

Financers

This should be discussed with the rector or vicar. Some Episcopal Church Women groups maintain their own accounts, and others are supported through a line item in the parish budget. Some also function event to event by requesting contributions to participate. The size of your group and the level of activities will impact any decisions on funding.

First Meeting

In consultation with the rector or vicar, select a date for gathering the women of your congregation to talk about the formation of an Episcopal Church Women group. The date and time should be when the greatest number of women can participate. We recommend that you ask someone from outside of your congregation to facilitate this session. There are women serving on the diocesan, provincial, and national boards who can help. This creates an atmosphere of importance and openness. Promoting the gathering is critical. Use all methods of communication available such as Sunday bulletins, email, the church website, monthly newsletters, announcements, posters, special mailings, phone calls and face to face invitations. Please see Section 9, Promotional Quips for Bulletins and Newsletters. In planning the agenda, include time for prayer, fellowship, ice-breakers, personal reflection, group discussion, and next step decisions. Make sure to provide childcare.

Additional Materials

We have included several items to assist in the development of your Episcopal Church Women group including some general information regarding women's

groups and activities, generational materials that provide insight into planning, and

several ideas for determining a plan for your group. There are also brochures describing the work of the National Board of Episcopal Church Women.