and services; Green Level Apartments, awarded \$26,340 to support program expenses and provide residents with access to a nutritionist; Guiding Lights, awarded \$50,000 to help provide caregivers with the information, resources, education, and training needed to provide care in the home; Resources for Seniors, Inc., \$21,750 to help provide seniors with respite care at home in emergency situations; Trinity at

Home, \$5,500 to provide liquid nutritional supplements to low-income seniors through the Ensuring Good Health program of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church; and the White Oak Foundation, awarded \$16,890 to help support the cost of program fees, as well as vehicle insurance, fuel, and equipment.

The committee directs five percent of revenues from the operation of SearStone to Wake County nonprofit organizations serving seniors, indigent seniors, or other vulnerable populations.



*Pictured from left to right, Chris Romick, SearStone; Michelle McWilliams, Green Level Apartments; Mary Ann Johnson, Lutheran Services Carolinas; Rev. Charles Tyner, White Oak Foundation; Nicole Bruno, Guiding Lights; Lynn Templeton, Center for Volunteer Caregiving; Alice Nelson, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church; Dave Wolf, SearStone; Juanita Young, White Oak Foundation; Jeffrey DeMagistris, Lutheran Services Carolinas. Unavailable for photograph, Resources for Seniors.*

## LSC shares mission with Assistant Secretary of State

Anne Richard, U.S. Department of State Assistant Secretary of State for Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, visited Raleigh in May to speak about refugee issues and learn about refugee resettlement in the Raleigh area from groups that included Lutheran Services Carolinas.

While addressing a group at Wake Technical Community College, many of whom were refugee services workers, Richard said, "You don't have

to worry when you wake up if you're making a difference – you know you are. I'm grateful for the role you all play."

Dr. Aldona Wos, the former Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, also spoke. Wos shared her own story of immigrating to this country from Poland as the daughter of political refugees – her father survived the Flossenburg Concentration Camp.



Richard, along with a small group that included Bedrija Jazic and Haneen Alsafi of LSC Refugee Services, visited Westgate Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram, a Raleigh business that has an exemplary record of hiring refugee employees. The owner is a former refugee himself, as is the service manager. Following that visit, Richard visited an after-school program run by Lutheran Services Carolinas that serves refugee children.

*LSC Refugee Services staff joined Anne Richard, fourth from the left, and others for a visit to a Raleigh Jeep dealership that hires many refugees.*



Trinity Oaks resident Mac Atwell gets some puppy love.



Trainer Nina Dix leads a Canine Good Citizen class held at Trinity Oaks health and rehab.

## Trinity Oaks goes to the dogs

Maxine, a resident at Trinity Oaks health and rehab, is thrilled when she gets a chance to pet a dog.

"You made my day," she told a dog training class that was meeting in the Trinity Oaks activity room. "I love dogs," she explained, "but I can't take care of them."

Maxine, and other nursing home residents like her, are the reason therapy dogs exist. A friendly dog can do wonders to lift spirits – but dogs who visit nursing homes need some training.

One of the first steps in that training is the Canine Good Citizen certification. The test requires that dogs successfully achieve 10 objectives, including sitting or lying down on command, walking through a crowd, reacting appropriately to another dog, and coming when called. This CGC certification is what the dog owners who met for a series of Saturdays at Trinity Oaks under the tutelage of Nina Dix were pursuing.

The Canine Good Citizen certification isn't just for therapy dogs, but most of the dogs in the class at Trinity Oaks are working toward

becoming therapy dogs, Dix said. In fact, that's the reason that Dix decided to hold the class at a nursing home.

"It's kind of like therapy for the residents, too, to become part of the training," Dix says. "It's great for the residents to take part."

While they're at Trinity Oaks, the dog owners get a taste of what therapy dogs do so they can make an informed decision about whether they want to pursue the certification. After a dog passes the Canine Good Citizen test, the next step to becoming a therapy dog is to visit nursing homes – with supervision – to learn about how to do therapy work. For therapy certification, another test is required.

Well known in dog training and rescue circles, Dix donated her time to teach the CGC class at Trinity Oaks. She's been a frequent visitor since her dog Magnum began training at Trinity Oaks years ago to become a therapy dog. She and Magnum visit monthly with a group of other therapy dogs and their owners.

"There's not a more dog-friendly nursing home around here," she says. "They know the benefit therapy dogs bring to the residents."





**“Residents were  
very touched  
that someone  
spent so much  
time preparing  
a gift for them.”**

*– Courtney Adams,  
Trinity Place administrator*

*Cecile Almond of Trinity Place models her prayer  
shawl, a gift from the Women of the ELCA.*



# Prayer made tangible

## Shawls donated by Women of the ELCA bring warmth and comfort to many

*This story by Katie Scarvey appeared originally in "Gather" magazine.*

One thousand five hundred and eight prayer shawls.

If you estimate that it takes 20 hours of work to knit or crochet one prayer shawl – and for many knitters, that estimate is conservative – making 1,508 shawls would require 30,160 hours of labor. Translated into eight-hour work days, that's 3,770 days – or more than 10 years of work, with no weekends or days off.

That helps to put into perspective the amount of energy that went into creating the woolly avalanche of shawls that poured into the Ninth Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA last summer in Charlotte as women from around the country answered a call for prayer shawls. The shawls were distributed among the various ministries of Lutheran Services Carolinas.

A shawl knitted by a woman in Minnesota may now be the soft "woobie" that soothes to sleep a child in foster care in South Carolina. A shawl crocheted in California could now be gracing the shoulders of a frail nursing home resident in North Carolina who can't ever be too warm.

The shawls, of course, are more than the sum of their stitches. Prayers and hope went into the making of the shawls and accompanied them as they made their way to recipients. Made by human hands and prayed over by human hearts, prayer shawls affirm the value of the life of the recipient and serve as a reminder of God's comforting and unconditional love.

### **For warmth**

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Adults with severe and persistent mental illness in LSC's Assertive Community Treatment Team program in Raleigh, N.C., were thrilled to receive the shawls.

"Many of our clients don't have funds to purchase winter wear," said Brie Teer, who works in the ACTT office. "They use the shawls to keep warm."

### **For welcome**

.....

LSC's Refugee Resettlement program has also made good use of the shawls, distributing them to newly arrived refugee families as a welcoming gift.

"They're all very grateful and excited," says program director Bedrija Jazic, who adds that the shawls are sometimes used as blankets for young children.

Hundreds of the shawls went to LSC's nursing homes in North Carolina, including Trinity Place in Albemarle. Residents there, including 103-year-old Jennie Whitley, were excited to receive an unexpected blessing, a gift made by unknown hands.

"I've really enjoyed it," Whitley said. "It keeps me warm."

"Residents were very touched that someone spent so much time preparing a gift for them," said Administrator Courtney Adams.

### **For comfort and peace**

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At Trinity Village in Hickory, the shawls are used as prayer quilts when a resident is nearing the end of life, with a ceremony for those families who desire it, says Sharon Benfield, life enrichment director at Trinity Village. Staff members gather around the bedside of the resident, along with his or her family.

"We place the quilt over the loved one, covering them with love and prayers," Benfield says. "We often have scripture and pray together, giving thanks and celebrating the life we have shared together."

"Many family members are incredibly moved and so appreciate the act of kindness, the tangible gift and the dignity associated with it all, to the very end."

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In addition to the ceremonial function, the shawls are also shared with Trinity Village residents who want to keep warm.

### For birthday cheer

At Trinity Glen, a skilled care nursing home in Winston-Salem, residents look forward to getting a prayer shawl on their birthdays.

Cleo Douthet, turning 102, recently received one with jaunty stripes in bold colors. “Thank you kindly!” he said.

Resident Anne Vandiver loves hers, which features three soothing shades of grayish blue. “It’s the best gift I’ve gotten,” she says. She uses it sparingly – for special occasions like church – because she wants to “keep it nice.”

Vandiver learned that her shawl came from Sharon Salo of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Cloud, Minn., and she added her own line of thanks to a note written by the keeper of the shawls, Chaplain Beth Woodard.

“I was very excited to get it,” Vandiver says. “It was a very, very nice blessing. I was very touched by those women who spend their time doing good things for others.”

## A prayer in every loop of yarn

*This column by the Rev. Beth Woodard, Trinity Glen chaplain, appeared originally in “Gather” magazine.*

When you’re in your eighth or ninth decade, a birthday isn’t something you necessarily want to think about.

But at Trinity Glen, a skilled nursing home in Winston-Salem, N.C., a new program ensures that when a resident’s special day rolls around, it gets noticed.

Each resident receives a hand-knitted or hand-crocheted prayer shawl on his or her birthday.

My chaplain’s office at Trinity Glen is brimming over with shawls – crocheted shawls with squares in the shape of colorful crosses; green lacy knitted shawls, light as a cobweb; shawls with hot-pink tassels; sturdy shawls in shades of brown.

They came from Michigan, Florida, Washington State and Vermont.

And they often move residents to tears of joy. To be told “Happy Birthday,” to receive a squeeze of the hand and a kiss on the cheek, to know that you matter and that you are loved, means a great deal.

Church members who make the shawls pray for the recipient, whoever he or she might be. And when the shawls leave the church and go out into the wider world, often the one who made the shawl doesn’t know the one who will receive it. That kind of intercessory prayer—praying for strangers—can strengthen the religious foundations of all involved.



*The Rev. Beth Woodard presents a birthday shawl to a Trinity Glen resident.*

Initially, Trinity Glen received 74 shawls, and then a further allotment of another three dozen – a gracious plenty of beautiful creations. As residents come and go, though, we wanted to ensure a steady supply for future residents as well.

I sent a simple email request to members of a Facebook page for ELCA clergy: If you are pastor at a church that has a prayer shawl ministry, would you be willing to mail me one shawl?

Within 48 hours we had promises of dozens of shawls. They came from Baudette, Minn. and Lilburn, Ga. They came from High Point, N.C. and Phoenix, Ariz. “Thanks for today’s God sighting,” one colleague responded.

I’m a knitter myself. I know how much love and dedication and time go into every stitch. The thought of a prayer in every loop of yarn takes my breath away as I contemplate the thousands of prayers sheltered in each shawl.

“Thank you,” one resident wrote in a shaky scrawl, wanting to add her personal gratitude to our note of thanks sent to the congregation in St. Cloud, Minn., where her shawl was made.

Even residents deep within dementia respond to these shawls — and to the knowledge of a stranger’s prayers—with a sparkle in their eyes, with surprise that someone thought of them and wished them well, with simple gratitude. For just a moment, who they used to be flashes within them, and they remember, and so do I.

# Mt. Moriah women help Trinity Living Center 'dine with dignity'

Mt. Moriah women sew dining scarves for Trinity Living Center.



Kathy Johnson of Mt. Moriah models one of the finished scarves.

A group of women at Mt. Moriah Church in Landis, N.C., normally meet once a month to do quilting projects, but they recently put their quilting on hold in order to help Lutheran Services Carolinas.

Led by Sarah Higgins, the women sewed dining scarves for Trinity Living Center, a Lutheran Services Carolinas adult day center. A superior option to bibs, dining scarves allow participants a dignified way to protect their clothing during meals.

Trinity Living Center bought scarf material through a "Dining with Dignity" grant from the Margaret C. Woodson Foundation. They delivered the material to Mt. Moriah, along with a pattern that came from the Alzheimer's Resource Center of Connecticut.

The women were able to make about 80 scarves with the material they were given.

The grant also includes funding for several half moon-shaped tables that allow one person to assist up to four participants at a time during a meal. Funding will also buy special silverware that will allow some participants to feed themselves more successfully.



## BRIEFS

### IAFT client attends Camp Hope

A child in LSC's Intensive Alternative Family Treatment program was selected to attend Camp Hope this summer. Camp Hope serves children in the Winston-Salem community who are in foster care as a result of abuse and neglect, who are under-resourced, or who have suffered some sort of trauma. Thanks to Camp Hope for supporting LSC in fulfilling its mission!



### LSC child and family services to participate in cohort study

Lutheran Services Carolinas child and family services was among 12 organizations chosen amid stiff competition to participate in a cohort study with the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Lutheran Services in America. The study is part of the Provider Exchange®, a network of child welfare providers, and will create evidence-based practices and outcomes-guided programs to improve the well-being and lives of at-risk youth and families across the United States.

This collective work is made possible through generous support of The Annie E. Casey Foundation and a companion grant from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Lutheran Services for Children Endowment.

"The LSA network is thrilled to have the opportunity to work with The Annie E. Casey Foundation to form a learning cohort and partner with the Provider Exchange," said Charlotte Haberaecker, president and CEO of Lutheran Services in America.

# Senate intern learns about LSC

When LSC talks, Sommer Cagle listens.

Cagle is a summer intern with U.S. Senator Tim Scott's office. She recently visited LSC's Columbia Office to find out more about the organization's mission, people, and programs.

Charged with the responsibility of learning more about South Carolina, Cagle was also encouraged to concentrate on areas that interested her the most. There she found LSC. "Being that enabling hope in others, particularly in families, is a high priority to me, my findings led me to you [LSC]," she said.

Of particular importance to Cagle is learning more about foster care, human trafficking, and domestic violence.

A rising junior at North Greenville University, Cagle conducted an informal group interview with Bethany Vause, S.C. executive director of child and family services; Bedrija Jazic, director of refugee services for North and South Carolina; Julie Hood, foster care regional team manager; and Mary Ann Johnson, LSC director of community relations. They were later joined by Jean Keefe, foster care regional team manager.



*Bethany Vause, Sommer Cagle, Julie Hood, Jean Keefe, and Bedrija Jazic met recently in LSC's Columbia office to talk about the LSC mission.*

Cagle has been visiting other nonprofits in the state and indicated that the experiences have been life changing. Until recently her long-term academic goal has been a law degree, though she says she is now considering a change to nonprofit work.

Perhaps she'll end up back at LSC.

# SC and NC Women of the ELCA give generously to LSC

Lutheran Services Carolinas has been richly blessed this year by the generosity of the Women of the ELCA in both North and South Carolina. Their gifts will directly benefit participants in LSC's refugee services, foster care, veterans services, and adult residential programs.

At their annual gathering in Lexington, South Carolina, the SC Women of the ELCA donated more than \$3,000 in gift cards, as well as cash donations, clothing and recreational items, school supplies, hygiene kits, cleaning supplies, and household items.



"We were overwhelmed by the SC WELCA's response to their convention project this year," said Bethany Vause, LSC executive director for South Carolina. "These supplies will go a long way for our child and family programs."

At their annual gathering in Hickory, the NC Women of the ELCA also donated personal care supplies, school supplies, and household items, giving close to \$2,000 in in-kind gifts and more than \$1,400 in monetary donations to LSC's North Carolina programs and services.

Thanks to the Women of the ELCA in both North and South Carolina for being such faithful ministry partners and for their continued devotion to service and outreach.

In the most recent issue of the LSC Annual Report, several names were inadvertently omitted from a listing of Memory Gifts. Please accept our heartfelt apologies for this oversight. The list is reprinted here in its entirety and, once again, we sincerely regret the error.

## 2014 Memory Gifts

Individuals being memorialized are acknowledged here along with the donor or donors, whose names are listed in italics.

- Mary Bubble Alexander  
*Ms. Colean S. Foster*  
*Ms. Joyce N. Wilson*
- Tom Arcuri  
*Mr. & Mrs. Daniel F. Huber*  
*Mr. & Mrs. C. Michael Moody*  
*Ms. Marianna A. Moody*  
*Ms. Jessica D. Norris*
- Margaret Armstrong  
*Mr. Charles W. Armstrong III*  
*Betty M. Campbell*  
*Suzanne W. Casey*  
*Barbara Hardister*  
*Harold & Peggy Mowery*  
*Ms. Dorothy M. Smith*
- Victoria Aurora  
*Mr. Frank J. Aurora*  
*Mr. & Mrs. John Aurora*  
*Mr. & Mrs. Randy D. Jarrett*  
*Mr. & Mrs. Brown D. Overcash, Jr.*  
*Salisbury MillWorks, Inc.,*  
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*Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Oxford*  
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*Mrs. Mary C. Belk*
- Ramona C. Bennett  
*Donald L. Bennett*
- Jody Benson  
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- Lemuel S. & Nancy Caldwell Blades  
*Donald L. Bennett*
- Carlie Bobbitt  
*Ms. Diann B. Icenhour*
- Frankie Bolick  
*Mr. & Mrs. Ken Mull*
- Judith Bolzan  
*Mr. James J. Bolzan, Jr.*
- Henry Bowen  
*Mrs. Jean C. Bowen*
- Dr. Robert E. Boyd, Sr.  
*Mr. & Mrs. Charles D. Taylor, Jr.*
- Joseph W. Bretz  
*Mr. & Mrs. Karl Bretz*
- Dr. Bill D. Brittain  
*Ms. Cathy S. Fergen*  
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*Mrs. Mabel B. Lawing*
- Jewel Brooks  
*Ms. Freida Matthews*
- Dr. Bachman Brown  
*Mrs. Marjorie S. McDaniel*
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*Cary Rumsey*
- Mary Lou Byrne  
*Mr. Robert B. Byrne*  
*Mrs. Ellen James*
- Rowe B. Campbell  
*Mr. & Mrs. Larry W. Nichols*
- Lauren Suzanne Cecil  
*Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Hamilton*
- Robert Chartier  
*The Rev. Melvin E. &*  
*Dr. Nancy T. Amundson*
- The children who lost their lives to violence in 2014  
*Macedonia Lutheran Church*  
*Women of the ELCA,*  
*Prosperity, SC*
- Martha Y. Cline  
*Dr. Robert S. Cline*
- Ramona Cline  
*Mrs. Catherine W. Coltrain*  
*Mr. Joe Ellis, Jr.*  
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## The best Oktoberfest

Before you know it, it will be October, and that means Oktoberfest at Incarnation Lutheran Church in Columbia, S.C. Mark your calendar for Oct. 9-11 because you won't want to miss this celebration of German heritage at 3005 Devine St. in Columbia, which offers authentic food, beverages, music, games and fun for the whole family. Saturday, Oct. 10, is LSC Day at Oktoberfest!

Proceeds from Oktoberfest benefit Lutheran Services Carolinas, Harvest Hope Food Bank, and the Midlands Foundation for Foster Children.

If you would like more information, or would like to volunteer to work a shift, please visit [www.oktoberfestcolumbia.com](http://www.oktoberfestcolumbia.com).



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