

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN-DIOCESE OF ALABAMA
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
CARPENTER HOUSE-FEBRUARY 27, 2007

Alleen Cater, President, invited the Board to the garden at Carpenter House to view the Corporate Gift, a cross placed in the window of the Carpenter House Chapel, in memory of The Rt. Rev. Furman C. Stough. We then viewed the cross from inside the chapel and Adele gave her Devotional taken from Travels in a Donkey Trap by Daisy Baker. Daisy realized that her physical problems gave her spiritual blessings that she had not known before. Alleen then read excerpts from the sermon Bishop Stough gave on February 10, 1996 to the Diocesan Convention on "Why I was a Christian". We then returned to the conference room.

Those in attendance were: Alleen Cater, Joyce Dryden, Carolyn Foster, Sally Feuerlein, Sally Sinclair, Fiona Watts, Nancy Thompson, Brenda Mayhall, Adele Colvin, Carol Jean Exby, Gethryn Giles, Sallie Lowe, Tana Branch, Olivia Weingarten, Valerie Burnes, Anne Kimzey, Marilyn Atkins, and Dee Buzby.

Alleen Cater, President, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. She introduced Marilyn Atkins, secretary-elect, who was sitting in on the Board Meeting today and who will be taking minutes in the future for Betty Scroggins who has resigned her duties due to illness.

MINUTES: The minutes were approved as read.

TREASURER: Brenda Mayhall, Treasurer, reported that the Operating Fund has total receipts of \$4,881.00, total Disbursements of \$3,050.00, leaving a Balance of \$1,201.46. The Segregated Accounts are as follows: CPC, \$604.10; UTO, \$230.27; Communications, \$153.76; Scholarship, \$8,162.76; Board Assistance Fund, \$500.51; Corporate Gift Reserve, \$4,000.00; Acts II Campaign, \$214.00. The Checking Account has a balance of \$21,162.69, and the Triennial Account has a balance of \$3,759.07.

Discussion: Nancy Thompson, Scholarship, suggested that a pamphlet on the ECW be designed to explain how the ECW money is spent. It was suggested that Convocation Coordinators print the Presidents Check List to explain to the women of the diocese.

Olivia Weingarten, Consultant, suggested that The Rev. Rob Morpeth be consulted to investigate the possibility of placing the ACT II monies into the Diocesan Account in order to draw more interest.

After some discussion, it was suggested that when donors wish to make a memorial to a Scholarship Fund, they may choose to add to the sum of the principal for principal growth.

Nancy Thompson, Scholarship, after consulting with The Rev. Rob Morpeth, Deputy for Finance and Administration, and Ms. Maibeth Porter, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese, suggested that in the future all new Scholarship Funds open with a minimum of \$10,000. Nancy made a **MOTION** that she, as chair of the ECW Scholarship Committee, meet with The Rev. Rob Morpeth, and Maibeth Porter, to research the scholarships and report back to the ECW Board with recommendations regarding the use, the setting up of new scholarships, and future allocations and growth. The motion carried.

CLERGY LIAISON: The Rev. Deacon Carolyn Foster, Clergy Liaison, asked how she could better serve the Board and what we expected from her in this board position. Gethryn Giles suggested that the clergy liaison could assist those planning Fall Conference, or other events, with the religious part and work with the Event's Coordinator. Alleen shared her vision of this position by stating that the ECW benefits from clergy support and they from us. She envisions the clergy liaison as issuing invitations to

events, giving thanks for their support, and relating to the board the needs of the clergy. Carolyn will ask to be on the next agenda for the Clergy Conference to talk about ECW.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION: Alleen Cater, President, reported on the Diocesan Convention held February 15-17, 2007 in Tuscaloosa. She will continue to work on the Clergy Directory to keep it updated. She asked the board to take the bookmarks left over from convention to share with the women in their convocations, Women's Weekend, and Fall Conference.

ST. LYDIA'S/ST. CLARE'S NEEDLE ARTS GUILD: Alleen Cater, President, reported that a new Needle Arts Guild is being formed with Sherrie Laduke, coordinator. The next meeting will be held during the Parish Leadership Training Event, March 24, 2007 at St. Luke's, Birmingham.

ONGOING BUSINESS

ACTS II: Olivia Weingarten, and Fiona Watts, Fundraiser Committee, reported on their fundraising ideas: invite the Board to make a pledge through the ECW; hold an art auction; have district fundraisers; sell birdhouses in design of churches; hold a raffle at Fall Conference by asking each convocation to provide one item for the raffle. Olivia offered to chair the raffle at Fall Conference. It was noted that Grace Church, Cullman has pledged \$500.00 for three years, and St. Thomas, Birmingham has pledged \$300 for three years. It was decided that a thermometer of the ECW pledges will be put on the website. Olivia Weingarten offered to contact the Diocesan Altar Guild to enlist their help in raising the remainder of the cost of the sacristy. It was decided that those wanting to donate to the ACTS2 Campaign through the ECW should send it in through their ECW or to Carpenter House marked ECW ACTS2 Campaign; an ECW Pledge Card will be needed for this purpose. The Convocation Coordinators should let their women know that they can contribute through the Diocesan ECW. Sally Sinclair, Communications, will list the pledges on the website; the Board pledges will be listed as a group and not individually. All were asked to send any other ideas to Olivia Weingarten or Fiona Watts.

BISHOP PARSLEY: We were very pleased that Bishop Parsley joined us for an informal chat before lunch. He thanked the Board for the pledge of \$65,000 to ACTS2, spoke of The Presiding Bishop meeting in Tanzania, the election of the new Bishop Suffragan, and his hope that the Chapel at Camp McDowell will be completed by next summer. He asked us to pray for the Bishop Suffragan process, and ACTS2 which he hopes will be finished at the end of the Easter Season.

WOMEN'S WEEKEND: Dee Buzby, President Elect, gave the report in the absence of Barbara Carpenter's, Tennessee Valley Coordinator. Registration forms for Women's Weekend were passed out and others will be mailed to the churches in the diocese on March 1. The agenda is the same as the one presented at our January meeting. The women of the Tennessee Valley Convocation will be selling T-shirts to build up the seed money that had been missing. The money from the silent auction will benefit the Scholarship Fund and the alms will most likely go to the ECW Pledge to the ACTS Campaign. A question was asked about funds for an interpreter for the deaf so that women from St. John's for the Deaf could join in the weekend. It was suggested that someone could inquire about funds from The Rev. Bill King. Joyce Dryden, Nominations, made a **MOTION** that for general accounting purposes, seed money and overages for Women's Weekend and Fall Conference should be sent to the Diocesan Treasurer, with the Women's Weekend monies deadline of August 1 and the Fall Conference deadline of December 31. The motion was carried. This policy should be added to the job descriptions of Women's Weekend and Fall Conference.

PROVINCE IV ECW CONFERENCE June 4-6, 2007: Alleen Cater, President, took names of those interested in attending. Information can be found on the Kanuga website-
www.kanuga.org/conferences/2007/ecw.shtml

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE: Alleen Cater, President, made a **MOTION** that By-laws #5 which reads "Whenever financial support is requested to fund a proposed project, written notice and explanation should be sent to the branches 90 days in advance of the Annual Conference when voting will take place" to be amended to read (a.) "a written notice can be via email to those for whom we have email addresses, and by US Postal Service for the remainder, and (b.) voting can take place by email and US Postal Service at any time of year, provided that notice and explanation are sent to parishes 90 days in advance of the date/s of voting. Parish delegates will have 30 days to register their votes." The motion was carried.

CALENDAR HANDBOOK: Dee Buzby, President Elect, reported that the theme for the 2008 calendar handbook will be "Blessed is she who believes" and focused on the extraordinary faith that the young Virgin Mary had that enabled her to say "yes" to God and how her faith can be an example for us today. All information for the 2008 calendar handbook, from Board Members and Convocation Coordinators, should be sent to Dee Buzby by July 31, 2007.

UTO: \$73.34 was collected in the UTO blue boxes at the Diocesan Convention.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: No report.

CPC: Gethryn Giles, CPC, reported that she had contacted the National Office seeking CPC boxes or other containers to collect monies for CPC and Miles of Pennies but was told there was no such thing. She will send letters to the parishes explaining Miles of Pennies. She asked that when sending a check to the ECW for Miles of Pennies to please mark the check for Miles of Pennies.

COMMUNICATIONS: Sally Sinclair, Communications, reported the good news that the hits on the website are up. She requested that people send in information for the Apostle. The website is now up to 42 megabytes, and growing. Sally wants to keep all information up to date and asked that in order to do this, each chairman check her page often to keep it current. Sally also reported that the Marketplace is being used. She would like the Board to think about the parish information sheet, how we can enter the information sooner, and her job description.

Prayer Partners: Gethryn Giles is actively working on this project with the Diocese of Southwest Florida. It was suggested that we encourage our prayer partners to visit our website and learn about our diocese.

MISSIONS: Anne Kimzey, Missions and Ministries, reported on our partnership with the Diocese of Haiti. The Keynote Speaker for the Diocesan Convention was Pere Val and he also gave a workshop where he spoke of the needs of his people in Haiti. Anne told us of a catalog that has been published that lists needed items that we can purchase, and the clergy spouses of our diocese are selling Haitian art. Anne will be attending a conference in April with other dioceses also in partnership with Haiti and she will try to secure more artwork for sale at Fall Conference. She offered to speak to churches on this ministry, and Sally will add information on the website.

NOMINATIONS: No Report

WOMEN AT THE WELL: NO Report

ASSISTANT TREASURER: No Report

CONVOCATIONS:

CONVOCATION COORDINATORS: Remember to hold the elections for Convocation Coordinator and Treasurer this spring. They will be installed at Fall Conference.

Birmingham: Fiona Watts, Convocation Coordinator, reported that the spring meeting will be Saturday, April 14, 8:30 a.m., at St. Stephen's, Birmingham with Morning Prayer, a meeting, and Breakfast.

Black Belt: Valerie Burns, Convocation Coordinator, reported that the spring meeting will be Friday, May 11, 2007, 10:30 a.m. at Old Cahaba, near Selma. St. Luke's Church, which was originally built at Cahaba, was moved to Martin's Station in the 1870's. The church has now been moved back to Cahaba. There will be a discussion of the church and a tour of St. Luke's. Registration will be \$10.00, with all proceeds going toward the restoration of the church.

Cheaha: Sally Feuerlein, Convocation Coordinator, reported that calendars and Prayer Partner information were distributed to each ECW. The Fall Convocation Meeting was held on September 21, 2006 at St. Simon Peter in Pell City with the Rev. John Bagby celebrating. The program was given by Jamie Plott of the Sawyerville Work Project. There were 23 in attendance. The spring meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15, 2007 at St. Michael and All Angels in Anniston. The speaker will be the Rev. Huey Gardner, Rector of St. Mary's on the Highlands in Birmingham.

East Alabama: Tana Branch, Convocation Coordinator, reported that the Board Dinner on Wednesday night prior the Fall Conference will be held at the Auburn University Conference Center. The Wine and Cheese Party will be Thursday night at St. Dunstan's. She reported that the ladies of the convocation have everything under control and that the spring meeting will be at St. James in Alex City, further information will follow.

Montgomery: Alleen Cater reported that the spring meeting will be April 16, 2007 at St. John's, Montgomery, with registration at 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer at 10:00, speaker, and lunch.

Mountain: Carol Jean Exby, Convocation Coordinator, reported that the information on the spring meeting will be announced soon.

Tennessee Valley: Dee Buzby reported for Barbara Carpenter, Convocation Coordinator, that the spring meeting will be March 20, 2007, at 10:00, St. Stephen's, Huntsville to finalize Women's Weekend. More information will follow.

CLOSING DEVOTIONAL: Adele closed with the Board praying the John Claypool Prayer.

Alleen Cater, President, adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Dee Buzby, Acting Secretary

DATES FOR CONVOCATION MEETINGS:

March 15, Cheaha, St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston

March 20, Tennessee Valley, St. Stephen's, Huntsville

April 14, Birmingham, St. Stephen's

April 16, Montgomery, St. John's, Montgomery

May 11, Black Belt, St. Luke's, Martin's Station

ON GOING BUSINESS

1. Is it possible for money raised through the ACTS2 Campaign to be placed in the Diocesan Accounts to earn higher interest?
2. Review Scholarship Funds and the purpose for each fund.
3. Raffle for Fall Conference, Olivia Weingarten, chairwoman.