

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN AND "FRIENDSHIP CIRCLES"

Over more than century, from the Women's Auxiliary to Anglican Church Women to Friendship Circles, our relationships remain constant: "FRIENDS"

The ACW is well known for their work and ministry in churches and the community. But did you know that we are also a group of friends?

Friendships are gifts from God. For Jesus tells us in *John 15:12-14* – "Love each other as I have loved you. The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them. And you are my friends."

From the beginning of time, women have been a source of strength and comfort for one another. We still are! In the book of *Ruth* we read of the devotion between Ruth and Naomi. *Ruth 1:16*, "But Ruth replied" Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."

We all need friends and friends can be found in your church family. *Proverbs 27:9* "Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one's friend springs from her earnest counsel."

ACW groups and meetings aren't just for planning church bazaars, strawberry teas, and funeral receptions. It's also about fellowship and study. We're here to encourage and help one another in our relationship with God. As Paul said in *Romans 1:12* "That you and I will be mutually encouraged by each other's faith."

With school, work, family and dealing with the realities of getting older it has become increasingly more difficult for some to be part of a regular ACW group. Not enough time or energy to participate in events and activities. However, we all have the desire to "belong", to be part of something special, to be cared for and to care for others. A Friendship Circle might be the answer. The occasional phone call, text, or email to ask for a prayer, to celebrate something special or just to chat may be all you need at this time. A gathering a couple times a year for personal interaction and human connection is always a good thing. Anglican Church Women are here for you. Be part of our Friendship Circle. Love and be loved.

It's time to "rethink" ACW. Hit the "refresh" button. Fill your life with friendships and the love of God.

1 John 4:7 "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God."

Your Friend,



Kelly Bowman, President
Anglican Church Women
DONW