



**132nd Annual Gathering
Episcopal Church Women
Diocese of Louisiana**

**Friday and Saturday
May 17-18, 2019**

**Host Church:
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
243 Barrow Street
Houma, Louisiana 70361**

Matthew 28:19 - "Therefore go and make disciples
of all nations...."

Greetings from the Planning Team for the 132nd ECW Annual Gathering!

The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Louisiana are pleased to invite you to this year's Annual Gathering. Our theme this year comes from the 2018 Triennial Meeting: "Go! ECW – Share the Word." Come celebrate our ministry together as Episcopal Church Women and stir up your spirit!

We have a wonderful program lined up for this year's Annual Gathering. On Friday, the Very Reverend Craig Dalferes of St. Matthew's, will officiate at our service of Evening Prayer, and we will enjoy a Welcome Reception in St. Matthew's Parish Hall sponsored by the ECW of St. Matthew's and the churches of the Southwest Deanery.

On Saturday, our keynote speaker will be the Reverend Kellie Wilson of Christ Church, Greenville, South Carolina. Her address will take place during the Annual Gathering's morning plenary. We are blessed also to have Bishop Morris Thompson who will bring us news about our diocese and join with us to celebrate the Festival Eucharist complete with parish banners. The Honored Woman Program and small group workshops will round out Saturday's program.

Overnight guests may take advantage of special event rates at the Courtyard by Marriott. The hotel is located at 142 Library Drive, Houma, LA (985-223-8996). Please review the information enclosed with this letter for details on booking at The Courtyard by Marriott and other important information about the May 17-18 events.

The Annual Gathering offers you a time of fellowship, learning and sharing among your sisters in Christ – good food, worship, fun, and friendship. *Join us for a wonderful two days!*

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Reba Mackey, Interim Vice President, ECW Diocese of Louisiana, at (504)394-0038 Cell: 504-421-1465; or mackeyrw@bellsouth.net

IMPORTANT DETAILS 2019

DELEGATES The ECW By-laws allow for "four voting delegates from each branch which gives active financial support to the ECW diocesan budget." Visitors are welcome too.

REGISTRATION A separate registration sheet for each person is necessary. Please make as many copies as you need. Early registration is helpful and facilitates the registration process.

EXHIBITS See the Registration form in this mailing to reserve a space for an exhibit. ECW groups, church groups, church bookstores and other outside vendors are encouraged to bring their goods for sale on Friday and Saturday. Register early for a space.

LOCATION: The ECW 132nd Annual Gathering will be held at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 243 Barrow St., in downtown Houma, LA. There is ample parking available in the church lot or on the street.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: The Episcopal Church Women of Louisiana have a block of rooms reserved for the night of Friday, May 17th at the Courtyard by Marriott for the rate of \$99.00.

Make your reservations early. Only a limited number of rooms have been reserved for this price, and the hotel will only hold the rooms for us until **May 3, 2019**. To book a room, call 1-985-223-8996 or 1-800-Marriott and mention the ECW Annual Gathering. See information sheet included in this mailing.

OTHER ITEMS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL GATHERING

HONORED WOMEN: The nomination form is in the back of the ECW Handbook. Please send to Judy Knecht, 36365 Page Drive, Denham Spring, LA 70726 or knecht@cox.net before **March 31, 2019**.

MEMORIAL LIST The Memorials form is in the back of the ECW Handbook. Use the form to provide the names of women in your congregation who have died during 2018. The names are remembered in the Prayers of the People at the Annual Gathering. Send the form to Virginia Blanke Briant, 74537 Zeta Ave., Covington, LA 70435 or vpblanke@bellsouth.net by **March 31, 2019** so your church women will be remembered.

BANNERS Banners add a festive air to the Annual Gathering Eucharist and we encourage you all to bring your banner for the processional leading into Saturday's Celebration of the Eucharist. Please be sure to bring a stand or base on which to put your banner. Bring the banner to the church when you arrive.

WORKSHOP MATERIALS Check the workshop offerings when the final agenda comes out in April.

A SWEATER OR JACKET We never know how cool a meeting room might become and want you to be comfy. Please bring a sweater or jacket.

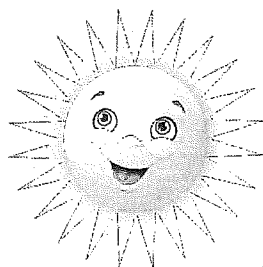
OFFERINGS & COLLECTIONS DURING ANNUAL GATHERING

UNITED THANK OFFERING Parish UTO coordinators sit together at the Saturday Eucharist in the front pews and present their parish offering to the Bishop or his designee. Bring your UTO checks to put in the "Blue Box" during the Eucharist. If you have not yet had your spring UTO ingathering, please bring a white envelope containing the date of your ingathering. Please designate a substitute person to present your UTO gift if your UTO coordinator cannot attend.

MINISTRY OFFERING An offering will be received during Evening Prayer on Friday for Beautiful Beginnings of Houma.

CORPORATE GIFT The designated corporate gift offering is received at the Saturday Eucharist. This year's offering will be used for children's programs at St. Anna's Place, a ministry of St. Anna's Episcopal Church in the Treme neighborhood of New Orleans.

JERICHO ROAD is in need of new or gently used work gloves, rakes, shovels, shears & wheelbarrows for the maintenance of the community garden and orchard. Jericho Road's programs include providing healthy and affordable food preparation, growing education and resources at their community green spaces. They also use this equipment to implement strategies on vacant lots that reduce incidents of blight. Please collect the needed items and bring them with you to the Annual Gathering.



BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS

Kathy Theriot, Chairman and Sinclair Buquet, Co-Chair

Beautiful Beginnings outreach ministry was adopted as the outreach project for St. Matthew's ECW in 2016. We provide cleaning supplies & personal care items for women that are moving from a safe house shelter into housing of their own. This year we added The Haven (shelter for abused & battered women) to our list of families to help when they are ready to move on their own. In the month of January 2019 we helped two families. Our Beautiful Beginnings ministry has been most rewarding in being able to help a fellow sister in need.

	2016	2017	2018	Totals
Families	25	17	17	59
Individuals	79	48	59	186

Needed Supplies are:

mop bucket, Mop, broom, dustpan, mopping solution
laundry detergent, bleach, fabric softener
dish washing liquid, Lysol wipes,
kitchen garbage bags,
toilet bowl cleaner, toilet brush
kitchen scissors
sponges, gloves,
dish towels, paper towels, Lysol wipes & disinfectant spray
toilet paper, bath soap, shampoo, facial tissues
pledge, window cleaner
tooth brushes, toothpaste,
We have also added diapers to the basket when the family may have an infant.

132nd Annual Gathering
 Episcopal Church Women
 Diocese of Louisiana
 May 17-18, 2019
 (Tentative Schedule of Events)

Fri. May 17		
4:00 pm	Registration/Exhibits/Light Refreshments	St. Matthew's Parish Hall
4:45 pm	Welcome from ECW Host Church President & Announcements from Diocesan ECW Vice President	
5:15 pm	Program: Presentation from guest ministry	
6:15 pm	Evening Prayer - Fr. Dalferes	
7:00 pm	Welcome Reception	St. Matthew's Parish Hall
Sat. May 18		
8:15 am	Continental Breakfast/ Registration	St. Matthew's Parish Hall
8:45 am	Welcome/Announcements/Opening Devotion	
9:00 am	Plenary Session	
9:45 am	Break	
10:00 am	Keynote Address: 'From Creation to Salvation' The Rev. Kellie Wilson, Christ Church, Greenville, SC	
10:45 am	Break	
11:00 am	Festive Eucharist with banner procession--installation of officers & UTO Ingathering	St. Matthew's Church
12:00 pm	State of the Church Address	
12:30 pm	Lunch	
1:30 pm	Honored Women Presentation/conclusion of business	St. Matthew's Parish Hall
2:00 -3:00 pm	Workshops	St. Matthew's Parish Hall
3:00 pm	Closing Prayers & Adjournment	St. Matthew's Parish Hal

REGISTRATION FORM

132nd ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN
DIOCESE OF LOUISIANA

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HOUMA, LOUISIANA
May 17-18, 2019

A separate registration form is required for each person attending so **please make and distribute copies as needed**. Each church is allowed four delegates for voting and is encouraged to invite exhibitors and additional women to attend as guests.

		Diocesan Board Member, Delegates & Guests	Spouses Meals & Refreshments
Send by April 17:	Friday Only	\$25.00	\$20.00/day
	Saturday Only	\$30.00	\$20.00/day
	Both Days	\$40.00	
After April 17:	Friday Only	\$30.00	\$20.00/day
	Saturday Only	\$35.00	\$20.00/day
	Both Days	\$50.00	

Please Print

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Church _____

Deanery _____

Please Mark the Appropriate Box(es) Below:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diocesan Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest | <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse | |

- Ministry Exhibitor
 Vendor Exhibitor*

EXHIBITORS:	No. of Tables Requested _____
Exhibit Name/Type: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00/day Include Me in Meals & Refreshments	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday
*<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 Table Fee/Vendors Only	
For information on tables & exhibit area, contact: Debby Fortier (985-851-1473) e-mail: roux1@cox.net; or Gail Duhe, 985-876-7284-e-mail: ghduhe47gmail.com	

Make Checks Payable to: "ECW Diocese of LA"
Send Registration Forms & Payments to:

Ellen King
7963 Walden Rd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

For additional information or with questions about registration, contact Reba Mackey, ECW Interim Vice President, at mackeyrw@bellsouth.net or 504-394-0038

WORKSHOPS AND SHARE-THE-WORD MINISTRY LISTINGS

Tentative Schedule: 2:00-3:00

Both workshops will be held in the Parish Hall We will assign space for vendors and Share-The-Word Ministry Exhibitors as they apply.	"Becoming a Cool Congregation-Caring for Creation and Each Other" George Bond, Diocese of LA Environmental Council
	"Sharing the Word" The Rev. Kellie Wilson

Ministry Fair: Both Days - If your Church has a program you would like to profile in a **Share-The-Word Exhibit** please let us know.

Especially:

UTO

CPC

ECW

Environmental Council

Solomon Episcopal Conference Center

Youth Ministry in the Dioceses

Jerico Roads

St. Anna's Place

St. Andrew's Summer Camp Program

Seaman's Institute

Kairos/reading program

[The Rev. Kellie Wilson](#) is the Associate Priest for Faith Development at [Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville, SC](#). She shared her life-altering experience of suffering a grave illness shortly after the birth of her son. This brought her to the point of accepting the fact that she was not going to survive. After asking the Lord to take care of her husband and child she began to recover and slowly realized she had a calling for the priesthood. Her journey created a need for deep self-reflection, which ultimately resulted in what she encourages in others: to be a reflector of Christ's love. She shared the stages from creation to salvation, and concluded with a powerful statement, "This is what happened after I died." (Note: Taken from the 2018 Triennial Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women in Austin, Texas).



GUEST SPEAKER



HOTEL INFORMATION

Courtyard Houma \$99.00 per night

• 142 Library Drive • Houma LA 70360

+1 985-223-8996

ECW Diocese of Louisiana

Book your room for ECW Diocese of Louisiana

Rate available 05/17/19 to 05/18/19

Book by 05/03/19