



ECW NEWS

Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of New Jersey

February 2024

President's Message

Happy 2024! May the angels bring you the blessings of peace and harmony in 2024!

Dear Lord, it's 2024. Thank You, for You have given me the gift of life, my health, shelter and food.

With a full and thankful heart, I offer thanks for all those special people You've placed in my life.

May You bless us today and throughout the New Year with brighter days, You're healing and love.

This I pray, In Jesus name. Amen

We are In February, which is Black History Month, find ways to encourage and inspire like the following persons below:

**Dream like Martin
Lead like Harriet
Fight like Federick
Think like Garvey
Reclaim like Maxine
Educate like W.E.B.
Challenge like Rosa
Inspire like Obama**

You have a big heart and you just simply love people. You love the saved and the unsaved like a church with or without a steeple. You love the have and the have nots, the with or without. You believe in loving your neighbor as yourself while you are out and about. You know, life is an adventure, a journey certainly not a destination. You want to always live in peace and of course truly believe in restoration. As ECW, doing good for others is not a duty, it's a Joy, for it increases our own health and happiness. **That's Who We Are**

Peace and Abundant Blessing,
Pamela Johnson James
ECW Diocesan President

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, May 20, 2024 – ECW Diocesan Board Meeting – 7pm
Via Zoom

Financial Responsibilities of Individual Churches & District ECW's/Ways to Financially Support our ECW

Individual Church Chapters

Many Church ECW Chapters are unaware of how they need to help support the Diocesan ECW. Each Church ECW should help in the following ways: Fair Share, Mission Outreach, Student Service Award, United Thank Offering, and the Church Periodical Club. The amount is at the discretion of each group if not specifically requested, but without support of these items, we also won't benefit from them.

Fair Share

Fair share monies go into the budget for the many things that are supported by the Diocesan ECW. The amount is at the discretion of the chapter but the wish is that money raised would be working towards tithing. This is money not raised for a specific charity, which would be a pass-through exchange of the funds.

General Operating Expenses - Newsletter, Yearbook, Travel reimbursements to Board Meetings, Telephone, Office supplies, & Postage, Informational Flyers and Bookmarks, etc.

Annual Meeting – Honorarium, Music, Flowers, Printing, & Postage.

Retreats – Honorarium for Leader, Deposit for Center.

Honorariums – Diocesan Convention Breakfast, Guest Speakers (e.g. Honored Women's Luncheon).

Donations –

Aid to Delegates for Triennial to the National ECW Board to help to defray the cost and enable delegates to attend the Triennial Meeting especially from Province IX,

Unified Gift and Community Connection Gift awarded by the National ECW Board to a ministry located within the general area where the Triennial meeting is being held.

Province II Mission Outreach when there is a project, etc.

Delegates Fund – To help send Delegates to Province II meetings, to Triennial Meeting, and other meetings as assigned.

Mission Outreach – A request of \$50.00 from each church to be used for Mission Outreach projects usually in the following proportions: 50% within the Diocese, 25% used nationally, 25% used internationally. Specific recipients are determined by the Diocesan Board each year.

Student Service Award - is used to build an award fund that is divided among applicants each year for college expenses. It is shared among all approved applicants. Applicants must be serving and attending their church, with the understanding that while attending College this may be more difficult but that the applicant look for ways to serve their college community or help when home on breaks.

The United Thank Offering - money is sent to the National United Thank Offering Committee to be awarded as grants each year. The parish offerings are presented at our Annual Meeting each year.

One of our sister churches in Camden did receive a grant a couple of years ago. It can be a local need, a national or international need.

The Church Periodical Club - money sent to the National Church Periodical Club to be used for **National Book Fund** grants and **Miles of Pennies** grants restricted for materials for children

locally for persons attending seminary or the Diocesan Decanoate program who need help with books for their studies.

From Districts

Province II Dues – A contribution of \$35. to help defray the cost of the Province II ECW dues.

Triennial Fund – A contribution of \$25 that is sent to the National ECW Board to help finance the National Triennial Meeting.

Information for Treasurers

The financial year runs from January to December. Books are closed on December 15. Checks received after that date will be credited to the following year.

ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE NAME OF THE GROUP, PARISH AND TOWN FROM WHERE THEY ARE SENT. This is important as we have many Churches in the Diocese with the same name. To ensure proper credit, please note what the check is designated for in the memo space.

Parish and District Treasurers should not keep money at home, but maintain a special bank account for ECW funds or follow local parish practice. It is well for groups to keep in mind that the essence of stewardship lies in not amassing a large balance, but in putting money to work in a useful fashion.

All Parishes and Districts may contribute to the following suggested schedule. Checks should be made payable to: **ECW Diocese of New Jersey**

January – Fair Share

March – Mission Outreach

April – Student Service Award

May- October – Church Periodical Club

Any time during the year – Provincial Dues and Triennial Fund

Annual Meeting – United Thank Offering (Check payable to UTO – ECW)

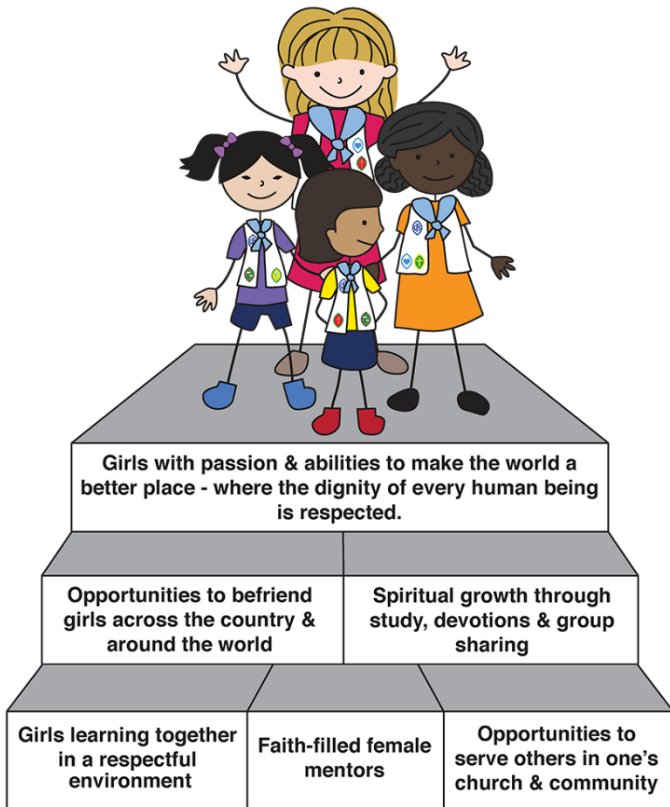
Gretchen Poliero

President, Grace Church In Haddonfield

President, Camden District

With information from the 2015-2016 Yearbook

Girls Friendly Society



On January 1, 1875, the Girls' Friendly Society was founded. The first girl's or women's organization in the Church of England, its purpose was to provide girls with friendship and recreation, bound in a fellowship of Christian love and service.

Girls Friendly Society began in the USA in 1877. GFS provides a safe and caring environment where girls can discover fun, friendship and the power of working together. GFS mentors help girls identify their character strengths, build self-esteem, and develop leadership skills. Service projects challenge girls to make a difference in the lives of others within their church and community.

This is what you can expect when you join a GFS branch:

An Organization for Girls – This means the needs of girls will be thoroughly considered when activities are planned. Members will be involved in planning so that their interests will be included.

Dedicated Leaders – GFS leaders are passionate about sharing their gifts of time and talent with their members. Every leader brings her unique abilities, joy and faith when sharing God's love through fellowship and activities.

Fellowship – Outings and activities will be planned which allow girls to have fun with each other and will allow them to feel safe and open with one another. Respect for confidentiality will be taught.

Service Opportunities – Helping others allows girls to learn new skills and to feel important and significant. Opportunities to serve others will be provided on a regular basis.

Faith and Worship – GFS is a faith based organization and girls will be allowed to worship and pray on a regular basis.

Study – Activities will be provided so girls can learn about the church, the Bible and the world around them.

Inclusiveness – Every girl, age 5 and up, is welcome.

Connections to other communities, locally and globally – Activities with GFS branches in other localities, states and countries allows girls to meet like-minded girls from varying socioeconomic, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds.

For more information about GFS In the Diocese contact Lydia Kugler at lydialkugler@gmail.com

Gretchen Poliero
Beth Deitelbaum
Margaret Lynch
Camden District

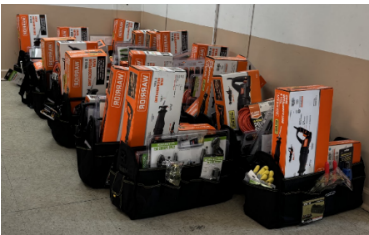
Camden District

Basic Skills Project on Plumbing and HVAC

The goal of the Basic Skills Project on Plumbing and HVAC program was to enroll 30 participants for a three month period, three nights a week.

This program was for low income families to help improve their quality of life over a longer term. We recruited participants who live in the church community, Camden City and Camden County. Those participants completing the training we were issued a certificate of attendance and basic tools.

20 students completed the Plumbing and Heating 3 months training and on December 27, 2023 and received a tool box and a certificate. About 10 are working on the field.



ECW Camden district members,
December meeting at the training site in St CT Andrews,
Camden



Rosa Pena
St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Camde

St. Andrews 5th Annual Gala

Save One Family and Save The World was the theme of the St, Andrews 5th Annual Gala held on December 16, 2023 at the Mansion in Voorhees.

Proceeds of the Gala will help immigrant and the most needed families in our community.



We appreciate that Bishop Sally French and her husband attended

Rosa Pena
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Camden

Camden District ECW Report – January 2024

Holy Family:

1st Friday lunches after 1:30 service

December, 2 Disc. Show & streaming
Sweet sales, mini baked auction, photo booth

St. Andrews:

December 16 – Gala at Mansion in Voorhees. The theme of the Gala was "save one family and save the world." Proceed will help immigrant families that are coming to our community.

December 27 - HVAC & Plumbing program certificate presentation to 20 participants

Good Shepherd, Berlin:

October 29th basket auction 1-5

December Christmas Shop Raffle \$5 tickets
1st prize \$1,000 2nd \$500 3rd \$250

Grace Merchantville:

December 3 bake sale

December 12 angel and mitten tree items collected and distributed

January 7 start collecting change for vet dogs

February 11 soup sale 7:30-12

February 12 Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner 6pm

February 19 hosting District meeting 6pm

March 9 cupcake decorating class

March 23 breakfast with the bunny 10am

March 30 egg hunt

April 13 game day noon-4

May 11 Tea 1-3pm

June 9 BBQ

June 29 paint and wine

October 28th Fall Fair 10-3

Continue saving pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

St. John's Chews Landing:

Our ECW 2023 year was busy and fun at St. John the Evangelist Church in Chews Landing NJ.

Our annual gift basket auction returned in April for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. There was an amazing array of items and offers including: training sessions at a local gym, Coach pocketbooks, Gourmet foods and wines, teapot sets, tools, baby items, and vouchers for local florists, nail salons, restaurants, movie theaters and ever so much more.

In May we enjoyed the return of our annual picnic at Red Bank Battlefield Park.

In June we joined The Rev. Anne Wrede at the Philadelphia Museum of Art for a second tour of the classical works of art dedicated to our Blessed Mother Mary and a luncheon in the newly renovated cafeteria.

During the year we collected needed items for the Seaman's Church Institute, Unforgotten Haven in Blackwood, the Camden County Senior Citizens United Community Services, St. Paul's in Camden and other charities. Our Soup and Bake Sales were a big hit. We assisted with the annual Spaghetti Supper and Pancake supper.

Our Parish wide Hoagie Luncheon last Autumn, featured turkey and Italian hoagies from the winner of the previous year's Hoagie Tasting fundraiser.

Grace Haddonfield (including some shared efforts):

December – toy collection for Kids Alley

January 14 – Family bowling at Pinsetters at noon

February 10 – Valentine's Day Dance

February 11 – PJ's and books for Kids Alley

March 15 – St. Patrick's Day Fish & Chips

March 20 – Easter Baskets for Kids Alley

April – IHOC shoe box of toiletries

Once a month either lunches for Kids Alley or PB&J sandwiches for St. Paul's

February 19, 2024 NEXT DISTRICT MEETING – Grace Church in Merchantville at 6 pm.

Michelle Baker
Camden District

Mission Outreach

The Bromley Neighborhood Civic Center Recipient of the ECW Mission Outreach

This year we are pleased continue to support The Bromley Neighborhood Civic Center located in Hamilton Township. The Bromley Center serves over 250 needy and low in-come families. The programs offered include not only a food pantry but opportunities which benefit the youth of these families.

Throughout the year, young people between the ages of 9 and 17 can “hang out” in the evenings, participate in games, pool, fuse ball, video and board games while also learning socialization and life skills so important for the future of these young people. All this in a safe, supervised environment.

The Summer Food Service Program offers free lunches for children ages 5 to 14. The Bromley Center also runs a Summer Camp for children ages 5 to 9. This summer camp runs for 8 weeks and is available during the hours of 8 am to 5 pm. A blessing for those working parents needing child care during the summer school break.

The Center additionally operates free computer usage and printing for youth and families each day.

While the Center focuses on the needs of the families it services, it also seeks to give back to the area neighborhoods by organizing neighborhood cleanup days, working in the surrounding areas and parks to beautify areas that are often overlooked.

It came to our attention that while the food pantry receives grants and donations for non-

perishable food items, they are in great need of hygiene products for the whole family. This will be our focus this year to collect these much-needed products especially for the young women in our community.

We are thrilled to partner with this worthy organization and applaud their efforts to serve those in need in our community.

ECW NEWSLETTER, Carolyn Belvin, editor, Christ Church Toms River
--

