



**Diocese of Alabama President, Andi Silberman**  
January 2007 Report

Senior Chapters:	36	Senior Chapters in training:	1
Junior Chapters	2	Junior Chapter in training:	2
Daughters at Large:	54		
Deaths:	1		
Total Membership:	468		

The Rev. Alison Carmody, Diocesan DOK Clergy

- We are still praying about the first all Spanish Daughters of the king study in Alabama this year. This study is at Iglesia Episcopal de la Gracia Church in Birmingham with the Rev. Dr. Hernan Afanador-Kafuri. Delia Cerpa will be leading the training. We have all the study materials in Spanish.
- Our Fall Assembly was held at St. John's Episcopal Church in Montgomery, Alabama with George West facilitating the retreat. The date was Saturday, November 11, 2006. Our theme was 'Speaking of God' the Path of the Psalms. The focus was on the Psalms with a focus on culture of the time, and language. The day was split into three meditations: 1) Hearing the Psalms, 2) Internalizing the Psalms, and 3) Expressing the Psalms.  
George West is a faithful Episcopalian who is formally educated as an attorney. He and his wife took a different path when they decided to give up law and move from New Orleans to Montgomery. He is a member of the staff of St. John's Episcopal Church, Montgomery. A trained and experienced Centering Prayer teacher, EFM mentor, and spiritual director, he is presently a novice with the Anglican Order of Preachers, and the acting prior of the Catherine House within that Order. He resides on a wildlife refuge near Millbrook, Alabama with his wife and two children. George (and his family) is a huge blessing to the Diocese of Alabama! This amazing day ended with a Eucharist closing service celebrated by our own, Rev. Alison Carmody. It was fantastic!!!
- We have a new DOK Chapter at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Athens, Alabama. I installed the chapter last month. The Chapter President of St. Matthew's (Terry Christopher) of St. Matthew's in Madison, Alabama led the

training. Liz High and the ladies of St. Matthew's did a beautiful job of putting together a retreat with these ladies at the Joe Wheeler State Park. It was fabulous! What a privilege it was to be a part of this!

- Our Spring 2007 Assembly will be at St. Andrew's in Tuskegee on Saturday, April 21, 2007.
- Our Fall 2007 Assembly will be at Canterbury Chapel in Tuscaloosa on Saturday, November 3, 2007.
- I will be traveling to the Bishop Gravatt Center in Aiken, SC for the Province IV DOK Board Meeting January 12-15, 2007. It is at this board meeting that we set the complete agenda for our Province IV Assembly at Kanuga in October.
- Rev. Bob and Kay Blackwell have been a big part of the Diocesan's prayers. We continuously surrounded them with prayer while they were living in Damascus, Syria. It is very joyful news that the Blackwell's have accepted the call to Grace Church in Cullman, Alabama. They are an amazing testament to living into ones faith.
- There has been some fallout from those whom have felt that they must leave the Episcopal Church because of Bishop Gene Robinson. I don't quite get it. God has not changed. However, I want to be honest with this board and explain that the DOK Triennial was separated from our General Convention for the first time this summer. Several of the past National Leaders (we voted in new National Officers at Triennial) were leaving the Episcopal Church and they were trying to change our bylaws for a personal agenda. They held our Triennial in Orlando, Florida...and they knew that they had the vote for any amendments that they wished. God is so good. All of the amendments that would have had a major impact failed because the amendments were not posted properly to the general DOK membership, as per our bylaws. Only one amendment passed which allows a DOK to remain in the Order as a DOK at large, if they leave their church.
- Here is the good news: Triennial 2009 is back with the General Convention in California. Thanks be to God! The past National leadership seemed to be leading us toward the Anglican and away from our Episcopalian roots. There is a movement under (which I support) to strengthen our DOK bylaws.
- We have a brand new diocesan banner that was created and donated by past Diocesan President, Janet von Gal. The Alabama flag is also the flag of St. Andrew's. The Governor flew this Alabama flag over the Capitol, in honor of the Daughters. Janet then had the DOK cross appliquéd onto the Alabama flag. It is beautiful! I have carried this banner with me to all of the Diocesan and Province functions.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!