

Diocesan Council Report to Deanery
January 30, 2014
(Notes from October through January Retreat)

Bishop Shaw

Bishop Shaw had a second surgery to remove another tumor in December. There appears to be none left. While he will be undergoing further experimental treatments, he remains optimistic. He continues to be on a reduced work schedule. He spent ten days in the Galapagos Islands.

Bishop Election

Budget was reduced from the previous report as Bishop Tom is retiring upon the election of the new bishop in September, so there will be no overlapping. Future diocesan budgets will include \$50,000 to be set aside in a fund to accrue towards the next bishop election.

Slate of Nominees

- The Rev. Holly Antolini, Rector, St. James's Church, Cambridge, Mass.
- The Rev. Ronald Culmer, Rector, St. Clare's Church, Pleasanton, Calif.
- The Rev. Alan Gates, Rector, St. Paul's Church, Cleveland Heights, Ohio
- The Rev. Ledlie Laughlin, Rector, St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia, Penn.
- The Rev. Sam Rodman, Project Manager for Campaign Initiatives, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

Information on the candidates may be found at www.mabishopsearch.org
Walkabouts will be held March 14-19. Locations will be announced after the Open Nomination process is closed (January 31st) and candidates, (if any) have been vetted. (by Mar. 1st)

The Special Convention to elect the next bishop will be April 5th at St. Paul's Cathedral

Closed Parishes and Use of Proceeds

As reported before, in the past couple of years, several parishes have been closed or merged with other parishes. When parishes are closed, after expenses, 50% of the revenue from sale of property and other assets goes towards congregational development and 50% goes toward a fund from which parishes can apply to access for projects that may not be fundable through traditional grants and/or loans. A couple of projects have been funded with this money. The Executive Committee will have responsibility for reviewing future applications and presenting to the full Council its recommendation. Details of how this will work will be developed.

Mission Hubs

The Cape & Islands and Merrimack Valley proposals have been approved. These are being funded by the Together Now campaign over several years.

Grants & Loans

The Creation Care Initiative is being funded by the *Together Now Campaign*. \$1m is available for grants and \$1m for loans. Details for the Green Loans Program are being worked out.

Annual Fund

The goal was to raise \$100K more than last, but the appeal fell short by \$50k
All the money goes to projects not funded by the *Together Now Campaign*, eg
Urban residents

Bishop Tom has used all of his Discretionary Fund to fund mission work, which
is not true in many other dioceses

Assessment Formula

The formula is proposed to remain the same and will be voted on in at the April
Council meeting.

Investment Policy

The Council has ultimate fiduciary responsibility for overseeing its investments.
The Diocesan Council has developed an Investment Policy for its agency funds.
Previously there was no formal policy in place for this purpose.

January Retreat

As this was the last retreat at which Tom would be in attendance, the council
members began the process of saying goodbye by paying him tribute with words
and small gifts.

Submitted by:

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