



Communique

Friday, June 26, 2015

48th Triennial Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women

Salt Lake City, Utah

Welcome to Salt Lake City, Utah Stir Up the Spirit: Celebremos!

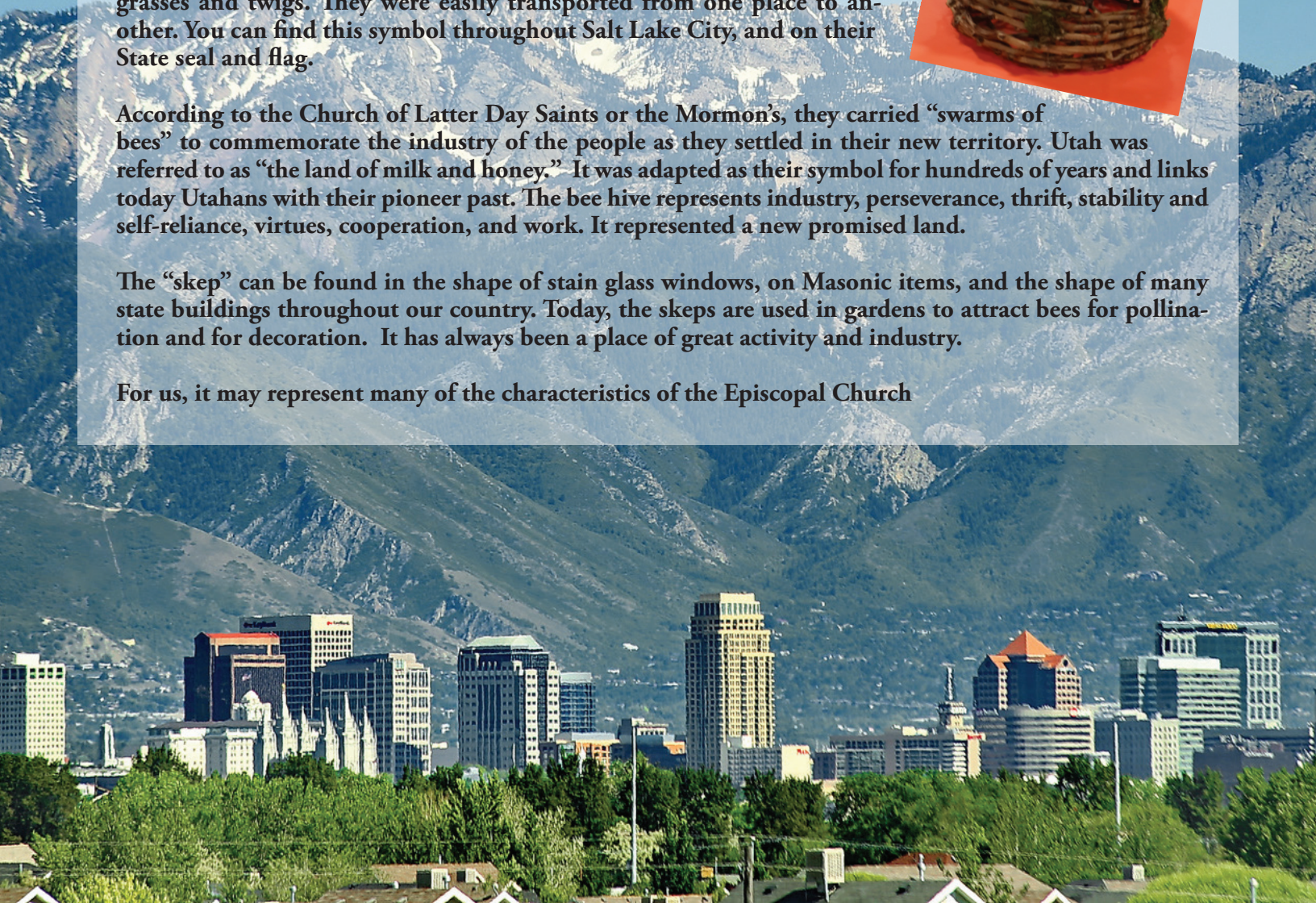
Why a Bee Skep or Beehive?

Our center piece, for this our 48th Triennial Meeting is the symbol of Utah, the Beehive State. Originally, the bee skep (hive) was made out of grasses and twigs. They were easily transported from one place to another. You can find this symbol throughout Salt Lake City, and on their State seal and flag.

According to the Church of Latter Day Saints or the Mormon's, they carried "swarms of bees" to commemorate the industry of the people as they settled in their new territory. Utah was referred to as "the land of milk and honey." It was adapted as their symbol for hundreds of years and links today Utahans with their pioneer past. The bee hive represents industry, perseverance, thrift, stability and self-reliance, virtues, cooperation, and work. It represented a new promised land.

The "skep" can be found in the shape of stain glass windows, on Masonic items, and the shape of many state buildings throughout our country. Today, the skeps are used in gardens to attract bees for pollination and for decoration. It has always been a place of great activity and industry.

For us, it may represent many of the characteristics of the Episcopal Church





Message from the President

By Nancy R. Crawford

From November 2014 through May 2015 The President's Blog found on the ECW website has featured reflections and comments about a variety of the women who speak in the Bible.

This has been based on "Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter" by the Rev. Lindsay Hardin Freeman.

The women have come alive through our readings and reflections and through the illustrations by Claire Elam, a talented young artist who is a graduate of Bennington College, Vermont.

She earned a bachelor's degree in visual arts with a concentration in painting and ceramics.

The book collaboration between Lindsay and the national ECW Board began in 2012, just following the Triennial Meeting in Indianapolis. Lindsay was our keynote speaker and a workshop presenter. Many of us knew of Lindsay because of her previous book, "The Scarlet Cord: Conversations with God's Chosen Women."

Readers become more familiar with women in the Bible by the stories told in their voices. But Lindsay had another idea percolating, a book about all

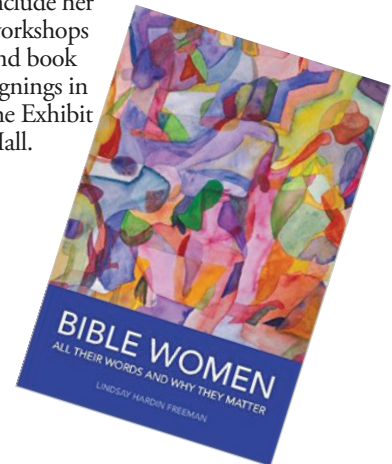
the women who speak in the Bible, and she invited ECW to join in the endeavor.

The ECW board provided a research grant to Lindsay and an easy promise to share her book with our women through networking and a discounted book cost.

Now you are able to meet these two remarkable women on today, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. in the Plenary Room. Stop by one of the convention center vendors and pick up a light breakfast or a cup of coffee.

Then join us as we hear from the author herself about 93 amazing women.

Claire will have her original illustrations for us to view before and after the presentation. Other opportunities with Lindsay during the Triennial Meeting include her workshops and book signings in the Exhibit Hall.



Media Team (Left to Right): Linda Amerault, Stephanie Ash-Harris, Barbara Harris, Christine Budzowski, Samar Fay and Mayra Brown. Not pictured: Shetwan Roberison, Bev Ruebeck

Program Highlights

7:30-9 a.m. Breakfast with Lindsay Hardin Freeman - Plenary Room

Lindsay Hardin Freeman, award-winning author and editor, is an Episcopal priest of 30 years. She is especially committed to sharing the great stories of the faith from a woman's perspective. Her newest book, "Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter," a part of a four-year study project, is the product of a dynamic partnership between the Episcopal Church Women and Forward Movement, publisher for the Episcopal Church since 1934.

1:40-4:30 p.m. Plenary II - Plenary Room

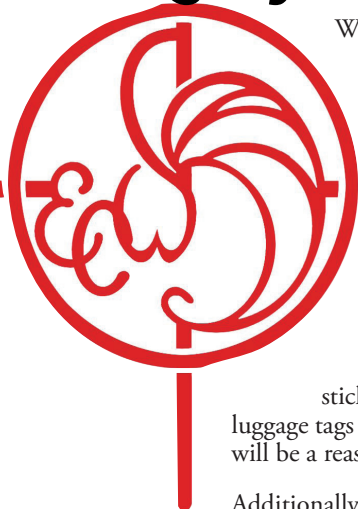
Call to Order - Nancy Crawford, President
Opening Prayer
Credentials Report - Committee Chair
President's Message
Report of the Nominating Committee - Sandra Powers, Committee Chair
Nominees' Speeches
Finance - Kathy Mank, Treasurer
Announcements
Chaplain's Time - The Rev. Mary Janda

4:30-5 p.m. Meet the Nominees - Plenary Room

6-9 p.m. UTO/ECW Reception and Sharing Dinner - Radisson Hotel



Swing by the Booth -- Pick Up An ECW Button



We hope to sell ECW and not just stuff. Barbara Owens, Province IV ECW president and past Province IV rep to the National ECW board, will serve as Booth Manager.

At the booth you will find logo items that you can take back home for your congregation and diocesan ECW women. We have ECW buttons, ECW post-it notes, pens and stickers as well as "Emery" boards and luggage tags for you to take free of charge. There will be a reasonable limit per person.

Additionally, there will be a supply of ECW bookmarks, prayer cards, and note cards to take back home. Finally, due to demand, the Triennial 2015 cross will be available for purchase at \$10 each.

We will charge for the following items to recover some of the cost of purchasing and shipping them to Triennial. Clear Cosmetic or Utility bags were tested as TSA approved by our president, Nancy Crawford, on two separate occasions – one being the pilgrimage to Israel.

These popular bags will sell at \$10. Light blue T-shirts with the TM 2015 Lift Up the Spirit: Celebremos logo will sell for \$15. For \$5, water bottles, stylus pens and key lights may be purchased. Tape measures with the ECW logo will sell for \$2.50 each.

Girls Friendly Society and Five Talents will share some of our booth space. Get to know these organizations that supports girls and wom-

en around the globe and stop by our booth #727 conveniently located across from the Food Court.

TM 2015 Scholarship Fund Article

Every year the ECW National Board had inquiries about scholarships for women. In the past, we had to send women back to their Dioceses and Provinces for support.

In the middle of the Triennium, there appeared to be sufficient funds to establish a Memorial Scholarship fund for Graduate Study for women seeking ordination primarily and secondarily for those women seeking to serve in the helping professions. We used a similar scholarship fund model found in other Dioceses and established a \$50,000 fund managed by DFMS.

The application process included a March 31, 2015 deadline. We had 22 applications all from amazing women who are aspiring church and community leaders. About half the applicants were seeking MDIV's or DMin's. Other courses of study included an Archival Studies degree, a Sacred Music degree, a Masters in Non-Profit Studies, a doctorate in Curriculum Instruction, and a Masters in Family Ministry.

As this was the first year, we elected to award all 22 applicants a scholarship with \$29,000 being distributed in total. A full list of scholarship awards will be presented at the Finance presentation on Friday, June 25th.

Although the fund was new in 2014, we have received no contributions from any source. We encourage contributions to the scholarship fund in honor or in memory of women in your Dioceses and congregations to perpetuate the fund. Please make checks payable to: DFMS – ECW and mail to the Treasurer. The mailing address is on the website at www.ecwnational.org.

In Tune with Mr. Matt Lemmler

I had the wonderful experience of meeting Matt during an National ECW board meeting last year on Ender's Island. We had an old-fashioned sing-a-long that kept me humming, "Lead Me, Guide Me" for weeks. I think you'll find the music a real treat at this Triennial Meeting. Just to get you in the mood, here are eight quick questions, to introduce you to Mr. Matt Lemmler, Steinway Artist!

Did you have prior knowledge of the Episcopal Church or the Episcopal Church Women?

Yes. I've been involved and inspired in the Episcopal Church, mainly due to a creative priest, Father Bill Miller. He created the Jazz Mass at Trinity Church, Houston; St Michael and All Angels, Kauia, Hawaii and now at Christ Church, Covington, Louisiana. At all of these churches, I've had the privilege of helping create a new, transformative context for sacred hymns and text by infusing the spirit of jazz while honoring the spirit of the sacred. It led me into my path to form the New Orleans Jazz Revival and travel the world sharing these gifts with churches of all denominations. I was also blessed to spend time with the ECW this past year at Salt Lake City and on Ender's Island and look forward to our time during the Triennial.

What were your first impression of ECW?

I love being around beautiful, uplifting and inspiring people, especially ECW women!

Do you have any special plans for Triennial?

I'm excited to be able to create, rehearse and present an UBUNTU Spirit Choir alongside Father Bill Miller in our Spirit of New Orleans Jazz Mass during the triennial. I also hope to present some outside concerts at the Steinway dealer and various clubs in Salt Lake City. Please visit my website for more info on my special plans during triennial. www.mattlemmler.com

What is your favorite tempo and why?

I loved playing Handel's 'Largo' when I was first learning piano when I was six or seven years old -- Beethoven's 'Moonlight Sonata' too. Both were dirge-like tempos. Real slow and moody. Just like me:) Actually, the dirge is also found in our sacred New Orleans Jazz Funerals. Just a beautiful tradition I still witness to this day. It starts out mournful,

at first, with the dirge, and then once the dead are buried, it's time to party and celebrate life and the spirit!!

What song comes to mind first?

"Sing-Sing a Song. Make it simple to last your whole life long. Don't worry that it's not good enough, for anyone else to hear.

Just Sing. Sing a Song..La la la lala la la la lala la la lala la la.."

Singing heals me and I witness how it heals others. My mission is to get everyone singing and playing music together. The world, especially our internal world/spirit, would be uplifted and joyful if we just sang a happy tune each minute of the day. Sing a Song with me in the UBUNTU Spirit Choir!

Have you recently finished any projects?

I just premiered my solo Steinway show "Conversations with the Artist" a concert featuring musical stories from growing up in the Lower Ninth Ward to musical portraits of the Living Legends/Immortal Steinway Artists including George Gershwin and Irving Berlin to Billy Joel, Randy Newman, Harry Connick, Jr. and my mentor, Ellis Marsalis.

Can you tell me about your next project?

I'm very blessed to be arranging, composing and producing for a group of over 300 middle school musicians making a trip from Atlanta, GA to my hometown, New Orleans, where their string orchestra, jazz band, concert band and choir get to perform together and record a CD to document this UBUNTU of middle school musicians recording alongside my New Orleans Jazz Revival Band. Some of the featured songs will include Ode to Joy, Colors of the Wind, Sing and several other inspirational songs!



What can the women look forward to most in regard to the music venue at the Triennial Meeting?

A great time to let loose and feel the presence of God's voice through our music and singing!! Music is truly a Holy Spirit, and I hope we all can allow that to inspire and heal us the way God intended music to do. Praise and Heal!! Ubuntu of music and spirit!

Episcopal Women's History Project Annual Meeting

Monday, June 29 12:10-1 p.m.
Marriott Downtown, City Creek
Luncheon. \$6.95

All are invited. Membership forms will be available at luncheon and at the History Booth



Communiqué

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Stephanie Ash-Harris <i>Writer</i>	Bev Ruebeck <i>Media Team, Writer</i>

'Don't Tell Me There's No God'

June Beckett, an Episcopal Church Woman delegate from Province II's New York celebrates her 80th birthday today. June's first Triennial meeting was in 2012 at Indianapolis. Since then she has been elected to New York's diocesan board as its Devotional Life chair. She is a lover of God, of worship and is truly a dedicated and hardworking individual within her parish and community.

I attended 2012's Triennial meeting with June and was honored to join her in worship every day at Eucharist. I remember June commenting how sweet it was to be able to enjoy such an experience; to this day whenever she is asked to reflect on her experiences at that meeting she cites her attendance at the Eucharist as being the most honorable and simply the BEST.

Today as I sat in the pew behind her at the Opening Eucharist it was like seeing your toddler en-

joy its first ice cream; pure elation. This simplicity of being in the midst of various bishops, priests, deacons and lay persons who have all congregated for the purpose of affirmation of strength and renewal of spirit makes her soul sing. In preparing for our trip to Utah one of June's wish was to be able to serve during the Eucharist. This morning when we arrived at the worship space, June was invited to be a chalice bearer. She felt like her cup had runneth over.

Bishop Schori's request of suiting up, putting on our road gear and arming ourselves, one and all, as we set out together to build that road to a peaceable kingdom will resonate with June from this day on. I feel that today June received validation that all her efforts in Christ's name have neither been in vain or are becoming obsolete. We will most definitely continue on this journey with you June.

PHOTOS OF THE DAY



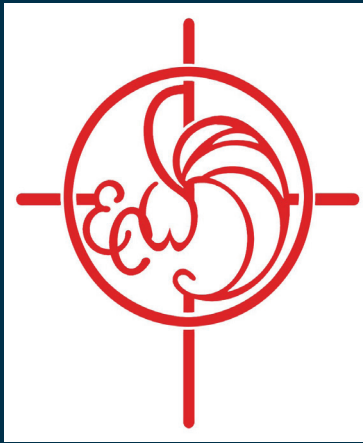
THOUGHTS OF THE DAY

As this is my first Triennial I wasn't sure what to expect. How much would I learn? Would it be exciting or boring? Would I meet old friends and make new ones?

After only one day I have so enjoyed the Triennial. I have learned about the wonderful women who have been on the National Board for the last three years and a bit about the affiliated organizations (UTO, GFS, DOK to name a few)

I have met a number of old friends that I haven't seen in years and have made some of new friends. There has been nothing boring about this event. If this is what it is like after one day I can't wait to see what the rest of the Triennial has to offer!





Episcopal Church Women
ecwnational.org