



Trustees of the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri
Meeting as
DIOCESAN COUNCIL
Hybrid meeting at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
808 N. Mason Rd.
Creve Coeur, MO 63141
April 9, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 A.M.

Opening Prayer

Roll Call: The Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson, Mrs. Lynette Ballard, Mrs. Angela Breeher, the Rev. Nancy Emmel Gunn, the Rev. Amy Fallon, Mr. William Haggerty Jr., Mr. George Hartsfield, the Ven. Harry Leip III, Mr. Justin Martin, the Rev. Michael Nchimbi, Mrs. Kerry Quinlisk, Mrs. Annette Webb, the Rev. Dr. Carol Wesley, Mrs. Elizabeth Yount, the Very Rev. Kathleen Adams-Shepherd, Mr. Mike Fowlkes, the Rev. Shug Goodlow, Ms. Annette Webb, Dr. Carter Whitson

Ex-Officio – Mr. Harold Burroughs, Mr. Al Ludwig

Staff – Canon Desirée Brattin, the Rev. Canon Doris Westfall, Ms. Rita Benson, Ms. Janis Greenbaum, Ms. Tracy Grigsby, the Rev. Michaelene Miller, Ms. Susan Rehkopf, the Rev. Canon Whitney Rice, Ms. Jillian Smith via video

The Diocesan staff introduced themselves to the Committees and listed who does what in the Diocesan Offices.

The Bishop invited the Chancellor, Hal Burroughs, to provide a legal orientation to the Council and the Standing Committee members concerning their role as members of Council and Standing Committee.

The Diocesan Council functions as what is called Convention in absentia. It is responsible for implementing Convention policies and interpreting the Canons, and so on, when Convention is not in session. Diocesan Council functions as the Board of Directors of COEDMO, Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri.

The Standing Committee functions as a council of advice to the Bishop. Hal referred the Committee and Council to the Diocesan Canons for the responsibilities for both Committees.

Hal wanted the Standing Committee to know that when they function as the council of advice to the Bishop, the deliberations and discussions are confidential.

The Bishop thanked Hal and the Standing Committee. Hal and the Standing Committee members left the meeting.

Approval of Diocesan Council Minutes – February 19, 2022

Motion to approve the February minutes.

The Council requested the elected Emery Washington Convocation lay and clergy Council representatives be included in the February Council minutes. Motion to approve the minutes with the additions was moved and seconded. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Election of Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council – Bishop Deon asked for nominations from the floor. The Council had no nominations. The Bishop suggested Lynette Ballard as Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council.

The motion to approve Lynette as Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council was moved and seconded with no discussion. The motion was approved.

Financial Report – Al Ludwig, Liz Yount, and Desiree Brattin

Al referred the Council to the Receipts from Parishes and Missions Report, Operating Budget Report, and Balance Sheets in the meeting folder.

- Parish Receipts are under commitment at this stage in the year. This is a normal pattern at this stage and causes no concern.
- The Operating Budget Year-to-Date is tracking close to the budget.
- Balance Sheets: The Diocese overall is in good condition

Al opened the floor to questions and comments. The Council had no questions or comments on the report.

Diocesan Council Standing Teams Announced:

STEWARDSHIP [GRANTS, BUDGET & FINANCE]

Convener – TBD

Consultant – Pamela Stuerke

Lyn Ballard

Larry Cornelius

Amy Fallon

Nancy Emmel Gunn

Liz Kramer

Liz Yount

VITAL COMMUNITIES

Convener – TBD

Consultant – TBD

Angela Breeher

Sondra Kekec

Harry Leip
Michael Nchimbi
Joshua Smith
Annette Webb

PROPERTY & FACILITIES

Convener – TBD
Consultant – TBD
Bill Haggerty
George Hartsfield
Justin Martin
Kerry Quinlisk
Carol Wesley

Church Assistance Endowment Fund – Establish Committee

Nominated Committee members: Nancy Emmel Gunn, Harry Liep III, Justin Martin

The CAEF applications went out to the Congregations with a April 13 submission deadline. We have \$52,700 to allocate in grants this year.

New Ventures in Community Ministries Fund – Liz Yount

Liz presented the New Ventures in Community Ministries Fund updated guidelines for the 2023 Grant application to the Council. The Subcommittee updated the guidelines and made some changes in order to allow the Bishop, in conjunction with Diocesan Council, to grant requests outside the normal cycle or schedule.

“The New Ventures in Community Ministries committee, in agreement with the Bishop and Diocesan Council may from time to time consider emergency or other time sensitive grants outside the Formal Application process. Acceptance of any grant proposal outside the timetable listed below is at the sole discretion of these bodies. The timetable for the Formal Application process is as follows”:

The motion to accept the updated New Ventures in Community Ministries Fund document was moved and seconded. The Council discussed funding and a current request. The updated New Ventures in Community Ministries Fund guidelines were approved as submitted.

Liz presented the special NVCMG request from St. Paul’s, St. Louis.

- St. Paul’s, St. Louis requested a grant to start their La Misa Project. La Misa is an intentional program to welcome Hispanic neighbors of the congregation and the Diocese. It is a step-by-step program to help target and guide Latino neighbors. St. Paul’s will work with TryTank Experimental Laboratory, a lab for church growth. TryTank “is a joint project between Virginia Theological Seminary and the General Theological Seminary,” <https://www.trytank.org/about.html>
- The recommendation from the NVCMG Subcommittee to Council is to grant \$13,000 to St. Paul’s, St. Louis; the original request is for \$20,008
- The Council had some discussion.

- The motion to approve the \$13,000 grant for the La Misa project, was moved, and second. The motion to approve the New Ventures in Community Ministry Fund for St. Paul's, St. Louis was approved with one abstention.

Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund Request -

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 \$1,657.98 be awarded from the Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund to assist a clergyperson with out of pocket medical expenses.

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 \$3,456.46 be awarded from the Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund to assist a clergyperson with out of pocket medical expenses.

Desirée presented the requests for the Funds. The motion to approve the Aged & Infirm Fund requests was so moved, and seconded. The Council had some discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Administrative Support Position Funding -

Resolved, that the Trustees of the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri authorize the Bishop to access up to \$50,000 from the COEDMO Unrestricted Funds to fund the compensation package of a full time Administrative Assistant position in the Diocesan Offices.

Rationale: This request will fund the compensation package from June – December 2022. Future funding will come from the Diocesan Operating Budget. The Diocese ended 2021 with an Operating Budget surplus of \$375,190. This is largely due to recognizing income from the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan, as well as expenses coming in under budget due to programs and ministries not functioning at full capacity due to COVID. This surplus rolls into COEDMO Unrestricted Funds. Diocesan Council subsequently approved outreach ministry grants of \$1,000 each to all congregations, leaving a surplus balance of \$332,000.

Desirée presented the resolution and a brief overview of the need for the position to the Council. The motion to approve the expenditure of \$50,000 for an administrative assistant in the Diocesan Office from June through December was moved, and seconded. No discussion. The motion to fund a full time Administrative Assistant position was approved.

Bishop Kemper School for Ministry –

Resolved, that the Trustees of the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri authorizes entering into an affiliation agreement between the Diocese of Missouri and the Bishop Kemper School For Ministry.

Rationale: The Episcopal School for Ministry of the Diocese of Missouri is no longer operating but the need for local training of clergy remains. The Diocese of West Missouri, Diocese of Kansas, Diocese of Western Kansas and the Diocese of Nebraska have established the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry and share in its funding. The Diocese of Missouri has been invited to become a sponsoring diocese and to share in the educational opportunities and funding that being part of Bishop Kemper provides.

Bishop Deon reminded the Council the Episcopal School for Ministry program ended last year. The annual cost was \$38,000. He added the annual cost for the Bishop Kemper School would be \$25,000.

Bishop Deon let the Council know Diocesan Convention approved the funds for the school at the previous Convention, and that funds are built into the Budget.

Canon Doris provided an overview of the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry. The school is nonresidential; they have satellite locations and offer online courses but do meet in person at times. The school offers certificates in priestly studies, studies in the diaconate, in lay preaching, congregational administration, and more. The cost per class is \$130.00.

The motion to approve the affiliation partnership with the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry was moved and seconded. The Council had some discussion. The school does prepare candidates for General Ordination Exams. The motion was approved unanimously.

Bishop's Report -

- New Diocesan Council Agenda based on the Strategic Visioning Report (the Bishop will work with Desirée and Tracy to incorporate the Strategic Vision into the Agenda).
- Visitations - Trinity, St. Charles, worshipping virtually due to renovations.
- Trinity, St. James - Wonderful visitation, very engaged with their community.
- Episcopal Actions - Celebration of New Ministry of the Rev. Dr. Mary Korte at Christ Church, Rolla. They are looking forward to the College Chaplaincy Program.
- Conversations with the Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce, Bishop of the Diocese of West Missouri to figure out new ways to collaborate and do things together; maybe a clergy gathering.
- St. Barnabas – Worshipping in the Parish Hall, due to needed building maintenance.
- House of Bishops – Had a great time, went to Bishop Camp, and spent some time with the Rt. Rev. George Wayne Smith.
- Town Halls and Meetings:
 - St. Albans, Fulton
 - St. Luke's, Ballwin
 - St. John's, Tower Grove
 - Trinity, Hannibal
- Sabbatical Week – The feedback has been positive.

- St. Luke's & Good Shepherd have agreed to merge to form a new congregation within the Diocese housed at the Good Shepherd facility. St. Luke's building may become the home for the Faith Christian Church of India.
- Clergy Retreat – The clergy had a great time and some fruitful conversation.
- Kelton White Fund and Congregational Development & Support – We are looking at ways to continue to support congregations while looking to expand the Diocesan staff. We are going to invite the Standing Committee to approve the use of the Kelton White Funds for congregational support. Moving the congregational support would free up funds from the budget and help expand Diocesan staff.
- Virtual Gatherings & New Initiatives
- Children and Youth Gathering
- Lay College Chaplain Gathering
- Rockwell House 20th Anniversary
- Clergy Spouse Planning Meeting
- Bishop Kemper School Meeting
- Updated COVID Guidelines
- Upcoming Events:
 - Deacons Quiet Day – March 26
 - ELCA-TEC Gathering Virtual & Kansas City
 - Renewal of Vows and Baptism - St. Timothy's, Creve Coeur
 - Renewal of Ministry – Church of the Advent April 30, 2022

Convocation Reports:

- Emery Washington – Nothing to report at this time. One project the Convocation is considering is to pool financial resources from the \$1,000 grants to help eliminate medical debt, and they are doing a softball tournament.
- Elizabeth Dyer – Nothing to report at this time.
- Jane Dey – Met on March 19. The Dean and Warden are working on how to get more Convocation members involved. Looking to fill the Mission on Ministry Council Convocation Representative. They are working on filling the Council of Convocations positions. Celebration of Jane Dey. They decided to have a Drive Down to Rolla-coaster to Christ Church on May 21 to celebrate Jane Dey.
- Jackson Kemper – Met via Zoom on March 29. Elected a Secretary and Treasurer. Discussed how to celebrate Bishop Kemper with a written article.

Open Question/Comment Time

Motion to adjourn was moved and second. The Motion carried.

Adjourn at 12:57 P.M.