



Diocese of Missouri
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Making Disciples
Building Congregations
For the Life of the World*

**MEETING OF THE
Trustees of the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri**

Meeting as

**DIOCESAN COUNCIL
Christ Church Cathedral:
St. Louis, MO:
February 20, 2016**

Members Present: Margaret Rowe, Tamsen Whistler, Bill Cramer, Liz Yount, Al Ludwig, Brooke Forsyth, Rebecca Barger, Barbi Click, Edie Bird, Sylvia Thomas, Bill Gilbert, Allyce Bullock, Krista Baker (via video), Sally Weaver, Bishop Smith

Treasurer: Tom Hedrick

Staff present: Joe Chambers and Desiree Viliocco

Call to Order & Opening Prayer - 9:00 a.m.

Opening Prayer - Bishop Smith

Approval of Minutes

December Minutes - Approved without objection or amendment

Financial Report – Tom Hedrick

Health Insurance Cadillac Tax has been postponed a few years, therefore the immediacy of the conversation has been eased. It should be a part of the clergy compensation conversation.

In January, the IRS approved our applications of the Thompson and White funds to change our status from private foundations to supporting organizations. Thompson Fund is a full supporting organization, and the White fund has a five-year probation period. Our IRS status will save us money, and we might be able to file an amended return to get some back.

2015 was a good year. Spending was responsible, we accurately predicted our income, and we didn't have any unexpected expenses.

2016 is too young to report anything substantive.

Bishop's Appointments to Council

Bishop appointed Rebecca Barger to Council, and Rebecca was welcomed to the room as members introduced themselves to each other.

Bishop's Report

In January, the bishop visited the Diocese of Los Angeles to preach at two Martin Luther King events. As bishop of Missouri, which is in Ferguson, I have the privilege of speaking and preaching at such events.

The Bishop attended the House of Bishops Theology Committee in the Diocese of Rio Grande in Albuquerque. Be sure to check out this committee's Lenten series, which has been supported by Forward Movement. It is possibly the Swan Song for this committee, as the new Presiding Bishop will restructure the House of Bishops organization.

March will be a busy time with the Clergy Retreat, an overnight trip to New York City for a Church Pension Group consultation on theological and post seminary formation, and the HOB will meet at Camp Allen in Texas.

The Bishop attended an Adobe Connect meeting with the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music. A 90-minute video conference is difficult, but we got a lot done. Only one in-person meeting is planned. The bishop is vice-chair of this group while Devon Anderson is chair.

The essential issue I need to talk about is the Cathedral. I am very much engaged with the Chapter, and the Dean with the ongoing reality of their financial situation. They are being diligent, but their financial distress is 2-3 decades in the making therefore the task is large. I am committed to working with them for some solution.

A discussion about the Cathedral and building followed the Bishop's report.

New Ventures in Community Ministry Grant

Brooke Forsyth gave an update about New Ventures in Community Ministry Grants. Reports have been received from Good Shepherd, Town and Country, but no other reports have been submitted.

A tentative Schedule for this year's Grant program has been set:

April 11 Mailing will be sent out

June 15 Proposals

July 9 regrets

Sept 9 deadline

October Council Meeting: Final Report

Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund Request

Bishop gave a little background about the fund.

The following resolution passed without objection

RESOLVED, that the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri does hereby confirm and approve the following corporate action of COEDMO: that a grant in the amount of \$1,242.42 be awarded from the Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund to assist a clergyperson with medical expenses not covered through an insurance plan.

Fund balance as of 12/31/2015: \$1,512,506

Established in 1870, and derived from offerings and gifts, this Fund is to be used for the relief of clergy canonically resident in the Diocese disabled by age, disease, or otherwise, and of the surviving spouse and children of Clergy. Per Diocesan Canon, the Trustees of COEDMO shall receive, consider and grant or deny applications for relief.

Diocesan Investment Trust Trustee Election

There are seven trustees, and currently one vacancy. Trustees have nominated Krista Baker. Council elected Ms. Baker without objection to serve on the DIT.

Convocations:

Reports

- a. Kemper - Met last Saturday, heard reports, elected Bill Cramer
- b. Metro II - No meeting
- c. Metro III - Submitted a written report, reaching out to Trinity Desoto in the hope of getting them involved.
- d. Metro IV - Submitted a written report
- e. West - Still reorganizing.
- f. South - nothing to add

Open Question/Comment Time

Tamsen Whistler asked about job openings and transitions and Joe Chambers gave a quick rundown of the transitions happening. Transfiguration, St. Luke's, Trinity, St. Paul's, St. John's, Youth Missioner, and St. Peter's second assistant are all in transition.

Short Break: 9:50 a.m.

St. Francis Church - Presentation

An extensive report on the state of St. Francis' Church and their building plans. They are on the brink of becoming a parish. It is estimated that they will be a full parish in 3-5 years. There is plenty of population growth projected for the area. Their portability has helped them to focus on relationships and people.

Working with Church Development Services. Sally Weaver presented the plans and ideas and discussion follow.

Capital Campaign on or before May 1.

Handout Attached.

Discussion with Council continued, Tamsen put forth a motion to pay for the entire project. At this point there was a little discussion followed by the chair requesting a 5 minute break.

Short break: 11:00 a.m.

The Bishop spoke from the chair to support the project and to propose that different funds be used, not just the building fund. Discussion followed.

During the discussion, the Bishop asked the people of St. Francis' in the room, "Do you pledge yourselves to give sacrificially towards the building of St. Francis' church"?

The people responded: **We will with God's Help**

Tamsen Whistler put forth the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the members of the Diocesan Council, in their capacity as the Trustees of The Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri ("COEDMO"), do hereby authorize \$1,927,483.00 in total, depleting the New Witness Fund and taking the remainder from the Future Mission Building and Property Fund, to be used for St. Francis' new building project, located at 602 Brewster in Eureka, MO.

The motion passed without objection. Applause followed and celebration ensued.

Noonday Prayer

Adjourn 11:26