



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT

PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL/MISSION COUNCIL: 2017-2018

The Mission Council serves as a leadership body for ECCT's common participation in God's mission, using common resources, between sessions of the Annual Convention. It is responsible for financial oversight of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. To this end, the Mission Council met quarterly on December 9, 2017, March 17, 2018, June 9, 2018, and September 8, 2018. The Mission Council also gathered on January 13, 2018, for a workday devoted to visioning and planning for work for the coming year.

The Mission Council is responsible for financial oversight of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, and serves as a leadership body for ECCT's common participation in God's Mission, using our common resources, between sessions of the Annual Convention. The following is a summary of Mission Council actions.

Annual Convention 2017 provided Mission Council with a variety of resolutions and reports that helped shape the work of Mission Council. The Mission Council advanced the work of Annual Convention by proposing and endorsing resolutions to General Convention to Direct Church Pension Group to Report Clergy Compensation by Race, to promote Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, Reduce our Carbon Footprint, Proposed Baptismal Covenant Language Reflecting Our Unity with All Creation, and resolutions regarding the Use of Other Anglican Books of Worship and forwarding work to Minimize Gendered Language in Prayer Book Revision .

The Mission Council also worked in the areas of Affirming Racial Reconciliation, with a significant portion of our Mission Council meetings and our quarterly Leadership Gatherings engaged in this important work. Please see the report submitted to this Annual Convention by this work group and the proposed resolution that will be before Convention for a summary of this important and continuing work.

Additionally, the Mission Council, along with the Standing Committee and members of the ECCT Staff worked together in response to the 2017 Resolution 4 and 2018 Resolution 9 to form the Resolution 49 Work Group to further engage the work of Assessing our Resources for Participating in God's Mission. The report of the work group has been submitted to convention for review.

The Committee on Faith and Order was tasked with studying two important aspects of our shared life: Selection of a Bishop and Clerical Standing. Annual Convention 2018 will resolutions submitted by Faith and Order and endorsed by the Mission Council in both of these areas.

Mission Council administrative duties included approval of minutes of previous Mission Council meetings; receiving and reviewing the work of the Finance Committee, including the ongoing work of studying sabbatical leaves for clergy and lay employees, clergy Medicare enrollment, and insurance coverage for mission organizations.

Mission Council also affirmed the work of the Convention Planning Committee to explore new ways of engaging the work of Annual Convention using the Art of Hosting and World Café paradigms.

The Mission Council received reports from the Haitian Ministry Network and the Task Force Against Gun Violence, as well as celebrated the work of ECCT's two deaf missions, St. Paul's and Ascension and the work of the community gathered at Christ the Healer in Stamford.

Among the financial actions taken by the Mission Council were: reception and approval of quarterly financial reports and Finance Committee meeting minutes; approval of Clergy Housing Allowances for ECCT Staff (clergy); appointed members of the Finance Committee; received reports of the ECCT Auditor; approved the "Proposed Minimum Clergy Salary" resolution for Convention; received reports on parish compliance with requirements for good standing and approved the updated financial review policy proposal; and recommended the proposed Budget of Convention.

The Mission Council, at the request of the appropriate screening committees approved a number of grants and funds allocations. The Mission Council also affirmed the recommendations of the Loan Review Board for St. Anne's in Old Lyme.

Camp Washington reports were also received and reviewed and the ongoing work of Camp Washington was encouraged. The Mission Council was informed by presentations by the following worshipping communities and organizations: Church of the Epiphany in Durham and St. Andrew's in Stamford, and took action to support a resolution to convention regarding St. Paul's in Darien.

The Mission Council received reports and took action as necessary regarding the following properties: the former Christ Church, Canaan; St. John's, Sandy Hook; St. Andrew's, New Haven; Robert's Street in Bridgeport; Berg Home; and received regular overviews of all properties held in the name of the Missionary Society.

The work of the Mission Council continues as we strive to engage more fully in God's Mission and to encourage parishes to live more fully into our expanded understanding of the work of parishes in the New Missional Age.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra L. Cosman" with a small plus sign at the end.

The Rev. Sandra L. Cosman
Secretary of the Diocese and Mission Council

October 23, 2018