



ACCW

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# THE ADVOCATE

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E-PUBLICATION OF ACCW

REV. CATHERINE GILLIARD, PRESIDENT

## 2013 ACCW Strategic Planning Process



The ACCW board met in Chicago to begin a strategic planning process. The meeting was funded by our colleagues in the ministerium and facilitated by Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Deasy. The board began its work by listing the historical ways in which God has worked through our advocacy for clergy women over the years and the common themes that could be lifted from that history. We followed this time with a session in which we reviewed current statistics of where women are serving and the roles in which they are serving. There was a rich time of discussing our scope and guiding questions including: Who are we advocating for? Who are we advocating to? Who are we advocating with?

Who are our partners? Our next session included a time of discussing what would disappear if ACCW didn't exist, our weaknesses, threats, strengths and opportunities.

We completed the launch of our strategic work by developing beginning drafts of our purpose, vision and mission statements. We use this definition of a purpose statement: a statement of the fundamental reason for your existence. It is the motivational force that drives what you do and answers the reason for being.

The purpose statement the board will be presenting is: **ACCW Advocates for Covenant Clergy Women.** The board will ask our partners to affirm all three statements. The vision and mission statements will be emailed in the next two issues of *The Advocate*. The ACCW annual business meeting begins at 12:20 pm on Thursday, January 30, 2014.

Come early on Thursday, at 11:15 am, for *Clergy Connecting: Life Together, Lunch Together*. Join the celebration of our unity in Christ, as we welcome men and women clergy to connect in conversation and experience how advocacy and supporting one another strengthens our calling as pastors. *Attendees must RSVP and pay the \$12 lunch fee when registering online for Midwinter.* Your voice is important to our moving forward. All members of the ministerium can be ACCW partners and are invited to attend.

## Regional Pastors & Spouse Retreats

Your regional Pastors and Spouse retreats will be a time of connecting, sharing and encouraging colleagues in your conference. Please join ACCW partners as they gather during these retreats and share in how supporting advocacy of clergy women strengthens both our regional and national ministerium. To become a partner, go to the website listed above and pay the annual partnership donation online.