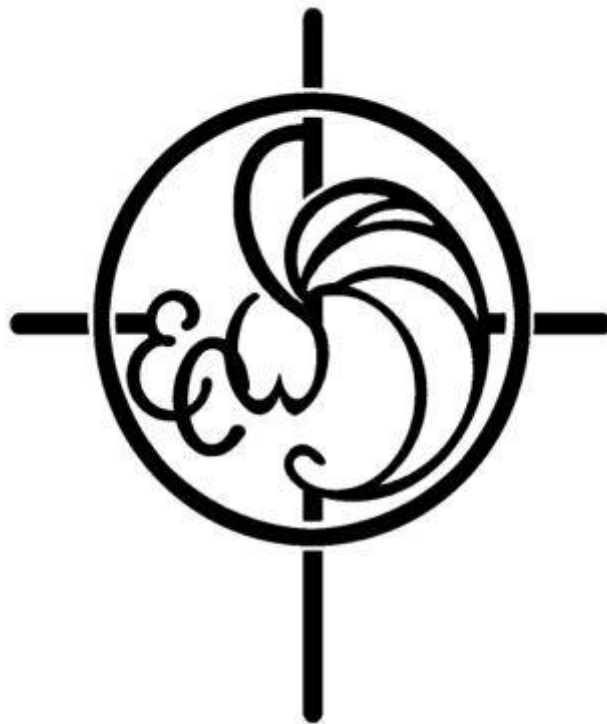


**THE 124th ANNUAL MEETING
EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN
IN ARKANSAS**

Saturday
October 10, 2020
Zoom meeting

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Arkansas Episcopal Church Women

2020 Fall Gathering and Annual Meeting

Zoom Meeting
October 10, 2020

8:30	Coffee time and Zoom assistance	
9:00	Call to Order	Kaki Roberts
	Invocation	The Rev. Peggy Cromwell
	Introduction of Guests	Kaki Roberts
	Fran Wheeler	Province VII ECW President
	Lisa Bortner	Province VII Representative on the National ECW Board
	Bylaws amendment	Wanda Dunwoody
	Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting	Gloria Parker
	Treasurer's Report	Anabelle Steelman-Berry
	Election of Officers	Terri Crawford
	Distinguished Woman	Wanda Dunwoody
	The Rev. Dr. Joanna Seibert	
	<i>Surrounded by Another Cloud of Witnesses</i>	The Rev. Dr. Marti Dalby
10:00	Jerusalem Greer, Speaker	
	<i>The Good News of Change - Faith, Race, and Living through a Pandemic</i>	
12:45	Installation of Officers and Closing Prayers	Bp. Benfield

ECW Prayer

Almighty God, we pray that You will bless our work in mission and ministry in the world. Help us to pray fervently, labor diligently and give liberally to make known the power of Your love given through Your Son Jesus. Let us not forget the lessons from the past not fear the challenges of the future. Anoint us with Your grace and shine in our hearts as we reflect Your light throughout the world. Amen

Episcopal Church Women

In Arkansas

2019 Board of Directors

President:	Kaki Roberts	St. Michael's, Little Rock
Vice President:	Sue Wigger	Christ Church, Mena
Secretary:	Gloria Parker	St. Peter's, Conway
Treasurer:	Anabelle Steelman-Berry	St. Paul's, Fayetteville
CPC Director:	Cathy Howser	Christ Church, Little Rock
UTO Director:	Sue Wigger	Christ Church, Mena
Central Convocation Chair:	Sylvia Starratt	St. Nicholas, Maumelle
Northeast Convocation Chair:	Cathy McDonald	St. Paul's, Batesville
Northwest Convocation Chair:	Jo Ellen Carson	St. Bartholomew's, Ft. Smith
Southeast Convocation Chair:	Marjie Hart	Grace Church, Pine Bluff
Southwest Convocation Chair:	Andrea Hale	St. Mary's, El Dorado
Past President:	Terri Crawford	St. Paul's, Batesville
Altar Guild:	Andrea Hale	St. Mary's, El Dorado
Historian/Archivist	Betsy Watson	St. Paul's, Newport
Daughters of the King:	Wanda Dunwoody	St. Mark's, Little Rock
ECW Foundation:	Liz Adams	St. Nicholas, Maumelle
Chaplain:	The Rev. Peggy Cromwell	St. Peter's, Conway
Time for Joy Representative:	vacant	
Communications Chair:	Katie Spain	Trinity Cathedral, Little Rock

Arkansas ECW Mission Statement

The mission of the Episcopal Churchwomen is to bring together all the women of the Diocese of Arkansas by strengthening their spiritual lives, providing learning opportunities, and supporting their Christ-centered service and ministry.

Arkansas ECW Constitution 1994

Minutes of the 123st Annual Meeting
Episcopal Church Women
In Arkansas

October 26, 2019
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Batesville, Arkansas
Business Meeting

The business meeting was opened at 9:00 a.m. President Terri Crawford welcomed everyone to the Fall Gathering.

The minutes of the 122th Annual Meeting, held on October 13, 2018, were approved as presented in the Annual Report.

Treasurer's Report: The report was included in the printed Annual Report. Treasurer Anabelle Steelman-Berry reported that the report was included in the printed Annual Report. Martha Edwards made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Gloria Parker made a second and the motion was passed.

Reports: Reports were included in the printed Annual Report. Board members were introduced.

United Thank Offering: Sue Wigger provided members with a 2019 list of grants of UTO. The last two received in Arkansas were to St. Luke's Church in Hot Springs, for the showers available for homeless; and to St. Paul's Church in Fayetteville, to someone in training, possibly a deacon or a student. Sue Wiggers stated that we should be thankful each and every day and need to show that gratitude.

Church Periodical Club: Cathy Howser informed the members that the main purpose of CPC is collecting money to pay for printed materials and other formats currently. There are two different funds: (1) Book Fund which purchases adult materials and materials for seminarians, (2) Miles of Pennies which purchases children materials. Eight grants were funded last year. A part of that money collected can stay in Arkansas to fund our own seminarians. Currently there are seven seminarians, with at least four in their last year. Attempts are made to insure that they are aware of these funds.

Anabelle Steelman-Berry informed the group that whenever money is sent, the check should be made out to ECW and sent directly to her. Anabelle Steelman-Berry has contribution forms, and the forms are on the ECW website that must accompany the check.

ECW Foundation: Sandra Powers informed the group that this was her last report on the ECW Endowment Fund, because she is stepping down. The foundation took the first distribution this year, to be used for the women's ministry in Arkansas.

Altar Guild: Andrea Hale informed the group of a new project this year at Camp Mitchell to help with the sacristy. A group of ECW spent a workday in March or April at Camp Mitchell to organize and clean up. A schedule through the end of the year for volunteers was completed; Andrea Hale stated that a new schedule

would be needed for next year. Andrea Hale informed us that there is an ECW annual for Altar Guild. Andrea Hale has been appointed by Bishop Benfield to serve as the Altar Guild Chair.

Communications: Katy Spain stated that she keeps the website updated, she has created a new layout and color scheme, trying to keep all events up there. She is keeping FaceBook going and encouraged everyone to send pictures, stating that everyone is welcome to share on FaceBook. Creating a Twitter and/or Instagram is being considered. E newsletter goes out every so often with big events, and coming soon will be information on Summer Quest.

Terri Crawford informed the group regarding a professional consultant, Stacy Jones from St. Peter's to assist ECW with increasing membership and attendance. Three focus groups have been formed, to evaluate concerns of women between the ages of twenty-five and forty-five. The first two meetings have already taken place and the third meeting will be today at 2:00 after the worship service. The first two meetings consisted of women that could be involved and active with ECW, but for whatever reason, they have not. Today the group will consist of women who do participate and love ECW. A final report will be available to the board at the January meeting.

Convocation Reports:

Reports were in the printed Annual Report. Each convocational chair was introduced.

Election of Officers: Wanda Dunwoody reported that the Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of candidates to be elected:

President	Susan Moore
Vice- President	Leigh Cole
SW Chair	Andrea Hale
NE Chair	Cathy McDonald

A motion was made to accept the slate by Peggy Cromwell, Anabelle Steelman-Berry made a second, and the motion carried.

Liz Adams graciously agreed to be chair of the committee for ECW Foundation.

The new president, Susan Moore announced the appointment to the vacant Central Chair position to Sylvia Starratt, not in attendance.

Offering: The President, Terri Crawford asked for volunteers to serve on the Offering Committee. The amount collected was \$821.00 to be donated to the Bishop's Fund for the Hurricane Michael Relief.

The 2018 Annual Report was accepted as presented.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Parker
Secretary, Arkansas ECW

**Arkansas Episcopal Church Women
Treasurer's Report
YTD 2020**

Beginning Balance 1/1/20	<u>\$49,721.92</u>
Income	\$9,142.42
Expenses	\$4,815.30
Ending Balance	\$54,049.04
Restricted Amount*	\$23,425.17
Ending Operating Balance 9/30/2020	\$30,623.87

***Restricted Accounts:**

CPC	\$6,373.70
UTO	\$2,480.71
MOP	\$-
Triennial 2018	\$5,356.20
ECW Foundation	\$8,335.28
SQ Scholarships	\$869.28
FG Reserved	<u>\$10.00</u>
	\$23,425.17

Expenses:

Board (CM)	\$470.00
CCLI license	\$137.00
CPC National, MOP	\$997.30
ECW Foundation Grant	\$2,000.00
Province VII ECW	\$200.00
Summer Quest (CM) (deposit 2020)	\$1,000.00
Treasurer – postage	<u>\$11.00</u>
	\$4,815.30

**Episcopal Church Women - Diocese of Arkansas
Church Contributions 2020**

Church	Location	Cong Support	UTO	CPC	Mile of Pennies
Balance 1-1-2020			\$34.81	\$6,220.70	\$879.30
Disbursements				\$118.00	\$879.30
All Saints	Bentonville				
All Saints Mission	Paragould				
All Saints	Russellville				
Calvary Episcopal Church	Osceola				
Christ Church	Forrest City				
Christ Church	Little Rock				
Christ Church	Mena		\$105.00	\$105.00	
Emmanuel	Lake Village				
Good Shepherd	Forrest City				
Grace	Pine Bluff	\$150.00			
Grace	Siloam Springs				
Grace	Wynne				
Holy Cross	West Memphis				
Holy Trinity	Hot Springs Village		\$562.55		
St. Alban's	Stuttgart	\$100.00			
St. Andrew's	Cherokee Village				
St. Andrew's	Marianna				
St. Andrew's	Rogers				
St. Andrew's	Mountain Home				
St. Barnabas	Foreman				
St. Bartholomew's	Fort Smith				
St. Francis	Heber Springs				
St. James'	Eureka Springs				
St. James'	Magnolia				
St. John's	Camden				
St. John's	Fort Smith				
St. John's	Harrison				
St. John's	Helena				
St. Luke's	Hot Springs	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	
St. Luke's	North Little Rock				
St. Margaret's	Little Rock		\$315.25		
St. Mark's	Crossett				
St. Mark's	Hope				
St. Mark's	Jonesboro				
St. Mark's	Little Rock				
St. Mary's	El Dorado	\$200.00		\$53.00	
St. Mary's	Monticello				

Church	Location	Cong Support	UTO	CPC	Mile of Pennies
St. Matthews	Benton	\$100.00			
St. Michael's	Little Rock				
St. Nicholas	Maumelle				
St. Paul's	Batesville				
St. Paul's	Fayetteville		\$885.53		
St. Paul's	McGehee				
St. Paul's	Newport	\$100.00			
St. Peter's	Conway				
St. Peter's	Tollville/DeValls Bluff				
St. Stephen's	Blytheville				
St. Stephen's	Horseshoe Bend				
St. Stephen's	Jacksonville				
St. Theodore's	Bella Vista	\$200.00			
St. Thomas	Springdale				
Trinity	Pine Bluff		\$477.57	\$13.00	
Trinity Cathedral	Little Rock				
Trinity Parish	Searcy				
Trinity	Van Buren				
SQ Collections					
Diocesan Conv.					
FG Collections					
Misc. Contributions					
		\$950.00	\$2,445.90		\$0.00
Total Receipts YTD		\$950.00	\$2,445.90	\$271.00	\$0.00
Ending Balance		\$950.00	\$2,480.71	\$6,373.70	\$0.00

President's Report

Kaki Roberts

Sisters-in-Christ,

Our *Book of Common Prayer* has a Prayer for Young Persons that I modified for these COVID-19 days. I pray it daily for you and yours.

God our Creator, you see us living in an unsteady and confusing world: Show us that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help us to take failure, not as a measure of our worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give us strength to hold our faith in you, and to keep alive our joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This year brought many changes, yet the stability of Episcopal Church Women remains. Recently I was asked, 'Do I need to join?' There is no joining. You are a member of ECW by being a woman. We are Episcopal Church Women.

The Rt. Rev. Phebe Roaf, Bishop of West Tennessee, was scheduled to be our speaker at 2020 Summer Quest. Summer Quest was cancelled due to the pandemic. It was the only cancellation of ECW activities. We quickly adapted and moved to online meetings. Bishop Roaf, a native of Pine Bluff, will be our Summer Quest speaker in 2021. We will meet in person, not sure where, but we will meet in person following Bishop Benfield's and the Department of Health's guidelines.

The Rev Dr. Marti Dalby is fervently working to edit a new book by ECW members entitled *Surrounded by Another Cloud of Witnesses*.

The biggest surprise for me this year was a call in mid-August asking me to serve as your President. I look forward to serving you as we find our way through the pandemic and Camp Mitchell being on sabbatical.

This next year we will work to implement the suggestions of the focus group study, paying special attention to the spiritual needs of younger and middle-aged women. Women before us stepped aside to allow Baby Boomers to shape ECW for their needs. It is time for us to begin turning over the leadership roles to allow Gen-X and Millennial folks to shape ECW for their needs.

Vice President's Report

Vice President

Our 2019 Fall Gathering was held at St. Paul's, Batesville. Thanks to all the planners and workers, we had a great meeting.

This year because of the pandemic, planning our ECW meetings has been a challenge. Our Summer Quest committee met, but then Summer Quest had to be cancelled. Then our Summer Quest Committee became our Fall Gathering Committee. Our committee worked with our ECW Board, via Zoom to organize our Fall Gathering. We are "blazing a new trail". Fall Gathering will be held via Zoom. This year the Episcopal Churchwomen in our Diocese have done a great job supporting each other.

Chaplain's Report

The Reverend Peggy Cromwell

As chaplain, I don't have too many specific "duties," beyond opening and closing meetings with prayer. So in this "pandemic" year, I want the Arkansas Episcopal Church Women to know that I have and will continue to pray for you all, asking God to stay close by you through whatever comes your way, comforting you as only God can. If you need someone to remind you that God is always near, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. We are trying to work out some way for me to be available specifically during our virtual events in the coming months.

God's peace be with you all,

Peggy Cromwell +

Chaplain

United Thank Offering

Sue Wigger, UTO Chair

As UTO Coordinator, I gave a short talk last fall at St. John's Fort Smith outlining the history and purpose of the United Thank Offering. I think that talking with congregations is an effective way to encourage members to support UTO. I utilized the Communique to give out my contact information and to publicize UTO Information. I talked with several UTO parish representatives and discussed how important our United Thank Offering grants can be for church projects. I look forward to working with the next UTO Coordinator to promote the United Thank Offering.

If you need blue boxes or any UTO supplies, or if you have questions about UTO grants, my contact information is: Sue Wigger phone: (479-394-1482) email: susanwigger2017@gmail.com

Church Periodical Club

Cathy Howser, CPC Chair

*"Books are avenues to higher learning and enlightenment, not rudimentary roads
of construction that lead to nothing"*

The Church Periodical Club is an independent, affiliated organization of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church, dedicated to the worldwide Ministry of the Printed Word and the Promotion of Christian Mission. The two Church Periodical Club grant funds are the National Book Fund for adults and Miles of Pennies for children. For over a hundred years, CPC has been able to supply funds to purchase books and related materials for people in the United States and around the world who cannot otherwise afford them.

Each year in Arkansas, churches are asked to hold an in gathering to raise money for CPC. A portion of the money raised goes to the national CPC office to provide funding for these grants and some is kept in Arkansas to provide funds for our seminarians to buy books.

In 2020, Arkansas CPC had request from one seminarian, which we were able to award. Thanks to the generosity of Arkansas Episcopalians, we are able to help not only our own, but also people from around the United States and the world.

Historian's Report

Betsy Watson

The Episcopal Church Women have records going back to 1896, when Josephine Pillow (Mrs. Jerome Pillow) from Helena was chosen as the first president. She held the position until 1921. (Her daughter also served as a Diocesan President.) There are small sketches about the ECW quilt, the ECW Alms Basin, and the history of the Arkansas ECW. There is also a short history of the ECW and of Camp Mitchell available.

Your group may have extensive records. Please retain them, find a safe and secure place to keep them and remember that there is an Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas archive in the Arkansas Studies Institute, which is a part of the Central Arkansas Library System at 200 Rock Street in Little Rock.

Communications

Katie Spain, Chair

- Facebook- we are changing our Group to a Page for improved functionality, transition will be complete soon.
- We have increased our posting frequency and continue to encourage everyone to post to our Page.
- Started a Gmail account for ECW
- Started an Instagram Page
- Updated website consistently and sent out e-newsletters periodically
- Will use Focus Group results and newly formed committee to guide our continued growth in communication to reach more Episcopal women in Arkansas
- The next big projects we will be promoting- an online book study and Summer Quest 2021.

Diocesan Altar Guild

Andrea Hale, Director

Most diocesan Altar Guild activity has been curtailed due to the pandemic. Prior to March 2020, ECW board members participated in maintaining the sacristy at Camp Mitchell, visiting it at least once per month.

For those who are interested, an Altar Guild manual compiled by women in the Diocese of Arkansas is available. If you would like a copy, please contact me at ahale7@sbcglobal.net, at my email address.

Order of the Daughters of the King

Wanda Dunwoody, DOK Diocesan Representative

The Arkansas DOK Assembly has twenty-three (23) chapters and approximately four hundred (400) members. I am proud to report that we have one Junior Daughters Chapter that is being led by ECW Secretary and DOK member Gloria Parker.

All Chapter Presidents and various appointed officers serve on the Arkansas Assembly Board. The year 2020 began with the Board convening at St. Stephen's in Jacksonville for its second annual retreat. This retreat is an orientation for new presidents, update review, and a way to share information between chapters.

In March, St. Mary Magdalene Chapter, St. Nicholas, Maumelle, was instituted with thirteen (13) members. Kathryn Harrison is the chapter's first president and, along with her officers, is ably leading members through their first "challenging" year.

Fall Assembly will be a virtual meeting and is scheduled for Saturday, September 26, 2020. The Rev. Dr. Marti Dalby will be our featured speaker. Other guests will be The Rt. Rev. Larry Benfield, Province VII President Judy Bordelon, and DOK National President Krisita Jackson. It promises to be a day filled with blessings.

Life has changed so much since my last report. What has not changed is how Arkansas women continue to serve and pray for their parishes, diocese, and the world. Please keep Arkansas DOK in your prayers that its members may hear His voice and know what they are called to do.

Central Convocation

Sylvia Starratt, Chair

Christ Church – Little Rock: We helped our Daughters of the King prepare and serve a dinner for the veterans at St Francis House in November. Our re-sell-it-sale and the spring and summer veterans' dinners were cancelled, due to the Covid.

St. Nicholas - Maumelle: We continued to keep our community Little Food Pantry stocked. We assisted the parish in December with St Nicholas Day community service projects in Maumelle. We facilitated a Blue Christmas service. Through our Daughters of the King chapter, which had an installation in March, we have kept our members connected, during pandemic with emails, cards, making phone calls.

St. Francis – Heber Springs: We met every Wednesday for Morning Prayer. During the current Covid situation, we continued to meet, either by conference calls or outdoors on our labyrinth, weather permitting. This group is also our Daughters of the King group. We pray weekly together and daily with our prayer lists, updated each week. We completed the "Way of Love" program endorsed by our presiding bishop. We had our annual Shrove Tuesday dinner to benefit outreach. Our normally large rummage sale for outreach was cancelled this year, until further notice. We have contributed to The Call Foster Care Program and a local abused women's shelter. We pray for all our Episcopal sisters throughout our diocese, as well as everyone in the world!

Trinity - Searcy: Our year began on September 11th with the election of officers. We planned for the upcoming Holy Cross Day on the 14th with cleaning of the church and signing up for dishes to bring for the luncheon afterwards. In October, three members attended the Fall Gathering at St. Paul's in Batesville. November was only a meeting to discuss the next month's activities. Our December meeting was cancelled due to so many things happening, but we did have a potluck on Saint Nicholas Day where the children decorated the Christmas tree. On December 11, Fr. Mark hosted the Ministerial Alliance for a breakfast meeting and several of our members prepared dishes, staying to welcome attendees and to clean afterwards. We helped decorate the church for Christmas, December 15 after service. We individually bought Christmas presents and delivered to a needy family. We met in January to break bread at a local restaurant for our meeting. At this time, we discussed the Bishop's visit scheduled for January 19, providing a potluck after the service. We had many potlucks. The annual church meeting was on February 2, between services. We provided donuts, coffee and juice. We decorated for Shrove Tuesday, bringing side dishes and a few men brought meat dishes. After COVID-19 hit and we did not meet again. We did set up and prepare food for several funerals. We were the recipients of a micro grant from United Way of White County in the amount of \$500 to help stock our food pantry, along with DOK, insures our free pantry is full every day for needy individuals.

Northeast Convocation

Cathy McDonald, Chair

The Northeast convocation includes the following parishes:

Batesville, St. Paul's
Blytheville, St. Stephen's
Forrest City, Christ Church
Good Shepherd
Horseshoe Bend, St. Stephen's
Jonesboro, St. Mark's
Mountain Home, St. Andrew's
Newport, St. Paul's
Osceola, Calvary
Paragould, All Saints
West Memphis, Holy Cross

The only parish in this convocation that has reported having an active ECW that meets regularly is St. Paul's in Batesville. In 2019, St. Paul's hosted the Diocesan ECW Fall Gathering. As a service project, the ladies gathered blankets and snacks for the newly opened Children's Advocacy Center of Independence County. Fund raising included selling aprons with the Episcopal shield.

Despite the current pandemic, the group has continued monthly via Zoom. Plans for this year include donating clothing items and masks to the Children's Advocacy Center and selling notecards with historic photographs from the parish.

Northwest Convocation

Jo Ellen Carson, Chair

There are 14 churches in the Northwest Convocation. Due to COVID-19, all of these churches have a virtual presence now through a variety of social media platforms in order to connect with women in the church and surrounding communities. The Northwest Convocation churches are as follows:

St. Theodore's Episcopal Church, Bella Vista

With a vibrant website, www.sainttheodores.com, the Good News blog and a presence on Facebook, the women of St. Theodore's are a virtual and physical presence for their community. There is no reference to ECW but the church's inviting presence online serves the women of the church and surrounding communities well.

All Saints' Episcopal, Bentonville

At www.allsaintsbentonville.org the connections for worship and outreach are presented in an effective manner. While there is no reference to ECW in the church social media, their Back to School Blessing, Continuing the Conversation [on injustice, race, and prejudice] and their Hispanic worship services present many opportunities for women of all backgrounds.

St. James' Episcopal Church, Eureka Springs

The ECW at St. James' Episcopal Church Women (ECW) states on their website, www.stjames.live that "ECW empowers women to do Christ's ministry in the world. Our vision is that we become a vibrant blend of all ages, coming together as a peacemaking, healing part of the Church". Their statement is linked to the National ECW site in order to help any woman understand more about the organization. The church has reached out to those COVID persons and families, in need of food; built a small food box, and is offering worship in their garden. All of these offerings would be helpful to women of the church and community.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Rogers

While St. Andrew's does not list an ECW group on their website, www.standrewsrogers.com, there is a Women's Bible Study set for September through May, 2020 and a food pantry and backpack program that would serve many women in the church and community. With an outreach ministry to Pea Ridge and a Hispanic worship service, this church also reaches rural and Hispanic women.

Grace Episcopal Church, Siloam Springs

At www.gracesiloam.org, timely programming includes the Becoming Beloved Community Now online series on racial reconciliation and service projects like Little Free Lunch. There is no ECW identified in their social media however there are user-friendly online links that are very helpful and their messaging is consistent over all of their social media, which would help women access and participate in worship and outreach.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Springdale

According to www.stthomasspringdale.org the church continues to serve through their pantry and meal programs in addition to links to virtual services and outreach. Even though there is no reference to ECW on their website, there is a Daughters of the King, Julian of Norwich Chapter, at St. Thomas.

St. John's Episcopal Church, Harrison

At www.stjohnsharrison.org the church offers video, audio and printable services for their services that would be accessible and helpful to women in the church and community. While there is no reference to ECW, St. John's does have an Order of Daughters of the King, Mother Theresa Chapter for women in the church.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Mountain Home

On their website at www.standrewmountainhome.org the church continues a presence virtually for worship and also to provide food through its pantry. While ECW is not listed on the website, the church has a Facebook presence which could be accessed by women in the church and community. An indoor labyrinth walk is also available.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Fayetteville

The number of opportunities for women to serve and be served found at www.stpaulfay.org continues as well as other social media. There is no reference to ECW. Several programs have been moved online including Parenting Through Pandemic, an offering that would be very useful to many women.

Trinity Episcopal Church, Van Buren

According to www.trinityvanburen.org the church directs interested women to their Facebook page. They make it easy with a Facebook button. While their Facebook page and website do not mention ECW the church worship services are easily accessed.

All Saints' Episcopal Church, Russellville

At www.allsaintsrussellville.org the church provides its entire social media contact information and instructions. On Facebook, the church posts about their Neighbors Table Free Meal, the Love Thy Neighbor and Enneagram series and their upcoming Rally Day Video. All Saint's is providing a unique opportunity to worship in person with outdoor small group gatherings where church families have been divided into groups that attend a short service with communion. While there is no reference to ECW, the church services and outreach clearly serve women in the church and surrounding community.

St. John's Episcopal Church, Fort Smith

At www.stjohnfs.org there is the following information for women of the church and community: "All women in this church are members of Episcopal Women. The group meets several times a year for pastoral care, outreach projects, field trips and study. In their online presence, newsletter, website and other media platforms, St. John's continues serving church and community members even during this pandemic. Virtual worship services and programs are accessible to women In the church and community.

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Fort Smith

This parish church is included in the St. John's Episcopal Church website. Contact has been made with a small group of women who attended St. Augustine.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Fort Smith

There is a website and an active Facebook page/feed that offer women in the church and community an opportunity to take part in virtual and safe in-person worship and outreach programs. The church also states that all women are members of ECW. St. Bart's women have leadership and supporting roles in all the church's activities.

Clearly, COVID-19 has affected the ability of all of the NWA churches in their mission, worship and outreach. However, all of these churches have "moved online" and have chosen to continue outreach efforts and in some cases, have increased their outreach during the pandemic. For Episcopal women and women in the communities surrounding these churches, the effort to continue supporting them is evident.

Southeast Convocation

Marjie Hart, Chair

The SE Convocation runs from the Mississippi Delta to the Grand Prairie to the Piney Woods. Most of our churches are small congregations, many without full time clergy. The Episcopal Church Women in all these locations are not necessarily officially organized but actively support their congregations.

Southwest Convocation

Andrea Hale, Chair

During the January ECW board meeting, it was agreed that each convocation chair would plan a regional meeting for those in their convocation. The meetings would provide fellowship, sharing of information and have a spiritual component. Plans for these events were put on hold due to the pandemic.

A convocation wide email was sent to churches this past February with news of an ECW Foundation Grant available to women's ministries in the diocese. Magdalene House in El Dorado was the first recipient of the Foundation grant. Most churches and ECW chapters in the Southwest convocation are not yet having in-person worship or meetings, however, Diocesan ECW continues to reach out with opportunities to gather over Zoom and share information with members.

**Arkansas Episcopal Church Women
Installation of Officers**

Those who are to be installed are invited to come forward with the President and Past President.

BISHOP: begins with the ECW Prayer

Almighty God, we pray that You will bless the work of ECW in mission and ministry in the world. Help us to pray fervently, labor diligently and give liberally to make known the power of your love given through your son Jesus. Let us not forget the lessons from the past nor fear the challenges of the future. Anoint us with your grace and shine in our hearts as we reflect your light throughout the world. **Amen.**

We are all baptized by the one Spirit into one body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. It is fitting, joyful and right that those who have been elected as members of the board of Arkansas Episcopal Church Women be received and installed in the Name of God.

BISHOP: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: And also with you.

BISHOP: Let us pray. Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts; we humbly ask you to give your Grace to these servants who have been chosen to serve you in the special work for which they have been elected. Grant them zeal and earnestness in the performance of their office; wisdom and strength to undertake their tasks; and love and grace in the doing of their duties; and give them the vision to see their opportunities for service in the benefit of the Holy Church through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

PAST PRESIDENT: Episcopal women from across Arkansas have placed their faith and trust in the following by electing and appointing them as members of their diocesan board of directors:

Cathy Howser - Church Periodical Club Coordinator;
Ashley Craig - United Thank Offering Coordinator;
Sylvia Starratt - Central Convocation Chair;
Susan Carter - Southeast Convocation Chair;
Kaki Roberts - appointed as President;
Sue Wigger - appointed as Vice President;
The Rev Bean Murray - appointed Historian/Archivist

BISHOP: Are these women willing, through their commitment to Christ as Lord and by the knowledge of their duties, to exercise their ministries to the honor of God and the well-being of the Church?

PAST PRESIDENT: I believe they are.

BISHOP: Cathy, Ashley, Sylvia, Susan, Kaki, Sue, and Bean, the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk with integrity. May you serve the women of this Diocese with prayerful faithfulness and love.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you by Arkansas Episcopal Church Women, willfully intending to undertake them with diligence, prayer, and faithfulness, seeking the honor of God and the benefit of the whole Church?

CATHY, ASHLEY, SYLVIA, SUSAN, KAKI, SUE, AND BEAN:

I will, with God's help.

BISHOP: To members present and to all Sisters in Christ, you have witnessed the installation of these women as newly elected members of the Arkansas Episcopal Church Women Board of Directors. Do you pledge your support, encouragement, and prayers to each of them?

PEOPLE: We do.

BISHOP: Closing Prayer