



The Link

Spring 2007

Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Lexington

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Renew Your Spirit at the Annual Women's Weekend

The Annual Women's Weekend of the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington will be held at the beautiful Cathedral Domain with the Rt. Rev. Stacy Sauls as meditation leader, the Rev. Marcia Hunter as chaplain, and Candace Armstrong as music director.



The weekend, which is sponsored by the Diocesan ECW, begins on Friday, May 18 with check-in and social time at 4:00 and dinner at 6:00 and ends with lunch on Sunday, May 20.

The Purple Cow an ECW favorite

An extra day on Thursday, May 17 is available for those who would like a silent retreat day or an optional free day. However, no meals are served until Friday evening, so you will need to bring snacks or plan to go into Irvine or Beattyville for meals on Thursday. The Purple Cow restaurant in Beattyville has become an ECW favorite.

Series of meditations offers new insights

Lisa Hawkins, retreat coordinator, said Bishop Sauls will offer a series of meditations during the weekend. "His topic has not yet been announced, but his teachings always offer new insights to strengthen our faith," she said. "We are also happy to welcome back the Rev. Marcia Hunter of Christ Church Cathedral as chaplain.

"This year, we have a special treat with the fabulous Candace Armstrong agreeing to serve as our music director. We are thrilled she will be joining us this year."

A few surprises in store

"In addition, a healing service is planned for Saturday night, a condensed Cathedral bookstore, Sunday Eucharist, and probably a few surprises."

Your privacy will be respected

"I want the women in the Diocese to know that the Women's Weekend is very low pressure," Lisa said. "You can do as much or as little as you like. There are numerous opportunities for fun and fellowship during the weekend, but if you prefer a more solitary retreat, your privacy will be respected and there will be areas set aside for silence for the duration of the weekend."

Personalize the weekend to fulfill your needs

"There will be time to do whatever you need to do to make the weekend meaningful and restorative for you personally. Participants can personalize their weekend to fulfill their needs." ❖

Candace Armstrong to Serve as Weekend Music Director

Candace Armstrong made a lasting impression on Retreat Coordinator Lisa Hawkins.

"I first met Candace when she was music director for the Women's Weekend in 2001.

"It was my first retreat weekend, and we were in the Great Hall," she recalled. "The piano was there and anytime there was a lull, Candace would start playing, and we'd be singing. Shannon Arnold was there also with her guitar and someone was projecting lyrics onto a screen. It was so much fun!"



Candace Armstrong

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Message from the President

When I became President of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese my hope and prayer was that each congregation in the diocese would have the benefit of an active ECW. The ECW in the small congregation to which I belonged many years ago played a major role in the works of that congregation. We tried to be whatever the priest and people needed at the time. We were always there for them.



An ECW can be anything that the women of the church want it to be. However, whenever there is something to be done, it is usually the ECW that is asked to do it.

And we, the Board of the Diocesan ECW, want you to know that we are always available to help you.

As women we have a commonality in our love for the Episcopal Church. I have found that we really like to be together doing things. Whether it is a project requested by the church or something we think to do for our church, neighbors, community, etc., we enjoy doing it together. We look to our Lord to guide us and to lead us.

We like to have fun together. An opportunity is provided for us to come together in the spring at the Annual Women's Weekend (formerly Annual Retreat) held at the Cathedral Domain.

This May (18-20) we will again meet for a week-end of learning, worship, and fun with women whose company we enjoy. We have a great time at a great place. We worship together, learn things together, do things together, and just enjoy being together.

So, I say to you, women of the Episcopal Church, come together to do the work God has asked you to do and enjoy doing it.

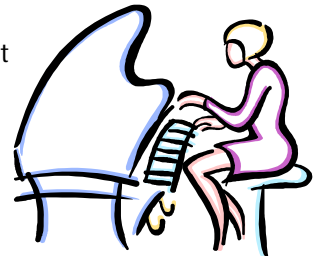
As I sit here this week before Holy Week, I want to tell you that I do wish that all of you have had a meaningful Lent and that you have a wonderful Easter.

God's Peace be with you,

Susan

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"There were times we'd just gather around the piano and sing with Candace. She is so phenomenally talented. She is one of those people you can give the line of a song to and she just starts playing."



High church music & jazzy night club riffs

"She'll play anything from classical high church music to jazzy night club riffs. She's also funny and just great to be around!"

"We are so blessed to have a musician of her caliber with us for the weekend. And she is donating her time!"

Candace is Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choirs at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee. Previously she was the organist/choirmaster at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Middlesboro, Kentucky and has served as music leader at the 2003 ECW Triennial in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and pianist for the Diocese of Lexington Annual Convention in 2001 and 2002

For more information about the Women's Weekend, contact Lisa Hawkins at 859-858-0041 or lisahawk@hughes.net. ❖

And the Winner Is ...

The Link will be the name of our Diocesan newsletter. Thanks to everyone who contributed names. Members of the Board voted on the names submitted.

Pat Evans, who is recording secretary of the Board and a member of St. Michael's, Lexington, says she voted for *The Link* "because that is what we are. Some of us are smaller links, and some larger. But each link is connected, and all the links make up the whole ." ❖

Important Dates

May 18-20	Women's Weekend
May 27	Spring UTO In-Gathering
June 2-4	Province IV ECW Conference
June 3-6	Province IV Altar Guild Conference
October 7	Bishops' Funds Sunday
November 4	Fall UTO In-Gathering



Around the Diocese

The ECW of **Christ Church Cathedral** is in the midst of a busy year. Each month from September to May finds us meeting twice.

Our monthly *Books and Beliefs* programs are held at members' homes where a guest speaker presents a program based on one or more books of special interest.

The group also gathers on the second Tuesday, most often at the Cathedral, for a program and lunch.

On April 21 the ECW will prepare refreshments for the Art at the Cathedral Gallery Hop reception. That day members of the Flower Guild are to make floral arrangements that interpret art created by Donovan Scholars in our gallery.

In June, we will prepare lunch one day for the Diocesan Reading Camp at Mission House.

Every woman of Christ Church is a part of ECW. And every parish member and his or her guests are welcome at all our activities. Our goals are expressed in the Collect of the ECW—to pray fervently, to labor diligently, and to give liberally. May God confirm us in our work and life.

The ECW budget sponsors worthy causes of our parish, our diocese, and the national church. In addition, we give to 15 local charitable organizations.

Our special project this year has been the gift of a washer and dryer for the Cathedral to be used on vestments and linens. ❖

Ann Heard, ECW President

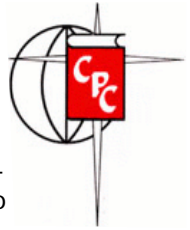
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Did You Know??

... that Mary Ann Drake Fargo began the Church Periodical Club in 1888 in New York City. She and a small group of women of The Church of the Holy Communion began sending church periodicals, prayer books and Bibles via the Wells Fargo Stage Coach Line to missionaries in the Dakotas.

Learn About Church Periodical Club

"to make the word of God fully known" - Colossians 1:25



"The **Church Periodical Club (CPC)** provides grants to individuals, congregations, and other groups in this Church to assist them in purchasing written and musical resources they could not otherwise afford. They serve new congregations, seminarians in other parts of the Anglican Communion, and ministries in this Church which use English, Spanish, French, and other languages. Your support is an essential part of this ministry." This quote from our Presiding Bishop succinctly states the purpose of the CPC whose volunteers have been carrying out these programs and projects by granting money for books to those who need them for almost 120 years.

Miles of Pennies is a special collection of pennies for children ages 0 – 18. A mile equals \$844.80. The grant program is a major effort to prevent illiteracy and provide the Written Word for children by providing books, periodicals, videos, computer software, etc. to those serving the needs of children. Our own Reading Camp has applied for a grant.

The National Book Fund has been helping to meet religious and secular needs by providing printed and audio-visual materials since 1922.

Every parish needs to have a representative to tell the CPC story and facilitate the process of funding the important work done by the CPC.

If you have questions, contact C.C. Johnson at 859-272-4791 or cjohnson@ccwoodyj.net. ❖

C.C. Johnson, CPC Chairperson

The Church Periodical Club Prayer

Bless, O Lord, The Church Periodical Club that it may be an instrument for the spread of your word throughout the world. Grant to its officers wisdom and patience, to its members perseverance and the sprit of sharing that asks no return. Bring many more to take part in its work of service. Bless our gifts and those who receive them to the enrichment of individual lives that we may all be servants of the risen Lord. Amen