



The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

# Appleton Episcopal Ministries of Central Georgia

*Sharing God's love by partnering as parishes in the Macon Convocation to promote the health, safety, education, and well-being of children and families.*

## ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Since Diocesan Council 2013, there have been many exciting developments in AEM. We are pleased to announce that Appleton has launched according to the plan that was presented at last year's Council. After the change to Canon 9 was unanimously approved at Council last year, Appleton restructured to have a representative from each of the Macon Convocation's parishes. Our new mission is to share God's love by partnering as parishes in the Macon Convocation to promote the health, safety, education, and well-being of children and families.

The first item on the agenda for the newly organized Appleton Board when it held its meeting in January was to consider the applications and conduct interviews for the new position of Missioner for the Macon Convocation. Although we had many qualified and impressive candidates, the Appleton Executive Committee agreed that one in particular stood out as having the gifts and experience needed to lead this new convocational endeavor. At our February meeting, Julie Groce was interviewed by the entire Appleton Board, which then voted to call her to be our Missioner effective February 15.

Since Julie was hired in February, many of you have come to see firsthand at ministry fairs and other Diocesan events the extraordinary gifts for ministry she brings to her role as our Missioner. During the visits she has been making to the Macon Convocation parishes she has been listening to the hopes and dreams for Appleton from the membership of our parishes. She has then been bringing that information to the monthly Appleton Board meetings so that we can build an organization to help our parishes come together to serve the needs of people in Middle Georgia.

Throughout this year we have been putting together the policies and procedures for our restructured organization and an application for new ministries initiated or funded by Appleton. The Appleton Board is now preparing to accept proposals from Macon Convocation parishes in the next two months.

As we continue to move forward in this new stage of Appleton's ministry, we need the continued support of the parishes of the Diocese. Canon 24 states that the annual offering for Appleton can be taken up on Thanksgiving Day, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, or the Sunday after it.

Thank you so much in advance for your commitment to this new incarnation of Appleton, a ministry that God has used to serve children and families in the Macon Convocation since the end of the Civil War. As we go forward together, we can have confidence that God will continue to powerfully use us to spread God's love in Middle Georgia.

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**Trisha Barfield**  
**Alfred Ellis**  
**Ann Eubanks, Vice Chair**  
**Anne Meroney, Secretary**  
**Julia Mitchener**  
**Marianne Overton**  
**Stuart Rumph**  
**Joseph Shippen, Chair**  
**Word Train**  
**Michael Webb**  
**Ben Wells**  
**Barbara Windom**  
**The Rt. Rev. Keith Whitmore**  
**W.C. Wyatt, Treasurer**

---

### Missioner – Julie Groce

Appleton Episcopal Ministries  
753 College Street  
Macon, Georgia 31201  
478-731-5901  
[appletonepiscopal.org](http://appletonepiscopal.org)  
[missioner@appletonepiscopal.org](mailto:missioner@appletonepiscopal.org)