



The Link

Fall 2007

Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Lexington

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New ECW Forming at St. Philip's, Harrodsburg

Interested in organizing an ECW in your parish? According to the women of St. Philip's, Harrodsburg, all you need is a group of enthusiastic women with a sense of purpose and a little help from the Diocesan Board.

A seed was planted when Fr. Jon Hall heard an ECW presentation at National Convention in Columbus, Ohio, last summer. "I was very impressed with what I heard," Fr. Hall said.

"I knew there were a number of women at St. Philip's who wanted to be more connected to the church. It occurred to me that working with the ECW would be a great opportunity for them."

Later, Fr. Hall contacted Diocesan President Susan Baird and Diocesan Treasurer Katherine Harper, who offered to help St. Philip's organize an ECW.

Diocesan Board brings 'dog and pony show' to Harrodsburg



Front row L to R: Barbara Crain, Carolyn Worley, Fran Bennett; Back row L to R: Rebecca Robinson, Mary Dott Gritton, Kathryn Jewett, Anne Donnally, Raney Slone, Susan Baird, Katherine Harper

On June 25, Susan and Katherine along with Lisa Hawkins (Women's Weekend coordinator), and Fran Bennett (UTO coordinator) met with a group of women in the parish house next to St. Philip's.

"When we come to help an ECW get started, we call it our 'dog and pony show,' but it's really not a presentation," Susan said. "We just sit down and have a conversation about the group's mission. We also have some great materials from the National ECW that are very helpful.

"The women of St. Philip's were already functioning as a very cohesive and congenial group, and they were serving the church in various ways. We just helped them clarify their goals."



L to R: Marsha Hurst, Susan Baird, Colleen Hall, Rebecca Robinson

A second meeting to iron out organizational details, such as meeting times and officers, was held at St. Philip's on August 4, with Board members Susan Baird, Katherine Harper, Lisa Hawkins, C.C. Johnson, Pat Evans, and Diane Gabbard attending.

Rebecca Robinson, who attended both organizational meetings, is enthusiastic about working with the Diocesan Board. "We are so grateful for everything the Board has done for us," she said. "Everyone is impressed that they took the time and energy to come and work with us."

Women of St. Philip's launch first project as an ECW

Spending time talking about their mission and hearing ideas from other ECWs inspired the women to take on their first project as an ECW—participating in a church-wide campaign to purchase the CER building that is located behind the parish hall.

Kathryn Jewett, who also attended both meetings, said the project has been quite successful. "We are selling bricks and rooms," she said, "and we have already raised \$7200. It's really very exciting to see this happening because we are landlocked in our downtown location and need the additional space."

The group's next project will be a booth at the upcoming Burgin Fall Festival with proceeds to be donated to the CER campaign. ❖

Church of the Ascension ECW Awarded Matching Grant

The ECW at the Church of the Ascension, Frankfort, has received a matching grant of \$1500 from the Diocesan ECW Board.



The grant will be used to drill an artesian well to provide clean water for the planned Sauls Village in Haiti.

Ascension ECW President Christine Brasseale stressed the importance of clean drinking water in her grant application. "Contaminated water is the cause of much illness and death, especially in children," she said. "The new houses will need a source of clean water."



The ECW raised \$1500 toward the project through a rummage sale, bake sale, and the sale of Bishop's Blend coffee.

The matching grant program is funded through a portion of the earnings on the investment accounts of the Diocesan ECW. Grants will be awarded each year to ECWs in parishes as well as missions. Priority is given to projects benefiting women, such as educational assistance, charitable work, or seminarian support.

Grant requests for next year should be submitted to the grant committee by February 1, 2008. ❖

ECW in the News

In case you missed the wonderful article about the ECW Women's Weekend written by Karen McKim (Trinity, Covington) in the latest issue of *The Advocate*, we are including a copy. Good job, Karen!



We also have a newly updated Website thanks to the technical assistance of David Cupps of Cupps Creative Consulting. Stop in for a visit at www.diolex.org/ecw. We think you'll like what you see! ❖

Starting Something New

O God, we are about to start something new. We believe that it is what you would like us to do. In our most confident moments we think that we can do it well, but sometimes we are not so sure.

You know the risks, God, and you know our weaknesses and our strengths. Keep us from confusion and guard us from either pride or fear. May we know the happiness of working together for you and the quiet joy of doing our best.

Prayer offered by the women of St. Philip's at their organizational meeting on August 11.

Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Mark your calendars! The annual meeting of the Diocesan ECW will be held on Saturday, October 27 at 10:30 a.m. at Church of the Resurrection, Jessamine County.

We will begin with Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. with the Rev. Dr. Jan Dunnivant celebrating and preaching. The service will be followed by lunch provided by the women of Resurrection. After lunch Dr. Kay McLaughlin will present a program on being a Christian woman in the community as well as in the workplace. Last, there will be a short business meeting.

This is your opportunity to get acquainted with your Diocesan sisters and learn more about what the ECW is doing. If you have questions or need directions to Church of the Resurrection, contact Susan Baird at 859-299-6949. ❖

Important Dates

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| October 7 | Bishops' Funds Sunday |
| October 27 | Annual Meeting |
| November 4 | Fall UTO In-Gathering |



Around the Diocese


ECW News from St. Michael's, Lexington

The women of St. Michael's have accomplished many good things this year. As part of the parish neighborhood outreach, we "adopted" a family from Glendover School. This family consists of a grandfather, who is raising two granddaughters, ages 7 and 10. The family was gifted with both Christmas and Easter baskets, as well as gifts for both girls each time.

We ended the school year with a "Spare Change Sunday" to raise funds to send the girls to Y Day Camp, which is being held at Glendover.

Besides the activities with the family, some of our women worked as volunteers at the school, helping in various classroom activities and special tutoring.

A number of layettes and 75 filled backpacks were sent with the Bountiful Grace group, who went to Nicaragua at the first of the year. Our outreach this year has been both local and international.



We also made birth necklaces for our five expectant mothers. These were blessed at a service one Sunday and presented to the families. We are now blessed with five new members of our parish. A special welcome to Stella, Sam, Anna, Abel and Max.

In mid-June, we will be furnishing brown bag lunches one day for the campers and staff at the Mission House Reading Camp.

We have concluded our bi-monthly brunches and will be taking a break for the summer. Brunches will resume on Saturday, September 8. ❖

Pat Evans



United Thank Offering News



Fifty women from the United States and Central America, as well as members of the National ECW Board, gathered in Richmond, Virginia, for UTO Coordinator training on August 8-10.

As UTO Coordinator for the Diocese of Lexington, I was privileged to attend and enjoyed rooming with a woman from Rhode Island.

With the diversity of women present it was most interesting to share ideas and learn what is happening in other dioceses. It is a wonderful thing to belong to belong to a worldwide community with whom we can pray and learn.

Attending was a new Hispanic Priest from Utah, women from the Dominican Republic and St. Thomas, and a woman from Liberia who had been taught at a school established in Liberia by a UTO grant. She now lives in Massachusetts.

Two grant recipients from Richmond, Virginia, also shared what the UTO grants have accomplished for them.

It is amazing what our coins and dollars are doing across the Anglican community. People in need are being helped by our thanking God for our blessings and putting an offering in a Blue Box.

Our own Diocese has been blessed with 25 grants since 1958. " Blessings making a full circle."

This year Christ Church, Lexington, received a grant of \$9,360 for Pyramid Professional Services Technology Readiness. The grant will be used to hire an instructor and purchase computer equipment to expand the job search program serving homeless men and women.

If you are interested in getting a copy of grants received, please e-mail me at fbennett05@alltel.net. ❖

Blessings,

Did You Know??

... that 4 youth will attend summer programs and experience God at the Cathedral Domain thanks to a generous donation of \$1,100 from the women participating in the Women's Weekend at the Domain in May.

ECW of Diocese of Lexington
Christ Church Cathedral
166 Market Street
Lexington, KY 40507

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