

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN - DIOCESE OF ALABAMA
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING at FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 8, 2009
ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MADISON, ALABAMA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dee Buzby, Gethryn Giles, Marilyn Atkins, Carolyn Woodson, Barbara Carpenter, Lisa Gruner, Frances Lowe, Joan East, Nancy Thompson, Sallie Lowe, Alleen Cater, Anne Kimzey, Bea Strong, Fiona Watts, Cathy Blackney, Sally Sinclair, Elizabeth Ensey, Tora Johnson, Sally McLendon, Brenda Mayhall, Linda George, Alyce Smith, Joanna Brooks, The Rev. Judith W. Comer, Alyce Daniel, Jolai Jenkins, Bethe Ensey, Marsha Hurt and Jill Whitten.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tana Branch, Valerie Burnes, Jane Dickson, Yolanda Seawright, Cheri Blair, Lynn Edge Reeves, Jane Wood, Paula Bird and The Rev. Deacon Katy Smith.

Dee Buzby, Diocesan ECW President, called the Board meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. and welcomed both the present Board and members of the 2010-2011 Board. She thanked the outgoing Board members for a job well done.

DEVOTIONAL: As the 2008-09 Board term draws to a close, Anne Kimzey read a devotional by The Rev. Robert C. Wisnewski, Jr. titled, "Finishing Well." She shared several short prayers from the Baptist Haiti Mission Prayer Book, God is No Stranger. All prayed together the ECW Prayer.

MINUTES: The minutes of the September 1, 2009 Board meeting were distributed. Marilyn Atkins, Secretary stated the corrections she received. Dee Buzby asked for other corrections and there being none, called for a vote to accept the minutes as amended. Motion carried. The minutes are posted on the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org

TREASURER'S REPORT: Carolyn Woodson, Treasurer, reported the ending balance in the Operating Fund as of 9/30/2009 is \$7,042.67. The ACTS2 Fund has \$52,050.42. Carolyn stated the balance in the Women's Weekend fund, \$183.80, has been transferred to the ECW College Scholarship Fund.

PRESIDENT ELECT: The theme for 2010 is, "Serving Others in Christ: Mission and Ministries in the Diocese of Alabama". Gethryn Giles distributed the new Calendar Handbooks stating two things she wished were different. The Calendar was at the printers when the Board decided the ECW would no longer sponsor Women's Weekend and it was too late to take it out. Second, the correct date of the diocesan convention is February 11-13, 2010. Along with two free Calendar Handbooks each parish in the diocese will receive a copy of the Directory of Churches which was revised and published by the ECW as the 1998 Corporate Gift to the diocese. This book is often referred to as the Blue Book and contains sketches of each church drawn by the Rev. William P. McLemore.

WOMEN AT THE WELL: Gethryn Giles announced that Women at the Well has been moved under the Scholarship Committee. Beth Eusey will oversee both the ECW College Scholarship Fund and the Women at the Well Scholarship. Beth Eusey, Fiona Watts, and Katy Smith will develop guidelines for Women at the Well Scholarships to be presented in January.

OTHER REPORTS: Dee Buzby reported she received \$174.29 for United Thank Offering simply by passing the UTO blue box at various meetings.

PUBLICITY: Fiona Watts stressed the importance of submitting articles to The Alabama Episcopalian several months in advance to get them published before the event is held. Due to some delays in start-up, the deadline for articles for the September/October publication will be October 11, 2009. Alleen Cater shared information from the Diocesan Council that the long range plan for this new format will be more of a feature article publication rather than a calendar of events. This new publication lends itself to on-going projects like UTO, CPC and Scholarships that are not by nature time sensitive. Sally Sinclair suggested putting time sensitive information on the diocesan website as well as the ECW website.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

PARISH LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENT (PLTE): Gethryn Giles announced that the ECW will participate in PLTE in the spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSTANT CONTACT: Sally Sinclair said that for the last three years, the ECW has used a web application called, Constant Contact that lets you create email campaigns to send out to a database. Lisa Gruner has built this database for the ECW, made up of women and clergy in the diocese, and has been generously donating the cost. In the future, Sally Sinclair will be responsible for this area. If we prepay for the year (2010) we receive a 30% reduction, which would cost the ECW \$252.00 for a database of over 500 email addresses. Alleen Cater moved the ECW pay the cost of Constant Contact. During discussion, Brenda Mayhall suggested we pay it now for 2010 to get it on the books and then budget for it for 2011. Motion carried. To receive Constant Contact emails, put your email address in the box at the top left of the home page of the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org .

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CPC Update: Brenda Mayhall said there are seven seminarians this year and they will each receive \$355.00 from CPC funds.

Parish Sharing: The Parish Sharing will be Friday morning at 8:30. Participants were asked to sign up and summarize their ECW activities on a sheet which will be attached to the conference minutes.

ECW Raffle at Fall Conference: Alleen Cater presented the three raffle items for this year. 1) A beautiful pottery wall vase, hand crafted and donated by Lisa Gruner's brother, Doug Smith; 2) A beautiful painting by Tora Johnson; and 3) A lovely golf gift box and cuff link set all adorned with the Episcopal Shield and donated by the ECW at The Church of the Epiphany, Guntersville. Raffle proceeds will go to the ACTS2, ECW pledge for the sacristy in the new chapel at Camp McDowell. This raffle idea at Fall Conference benefitting the ACTS2 pledge originated with Olivia Weingarten donating a designer hand bag in 2007. Since Alleen organized the raffle in 2008 (Bishop's surprise gift from Lambeth) and 2009, she suggested this fund raiser be carried forward each year with the immediate past president organizing it. Dee accepted the responsibility.

Haitian Clergy Spouse Project: Becky Parsley requested the ECW consider being one of the contributors to help fund school lunches one day a week for children and teachers in Croshu, Haiti. After much discussion, Barbara

Carpenter moved the ECW set aside \$500.00 as a pledge to support the Haitian Clergy Spouse Project to help fund school lunches annually. The motion was seconded. After more discussion, Barbara amended her motion that the ECW set aside \$500.00 for school lunches in Croshu, Haiti for 2010 only. Amended motion passed.

Diocesan President Dee Buzby expressed appreciation and love for board members saying it had been a joy to work with everyone the past two years. The board responded with loud applause for Dee. Dee turned the meeting over to *Gethryn Giles*.

President Elect Gethryn Giles asked each board member to introduce themselves. Updated notebooks were handed out. *Gethryn* reviewed goals for the year and encouraged all to study the calendar, turn in the parish president's check list and become familiar with the budget and parish contributions. *Gethryn* will hold a Convocation Coordinator's Orientation at the Board Retreat which will be January 8 - 9, 2010 at Camp McDowell.

Dee Buzby called attention to the poster for Jeremy and Penny Lucas, missionaries to Namibia, saying there is a container on the poster for donations to help with the costs for the first Clergy/Spouse Conference.

President Dee Buzby adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m. Anne Kimzey led the ECW Prayer. Old and new board members met to exchange information.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn D. Atkins
Secretary
secretary@alabamaecw.org

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; Revised 2010 ECW Budget - Carolyn Woodson