

Deanery Assembly Minutes

Date: 14 March 2019

Host Parish: St. Mary's of the Harbor, Provincetown

Parishes Present: St. Mary's, Barnstable; St. Peter's, Buzzards Bay; St. Christopher's, Chatham; St. Barnabas, Falmouth (via zoom); Church of the Holy Spirit, Orleans; Christ Church, Plymouth; St. Mary's of the Harbor, Provincetown; St. David's, South Yarmouth; Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole.

6:00: Brown Bag supper. Delegates were encouraged to sit with someone they didn't know and NEW delegates were asked to check in with Helen Gordon to make sure their emails were in the list.

6:45: Assembly called to order by Co-Convener, Connie Melahoures

Opening Prayer: Terry Pannell, Dean and Rector of St. Mary's Provincetown.

There were many new delegates, so those present, actually or virtually, introduced themselves

Minutes: January minutes were accepted.

Reports:

Diocesan Council (Helen Gordon): There have been two meetings since the last Assembly and one was the Council retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Camp. The retreat provided time for much more in-depth discussions. Some high points of both meetings:

- Discussed the work to be done at the camp. They will plant a Paris Grove (in response to General Convention and Diocesan Convention mandate) among other projects.
- Talked about the Mission Initiatives (the new name for Strategic Ministries) and started the process of inviting proposals for new initiatives (voted during last convention).
- Grace Chapel, Brockton, is now part of the South Shore Deanery.
- Discussed Leadership Development within the parishes. How do we build leadership? How do we reach people? How do we be more inclusive and/or diverse?
- Compensation and Benefits Committee
- Discussed how the Diocese can ramp up their engagement with youth. The Presiding Bishop will be here **April 27** (1:30-3:00 Cathedral Church of St. Paul) to meet with young people.

- Communication with the Deaneries is encouraged, so Helen asked if there was anything we wanted her to take back to the Council. Deb Warner suggested that we keep the Council working on issues around climate change as something very important to the Cape and Islands Deanery.

Regional Canon Report: Kelly O’Connell, the Canon for the Southern Region, reported that most of her time is spent on transition work. Seventeen clergy were in transition at the last Deanery meeting and only one is permanent with more entering transition. A little over half of our parishes have part-time clergy. Deb Warner gave an example of difficulty finding a fill-in for her two absences. Church of the Messiah will have lay-led Morning Prayer for those two Sundays.

Events coming up:

- **April 6:** Congregational Business Practices Workshop. Church of the Good Shepherd, 74 High Street, Wareham, MA (Wardens and Treasurers, especially)
- **April 28:** Bishop Curry will be part of a panel discussion at Grace Church in New Bedford (133 School St.) 3-4 pm.
- Bishop Curry will also be on Boston Common for a “Way of Love” Rally, **April 27**, 5-6 pm.

Dean’s Report: Terry reported on the following items.

- Thomas Brown is the new Bishop of Maine.
- BCH Camp Embezzlement process is ongoing. The Diocese is trying to recoup as much money as possible.
- BCH Camp is attempting to bring in more adult programs year round and bookings are going up.
- There has been a surge in disciplinary and misconduct actions in this diocese. The issues are between adults in these cases and there is a process: The allegations are investigated and resolved.
- Looking at adaptive processes; to stop trying to fit a square peg in a round hole. Look at your needs and your abilities and look to see how they can work together. Look at opportunities and not just at difficulties or losses.

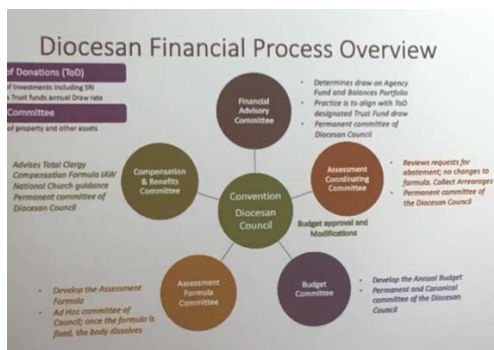
Treasurer: Jared not here. Not a lengthy report.

Communication: Helen asked that if you did NOT get the email newsletter, please see her at the end of the meeting. She also talked about Zoom and the possibilities available to everyone to attend meetings online.

Program

Disaster Preparedness: Hilary Greene gave a tutorial about updating our asset map entries. The goal is to have all the parishes in the Deanery answer the four questions on Disaster Preparedness plans before the next Deanery meeting (name, address details, description of your community) There is a new Disaster Coordinator for the Diocese: James Thomas. Hilary then went through how to input information and how to use the map, using Provincetown as an example. There's another Disaster Preparedness Workshop **April 6** from 9-2:30 pm Trinity Church in Marshfield.

Diocesan Budget 101: The Rev Stephen Voysey, Treasurer of the Diocese of Massachusetts, gave a wonderful, entertaining talk about his job and the process of assembling a budget for the diocese every year.



The discussion about the 2020 Diocesan Budget in our area will be **April 4, 2019** at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Wareham, 7-8:30 pm. There are more diocesan budget conversations in other places throughout the month of April. (See Events calendar on the diocesan website.)

Announcements:

- Next Deanery: Thursday evening in Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole, **May 9** at 6:00pm The program will be Narcan training. We will be working on the calendar for next year's deanery meetings and the nominating committee will come up with a slate for next year. If you want to hold an office that you don't currently hold, please let Becky Alden know. She and the committee will be contacting current office holders to see if they wish to continue. Plus the House of Mercy Grant for Amazing Grace Camp and Sending and Serving Matching Grant (for Paper Pantry out of St. David's) will be discussed.
- Marilyn McMillan talked about the Global Mission "Speed Partnering" Event. Saturday **April 13** at St. John's Church in Arlington, 1-3 pm. This is a matchmaking opportunity for congregations and organizations with established global mission efforts to connect with other congregations and individuals who

would like to join them. We were asked to put down our parish name and the name of the person from our parish who is interested in Global Mission, if there is one. One outcome would be populating the asset map with this ministry.

- The next Cape and Islands Faith Communities Environmental Network forum will be Sunday, **May 19** at St. David's, 1 – 5 pm, with a highlighted panel discussion 2-4 pm. This forum brings together the scientific and faith communities to take action in response to the global climate crisis. The science speaker is Wayne Walker who focuses on the impact trees have on climate. The faith speaker is Deb Warner.
- Tuesday afternoons in **May**, from 1-4pm, St. David's will be offering Healing Prayer training. This is a powerful ministry and if you are interested or have someone in your congregation who is interested, contact St. David's in Yarmouth.
- Hilary Greene announced that there are two blood drives in April and June at St. David's. There is a blood emergency at the moment.
- Indaba 2019 (<https://www.diomass.org/mission-strategy-indaba-2019>) is underway and 9 parishes are involved, St. David's being one of them. The first Indaba Encounter weekend is March 30-31.

8:19: Closing Prayer: Andi Taylor, Rector of St. David's, Yarmouth.