Tribute to Bishop David C. Jones- January 27, 2012

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Good Evening!

It is indeed an honor for me to have this opportunity to take part in the celebration of the life and ministry of Bishop David C. Jones.

My first encounter with Bishop Jones may not even be one he remembers. He was the Bishop who came to St. Philip’s in the 1990s and confirmed my now 28 year old son, Kyle. Since that time, my admiration for Bishop Jones has grown through my numerous interactions with him as a Diocesan ECW Board member and as its president.

Bishop Jones has always had an affinity and love for the ECW. I know we are his favorite group. I know this because he has done things with us that he has not done with any other group. You might ask- “What kinds of **things**?” Here’s some examples, How many of you can say that Bishop Jones has “skipped down the street with the bishop in Indianapolis, IN”? We can! How many of you can say that you have seen Bishop Jones turn all shades of red and magenta as he railed with laughter listening to a joke told by a board member during an overnight Board meeting. We Can. That joke had something to do with a bar, a drink, an offer and a reply of just 3 words. (Clean my house!) (Ask him about those three words.) How many of you can say that you saw Bishop Jones observing in awe, along with his wife, Kay as a former ECW president got a (henna) tattoo? We can! And finally, how many of you can say that Bishop Jones has named your group- THE “Fun Bunch”? **We can!** At our Annual Meeting this past October, we honored Bishop Jones and named him an honorary member of the Fun Bunch. You may ask, “What qualifies Bishop Jones as a member of the ECW’s Fun Bunch”? Well, let me tell you!

**F-FAITHFUL**-Like the ECW-He is FAITHFUL- to out God and in service to the Diocese. Like the ECW …

**U-UNWAVERING**-He is UNWAVERING in his devotion and attention to the needs of others especially the less fortunate. Like us…

**N-NURTURING**- He is NUTURING- of the young and the not so young. He is also…

**B- BALANCED**- He is balanced in that he knows how to work hard and play hard.

**U- UNDERSTANDING-** He is understanding of and accepting of various viewpoints and the voices of others. Like the ECW, he is…

**N- NATIONALLY** - and internationally recognized for his outreach and mission work.

**C- CHARITABLE**- He is charitable and loving and finally…

**H- HOSPITABLE**- The ECW is known for its hospitality- and so is he! So , to officially initiate Bishop Jones into the **Fun Bunch**, I will “Pin” him as with a fraternity or sorority pin. This will forever show his strong connection with us. I am honored to “pin” Bishop Jones and confirm his place as a member in good standing of the Episcopal Church Women’s Fun Bunch! Thank you.