The EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of OLYMPIA REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL (2022)

The Diocesan Council (DC) is the convention in recess. It has responsibility to oversee the budget and program goals of the Diocese, and to carry out the priorities adopted by convention. DC members accept assignments, work on task groups, and attend regional, committee, and commission meetings as necessary. DC agendas include items for discussion and conversation, presentations, updates, action items, and reports. The DC meets on Zoom to provide for more inclusion and access, while lessening the carbon footprint and time commitment for members who traditionally would drive large distances taking the better part of a day to attend meetings at the Diocesan House in Seattle.

In 2022 DC members:

- Built connections by focusing on intercultural aspects of the group's work and dynamics.
- Shared land acknowledgements at the beginning of each meeting, recognizing Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of the land upon with Diocesan Council members meet.
- Had conversations with the bishop around his activities and visitations to congregations.
- Heard reports from the Canon to the Ordinary on congregations in transition.
- Heard updates and reviewed financial reports.
- Participated with the other governing bodies in two virtual gatherings.
- Continued to monitor work on each of the resolutions requiring work between conventions and/or reports to a future convention including progress toward the stated goals. 2020 resolutions #4-#9; 2021 resolutions #4-#10. Recognized that the goals of 2022 resolutions #8, #9, & #10 had been accomplished. Recognized that the goals of 2021 resolutions #4, #7, & #9 had been accomplished.

Official actions taken by the Council December 2021 through August 2022:

Financial:

- Approved 2023 grants to 20 congregations as presented in the report from the Grants Committee; grants to be finalized and announced after ratification of the 2023 budget at the fall convention.
- Adopted a resolution to be forwarded to the fall convention recommending the 2024 assessment rate be set at 14.5% of the Net Disposable Income (NDI).
- Adopted a balanced 2023 operating budget to be forwarded for ratification at the fall convention.

Miscellaneous:

- Recorded 2022 housing allowances as required by the IRS.
- Upon recommendation of the Personnel Commission, froze congregation grades for one year with 2023 congregation grades remaining the same as in 2022.
- Approved a request from the diocesan bishop to provide bonuses to diocesan staff.

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Members of the 2021-2022 Diocesan Council:

The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, Bishop Diocesan; Jo Burkholder, Be-Attitudes–Lay, St. Luke's, Seattle; Stuart Case, Peninsula–Lay, St. Barnabas, Bainbridge Island; Kyle Davidson, Mt. Baker–Lay, St. Paul's, Bellingham; Tina Francis Mutungu, Holy C–Lay, Trinity, Seattle; Karen Fraser, Willapa–Lay, St. Benedict's, Lacey; Ruth Anne Garcia, BIPOC position 1, Christ Church, Tacoma; Edmund Harris, Holy C-Clergy, St. Peter's, Seattle; Lee Holland, Rainier–Lay, St. Matthew's, Browns Point/Tacoma; Josh Hosler, Evergreen–Clergy, Good Shepherd, Federal Way; Heather Irwin, Eastside–Lay, Holy Cross, Redmond; Sharalyne King, Columbia–Lay, St. Stephen's, Longview; R.C. Laird, Willapa-Clergy, St. John's, Olympia; Nic Mather, Columbia–Clergy, St. Stephen's, Longview; Laura Murray, Peninsula–Clergy, St. Andrew's, Port Angeles; Greg Peters, Be Attitudes-Clergy, St. Alban's, Edmonds; Joseph Peters-Mathews, Sno Isle–Clergy, St. Hilda St. Patrick, Edmonds; Lindsay Ross-Hunt, Mt. Baker-Clergy, St. Paul's, Bellingham; Elizabeth Riley, Eastside–Clergy, Emmanuel, Mercer Island; Mandy Whitaker, Sno Isle–Lay, St. Hilda-St. Patrick, Edmonds. Others with seat and voice: Judith Andrews, Diocesan Chancellor; Jim Beckwith, Treasurer; April Caballero, Recording Secretary; Cristi Chapman, Budget & Finance Committee chair; Arienne Davison, Canon to the Ordinary; Dede Moore, Canon for Diocesan Networking & Connections; Charles Thorne, Canon for Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Diocesan Council by, Canon Dede Moore, Canon for Diocesan Networking & Connections.