

The AWE Journal

Widening the Circle for Gender Justice and Women's Empowerment

~ Advocating for Women's Rights ~ Igniting the Passion for Gender Justice

~ Building Coalition for Change in the Church ~ Connecting Women to the Global Women's Movement

Issue #3, Late Fall 2011

UNCSW 56th Session to focus on role of rural women on eradication of poverty

AWE program to connect women partners from African countries with US women - **February 24 to March 4**

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Leadership Changes at AWE & Welcome to New Board Members

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Interview of Priscilla Jeffrey, new AWE member

The story of Jeffrey's growing passion to empower women in Ghana through small loans and community development

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Abigail Disney Event sponsored by AWE sold out!

Disney shares her inspiration for the new PBS series as well as her encouragement to transform our understandings of both peace and war.

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16 Days of Activism Campaign ~ 11/25-12/10

This year's issue "From Peace at Home to Peace in the World" ties directly into Women, War & Peace focus.

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IMPORTANT - AWE MEETINGS in NYC

- November 16
- December 14
- January 18
- February 15

RSVP: awetoday@gmail.com

UNCSW 56th Session addresses rural women and their role in poverty eradication by Kim Robey

"Rural women are the backbone of the economy and society in many countries. They produce a significant amount of the food in developing countries and play an important role in environmental sustainability. Their contribution to poverty eradication and towards achieving the MDGs is significant.

But more needs to be done to harness the contribution of rural women to development. Currently there is a gender gap in agriculture, linked to women's weaker access to land rights, modern technologies



and financing. If women farmers had stronger legal rights and greater business opportunities, millions of people would be better fed.

I therefore encourage member states, the UN system and civil society to continue their efforts to improve the situation and living conditions of rural women, to enhance their quality of life and assist them in achieving the conditions necessary for sustainable development in rural areas."

Quote from the President of the General Assembly at the UN—on the occasion of International Day of Rural Women, Oct 15, 2011

The latest report from the FAO, Food and Agricultural Organization at the UN, entitled Women in Agriculture: Closing the gender gap for

development, is a foundation report for this coming UNCSW.

“This report documents the different roles played by women in rural areas of developing countries and provides solid empirical evidence on the gender gaps they face in agriculture and rural development. Compared with their male counterparts, women:

- operate smaller farms, on average only half to two-thirds as large
- keep fewer livestock, typically of smaller breeds, and earn less
- have a greater burden of low productivity activities like fetching water and firewood
- have less education and less access to agricultural information
- use less credit and other financial services
- are less likely to purchase fertilizers, improved seeds, and equipment
- are more likely to be employed in part-time, seasonal, low paying jobs
- receive lower wages for the same work

The full report is available here <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2050e/i2050e00.htm>

The AWE program at UNCSW will be **February 24 to March 4**. This time period allows for orientation on the first weekend and time for wrapping up on the second. Our program will be hosted by the Episcopal Church Center and will include workshops, discussion and worship which will add to the incredibly rich and varied activities put on by the NGO CSW committee here in New York <http://www.ngocsw.org/> For more

information, schedule and costs, contact Kim Robey at krobey1@gmail.com.

Here is a snapshot of a few of the first time women who have already committed to being with us.

Debra Morris Smith is coming from the Diocese of Missouri. She is the coordinator of the diocese’s companion relationship with the Diocese of Lui in South Sudan and the wife of the Bishop of Missouri. She became interested in Africa when she was teaching refugee women in Des Moines, Iowa and had made 6 trips to Sudan. She will be bringing Lillian Giniwa Clement, the wife of the Bishop of Lui.

The Rev. Kate Malin, Rector of St. Anne’s in the Fields in Lincoln, Mass will be coming. Kate got involved with work in Africa before she became ordained while at St. James Madison Avenue where they had a partnership with Malawi. Kate is one of the founding partners of Love’s Harvest and has been to Malawi 6 times. She will be bringing Yasinta Mtambo, Mother’s Union Coordinator and Director of Love’s Harvest in the Southern Diocese of Malawi.



Photo Credit: John Springer

The Rev. Theresa Brion, an employee of the Diocese of Maryland doing work in the Appalachian mountain region of the state, will be coming and adding her viewpoint as a US rural woman. Others who will be returning to be with us include Clare Barry, Jennie Ashlock, Alyssa Stebbing, Martha Frances, Carol Rinehart from Project Education Sudan and Rev. Alyse Sibaen from the Philippines.

Attendance at UNCSW has become the driving force around which the work of gender justice has been built in our province. The issues of the Beijing Platform for Action serve as the blueprint for the work at CSW and the work of AWE. For more on the UNCSW go to <http://www.unwomen.org/how-we-work/csw/> If you or someone you know would like to participate in the AWE program, please contact me at krobey1@gmail.com.

“My life experiences have left me with a heightened sensitivity to the issues of women and children, increasing my capacity for compassion. I suspect that my experiences at the UNCSW, the stories I heard, the experience of being in the presence of 8500 women from around the world, and, the facts I learned, will become epiphanic, life changing experiences. I will be transformed, over and over again, as I reflect on this time. I have been made acutely aware, in new ways, that privilege has many facets. Sometimes privilege leads to abuse and oppression, and becomes life-depleting. I certainly learned a lot about that manifestation of privilege at the NGO workshops. But there are other expressions of privilege that can be life-giving.”

Rev. Terri Pilarski from UNCSW 2011

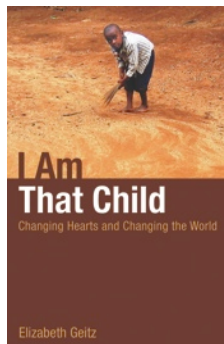
“I am changed by all I have learned. It is possible I do not even know how deeply this experience has altered my understanding of our global interconnectedness and interdependence. I now have a choice to continue actively engaging in conversations and activities that promote changes in myself, and perhaps others too. I can answer, “Yes” to the invitation to belong to a global community. You can, too, if you choose to learn more and open yourself to be surprised.”

Jane Appleyard Roel from UNCSW 2010

A Book Recommended ~

What happens when three American women put their faith into action in a developing nation? In *I Am That Child*, Episcopal priest Elizabeth Geitz proves that cross-cultural relationships among people of faith can change our world ... one person at a time.

Geitz welcomes readers to join her pilgrimage to an orphanage in Cameroon, sharing humorous and gut-wrenching wisdom from leaders and children who struggle against AIDS, global poverty and sexism. Along the way, Geitz and readers take a hard look at race and cultural privilege and find hope for reconciliation back home. The book concludes with study and resource guides to help readers engage global poverty efforts and build community across continents or across the street. Visit www.elizabethgeitz.com for more information.



Next AWE Meeting

AWE presents: *Food Security and Women: The Way Forward*

Wednesday, Nov 16, 2011
 11:00am – 12:30 Program
 The Episcopal Church Center
 815 Second Ave. between 43 and 44th St.

During this discussion you will learn why food security is becoming such a pressing global issue, the role of rural women in agriculture and why their full engagement is critical to the future of food production, the challenges they face, and potential solutions for moving forward.

Diane Eynon will be our presenter for this important topic leading up to the UNCSW theme on rural women. She will be joined by Wilma Longdon who is visiting the US from her home in Ghana.

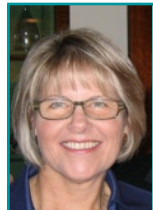
Dr. Diane Eynon is a strategic and innovative leader with over 20 years of professional experience in international business development, management and consulting, and education. In her role as Director for Partnerships for Social Impact at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania she is responsible for advancing the School’s mission and commitment to create positive social impact through leadership development and training programs for global public, private, academic, and social sector organizations. Diane is Founder of WEE (Women-Equality-Equity) Matter, a nonprofit organization committed to creating and implementing the innovative solutions necessary to ensure gender equality and equity through education, economic development and growth, and political participation.

Wilma Longdon joined WomensTrust in February 2011 as Executive Director stationed in Pokuase, Ghana. She brings with her an expertise in project management, risk management, and information technology. Having previously been employed by Process International in Ghana, Wilma served as their project manager and previously as the executive assistant to the managing director. In addition she has experience in the field of banking where she worked as a credit risk analyst with Ecobank Ghana Limited. She is an Anglican from the province of West Africa.

RSVP’s to awetoday@gmail.com are required for security purposes



Beth Adamson



Jane Appleyard Roel



Maylin Biggadike



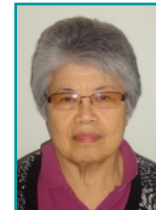
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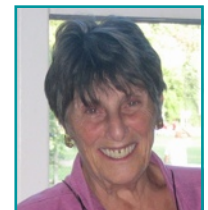
Kim Polhemus



Laura Russell



Inez Saley



Rosemary Williams

Welcome Our New Board of Directors



Earlier this fall, a number of changes in the leadership of AWE took place. First, a formal decision was made to hire Kim Robey as the Executive Director, which was made effective immediately. Secondly, a

Board of Directors was asked to join Kim in discerning and advising the future mission of the Anglican Women's Empowerment in order to increase its sustainability and impact.

Beth Adamson has been affiliated with AWE since 2005, serving as head of AWE's 'Girls Task Force' for the 51st Commission on the Status of Women. Beth is currently a Co-chair of the Working Group on Girls at the UN (see Beth's article), served as Planning Co-Chair of NGOCSW's 55th Commission; and has helped develop and facilitate 5 NGO parallel events and 2 Side Events within the UN, as well as the AUNO Consultation on Trafficking held in Hong Kong in 2009. Beth is a pastoral counselor trained at Yale Divinity School and Executive Consultant with her firm CONSULTANTS AT GREYSTONE. Beth is the recipient of the AWE-some Woman Award in 2011 as well as the Red Cross Clara Barton Award in 2010.

Jane Appleyard Roel is a relatively new member of AWE, having joined following her attendance at UNCSW

in 2010. She is presently the editor of the AWE Journal and contributes by developing additional marketing tools for AWE.

Professionally, Jane has worked in international business for over 20 years, in addition to her tenure as Lay Professional at Christ Church, Oyster Bay. In 2010, Jane joined Love's Harvest, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping rural women in Malawi learn to feed their families by using a form of agriculture called Permaculture. She traveled with the directors in the summer of 2010 to Malawi to assess the program in the villages throughout the country.

The Rev. Dr. Maylin Biggadike is an economist, Christian ethicist, and priest in the Diocese of Newark. Her work combines economics and theology to understand why, in the 21st century, large populations are still enslaved to deprivation. She is author of *A Christian Social Ethical Response to Poverty: Economic Development Through The Eyes of Poor Women in Developing Countries* and contributing author to *The True Wealth of Nations*.

Dr. Diane Eynon is a strategic and innovative leader with over 20 years of professional experience in international business development, management and consulting, and education. In her role as Director for Partnerships for Social Impact at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania she is responsible for advancing the School's mission and commitment to create positive social impact through leadership

development and training programs for global public, private, academic, and social sector organizations. Diane is Founder of WEE (Women-Equality-Equity) Matter, a nonprofit organization committed to creating and implementing the innovative solutions necessary to ensure gender equality and equity through education, economic development and growth, and political participation.

Kim Polhemus has been a dedicated member/note taker for AWE for 8 years and has attended UNCSW each of those years. In 2006 Kim and Rosemary Williams created AWE-net, a program to enhance partnerships between delegates in order to create a fabric of global women through shared experiences. She has brought AWE to the Diocese of CT by leading AWE workshops at the CT Diocesan Convention, by speaking on AWE at area Deanery meetings, and speaking at CT Episcopal Church Women board meetings. She has represented AWE at the Annual Meeting of CT Episcopal Church Women, and at a CT Diocesan Mission conference.

Laura Russell is currently the Supervising Attorney of the Family Law Unit of both the Bronx Neighborhood Office and the Harlem Community Law Office of the Legal Aid Society in New York City, and the Co-Supervising Attorney of the Domestic Violence/Immigration Unit. She supervises staff in family law and immigration matters, works on domestic violence policy issues and

coordinates family law matters for the two neighborhood offices. Through her immigration work, she works with victims of gender based crimes, including trafficking victims. Active in the Episcopal Church, she has served as a member of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Public Policy, a Deputy to General Convention, and a member of AWE.

Inez Saley has been a member of AWE since 2004 and treasurer since 2008. She is presently volunteering as treasurer of the Episcopal Asiamerica Ministry Council and the SMSS Alumni and Friends Foundation. An accountant by profession, Inez retired in 2003. She is an active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Teaneck of the Diocese of Newark.

Rosemary Williams, a former banker, personal financial planner, entrepreneur and development consultant is a leading voice on the topic of money, values and spirituality. She founded and is executive director of Women's Perspective, a non-profit educational organization conducting workshops, tele-classes and retreats nationally and internationally. Travel workshops and outreach programs have been in Haiti and Kenya.

[Working Group on Girls](#)

Empowering the

Women of Tomorrow!

by Beth Adamson

AWE has consistently held a seat at the Working Group on Girls. Board member Beth Adamson, is co-convoener of WGG.

Put yourself in the shoes of Linea, a young girl whose mother has HIV/AIDS, a disease she contracted from your father before it took his life. Because you are the oldest daughter, you are the person expected to care

for your two older brothers (when they show up) and your three younger siblings. National laws have given no property rights to women, so you live day to day in fear that your father's family will take your house and your goat, the only source of income. You have never been to school because even when your parents were well, you took the long walk to the river to procure fresh water and wash clothes for the family. You are not even registered in a national registry.

These are the issues that face girls across the globe, and the purview of the Working Group on Girls, a coalition of over 80 NGO's who are deeply interested in the fate of the girl child. Like AWE, which has a seat at the table, these NGO's are aware that the empowered girls of today are the empowered women of tomorrow – but it takes vigilance to bring this empowerment to life.

Thus, WGG is committed to assuring that policies are in place via the legislative bodies and working entities of the United Nations. We follow each session of the General Assembly as well as several commissions from the Status of Women to Social Development to A World Fit for Children. Whenever possible, we provide Parallel Events sponsored by 2 or more of our member organizations and develop Fact Sheets on girl-specific topics such as: the Right to Health, Protection from Trafficking, or the Right to Education. WGG sponsors a strong Advocacy Committee that makes a point to visit Missions of member states of the Commission on the Status of Women, providing specific talking points on the Priority & Review Themes of the CSW.

Beyond that, the WGG is privileged to have 80+ NGO's that are "on the ground" in many countries around the globe, giving an opportunity to support governments and civil society in enacting the UN policies on site. A Missionary in Malawi might use guidelines on Education for Girls to support her cause on creating a private restroom for girls, thus allowing a better chance that they can attend schools. Or an international representative in Brazil can use Fact Sheets from the WGG web-site to advocate on behalf of young women and girls who are the victims of human trafficking.

But the Working Group on Girls also makes every effort to work alongside girls by providing opportunities for girls (age 14 and above) to be involved as delegates in events at the UN that pertain to them. Girl Advocates are involved in our general meetings and as well as Mission Visits. We rely on our coalition of NGO's to bring girls to Commissions. For instance, AWE's own Caroline Christie, granddaughter of Marge, was a Girl Delegate in 2007 and 2011, has been on various mission visits, and was the presenter of the Girls Statement to CSW 55 in March, 2011. She continues to serve as an active WGG Girl Advocate. Please view our website www.girlsrights.org and look at our quarterly Newsletter "Action for Girls"!



Photo courtesy of Working Group on Girls website

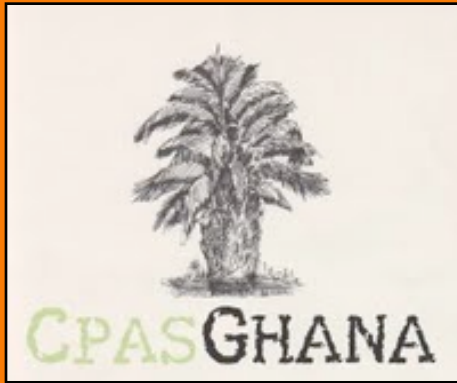


photo courtesy of Priscilla Jeffrey



**INTERVIEW
WITH
PRISCILLA
JEFFREY**

With the focus at UNCSW this coming

year on rural women and food security, I decided to interview one of our newest AWE members, Priscilla Jeffrey, who has just launched a new non-profit dedicated to empowering women in Ghana, Africa, through microfinance. Here is part of her story.

Jane Appleyard Reel, Editor

1. Tell us a bit about the organization you started earlier this year. What inspired it?

Community Partnership of Akuapim South (CPASGhana) is the newly formed non-profit organization I started this year, dedicated to empowering women in the district of Akuapim South in Ghana. Beginning with small loans made to a select group of women, the efforts of **CPASGhana** are focused on creating a thriving local economy through education, microfinance, savings, and training while protecting local culture and environment.

When I was 10 years old, my grandmother planted the seed of inspiration for this work. She and my grandfather took a trip to S. Africa and while there, they visited the

copper mines. Upon returning, I remember her vivid story of the appalling working and living conditions for the people who lived under apartheid. Later, that memory coupled with my awareness of how blessed I have been forged a strong desire to give back and do for others whatever I can.

2. How did you get started?

Around 15 years ago, I began planning what I might do after retirement from my position as an art teacher in the Denver schools. So I went back to school and got a masters degree in Community Economic Development with the intention of doing some form of development later in life. A trip with fellow teachers from Denver in 2006 to Ghana clinched the location for my work since Denver has such a large Ghanaian community and I found myself developing friendships with many incredible people who had immigrated to Denver from there.

When I retired in 2008, I moved back to Connecticut near my town of origin. Friends running non profits actively mentored and encouraged me as a vision started to evolve, including Dana Dakin of Women's Trust and Paul Haible of the Peace Development Fund. In 2010, I traveled to Ghana to do a needs assessment of Akuapim South, the community I had targeted for a microfinance project. Start up

commenced this summer, and now, CPASGhana has an office in place to launch my project only 15 minutes from the village in which Women's Trust works.

3. What have been your greatest obstacles so far?

My organization is only several months old and so, is an evolving "work in progress" with plenty of challenges, common in any startup. Obstacles include:

- managing people and program halfway around the world
- cultural differences, i.e. the sense of time and/or urgency
- finding a qualified person to manage and make decisions in my absence; in other words, to be "me" when I can't be present
- vetting the recipients of our loans; deciding who will be accountable and responsible to pay back the loans even though there is no collateral

4. What keeps you going when you meet such an obstacle? (should be a success story)

Today, I would say the answer to this question is prayer. As I left for Akuapim South (and through the duration of my six weeks in Ghana) this past August, I was showered with blessings and prayers from so many friends. This continued through email while I tried to establish a brand new organization alone far from home.

One night, as I struggled to meet the challenges that kept cropping up, a woman friend of mine emailed me. As we emailed back and forth, she said to me. "Tonight, I am getting on my knees and praying for you. And I ask you to do the same. Tonight, together, we will be praying and asking God for His help for your work and for the good you are doing." It changed me. Maybe the experience has actually taught me how to pray and how to trust that it will all work out - in God's time.

5. What is your ultimate goal?

Ultimately, I hope I can achieve the creation of a sustainable development model which empowers an entire community, eventually with or without CPAS. It needs to be do-able and replicable, so that people can use what they learn, apply it to their own situation, and then share it with others.

6. How can others, including AWE, help you and CPASGhana?

- learn about our work by visiting the website or speaking with me
- volunteer to help as your experience and/or gifts dictate
- be a cheerleader by praying for us and encouraging us in our work
- donate money
- spread the word - network and tell others about us
- raise money from others by holding a fundraiser at your parish or with friends

I try to remember that *each one of us* makes a difference by our words and our actions. It may feel small and unimportant, but it is how all change takes place, piece by piece, step by step. There is no effort which is unimportant.

Learn more about CPASGhana at <http://www.cpasghana.org>

Earn It

by Cindy Voorhees

Learn about another organization working for sustainable change in Africa

I read a great book that my friend Kelly gave me to read called: *Shantaram* by Gregory David Roberts. In real life, Gregory is an ex-con who escaped from an Australian prison, landed in Bombay where he spent 10 years living as a fugitive before he was found and returned to his home country to serve out his remaining sentence. The book is his story. While in Bombay, he opened a free medical clinic for slum dwellers, worked as a counterfeiter, smuggler and gun runner. At one point, the heroine named Karla says, "I think the future is like anything else that's important. It has to be earned. If we don't *earn* it, we don't have a future at all. And if we don't earn it, if we don't deserve it, we have to live in the present, more or less forever. Or worse, we have to live in the past. I think that's probably what love is - *a way of earning the future.*"

As I continue to work in Africa, "earning" your own way is what I hear from people on the ground that need help the most. They tell you that handing out aid is not helping their future; it merely keeps them continuously in the present cycle of poverty, disease, illiteracy and most of all dependency. They want a future; a future for themselves, their children, their grandchildren, and for their country.

Something in Africa is changing. News travels fast here. Information is transferring from person to person, village to village, city to city, by word of mouth and through the media. They are talking about the "Arab Spring"...it gives them hope.

If they could have an education and technology - they could have a voice, a job and a future. This is their hope like never before. One person told me that they have never had so much hope in their life as they do right now.

Here lies the vision and mission of BuildingAFRICA. We are changing the conversation about aid to Africa. Education, jobs, healthcare and farming are the central focus of what we are trying to bring to the continent so that Africa has the tools and resources to earn her way out of aid dependency and pave the road to social, economic, and political independence.

The time I spent here gives me new insights to the possibilities. Working with architects and engineers building a children's home in Tanzania and community centers in Swaziland, I have come to realize that Africa has the potential to skip 20th c. technology and blast right into 21st c. Most Africans are going straight to cell phones. Solar power is catching on as the first reliable source of generating power and many new facilities have rain water collection systems. To think that this third world country could surpass all of us is rather mind boggling!

Yes, there is famine here, yes there is war, and yes there is tribal conflict. Africa is in labor. She is having freedom contractions; freedom from dependency, corruption, conflict and oppression. She yearns for her child to have the same freedom and opportunities the rest of the world so cherishes. Africa is asking for our knowledge to earn a future, not a handout. Learn more about our work at www.BuildingAFRICA.org



photos courtesy of Kara Flannery

DISNEY FEATURED AT AWE EVENT IN SEPTEMBER, NYC

What would happen if women held the camera?

That is the question that Abigail Disney asked herself when she went to Liberia as a philanthropist and encountered the story of women sitting on a field for 3 years and creating peace in Liberia. Leymah's Gbowee's story. Well, Abigail made the film and Leymah has just won the Nobel Peace Prize!! Amazing.

Several weeks ago among a sell out crowd at the Tutu Center at General Seminary, we had the privilege of interviewing Disney about her life and work. All of us came away saying how articulate, funny, smart and down to earth she is. What a pleasure it was to be in her company.

Disney said that she did not start out wanting to do a film. But she had noticed while doing her PhD in literature at Columbia that women were absent from war novels. Women were there but they were invisible from the stories we have gotten through film and news reporting. Why?

What would happen if women held the camera? Pray the Devil Back to Hell happened.

"We need to explode the idea of war, re define it. War doesn't happen the way we traditionally think of it anymore with soldiers on a battle line. War is fought in communities just like yours and in people's homes."

Abigail told us that someone asked her—where are the good men in this film?—they are there but our eyes don't register them—we see the men with the guns.

Her response was, "It is not just that women are not there in films past, all kinds of men that we know aren't there either. Men are hardest on each other. I have 2 boys—12 and 15. It's hard for boys to choose to be the men

they feel they want to be without the social punishments that accompany that—they wonder if they are strong enough to stand up to the backlash.

There has to be an expanded definition of what matters in a man or this straight jacket we call masculinity will never stop restricting and sentencing all of us to very limited ways of problem solving and social construction.

We must take to heart the idea that peace is a process, not an event, it is a verb which encompasses making choices. We should make peace on the small, medium and large scale every day."

When asked about her faith and how it has impacted her work and who she has become as a person, Abigail commented,

"We all agree on more than we disagree on. Don't most of us value respect, dignity, generosity, love and kindness? Faith communities are where people communicate best about values.

I grew up a Roman Catholic. My most profound experience in church came one day when a handsome young male priest gave the sermon



and held up a flower and said God made this flower—God made you and you are beautiful. I would have liked to hear a woman in the pulpit growing up. I want to hear from everyone and boys are losing something enormous too by not hearing the voices of women in the pulpit.”

Tune in to the Women War and Peace series on PBS—check your local listings and use our downloadable discussion guide at <http://anglicanwomens empowerment.org/> to start the conversation in your church or neighborhood.

NEW RESOURCE FROM AWE

In an effort to increase awareness around some of the difficult issues pertaining to women and girls, Anglican Women’s Empowerment has written and distributed 2 booklets over the past few years - *Gender Budgeting Toolkit* and *Human Trafficking: Freeing Women, Children and Men*. In September, AWE published its third resource: *Women, War & Peace Discussion Guide*.

Now, this newest resource is available to provide a faith-filled context for watching the series *Women, War & Peace*, mentioned above. The purpose of the guide is to encourage discussion of the 5-part series by parishes and/or other small groups such as Bible Study or Women’s Ministry groups. Once we have learned more about the effect of conflict and war on women and other vulnerable persons, the guide provides resources for us to first find our own voice and then to express it in calling for women to become agents of peace and security in this arena which has been dominated entirely by men up to the present.

New spirit afoot helping to birth next reality in social movements and organizations - co-revelation.

Edited from interview of Kelly McGowan by Lex Schroeder for New Prosperity <http://thenewprosperity.org/2011/10/new-conversations-in-social-equity-kelly-mcgowan-on-participatory-leadership-and-occupy-wall-street/>

“Co-revelation is the moment when people who are in a debate or conflict or are being mediated around power and control, when they find that they have a shared purpose that they need to work on together. It goes beyond that ‘we agree to disagree, so we’re just going to do this other stuff together’ idea. It allows people to connect around their limitations and humanity and enter a deeper level of relationship. **Co-revelation is that moment when people who are traditionally in power struggle**

experience the humanity of shared purpose.

Co-revelation is when people discover each other and have a revelation as a group that there’s this new creation that only could have been noticed, imagined, felt, formed by connecting with each other around a greater purpose.

I get goosebumps when I see how Occupy Wall Street organizers are holding space and saying, It’s not about having a 5-point plan that we’re going to advocate for. It’s about broadening our base, bringing more people into the dialogue... I think this is how change happens... Emergent needs and emergent leadership are iterative.”



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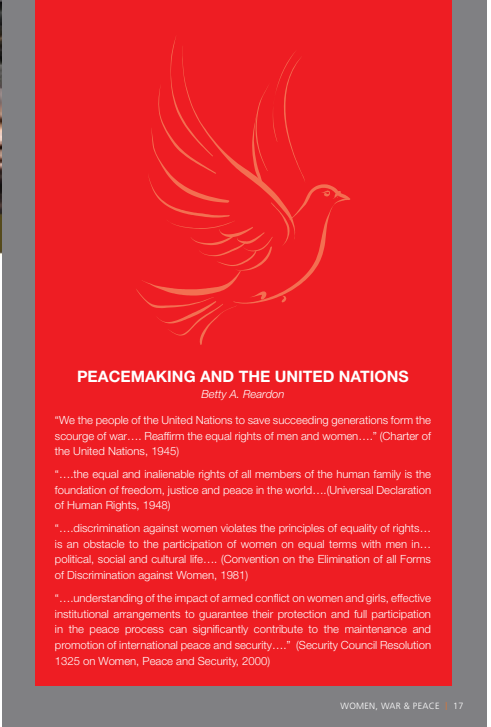


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PEACEMAKING AND THE UNITED NATIONS
Betty A. Reardon

“We the people of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.... Reaffirm the equal rights of men and women....” (Charter of the United Nations, 1945)

“...the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world....”(Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948)

“...discrimination against women violates the principles of equality of rights... is an obstacle to the participation of women on equal terms with men in... political, social and cultural life.... (Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1981)

“...Understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security....” (Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, 2000)

WOMEN, WAR & PEACE 17

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence- November 25 to December 10

By Kim Robey

The theme for this year's campaign is **From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Violence Against Women**

As we are now in the midst of the incredible Women War and Peace series of films on PBS and having discussions using the guide found on our website, we are well primed to move into this year's 16 days campaign. The issues that come up in the film series are also highlighted in this year's background material for 16 days.

The most important document to read on this year's campaign is --Report on Intersections of Violence Against Women and Militarism -- The chapter headings, which will give you an idea of the issues covered in the campaign, are:

Violence Against Women, Militarism and Feminism- overview

Towards a Feminine Critique of Militarism- there are strategies listed for each of these

- Political violence against women
- Proliferation of small arms and their Role in Domestic Violence

- Sexual violence during and post conflict
- Sexual violence by state actors ie peace keepers
- Bringing together the women's, peace and human rights movements

Cross cutting Strategies

- Define human security (peace)
- Estimate the cost of militarism
- Erode the culture of militarism

The report is found here in full <http://cwgl.rutgers.edu/globalcenter/publications/vawmilitarism2011.pdf>

Another more in depth resource on Militarism and VAW can be found here <http://16dayscwgl.rutgers.edu/militarism-vaw>

Known as the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign**, the campaign starts on November 25, International Day Against Violence Against Women and runs for 16 days until December 10, International Human Rights Day, in order to emphasize that gender violence is a violation of human rights. This 16-day period also highlights other significant dates including November 29, International Women Human Rights Defenders Day, December 1, World AIDS Day, and December 6, which marks the Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre.



photo courtesy of Matthew Davies, ENS

Since 1991, over 2,000 organizations in approximately 156 countries have participated in the campaign which focuses on:

- raising awareness about gender-based violence as a human rights issue at the local, national, regional and international levels
- strengthening local work around violence against women
- establishing a clear link between local and international work to end violence against women
- providing a forum in which organizers can develop and share new and effective strategies

"We must take to heart the idea that peace is a process, not an event; it is a verb which encompasses making choices. We should make peace on the small, medium and large scale every day."

Abigail Disney



photos courtesy of Jane Appleyard Roel and Kim Robey

- demonstrating the solidarity of women around the world organizing against violence against women
- creating tools to pressure governments to implement promises made to eliminate violence against women

During the 16 days of activism, churches will be encouraged to participate through prayer, special services to mark the occasion, sermons to emphasize the issue, speakers or films at adult forums, articles written in church and diocesan publications, and many other ways. The 16 Days blogsite is available at <http://episcopal16days.wordpress.com/?blogsub=confirming#subscribe-blog> so you can share what you are doing. Also other resources can be found here including prayers and a liturgy created by the Rev Barbara Hutchinson and used last year in the Diocese of Long Island.

In Brief -

The IAWN, International Anglican Women's Network, is one of the ten official networks of the Anglican Communion. There is one representative from each of the 38 provinces in the Communion in the network. This body functions similarly to our own Committee on the Status of Women in our province. It coordinates work around gender justice issues throughout the wider church and brings resolutions to the Anglican Consultative Council. Go here for more information <http://iawn.anglicancommunion.org/index.cfm> The newly appointed representative from The Episcopal Church is Lynnaia Main.

Lynnaia was named Global Relations Officer at the Episcopal Church Center in June of this year and can be reached at lmain@episcopalchurch.org. She holds a masters degree in International Relations from the Institute d'Etudes de Politiques in Paris and has worked in Paris, S. Africa and the US.

Beautiful Tea and Tour with the Sisks in June

On June 25, close to twenty five members and friends of AWE assembled at St. John the Divine in New York City for a tour of the Cathedral followed by high tea with the Rt. Rev Mark (bishop of the Diocese of New York) and Karen Sisk. The day was lovely and everyone was excited to learn about the history of the St John the Divine, the world's largest Gothic cathedral. Following the tour, the Sisks treated the group to a delicious tea and lively conversation. No one wanted to leave!

Our gratitude goes to the Sisks and all AWE members who worked so hard to organize the event. Not only was it an enjoyable fellowship opportunity, but it also successfully raised money to sponsor the delegates to UNCSW coming from Africa in 2012. Your generosity is much appreciated!



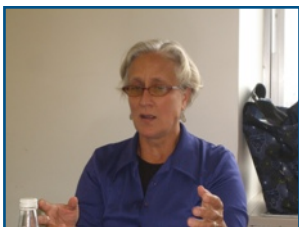
from left to right: Bishop Roskom, Lynnaia Main, Elizabeth Boe Photo courtesy of Kara Flannery




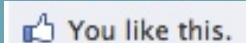


Thank you's to:

- **Maylin Biggadike and Laura Russell** for representing us at the recent Episcopal global mission conference **Everyone, Everywhere 2011** held on October 13-16 in Denver. Both gave workshops on human trafficking and economic empowerment.
- Patti Ackerman for her presentation to us on her work on positive masculinities. See this link to see this powerful workshop <http://vimeo.com/18919953> for yourself.



*Stay in touch
Join the community*

- Find AWE on  and hit the "like" icon  You like this. You will then get updates and resources to connect with the issues that matter.
- Tweet about AWE on Twitter where you can talk with others who care about what is happening in the world.



Note from the Editor ~

A major focus of the current edition is Africa. Over the years, AWE's links to women working in parts of this large, diverse continent have been developing. They are the "hands and feet" of our mission to empower women and girls and we want to support their work by highlighting their programs. Additionally, AWE is bringing together a number of these women in February, 2012 to foster their connections to one another as well as to us who will be attending.

The next issue is scheduled for January 1, 2012. Brief articles with links to longer texts or videos are always appreciated. Please send them to me at jane.roel@gmail.com no later than December 10, 2011.

Peace and blessings!

Jane



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