



WOMEN ORGANIZED FOR MISSION: ST. MARY'S SCHOOL LEADS RALEIGH CONVOCATION

Compiled by Lynn Hoke, ECW Archivist/Historian
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Records in the ECW Archives reveal that St. Mary's School reported the first organized branch of the Woman's Auxiliary in today's Raleigh Convocation. The 1886 Annual Report lists St. Mary's with "about 50" members, and \$80.00 in contributions divided evenly between Foreign Missions and Diocesan Missions. Branches at Christ Church, Raleigh, and St. Paul's, Louisburg, first appear in 1888, while those in Raleigh at St. Augustine's Chapel, Good Shepherd, and St. Ambrose follow in the mid 1890s.

Mrs. Iredell was the first Auxiliary President at St. Mary's, Miss Kate McKimmon was Secretary-Treasurer. Both of these women served long and faithfully as officers for both the adult and junior Auxiliary groups. School historian Martha Stoops notes that Mary Iredell was first a student, and then a faculty member, who began teaching at St. Mary's a few weeks after her husband was killed at Gettysburg. While Kate McKimmon was a student in 1868, a loss of family funds led her into a sixty-year association with St. Mary's, first in various assistant positions, then as head of the Primary Department and dormitory supervisor. Active first in the St. Mary's Missionary Society, Iredell and McKimmon must have supported the invitation issued by the New York office to unite all women's work under the Woman's Auxiliary banner. Year after year, their response to the national program is clear from the Annual Reports in the ECW Archives and in the rich archival records at St. Mary's. The story that emerges offers a unique look at how the mission priorities and structural changes initiated in New York worked their way down through the Diocesan branch to the St. Mary's branch, then into the lives of generations of students, faculty, and future churchwomen all across North Carolina.

Two years after its founding in 1842, St. Mary's School appears in the reports to Diocesan Convention. Contributions were usually designated for specific missionary purposes:

1845: Of the money collected in the Chapel on Communion occasions, \$78.85 have been given to the support of our Diocesan Missions, and the remainder has been appropriated to the poor.

1849: Collections at the Altar, devoted to Missionary purposes, \$102.32.

1860 Contributions: Diocesan Missions, \$150.00; Relief Fund, \$12.00; China Mission, \$50.00; Education of African Girl, \$50.00; Education of Indian Boy, \$70.00; Church Building Society, \$25.00; Contributions to individual Churches, \$25.00; Domestic Missions, \$50.00.

1870 Contributions: Episcopal Fund, \$24.00; Diocesan Missionary Fund, \$70.44; Widows and Orphans' Fund, \$20.00; Society for Increase of the Ministry, \$25.00; Foreign Missions, \$15.00; Domestic Missions, \$7.50; The Poor, \$32.85.

In its first official report as a Woman's Auxiliary branch St. Mary's School designates a single specific recipient:

1886: Foreign Missions, Shanghai, China, Aldert Smedes Scholarship, \$40.00.

Through the next decades this scholarship for students at the Emma Jones School in Shanghai received annual contributions, as did the Thompson Orphanage in Charlotte:

Among the Faculty is a voluntary branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, which for many years past has maintained in the China Mission 'The Aldert Smedes Scholarship,' in memory of the Founder of St. Mary's, and more recently has established 'The Bennett Smedes Scholarship' at Thompson Orphanage, Charlotte.
(*Catalogue of St. Mary's School, 1900-1901*)

"Box Work" was an important initiative of the national Woman's Auxiliary and one that St. Mary's School adopted early on. Each box contained needed supplies for missionary families and institutions, both here and abroad. The diocesan Woman's Auxiliary Annual Reports document contributions down to the penny, sometimes including shipping fees:

1887: Domestic Missions, 1 box, value \$25.00.

1888: Diocesan Missions, 3 boxes, value \$66.00; 1 box Thompson Orphanage, \$10.00; Express on boxes \$3.98.

1896: 2 Boxes, Thompson Orphanage \$8.00; 1 Box, Western Home for Deaf Mutes \$3.00; 2 Boxes, St. Saviour's Mission Chapel, Raleigh, \$14.00.

By 1902 the Woman's Auxiliary stopped listing specific recipient information and began grouping each branch's contributions under seven general headings: Central Fund; United Offering; Foreign; Domestic; Diocesan; Thompson Orphanage; Boxes. We lose the specific recipient listings, but other sources show that St. Mary's continued to support the overall Auxiliary priorities.

"Junior Auxiliary" branches began forming in the early 1890s, after the national Woman's Auxiliary established a Junior Department to promote spiritual development and missionary giving among children and young people. Again, St. Mary's School reflected this change, as it moved in 1894 to the Junior Auxiliary section in the Annual Reports. Year after year these reports show a pattern at St. Mary's – a response to specific appeals made by the national Woman's Auxiliary for mission and program support, along with attention to local needs around the Diocese and next door in Raleigh:

1894: President, Miss A. L. Devereux; Sec. & Treas., Miss K. McKimmon; Members, 75
3 Boxes to Thompson Orphanage, \$30.50; Parcel to Franklin, N. C., \$2.00
Aldert Smedes' Scholarship, China, \$40.00; Oneida Mission Hospital, \$1.50
Church Periodical Club, \$2.00; Thompson Orphanage, \$ 5.00
Diocesan Missions, \$9.10; Poor of Raleigh, \$7.00

Chapters in the St. Mary's School Junior Auxiliary Branch first appear in the 1898 Annual Report. First there were four, eventually eight, chapters, each with its own name and its own elected Director chosen from among the faculty:

1898: St. Mary's School Branch, Members, 48
St. Monica's Chapter, Director – Miss Kate McKimmon
St. Margaret's Chapter, Director – Miss E. W. McVea
St. Agnes' Chapter, Director – Miss Riddick
St. Cecilia's Chapter, Director – Miss M. M. Jones

The Auxiliary and its chapters formed an integral and official part of student life at St. Mary's. Published each year, descriptions such as this one from the *Bulletin* of May 1905, shows how the school explained the groups and their work:

The religious exercises of the School as a whole are supplemented by the work of the branches of the Woman's Auxiliary. The Senior branch is made up of members of the Faculty; the six chapters of the Junior branch consist of pupils, directed by one of the teachers chosen by the members. The work of the chapters varies somewhat from year to year, but the Auxiliary maintains regularly "The Aldert Smedes Scholarship" in the China Mission and "The Bennett Smedes Scholarship" in the Thompson Orphanage, Charlotte, and other beneficent works.

The St. Mary's Muse from the same month provides a glimpse of an Annual Branch Meeting:

The annual meeting of the Junior Auxiliary of St. Mary's was held in the parlor on Sunday evening, May 6th. Miss McKimmon, the Directress, presided and Mrs. Iredell, the Honorary President, was present and addressed the united Chapters.

The service was opened by the Rector with prayer and the Creed, and then reports of the work of the Chapter were read by the secretaries. These reports showed a very flourishing condition of the organization. A summary of the reports is given below:

REPORT OF THE YEAR'S WORK OF THE JUNIOR AUXILIARY

To Aldert Smedes Scholarship, Shanghai, \$30.00; Bennett Smedes scholarship, Thompson Orphanage, \$30.00; United Offering, \$6.00; Church Periodical Club, \$6.00; Chapel Carpet, \$69.25; Apportionment, \$5.10; Central Fund, \$5.10; Pyramids, \$65.34

Boxes: Thompson Orphanage (St. Elizabeth's Chapter), \$4.50; Morganton Mission School (St. Monica's), \$4.50; St. Savior's Chapel (St. Anne's), \$4.50; St. Savior's Chapel (St. Monica's), \$2.00; Asheville (St. Etheldreda's), \$12.00; St. Etheldreda's Chapter as a memorial to their first Directress, Mrs. Lucy Randolph Bratton – a brass credence-table in St. Mary's Chapel, \$50.00. Total contributions for year, \$291.79

Over the years the chapters became a major part of the social scene at St. Mary's. The highly anticipated and elaborate chapter "entertainments" provided a chance to socialize and to raise money for funding the various branch and chapter mission projects. *The St. Mary's Muse* of November 1905 describes one of these early events:

The first of the annual Chapter entertainments was a Japanese Tea, given by St. Monica's Chapter (Miss Katie's Dormitory), on the evening of Saturday, November 4th.

On entering the parlor one felt as if she had suddenly been transported from the walls of St. Mary's to the Orient. The first place of attraction was a booth surrounded by Japanese parasols and lanterns, where beautiful Japanese maidens nodded as they served hot chocolate. Borne along in the crowd we passed the candy booths to the spot most typical of all, where the tea tables were. Occasionally someone wandered off to another corner of the room, but if so she rudely awakened from her Eastern dream for there fair maids were serving "Dughi's Best Ice Cream."

We all owe a vote of thanks to Miss Katie and her girls for a very pleasant evening; and especially will we remember the display of Nancy Fairley's energy which had so much to do with the success of the occasion.

The 1910 yearbook lists the Woman's Branch and a Junior Branch of six chapters, all named for saints of the Church, except for Lucy Randolph Bratton, wife of the former school President, the Rev. Theodore DuBose Bratton.

The Auxiliary at St. Mary's		
Woman's Branch		
MRS. LAY		President
MISS WALTON		Vice-President
MISS MCKIMMON		Secretary
MISS THOMAS		Treasurer
Junior Branch		
General Directress—MISS MCKIMMON		
St. Anne's Chapter		
Directress—MISS SUTTON	AMELIA STURGEON	President
	MARY GIBBS MITCHELL	Vice-President
	MARIE PERRY	Secretary
	BESSIE BARNWELL	Treasurer
St. Monica's Chapter		
Directress—MISS MCKIMMON	SUSAN RAWLINGS	President
	LINA LOCKHART	Vice-President
	MARY LOUISE MANNING	Secretary
	AMY WINSTON	Treasurer
St. Catherine's Chapter		
Directress—MISS JONES	PAULA E. HAZARD	President
	IDA JEAN ROGERSON	Vice-President
	MINNIE T. HAZARD	Secretary
	MARY RUTH MARDBE	Treasurer
St. Margaret's Chapter		
Directress—MISS BROWN	MARTHA BYRD SPRELL	President
	TINSLEY HARRISON	Vice-President
	BESSIE SMEDES ERWIN	Secretary
	MARY MORGAN MYERS	Treasurer
St. Agnes' Chapter		
Directress—MISS MCINTYRE	JANIE PORCHER DEBOSE	President
	BESSIE WILSON ARTHUR	Secretary
	MARY RAWLS GILLIAM	Treasurer
Lucy Denton Chapter		
Directress—MISS LEE	REBECCA WOOD	President
	MARIEL GARY	Vice-President
	JANIE SIMS	Secretary
	HAZEL PERRY	Treasurer

The St. Mary's Muse, 1910

The St. Mary's Muse of March 1906 describes special chapter projects for Lent:

The additional Lenten work of the Junior Auxiliary has been taken up this year with unusual interest and energy, and the special undertakings of each chapter are well under way. Every chapter has contributed to the new Altar fund. Meetings have been held every other Sunday night, when various missionary articles have been read, and during Lent in nearly every case, the members meet each Saturday night and sew.

St. Monica's has contributed toward the Chapel Carpet, Smedes scholarship, and is now working on a box of clothing for St. Margaret's Mission at Morganton.

St. Elizabeth's has contributed toward Mrs. Geoffroy's school at Beaufort and has followed Miss Cheshire's suggestion in helping Mr. Berkeley in his mission work among the mill people of Mayodan.

St. Etheldreda's contributes toward two Smedes scholarships and is working on a box of clothing for a child at St. Saviour's.

St. Anne's has given to Mrs. Geoffroy, to the two Smedes scholarships, and is preparing a box for a child from St. Saviour's Mission.

St. Margaret's prepared a box of clothing at Christmas time.

St. Catherine's gave to a poor colored woman, a former servant in the school, and is now working on clothing for a child from St. Saviour's Mission.

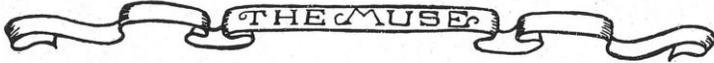
The February 1910 issue lists more activities and good works:

This year the new Chapel carpet is being paid for — St. Anne's and St. Agnes' Chapter Contributing \$10 each toward this. The Associated Charities, in Raleigh, the Soldiers' Home, and St. Saviour's Mission have had gifts from several Chapters, all contributing stockings and toys at Christmas-time. Four Chapters send money and provisions to help support Lavinia Lockhart, a former servant at St. Mary's.

Meetings are held in most of the Chapters twice a month, on Sunday evenings. After the business meeting the *Carolina Churchman*, to which all of the Chapters subscribe, is usually read aloud, or the *Spirit of Missions*, and sometimes stories.

The money for the various offerings is raised by fixed dues, varying in amount in the several Chapters, and by entertainments. "A Rank Reception," given by St. Margaret's Chapter in December, was quite successful, as was also the "Elopement of Ellen," given by St. Agnes' Chapter. St. Monica's and the Lucy Bratton Chapters have made money selling sandwiches and ice cream.

By 1915 the addition of St. Elizabeth's in the Main Building makes a total of seven chapters:



The Junior Auxiliary

Miss McKIMMON, *General Directress*

<p>St. Margaret's Chapter (<i>West Wing</i>)</p> <p>MISS SHATTUCK.....<i>Directress</i>.....</p> <p>ARABELLE THOMAS.....<i>President</i>.....</p> <p>ELSIE ALEXANDER.....<i>Secretary</i>.....</p> <p>BUFORD AIKEN.....<i>Treasurer</i>.....</p>	<p>St. Agnes' Chapter (<i>East Wing</i>)</p> <p>MISS SHULL.....</p> <p>MARY FLOYD.....</p> <p>FRANCES GEITNER.....</p> <p>MARGARET GRIGGS.....</p>
<p>St. Catherine's Chapter (<i>Senior Hall</i>)</p> <p>MISS THOMAS.....<i>Directress</i>.....</p> <p>MARGARET H. BOTTUM.....<i>President</i>.....</p> <p>AGNES BARTON.....<i>Vice-President</i>.....</p> <p>SADIE VINSON.....<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>.....</p>	<p>St. Elizabeth's Chapter (<i>Main Building</i>)</p> <p>MISS URQUHART.....</p> <p>LOUISE WHITE.....</p> <p>MARGARET THOMAS.....</p> <p>LAURA BEATTY.....</p>
<p>St. Anne's Chapter (<i>Main Building</i>)</p> <p>MISS SHIELDS.....<i>Directress</i>.....</p> <p>ELIZA DAVIS.....<i>President</i>.....</p> <p>LOUISE HARRIS.....<i>Vice-President</i>.....</p> <p>KATHERINE BOURNE.....<i>Secretary</i>.....</p> <p>ADELE STIGLER.....<i>Treasurer</i>.....</p>	<p>St. Monica's Chapter (<i>West Dormitory</i>)</p> <p>MISS MCKIMMON.....</p> <p>EMMA BADHAM.....</p> <p>KATHERINE DRANE.....</p> <p>MARGARET HUSKE.....</p> <p>HENRIETTA MORGAN.....</p>
	<p>Lucy Bratton Chapter (<i>East and West Rock</i>)</p> <p>MISS SUTTON.....<i>Directress</i></p> <p>ANNIE CAMERON.....<i>President</i></p> <p>LOUISE ARBOGAST.....<i>Vice-President</i></p> <p>RENA HARDING.....<i>Secretary</i></p> <p>FRANCES TILLOTSON.....<i>Treasurer</i></p>
<p>The Woman's Auxiliary</p> <p>MRS. LAY.....<i>President</i></p> <p>MISS SUTTON.....<i>Vice-President</i></p> <p>MISS MCKIMMON.....<i>Secretary</i></p> <p>MISS THOMAS.....<i>Treasurer</i></p>	



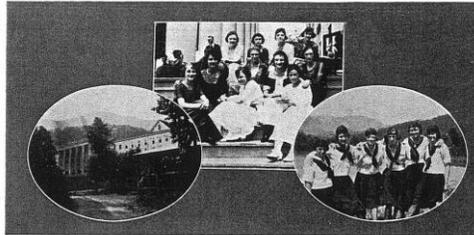
The Muse, 1915

A major reorganization came in the Fall of 1915. "Miss Katie" McKimmon continued to have supervising oversight over all the chapters, but the girls assumed more direct responsibility. Also, chapter members no longer all lived in the same dormitory, but were selected by a committee. An eighth chapter was formed and named after Kate McKimmon.

By 1918 St. Mary's School was participating in another program promoted by the National Woman's Auxiliary. Officially the Missionary Education Movement Conference, it came to be known as "Blue Ridge" for the setting in Western North Carolina. In the April-May 1919 issue of *St. Mary's Muse*, one of the four attendees closed her testimonial with an earnest hope:

Each of us wanted to help in the Junior Auxiliary at St. Mary's, and in the many Christian movements and societies in our own home towns.

The 1921 yearbook published photos and more praise for the "Blue Ridge" experience:



Blue Ridge

What a world of inspiration, of fresh outlook and new hopes, do we get from our ten days at Blue Ridge; Blue Ridge, that home of good fellowship and brotherliness, set far back, as it is, in the purplish haze of the mountains of Western North Carolina. There is something rejuvenating in the very aspect of these majestic hills—not, of course, that St. Mary's delegates have any especial need for rejuvenation. But they have need for the many other things that Blue Ridge gives them; the gifts that they can never hope to repay, no matter how great their gratitude. Blue Ridge gives them the gift of an open-hearted sympathy for all the Christian religions of the world, a tender pity for all brethren ones; the gift of a full realization of the power of honest prayer, and real work in the interests of others; the gift of a belief in the wonder-working success of fair minded play. Oh, we owe much to Blue Ridge! In return we may only hope to offer it our sincere love, a love that carries with it a definite desire to impart, in our best, though humble way, some of its wonderful, indefinable spirit to those not fortunate enough to go themselves.
LENORE POWELL.

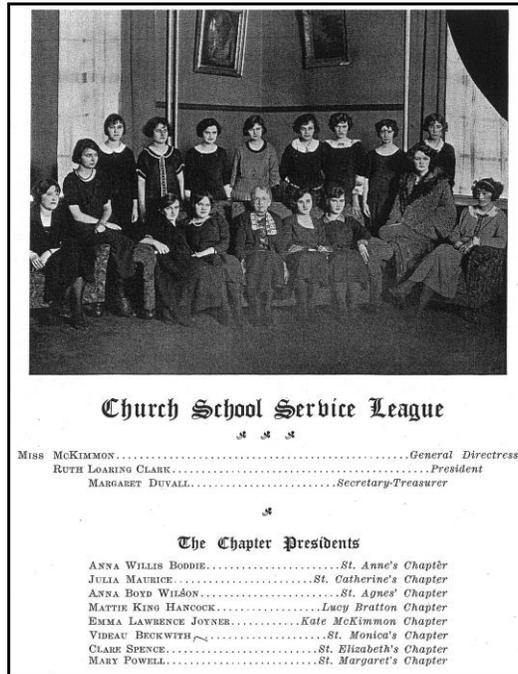
When the Episcopal Church reorganized in 1920, the Woman's Auxiliary added Christian Education and Christian Social Relations to its longstanding commitment to Mission. Along with new responsibilities came a new name, Woman's Auxiliary to the Presiding Bishop and Council. All Junior Auxiliaries were moved under Christian Education and became part of the new Church School Service League. Yearly reports for all Junior Auxiliary groups in the Diocese, including the St. Mary's Branch, no longer appeared in the Woman's Auxiliary Annual Report. However, the next two charts show that St. Mary's School took this name change and structural shift in stride, and simply listed its eight existing chapters under the new name.

The Junior Auxiliary Organization, 1919-20	
General Directress, MISS MCKIMMON	
THE COUNCIL	
KATHERINE G. BATTS, Chairman	
SUSAN COLLIER, Vice-Chairman	
THE BLUE RIDGE DELEGATES AND OFFICERS ex officio	
THE CHAPTER OFFICERS	
St. Anne's Chapter	St. Agnes' Chapter
ELIZABETH THOMAS President	MILLICENT BLANTON
MARY LOUISE EVERETT Secretary	JANE RUFFIN
SUSANNE PEGUES Treasurer	CATHARINE BOYD
MISS QUACKENBOS Adviser	MISS LEGGETT
St. Catherine's Chapter	St. Elizabeth's Chapter
NANCY LAY President	FRANCES VENABLE
KATHERINE BATTS Secretary	ANNIE HIGGS
MABEL NORFLEET Treasurer	HELEN BUDGE
MRS. MARRIOTT Adviser	MRS. PERKINS
St. Margaret's Chapter	St. Monica's Chapter
MARY BRYAN WIMBERLY President	DOROTHY KIRTLAND
LUCY LONDON ANDERSON Secretary	NINA COOPER
ELIZABETH BONNER Treasurer	ELIZABETH NOLAN
MISS NEAVE Adviser	MISS BIERCE
Lucy Bratton Chapter	Kate McKimmon Chapter
ELEANOR SUBLETT President	LEUSE POWELL
ANNIE DUNCAN Secretary	MARY YELLOTT
RAINSFORD GLASS Treasurer	JANE TOY
MISS SUTTON Adviser	MISS ROBERTS
DELEGATES TO THE BLUE RIDGE CONFERENCE, JUNE, 1919	
KATHERINE BATTS, '20	ANNIE DUNCAN, '20
CATHARINE BOYD, '20	MARY HOKK, '20
SUSAN COLLIER, '21	CATHARINE MILLER, '20
NINA COOPER, '20	JANE TOY, '20
DELEGATES TO THE DIOCESAN AUXILIARY CONVENTION AT OXFORD	
APRIL, 1920	
KATHERINE BATTS, '20	NINA COOPER, '20
SUSAN COLLIER, '21	ELIZABETH THOMAS, '21
The Woman's Auxiliary	
MRS. WAY President	
MISS SUTTON Vice-President	
MISS MCKIMMON Secretary	
MISS FENNER Treasurer	

Church School Service League 1920-1921		
General Directress—Miss MCKIMMON		
The Council		
ELIZABETH THOMAS, Chairman		
AND		
The Chapter Presidents ex-officio		
The Chapter Officers		
St. Anne's Chapter	President	St. Elizabeth's Chapter
FLORIDA KENT	SUSAN COLLIER	
REBECCA HINES Vice-President	FRANCES VENABLE	
EVALINA BECKWITH Secretary-Treasurer	EMMA VILLEPICUE	
MISS SPOFFORD Adviser		
St. Margaret's Chapter	President	Kate McKimmon Chapter
ELIZABETH CARRIGAN	DOROTHY BAUM	
MARGE BLAKELEY Secretary-Treasurer	FIELDING DOUTHAT	
St. Margaret's Chapter	President	Kate McKimmon Chapter
KATHERINE WARDLELL	ELIZABETH NELSON	
ELISE BALLARD Secretary	LOUISE EGGLESTON	
MABEL HAWKINS Treasurer	MARIETTA GARREISSON	
Lucy Bratton Chapter	President	St. Catherine's Chapter
MARGARET HUSKE	ELIZABETH NOLAN	
CAROLINE MOORE Secretary-Treasurer	EMILY HART	
MISS SUTTON Adviser		



According to Martha Stoops, “when the Episcopal Church replaced the Junior Auxiliaries with the Church School Service League, President Way had the entire student body organized into chapters. The league studied missions and sent contributions to various fields, including the usual scholarship to Shanghai. The students of the Way rectorship caught the vision, for one valedictorian said, ‘We realize that now it is our turn to go out into the world and serve, and it is with heartfelt gratitude that we turn to St. Mary’s and thank her that we are in part fitted to do this.’ . . . Twenty-five years later, in any gathering of the leaders of the women’s work in the Diocese of North Carolina, over half of those present would be St. Mary’s alumnae.”



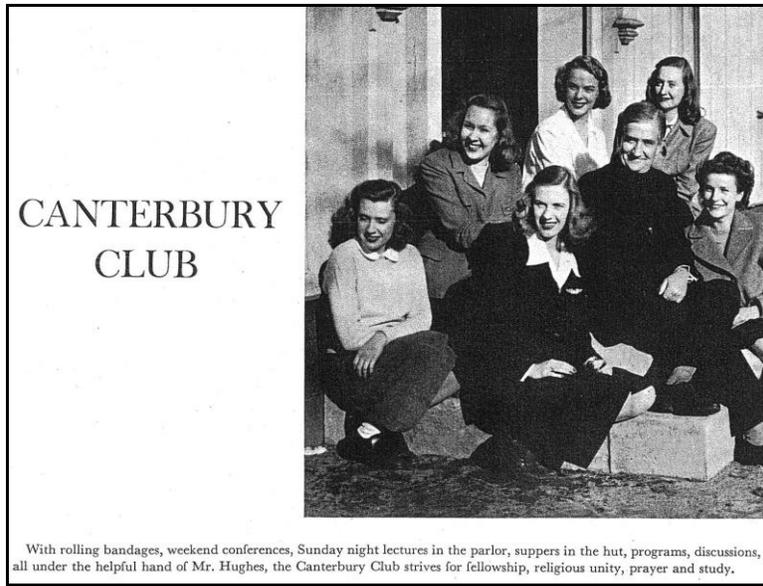
The Muse, 1924

In time the name Church School Service League also disappeared. According to Stoops, in 1944 “half of the Episcopal students were organized into the Woman’s Auxiliary with four guilds. The non-Episcopalians organized a YWCA and the two groups cooperated in planning meetings and projects.”



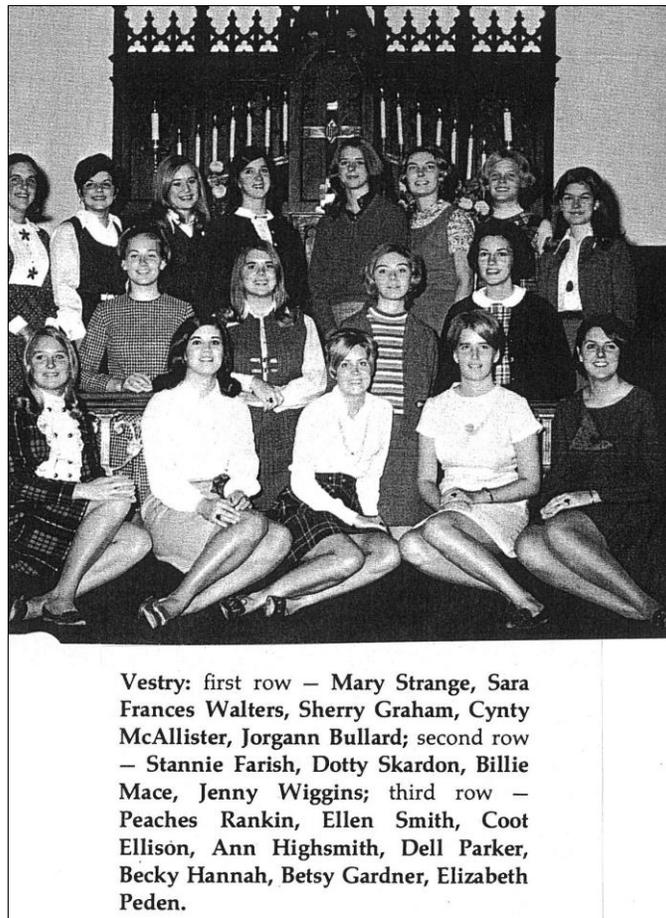
The Stagecoach, 1947

The school's official name became St. Mary's School and Junior College in 1945, and Chaplain Harding Hughes organized a Canterbury Club, as other Episcopal campus groups were called.



The Stagecoach, 1945

A student Vestry was formed in 1969 with major responsibility for promoting volunteerism. Although its "look" has changed with the times over the past forty years, this major student group continues the long tradition of service work at St. Mary's School.



The Stagecoach, 1970



BACK ROW: Caro Ealy, Christman Wolverton, Rebecca Pace, Susan Carter, Dabney Mann, Suzanne Thurlow, Mary Eccles Cheatham, and Annie Gray Sprunt. **FRONT ROW:** Pam Aikins, Margaret Ellington, Terri Shebert, and Susan Thomas.

The Vestry is the student advisory body of the Chapel and works under legislation passed by itself.

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

Stagecoach, 1985

Last year's Vestry chose the Millennium Development Goals as the Chapel theme for the 2008-2009 academic year. The article reproduced on the facing page is from the June 2009 issue of *The North Carolina Disciple*. It seems a fitting coda to this overview of the mission impulse that has been at the heart of St. Mary's School for close to 168 years. And the record confirms that the Woman's Auxiliary played a major and sustained role in making mission happen at St. Mary's.

Making the MDG Grade

BY LISA H. TOWLE, MEMBER, MDG SUBCOMMITTEE

Last month Saint Mary's School in Raleigh held its 167th Commencement exercises. Following time-honored ritual, graduates, faculty, family and friends looked back at accomplishments before looking ahead. One endeavor in particular stood out as an example of the past informing the present and future: the Millennium Development Goals-focused Nets for Life.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, Saint Mary's chose the MDGs as a theme for Chapel. School chaplain, the Rev. Andrea Wigodsky, invited Debra Smithdeal, chair of the diocese's MDG Subcommittee, to help with the education effort by addressing faculty and students during a Friday morning chapel service in October.

Smithdeal explained the history, purpose and theology of the eight goals, and then offered examples of "the deepest brokenness in the world today ... the extreme poverty we really do not see in our country: 1.2 billion people living on less than \$1 a day; 110 million children who are not allowed to receive a full course of primary education; 500,000 women who die every year from complications of pregnancy and childbirth; 8,000 people who die every day of HIV/AIDS; one child under 5 years of age dying every thirty seconds from preventable, treatable diseases."

The Chapel program elected to concentrate on Goal #6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. A campus-wide fundraiser was initiated so mosquito nets could be purchased through Episcopal Relief and Development's Nets for Life program to prevent malaria.

Led by the vestry, which produced a skit about the effort for a school assembly, students created pledge cards, collected money, and even fashioned an honor card with a picture of a mosquito in a Santa hat so people could give



St. Mary's initiated a campus-wide fundraiser so mosquito nets could be purchased through Episcopal Relief and Development's Nets for Life program to prevent malaria.

nets in honor of their loved ones for Christmas.

"We picked up the pledge cards as an offering at our Thanksgiving Eucharist, and we announced the totals at our Christmas Eucharist," said Chaplain Wigodsky. All told, more than \$6,300 was raised for ERD and over 500 nets purchased.

"Through this project our school became more aware of the MDGs and how we can contribute to the accomplishment of these international goals. More specifically, the Saint Mary's School community became aware of the dangers of malaria and how prevalent and deadly it is in many African countries. Looking back on the project, it is truly amazing to see how this simple fundraiser impacted our school community while saving many African lives," said Senior Warden Betsy Bryan Pitts, class of 2009.

(More information about the MDGs in the Diocese of North Carolina can be found at www.dioncmdg.org). ♣