



# Go Tell It On The Mountains

August 2009

Newsletter of the Episcopal Church Women - Diocese of Western North Carolina  
www.episcopalchurchwomen-wnc.org



Mary Ann Ransom

**D**id you know that in 1896 Fanny Patton, from Trinity, Asheville was the first ECW president (back then ECW was called Women’s Auxiliary of the Episcopal Church). Since 1896, Episcopal Church Women in the Diocese of Western North Carolina have played an important part of the Church’s mission and ministry locally and globally. This commitment to mission and ministry continues today with each woman in our diocese doing what she loves to do best in whatever project she chooses to do in her home parish.

Every woman who attends the Episcopal Church is an Episcopal Church Woman and is part of ECW whether she chooses to participate or not. Sometimes this is confusing to some of the women because many have come from backgrounds other than the Episcopal Church. To better understand this connection, at our annual gathering/meeting in September, a history of the ECW will be given to each women in attendance. This history was written by one of our own Episcopal Church Women, Katerina Katsarka Whitley. She had spent several months gathering historical research and out of her research, she has produced a wonderful play chronicling the history of Episcopal Church Women. The diocesan board hopes to take Ms. Whitley’s play on the road to churches throughout our diocese to tell the story of your ECW or you can put it on yourself. So, come to the annual meeting to get your copy of the play.

I hope you will fill out the Registration Form (inside this newsletter) and join us on September 25-26, 2009 at Lutheridge Conference Center. Our keynoter will be The Rev. Dee Ann de Montmollin and her presentation “Grow in Grace” is our theme for this year’s program. Also, at our gathering, a scripturally based leadership development workshop “Women of Vision” will be offered by Marcie Cherau, past Province IV Representative to the National ECW Board. Later in the day, we will have the opportunity to hear about the Women’s Correctional Facility at Swannanoa—Chaplaincy Program. Be sure to also come prepared to purchase raffle tickets for the wonderful gift baskets being prepared by your diocesan board members.

Remember ladies, ECW has been around for over 100 years in our diocese. So this year come join us as we continue the wonderful history of mission and ministry. Come join us for some excellent programs, to share stories and rekindle friendships during our social hour and help us celebrate the “Honored Woman of the Year” Lucy Gunn. We have no idea of what the future holds for Episcopal Church Women but I know it will continue another 100 years with new faces and new ideas as we continue to do mission and ministry in our Church. *Sincerely, Mary Ann Ransom, WNC ECW President*

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Katerina Katsarka Whitley as she wrote the ECW play wanted:

*“To show how God worked through admirable Episcopal women in the course of long years and struggles to bring about the accomplishments taken for granted today.”*



# Registration Form

## Register Now!



**Women of the Episcopal Church Diocese of Western North Carolina  
87th Annual Meeting - September 25-26, 2009  
Lutheridge Conference Center Arden, North Carolina**

# "Grow in Grace"

Is our theme for this year's Annual Meeting. The Rev. Dee Ann de Montmollin will be Keynote Speaker and workshops will be presented by Marcie Cherau, Province IV Representative to National ECW Board.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Deanery: (Circle one) Asheville Foothills Hendersonville Mountain Piedmont Western

Registration Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Double \$95.00 ea; \_\_\_\_\_ Single \$135.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Commuter

**Fees include meals and materials.**

Note: We ask each person to register on separate form. - (Please make photo copy of this form to use and mail in to our treasurer, Diane Mance).

(Roommate \_\_\_\_\_)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 25, 2009**

Please mail registration form and check (made payable to WNC ECW) to: Diane Mance, Treasurer, 105 Poppy Lane, Asheville NC 28803.

## The Impact of the United Thank Offering

By Pat Jollie, United Thank Offering Coordinator for WNC ECW



I give thanks for the privilege you have given me to represent the Diocese of Western North Carolina at the Triennial of the Episcopal Church Women as the United Thank Offering Coordinator. It was indeed a joyous and inspirational experience which I shall never forget and always cherish.

As you may know, the United Thank Offering as established by the Episcopal Church Women (Women's Auxiliary) in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was the beginning of outreach in the Episcopal Church of the USA. During Triennial we were reminded by several of our spiritual leaders that the Episcopal Church would not have had an outreach program if it had not been done for the ECW and UTO. In our outreach programs through UTO "we are tied to the Anglican Communion through prayer, **care**, and experience" said Archbishop Rowan Williams as he spoke to delegates at Triennial.

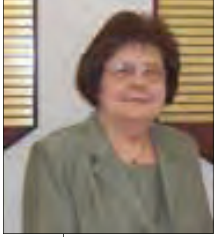
As reported at Triennial, in 2008 the United Thank Offering national board awarded 63 grants for a total of \$2,065,472.43. One hundred thirty (130) applied which totaled \$7M. For the past three years the total given to UTO has lessened each year. At the Holy Eucharist on Sunday, July 12, each diocese presented to Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts-Schori vouchers representing the total for the past 3 years. The Diocese of WNC total Ingatherings was \$83,142.18. As stated by the Rev. Lauren Stanley "the church cannot survive without the United Thank Offering. It is the most direct way that most Episcopalians from the time they were babies to time they're dying have participated in the mission of the church. Those little "blue boxes" are the most important way we get people involved in mission". Worshipers at the Holy Eucharist added another \$28,168.92 to the United Thank Offering. This enabled the national board to award an additional grant. I am thrilled to announce that the companion diocese of WNC, the Diocese of Durgapur, India received a grant of \$29,167.96. These funds will be used to partially fund construction and equipment for a sewing center for training adolescent girls and women from surrounding slums in order for them to engage in income generating activities.



At the United Thank Offering dinner, we were inspired by Bishop Michael Curry, Diocese of North Carolina, with his words of wisdom. Using the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter of John as a frame of reference, he continually referred to the sister ministries of United Thank Offering and Episcopal Church Women as a mission of witness sorely needed in a time of absolute and unprecedented change". If you remember just one word from tonight it should be "GO". He related that "GO" and "Mission" are synonymous. He ended his talk with "Go and love without abandon! Go and spread his(Jesus') justice! GO UTO! GO ECW!"

So, let us "GO" without abandon and give daily thanks for all our blessings and encircle the people of God throughout the world. Let us continue to give out the Blue Boxes and gather them in on a regular basis!!

## Triennial 09 Delegates' Reports...



ECW Triennial held in Anaheim, California July 7 - July 16 at the same time as the General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Let me say before I give my impressions that we want to "thank" all the WNC ECWs who contribute to the budget of the Diocesan ECW Board. Each year a certain amount of money is budgeted for women to attend the Triennial every 3 years. Every Diocese in the 9 provinces can send 4 delegates and 4 alternates. We had 3 delegates and our President, Mary Ann Ransom, who has been on the National ECW Board for 3 years.

We missed part of the opening ceremony as we didn't get to the Convention Center soon enough. Our Presiding Bishop came and presented the traditional greeting and a golden cross bearing the ECW symbol to each woman present and shook her hand. We received our cross later that afternoon. This was exciting for those present to have the first "woman" presiding bishop to be with us.

The next day the most inspiring and inspirational moment for me was the Most Honorable Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, coming to our hall with greetings. He commended us for "sharing our prayers, care and experience" to strengthen the bonds that tie the Anglican Communion together. These three -- prayer, care and experience--"unite us one to another in Christ", he said.

Other inspiring moments were the United Thank Offering sharing dinner speaker, Bishop Curry, from the Diocese of North Carolina. He said the word "mission" is never mentioned in the Bible but it is all over the Bible. He emphasized the one word "Go" over and over. If you take the word "Go" seriously it means you've got to trust the Lord. You don't need to have all the answers but you do need a mission.

Other inspiring speakers were Dr. Stephen Charleston, former Bishop of Alaska, and author, Phyllis Tickle. She spoke at the Mission and Ministry Conference in Asheville a few years ago so some of you will know what a dynamic speaker she is.

Joan Summerfield

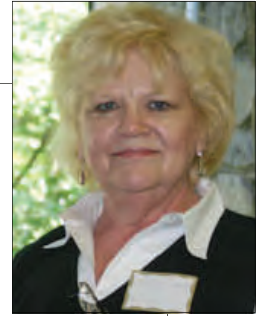


I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ECW Board for making it possible for me to attend The 46th Triennial meeting this year. The program was well planned and executed. The Theme was "Grow in Grace" and we heard several dynamic speakers including Retired Bishop Steven Charleston, author Phyllis Tickle, and Bishop Michael Curry of North Carolina. A play entitled "Yet We Persist" written by our own Katerina Whitley was presented and told the history of the ECW. It was very interesting. I always enjoy the music and this year, I was not disappointed. We heard a concert given by Elizabeth Von Trapp to benefit the Jericho Road project. We brought home many memories of Triennial.

Margaret King

## Church Periodical Club The Diocese of Western North Carolina

From: CPC Director-Donna Murray



The Church Periodical Club (better known as CPC) is an independent, affiliated organization of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church dedicated to the world –wide Ministry of the Printed Word and to the promotion of Christian Mission. It is the only organization in the Episcopal Church engaged solely in providing through grants Free literature and related materials, both religious and secular, to people all over the world, who having no other source, need and request it through their bishop. There are two primary granting funds.

\*The National Books Fund (NBF) grants annually and responds to requests for books and related materials around the world

Bibles, the Book of Common Prayer, books for seminarians, educational materials, medical textbooks and other related materials are some of the resources supplied by the Church of the Periodical Club. CPC sends money each year to Seminarians from WNC to help with the cost of their textbooks.

\*A Mile of Pennies (MOP) is one of our other Projects. I would encourage all of you to collect "A Mile A Pennies" in your church this year. This is a project to get books to children Grades 1-12 who don't live near libraries and can't afford to buy books. Place a jar in your church and ask parishioners to put pennies in it. Tell them what the pennies will be used for. The following breakdown will be of interest to them. It was to me.

16 pennies = 1 foot

5,280 feet = 1 mile

\$844.80 pennies= 1 mile

Donations received are sent to the National Office of CPC. This is a project dear to our hearts. Throughout the year please collect your pennies for this good cause.

With your prayers and support and help from the folks of this Diocese we can make more awareness for CPC and make a difference in other people's lives.

Thank you for your support,  
Donna Murray  
WNC/ CPC/Director

## Roll of Remembrance

Please send your names of church women who have died in the last 12 months to be remembered at the 86th Women's Gathering September 19-20th.

Please print or type name in Capital letters (given name, church and deanery) and send by September 10th to either your deanery chair or to mransom1@bellsouth.net or Mary Ann Ransom, 170 Ransom Road, Lake Lure NC 28746.

Any gifts honoring a deceased churchwoman will be added to the ECW Women's Scholarship Fund and your gift can be mailed to Diane Mance, WNC ECW Treasurer, 105 Poppy Lane, Asheville NC 28803. Please make check payable to WNC ECW and mark "scholarship".



### TO: ECW Parish President or ECW Contact

If you wish to solicit request for the ASDMO Funds, please email or mail your request by September 10th to either your deanery chair ( see names and phone number listed below) or to Mary Ann Ransom, 170 Ransom Road, Lake Lure NC 28746.

Your request should outline the detail and estimate cost involved in your project you have selected for your parish. The project should be one that will improve, enhance or fulfill an emergency need and pertain to your parish buildings i.e. sanctuary, parish house etc. Also, your request can be for a new work or project which has already been started.

The women will vote on the ASDMO project at the business meeting on September 25-26, 2008 at the women's gathering. This offering will not be awarded to the same church but once in every 5 years, however, if you have applied the year before or in the past and were not selected you can apply the next year. Last year the funds were given to Blue Ridge Mountains Health Project, Inc. in Cashiers, NC for Good Shepherd, Cashiers.

### Deanery Chair Contacts:

Asheville Deanery Chair: Janice Priest 828.298.7823  
Foothills Deanery Chairs: Joan Summerfield 704.437.1592 or Mary Oxford 828.437.6725  
Hendersonville Deanery Chair: vacant  
Mountain Deanery Chairs: Sally Prosch 828.962.2395 or Francile Shelley 828.898.3100  
Piedmont Deanery Chairs: Becky Whelan 704.487.1324  
Western Deanery Chair: vacant

Sometimes all we need to do is leave our problems and needs to the Lord each night before we go to bed. It is only through prayer we get through the day and/or night.



## Will you help shape the future of ECW in our Diocese for 2010?

We need women who are willing to serve on the Diocesan ECW Board. The benefits of serving on the board are many. You will have the opportunity to work with a wonderful group of women throughout the diocese and on the provincial and national level.



We do need a Vice-President/President-Elect, Christian Social Concern Chair, Public Relations/Multi Media Chair, ECW History Project Chair, Yearbook Chair, ASDMO Coordinator and a Devotional Life Chair. Some of these are new positions. Many of us on the board have just been wearing more than one hat at a time. However, if we are to do ECW justice, we need to have each position filled with a person who has the passion and love of doing ECW work. If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please contact Mary Ann at [mransom1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mransom1@bellsouth.net) or 828.625.8338.

Job Descriptions can be read in details in the directory under By-Laws.

**Vice-President/President-Elect Job Description:** She shall act as an aide to the president and in the absence of the president; assume the duties of the office. She shall plan in consultation with the board the program for the diocesan meetings. She shall serve as chair of the Constitution and By-Law Committee. She shall assist Deanery Chairs in planning and conducting Deanery meetings. In the event of resignation or illness of the President, she shall assume her office.

**ASDMO (All Saints Day Memorial Offering Coordinator):** Write letters to the churches to solicit request for the fund. Distribute the ASDMO envelopes. Keep abreast of rules and guidelines for this fund. Order ASDMO envelopes when necessary - work with the Treasurer to do this.

**Christian Social Concern Chair;** This person is to attend the Diocesan Justice & Outreach Committee meetings. Keep board abreast of justice and outreach issues especially the MDGs which have been adopted by our diocese and by the National Church. Pray for all Christian Social Concerns.

**Public Relations/Multi Media Chair:** This person will work with the President to prepare the ECW Diocesan newsletter and to keep the mailing lists up to date and to help work on the website. Develop all promotional materials which the Board deems necessary. Send out press releases.

**ECW History Project Chair:** Gather documents and information to keep archives updated on activities of ECWs throughout the diocese. Help produce History book on ECW in WNC.

**Yearbook/Directory Chair:** Gather yearly the names of Branches' ECW officers and help produce yearbook in a timely matter with updates.

**Devotional Life/Chaplain Chair:** Plan and conduct devotions for ECW Diocesan Board meetings. Organize a Worship Retreat for Board and encourage our branches and deaneries to conduct spiritual retreats and quiet days. Pray for all our women.

Read about your Deanery Chairs, UTO, CPC and your Board by visiting website  
[www.episcopalchurchwomen-wnc.org](http://www.episcopalchurchwomen-wnc.org)



Margaret King, Sec.



Diane Mance, Tres.



Pat Jollie, UTO & DOK



Donna Murray, CPC



Janice Priest,  
Asheville Deanery Chair



Joan Summerfield & Mary Oxford  
Foothills Deanery Chairs



Hendersonville  
Deanery Chair

Vacant



Sally Prosch  
Mountain  
Deanery Chair



Becky Whelan  
Piedmont  
Deanery Chair

Vacant

Western  
Deanery Chair

Photos not available for Francile Shelley, Mountain; Renee Lynch, Piedmont; Robin Owens, Liaison to Spanish Speaking Comm.



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*Go Tell It On The Mountains* is a publication of the Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Western North Carolina. To correct or change a mailing address for publication, please send information to Mary Ann Ransom, 170 Ransom Road, Lake Lure NC 28746 or email: [mransom1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mransom1@bellsouth.net). If you wish to help with the cost of newsletter, please mail a check payable to "WNC ECW" mark "newsletter" and send to Diane Mance, 105 Poppy Lane, Asheville NC 28803. Thanks.