

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN - DIOCESE OF ALABAMA  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
CARPENTER HOUSE-APRIL 21, 2009**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dee Buzby, Gethryn Giles, Marilyn Atkins, Carolyn Woodson, Barbara Carpenter, Anne Kimzey, Fiona Watts, Nancy Thompson, Sallie Lowe, Alleen Cater, Tana Branch, Alyce Smith, Cathy Blackney, Sally Sinclair, Liz Ensey, Joan East, Linda George, and the Rt. Rev. Henry N. Parsley, Jr., Ex Officio.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Tora Johnson, Lisa Gruner, Jane Dickson, Andi Silberman, Lisa Taylor, Brenda Mayhall, Cheri Blair, Bea Strong, Valerie Burnes, Frances Lowe, and the Rev. Deacon Katy Smith.

**Dee Buzby, Diocesan ECW President,** called the Board meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Dee thanked Gethryn Giles for organizing another successful PLTE. She thanked the Board for their support and presence.

**Anne Kimzey read a devotional** about Saint Anne from Margaret Guenther's book, *Toward Holy Ground: Spiritual Directions for the Second Half of Life.* Anne led the Board in the ECW Prayer.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the January 9 & 10 board meeting at Camp McDowell were approved as presented on a motion by Fiona Watts. The minutes are posted on the ECW website [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org)

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Carolyn Woodson, Treasurer, reported that the Operating Fund has an ending balance of \$14,476.13. Carolyn reviewed the funds available for scholarships this year. Through discussion, it was clarified that only the unspecified donations were to be divided with 50% going to principal only and the remainder given out in scholarships in the current/next year. The full \$3,000.00 from the Operating Fund is to be awarded for scholarships. As of 4/21/09 there is \$9,273.60 available for scholarships this year. More donations are still possible.

Discussion about the \$500.00 that is not needed for Women's Weekend and is now in Miscellaneous Receipts led to a motion by Barbara Carpenter that

the Board of Directors of the ECW designate \$500.00 from Miscellaneous Receipts in the Operating Fund to go toward scholarships on a one-time basis. Dee announced that the vote would be taken by email due to the lack of a quorum at the meeting.

Carolyn noted that the Triennial fund likely will not cover all expenses for the four delegates. Dee clarified that any costs above what is in the Triennial account is to come from the delegates and not from ECW funds. The Treasurer's Report is available on the ECW website [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org)

**CALENDAR HANDBOOK:** Gethryn Giles said Fran Lowe is updating the Missions and Ministries form so it will more clearly identify which ministries are the recipients of the various fundraisers and are tied to the Millennium Development Goals. She will be working with the convocation coordinators who will assist in gathering descriptions of the ministries from the parishes.

**UNITED THANK OFFERING (UTO):** Barbara Carpenter reported that the UTO grant committee met in January to review two grant applications that were submitted. Only one could be chosen and the committee recommended the one from the Church of the Good Shepherd in Decatur on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club in Morgan and Lawrence Counties. The request is for a van to be used by the parish and the Boys and Girls Club. UTO only allows requests for one-half of the cost of vehicles so this grant request is for \$15,000.00 as the van will cost approximately \$30,000.00. Bishop Parsley approved it and it has been sent to the National UTO Committee. All convocation coordinators were reminded to encourage participation in the UTO Ingathering in May.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** In the absence of Lisa Gruner, Dee Buzby reported that Lisa has the Clergy Pictorial Directory ready to go online.

**CONSULTANT:** Alleen Cater said St. Claire's needle arts guild has received a request from someone in Kentucky looking for a design of the Episcopal Shield suitable for needle point and a request from Alpine for altar hangings for a parish on the Gulf coast. The guild is beginning to fulfill needs.

**ARCHIVIST:** In the absence of Valerie Burnes, Dee Buzby said she will request Valerie write an article for *The Alabama Episcopalian* about the ECW archives.

**DAUGHTER'S OF THE KING (DOK):** Andi Silberman - no report. Dee requested prayers for Andi's four year old granddaughter who has cancer. Dr. Yolanda Seawright will be the successor to Andi as president of DOK.

**HOSPITALITY:** Dee thanked Alyce Smith for preparing the lunch today and Tora Johnson for assisting Alyce.

**MISSION AND MINISTRIES:** Fran Lowe's report is on the website.

**PUBLICITY:** Fiona Watts said, *The Alabama Episcopalian* has replaced *The Apostle* and will be published six times a year. The deadline will be the first of the month preceding the date of issue i.e., for the July-August issue, the deadline will be June 1. This report is on the website.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Nancy Thompson said the Scholarship committee will meet May 11 to review applications and award scholarships. The amount of money available for scholarships as of 4/21/2009 is \$9,273.60 which is less than last year due to the Board's decision to take one-half of the undesignated donations received each year and apply them to the principal of the ECW College Scholarship Fund. More donations are possible for 2009. As of 2/28/2009 the Scholarship Funds have a market value of \$109,779.43.

**WEBMASTER:** Sally Sinclair called attention to page two of her Website Report asking convocation coordinators to please make sure information is up to date for each of the parishes within their convocation. Due to the repeated problems of the MailMan ListServ mailing list for master forwarding to all board members, Sally is changing to a new system provided by Google Groups. Board members will be able to send an email to all members by sending to: [alaecwboard@googlegroups.com](mailto:alaecwboard@googlegroups.com). Anyone interested in more online features, for this private group, will need to create a Google Account. This report is on the website [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org)

**WOMEN'S WEEKEND (WW):** Cathy Blackney said the WW workshops will be: 1) How to make a Plantation Doll, 2) How to make a memory quilt, 3) How

to make a memory book, 4) Line dancing, and 5) Taize Workshop. There will be a silent auction with proceeds going to College Scholarships. Adele Bibb Colvin will be there to autograph her book, *The Donkey's Tales*. Eucharist will be celebrated in the new Chapel of St. Francis. To encourage attendance, a flyer has gone out to the Constant Contact list.

**Dee Buzby** announced that Saturday, May 2, 11:00 a.m. is the dedication of the Chapel of St. Francis at Camp McDowell.

**Anne Kimzey** offered the blessing for today's lunch.

**BISHOP PARSLEY** joined us for informal conversation over lunch. He invited the Board to join the great diocesan celebration as we dedicate the new Chapel of St. Francis at Camp McDowell, May 2. The Bishop said a new fund for vestments for the new chapel is being started. He hopes the ECW will help pay for the newly purchased Gee's Bend quilt that will be used as a frontal for the altar, some new stoles and other things that are badly needed. Bishop Parsley thanked the ECW for their support and for all the work that has been done to raise the money for the sacristy.

**President Dee Buzby** called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

### **CONVOCATION REPORTS**

**Birmingham:** Liz Ensey - Spring Convocation meeting will be held April 22, 2009, at St. Andrew's in Montevallo with Father James F. Tuohy as speaker. New officers are: Alyce Daniel, Convocation Coordinator; Diane Weatherford, Coordinator-Elect; and Linda Kennedy, Treasurer.

**Black Belt:** Bea Strong sent a report that is on the website. Trinity, Demopolis will host the Spring Convocation meeting April 29, 2009. The attendees voted by email to donate \$200.00 to Special Session at Camp McDowell in honor of Bishop Sloan and \$200.00 to ACTS2 for the St. Francis sacristy. These funds were generated by the registration fees.

**Cheaha:** Linda George - Spring meeting was held at St. Simon Peter, March 12, 2009, with the Rev. Lee Shafer as speaker. The Alms was \$144.00 and went to the ECW of St. Simon Peter for their missions. Since the meeting, Jane Wood has accepted nomination for Convocation Coordinator and

Katherine Tooker for Secretary-Treasurer. This slate will be voted on at the fall meeting at Messiah in Heflin, October 15, 2009. Report on website.

**East Alabama:** Tana Branch announced that Jolai Jenkins will be the new Convocation Coordinator. Spring meeting will be announced.

**Montgomery:** Lisa Taylor - Spring meeting will be April 30, 2009, in Mount Meigs.

**Mountain:** Cheri Blair - Spring meeting will be April 29, 2009, at St. Philip's in Fort Payne.

**Tennessee Valley:** Joan East - Spring meeting was held March 26, 2009, at Grace in Sheffield. Joan will continue as Convocation Coordinator as she started in the middle of this term. Claudia Glasgow will remain the Treasurer. The offering was \$158.50 and will be given to the Sudan. Fall meeting will be November 5, 2009 at St. Timothy's in Athens.

#### **ON GOING BUSINESS:**

**Parish Leadership Training Event (PLTE):** Gethryn Giles asked the Board for feedback on the PLTE day. After discussion, it was decided to request permission to continue it again next year.

**By-laws:** Gethryn stated that she would like Fall Conference, Women's Weekend, and PLTE to be under the guidance of the Events Coordinator. After discussion about some possible amendments to the ECW Constitution and By-laws, Dee said she would appoint a committee to make recommendations to be voted on by the ECW Board and Fall Conference.

**Fall Conference:** Joan East said plans are being made for the Fall Conference to be held at St. Matthew's in Madison October 8 & 9, 2009. The Board will meet for dinner on October 7. Sally Sinclair offered to publicize the event on the website.

**Women At The Well:** Gethryn spoke of the need to firm up and publicize the procedure for women to apply for grants through Women At The Well.

**Province IV ECW Conference at Kanuga, NC:** Dee Buzby, Gethryn Giles and Tora Johnson will attend this meeting in June.

**ECW Triennial Meeting:** Dee Buzby, Gethryn Giles, Barbara Carpenter and Frances Lowe will attend the Triennial Meeting in July in Anaheim, CA.

**Fall Board Meeting:** September 1, 2009, at Carpenter House at 10:00 a.m.

**Gethryn Giles** announced she is working on the board positions for 2010-2011. She would like for the convocation coordinators to send her names of people from their convocations who would like to serve on the UTO, Nominations or Scholarship committee.

**Anne Kimzey** announced that a team is leaving for Haiti this month and requested prayers for them. The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. with Anne leading the Closing ECW Prayer in the Calendar Handbook.

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](http://www.alabamaecw.org) .

Treasurer's Report (1-1-09 to 4-20-09) - Carolyn Woodson  
UTO Report - Barbara Carpenter  
Missions and Ministries Report - Fran Lowe  
Publicity Report - Fiona Watts  
Scholarship Report - Nancy Thompson  
Webmaster's Report - Sally Sinclair  
Women's Weekend Flyer - Cathy Blackney  
Birmingham Convocation Report - Liz Ensey  
Blackbelt Convocation Report - Bea Strong  
Cheaha Convocation Report - Linda George