

Diocesan Episcopal Church Women 2008

The Diocesan ECW had a great 2008! Not only have we continued our mission of supporting the public schools in our diocese, we have also continued in our efforts to promote awareness of the ECW and its many projects. A huge thank you to all of the wonderful women who have been so supportive this year – you made my job so enjoyable!

2008 Programs and Projects:

- The ECW Winter Meeting in January began with a tour of Shady Grove Elementary School, Holy Communion's adopted school. After our tour, we met at Holy Communion for a delightful luncheon and meeting.
- In May, the ECW held a Mother-Daughter Tea at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church. We had a tour of this beautiful church with its stunning stained glass windows, then enjoyed a delicious tea.
- The ECW Fall Meeting was held in September at Emmanuel Episcopal Church. We had an informative talk about Youth Ministry with the Rev. Bill Murray of St. Elisabeth's. We then toured the church and watched a fantastic film about the history of this vibrant congregation. This was followed by a wonderful luncheon and meeting.
- Spring Ingatherings in churches throughout the Diocese collected \$1,816.32 for the United Thank Offering. Most churches also held Fall Ingatherings.
- Two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to Episcopal high school seniors for their outstanding work in their church, school and community.
- Churches throughout the area raised over \$12,000 to be given to area teachers in the form of Teacher Resource Grants. Fifty teachers received funds for supplies and special projects.
- Ten St. Clare Retreats were held throughout the year.
- Episcopal women from across the Diocese donated gently used linens for 25 Linen Starter Kits. These kits were given to families who were leaving homeless shelters for more permanent housing with the assistance of the Calvary Street Ministry.
- We continued our work on the West Tennessee ECW history project.
- We are planning the Tri-Diocesan ECW Spring Conference, which we will host at St. Columba May1-2, 2009.

We have had a busy year - full of fun and fellowship. I look forward to another great year in 2009!