

- Surplus is due to underspending in many ways
- Synod did respond to this
 - Assessments were lowered
 - Treasurer will report quarterly to Officers
 - Officers will respond and create opportunities to transfer funds
 - We haven't finished spending for 2016
 - There has been a proposal to move excess funds to "Ministry Development" to help newer ministries
- Is West Virginia going to pay?
 - The check is in the mail
- **Rev. Sheila Brigid Sharpe made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report**
Very Rev. Scott Quinn seconded *motion carried*

Task Force to Study Provinces Report, The Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde via Conference Call

- There is a wide variance in experience of Provincial Ministry
 - Ministry partnerships
 - Depth of relationships
- Several Provinces are very lean – no staff/all volunteers, one meeting annually, very informal, and the Bishops gather annually
 - Province III Bishops have not met outside of the House of Bishops in Budde's tenure
- Examined the consequences of eliminating Provincial Structures
 - Not a helpful conversation
 - We need some kind of structure – let's discuss adaptations and improvements
 - Reviewed original Constitutions & Canons
 - Participation is completely voluntary allowing for much flexibility
 - A Diocese could isolate – we need to consider the implications of separatist attitudes for our identity
 - Constitution states that nothing can happen at a Provincial level that dictates what a Diocese must do.
 - Really assumes regional missional structures would also exist
 - Discussed possibility of Dioceses choosing their Province, aligned by proximity or affinity
 - There is a great divergence of capacity within the Provinces regarding leadership and resources.
 - Perhaps the Provincial Bishops could be separated from the Presiding Bishop's Council
 - The Presiding Bishop should get to choose their Council
 - Some Provincial Bishops might have a great interest in the presence of the PB over their role within their Province
 - This might be recommended to the House of Bishops over being shared with General Convention
 - Canons for Province 1-9
 - Simplify the language
 - Provinces can organize themselves
 - Primary purpose is for inter-Diocesan work and collaboration
 - Define what is appropriate to task a Province with - NOT assuming uniformity
 - Nomination/election role of the Provinces is important for diversity
 - Might not recommend reducing any Provinces in size but acknowledge that 9 isn't magic
 - Will report their study to General Convention
 - Elimination is not fruitful and want to say something positive in place of that
 - May present 2 resolutions
 - One affirming the nature of Provinces
 - Chemistry and energy gives greater capacity for good work
 - One about affinity and choices – with a recommendation not to assume uniform expectations on voluntary structures

Report from Executive Council, Nathaniel Pierce & Russ Randle

- Standing Rock
 - The government split denominations by tribe and we've been partnered with the Sioux – We stand with the Lakota.
 - A tattered Episcopal flag was put on the altar for Communion Service and put in the archives and new flag is being sent out to ND
 - This is the emerging civil rights issue of our time
- The Presiding Bishop is a great simplifier – he's had 2 main focuses and now a third
 - Evangelism
 - Combating racism
 - Environmental Stewardship – survival and sustainability
- Digital Evangelism
 - Great work being done to move us from a Broadcast Mode (just put it out there and hope the right people see it) to Who Are We Hearing From Mode
 - Saturday evenings are the peak time people google search about God
- Governance and Administration
 - A resolution has been written asking the Nomination Committee to screen nominees for fiduciary positions through voluntary disclosure and background checks
 - Will not check credit report because it varies so widely from state to state and can be discriminatory
 - Searching for convictions not arrests – can mostly be checked for free
 - The inclusion of schismatics has not yet been approached
- Congratulations to the Diocese of Maryland for their \$75k grant for the Slate Project – a joint venture with the Presbyterians, Lutherans, and Episcopalians for a new worship community which is virtual and real and meets on Mondays. DFMS approved this at Executive Council
- There are 2 remaining Black Colleges – there were 3. The money that used to be contributed and split three ways was not reduced but split between the two still existing.
- The Millennium Development Goals expired. The UN has passed Sustainable Development Goals
- Approved 2 shareholder resolutions
 - CACI International- no women on their Board of Directors
 - Chevron- quantitative indicators on all shale
- Episcopal Migration Ministry has been resettling refugees and has been authorized to fundraise
- The 2015 General Convention abolished 13 out of 15 Standing Commissions which used to bring policy recommendations to General Convention.
 - DFMS has no commissions on Domestic OR Foreign missions so all ecumenical affairs go to the World Mission Commission of Executive Council.
 - The World Council of Churches has requested some universal defining of the Church Towards a common vision
 - There will be conversation regarding entering full communion with the United Methodist Church at the next General Convention. They vote in 2020. We will vote in 2021.
 - We should create a position for the Coordination of Ecumenical Affairs and ask Diocese to appoint Ecumenical Officer to rebuild networks.
- There is a desire for the February Executive Council meeting to be 4 working days in February.

BREAK FOR LUNCH AT 12:24pm

RECONVENED AT 1:14pm

Executive Council Report Continued, Nathaniel Pierce & Russ Randle

- Nathaniel Pierce moved that we name a coordinator for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations
Russ Randle seconded
- Discussion:

- There should be a paper trail back to the job description of the last Ecumenical Ministry Coordinator
- Responsibilities should be clearly defined before recruiting
- The Officers can confer on this and report back at Synod
- Could collaborate with the ELCA and Moravians in this job description
- **Jean Reed called to vote** *motion carried*
- **Nathaniel Pierce moved that Ann Turner be named Webmaster for the Province**
Russ Randle seconded *motion carried*

Vice President's Report, Scott Norris

- Had a great meeting yesterday with all the Ministry Coordinators
- The role of the Province is to know what our Dioceses need from us – and then demonstrate and communicate to all why we are a Province
- Diocesan Rep Position Descriptions were made in 2008
 - Written at a Council Meeting in 2008 & emailed out
- **Russ Randle moved a committee be appointed to review and amend the Officers, Provincial Coordinator, Diocesan Representative, and Executive Council Representative Position Descriptions, and their report be shared one month in advance of our next meeting.**
Nathaniel Pierce seconded *motion carried*
 - Ellyn Crawford, Scott Slater and Scott Norris volunteered
- Adapting the Province to Serve the Church
 - Russ Randle's presentation from 2016 Synod was distributed for reminders of things to be implemented by Synod 2017
 - SLIDES 13 & 14: Diocesan Changes Needed for Shared Ministries to Work
 - Make P3 resources widely known to parish clergy and lay leaders
 - Fund adequate IT personnel, resources and equipment to share on
 - Identify Centers of Excellence and offer to share their expertise
 - Commit to active partnerships
 - Bishops and leaders consult regularly
 - Clearly articulate benefits of shared ministry
 - Discard “not invented here” objections
 - SLIDES 15 & 16: Province III Changes Needed
 - Update ordinances to facilitate virtual and phone meetings
 - I.D. 3-4 shared ministries to case study virtual trainings, meetings, and support
 - I.D. Diocesan Resources and Expertise as potential centers of excellence
 - Learn from initial case studies to expand to other shared ministries
 - Emphasize Focus: Support Diocesan and Parish ministry with and for our people
 - Choose energetic and committed Officers and Provincial Deputies
 - Commit to carrying out adopted reforms
 - SLIDE 17: All of the above to be implemented by March 1, 2017
 - Officers – please submit reports for the website.
 - Word documents preferred.
 - PDF format can be worked with

Provincial Coordinator's Report, Rev. Barbara Seras

- Ministry Initiatives
 - Returning calls and emails
 - No longer visiting each Diocese
- Calling the Future Church II
 - Post Synod 2017
 - Great response to the 2016 event
 - Inviting a broader audience this year

- A Small Church Ministry collaboration is in the works
- Sharon Nachman will be leading an Altar Guild Swap Meet at Virginia's Diocesan Convention. She will report back on how it goes and how it can be recreated elsewhere.
- Anti-Racism Trainings
 - Maryland has trained over 600 individuals.
 - Working on a repackaging of "Seeing the Face of God" Curriculum with professors at Notre Dame
 - Nancy Bolden is working on a spring conference on White Privilege with Stephanie Spellers – seeking to connect and resource small Diocese
 - Rev Angela Sheppard serves on the Executive Council's Commission on Anti-Racism and is leading the repackaging initiative. Diocesan Programs needs to align with the Church's teaching. (Not all are the same quality.)
 - PIII President, Vice President and Coordinator will attend the annual PLC in December to discuss greater collaborations and best practices with Stephanie Spellers and the Presiding Bishop
 - Synod will be April 30-May 1 at the Holiday Inn in Martinsburg and will be immediately followed by the Future Church Conference May 1 and 2.



Brief Ministry Coordinator Reports

- **Vocational Ministries: Jim Rinehart**
 - 20 attended the conference last spring for Commissions on Ministry, Bishops and Transitional Officers on how the ordination process and educations are changing and where it's headed
 - Calling the Future Church II
 - Widening the audience this year to leadership at all levels.
 - David Gortner from Virginia Theological Seminary will speak
 - Please contact Barbara Seras with ideas regarding scholarships and funding
- **Health Ministries: Sharon Logsdon**
 - Meet bi-monthly by phone
 - PII and PIX are not represented
 - There are active contacts in Pittsburgh and Delaware
 - Need help getting contacts in other Diocese – even just the names of Parish nurses would be helpful
- **Youth Ministry: Teri Valente**
 - PYE – The Provincial Youth Event
 - January 4-6, 2017 at the Bishop Claggett Center
 - Combined Middle School and High School – 6th - 12th grade
 - Theme is Uncaged and Randy Callendar will be our speaker
 - EYE – The Episcopal Youth Event
 - July 10-14, 2017 at the University of Central Oklahoma
 - Diocesan Registrars are being trained
 - Each Diocese may bring up to 24 youth and 6 adults
 - Adult coverage must be in proportion to youth participation
 - Registration will open in January
- **Altar Guild: Sharon Nachman**
 - January Swap Meet
 - Parish Altar Guilds are encouraged to clean out their Sacristies and bring unwanted/unneeded supplies to the Diocesan Convention
 - A report and photos will follow
 - A template of how to recreate this event will be shared as well
- **Formation: Sarah Lamming**
 - Working on Province III contingencies for both FORMA and the EFormation event at VTS this year
- **United Thank Offering: Joyce Haines**
 - UTO is in Grant Mode

- \$2,500 Young Adult and Seminarian grants are being awarded
- Regular Grants Applications will be available in December
- UTO visits 2 grant sites annually
 - Thistle Farms in Nashville, TN
 - Tiny Houses in Bismark, ND
- Meet monthly on Zoom and Face to Face 2 times each year
- The UTO website is very informative and useful

 **2017 Budget Approval: Karen Stewart**

- Discussion:
 - We are utilizing “surplus” in the Budget and operating at a deficit
 - This budget does project what we haven’t been spending – as a single year project to encourage new projects and defend 2018 giving to the Province
 - Ministry Development funds will be available to the new Ecumenical Ministry Coordinator
 - Have given a 2% increase to the Provincial Coordinator
 - The Diocese of Washington will be reducing their giving to \$2000
 - Several year surplus made it difficult to defend giving the full reduced requested assessment
 - Helps Washington to fully comply to their Church Center Assessment
 - They have made significant strides to clarify their mission, share a compelling vision, make reductions and be accountable.
 - We need to identify some people to help move the technology of the Province forward
- **Jean Reed moved to increase the Ministry Development line by \$10k making it \$14k, to note Washington reducing their giving to \$2k, and to balance the budget by increasing the surplus spending to \$38,908.**
 Nathaniel Pierce seconded *motion carried*
- **Russ Randle moved appointing a sub-committee to poll Dioceses and identify needs to equip them better for technology upgrades.**
 Nathaniel Pierce seconded *motion carried*
 - Sarah Lamming and Joyce Haines volunteered.
 - The Officers will appoint others

 **Closing Prayer, Nathaniel Pierce**

 **Meeting Adjourned at 3:36pm**

Respectfully Submitted by Teri Valente in absence of the PIII Secretary on November 6, 2016