

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN - DIOCESE OF ALABAMA
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 11, 2007
HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AUBURN, ALABAMA**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dee Buzby, Lisa Gruner, Gethryn Giles, Sally Sinclair, Barbara Carpenter, Valerie Burnes, Carol Jean Exby, Olivia Weingarten, Brenda Mayhall, Fiona Watts, Sallie Lowe, Adele Colvin, Alleen Cater, Tora Johnson, Sally Feuerlein, Anne Kimzey, Joyce Dryden, Jane Dickson, Tana Branch, Marilyn Atkins, Alyce Smith, Linda George, Cheryl Blair, Caroline Bright, Bea Strong, Liz Ensey, Lisa Parrish, Cathy Blackney and The Rev. Deacon Katy Smith.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Andi Silberman, Nancy Thompson, Fran Lowe, Carolyn Woodson, The Rev. Deacon Carolyn Foster and The Right Rev. Henry N. Parsley, Jr.

GUEST ATTENDING: Megon Huston, Director of the AL Folk School at Camp McDowell.

Alleen Cater, President, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Adele Colvin gave the devotional sharing excerpts of Albert Schweitzer's life and how his faith was akin to Julian of Norwich.

MINUTES: The minutes of the September 4, 2007 Board Meeting were approved as corrected. The corrected minutes will be posted on the ECW website.

WOMEN AT THE WELL: Gethryn Giles reported that Women at the Well is a ministry that began in 2003 holding several spiritual retreats. When Joy Phipps created this movement, she spoke to several groups in the diocese and received generous donations of financial support. About two months ago the Women at the Well Board decided to disband and use the remaining \$6,000+ to set up a Women at the Well Scholarship Fund. At the last board meeting, Alleen appointed The Rev. Deacon Katy Smith, Clergy Liaison for 2008-09, Fiona Watts and Adele Colvin to serve on a committee

to review the purpose, the name and to refine the criteria for use of this scholarship fund.

Adele Colvin reported that the committee met and the recommendations for the scholarships remain the same, however the committee is to consist of three members, one is the clergy liaison to the ECW Board, one the devotional chair and one other person appointed by the president, who may or may not be a member of the Board. The ECW College Scholarship Chairman will serve as an ex officio member of the committee. Adele moved the recommendations of the committee be approved. Motion carried.

CALENDAR: Dee Buzby handed out the new Calendar Handbook for 2008. The theme is "Blessed Is She Who Believes" adapted in the present tense from Luke 1:45. The calendar contains most of the information needed and new board members, especially, were encouraged to use it.

Women's Weekend: Alleen explained to the new Board members the history of Women's Weekend. Cathy Blackney has accepted the call to be the Women's Weekend Coordinator. She will form a committee from all over the diocese to host Women's Weekend 2008. This one year trial replaces the normal convocation rotation.

ACTS 2: In addition to the raffle for a Brighton Purse which Olivia Weingarten announced, Fiona Watts reviewed tentative plans for fundraising events throughout the diocese, to reach our ACTS2 ECW goal of \$65,000.00 to pay for the sacristy in the chapel at Camp McDowell. The importance of making certain that ECW pledges and donations to ACTS2 are properly marked and channeled through the ECW will insure the ECW goal is met.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brenda Mayhall handed out copies of the budget for 2008 and the financials through September 2007. Regarding the budget, the only proposed changes in 2008 versus 2007 are two line items under Disbursements; Calendar Handbook to be increased from \$1,200.00 to \$1,400.00 and under Gifts, Women at the Well Scholarship Fund to be given a token donation of \$50.00 making certain it remains a line item in the ECW budget. After discussion, \$250 was added to Contributions for a total of

\$11,250.00. Gethryn Giles moved the 2008 budget be approved as presented. Motion carried. The 2008 budget will be posted on the website.

Anne Kimsey thanked Board members for bringing children's chewable vitamins with iron for the upcoming Haiti Mission trip.

Sally Sinclair announced she is setting up, on the website, new email addresses for different Board functions and Board members. For example, one is set up for publicity@alabamaecw.org so that when information comes to that email address, it will automatically go out to Fiona Watts to send to The Apostle, Sally Sinclair will get a copy to post on the website and Lisa Gruner will be added to the email list so she can do periodic email newsletters. Email passwords will be sent to each account holder. Soon, an email address will be set up for ecwboard@alabamaecw.org. This will contain up to date email addresses for all Board members and simplify the process of sending an email to all Board members. The change from old Board member names to new Board member names will officially take place January 1, 2008.

Barbara Carpenter extended an invitation to all Board members to come to the Tennessee Valley Convocation meeting which will be held November 27, 2007 at St. Matthew's in Madison.

Dee Buzby announced extra Calendars are available for \$3.00 each.

Alleen Cater, President, called for a break in the meeting so out-going Coordinators/Board members could meet with in-coming Coordinators/Board members to exchange notebooks and other important information. This portion of the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Dee Buzby, President-Elect, called the new Board to order at 10:45 a.m. Dee welcomed everyone. She is looking forward to working with the new Board and discovering all the possibilities we have to take the ECW forward. She wants us to focus on spreading who the Episcopal Church Women are, what we do and why we are here. She would like us to stress to the parishes the President's check list, the calendar, the parish information sheet, and the importance of parishes sending in diocesan ECW contributions annually. She is open to all ideas and wants to hear members' concerns. Dee will be sending

all Board members a list of all positions on the Board including members of the Nomination, UTO and Scholarship committees as well as Women's Weekend when that committee is formed and she will provide an updated version to be posted on the website.

In January, the Board overnight retreat will begin with dinner, Friday, Jan. 4, 2008 at Camp McDowell. It concludes about 2:30 p.m on Saturday, January 5. The Spring Board meeting will be April 8, 2008 at Carpenter House starting at 10:00 a.m. Free parking is available at the Compass Bank parking garage on 5th Ave. North. You must get your ticket stamped by Denise at Carpenter House for the Diocese to pay for the parking.

Gethryn Giles reminded Convocation Coordinators to invite all Board members to their convocation meetings. Dee asked all Convocation Coordinators to check with her before they set a date to be sure she can attend.

One thing that is underused on the website is the listing of Parish ECW events. Christ Church in Tuscaloosa is having a Beer and Burger Bash Nov. 8.

Dee thanked everyone and turned the meeting back to Alleen Cater who called on Adele Colvin, Devotional chairman, to close the meeting. Together members recited the John Claypool Prayer, a prayer that was used to close each meeting for the past two years. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn D. Atkins
Recording Secretary

Paper copies of reports are attached to the hardcopy files of the minutes held by the President, Secretary and Historian. Electronic versions of the attachments are available online at www.alabamaecw.org

Treasurer's Report and 2008 Budget - Brenda Mayhall
Devotional Life and Study Report for 2006 and 2007 - Adele Colvin