

Episcopal Church Women – Diocese of Alabama
Minutes of Board Meeting
Carpenter House – September 6, 2011

Members Present: Marilyn Atkins, Marsha Hurt, Jane Wood, Jolai Jenkins, Frances Lowe, Sallie Lowe, Jill Whitten, Gethryn Giles, Fiona Watts, Nancy Thompson, Alyce Daniel, Mitzi Waldo, Sally Sinclair, Joan East, The Reverend Judith Comer, Dee Buzby

Members Absent: Valerie Burnes, Barbara Carpenter, Lynn Edge Reeves, Yolanda Seawright, Joanna Brooks, Bethe Ensey, Linda George, Paula Bird, Brenda Mayhall

Guest: Margie Sellers

Gethryn Giles, Diocesan ECW President, welcomed all board members in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was turned over to Marsha Hurt for the devotional.

Devotional: Marsha Hurt gave a devotional on the “rhythms” of our daily lives; the beginning, middle or ending. In honor of the new school year, she gave each board member a beautifully illustrated children’s Bible book and read the story, “Starting at the Beginning.” She closed with a prayer thanking God for his delight and redemption for the world he created.

MINUTES: Jane Wood moved that the minutes of the April 12, 2011, ECW Board Meeting at Carpenter House be accepted as written. The motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The treasurer, Jill Whitten, reported an ending balance of \$8,791.45 in the Operating Budget as of 8/31/2011. Jill announced that as of 8/31/2011 the ECW has given \$62,725.42 toward a \$65,000.00 pledge to ACTS2 leaving a balance of \$2, 274.58.

Everyone was reminded to send names for the Memorial Roll to Jill. The name of each parishioner and their parish should be listed.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR The ECW 2012 Budget will be presented for a vote at the board's business meeting, Thursday 9:00 a.m., October 6, 2011 at Fall Conference. The board discussed the addition \$150.00 to the website budget for 2012. Under miscellaneous gifts, a line item of \$200 will be budgeted each year for needed gifts. Another line item under miscellaneous gifts will be created to cover the expense of the new priest welcome bags. The amount discussed was \$200.00. The complete treasurer's report may be found at www.alabamaecw.org.

ASSISTANT TREASURER: No Report

CALENDAR HANDBOOK/President ELECT: Fiona Watts announced that the ECW Calendar Handbooks will be completed by Fall Conference. New board members for 2012- 2013 are in place and will be installed at the Fall Conference. Fiona would like to collect all up-dated notebooks from current board members on the Wednesday night of Fall Conference. The January ECW Board Retreat will be a one-day retreat at St. Stephens. Fiona discussed that the new Bishop will be installed at the Cathedral of the Advent on January 7, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Plans for transportation of the guests and the reception are ongoing.

ON-GOING BUSINESS

BISHOPS' GIFTS: (Parsley and Sloan):

Dee Buzby displayed a hand-made lap quilt to be presented to Bishop Parsley at the Fall Conference on October 7, 2011. Various women throughout the Diocese of Alabama participated in hand-quilting the lap quilt.

ECW President, Gethryn Giles, announced that she had been in contact with The Rev. Eric Liles regarding Bishop Sloan's gift. After discussing Mr. Liles' suggestions, Nancy Thompson made a motion that the ECW give Bishop Sloan an engraved Book of Common Prayer with Hymnal. The motion carried.

President Elect, Fiona Watts, said that she would inform Eric Liles of the Board's decision and would be responsible for the purchase and the engraving of the prayer book/hymnal.

FALL CONFERENCE: Mitzi Waldo, Montgomery Convocation, and Margie Sellers reported that, as of 9/6/2011, 29 ECW members had registered for the 122nd ECW Fall Conference in Montgomery, October 6 -7, 2011. The Embassy Suites in Montgomery is the hotel reserved for ECW members. The ECW Board dinner is on Wednesday night at the Capitol City Club. Registration for the conference begins at St. John's Parish Hall on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. St. Michael's will provide the welcome bags at registration. More information and the agenda of the Fall Conference may be found at www.alabamaecw.com link Fall Conference.

ACTS2: It is projected that the proceeds from fundraising at the Fall Conference and various parish donations will allow the ECW to meet their pledge of \$65,000.00 to ACTS2 this year.

CONVOCATION REPORTS: Gethryn announced that all new Convocation officers will be installed at the fall convocation meetings. She would also like to know how many crosses each convocation needs for their new officers.

BIRMINGHAM: Alyce Daniel reported that the Spring Convocation was held at St. Thomas. Alms collected went to the Sawyerville Project. The Birmingham Convocation has also sent donations to My Child's Closet. All parishes in the Birmingham Convocation have been encouraged to donate \$100 to ACTS2. The next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2011 at St. Mary's. The Birmingham Convocation has elected three new officers.

BLACK BELT: No Report

CHEAHA: Jane Wood reported that the Cheaha Convocation needs a secretary's cross for the installation of Cheaha's new officers. The new date of Tuesday, October 25, 2011 is set for the Cheaha Fall

Convocation. Bishop Henry Parsley will be present to bless the mobility playground. The theme of the program will be The United Thank Offering. Brenda Mayhall, ECW Diocesan UTO chairperson will speak and, possibly, Georgie White, the Province IV Representative to the National UTO Board. All ECW Board members are encouraged to attend this meeting and the blessing of the playground. A full report may be found in its entirety at www.alabamaecw.org.

EAST ALABAMA: Jolai Jenkins reported that St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Tuskegee will celebrate its 100th anniversary next year. Events will be held December 8th and 9th, 2012.

MONTGOMERY: No report.

MOUNTAIN: Reporting for Joanna Brooks, Gethryn announced that the Mountain Convocation will hold its Fall meeting on October 15th at Holy Comforter in Gadsden, Al.

TENNESSEE VALLEY: Joan East reported that their Spring meeting was cancelled due to the tornado. Tennessee Valley's Fall Convocation is scheduled for September 13th at St. Matthew's. The Rev. Bill Winters will speak on "Gospel Hospitality." Currently, 42 parishioners will be attending the meeting. New officers have been elected and they have three crosses to hand down to them.

CORPORATE GIFT: Gethryn will announce at Fall Conference that the *ECW Board will wait until after the installation of Bishop Sloan to decide on the ECW's annual corporate gift. Every year the ECW budgets \$2,000 (remove "to the Bishop") as a corporate gift. Board will consult with the Bishop for his recommendations.

Gethryn adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. for a lunch break. Bishop Parsley joined the board for a short informal visit. The meeting resumed at 12:45 p.m.

REPORTS

Archivist: Reporting for Valerie Burnes, Jill Whitten announced that Valerie has obtained the archivist supplies to begin housing the ECW

papers at the Birmingham Public Library. Jim Baggett, Birmingham Public Library Archivist, expressed his appreciation to the ECW for their contribution in housing the collection at the library.

Valerie would like all board members who will be rotating off the board to get their folders in order before they are passed to their successor. Only keep reports in your folder that pertain to your office.

Clergy Liaison and Krik? Krak! Project: Clergy Liaison, The Reverend Judith Comer, thanked the Board for the great support the ECW gave to the Krik? Krak! Project.

Consultant: No Report

Church Periodical Club (CPC): Reporting for Linda George, President Elect, Fiona Watts, announced that as of September 6th, 2011, \$2, 407.06 has been given to CPC for distribution to our Diocesan seminarians. Currently about 13 to 14 seminarians will receive \$171.00 to \$185.00 by the end of September. The number of student enrolled and the amount will be determined later this month. Sponsoring parishes include St. Stephen's (Huntsville); St. Andrew's (Birmingham); St. Peter's (Talladega); St. Paul's (Selma); St. Mary's (Jasper); St. Luke's (Birmingham); Grace (Cullman); and St. Mary's-on-the-Highland's (Birmingham). Seminaries attended include Sewanee Theological, General Theological, Virginia Theological and Seminary of the Southwest.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING (DOK): No Report

DEVOTIONS: No Report

EVENTS: No Report

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY: Frances Lowe requested that each participant in Parish Sharing at Fall Conference fill out form listing their parish and a contact number.

Gethryn read a letter from Barbara Owens, Province IV Representative to the National ECW Board, requesting donations for the National ECW Board Unified Gift of Nets For Life. Nets For Life is a ongoing fundraising project of the National ECW Board. All funds go toward

providing mosquito nets for families in Africa to help in the fight against malaria. Fiona Watts moved that the ECW Board send a donation of \$100 for to the National Board for Nets For Life. The motion passed.

NOMINATING/WELCOME BAGS: Marilyn Atkins thanked her nominating committee again for the job they did in presenting a slate for delegates to attend the 2012 Triennial. The delegates presented were Fiona Watts, incoming president, Brenda Mayhall, incoming president-elect, Linda Kennedy, incoming UTO Coordinator and Sally Sinclair, Diocesan web-master, and Jolai Jenkins as alternate delegate. After no additional nominations, the slate was elected by acclamation by the Board.

Five Welcome Bags were placed in the hotel rooms of the four Bishop candidates and the National Diocesan Consultant, for the Walkabout in June. Many Episcopal Church Women throughout the Diocese of Alabama and the Transition Committee contributed to these gift bags. Marilyn announced that she will prepare 30 bags to welcome visiting bishops attending the Installation of Bishop Sloan.

PUBLICITY: No Report

SCHOLARSHIP, WOMEN OF THE WELL: The ECW Scholarship Committee met June 9, 2011 at Stephen's Church in Birmingham. The committee members in attendance were Beth Ensey, Ann Chambliss, and Adelaide Cherry. All 21 applicants were granted scholarships. Letters were sent out to each student notifying them of their award. Names, photos and the home parish of each student will be submitted to The Alabama Episcopalian for its fall publication.

Women at the Well Scholarships applications may be found on the ECW website; www.alabamaecw.org. Adelaide Cherry will chair the Scholarship Committee for 2012-2013.

UTO: No Report

WEBMASTER: Sally Sinclair reported that as September 6th, 2011, she has received 14 parish information sheets compared to 21 at this time last year. Sally suggested that each parish keep their information current by sending their information to her. Some convocation chairmen are starting to use Constant Contact and have found that it is a

great way to communicate to their convocation on meetings and events. Sally explained to board members how to log into that account and send an email campaign. The ECW is on Facebook and have received 92 posts from people who like the ECW page. Anyone with a Facebook account can post on the ECW Facebook page. For a full Webmaster report visit www.alabamaecw.org.

NEW BUSINESS

President Elect, Fiona Watts, announced that Linda Kennedy, Cathedral of the Advent, made a request for assistance with a reception following the Ordination of Deacons on October 1, 2011. Sallie Lowe made a motion that the ECW Board give \$100.00 to the Bishop's Guild. The motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next ECW Board meeting will be held at Fall Conference on October 6, 2011 at St. John's, Montgomery. The meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.

Devotional Chairman, Marsha Hurt, closed the meeting with a prayer.

President Gethryn Giles adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy S. Thompson
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