

**2015 Annual Report
Episcopal Church Women
Diocese of Texas**

And Who Is My Neighbor?



114th Annual Retreat for Women

November 20-22, 2015

Camp Allen, Navasota, Texas

The mission of the Women of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas is to bring women together for sharing gifts of fellowship, service, and outreach while spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.

The ECW Prayer

*Almighty God, Heavenly Father, source of
all knowledge and truth,
be present with each of us meeting together as the
Women of the Episcopal Church.
Grant us open minds, compassionate hearts,
honest words and gentle ways. Give us the
grace to know your will,
the courage to accept it and the strength to accomplish it.
May we not forget the lessons from the past nor
fear the challenges of the future.
Bless us with your peace today and all the days to come, and may
we ever pray, "Thy will be done."
We live in your presence and pray in your Holy Name.
Amen*

All women in the parishes and missions of the
Episcopal Church, Diocese of Texas, are
members of this organization
by virtue of their baptism and confirmation
in the Episcopal Church.

Standing Rules
Episcopal Church Women,
Diocese of Texas
2015 Annual Business Meeting

- The voting body of this assembly shall be attendees of the Annual Retreat.
- A majority of the attendees at the meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- The chair shall recognize persons speaking in support of, and in opposition to, a question alternately, with the makers of the motion having the first right to the floor in debate.
- A motion to adjourn shall not be in order until all items on the agenda have been acted upon.
- Robert's Rules of Order: Newly Revised shall govern all proceedings of this meeting not covered in these Rules or not inconsistent with the ECW Diocese of Texas Bylaws.

**Episcopal Church Women
Diocese of Texas
114th Annual Retreat for Women**

**Business Meeting Agenda
November 21, 2015
10:00 a.m.**

Call to Order	Lisa Martin, President
Introduction of Special Guests	Lisa Martin, President
Minutes	Cathy Capers, Secretary
Standing Rules	Pam Holley, Parliamentarian
Proposed Budget 2015	Jane Brown, Treasurer
New Business – Proposed By Laws	Lisa Martin, President
Nominating Committee Report	Cathy Capers, Chair
Election of Officers	Lisa Martin, President
Installation of Officers	The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher, Bishop Suffragan
Invitation to Next Annual Retreat	Anne King, St. James', Houston
Announcements	Patricia Swaby, Vice President

Adjournment of Business Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting 2014
Diocese of Texas Episcopal Church Women
October 18, 2014
Camp Allen

Betsy Sullivan, ECW President, opened the business meeting in prayer.

The 113th Annual Business Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Texas was called to order by Betsy Sullivan. She thanked the host church Grace, Georgetown, and its host committee; Chair, Georgia Raffalovich, and ECW President, Julie Greer, for their enthusiasm and hard work on this retreat and for the support of their associate rector, The Reverend David Peters. Gifts of appreciation were given to Georgia and Julie. The DOT vice president, Patricia Swaby, was thanked for her tireless efforts in coordinating the event with Grace, Georgetown and Camp Allen, and to the Camp Allen staff. Thanks was also given to the board secretary, Cathy Capers, for putting the Annual Report together and obtaining the vendors; the treasurer, Jane Brown, for managing the finances, updating the records, and creating a budget; the communications chair, Michelle Carlson, for producing the 2015 calendars and keeping the website current; and the parliamentarian, Pam Holley, for her work on the necrology report.

Betsy announced the outreach project this year is River of Life, which helps women through mentoring, life coaching, job-skills training, networking, and faith assurance. She thanked participants for their donations of gift cards to these women and their families.

Betsy called on Lisa Martin, standing in for secretary Cathy Capers, to report on the 2013 Annual Retreat minutes and to read the credentials report. The minutes from the 2013 Annual Retreat can be found on pages 6 and 7 of the Annual Report Booklet. They were certified by Kerry Hancock and Anya McInnis and are filed as the official record of that meeting. The report of attendance at the 2014 Annual Retreat is as follows: 127 attendees. Lisa moved the adoption of this report. This report required no second. The motion carried. This established a quorum to conduct business.

Betsy recognized Pam Holley, parliamentarian, to report on the Standing Rules. The Standing Rules for the 113th Annual Retreat can be found on page 4 in the Annual Report Booklet. Pam moved the acceptance of the Standing Rules as printed. Since the report came out of committee, it required no second. There were no amendments to the Standing Rules. The rules were adopted.

Betsy appointed Ginny Reinhart and Carol Milses to certify the minutes of the 113th Annual Retreat. Betsy then called on Jane Brown, treasurer, to present the Proposed Budget for 2015. Jane announced that the Board of Directors of the ECW reviewed the 2015 proposed budget and voted to recommend its adoption to this assembly. The 2015 proposed budget appears in the Annual Report Booklet on page 10. There were no questions. Jane moved the adoption of the 2015 budget as printed. Coming out of committee this required no second. The budget was adopted. Betsy thanked all the churches that supported our ministries by paying their Fair Share this year. They are listed on page 20 of the Annual Report Booklet.

Betsy introduced the first item of New Business by presenting the Proposed Bylaws changes. In July 2014 the Board of Directors approved these changes, based on the visioning results. The proposed changes primarily include updating the mission statement, moving the Communications Chair to the Executive Committee, dissolving the Spiritual Growth Coordinator position, having convocation coordinators include spiritual growth workshops in their convocation gatherings, and consolidating board positions. Copies were made available and were also sent to the attendees present in an electronic message for review ahead of time. The report comes out of committee and required no second. Ellen Cook moved to accept the proposed changes to the Bylaws as presented. The motion was seconded and the new bylaws were adopted.

Betsy presented the second item of New Business, the election of officers. She called on Gloria Schlemmer, Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee. Gloria presented the following nominees on behalf of the Nominating Committee:

Lisa Martin, St. Mark's, Austin - *President*

Patricia Swaby, St. Luke's, Livingston - *Vice President*, appointed earlier this year by President Sullivan.

Pam Reed, St. Francis of Assisi, Prairie View- *Northwest/Central Convocation Coordinator*

Susan Gezana, St. James, Austin- *Austin Convocation Coordinator*

Susan Brown, Trinity, Longview - *Northeast Convocation Coordinator*

Nancy Dalton, Good Shepherd, Friendswood- *UTO/Bishop Kinsolving/Endowment Fund Chair*

Ann Seyler, St. Mark's, Austin - *Communications Chair*

Betsy called for any nominations from the floor. There was none. The chair declared nominations closed. Gloria moved we elect the slate of nominees as presented to be members of the ECW Board of Directors. Coming from committee this required no second. The motion passed. The chair declared these women duly elected officers of the Diocesan Episcopal Church Women.

Betsy recognized the outgoing Board members.

Lisa Martin, Austin Convocation Coordinator

Susan Ashley-LaFitte, Central Convocation Coordinator

Ellen Cook, United Thank Offering Chair

Trish Johnston, Bishop Kinsolving/Endowment Fund Chair

Michelle Carlson, Communications Chair

Gloria presented the Nominating Committee's nominees as delegates and alternates to the 48th ECW Triennial Meeting in 2015. **Lisa Martin, Jane Brown, Nancy Dalton, and Ann Seyler, *Delegates*; Debbie Johnson and Cathy Capers, *Alternates*.** There were no nominations from the floor. Gloria moved to elect the slate of nominees as presented to be the delegates and alternates for ECW Triennial Meeting in 2015. The motion passed.

Betsy commented about her term over the past three years. She noted it had been a rewarding time as well as a period involving lots of hard work. She noted that she had learned so much about our Diocese and was impressed with all that is being done to spread the Good News.

With God's help, she strove to fulfill the duties of her office, to increase outreach opportunities, and to grow women's ministry around the Diocese. She stated that her family's support has been invaluable – especially that of her husband, Ron – and that their encouragement and patience with her were true gifts! She commented that one of the main things she enjoyed was getting to know other women and clergy as she visited in their churches and attended their events. She noted that she valued tremendously the women on the Board of Directors and appreciated their dedication in serving our Lord. She gave thanks to all of these women and to Bishop Fisher, who had been a source of inspiration and a rock of support for the ministry.

Betsy then called on Bishop Jeff Fisher. Bishop Fisher called forth all the newly elected officers of the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Church Women. The officers were installed. Betsy thanked Bishop Fisher and congratulated Lisa. Betsy then placed the President's cross around Lisa's neck and handed her the gavel. A special blessing was prayed over Lisa by Bishop Fisher.

Lisa invited everyone to attend the 2015 Annual Retreat for Women, November 20-22, at Camp Allen, which will be hosted by St. Mark's, Austin. The business meeting was then concluded.

2015 EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN BOARD, DIOCESE OF TEXAS

President

Lisa Martin (2017)
3312 Silk Oak
Austin, TX 78748
Phone: 512-431-7716
St. Mark's, Austin
dmartin12@austin.rr.com

Vice-President

Patricia Swaby (2015)
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Goodrich, TX 77335
Phone: 281-726-0291
St. Luke's, Livingston
Pswaby59@gmail.com

Secretary

Cathy Capers (2015)
2944 Savannah Court
Waco, TX 76710
Phone: 254-776-5963
St. Alban's, Waco
cathycapers@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Jane Brown (2016)
638 CR 2066
Hull, TX 77564
Phone: 281-513-3881
St. Stephen's, Liberty
cejbrown@imsday.com

Austin Convocation

Susan Gezana (2017)
2231 Margalene Way
Austin, TX 78728
Phone : 512-484-3528
St. James, Austin
susgezana@msn.com

East Harris/Southeast Convocation

Karen Wesley (2015)
5114 Pensdale Street
Houston, TX 77033
Phone: 832-289-8995
St. James, Houston
kywesley@netzero.net

Galveston/Southwest Convocations

Gloria Schlemmer (2015)
4724 Sherman Blvd.,
Galveston, TX 77551
Phone: 409-740-8942
Trinity, Galveston
Barleyfcs@sbcglobal.net

Northeast Convocation

Susan Brown (2016)
4689 Canary Rd.
Gilmer, TX 75645
Phone: 903-734-0802
Cell: 254-289-7269
Trinity, Longview
Susan.frier.brown@gmail.com

Northwest/Central Convocation

Kathy Waskom (2017)
1012 E. 25th St.
Bryan, TX 77803
Phone: 979-255-8672
St. Andrew's, Bryan
k-waskom@tamu.edu

San Jacinto/West Harris Convocations

Jennifer Chachere (2016)
6723 Ambler Dr.
Spring, TX 77379
Phone: 281-376-5847
St. Dunstan's, Houston

**Outreach/ Vera Gang Scott
Scholarship**

Debbie Johnson (2015)
6918 Penny Ct.
Houston, TX 77069
Phone: 713-851-9031
St. Dunstan's, Houston
utxhoudj@comcast.net

**United Thank Offering
Bishop Kinsolving Memorial
ECW Endowment Fund**

Nancy Dalton (2017)
P.O. Box 42
Pearland, TX 77588-0042
Phone: 281-997-9833
Cell: 832-858-9833
Good Shepherd, Friendswood
nancy_dalton@att.net

Communications

Ann Seyler (2017)
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Austin, TX 78748
Phone: 512-280-1241
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Altar Guild

Ellen Cook (representative)
2235 Broadlawn Dr.
Houston, TX 77058
Phone: 281-488-8063
Cell: 832-876-6443
St. Thomas the Apostle, Houston
edgc43@gmail.com

Daughters of the King

Renate Walker (representative)
4417 Canonsburg
League City, TX 77573
Phone: 281-813-0407
Good Shepherd, Friendswood
rawalkerbms@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Pam Holley (appointed)
3304 S. Cameron Ave.
Tyler, TX 75701
Phone: 903-581-0283
Christ Church, Tyler
pholleyrpl@suddenlink.net

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher
2695 South SW Loop 323
Tyler, TX 75701
Phone: 903-579-6012;
888-579-6012
jfisher@epicenter.org

The Nomination's Committee Report

Members:

Cathy Capers

Gloria Schlemmer

Karen Wesley

Jennifer Chachere

Nominations Slate

Secretary: Karen Wesley

Coordinators:

Northwest/Central Convocation: Kathy Waskom

East Harris/Southeast Convocation: Ronne' Yarmark

Galveston/Southwest Convocation: Trish Johnston

Outreach/Vera Gang Scott Scholarship: Leiselle Sadler

2016 Diocese of Texas ECW Proposed Budget

	<u>Jan – Dec 16</u>
Income	
200 · ECW INCOME	
201 · FAIR SHARE	39,000.00
202 · INTEREST	10.00
211 · VERA GANG SCOTT SCH FUND	
211D · VGS CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>1,500.00</u>
Total 211 · VERA GANG SCOTT SCH FUND	1,500.00
212 · ECW ENDOWMENT FUND	
212D · ENDOW CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total 212 · ECW ENDOWMENT FUND	3,000.00
231 · ANNUAL RETREAT INCOME	
232 · ANNUAL RETREAT-ROOM/ BOARD	21,875.00
233 · ANNUAL RETREAT-VENDORS	<u>420.00</u>
Total 231 · ANNUAL RETREAT INCOME	<u>22,295.00</u>
Total 200 · ECW INCOME	<u>65,805.00</u>
Total Income	65,805.00
Expense	
300 · EVENT EXPENSE SUMMARY	
330 · ANNUAL RETREAT	
332 · ANNUAL RETREAT SPEAKERS	3,000.00
333 · ANNUAL RETREAT-OTHER EXPENSES	3,000.00
334 · ANNUAL RETREAT PRINTING EXPENSE	1,000.00
335 · ANNUAL RETREAT REGISTRATION EXP	23,400.00
336 · ANNUAL RETREAT CAMP ALLEN OTHER	<u>7,500.00</u>
Total 330 · ANNUAL RETREAT	37,900.00
352 · SPIRITUAL GROWTH/CONVOCATION EX	<u>3,500.00</u>
Total 300 · EVENT EXPENSE SUMMARY	41,400.00
400 · OUTREACH EXPENSE SUMMARY	
411 · VGS SCHOLARSHIPS	5,000.00
421 · OUTREACH GRANTS	5,000.00
430 · ECW NATIONAL – DFMS CONT	500.00
431 · PROVINCE VII CONTRIBUTION	500.00
450 · OTHER OUTREACH	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total 400 · OUTREACH EXPENSE SUMMARY	13,000.00
500 · DELEGATE EXPENSE SUMMARY	
503 · DIOCESAN COUNCIL EXPENSE	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total 500 · DELEGATE EXPENSE SUMMARY	1,000.00

600 · ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	
601 · BOARD EXPENDITURE REIMBURSEMENT	1,500.00
602 · BOARD MILEAGE EXPENSE	3,500.00
603 · BOARD MEETINGS	3,500.00
611 · CALENDARS	1,500.00
620 · ACCOUNTNG REVIEW EXPENSE	500.00
630 · POSTAGE	700.00
690 · OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	500.00
Total 600 · ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	<u>11,700.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>67,100.00</u>
Net Income	<u>-1,295.00</u>

2015 Reports of the Board of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas

President, Lisa Martin (2017)

It has been an honor to serve as the Diocesan ECW President in the last year. The greatest blessing to serving as President has been traveling around the Diocese and meeting women from as far as Longview to as close as Austin and witnessing how God has worked to change their lives and the lives of others through both prayer and works of faith. God has blessed us with a board that is willing to follow the Holy Spirit and work hard to bring that Spirit to others. For that, I am grateful. The Diocesan ECW has hosted six convocation gatherings, awarded \$8000 in Vera Gang Scott Scholarships to fourteen students, and provided \$3000 in outreach grants in the last year. I have had the privilege of representing the board at the Diocesan Council, Province VII meeting in Kansas City, MO, the ECW National Triennial meeting in Salt Lake City, UT and the Diocesan Executive Board Meetings. It was a joy to celebrate with The Rev. Ann Normand as she was named the Distinguished Woman from the Diocese of Texas at Triennial. I am thankful for all the churches in the Diocese who have paid their Fair Share that provides the operating funds for the board. I would like to thank the women from St. Mark's, Austin, for hosting the 2015 Annual Retreat and the ladies from St. James', Houston, for agreeing to host the retreat in 2016. May blessings abound for all the women in the Diocese of Texas.

In Christ's Name,
Lisa Martin

Vice-President, Patricia Swaby (2015)

I have enjoyed serving on the board of the ECW EDOT in the position of Vice-President for the past two years. The primary responsibilities of the role are to coordinate the board meetings, participate in other activities of the ECW, and to chair the annual retreat.

In May I had the opportunity to travel to Kansas and represent our Diocese at Province VII.

My largest responsibility has been being Chair of the Annual Retreat, which has been rewarding to me in so many ways. As a retired accountant I enjoy challenges and implementing systems. I have had the pleasure to use my career skills, implement changes to the processes, utilizing online marketing to enhance and streamline the registration process. Prior year participants are now included with email marketing campaigns each year of the retreat. With the continued rise of computer use with current day social media, it is my hope

that this spiritual retreat will continue to grow and be reborn to include more and more women of the Diocese with each coming year. The bonus to this work has been working with the members of the board and the ladies from host churches, making new friends and relationships in love and Christ, which I find priceless.

God's Peace,
Patricia Swaby

Secretary, Cathy Capers (2015)

As ECW Diocese of Texas Executive Board Secretary, I attended all board meetings and prepared minutes for these meetings. I then sent the minutes to all board members. I also served on the Annual Retreat Planning Committee and secured vendors for the Annual Retreat.

I attended the Province VII meeting in Kansas City. I prepared the Annual Report booklet for the 2015 Annual Retreat.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Capers

Treasurer, Jane Brown, (2016)

My time in 2015 has been spent in refining the QuickBooks accounting system that we use for financial transactions and budgeting. It now tracks more clearly the most important elements of our receipts, spending, and budgeting, to enable the Board to make more informed financial decisions. I am in the process of writing a Job Description and instruction/policy document for the next Treasurer.

I have served on the By-Laws Committee for the 2015 Annual Meeting. I have also worked with the chairs of the committees working with UTO, Outreach, Vera Gang Scott Scholarship, and Endowment Fund to establish like practices across the board for these committees in responsible and documented fund transactions.

We have experienced one of our best years in recent history for collection of Fair Share contributions. As of this writing, we have received contributions from 77 of the churches in the Diocese of Texas. These offerings enable us to continue to do the work that strengthens the missions and spiritual growth of all of the women of this Diocese. Thank you!

One of the most rewarding parts of my time as Treasurer of the ECW EDOT this year was attending the Triennial Meeting of the ECW. I thank the voting body for electing me to attend this meeting that ran concurrently with General Convention in Salt Lake City. I learned a great deal about the ECW and the Episcopal Church overall, and I gained many

ideas that I plan to share with my own church and ECW and other women of the Episcopal Church, as I go on to serve other ministries in the future.

Jane Brown
Treasurer, ECW EDOT 2015

Convocation Reports

Austin Convocation, Susan Gezana, (2017)

In January, I attended my second ECW meeting at Camp Allen. I learned more about my role as a Convocation Coordinator. In February, I began the work on our Convocation Gathering. We decided to combined St James Austin's Annual Lenten Tea and the Austin Convocation Gathering into one event. I worked with the Hospitality Team of my home parish of St James Austin in preparation for this beautiful gathering. On the afternoon of March 15, 2015, we had the Lenten Tea where we had over one hundred people enjoy finger sandwiches, sweet desserts, afternoon tea, good music and presentations. On March 29, 2015, I had the honor of presenting an Out Reach Grant to All Saints Church Austin for their Women to Women Program. In May, I visited with St Richards Church Round Rock. In July 2015, I visited with St Julian of Norwich Round Rock. I also spoke with Phyllis with St Anne's Church Burnet and arranged a visit for possible September after all the summer vacations. In August 2015, I visited with St Paul's Pflugerville. I attended ECW meetings at Camp Allen.

In Peace,
Susan Gezana

Northwest/Central Convocation, Kathy Waskom (2018)

- March: Agreed and announced to home church that I was now serving as Northwest/Central Convocation Coordinator and asked our members to reach out to anyone in the area to let them know and asked for help with building personal connections.

- April: Prepared introduction letter and mailed to all churches in the Northwest/Central Convocation area introducing myself and offering to visit throughout the year.
- Various dates throughout the spring: All members of the Northwest/Central Convocation were invited to all St. Andrews' ECW activities including our annual Quiet Day; our annual salad luncheon and meeting; our creative/social gatherings; invitations to participate in our Veteran's Day card project; and various other social and spiritual activities and gatherings.
- May: Not able to attend Graduation Sunday to present scholarships, but were mailed with personal cards.
- Working closely with St. Philips Hearne to engage them.
- August: Attended the Board Meeting at Camp Allen.

East Harris Convocation, Karen Wesley (2015)

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as Convocation Coordinator for the East Harris and Southeast Convocations for the past three years. As Convocation Coordinator I served as a communications link between the Diocesan ECW Board and the Episcopalian Church Women in my convocations. I have met numerous ladies and have made many friends. My duties have included attending the quarterly ECW Board meetings and the Annual Women's Retreat. I had the pleasure of meeting chapter presidents at the retreat. I also visited several churches within the convocations and attended events hosted by the Episcopal Church Women.

Convocation Gatherings were held – in 2014, St. James', Houston hosted a Spring Tea: Tea with a Purpose and in 2015, St. Stephen's, Liberty hosted a Day of Prayer and Meditation. These Gatherings brought together all women, no matter where we are in our faith journeys, to share experiences and fellowship. Also, the Gatherings provided wonderful opportunities for the women to explore their personal relationship with God, deepen our faith and apply it to our daily lives.

As a communications liaison, I disseminated information about the Episcopal Church Women and activities and events hosted or sponsored by the group. Church calendars were sent to each church, as well as information about the Vera Gang Scott Scholarship, United Thank Offering, and the Annual Retreat. I compiled contact information for each ECW chapter within the convocations. I promoted the Gatherings and Spiritual Growth events that were held in the convocations and around the Diocese. I was privileged to present the 2015 Vera Gang Scott Scholarship award to a recipient in one of the convocations I serve.

As a Board member, I served on the Nominating Committee, whose main responsibility was to fill the slate for the 2015 elections/appointments. The slate for all positions has been filled.

I am pleased to report that my home church (St. James', Houston) will host the 2016 Annual Retreat for Women at Camp Allen. I will work closely with the ECW in the planning, preparations, and production of the event.

Being part of the Board has been an enlightening experience and I look forward to continued interactions with everyone I've met as we connect as women in the Episcopal Church with the common denominator of the love of God and the wish to do His work.

Submitted by

Karen Wesley

East Harris/Southeast Convocation Coordinator

Galveston Convocation, Gloria Schlemmer (2015)

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve on the Diocesan ECW Board for the last three years. During my term of office I have been able to meet and become friends with women both on the ECW Board and in the churches in both convocations I have represented.

In the past year I have attended the ECW Board Meetings and the ECW Retreat. I have sent the ECW calendars and various newsletters to the churches. Early in the year I was fortunate to meet with Fran Lantz from St. Christopher, League City, and learn of the Days for Girls Project that she organizes. She was able to speak at our Convocation Luncheon and I have been able to attend some of the Sew-A-Thons at various churches in the Galveston Convocation. In the spring, I presented a check from the ECW Board to Hollee Martinez for her mission to the United Nations, and a check from the ECW Board to the Rev. Brad Sullivan and St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Bay City for an ECW outreach grant. In April, our Galveston/Southwest Convocation Luncheon was held at Trinity Episcopal Church, Galveston. Representative from eight churches were in attendance to hear wonderful talks by Sally Byrom and Fran Lantz.

In closing I would like to extend special thanks to Lisa Martin our current ECW president, Betsy Sullivan, our past president, and everyone on the ECW Board for your support and friendship. Best wishes to Trish Johnston as she carries on the torch!

San Jacinto/West Harris, Jennifer Chachere (2016)

- Contacted all churches in convocations to verify the name of ECW, DOK or other women's ministry leader.
- Verified the names of priests for each church in the convocations
- Mailed 2015 ECW calendars to each church in the convocations.
- Attended January ECW Board meeting at Camp Allen.

April 2015

- Distributed save the date flyers for the 2015 Annual at St. Dunstan's ECW Spring Luncheon.
- Spoke at luncheon about outreach grants, scholarship program and invited all attendees to the 2015 Retreat at Camp Allen.

May 2015

- Called St. Aidan's and Epiphany to confirm date of Graduation Sunday, requested permission to present Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Certificates to their recipients. Both were Sunday on May 17th.
- Elora and Nyanna Arana of Epiphany were not expected in church on Graduation Sunday, mailed their certificates.
- Presented Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Certificate to Madyson Meres at St. Aidan's 10:30 am service on May 17th.
- Before presentation, shared information about the ECW Outreach Grants, scholarship program and invited women to the Annual Retreat.
- Met with Carol McCauley, St. Aidan's DOK President after service. There was some interest in ECW programs.
- Offered to speak at next DOK meeting at St Aidan's and left ECW calendars with Carol.

July and August 2015

- Attended July ECW Board meeting at Camp Allen.
- Worked with Rev. Bobbie Knowles on the October 3, 2015 Spiritual Growth Retreat. The theme will be "Fill My Cup, Lord" based on John 4:5, Christ's encounter with the woman at the well. Retreat to be held at Hope Episcopal Church, Houston.
- The announcement flyer was posted on the ECW website and ECW Facebook page.
- Distributed retreat brochures, calendars and Spiritual Growth flyers at St. Dunstan's iServe Sunday, requested that the flyer be emailed to all members of their DOK.
- September 2015
- Mailed Annual Retreat Brochures to each church in the convocations, including a copy of the flyer for the Spiritual Growth Retreat flyers and a note of invitation.
- Requested 50% Annual Retreat Registration Scholarships for an attendee from women's ministry of Lord of the Streets, Houston and one from St. Vincent's House, Galveston from St. Dunstan's ECW.

October 2015

- October 3rd, hosted Spiritual Growth Retreat at Hope Episcopal Church in Houston.
- Distributed Annual Retreat Brochures at Hope Church

Respectfully Submitted

Jennifer Chachere

Convocational Coordinator

Northeast, Susan Brown, (2016)

January 2015 – Attended first board meeting as the Northeast convocation coordinator at Camp Allen.

February 2015 – Mailed out ECW calendars for 2015 to the 19 Churches in the Northeast convocation.

March 2015 – Prepared for the Spring Spiritual Gathering.

April 2015 – Had our Spiritual Gathering, "Walking by Faith" at Trinity Episcopal Church, Longview, Tx. Our gathering was wonderful and enjoyed by all.

May 2015 – Mailed out 4 certificates for the Vera Gang Scott award recipients. Presented 2 awesome young ladies their certificates at Christ Church, Tyler. Gave all 4 recipients graduation cards and a bookmark.

August 2015 – Attended ECW board meeting. Received retreat fliers and mailed them to the churches in the northeast convocation. Planned for events at the ECW retreat scheduled for November.

Outreach/Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Chair ECW/EDOT, Debbie Johnson (2015)

Below is the list of Outreach/Vera Gang Scott activities for the 2015:

1. Attended January Meeting for the ECW Board at Camp Allen, January 2015.
2. Sent letters to Youth Ministers at all churches in the Diocese of Texas regarding the Vera Gang Scott Scholarships. The letter included the criteria for the scholarships as well as the time line.
3. Prepared a presentation for the Outreach Committee for the January Board meeting regarding two options for a Diocesan-wide Women's Outreach Ministry (homeless women's needs, and/or needs of women exiting prison).
4. Attended a meeting at All Saints, Austin, regarding their new Women's Prison Ministry for women leaving the prison system.
5. Sent three grant applications to the Outreach Committee for their review and to be voted on by the board.
6. Met with Myra Mitchell at Lord of the Streets and Rev. Frieda Brown at St. Vincent's House about women's shelter needs and have prepared a list.
7. Spoke to representative of Harris County Jail regarding volunteer opportunities for helping women exiting the prison system.
8. Compiled list of shelters, homeless resource centers, and area jails for the Convocation Chairs to disseminate to churches choosing to participate in a Diocesan wide women's ministry.
9. Sent zip drives to Canon Kai Ryan and others who wanted a copy of the Outreach presentation from the November meeting.
10. Had meeting with a former inmate about the special problems for women as they are released from prison. She would be willing to share her story as would the former inmate currently being mentored by the women of All Saints Austin at the ECW Annual Conference if the board is interested.
11. Compiled lists of applicants for the Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Fund, forwarded information to all Outreach Committee members to reach consensus as to who should receive a scholarship, then sent the information to the full board for a vote. Fourteen outstanding women were awarded a scholarship.
12. Contacted all VGS Scholarship recipients regarding their scholarship awards. Sent congratulatory letters to all receiving a scholarships and requested all information needed to fund their scholarships.
13. Received checks and sent thank you notes to those churches who contributed to the VGS fund.
14. Received grant applications for 2015. All information for grant requests was sent to the Outreach Committee, then sent to full Board for vote. Three grant applications have been funded for 2015. They are: Kids Hope USA for St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Bay City, "Woman to Woman", All Saints Episcopal Church, Austin, TX, and "The Plant a Seed Feed the Need Donation Garden," St. Christopher Episcopal Church. Check were presented by members of the Board.
15. Have been in contact with Jill Walker (All Saints Austin – Women to Women Prison Ministry) and Jane Todd at St. John's in Center regarding the starting of a women's prison ministry such as in Austin. This new ministry is in the planning stages.

16. Attended the Lord of the Streets Fundraiser Banquet and wrote the poem that was used in the program.
17. Attended church at All Saints Austin to visit with the ladies of the Women to Women Ministry and to touch base with Brenda, the former inmate who will share a workshop with me at the ECW Conference.
18. Prepared a PowerPoint for the ECW Conference. Have asked Fr. Rob Price to speak in the video to be used.
19. Visited Community First! Community in Austin and met with Donna Emery (Mobile Loaves and Fishes and Community First!) regarding homelessness and the upcoming ECW Conference.
20. Attend ECW Meeting in August to attend to Board Business.
21. Presented St. Christopher's with their grant money check for the "Plant a Seed Feed the Need Donation Garden."
22. Spoke at ECW Meeting at St. Christopher's Episcopal at Ellen Cook's request regarding the Lakota Ministry and the Homeless Ministry.
23. Wrote Outreach/Vera Gang Scott job description.
24. Worked with Brenda Whittington on our presentation for the ECW Annual Conference. Presented workshop at Annual Conference.
25. Prepared booklet for Leiselle Sadler as she takes my place as the new Outreach/Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Chair!

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Johnson

United Thank Offering/Bishop Kinsolving Memorial/ECW Endowment Fund, Nancy Dalton (2017)

Below is a list of my activities since the last ECW Annual Retreat in October of 2014.
October 2014 – I attended my first ever Annual ECW Retreat for Women Retreat, ***Let Your Light Shine***, at Camp Allen.

November 2014 – January 2015: Activities during this period included conferences with Trish Johnston and Ellen Cook, outgoing chairs for Bishop Kinsolving Memorial, ECW Endowment Fund/Honored Women and UTO Funds of the Diocese of Texas. From them I received books, records and materials pertaining to each of these funds. I quickly began receiving donations to the Bishop Kinsolving Fund, which were acknowledged by letter, and when requested, acknowledgments were also sent to family members of the person being honored by the donation. I also received and acknowledged United Thank Offering donations and deposited these in the UTO bank account; I sent check to national church on December 29, 2014. Donations related to fall in-gathering continued to arrive all the way up through April; I acknowledged and deposited these checks.

January 2015 – August 2015: In January I attended my first board meeting as a member of the board. At that meeting I participated in the evaluation of applications for Outreach Grants. Following the meeting I continued to receive contributions to the United Thank Offering and Bishop Kinsolving Memorial Fund and to acknowledge them. I fielded phone

and email inquiries and questions related to these funds. Ordered UTO boxes for distribution at Diocesan Council in February. I attended the Diocesan Council one day to assist with manning the ECW both in the exhibit hall. As Lisa Martin, Diocesan ECW President had convinced the diocesan archivist that the Bishop Kinsolving Books of Remembrance needed to be replaced as they are falling apart, I gave the books to Lisa at the January board meeting and began researching replacement books for the books. That research is ongoing. In April I participated in a review of the Vera Gang Scott Scholarships distributions. At the January meeting, the board to close the UTO checking account at Hometown Bank; I did this and forwarded the funds to the treasurer in May. It was during this period that accepted Patricia Swaby's request to be a workshop presenter at the 114th ECW Annual Retreat at Camp Allen in November 2015.

As the UTO Coordinator, I attended the ECW Triennial held in conjunction with the General Convention of the Episcopal Church USA in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 24–July 4. There I attended the general sessions of the ECW, six workshops (3 related to UTO practices and ideas), daily Eucharist, and numerous events allowing me to meet people from across all 111 dioceses. Since returning from the Triennial, I attended the August board meeting at Camp Allen and have prepared a letter regarding the Honored Women program. That letter, along with a nomination form was mailed to all 152 churches in the diocese. I am currently working on a communication to be shared with all churches via email or letter regarding the United Thank Offering. I am also preparing for my workshop presentation at the 2015 ECW Annual Retreat.

Communications, Ann Seyler (2017)

This was my first year as Communications chair. I have concentrated on learning as much as I can about how to maintain communications with the Diocese through the website www.epicenter.org/ecw and all the women in ECW.

Attended all Board meetings at Camp Allen

Renamed the Facebook page to Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas to provide easy access for everyone. We now have over 420 members viewing this site.

Updated Episcopal Diocese Web page with current information regarding ECW

Created a “Outreach ideas” page on the Episcopal Diocese web page

Edited and monitored Google groups that manage our Board communication.

Made flyers for the Convocation Coordinators regarding their Spiritual Workshops. I posted them on Facebook, Diocese calendar and :”What ya been up to site.”

Developed a new ECW Calendar that will be smaller and more user friendly . These will be available at our annual retreat in November.

Developed certificates for all the Convocation Coordinators to hand out to our Vera Gang Scott Recipients. I have posted names and photographs of all the women that received the scholarships on the Diocese web page.

Created press releases introducing our New ECW president Lisa Martin, Vera Gang Scholarship recipients , Annual Retreat and Distinguished Woman Recipient, Rev. Ann Normand for Dialog.

Attended the General Convention /Triennial in Salt Lake City. I was part of the Communication Task Force with daily updates and photos on Facebook and for the Diocese.

Developed a slide show of General Convention/Triennial to share at our Board meeting. I have a slide show available of "The Year in Review ECW 2015."

Worked with our Board with Constant Contact/Event planner for the best way to register, communicate and advertise our Annual Women's Retreat in November.

I am looking forward to the next year as your Communication Chair .

Respectively Submitted
Ann Seyler

President, Daughters of the King, Renate Walker,

April, 2015: Attended DOK Province VII Board Meeting and Assembly, Albuquerque, NM

May, 2015: Attended DOK Diocese of Texas Quiet Day, hosted by the All Saints and Calvary Chapters of Daughters of the King in Richmond, TX.

Met with DOK Fall Assembly chair, Sharon Lynch, to develop timeline(s),

Workshops and theme for September 11-12, 2015 Assembly at Camp Allen, Navasota TX

June, 2015: Attended the National DOK Triennial in Salt Lake City, Utah where I served as Delegate

July, 2015: Signed up Keynote speaker (Fleetwood Range) and other workshop speakers for DOK Fall Assembly, theme "Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me" - September 11-12,2015 Camp Allen, Navasota TX

August, 2015: Attended my first ECW Board meeting at Camp Allen, Navasota TX

Altar Guild Director, Ellen Cook

During the past year I have been graciously coached by my predecessor, Joan Konecny, in assuming the duties of Diocesan Altar Guild Director. I have attended and assisted with altar duties at Diocesan Council and Spring Altar Guild Retreat. In July I joined several other ladies from the Diocese of Texas at Altar Guild Triennial in Salt Lake City. I also attended Trinity Galveston's spring luncheon and joined Joan at a training session with the Altar Guild of St. Francis Houston. The Rev. Lacy Largent has agreed to remain as our Diocesan Altar Guild Chaplain. I have corresponded with several guilds about pins, workshops, alterations and dues. I am now beginning to plan for our spring Altar Guild Retreat, tentatively scheduled for March 3-5.

Respectfully,
Ellen G. Cook,
Diocese of Texas Altar Guild Director

Thank you to Bishop Jeff Fisher

The Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Texas, would like to thank our Suffragan Bishop, Jeff Fisher, for being our ECW Representative.

Thank you for 2015 Fair Shares Paid

The ECW of the Diocese of Texas gratefully acknowledges those parishes and missions which support the work of the women of this Diocese.

ALL SAINTS', AUSTIN
ALL SAINTS', CROCKETT
ALL SAINTS', HITCHCOCK
CALVARY CHURCH, RICHMOND
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, HOUSTON
CHRIST CHURCH, JEFFERSON
CHRIST CHURCH, MATAGORDA
CHRIST CHURCH, MEXIA
CONTACT CHURCH, SAN ANGELO

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, TYLER
ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, HOUSTON
ST. JOHN'S, CENTER
ST. JOHN'S, COLUMBUS ST. JOHN'S, LA PORTE
ST. JOHN'S, MARLIN
ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST, HOUSTON
ST. LUKE'S ON THE LAKE, AUSTIN
ST. LUKE'S, BELTON / ST. JOSEPH'S - SALEDON
ST. MARTIN'S, LUBBOCK

The ECW Board gives heartfelt THANKS to the host committee of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Austin, for its work on this meeting and their generous gift of time to further the work of the Episcopal Church Women in the Diocese of Texas.

Special thanks go to the following committee chairs:

Pat Bullock – Retreat Chair

Laura Merritt and Bradley Johnson - Cookie Co-chairs

Tina Stonebarger - Registration

Dee Ann Thomasson-Decorations

Lisa Martin and Rev. Elizabeth Turner-Worship

Judy Elkins– Hospitality