

Montgomery Convocation Meeting
April 16, 2007

St. John's in Montgomery was the site of our Spring Convocation meeting. 58 ladies attended representing 6 churches from the Montgomery area. There were 2 members of the clergy present: Rev. Robert Wisnewski, Jr. from St. John's and Rev. Mark Waldo, Jr. from St. Michael's and All Angels in Millbrook. Three members of our ECW Diocesan Board were present. They were Alleen Cater, President; Dee Busby, President Elect, and Getheryn Giles, CPC Coordinator.

Rev. Wisnewski welcomed us all to St. John's and gave a short devotional and prayer that set the tone for meeting

A short business meeting was held. Nancy Boston gave the treasurer's report and asked that Convocation dues be turned in to her. Alleen Cater shared some information about the ACTS 2 Plan for our diocese. Getheryn Giles gave an update on the "CPC" and encouraged each Parish to designate a Sunday for this purpose. She also asked that we initiate the Miles of Pennies (MOP) with our youth to help raise money for children's religious literature and grants. Bettye Benjamin gave a report on the National Cathedral.

St. John's has recently constructed a Chartres Labyrinth in the side courtyard of their church. Our guest speaker, Rev. Kerry Holder from Huntsville, has served as a consultant on the labyrinth throughout Alabama, Washington, D.C. and Vienna, Austria. Kerry is a specialized ministry consultant, retreat leader, and an Episcopal Priest. She has served as a rector, an associate rector and as a chaplain in Alabama, Montana, and New Jersey. She has lead numerous pilgrimages to Assisi, Italy, Taize, France, and England. Kerry gave a beautiful program about the history of the labyrinth and how walking it can inspire and uplift our lives and faith. She called it a "thumbprint of God", a vessel for prayer, much like our sacraments in the church. We were invited to walk the labyrinth after our lunch.

The hospitality of the women at St. John's was tremendous. A delicious lunch was served in their newly refurbished Parish Hall. It was a beautiful setting with lovely flowers everywhere and a perfect atmosphere for fellowship with each other.