

Winter-Spring, 2006

ECW WORKS

**We Can't Do Everything,
but We Can Do Something**

The President's Address Delivered at the 190th Diocesan Convention, January 28, 2006, Winston-Salem, NC



Lisa Towle.
president@ecw-nc.org

This was to be my last report to you as president of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of North Carolina. My three-year term had come to an end, and I was prepared to summarize these past few years and bid you a fond farewell. However, I was honored with a request to serve again, and in November was reelected to a second three-year term.

At the heart of what drives me and all who choose to actively participate in the organized ministry that is Episcopal Church Women is, I think, the opportunity to be disciples, to make disciples, and to make a difference. The joys... and the challenges ... of this are constant. Here's just one example.

Following a brief but troubled relationship, Deitra asked her boyfriend to move out of their apartment. He refused. On the day of her murder - June 3, 2000 - neighbors reported hearing glass breaking and they tried unsuccessfully to intervene.

(Continued on page 2)

Annual Meeting November 10-11, 2006

Emphasis on Worship and Spirituality

Annual Meeting this year is going to offer something different: **part meeting and part worship retreat**. The Episcopal Church Women of the Durham Convocation will host the gathering. Though many more details will follow, we wanted to take this early opportunity to let you know about the talented and inspirational team who will be guiding us on this part of our spiritual journeys.

Sam and Jo will be with us at St. Philip's Church in Durham in November. He will lead us on Friday, November 10, and she will lead us on Saturday, November 11.



The Rev Canon Dr. Samuel Wells became Dean of Duke University Chapel in Durham in the summer of 2005. As dean, it is his responsibility to "keep the heart of the university listening to the heart of God." Born in Chatham, Ontario, Canada, Dean Wells grew up in England in a village between Bath and Bristol, about 100 miles west of London. Before ordination he was a community worker in Liverpool's inner-city.



The Rev. Dr. Jo Bailey Wells. Former Dean of Clare College, Cambridge, British-born Jo is now Director of Anglican Studies and Associate Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry and Bible at Duke Divinity School. She was in the first group of women to be ordained to the priesthood in the Church of England.

The pair -- each of whom is a highly respected author, teacher and preacher - - say they used to have hobbies, but now they have children - two, a boy and a girl.

Watch for upcoming editions of *ECW Works* and check our web site, www.ecw-nc.org, frequently for updates about this program.

(Continued from page 1)

She was shot to death by her boyfriend who then killed himself. Deitra was the mother of four children and only 36-years old.

The Deitras of the world are legion. They are everywhere, including next to you and me in the pew on Sunday morning. It's not "them" and "me," it is "us." And the violence which infects the lives of intimate partners, children and seniors – whether it is physical, verbal or emotional – costs us all in ways seen and unseen. It is ugly and it's challenging to have to examine it. The ECW did just that, though, last October at a Harris-Evans Conference entitled, "You Don't Know Me: Domestic Violence and the Church's Response."

Relying very much on the wonderful model established at St. Anne's here in Winston-Salem as well as on the progressive programs of Forsyth County Family Services – places that have done so much to make the world, or at least their part of it, a better and more loving place -- we broke it down. We looked at everything from the scope of the problem to how to create a safe place in your faith community for all those affected by domestic violence.

It's a start. We ask you as the faithful of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina to join us in fighting a plague whose touchstones are fear, isolation and pain – things that are antithetical to the very foundation of the Christianity we proclaim.

We can't do everything about this problem, but we can do something.

Every year the Diocesan ECW awards a grant to a ministry outside our diocese that is knocking down the walls between the haves and the have-nots. In 2005, the Outside the Diocese Grant totaled \$2,500 and went to a program in Haiti focused on self-sufficiency for Haitians vis a vis water purification, reforestation, home building, road building and banking programs. In a land besieged by violence and poverty, a little goes so very far. Here is just one line from the thank-you letter from the Haiti Fund: "Our Haitian brothers and sisters have unbelievable courage and conviction that goodness will somehow emerge from the depths of despair into which the country sinks and rises and sinks yet again."

We can't do everything, but we can do something.

This convention is devoted to global mission. On Thursday night Bishop Curry spoke of another ministry of the women in our church, the United Thank Offering. Last year, \$3 million in UTO grants were sent out. More than 46 percent of that amount went overseas to projects such as Peace House, the diocesan office in Burundi, Africa. The building has been a sign of hope in a land torn by war. And it was, as the bishop explained, built with funds raised by the United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church Women. This diocese gives generously to the UTO and some amount of that money always flows back home as well, whether it's for a summer camp program at Chapel of Christ the King in Charlotte for economically disadvantaged children, a food pantry in Durham, or a community center jointly operated by St. Mark's and La Iglesia de la Guadalupe in Wilson

We can't do everything, but we can do something.

In keeping with the call we've heard here to focus on God's mission around the world, I will be asking the Executive Board of the Diocesan ECW to commit at least 0.7 percent of our annual budget to help meet the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals as adopted by our diocese, our church's General Convention and the 1998 Lambeth Conference.

We can't do everything, but we can do something.

I thank God for the opportunity to serve the Diocese of North Carolina through this vital ministry. I thank those of you who actively support the work of the women of your parishes. And I'm grateful for your time and attention today.

CTA + MDG = Even Better ECW

F

irst came the National Board of the ECW issuing a Call to Action for the women of the Episcopal Church. They asked that we focus on:

- ◆ Literacy: Supporting and creating programs and providing resources.
- ◆ Non-violence: Supporting and creating safe environments where learning and growth can thrive.
- ◆ Leadership Training: Empowering individuals to discover their own gifts for leadership so that they can, in turn, use what they believe to make a difference.
- ◆ Interfaith Education and Outreach: Networking with members of other faith communities and education ourselves about other faith traditions.

Then, last January, came the 190th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. Its focus was global mission, and Bishop Michael Curry asked those at the convention to participate in the Millennium Development Goals. A listing of the MDGs follow, but simply put they are intended to galvanize the world community in a commitment to dramatically reduce poverty, hunger, disease, lack of education, and to work to create a sustainable environment. These goals have been endorsed and reaffirmed by the Episcopal Church, and our bishop wants us to work together on them as an act of discipleship. If we do this, he says, it will be “a step in turning this world upside down, transforming it from the nightmare it often is into the dream of God it was intended to be.”

- ◆ **MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**
- ◆ **MDG 2: Achieve universal primary education**
- ◆ **MDG 3: Promote gender equality and empower women**
- ◆ **MDG 4: Reduce child mortality**
- ◆ **MDG 5: Improve maternal health**
- ◆ **MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**
- ◆ **MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability**
- ◆ **MDG 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development**

Taken together these powerful and thought-provoking calls to action are an answer to prayer. The Episcopal Church Women’s Prayer asks that God bless our mission and ministry to the world, and says that we should “pray, labor and give liberally” to make known God’s love throughout the world. Our sisters and brothers in Christ have given us a road map to building and strengthening the ECW in NC. We can’t do everything, but we can do something. Just how and what will be answered in a discussion we’ll have over the triennium. I’m looking forward to the conversation!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



April 24-26

Province IV Women’s Conference at Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville



April 29 Mission & Ministry Fair + Acolyte Festival at the Canterbury School, Greensboro



By May 22 Lex Mathews Scholarship winners for 2006-2007 school year announced



June 13-21 ECW National Triennial Meeting & General Convention: in Columbus, OH



November 10-11 ECW of NC Annual Meeting + Worship Retreat at St. Philip’s Church, Durham

UNITED THANK OFFERING

A new day of Celebration unfolding



La Casa de San Marcos/Saint Mark's House is rising from a foundation made with hands and on that eternal foundation blessed by our loving God.

Since the groundbreaking on the Day of Pentecost in May, 2005, members and friends of Saint Mark's Church and La Guadalupana have been gathering materials and supplies, meeting code requirements and fulfilling deadlines. We rejoice to learn the walls are up and the roof is on and completion is at hand.

Saint Mark's House is being constructed next door to historic Saint Mark's Church in Wilson. The history of Saint Mark's is rich with its ministry to African Americans in the Wilson community for more than 125 years. The first school for Black children in Wilson County was established by Saint Mark's and operated for more than forty years.

The first Spanish services in Wilson began in June 1996 at Saint Timothy's. In 2000, Saint Mark's took the bold step of inviting La Guadalupana--a new, Spanish-language congregation--to share its facilities. The combined facilities of

Saint Mark's Church and Parish House have been stretched to the limit. The new La Casa de San Marcos/Saint Mark's House will enable these two faith communities to expand, broaden and deepen their ministries.

The first event in the new Saint Mark's House will be Vacation Bible School under the leadership of Father Phil Byrum. Held for both English and Spanish-speaking children, the school will focus on children in the neighborhood and beyond. Sister Kristina Frances of the Society of Saint Margaret, in Boston, will be with Saint Mark's and La Guadalupana during most of June to assist with Bible School and other outreach ministries.

This venture in faith has been immeasurably blessed with a \$30,000.00 grant from the United Thank Offering and generous gifts from the parishioners and friends. Local contractor, Robert Cunningham, has contributed his time and talent—foregoing any personal profit.

Additional funds continue to be sought to put the finishing touches on this challenging and exciting venture in faith. This ministry will keep the growing, worshipping communities focused beyond themselves to seeking and serving Christ in their midst and in their neighbors.



UNITED THANK OFFERING SPRING INGATHERING SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2006 (Sunday following Ascension Day)

Send UTO Spring Ingathering checks by June 26, 2006, to:

ECW Diocesan Treasurer Jeanne Kutrow
1305 Kingscross Drive
Charlotte, NC 28211

2006 UTO grant awards will be announced in
June 2006 at ECW National Triennial
Eva Morriss, UTO Coordinator, Diocese of North Carolina ECW



Lex Mathews Scholarship Fund Challenge a Success

The Lex Mathews Scholarship Fund Challenge was issued by the Lex Mathews Scholarship Committee as a way to honor the life and legacy of the Rev. Lex Mathews. It increased awareness about the program and at press time had come tantalizingly close to the goal of raising \$20,000 for the fund.

The Diocesan ECW administers and helps finance the scholarship program. It is geared toward women of the Diocese of North Carolina age 23 and older who are seeking either specialized training in vocational or technical skills, a degree or certification below the masters or doctorate level, or continuing education courses for upgrad-

ing job skills. It is named for the man who advocated for women and children and headed Christian Social Ministries for the diocese before his death in December, 1985.

To mark the 20th anniversary of his passing, a yearlong campaign was initiated wherein Episcopal Church Women throughout the diocese, either individually or as a group, were encouraged to make a special gift to the scholarship fund. Velma Bradshaw, Vice-President of the Diocesan ECW and Chairwoman of the scholarship committee, reports that 28 ECW branches responded to the Challenge. Their contributions came to \$12,172.09. Members and friends of

the Mathews family donated another \$7,494.83, bringing the total raised to \$19,666.92.

An added benefit of the Challenge, says Velma, was the parish fellowship that resulted from the activities organized by the ECW. A complete listing of donors will appear in the next issue of *ECW Works*.

“Thanks to many hours of hard work and the generosity of the people of this diocese, even more women will be able to move forward with the help of further education and realize self-sufficiency,” adds Velma.

The top five fund-raisers were:

Auction	Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh	\$3,030.09
Silent auction	St. Michael's, Raleigh	\$2,660.00
“Friendship Feast”	Christ Church, Charlotte	\$1,217.00
Bazaar	St. Paul's, Monroe	\$1,135.00
Spaghetti dinner	Calvary Parish, Tarboro	\$820.00

How It Works

ECW Vice-President Velma Bradshaw chairs the Lex Mathews Scholarship Committee. The ECW President, in consultation with the chairperson, appoints members of the committee. They are: Gloria Cotton-Rocky Mount Convocation; Carolyn Owens-Raleigh Convocation; Shirley Sadler-Winston Salem Convocation; Nancy Wood-Durham Convocation; Marcia Kephart-Charlotte Convocation; and Jenny Haase-Raleigh Convocation.

All scholarship applications must be completed in full and received by March 15. The committee makes its selections in April or May, and recipients are notified by the end of May for the coming school year. While preference is given to Episcopalians, non-Episcopalians may apply so long as a member of an Episcopal church sponsors them. The amount awarded each year depends upon how the committee evaluates each application as well as the financial interest generated by the scholarship fund. Generally, scholarship amounts run between \$500 and \$2,000 for one academic year.

(For more information visit www.ecw-nc.org and click on “Service” or contact Velma Bradshaw at lexmathews@ecw-nc.org or (252) 823-4266 or 905 St. Andrews Street, Tarboro, NC 27886)



Art work was just some of the items sold at Church of the Good Shepherd's "Awesome Autumn Auction," a portion of whose proceeds benefited the Lex Mathews Scholarship fund.

The Ministry of the Printed Word and Our Future Ministers

Many Episcopalians know the Church Periodical Club for its National Book Fund grants and especially its Miles of Pennies program, which funds children's literature programs at home and abroad. However, the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of North Carolina offer another CPC program: textbook grants for seminarians from our diocese.

Because it's less well-known, this particular outreach tends to be less well-funded. However, the Diocesan ECW considers it a vital part of a ministry which proclaims Christ through the printed word (and related materials). Every fall and spring, the ECW's Executive Board allocates funds for the textbook grants based on available money and the number of seminarians. Then the CPC Director (currently Patricia Barnes), who sits on the board, forwards the gifts. For the past few years, the grants have been averaging \$150 per seminarian, per semester.

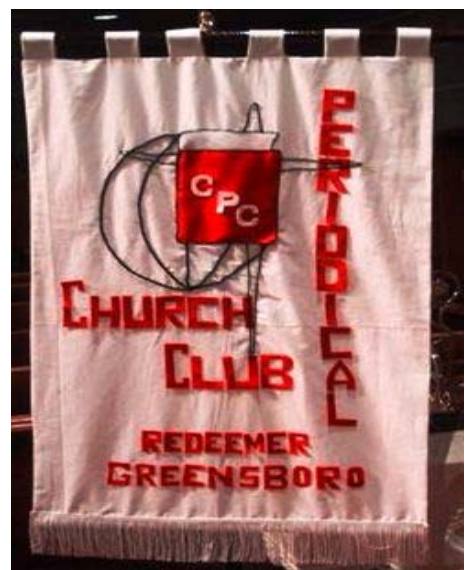
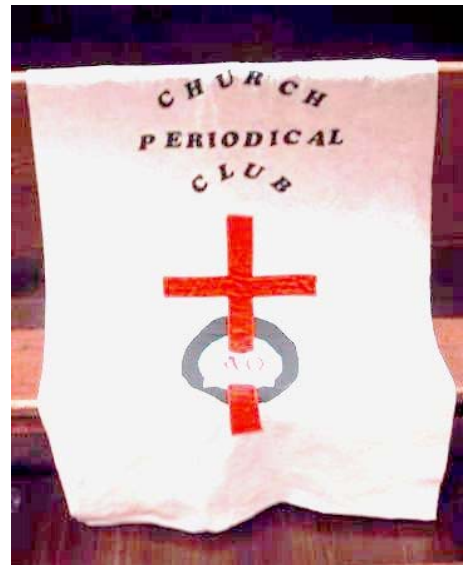
Given the cost of their textbooks, it's not a lot. But it is something and it is always gratefully received and acknowledged. The seminarians for the 2005-2006 school year are:

- Krista Harmon--Church Divinity School of the Pacific
- Miranda Hassett--Duke Divinity School
- Erin Hensley — Virginia Theological Seminary
- Joe Hensley – Virginia Theological Seminary
- Robert Marshall —Virginia Theological Seminary
- Miriam Saxon--Duke University
- George Stevens-- General Theological Seminary
- Kingsley Ubabukoh—The School of Theology, Sewanee
-

(If you'd like to contribute to the seminarian textbook fund or learn more about CPC, contact Pat Barnes at CPC@ecw-nc.org or (252) 535-2605 or 500 Cambridge Court, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870.)

CPC Sunday is May 7

Church Periodical Club is an Episcopal institution founded and administered by women. Its ministry is to supply books, magazines, tapes, videos and computer programs free to those who cannot otherwise obtain them, and to raise the money to achieve this. Each year the Presiding Bishop designates one Sunday for the specific observance of the work of spreading the Christian message through the printed word (i.e. Bibles, Prayer Books, hymnals, Sunday School literature and allied programs, such as Alpha, Education for Ministry, etc.) This year, CPC Sunday is May 7. Won't your parish or mission consider participating? If May 7 doesn't fit your church's calendar, then talk with your rector or vicar about an alternate date. CPC Sunday is a vital way of presenting the Ministry of the Printed Word as a concern of the entire Church. Patricia Barnes, CPC Director for the Diocese of NC, has materials for CPC Sunday.



CPC banners were on display at the ECW Annual Meeting in Raleigh last November



MISSIONS: AT WORK IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY

The Diocesan ECW sponsors seven missionaries or missionary couples/families. That's one missionary or missionary team per convocation. ECW branches in each convocation are asked to help support their missionary emotionally, spiritually and financially. This is accomplished in any number of ways: letters, remembrances of birthdays and anniversaries, prayer, supplies, monetary gifts and the like. The most current missions information can be had by visiting www.ecw-nc.org (click on "service") or contacting the chairwoman of your convocation. The names of the chairwomen are listed on the Executive Board page of this issue).

Early last December, Paul and Pat Stock, missionaries in Pakistan, sought the help of the Diocesan ECW. They explained it had just come to their attention and the attention of the diocesan leadership in their area that there had been fiscal malfeasance by the manager of the tribal boys' hostel where they live. This meant there was no money for the annual Christmas program for the 47 boys in the hostel, their parents and others who don't get a Christmas celebration back in their Hindu villages. Could we, they asked, contribute to the \$500 needed for a Christmas party and drama production for some 300 people? Ann Brooks, then the Secretary of Missions, first approached Christ Church and St. Michael's Church in the Raleigh Convocation. Their contributions came to \$175. The Executive Board of the Diocesan ECW donated the remaining \$325.

On December 20, 2005, the Stocks sent pictures and a message to the Episcopal Church Women:

Dear Friends,

We want to send a big thank you to each of you who contributed so generously to making this Christmas program possible! It has been a big success.

The hostel here is to educate and disciple tribal children from all over the Sindh in Pakistan. They are children of impoverished farmers and among the poorest in the country.



This Christmas program is always the highlight of their year. This year, however, there have been financial problems in the hostel, and there just weren't funds to have a program. We knew how much it meant to the kids, though, and so we thought we would see if there were people who would be interested in giving to this one-time event. Thank you so much for responding! It has meant so much to them!

First, the younger kids first did a typical Christmas drama, with the wise men and angels, etc. Then we had a Bible knowledge competition, based on the "Jesse Tree" Bible series I've been teaching this last month, to give the kids an overview of the Bible. And then we had the main drama, based on the largely fictionalized life of Simon of Cyrene, as he encounters Jesus at different points throughout his life. It was powerfully (and at times humorously!) done; I'm amazed they were able to pull it together so quickly once



they had word that you were going to try to come through with the funds! They've been working hard night and day with rehearsals, prop making, practicing songs, etc. And then there is the huge tent to put up, food and tea to make for all the guests (who stay all night), and all the other details to attend to. Once the formal program was over, there was dancing all night around a drum, with Christian teaching songs put to traditional tunes. A great time was had by all!

Thank you so much for your generosity that made this possible. You



have been instruments of God's faithfulness to these tribal kids and their families. Have a blessed Christmas!

Pat and Paul Stock

The Altar Guild in the 21st Century

The Mission and Ministry Fair will be held at the Canterbury School in Greensboro on April 29. Vivian Edwards, Altar Guild Coordinator for the Diocesan ECW, will be there and would love for you to join the altar guild workshop.

Sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, the workshops of the daylong fair have been organized to incorporate the six goals of our Diocesan Mission Strategy: spiritual renewal, young people, outreach, hospitality and incorporation, congregational development, and diocesan structures and resources. *The Altar Guild in the 21st Century* session, scheduled for 2:30- 4 p.m., falls in the “worship and liturgy” category under “diocesan structures and resources.”

The cost for the Mission and Ministry Fair (including lunch) before April 26 is \$10 per person. After April 26 and the day of the event, registration is \$15 per person. Registration forms were sent to all parishes. Forms are also available on the ECW web site (www.ecw-nc.org) or by calling Diocesan House, (919) 834-7474 or (800) 448-8775.



L to R: Rosemary Easton, floral artist, with May Sherrod, president of the National Altar Guild Association, and Vivian Edwards, Altar Guild Coordinator for the ECW of the Diocese of N C

So Haitians Can Help Themselves:

At every Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of North Carolina, the general membership votes on a grant for an organization outside the borders of our diocese that is taking a thoughtful, committed, faith-based approach to addressing a particular issue and making a difference in the world. In 2005, our \$2,500 Outside the Diocese grant went to the work in the country of Haiti known as the Comprehensive Development Project (CODEP).

CODEP is the primary work and ministry of Haiti Fund, Inc., whose U.S. office is located in New Bern, NC. This non-profit operates under a covenant between the Episcopal Church of Haiti and the Presbyterian Church (USA). Its mission is to “cooperate with and assist the people of rural Haiti by initiating, funding, administering and sustain-

ing development programs aimed at increasing self-sufficiency.”

These efforts include watershed rehabilitation, economic development, education programs, and health initiatives. All the programs are ecumenical in nature and open to all residents, the vast majority of whom are directly involved with subsistence agriculture.

A support facility at L’Acul serves not only as the headquarters for the work of CODEP, but also as the residence for missionaries and as a guest house for visiting groups.

Duana Cisney, Secretary of Christian Social Ministries, noted that over the past five years, this group has provided and/or built the following with the assistance of community residents:

Outside the Diocese Grant '05

- ◆ **Hedgerows for soil and water conservation**
- ◆ **Contour canals**
- ◆ **Reforestation**
- ◆ **Fruit Trees**
- ◆ **Fishponds**

Among other things, wrote Duana in the grant proposal, “CODEP has been helping to heal the land so it can provide for God’s people.” As disciples of Jesus Christ, and in the spirit of anthropologist Margaret Mead, who said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has,” the ECW agreed.

2006 Diocesan Executive Board

Officers serve until the Annual Meeting in November of the year indicated by the Office

President (08)

Lisa Towle
919-481-3943 (*office*)
919-431-4314 (*fax*)
110 Dutchess Drive
Cary, NC 27513-4209
president@ecw-nc.org

Vice-President (06)

Velma Bradshaw 252-823-4266
905 St. Andrew Street
Tarboro, NC 27886
vicepresident@ecw-nc.org

Secretary

Contact Diocesan President
president@ecw-nc.org

Treasurer (07)

Jeanne Kutrow 704-366-2164
1305 Kingscross Drive
Charlotte, NC 28211
treasurer@ecw-nc.org

Immediate Past President (08)

Sylvia Nash 252-823-3633
1004 Main Street
Tarboro, NC 27886
pastpresident@ecw-nc.org

Coordinator of Altar Guild (07)

Vivian Edwards 252-438-6714
P. O. Box 33
Middleburg, NC 27556
altarguild@ecw-nc.org

Secretary of Christian Education Vacant

Secretary of Christian Social Ministries (08)

Duana Cisney 336-638-4503
2814 Rutherford Drive
Greensboro NC 27408
csm@ecw-nc.org

Director of Church Periodical Club (07)

Patricia Barnes 252-535-2605
500 Cambridge Court
Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870
cpc@ecw-nc.org

Secretary of Devotional Life (07)

Mina Hampton 919-477-3177
147 Argonne Drive
Durham, NC 27704
devotionallife@ecw-nc.org

Coordinator of Lex Mathews Scholarship Fund (06)

Velma Bradshaw 252-823-4266
905 St. Andrew Street
Tarboro, NC 27885
lexmathews@ecw-nc.org

Secretary of Missions Vacant

Secretary of Communications (07)

Mary Hawkins
919-682-4647
919-530-6424
919-530-7985 (*fax*)
1805 Primrose Place
Durham, NC 27707
communications@ecw-nc.org

Coordinator of United Thank Offering (08)

Eva Morriss 252-237-5020
1806 Oakdale Drive West
Wilson NC 27893-3418
uto@ecw-nc.org

Yearbook Editor (06)

Anne Butler 336-748-1253
2670 Reynolds Drive
Winston Salem, NC 27104-1928
handbook@ecw-nc.org

Convocation Chairmen

Rocky Mount (07)

Julia Congleton-Bryant
252-443-2166
3604 Mansfield Drive
Rocky Mount, NC 27803
rockymount@ecw-nc.org

Raleigh (08)

Jessica Bennett 919-834-4721
317 Calvin Road
Raleigh NC 27605
raleigh@ecw-nc.org

Durham (08)

Linda Jennings 919-489-5136
2818 Chelsea Circle
Durham NC 27707
durham@ecw-nc.org

Sandhills (07)

Nancy Neal 910-206-1886
P.O. Box 1168
Hamlet, NC 28345
sandhills@ecw-nc.org

Greensboro (06)

Bernice Foster 336-697-9843
Hickory Tree Lane
Greensboro, NC 27405-9660
greensboro@ecw-nc.org

Winston-Salem (07)

Lisa Childress 336-922-4012
4015 Ivy Bluff Trail
Winston Salem, NC 27106
winstonsalem@ecw-nc.org

Charlotte (08)

Sarah Shaw 704-535-7510
7636 Michael Drive
Charlotte, NC 28215
charlotte@ecw-nc.org

ECW WORKS AROUND THE DIOCESE

Winston-Salem Convocation

A Lenten Discipline: Making Prayer Shawls for Battered Women

“With a prayer shawl ministry, care and the love of knitting have been combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace. Many blessings are knitted into every shawl. The knitter begins each shawl with prayers for the recipient. Intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. When the shawl is completed it is offered a final ritual before being sent along its way with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!”
(www.shawlministry.com)

The roots of the Prayer Shawl Ministry throughout the Winston-Salem Convocation extend deep into the community to The Faith Leader Training Program (FLTP) of the Domestic Violence Community Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, North Carolina. FLTP was established in 2001 by a group of local community members and faith leaders to build and sustain bridges between community systems and clergy and lay leaders in area churches, synagogues, and mosques and to improve the lives of county residents affected by domestic violence.

Representing their respective churches, Anne Butler of St. Paul’s in Winston-Salem (who’s also a member of the Diocesan ECW Executive Board), and Linda Winikoff of St. Anne’s in Winston-Salem have been active members of the FLTP since it began. The following initiatives have resulted from their work with this program:

In 2004, two resolutions were presented and passed at the Annual Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina:

- On the Pledge of Nonviolence, and
- On Clergy and Laity Training on Intimate Partner Violence.

In 2005, the Episcopal Church Women’s Harris-Evans Conference focused on domestic violence. In discussing action steps for responding to this critical issue, the idea of knitting prayer shawls for residents of battered women shelters was raised up and embraced.

In 2006, Anne and Linda developed the idea of a Prayer Shawl Ministry for the *entire* Winston-Salem Convocation where it was presented as a Lenten discipline. The plan is that every Tuesday night during Lent, knitters and crocheters of all skill levels will meet to make the shawls. Those unable to attend the meetings will be given instructions about how to proceed on their own. Before the shawls are delivered, they will be blessed by a priest.

At press time, some 40 people – male and female - had expressed interest in the program. The Winston-Salem Convocation’s Prayer Shawl information packet, which includes a variety of prayers, can be found on the ECW’s web site, www.ecw-nc.org. We’ll let you know how things turned out.

St. Titus' Call to Action

The ECW of St. Titus’ in Durham continues a long tradition of commitment to education in the community. In order to provide a lifelong impact for young children and volunteers, the women have elected to participate in the March Madness project as a way to answer the **ECW National Call to Action challenge for literacy**. Volunteers will read to seven classes of preschoolers every other week. Each of the children will be given books to keep as part of the year-

(Continued on page 12)

Meet Jessica Bennett, Raleigh Convocation Chairwoman



Jessica Bennett was appointed chairwoman of the Raleigh Convocation ECW in January of 2006 by the president of the Diocesan ECW. She is a longtime member of The Church of the Good Shepherd in Raleigh, where she serves on the parish’s outreach committee and is a member of the St. Clare’s ECW chapter. She also serves on the executive board of Hope Elementary, a downtown charter school that works exclusively with underprivileged children. Jessica is a former executive board member of the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry and has also served as its executive director. She owns JB Specialty Foods, a wholesale dessert and personal chef service.

Jessica is a graduate of Barton College in Wilson, and has completed post-baccalaureate work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University. She is married to the Rev. William D. Bennett, Jr., associate rector of The Church of the Good Shepherd. They live in Raleigh’s Cameron Park neighborhood with their two cats, Red and Fluff, and a Dachshund, Peanut.

She enjoys home remodeling projects, walks and baking.

Board Member Profile

Note: The Communications Initiative of the Diocesan ECW resumes in this issue of WORKS. You will over the next few years be learning more about the members of the Executive Board, the people elected to act on your behalf. A few paragraphs do not a life story make, of course, but these periodic profiles will provide a sense of the women who serve as your eyes and ears and voice within the greater sisterhood of ECW.

The Board Member Profile was a reluctant item for the writer as it is difficult to choose what to share with readers at the risk of simply reading a curriculum vitae or resume. One suspects a more intimate glimpse would be more interesting. Nonetheless, what follows is a brief look at some life events that have influenced how I am today.

I was the first-born of four children to parents who were employees of a brick-making kiln in Pitt County, North Carolina. Later they became sharecroppers in a farming community producing tobacco, cotton, corn and peanuts. I completed elementary and high school years in a rural, union school (which contained grades 1-12). Thirteen members of my graduating class of 26 students completed college. Though both are now deceased, the Memory of my parents' pride at my rank as valedictorian of the class (and at age 16) has sustained me through the years. Neither of them completed a grade above eight. Following graduation from college, I returned to the same school from which I graduated and taught Biology and the 7th grade for three years. It was a blessing to receive a U. S. Public Health Service Fellowship, to pursue a graduate degree in Public Health Education.

The degree provided me with a variety of skills in community organization and development that were very useful in the position of organizing the community for a Bookmobile Service targeting the African-American Population. Those same skills enabled me to organize and implement guidance and counseling services in the then-five black high schools in Pitt County. Following that position, and another graduate degree, I returned to North Carolina Central University and began a teaching career that has spanned more than four decades.

The teaching career at the University provided numerous opportunities for teaching, research and service. Twice I received the Award for Teaching Excellence, each including a \$2500.00 cash supplement. Twice, I have traveled abroad to assist with the organization and development of training programs for health educators.

I am active in the national professional leadership of Public Health Education. Two professional Organizations have honored me with awards for leadership in the development of a credential for undergraduate health education. I have earned CHES status: Certified Health Education Specialist, following successful performance on the examination.

Some of my gifts and talents have been shared with the Durham community via memberships on Boards of Directors of the NCCU United Christian Campus Ministry, the Durham Council for Senior Citizens, Mental Health, Association of Retired NCCU Personnel, and others.

Spiritual Odyssey

Growing up in the Bible belt of Eastern North Carolina, I had the choice of joining the church with my mother or my father, both in the Baptist denomination. I worshipped in both churches during my residence in Pitt County. My introduction to the Episcopal Church came through The Rev. Richard Ottaway, the Chair of the Pitt County Interracial Committee, which met at his Church. At each meeting, he took the time to answer my questions and invited me to worship. His description of the Episcopal Church was especially appealing to me, as I was searching for meaning and purpose in my life. The search ended when I moved to Durham, and was confirmed at St. Titus' Episcopal Church. There I was able to experience the beautiful liturgy, open-mindedness, diversity and other attractive attributes of the Episcopal Church.



Mary E. Hawkins,
Secretary of Communications

I have served St. Titus' in many capacities, including president of ECW, (three terms); vestry offices: senior warden, (first female warden in the parish) and junior warden; Every Member Canvass Chair, choir member, treasurer, and newsletter and service bulletin editor among others. At the Diocesan level, the service involves delegate to Annual Conventions, member of Diocesan Council and appointment to committees. My service to the Diocesan ECW includes Secretary of Executive Board, Secretary of Communications (including editor of ECW WORKS) and Delegate to Triennial.

My hobbies include cooking, gardening, bowling, solving crossword puzzles, desktop publishing and anything creative. I still remember the impact of my life on many students who confirmed "I can tell you are a Christian". A work I purchased by Michael Podesta sums up my personal philosophy and I share it with you:

DO

*All the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can.*

John Wesley

ECW WORKS

The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina
200 West Morgan Street—Suite 300
Raleigh NC 27601

Non-profit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Raleigh, North Carolina
Permit No. 992

(Continued from page 10)

long project. Many of the children in the schools selected have no books of their own at home and no one reads to them. Individuals unable to read will make donations for books to be purchased from the Friends of the Library book sale. The books will be distributed to the children.

Two women have been recipients of the Lex Mathews Scholarship. One recipient, Khristy Horne, a young mother of three boys, reports “I was able to take courses required for my degree that were only offered in the summer. Ms. Bradshaw and other committee members offered me encouragement and made the application process run smoothly.”

Khristy is pursuing a degree in Public Administration at North Carolina Central University. She especially values the lessons she has learned about herself and about people who have supported her. After graduation, she wants to work with a non-profit that focuses on education. “I am particularly interested in the education provided to young children and I know I can make a difference,” says Khristy.

Choosing to Grow From Change A Workshop for Women in Transition

Friday, May 6, 2006 from 11:00am to 2:30pm, the Episcopal Church Women of the Greensboro Convocation will offer a workshop designed to help participants learn to both survive and thrive from the challenges, changes and losses that life presents. Participants will learn to apply proven strategies to their own life situation.

The workshop will be held at Church of the Holy Comforter in Burlington. Rhoda Moyer Searcy, a psychiatric mental health nurse will lead the workshop.

For more workshop information, please contact :

Shara Partin
336-421-3776
part3776@bellsouth.net

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1-2
Annual Meeting 2006	1
CTA+ MDG = Even Better ECW	3
Mark your Calendar	3
UTO - A New Day of Celebration Unfolding	4
Lex Mathews Scholarship Fund Challenge	5
Church Periodical—Ministry of the Printed Word	6
Missions at Work in a Global Society	7
The Altar Guild in the 21st Century	8
So Haitians Can Help Themselves	8
2006 Diocesan ECW Executive Board Directory	9
ECW Works Around the Diocese	10
Board Member Profile	11
ECW Works Around the Diocese, Continued	12
Choosing to Grow from Change—Workshop	12

ECW WORKS is a publication of the Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of North Carolina. To order a subscription to **ECW WORKS**, please send your name, address, and \$4.00 check (payable to ECW) and mail to Jeanne L. Kutrow, ECW Treasurer, 1305 Kingscross Drive, Charlotte, NC 28211. To correct or change a mailing address for ECW WORKS, please send information to Lisa Towle, ECW President, 110 Dutchess Drive, Cary, NC 27513-4209 or email: president@ecw-nc.org. To submit articles for ECW WORKS, send to Mary Hawkins, ECW WORKS EDITOR, 1805 Primrose Place, Durham NC 27707 or email: communications@ecw-nc.org