

Volume 22 • Number 3

Spring/Summer 2017



The Fifth Mark of Mission: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

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Photo by Evita Krislock Spirit Lake, Idaho

# Communiqué

Vol. 22, No. 3 www.ecwnational.org

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Submissions to the Communiqué are from diverse people throughout the world. Opinions expressed in these submissions are those of the author, and not necessarily held by members of the National Episcopal Church Women Board.

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Subscription to Communiqué is on a voluntary basis. Suggested rate is \$12. Additional contributions are always welcome. Send check payable to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS) to:

> Karen O. Patterson National ECW Treasurer P.O. Box 1866 Dade City, FL 33526

Submissions should be sent as 600 to 1000-word documents, in Word (.doc) or Rich Text (.rtf) format. Send photos in .jpg or .tif format at 300 dpi. Include a brief bio – 50 words or less – containing your name, parish, and province. The Communiqué editorial board retains the right to edit all submissions accepted for publication.

Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017. www.episcopalchurch.org

# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

# **GO! And Wait**

## By Lisa H. Towle

Not to put too fine a point on it, waiting stinks. Except when it doesn't.

I've yet to find someone who actually enjoys waiting; however, there are those who certainly seem to struggle less with it. Perhaps they have attained a higher state of consciousness when it comes to the triplet of graces exhorted in Romans 12:12: joy, patience, and faith.

The preparations for this issue of Communique began, and then the seasons, doing what they do, flowed into one another without regard for deadlines. Meanwhile, at Communique central, we waited for various things to sort out so the work on the magazine could be completed. And God did what God does, offering, again, the learning moment: waiting can be hard but it can also bring clarity.

On June 6th, the Anglican Women's Australia (AWA) Conference Eucharist and Diocesan Anglican Women's Service took place at Christ Church Cathedral in the Diocese of Newcastle. In that splendid, light-filled place, which sits atop a hill overlooking the South Pacific Ocean, 200 people gathered to celebrate the 30th anniversary of women in ministry in the diocese and continue exploring the theme of the conference, "Thanksgiving for the Ministry of Women & Facing Tomorrow in the Spirit's Power."

The "facing tomorrow" part of the five-day, biennial conference was the primary reason I was in the Australian state of New South Wales representing Episcopal Church Women. We all spring from the same taproot of faith, our

ministries face similar challenges, and we find clarity about the way forward by being in community, by sharing our stories and practices. [See page 4 for accompanying pictures.]

Three months later, I



found myself with six other women gathered in a sacred circle at a small farm in southern New Hampshire. We were the second facilitator training group to make our way to the place called Avalon to remind themselves what the natural world has to say about diversity, communication, and gender, among other things, and to use this knowledge to help revitalize Women of Vision, a leadership program of Episcopal Church Women. (Lots more information will be shared about this renewal.)

The two Women of Vision groups, like the Anglican Women of Australia, recognize that living in the now and preparing for the future requires proceeding in faith and practicing patience. Along the way, there are those rewarding "aha!" moments I first learned to appreciate years ago while participating in the Education for Ministry program.

Aha!: Everything above, below and in-between is connected. Every single thing.

For the greatest of gifts is love, and all of what we do is nothing without that, as we open ourselves to the leading of the Holy Spirit and wait for the changes which lie ahead for us. As Evita Krislock so aptly notes in her article (see page 6) about safeguarding the integrity of creation: "Renewal starts with us."



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# The Fifth Mark of Mission:

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

*Let us pause, breathe, reflect, and live in ways which sustain and renew creation, life. It starts with us.* 



**Pause?** Seriously, who has time for one more task or activity, let alone time spent doing "nothing?" This may well be the infamous "straw that breaks the camel's back." There is too much to do with no time to lose.

*Breathe?* Of course, we do it all the time, otherwise we wouldn't be here.

*Reflect?* Now we've gone too far. Seriously don't tell me to think about my actions. These requests – pause, breathe, and reflect are all a call to action. This call is about life, life on earth, renewal, and growth.

—Evita Krislock NECW Board Member

Consider that pausing may, in fact, be our most productive time, a time to renew, to heal, and breathe. Slow deep breaths that fill each cell of our being with life-giving oxygen. Breathing in the good and exhaling the toxic. Each breath begins to clear our thoughts allowing new growth and energy to fill our brain, our heart, and soul. Of course remember to breathe in the good, not the toxic.

Okay, we are pausing, breathing deep life-giving breaths, then clarity rears its head. "Forgive them Father for they know not what they have done."

As a person of faith is this my burden, my responsibility? Simply put, yes.

Our Fifth Mark of Mission is about responsibility and action, just like each of the other Marks of Mission. After we take that deep breath, open our hearts and reflect, we see that the Marks fit together perfectly.

Each is important, each is life-giving. When we recognize creation is life in all of its glory and reality, it will not be denied.

Life is interconnected, fitting together in a way that allows each of us, if we allow it, to fulfill, renew, and regenerate. When any part of creation suffers, the earth, water, air, plants, animals, fish, insects or people, we all suffer, if not today, then tomorrow and future generations.

Recognizing everything we do has an impact on life and creation empowers, invites, and challenges us. Each of us, without much effort can affect a single change in our life style that can and will support life. A single change, whatever it is, makes a difference; positive or negative. You make a difference, we make a difference collectively.

When we begin to think about actions in long term consequences, we change. Native wisdom often references the Seventh Generation, how we are merely a bridge between the past and the future. How will our actions impact our descendants? When our choices are no longer about an individual's selfinterest, perspective shifts

There are steps each of us can implement to reduce our consumption, in turn, lowering our waste. The first of the three R's is a good start: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Consider adding another R: Repair. A simple thing we can all do is BYOWB–Bring Your Own Water Bottle to each meeting, outing or adventure. If you sit on another board, encourage others to do the same.

Commit to learning about actions we can take that will improve and support the regeneration of life, the environment, and all of creation. Spread the good news and let the light shine through you and your actions. For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light, Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and light, Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

> The Hymnal 1982 Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917), alt.

# UNCSW 61

# **Continuing to Make Our Voices Heard Worldwide:**

*Women from around the world gather at the UN March 13-24, 2017* 



—Beblon G. Parks, Member at Large—Social Justice National ECW Board

What do you get when workers on behalf of human rights, civil rights, and gender equality from around the world unite for a common purpose? One of the major things you get is what is commonly known as UNCSW (United Nations Commission on the Status of Women), an annual two-week event that takes place in New York City. You also get an opportunity for members of NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations) to come together as advocates at the UN around a common cause. Both the Anglican Communion and The Episcopal Church are formally recognized as UN NGOs.

When the NGOs gathered for the 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women this year, the focus was on the priority theme: Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work. The theme was related to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are designed to transform our world by 2030. Of these goals, #5 - gender equality - is one of my particular passions. I feel fortunate to have represented the National Episcopal Church Women Board at UNCSW for the last two years. On one of the panels I attended this year, "Women's Rights and Gender Equity in the Changing World of Work," Elizabeth Tang, General Secretary, International Domestic Workers Federation, served as a panelist. The panel exposed the hidden discriminatory practices faced by 67 million domestic workers serving the world. Many domestic workers are paid far less than minimum wages and have no benefits or pensions.

How many "high-powered" women and men are able to do the work they do because an underpaid domestic worker is taking care of their children and/or their home? After the morning panel discussion, audience members attended various breakout groups to address the topic, "Creating Equities of Work: Equal Pay, Upgrading Domestic and Formerly Unpaid Work." All in all, I've found UNCSW an ever eye-opening and ever challenging arena to engage.

(Photos of Beblon's time at UNCSW61 are in the Galleries section of our website, <u>www.ecwnational.org</u>, and information about the SDGs can be found in the Social Justice section.)



# WOMEN TO WOMEN

# Providing an Opportunity for Women to Improve Life for Themselves, Their Families, and Their Communities

T he Board of National Episcopal Church Women has refocused and relaunched its Women to Women program. This program offers one-time, seed money grants for charitable or income producing projects that meet the established criteria. Two recent projects - one national, the other international - illustrate the diversity of community-building programs funded by WTW funds.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

A classic skit from a 1985 Saturday Night Live television program was performed by comedian Billy Crystal as the character Fernando. Fernando was known for his one-liners: "Darling, you look marvelous!" and "Darling, it is better to look good than to feel good!" It's true that if you

look good you feel more confident. Think of the happiness felt after a visit to the hair salon or barbershop, and then imagine not being able to make such a visit because you are homeless and without financial resources.

Well, that's no longer a barrier for some of the homeless population in the greater Houston area in Texas. Thanks to **Have Shears Will Travel**, an innovative enterprise begun by Barbara Goodson, lives are improving one haircut or shampoo at a time. This mobile hair care ministry has received a WTW grant to help broaden its reach.

Through Five Talents, USA, a WTW grant has also been awarded to the Mothers' Union Literacy and Financial Education Program in Burundi, located in east Africa. This program is designed to promote stable family life by helping to reduce poverty.



Please Send Donations to: Karen Patterson, NECW Treasurer P.O. Box 1866 Dade City, FL 33526 Make checks payable to: Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS) Please write <u>WTW Donation</u> on the Memo line.

Additional information about the Women to Women grant program, including an application form, is in the social Justice section of the NECW website, <u>www.ecwnational.org</u>.

# **CHAPLAIN'S REFLECTION**

# **Reflection on the 2018 Triennial Meeting Theme**





—The Rev. Cathy Boyd Triennial Meeting Chaplain

What does it mean to go? "Go" can be simply a little verb, but it is also an imperative, a command. Of course, it can be used in a mundane kind of way—I need to go to the grocery store; I go to St. Swithin's Church. But this tiny word can also be an epic word.

In the Gospel of Matthew, the risen Jesus' final words to his disciples were so epic we know them by a title: the Great Commission. In this last chance to impart wisdom and encouragement, Jesus didn't say, "Y'all, just stay here and wait for me to come back." He didn't say, "Let's get some churches built so everybody can sit in rows and worship me in the same way week after week." Nor did Jesus say, "Oh, and by the way: Here's a list of people I don't love."

No, Jesus' last word was "Go." Go and make disciples of all nations. Tell others about me, spread what I have taught you. Share the love.

I recently heard the call to Go. My husband David and I had lived in Austin for nearly 14 years, and it was our home. But then the Go Signal came; it was kind of like a Bat Signal, only more subtle. We loaded our possessions in a truck, left friends and a parish community we loved, and drove 1600 miles northeast to a new home and a new parish.

Jesus promised, when he returned to his Father, that he would not leave us comfortless. The gift of the Holy Spirit, which we celebrate on the Feast of Pentecost, is the fulfillment of that promise. But notice that Jesus did NOT promise to leave us comfortable. I do not for a minute believe that God intends for us to stay forever in one place, one habit, one spiritual niche. We are always called to Go. We are called to keep moving: spiritually, physically, and emotionally. That is good news. And the rest of the news is even better: at the end of the Great Commission is another promise: "Surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

THANKS BE TO GOD.

# SAVE THE DATE



Street Mural in Austin

The 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church will be held in the Live Music Capital of the World, Austin, Texas.

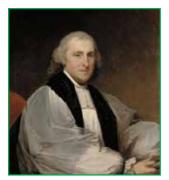
**The 49th ECW Triennial Meeting**, in conjunction with General Convention, will take place **July 5th – 11th, 2018** at the **Austin Convention Center**.

The National Episcopal Church Women Board is exploring new and wonderful ways to make your Triennial Meeting a learning and spirit-filled experience.

Our theme: **Go! Share the Word: Every Day, Comunicamos, EveryWhere,** will help us bring God's love to all. We hope you will come to Texas or join us online to help **GO! SHARE the WORD.** 

— Linda Guest, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Program)

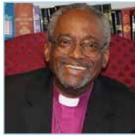
# **ECW HISTORY CORNER**



WILLIAM WHITE

(1748 - 1836)

The Deep Roots of the Women's Auxiliary



Tweeted: October 18, 2016 Bishop Michael Curry @PB\_Curry

uring the next triennium, 2018-2021, the 150th anniversary of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will be celebrated.

In 1871, at the 30th General Convention held in Baltimore, a resolution on Women's Work in the Church opened the way for the establishment of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

The following year Mary Abbott Emery, the first secretary of the new and first national women's organization of the Church, wrote:

We long to have each one feel she, individually, has something to do for Christ and for the coming of his Kingdom, not alone or as a member of a single parish but one of that great company wherein in their own special station, wait and watch and labor for their Lord. (Spirit of Missions, Volume XXXVII for 1872.)

The early roots of the Woman's Auxiliary can yet be traced back to Bishop William White—the 1st and 4th Presiding Bishop during the years 1789 and 1795-1836. Soon after the organization of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society in 1820, Presiding Bishop White called for the establishment of auxiliary societies of women and men in any diocese.

At the 14th General Convention in 1823, it was reported that there were 11 such societies, of which eight were *female* Auxiliary Missionary Societies.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

In 1986 Executive Council recognized the National Episcopal Church Women Board the successor to the Women's Auxiliary. I AM CONVINCED, HOWEVER, THAT OUR MISSIONARY GOAL AS A CHURCH IS TO LIVE, WITNESS TO, AND SHARE THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST IN ORDER TO MAKE DISCIPLES - DISCIPLES WHO WILL JOIN US IN MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD FOR THE CAUSE OF GOD'S KINGDOM AND THE REALIZATION OF GOD'S DREAM. PEACE



#### 27<sup>th</sup> Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church

Following Jesus into a loving, liberating, and life-giving relationship with God, each other, and with the earth.

www.episcopalchurch.org

# MOBILE LOAVES AND FISHES

Community First! A place to call home

*Community First! Village*, a ministry of Mobile Loaves and Fishes in Austin, Texas, has been selected by the National Board of Episcopal Church Women as the recipient of the Unified Gift, which will be presented at Triennial Meeting in 2018.

Donna Emery, development director for Community First!, has described the village as a "novel approach to mitigating the problem of homelessness." During a meeting in Austin last spring, the NECW Board visited the 27-acre village for the disabled, chronically homeless in central Texas. This is a place of wonder with affordable housing of varying styles, including many tiny homes; a huge community garden; a recreation center and community store; worship spaces and prayer labyrinth; a medical facility; even an arts center where unique pieces are handcrafted by village residents.

Time and again, Board members heard residents use the phrase, "my own place." With this grateful pride comes responsibility as the people of Community First! share in the maintenance and administration of the village. This is a model of supportive community worth emulating, and Episcopal Church Women are in a unique position to encourage the life changing outreach happening in this wonderland. Please support this effort by donating to the Unified Gift.

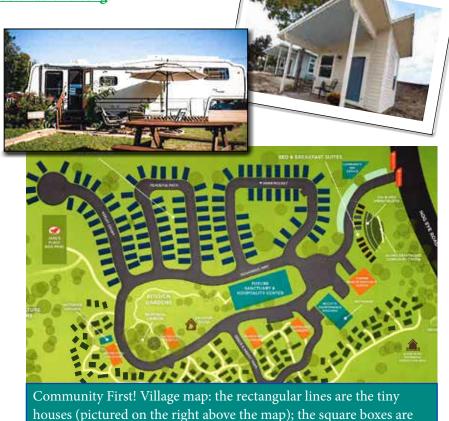
Additional information about Community First! Village is in the Social Justice section of the NECW website, <u>www.ecwnational.org</u>.

Send Your Donations To: Karen Patterson National ECW Treasurer P.O. Box 1866 Dade City, FL 33526

Make checks payable to: Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society – (DFMS)

Please write: **2018 Unified Gift** on the memo line of the check.

Questions? Contact: Beblon Parks Member at Large-Social Justice 8210 Trabue Rd. Richmond VA 23235 socialjustice@ecwnational.org 804-683-2802



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renovated RVs (pictured on the left above the map).

# **2018 ECW TRIENNIAL COMMUNITY CONNECTION GIFT**

# SHOWER PROGRAM

# at Trinity Center Austin, Texas

### "Summer Survival Kits"

(Items will be collected during Triennial Meeting 2018.)

✤ Soap

Deodorant (roll-on)

✤ Wash Cloths

✤ Wet Wipes

Socks

\*

- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent
- ✤ Toothpaste
  - Toothbrushes
- Other similar personal care products
- ✤ Gift cards from stores that sell these things

The Trinity Center Shower Program, housed at St. David's Episcopal Church in downtown Austin, has been designated the recipient of the Community Connection Gift for Triennial Meeting 2018. In addition to collecting financial donations for this life-affirming ministry, the National Board of Episcopal Church Women has a goal of assembling and delivering, during the Triennial Meeting next July, hundreds of "summer survival kits" to the homeless citizens served by the shower program.

How it began: While participating in Woman to Woman at Trinity Center, volunteers from St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Austin heard the women they were assisting talk about personal belongings being stolen when they were taking showers at other facilities in town. It was then that the idea for a private and secure shower program for homeless women was born.

How you can help: Please send financial donations now for the Shower Program, and plan on donating items for the summer survival kits once you get to Austin. There will be collection bins in the ECW meeting space at the convention center.



**Send Your Donations To:** Karen Patterson National ECW Treasurer P.O. Box 1866 Dade City, FL 33526

Make Checks Payable To: Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society – (DFMS)

Please write **Trinity Center Shower Program** on the check memo line.

Questions? Contact:

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# **ECW NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES**

# Confronting Human Trafficking

-Submitted by Jodie Pully, Province III ECW President, Diocese of Virginia

We had a glorious day for our ECW Diocesan Fall Meeting at Aquia Church, Stafford, VA,

with October last Ellyn Bishop Susan Goff. meeting The included a powerful program on chaplain services for prisoners, and the presentation of our human trafficking English posters in and Spanish. It was such a great blessing distribute these to posters with 140 in attendance-representing 30 churches and 11 regions.

Human trafficking is a huge problem in our diocese. Teens are being approached on social media and in



In many cases teens are picked up from school, made to "work" for a few hours, and then dropped off at home. When we heard from the head of human trafficking for the FBI in Richmond last spring, she asked for our help. She encouraged us to be alert and call in anything looking suspicious. Most of us do not even know what to look for in these situations.

Thanks to generous donations from women

our

diocese.

trafficking

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some

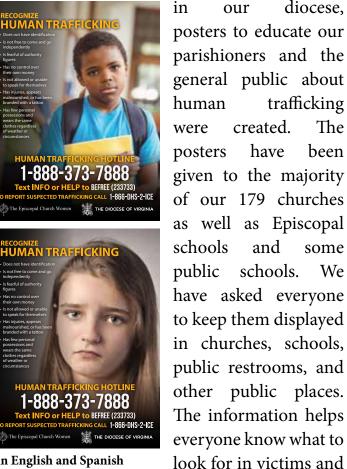
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Human trafficking posters in English and Spanish created by ECW, Diocese of Virginia

public places. Once lured in by the traffickers they see no way out. They are told their families will be killed if they tell anyone. It is happening under our noses. We are asking everyone to please alert and warn your children and grandchildren.

call to make a difference in someone's life.

At the ECW Province III Meeting this April, we distributed our human trafficking posters to our province friends for display in their churches and communities.

# Let Us Celebrate the 70 Years of Episcopal Women Society in Puerto Rico

—Submitted by Melva Irizarry Padilla President, Province IX

The goal of our Episcopal Women Society, Diocese of Puerto Rico is, "**To know Christ and to cause that he is known.**" And our motto is, **"To work, to pray and to give for the extension of the kingdom of God.**" Both comprise our missionary and evangelization principles: to work and to serve God, and all men, women, and children in need.

The first diocesan meeting of the Episcopal Women Society in Puerto Rico was officially held



Holy Trinity Church, Ponce, Puerto Rico

on April 18, 1948 at la Inglesia Santisma Trinidad (Holy Trinity Church) located in Ponce. Since that first one, we have celebrated many conventions at which we thank God for all the work done through the years.

In 2018, we will be celebrating 70 years of missionary work for the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Puerto Rico. Our prayers and thanksgivings for all the blessings received, for the growth of our organization and for all the work performed through the grace of our Lord.

We will also honor and remember all those dedicated women that through our Society have left their tracks by

means of their work. We declare that, with all Episcopal women, we share and carry out our duties, rights, and responsibilities with a sense of love and equality.

Also, in 2018, we will be celebrating our X Blue Lunch, first held in 2009. The purpose of this lunch is to get together and participate in educational and spirituals forums as well as to promote the well-being of each of member of our Society.

Throughout the years, we have provided support to the Hogar de Niño's San Miguel (San Miguel Children Shelter), administered by the Diocese of Puerto Rico of the Episcopal Church. We continue strengthening the bi-annual campaign of the Ofrenda Unida de Accion de Gracias (United Thank Offering) for the expansion of the missionary work in our diocese.

Per the words of the Primate Bishop of the Episcopal Church—The Jesus Movement (MOVIMIENTO DE JESUS)—I invite all of you to: Mantenernos (Hold us up), Obedientes (Obedient), Vivas (Alive), Ilusionadas (Excited), Motivadas (Inspired), Integradas (Integrated), Esperanzadas (Hopeful), Neutrales (Impartial), Talentosas (Talented), Ordenadas (Organized): Diversas (Diverse), Eficaces (Effective), Juiciosas (Prudent), Enamoradas (in Love), Sinceras (Honest), Unidas (United), Servir (to Serve).

# Celebremos los 70 años de las Mujeres Episcopales en Puerto Rico

—Por: Melva Irizarry de Padilla, Presidenta Diócesis de Puerto Rico

Nuestra meta es **"Conocer a Cristo y hacer que sea conocido."** Y nuestro lema es: **"Trabajar, orar y dar para la extensión del reino de Dios."** Ambos forman parte de nuestro trabajo misionero y evangelizador: trabajar y servir a Dios; a todos los hombres mujeres, niños y niñas que tengan necesidad.

En Puerto Rico se convocó oficialmente la primera reunión diocesana de la Sociedad de Mujeres Episcopales el 18 de abril de 1948 en la Iglesia Santísima Trinidad de Ponce. Hemos celebrado muchas convenciones, en las cuales damos gracias a Dios por todo el trabajo realizado en los pasados años.

En el 2018 estaremos celebrando los 70 años del trabajo misionero en la Iglesia Episcopal de la Diócesis de Puerto Rico. Años de oración, crecimiento y acción de gracias por todas las bendiciones que hemos recibido en nuestra sociedad. Muchas mujeres han pasado por nuestra Sociedad y han dejado sus huellas por medio de su trabajo. Nosotras declaramos que compartimos con todas las mujeres episcopales nuestros deberes, derechos y responsabilidades con un espíritu de igualdad, amor y dedicación.

También celebraremos el X Almuerzo Azul, actividad que dio inicio en el 2009. El propósito de esta actividad es que podamos compartir y desarrollar charlas educativas, espirituales y bde entretenimiento para el bienestar de nuestra sociedad y de la vida personal de cada mujer.

Hemos continuado apoyando a los niños del Hogar San Miguel en Ponce en sus necesidades. Igualmente continuamos con el fortalecimiento de las colectas de la Ofrenda Unida de Acción de Gracias, para que se pueda expandir el trabajo misionero necesario para nuestra diócesis.

Finalizo este artículo con el lema del Obispo Primado: *El Movimiento de Jesús*. Les invito a todas ustedes a: Mantenernos: Obedientes, Vivas, Ilusionadas, Motivadas, Integradas, Esperanzadas, Neutrales, Talentosas, Ordenadas, Diversas, Eficaces, Juiciosas, Enamoradas, Sincerasy Unidas para Servir.

Pongamos nuestra confianza en Dios para continuar con el bienestar de la Iglesia Episcopal de Puerto Rico; trabajando para su honra y gloria.

# Trinity Episcopal Church St. Monica's Guild Hosts 87th Valentine Silver Tea

The 87<sup>th</sup> annual Valentine Silver Tea, hosted by St. Monica's Guild of Trinity Episcopal Church in Pass Christian, Mississippi, was held February 10, 2017. All proceeds from the event help support outreach to groups that work locally, regionally, and nationally. This year, recipients included: the Boys and Girls Club of Pass Christian; Gone Fishing Ministries, which supplies meals and assistance to the needy; Wilmer Hall Children's Home in Mobile, Alabama; and Mercy Flight Southeast, a volunteer pilot organization that provides free transportation to medical facilities around the country for children and adults in need of medical treatment.

This year's Tea was hosted at the Laborde home located on East Scenic Drive in Pass Christian. Built during the building boom of the 1840s,



Members of the St. Monica's Guild of Trinity Episcopal Church of Pass Christian. The Guild hosted the 87<sup>th</sup> annual Valentine Silver Tea on Friday, February 10, 2017 at the LaBorde home on Scenic Avenue in "The Pass." All proceeds from the Tea are given to charity efforts.

—Submitted by Rebecca S. Orfila, Province IV Trinity Episcopal Church, Pass Christian, Mississippi

> it is the only surviving antebellum brick home in the Pass. Renovations to this elegant historic home were made in the early 2000s.

> During the afternoon delicious homemade savories and sweets, plus wine, tea and coffee were served. Although there is no charge to



L to R: Margaret LaBorde (homeowner), Ann Burger (President of St. Monica's Guild), Evelyn Gregory (Trinity Episcopal Church's ECW representative), Ainslie Tatum (Chairman of the 87th annual Valentine Silver Tea), and Mary Beth Welch (Province IV Representative of Episcopal Church Women).

attend the Valentine Silver Tea, donations are requested and appreciated as all monies collected are given for outreach.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century name of our guild was the Ladies Aid Society, later changed to the Women's Auxiliary. In past decades the name was changed once again—this time to St. Monica's Guild in honor of the mother of St. Augustine of Hippo. The Guild is ecumenical in membership and welcomes new ladies to our meetings and special events.

# Planning Ahead for the 2018 Triennial Meeting

In less than a year we will be in Austin, Texas, for the 49<sup>th</sup> Triennial Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women. The ECW National Board is working on the plans for the Triennial with a goal of making it spiritually fulfilling as well as providing lots of workshops and fun.

Your help is needed both in attending and financially supporting this event. Your contributions are a necessary part of making the Triennial Meeting happen. We encourage each diocese to make plans ahead for their participation in both areas – attendance and contributions.

In the contribution form to the right, the four donations which pertain directly to the Triennial Meeting are indicated by the orangecolored 2018 Triennium Logo.

You can read about the Triennial Unified Gift (Loaves and Fishes Ministries) on page 13, and the Community Gift (Trinity Center Shower Program) on page 14. Please give consideration to supporting these ministries in addition to support of the triennial scholarship Aid to Delegates and the Triennial Meeting Endowment.

If you have any questions, please contact me. I will be glad to help you in any way that I can.

In Christ's name,

Karen O. Patterson, Treasurer National ECW Board

# ECW National Board

2015-2018

Copy this form for contributions from individuals, parishes or dioceses.

This form is not used for United Thank Offering or Church Periodical Club donations.

### Name of Donor or Organization:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ **Contribution for:** Amount Annual Pledge  $\square$  (a) Aid to Delegates □ Triennial Meeting Endowment Unified Gift: Loaves & Fishes Ministries Trinity Center Shower Program Women to Women Communiqué This gift is an: □ Honorarium □ Memorial For: An acknowledgement may be sent to: (Name and Address) Make checks payable to: Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS) and mail to: Karen O. Patterson National ECW Treasurer P.O. Box 1866 Dade City, FL 33526



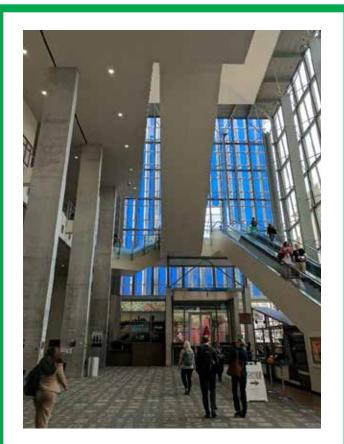
Episcopal Church Women 310 Riverside Drive #822 New York, NY 10025-4123

# Share Your Best Practices

For upcoming issues of the Communiqué we are looking for ECW parish, diocesan, and province mission and ministry stories related in particular to Marks 1, 2, and 4 of the Five Marks of Mission.\* The stories are intended to inspire and instruct others in starting a new faith-based project or enriching a present one. Articles should be submitted as a 600 to 1,000 word document. (Please see page 2 for additional details regarding submissions.)

# \* THE FIVE MARKS OF MISSION

- 1) To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- 2) To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- 3) To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- 5) To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth



Interior of the Austin Convention Center, site of the 79<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church & 49<sup>th</sup> ECW Triennial Meeting in Texas, July 5-11, 2018 (see pp. 10-11).