

The Diocese of Virginia

The Right Reverend Shannon S. Johnston

XIII Bishop of Virginia

Dear Diocesan Family,

I address this note to all in the Diocese of Virginia because the witness and ministry of the Episcopal Church Women affects us one and all.

Our ECW can boast of a long history of service in the Gospel and for the Church. That history has sustained us over the years with faithfulness and grace. But, no doubt, the ECW today is as faithful and inspirational as ever and its vision for the Church of tomorrow is a major source of our strength and vitality.

There is indeed so much to appreciate when exploring the ministries that make up even only a part of the mission of the ECW. Both close to home and literally around the world, our ECW is making a real difference in real lives: the United Thank Offering meets needs with financial grants across continents, and partnerships with the Diocese of Christ the King in South Africa and the Dominican Republic strengthen the bonds of ministry for mutual growth and learning. Moreover, a long-standing scholarship program and a relationship with the Jackson-Feild Home for Girls testify to our ECW's commitment to helping to build a bright future for today's youth.

I personally give thanks to God for the ministries of outreach, hospitality, prayer and support that you will find in the life and work of the Episcopal Church Women in the Diocese of Virginia. If you have not yet found your place in your ECW, please consider this to be my enthusiastic invitation for you to become involved in this energetic, evolving community that is dedicated to the service of Christ and to Christ's people. With blessings, I am

Faithfully yours,



The Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston
XIII Bishop of Virginia

