

Diocesan Council Report to Convention 2019

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 and reports. In 2019 DC members focused on:

- Continued support for implementation of our new diocesan vision including priorities and next steps;
- Adopted a redesign of the pre-convention process eliminating the Saturday in-person gatherings and identified out of the box possibilities for convention communications.
- Began a conversation about current and potential roles for geographical regions.
- Continued to ask the question of how the role and work as a governing body reflects our call to be a part of the Jesus Movement;
- Joined the bishop on and learned from visitations to congregations; and,
- Participated with the other governing bodies in two retreats and the WalkAgain process culminating this December.

Official actions taken by the Council November 2018 through August 2019:

- *Budget & Finance:*
 - Agreed to forward a resolution to the fall convention recommending the 2021 assessment rate be set at 14.5% of the Net Disposable Income (NDI).
 - Adopted a balanced 2020 operating budget to be forwarded for ratification at the fall convention.
 - Approved 2020 grants to congregations as presented in the report from the Grants Committee.
 - Approved mid-year revisions to the 2019 operating budget.
- *Refugee Resettlement Program:* Authorized the program to seek renewal as a recognized agency from the Office of Legal Access/Department of Justice.
- *Chaplains on the Harbor:* Approved a line of credit to be used for cash flow purposes.
- *Miscellaneous:*
 - Recertified for five years schools operated by our parishes and missions meeting the standards set by the Commission on Episcopal School Standards.
 - Added non-compliance with school standards certification as a determination to be a Congregation in Good Standing.
 - Recorded 2019 housing allowances as required by the IRS.
 - Approved the request of the diocesan bishop to provide bonuses to diocesan staff.
 - Approved updates to the Policy on Medicare Supplementary Insurance for Clergy & Lay Diocesan Employees Employed Prior to January 1, 2001.

Members of the Diocesan Council:

The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, Bishop Diocesan; **Jamie Balducci**, Holy C–Lay, Epiphany Parish of Seattle; **Amelia Carroll**, Rainier–Lay, Christ Church, Tacoma; **David Coburn**, Evergreen–Lay, St. James, Kent; **Joan Collins**, Peninsula–Lay, St. Barnabas, Bainbridge Island; **Linda Donato**, Mt. Baker–Lay, Christ

Church, Anacortes; **Jim Eichner**, Eastside–Clergy, Holy Cross, Redmond; **Drew Foisie**, Sno Isle–Clergy, St. Aidan, Camano Island; **John Forman**, Evergreen–Clergy, St. Elizabeth, Burien; **Jedediah Fox**, Be Attitudes–Clergy, Church of the Redeemer, Kenmore; **Joslin Harris-Gane**, Be-Attitudes–Lay, Christ Church, Seattle; **Heather Irwin**, Eastside–Lay, Holy Cross, Redmond; **Libby Jensen**, Columbia–Lay, Good Shepherd, Vancouver; **R.C. Laird**, Willapa–Clergy, St. John, Olympia; **Sharon Rader**, Sno Isle–Lay, St. Hilda–St. Patrick, Edmonds; **Diane Ramerman**, Mt. Baker–Clergy, Christ Church, Anacortes; **Nancy Ross**, Holy C–Clergy, Saint Mark’s Cathedral, Seattle; **Joe Scheeler**, Columbia–Clergy, All Saints, Vancouver; **Gail Wheatley**, Peninsula–Clergy, St. Andrew, Port Angeles; **Martin Yabroff**, Rainier–Clergy, St. Andrew, Tacoma; **Jeff Zahir**, Willapa–Lay, St. Benedict, Lacey; *Others with seat and voice*: **Judith Andrews**, Diocesan Chancellor; **April Caballero**, Recording Secretary; **Marda Steedman Sanborn**, Canon to the Ordinary; **Barbara Fox**, Diocesan Treasurer; **Hal Hall**, Consulting Canon for Finance; **Dennis Tierney**, chair, Budget & Finance Committee & Diocesan Property Manager; **Dede Moore**, Canon for Governance & Human Resources.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Diocesan Council by, Canon Dede Moore, Canon for Governance & Human Resources