

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN – DIOCESE OF ALABAMA
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
CARPENTER HOUSE-SEPTEMBER 10, 2010**

Members Present: Gethryn Giles, Fiona Watts, Jill Whitten, Marsha Hurt, Nancy Thompson, Sallie Lowe, Paula Bird, Jane Wood, Jolai Jenkins, Joanna Brooks, Judith Comer, Linda George, Fran Lowe, Marilyn Atkins, Lynn Edge Reeves, Mitzi Waldo, Brenda Mayhall and Sally Sinclair.

Members Absent: Alyce Daniel, Valerie Burnes, Dee Buzby, Barbara Carpenter, Bethe Ensey, Joan East, and Yolanda Seawright.

Guest: Alleen Cater

Gethryn Giles, Diocesan ECW President, called the Board meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Gethryn welcomed all members in attendance and turned the board meeting over to Marsha Hurt for the devotional.

DEVOTIONAL: Marsha Hurt began the devotional by discussing how the majesty of God may be experienced through the resurrection celebration. She mentioned that the celebratory word can be found in the Prayer Book through prayers of baptism, ordination, marriage and funerals. It is through these celebrations and the celebratory word that we know no fear and experience the majesty of God. Other references to God's majesty can be found in Psalm 8 and Isaiah 40. Marsha asked each board member to write down moments when they have personally known the majesty of God and give to her to be used in our closing prayer at the end of the meeting. Marsha closed the devotional with a prayer of thanksgiving for the majesty of God.

MINUTES: The minutes of the April 16, 2010 meeting were distributed and approved without corrections or additions. The minutes are posted on the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jill Whitten, Treasurer, reported the ending balance in the Operating fund as of 8/31/10 is \$9, 481.65. A check for UTO in the amount of \$25,000 will be sent to the national UTO. President Giles mentioned that she receives monthly reports from Jill on parish giving so that the convocation coordinators can work with their parishes on the different items concerning parish giving. The Summary of Accounts balance of \$46,028.50 is through August 31, 2010. Jill has not received reports for the Diocesan pooled accounts for August. She will post updates on these accounts later. Jill announced that the deadline for the Memorial Roll is September 15th, but she has only heard from a few parishes. All the names for the memorial roll need to be sent to the ECW treasurer as soon as possible so they may be read at the Fall Conference.

ASSISTANT TREASURER: No Report

CALENDAR HANDBOOK: President Elect, Fiona Watts displayed the calendar for 2011. The theme is "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands – Our Missions and Ministries in the World." It will contain 12 months of missions and ministries in our Diocese. Board members were asked to check their listings for mistakes. The calendars will be distributed at the Fall Conference. Anyone needing additional calendars may order them by contacting Fiona. Fiona also displayed a bookmark that will accompany the calendars.

PRESIDENT ELECT: FIONA WATTS reported that she joined President Gethryn Giles and other delegates to Kanuga this summer. She also attended UTO's conference, Face to Face, outside St. Louis and learned a lot about the United Thank Offering. She will be attending the convocation meetings in the Fall.

ACTS2: Treasurer Jill Whitten announced that as of 8/31/10 we have raised \$56,776.42 for ACTS2. Alleen Cater, reporting for Dee Buzby, talked about the upcoming raffle at Fall Conference. She passed around pictures of several items donated for the raffle. All money collected from the raffle will go toward the ECW'S pledge to ACTS2 and,

specifically, to the sacristy at the Chapel of St. Francis at Camp McDowell.

FALL CONFERENCE: Jane Wood, Cheaha Convocation Coordinator, reported on the 121st Annual Fall Conference to take place October 7th and 8th in Anniston. The Board will be arriving on Wednesday, October 6th. The deadline for registration for hotel rooms is September 15th. A full report on the Fall Conference may be found on the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

Continuing the discussion on Fall Conference, President Gethryn Giles announced that Bishop Sloan will be present for the board dinner on Wednesday night. Bishop Parsley will be arriving on Thursday evening and stay for the Eucharist on Friday morning.

Guest speakers for the Conference include Jackie Robe, Province IV ECW President and Barbara Owens, Province IV Representative to the National ECW Board. These two guest speakers will fly into Birmingham and will be picked up by Alyce Daniel. Zona Tounsley, St. Luke's Scottsboro, is Secretary of the National UTO Board and will be recognized at the conference by President Giles. The Rev. Margaret Rose, Co-Director of Missions for The Episcopal Church, will be speaking on Women and Missions at the conference. Lauren Wainwright, Youth Director at the Church of the Epiphany, Guntersville, attended the United Nation's Status of Women and will be assisting The Rev. Margaret Rose. Gethryn urged the ECW Board to encourage their committee members to attend the Fall Conference. Board members and their committees will be introduced briefly at the business meeting at 12:50 p.m. on Thursday. The meeting will be run very tightly in order to keep it to 1½ hours. In the interest of time, Gethryn will give a brief report for each committee. There will be time set aside to present the UTO grant awards and to encourage others through out the Diocese to submit grants to UTO.

The chairman of the Nominating Committee, Marilyn Atkins, will be called upon to give her report. Gethryn asked ECW Secretary, Nancy Thompson, and Treasurer, Jill Whitten to have hard copies of last year's minutes and the proposed 2011 budget available at registration. The corporate gift will be voted on at the business meeting.

Gethryn appointed Fran Lowe, Sally Sinclair and Jolai Jenkins to the Alms Committee for the Fall Conference. She asked Marilyn Atkins to give her a list of all the clergy who register so they may be recognized at the opening session. Barbara Carpenter is in charge of the parish sharing session. During this session, Gethryn will preside and Barbara will monitor the time. She also mentioned that Marilyn Atkins has acquired very nice name -tags for all conference participants. It is important that these nametags be turned in at the end of conference so they can be used in the future. An announcement will be made regarding this at the beginning of conference.

Sally Lowe was asked to get the large silver alms basin from the Cathedral to use during the conference.

CONVOCATION REPORTS: Gethryn introduced Mitzi Waldo who will be joining the Board as the Convocation Coordinator from Montgomery.

Birmingham: Alyce Daniel was unable to attend. Her report may be found on the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

Black Belt: Paul Bird reported that the Black Belt Convocation Spring meeting was held last May at St. Stephens in Eutaw. Among those attending were Bishop Sloan, Gethryn Giles and Marilyn Atkins. The Fall meeting is planned for Saturday, October 30th at St. James, Livingston.

Gethryn asked all Convocation Coordinators to please include board members when sending invitations to their local meetings. Invitations to board members should be sent to: alaecwboard@googlegroups.com. Gethryn also announced that it is important that all convocations appoint their nominating committees this Fall. The names of the Coordinator and the Treasurer for each Convocation needs to be turned in by next Spring in order to get their names published in the 2012 calendar.

Cheaha: Jane Wood corrected her report for the Cheaha Convocation to read: The Cheaha Convocation Fall Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, 2010 at Grace Church/Anniston with registration starting at 10:00 a.m. Her full report may be found at the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

East Alabama: Jolai Jenkins reported that the East Alabama Convocation met on June 12, 2010. Jolai was commissioned as coordinator and Sue Haygood was commissioned as Treasurer for the East Alabama Convocation. Their Fall meeting is scheduled for September 14th at St. Dunstan's, Auburn, and will be an interfaith discussion based on the book Three Cups of Tea. The discussion on the book will begin at 4:30 p.m. with the ECW meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m. There will be prayers and a simple meal.

Montgomery: Mitzi Waldo, Convocation Coordinator, was commissioned at the Fall meeting. The 26 in attendance listened to a presentation by Mitzi on Krik? Krak!. The alms collected at this meeting will go to Krik? Krak! It was announced that St. John's will host the 2011 Fall Conference. The Fall Convocation meeting for the Montgomery Convocation is scheduled for November.

Mountain: Joanna Brooks reported that the Mountain Convocation has scheduled its Fall meeting at 9:30 a.m. for September 29th at the Church of the Resurrection in Rainbow City. She passed out an updated list of addresses and numbers for all ECW contacts of the parishes in the Mountain Convocation. This will also be sent electronically to the board in the near future. Joanna announced that she would be appointing a nominating committee for the Mountain Convocation at the Fall meeting. A full report from the Mountain Convocation may be found on the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

Tennessee Valley: Joan East, Tennessee Valley Coordinator, was absent. There was no report. The Fall meeting has been set for November 13th at St. Barnabas in Hartselle.

REPORTS:

Alleen Cater, Chairman of the Transition Committee for the new Bishop of the Diocese, was called on by President Giles to give a special report about her job. Alleen stated that the ECW would be the face of hospitality for this process and will be called upon. Among the events that will be taking place:

1. The “Walk About” or “Conversations” is scheduled for Saturday, June 25th at St. Luke’s in Birmingham. This is an opportunity to meet and converse with the candidates. The 2011 delegates to the Diocesan Convention will be there, but this event is open to everyone in the Diocese. Due to limited space, this is on a first come basis.
2. The election will take place on Saturday, July 16th at the Cathedral of the Advent with Bishop Parsley presiding. Alleen has a subcommittee in charge of set up.
3. The Bishop’s consecration is scheduled for Saturday, January 7, 2012, at the Cathedral. A rehearsal will take place the evening before followed by a rehearsal dinner. The dinner will take place away from the Cathedral and will be announced later.

Alleen stated that she will need help beyond her subcommittees. There will be many opportunities for the ECW to help including the transportation needs of participants as well as hospitality/receptions. In addition, Alleen announced that the Retirement Party for Bishop Parsley is tentatively set for October 28, 2011. An announcement on the venue for this dinner will be forthcoming.

REPORTS:

Archivist: Valerie Burnes was absent. Her report may be found on the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

Clergy Liaison and Krik? Krak! Project: Judith Comer reported that she has sent all Convocation Coordinators a list of people from the clergy/spouse teams who will be available to give a talk on Krik? Krak! She feels that by the end of the calendar year they should have a program available for the convocations. Krik? Krak! is a lunch program for school children in Crochu, Haiti, that is an ongoing project of the clergy spouses. They will need to raise meal money every year. The construction of the facility for making the meals has started. The cost of that facility is \$5,000. A delegation from the clergy spouses will be going to Haiti in October to serve the first meal. It was reported that Holy Cross is donating \$600 to Krik? Krak! Judith also has received a donation of \$1,000 for Krik? Krak! She will send it to the Diocesan ECW.

All donations should be sent to the Diocesan ECW so that each parish sending donations receives credit. Contact Judith Comer if you are interested in having someone talk to your ECW about Krik? Krak!

Consultant: Alleen Cater, reporting for Dee Buzby, announced that Mary Lou Johnston, ECW President from 1978 -1979, died recently and left a note to her family asking that her ECW President's pen be passed down to another ECW President. Four or five years ago, Alleen conceived the idea of alleviating the cost of a new Presidential pen by asking all former ECW Presidents to pass their pens back to the ECW to loan out to incoming presidents. At that time she wrote the past presidents to ask them to consider bequeathing their pens. Mary Lou Johnston, who died recently, was the first to bequeath her pen. Alleen reminded the board members that parish secretaries should be given the deadline date for the Memorial Roll. The Alabama Episcopalian is another way to inform people in the Diocese of ways to submit donations or memorials.

Church Periodical Club: Linda George reported that as of 8/31/10 the CPC account has \$2,483.75. Although this is less money than last year, it represents the participation of more parishes in the Diocese. She has 9 seminarian recipients who will receive \$270.00 each. Originally, she had eleven, but one declined and one did not enroll. These seminarians represent the following seminaries: Sewanee, General, Virginia, and Seminary of the Southwest.

Daughters of the King: No report.

Devotions: No report.

Events: No Report.

Missions and Ministry: Fran Lowe reported that she is still collecting reports from all convocations and will have them organized in the next two weeks and sent to Webmaster, Sally Sinclair. She asked all parishes to include the ministries that will be benefitting from their fundraisers. The full report may be found at the ECW website www.alabamaecw.org.

Nominating: Marilyn Atkins, Nominating Chairman, thanked everyone for their prayers and help through the nominating process. She presented the slate of officers for 2012-2013. They are:

- President Elect – Brenda Mayhall, Mountain
- Secretary - Jolai Jenkins, East Alabama
- Treasurer - Paula Bird, Black Belt
- UTO Chair- Linda Kennedy, Birmingham

There being no further nominations for each position, all nominees were approved and will be presented for a vote during the business meeting at the Fall Conference.

The meeting adjourned for a lunch break. Bishop Parsley joined us for lunch and spoke to us about the upcoming Fall Conference and his plans for retirement next year

Publicity: Lynn Edge Reeves stated that any reports for publicity should be sent her. She will send them to the The Alabama Episcopalian.
The scholarship awards and photographs have been sent to The Alabama Episcopalian.

Scholarship: A total of \$9,600 in ECW scholarship funds was distributed to 24 students. Three of the recipients did not claim their scholarships. This year there were no named scholarships, but after discussion it was decided we should return to listing the named scholarships.

UTO/Face to Face: Brenda Mayhall began her report by dropping a contribution into the UTO box and then circulating it among board members. Brenda reported that the Diocese of Alabama was awarded two grants from UTO. The foreign grant award went to St. Albans for the rebuilding of St. Alban’s Church and School in Crochu, Haiti. The domestic grant of \$17,750 was awarded to St. Peter’s Episcopal Church and Day School in Talladega. The presentation to the recipients will be made at the Fall Conference. Gethryn gave each board member a UTO

prayer book. For a full UTO report, please see our website www.alabamaecw.org.

Webmaster: Sally Sinclair reported that only 21 parishes out of 97 parishes have submitted their Blue Forms this year. She asked convocation coordinators to encourage their parishes to submit their forms even if there has been no change. We need this information in order to build the ECW database. Gethryn announced that Sally has done such a great job for our website. She was pleased to announce that our website had won an award at Kanuga. A full report may be found at www.alabamaecw.org.

ON-GOING BUSINESS

Gethryn announced that Bishop Parsley has asked that the ECW participate in welcoming the new priests to the Diocese. Marilyn Atkins will be in charge of making welcoming packets for new priests coming into the Diocese. These packets will be given to them at the Diocesan Convention in February.

Proposed Budget for 2011: Treasurer, Jill Whitten, submitted a 2011 budget. This budget will be presented for a vote at the business meeting at the Fall Conference. There was discussion on changing the amount of \$400 budgeted for the President's pen to \$600. It was also suggested that the term "overage" should not be used when talking about the funds received for Fall Conference. According to Alleen Cater, the Fall Conference was originally conceived as a fundraiser and she suggested that any money left over should be referred to as "income."

Corporate Gift: Alleen Cater explained the "corporate gift" to board members. She explained that every year the Diocesan ECW gives a gift to the Diocese on behalf of every woman in the Diocese. Previous gifts have been the Diocesan Banner at the Cathedral, Bishop Stough's cross, the quilt at Camp McDowell's Stough Lodge, and, over the last two years, ACTS 2. Fiona mentioned that the history of the ECW Corporate Gift would make an interesting and informative article for The Alabama

Episcopalian. Nancy Thompson made a motion that the 2011 corporate gift go to ACTS2. The motion passed.

Announcements: Our next ECW meeting will be 9:00 a.m. on October 7th, upstairs at St. Michael's in Anniston. The ECW Diocesan Retreat will be January 7th and 8th, 2011 at Camp McDowell. The Diocesan Convention will be held at St. Luke's, Birmingham on February 11th and 12th.

Devotional Chairman, Marsha Hurt, closed the meeting with a prayer incorporating our experiences in seeing the majesty of God.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy S. Thompson
secretary@alabamaecw.org