

Working as a Team to Reach a Community

Submitted by Renatta Loquist, MN, RN, FAAN, FCN

Within the Lexington South Carolina community, there is a population of people with limited access to health care resources. The churches of Lexington Presbyterian, Mt Olive CME, St Paul Missionary Baptist, Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist, Lake Murray Baptist, and New Bethel AME through their health ministries have recognized the need for health education in the Lexington community particularly for the communities to whom we serve due to our locations in Lexington. With that commonality, the churches planned a communitywide health and safety fair where anyone from the community can gain access to services and information for all aspects of health and safety while having fun. The fair was held Saturday March 1, 2025, at the Lexington Leisure Center. The goal of the health fair is to promote the physical, emotional, mental, & spiritual health of the people in the local community through FREE testing, screening, and educational opportunities. Each participant took with them the results of screenings provided as well as information regarding health and safety opportunities and resources within the local area. This

year 225 people were served at the fair and more than 45 screenings and resources were represented. Activities for the children were provided, and tours of a fire truck and EMS vehicle were open to everyone. Free clothing and food were available to those attending the fair. Stories were shared about how families were provided with needed clothing, prayers served to support people during challenging times and screenings alerted attendees to needs to follow up with their care providers.

SCFCNA Annual Conference:

Save the Date! The South Carolina Faith Community Nurses Association Annual Conference entitled "A Call to Action for Caregivers" on **August 1, 2025, from 8:30am to 3:30pm**. Nurses encounter caregivers in any practice area. This conference will give you an understanding of the caregiver challenges and the resources to help you better support and teach these vital members of the patient care team. Watch for more details and registration information at www.scfcna.com.

2025 Meeting Dates

The SC Faith Community Nurses Association welcomes anyone interested in health ministries in faith communities to join us at our quarterly meetings. Meetings are held in person from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm at First Baptist Church of Irmo, 7068 Nursery Road, Columbia, SC 29212. You may also join by Zoom link. For access to the Zoom link please contact Anita Boland at scfcnapresident@gmail.com.

July 8, 2025

October 14, 2025

Continuing Education Credits are awarded to members of SCFCNA for participation in the educational offerings. Speakers for July and October will be announced in a later newsletter.

The South Carolina Faith Community Nurses Association supports the Palmetto Gold Nurse Recognition and Scholarship Program. The Annual Gala was held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center on April 26, 2025. The SCFCNA congratulates all the recipients for their outstanding commitment and dedication to nursing and the citizens of South Carolina. ■



To learn more about the SCNA Organizational Affiliate Program
go to <https://www.scnurses.org/page/SCNAOrgAffiliates2023>