

Western North Carolina Association Church Women 2012 – 2013 Annual Report

Our 2012 Fall Enrichment Meeting was held at the Nazareth Children's Home in Rockwell. This meeting was good in many respects, but disappointing in the lack of attendance from many of the churches in the more western portions of our state. I am working on building up interest in our annual gathering of WNCA Church Women throughout all of western North Carolina.

In early October 2012, the organizational meeting of the elected officers of WNCA Church Women was held at Piedmont Crossing in Thomasville to plan our activities for the year. This was followed by the Southern Conference Church Women leaders training at Black Lake Retreat Center near Asheboro with good attendance from our WNCA Church Women.

In March, 2013 we met with the Southern Conference Church Women at the expanded Board meeting to hear plans for the summer gathering by the Eastern North Carolina Association Church Women that was planned to be held at Community UCC in Elon on June 13-15. I presided on Friday at this meeting.

Two programs districts of the WNCA Church Women held meetings in August, 2013. The Guildford-Randolph District Church Women met in Asheboro at First Congregational UCC on August 11, and the Rowan District Church Women met at First UCC in Salisbury on August 18. Both of these meetings were well planned and well attended. Their purpose is to inform participants about programs, projects and coming events involving Southern Conference and WNCA Church Women.

On Saturday, June 1, the WNCA Church Women participated in the annual Fun Fest at Nazareth Children's Home in Rockwell. We had a wonderful outpouring of items that were sold under the tent and they spread out beyond in all directions. We netted \$552.60 from sales and it went to the Nazareth Children's Home. Goods not sold were donated to their thrift shop at 1800 East Innes Street in Salisbury.

I also represented the WNCA Church Women on the WNCA Board of Directors and at a special gathering of key women of the Southern Conference called by the Rev. Dr. Edward Davis, Conference Minister, at the conference office in Burlington on August 29.

The WNCA 2013 Fall Enrichment Meeting of Church Women was held on Saturday, September 21, at Piedmont Crossing in Thomasville. The theme was "An Abiding Hope" and our keynote address was given by Rev. Dora Atlas, a brand new resident at Piedmont Crossing. At that meeting, the annual \$1,000 WNCA Church Women Scholarship was awarded to a deserving child of Nazareth Children's Home. The offering from the meeting went to Our Church's Wider Mission. At that meeting it was announced that the United Church of Christ's Southern Regional Women's Conference will be at Cervany Conference Center in Live Oak, Florida, October 18-20, and the WNCA has a group going to the meeting. Eugenia Holste was announced as our Woman of the Year. We expected to honor her at the General Synod earlier in June, but outstanding women from the conferences are no longer honored at that meeting and we want to recognize Eugenia Holste at our WNCA Annual Meeting today.

Looking ahead, the WNCA Church Women are hosting the summer gathering of Southern Conference Church Women at Black Lake Retreat Center under the very capable leadership of Nora Norred on June 19 – 21, 2014. We are excited to have speakers Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte and Dorothy Lester. Dorothy is the daughter of Emily Lester who was one of the founders of church lay women back at the beginning of the United Church of Christ. We invite all women of the Southern Conference and the WNCA to join us for this gathering.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Doris Yeattes
President
Western North Carolina Church Women