

Proclaim!



Matthew 10:27

*What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light;
and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the rooftops.*

Episcopal Church Women of Delaware August, 2020 Newsletter

Proclaim! Is the occasional newsletter of the ECW - Delaware. Send any news, suggestions, projects, etc. to gr8art@outlook.com, for publication in a future edition. Names may be added to the mailing list in the same way. Please share the newsletter in your parish and beyond

God grant me the serenity to stop beating myself
for not doing things perfectly, the courage to
forgive myself because I'm working on doing better,
and wisdom to know that you already love me just
the way I am.

Walking With God

ECW 2020 Annual Business Meeting and Worship

The ECW of Delaware will hold its 2020 Annual Business Meeting and Worship by Zoom this year because of the Pandemic. It will be held on Saturday, October 10th, from 10 AM to Noon. The theme for this year's meeting is Walking With God. The worship service will be led by Rev. Maryann Younger. The business meeting will include the election of the President and Vice-President. We will hear from a representative of The Way Home, our outreach target for this year. We hope that Rev. Dr. Marta Illueca will speak to us about her UTO grant.

It would be lovely to gather at Frazier's Restaurant in Dover, as we have for the last 2 years. That is not a safe or prudent option this year. A Zoom meeting is an exciting way for us to gather, and it means that our meeting incurs no costs for you or for the Board. Instructions for attending will be sent closer to the day of the meeting. The agenda and reports will be sent by email prior to the meeting.

The Way Home – outreach target for 2020

As you probably know, this organization assists people who have been incarcerated in their transition back into society. In the past, the case workers would meet with the inmates while they were still in prison, to establish a working relationship and begin the process of transition. With the COVID Pandemic, the case workers are no longer permitted to enter the prison to work with the inmates. Counseling in the prison is very limited. The Way Home staff is frustrated and stressed by the current situation. We can help!

1. The case workers have told us that they need gift cards to pass to the clients. The cards are used to purchase food and other necessities. Send a check to **ECW-Delaware, at 3719 Philadelphia Pike, Claymont, DE 19703**, and we will purchase the gift cards and send them as a group.
2. Another item that the facility could use is tote bags. The clients often have no way to carry their clothes and toiletries, and many must carry their things in garbage bags. Any sturdy tote bag with handles will work. We often get these bags at conventions or as an advertisement. Even reusable grocery tote bags will work. If you or your parish collect these bags, please contact The Way Home to arrange to deliver them.
3. The Ascension Guild will be sending 120 hand-made, washable cloth face masks for use by the clients. [This group of seamstresses has been making masks since March, and has given away over 630 masks. There is no charge for the masks. They have been given to members of the Brandywine Collaborative Ministries (BCM) and have been distributed to various shelters, pre-schools and food closets.]

November 2, 2019 Annual Meeting Postscripts

Speakers at the Annual Meeting were Beth McGinn, Treasurer for Home of the Brave – Women (HOB-II) and Cannon Judith Gregory, who spoke about the Episcopal Women’s History Project. Rev. Ann Ritonia, Chaplain of Province III ECW conducted a modified Eucharist with a Homily.

Home of the Brave - Women

We learned from Beth McGinn, that the Home of the Brave – Women (HOB -II) is seriously underfunded when compared to HOB-I, the facility for male veterans. (Home of the Brave -I) is fully funded even if all of the 16 beds are not occupied. Home of the Brave -II, the women’s facility is funded only if the beds are occupied. So if there are 4 residents at HOB-II, funds are provided for only those 4 rooms. That means that the management of the facility is left scrambling for funding to maintain the house. In response to that information, this Resolution was written by Beth FitzPatrick, on behalf of the ECW of Delaware Board. The 235th convention passed the resolution.

Resolution 235.01 – Equal Funding for All Veterans

Resolved that the 235th convention of the Episcopal Church in Delaware encourage all its members to communicate with Delaware's congressional delegation to promote equal funding of all veterans' benefits, facilities, and programs, regardless of gender; and be it further RESOLVED that the Episcopal Church in Delaware contact the Episcopal Office of Public Affairs to communicate our concerns to the appropriate governmental agencies.

In a discussion between Canon Gregory and Ms. McGinn, it was also discovered that the HOB-II was in need of furniture, especially beds for its residents and their children. Canon Gregory encouraged the HOB-II to apply for a St. Barnabas Grant. The HOB-II now has new beds!

Peace

Peace, God's peace, is not the reducing of pain, but the reminder that God's might is stronger than the world's pain.

Peace is not the defeat of hostility but the declaration that

God's concern is more lasting than the world's hatred.

Peace is not the absence of problems, but the presence of God in the midst of problems.

Peace is not tranquility, but stability.

Peace is not serenity within us but divinity about us.

Triennial Meeting and General Convention

At the Summer Board Meeting of the ECW-Delaware board of directors, Mary Parsons was nominated the Distinguished Woman for Delaware in this Triennium. Delegates to the Triennial Meeting are Beth FitzPatrick, President, Rev. Deacon Bruce Finbarr-Richards, Chrissie Lockwood, Financial Officer and Sr. Cassandra Norsworthy, Chaplain. Rev. Deacon Dottie Vuono will be the alternate.

At this time, it is uncertain if the General Convention and Triennial Meeting will be held in the summer of 2021, as scheduled. It is possible that the two meetings may be postponed until summer 2022.

How have you been spending the pandemic?

Has your parish or your ECW group been working on special projects? Has your ministry been challenged to meet its goals? Have you as an individual been finding new and challenging ways to serve during this time?

Please send me a note describing projects or programs that you have been involved with so that I can share the information with everyone else in a future edition of *Proclaim!*. gr8art@outlook.com.

Support for UTO, CPC & ECW-Delaware Board

Donations have taken a hit in this year of crisis. There have been ingatherings from only two parishes for the United Thank Offering. Church Periodical Club received donations from two parishes, and annual support to the ECW-Delaware Board has been received from 4 parishes. We hope that your parish, guild or you as an individual will find a way to help with these programs.

If you pay your local parish pledge through one of the many on-line servers, you can add an amount and designate it to be sent to our financial officer. Be sure that you designate which fund should be the recipient, whether you do this through your parish financial officer or by personal check.

Here is a list of some activities funded by each of the three programs:

UTO – all money is used to fund grants. Delaware received the largest grant in our history this year. Rev. Dr. Marta Illeuca (BCM Priest) was granted over \$47,000 for a study linking prayer and pain management.

CPC – as soon as the local funds reach \$500, local Sunday Schools, pre-schools and parishes will be able to apply for mini-grants to purchase learning materials. The CPC fund is about half way to its goal.

ECW-Delaware support to the Board. - this money helps with the payment of our dues to National ECW and Province III. We also support Aid to Triennial – (a special charity project for Triennial), the Seamen's Center of Wilmington, Episcopal Relief and Development, The Way Home, Home of the Brave-Women, and Baylor Correctional Chaplaincy. (Our Triennial Delegates expenses are paid by Diocesan Council)

All donations must be sent to our financial officer. The Mission Office (Bishop's Office) does not handle our donations. Be sure to note on the memo line whether your check is for UTO, CPC or the ECW Board. Thank you! The ECW Financial Officer:

Chrissie Lockwood
3719 Philadelphia Pike
Claymont, DE 19703

Province III Annual Meeting

The Province III Annual Meeting was scheduled for the week after Easter, in April. Then it was rescheduled to July. It will now be by Zoom on August 22. All ECW members are invited to participate. If you would like to be part of this meeting, send me your email information and I will forward the details as they become available.

UTO Supplies

If you need Blue Boxes or UTO envelopes for your Ingathering, contact Bruce Richards by email: baysnail@comcast.net or phone 302-388-7219. Supplies can be mailed to you, just let Bruce know what you will need. If you prefer, boxes and envelopes may be ordered directly from the UTO partner - Shima of Navajoland – the only charge is for shipping. Shima of Navajoland ships orders Wednesday afternoons. Website: shimaofnavajoland.com.

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced

 Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors

 Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home

 Remember those who must choose between
 preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children

when their schools close

 Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips

Remember those who have no safe place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult
of the economic market

Remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms
around each other,
Let us find ways to be the loving embrace of
God to our neighbors.

Amen.