

## Episcopal Church Women - Diocese of South Dakota

Minutes of the Spring Meeting – May 2, 2015 – Al's Oasis, Oacoma

**Call to Order.** President Bonnie Walker called the meeting to order at 10:45 AM with the opening prayer. Sharon Van Doren, Elizabeth Campbell, Cora Koss, Barbara Oates, Judy Graves, Sandy Magnavito and Diana Regan were in attendance.

**Program.** Elizabeth Campbell coordinated a reading of the play commissioned by the ECW National Board for the 2009 Triennial Meeting, entitled "Yet We Persist." It is a historically accurate story of ECW meant to be read and presented by churchwomen. All those present participated, and they also received a copy of the history of South Dakota Episcopal Women that was written by Hazel Morris of Sioux Falls, dated August 1976. Bonnie also distributed note pads and pens to attendees.

**Minutes.** Secretary Elizabeth Campbell presented the minutes of the last meeting held on September 26, 2014, that had been emailed prior to the meeting. Approved and filed as written.

### Reports.

**Treasurer.** Cora Koss, Treasurer, submitted a written report with a balance on hand of \$10,893.95. Approved and filed as submitted.

**Province VI.** Elizabeth Campbell reported that Sandra Squires, our Province VI President, is also filling an unexpired term as the Province VI Representative on the National UTO Board, and is available to visit South Dakota churchwomen to share information about ECW ministries. The consensus of the group is to invite Sandra to be our speaker for the Annual Meeting; Bonnie will issue an invitation.

**Annual Projects.** Bonnie Walker noted that all \$750.00 given to our Sister Diocese for its Metropolitan Ministries mission in Chattanooga was donated by the Emmanuel ECW, and she will send them a special thank you for their generous gift.

Bonnie heard from her former parish in Virginia about the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza, the oldest in the area, one that serves anyone who enters. Money can be donated, as well as blankets and shawls. There are many needs, including medical information for their library. Bonnie distributed a two page article which tells of the 4300 people served during the July and August bombing last year.

**Motion** by Elizabeth Campbell that the Diocesan ECW establish the Al Ahli Hospital in

the Diocese of Jerusalem as the 2015 International Project. Seconded and approved.

**CPC.** Judy Graves reported that SD CPC gave a gift of \$1000.00 to the CPC National Book Fund in 2014. Administrative expense for postage, CPC supplies, and travel amounted to \$84.00. Income came from Miles of Pennies, Reservation Church Sunday School, and gifts to the National Book Fund from Emmanuel Rapid City, Calvary Cathedral Sioux Falls, Good Shepherd Sioux Falls, St. Luke's Hot Springs, and St. Paul's Brookings. The ending balance as of April 27, 2015, is \$1,365.90.

Each parish is encouraged to set out a jar for pennies at their coffee counter. The Miles of Pennies pays off quickly. Money should be sent to the Diocesan Office at least once a year. Judy has now become a Deacon, assigned in Sioux Falls, and has also begun a project of collecting used or new warm winter clothing which she takes to the missions in South Dakota. Anyone wanting to help should call her (at Good Shepherd), where she can also be reached for requests for funds for Sunday School or continuing religious education books or materials.

**UTO.** Barbara Oates presented a news release re: UTO mission from the national Episcopal headquarters and a copy of a note from Sandra Squires, Province VI UTO Rep, telling us to watch for the announcement of the Young Adult Grant recipients. A list of the recipients was also circulated

**Altar Guild.** Vicki Sweet was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. (It was noted in the SD ECW History by Hazel Morris that the Altar Guilds were first mentioned in the minutes in 1932 by a plea from Meta Roberts, the Bishop's wife, for more altar materials to distribute. In 1938 the Altar Guild Directress became an official entity of the Episcopal Church women's organization in South Dakota, and we also became affiliated with the National Association of Altar Guilds.)

**Distinguished Women.** Sharon Van Doren announced that the name of Doris Hicks was submitted for the 2015 Honored Woman by her parish in Martin, and she read the commendation.

**Motion by Bonnie Walker that we designate Doris Hicks of St. Catherine's of Martin SD as the 2015 South Dakota Honored Woman. Seconded and approved.**

**Scholarship.** Sandy Magnavito stated that she has only one other person on her committee at this time. She also asked if we would consider raising each scholarship from \$500.00 to \$750.00 as the cost of education has gone up significantly.

**Motion by Sharon Van Doren that ECW offers two scholarships of \$750.00 annually;**

seconded and approved.

Fellowship and discussion took place during noon lunch. We reconvened at 1:15 PM.

**Old Business:**

**Triennial Meeting:** The Treasurer distributed a check for \$1500.00 for the 2015 Triennial Meeting to each of the four delegates, who were all present.

**New Business.**

**Bylaws Review Committee.** Bonnie will check with the Bishop's office for any direction regarding Bylaws. She and Elizabeth have spent over 6 hours reviewing what we have, and she may appoint additional members to work with Bylaw changes to present to the Annual Meeting.

**Communications.** Elizabeth Campbell volunteered to call each parish or mission to secure the name of a contact churchwoman for a newsletter with ECW information to be sent by postal mail as soon as possible and prior to our Annual Meeting.

**Motion** by Cora Koss for newsletter expenses not to exceed \$75.00 seconded and approved.

**Nominations Committee.** Bonnie appointed Judy Graves, Sandy Magnavito and Elizabeth Campbell to the Nominations Committee. The offices of President, Vice President and Secretary are open, as well as the positions associated with other programs. The Committee must have a slate ready for printing in the South Dakota Church News by August 1, 2015.

**Honored/Distinguished Women.** Elizabeth Campbell recommended that we formalize current policy and procedure for selection of women to honor as we currently have no written guidelines.

**Motion** by Elizabeth Campbell that each year, with a nominating deadline of April 15 for selection to take place at the Spring Meeting, the South Dakota Episcopal Church Women will designate an Honored Woman; she will then be honored at the Annual Meeting in the fall. At the Annual Meeting in the fall prior to a Triennial Meeting, one of the Honored Women from the past 3 years will be selected to represent South Dakota as its Distinguished Woman at the next Triennial Meeting. Seconded and approved.

**Next Meeting and Closing.** The Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, September 25, 2015, at 10:30 AM in the Ramkota Inn at Pierre.

**Closing.** The meeting closed at 3 PM with the ECW Prayer.

Elizabeth Campbell, Secretary