

Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

2008 Spring Convocation Meetings

Important Dates for Delegates

Spring

April 13
New River Convocation
St. Thomas, Christiansburg, 2:30 pm

April 20
Augusta Convocation
St. John's, Waynesboro, 3:00 pm

April 27
Lynchburg Convocation
St. Stephen's, Forest, 2:30 pm

May 4
Roanoke Convocation
St. Peter's, Callaway, 2:30 pm

May 18
Abingdon Convocation
St. Thomas, Abingdon, 2:30 pm

Fall

Oct. 5
Lynchburg Convocation
St. Paul's, Lynchburg, 2:30 pm

Oct. 12
Roanoke Convocation
Trinity, Moneta, 2:30 pm

Oct. 19
Abingdon Convocation
St. Thomas, Abingdon, 2:30

Oct. 26
New River Convocation-Christ,
Blacksburg, 3:00 pm

Nov. 2
Augusta Convocation
Emmanuel, Covington, 3:00 pm

Winter

January Convocation Meetings
Jan. 11, 2009
*Times and locations to be
announced.*

(Snow Date: Jan. 18, 2009)

Jan. 23—25, 2009
Ninetieth Annual Council



Spotlight on Program Grants



Companions for Mission



Ecumenical Ministry



River Adventure Program



Small(er) Church Ministry



Prison Chaplaincy

Agenda

Opening Prayer, led by Convocational Dean, followed by Hymn
Bishop's Comments (5 minutes)
Delegate Orientation (5 minutes)
Executive Board Member Introductions and Comments (5 minutes)
Program Grants Reports: (45 minutes)
--Companions for Mission
--Daughters of the King
--Ecumenical Ministry
--Education for Ministry
--Prison Chaplaincy
--River Adventure Program
--Small(er) Churches
Small Group Feedback (30 minutes)
Plenary Group Feedback (15 minutes)
Three Year Budget View (5 minutes)
Announcements (5 minutes)
 —Fall Meetings
 —Upcoming Nominations and Elections
Hymn 539 The Hymnal 1982
 O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling
Hospitality

Table of Contents

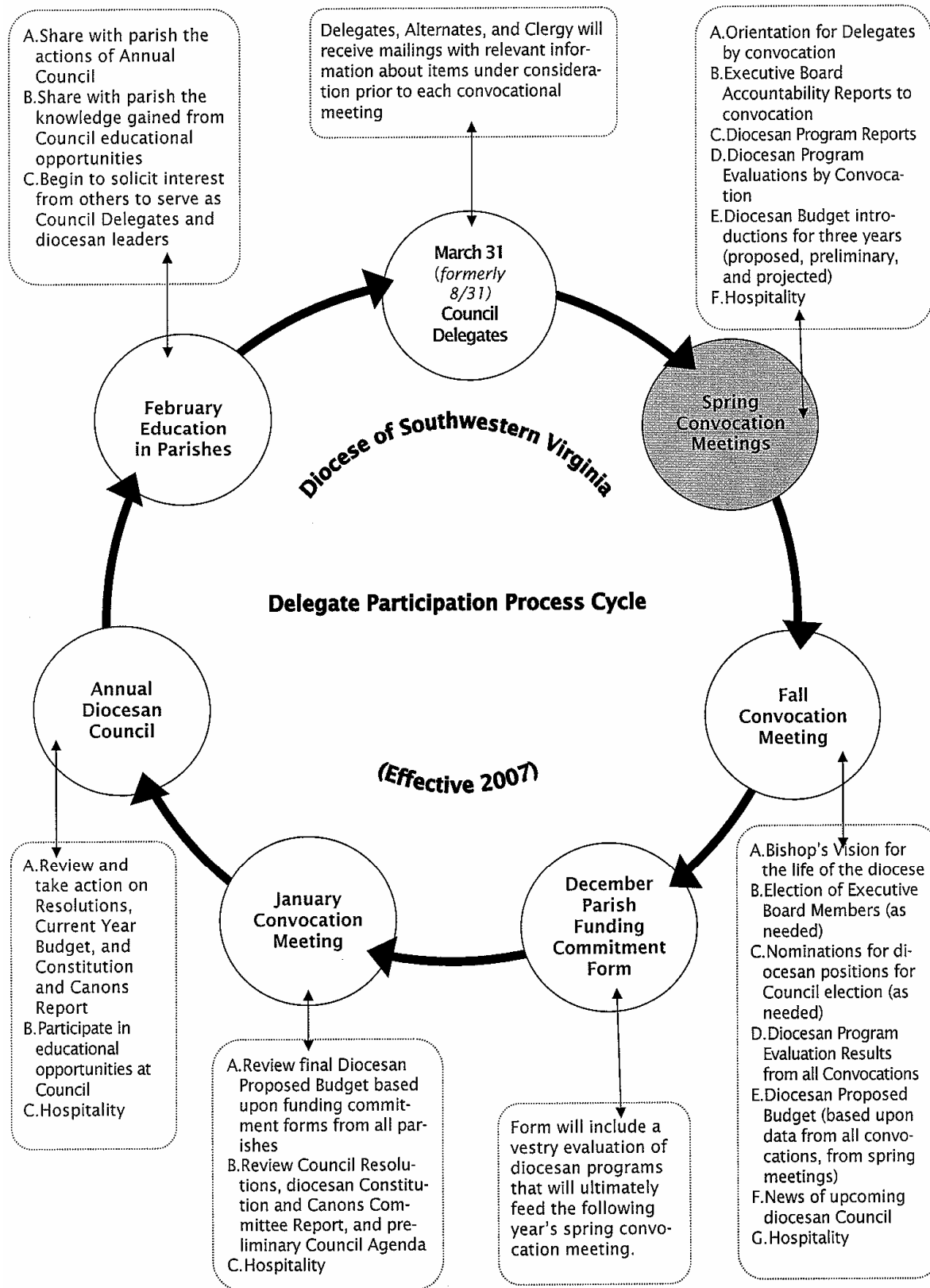
Delegate Participation Cycle	page 3
Program Grant Reports begin	page 4
Resolution #9 Regarding Diocesan Funding	page 17
Three-Year Budget View	page 18
Diocesan Program Reports	page 19

Appendices:

A. Regarding Elections and Nominations	page 40
B. Present Incumbents	page 42
C. Summary of Canons Relating to Delegates and Convocations	page 44
D. Regarding Robert's Rules of Order	page 45
E. Resolutions Approved by the Eighty-Ninth Annual Council	page 46



Delegate Participation Process Cycle



Spotlight on



...the work of the Program Grants Committee

1. Ministry Name: *Program Grants Committee*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

Matthew 5:16 “Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your father who is in heaven.”

To support the creativity of our congregations in Christian growth and global responsibility

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement?

By funding program requests that pursue the challenge of Christian growth and responsibility.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

By funding programs that seek to actualize the mission statement

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Convocations can encourage groups within their area to apply for grants and then support those groups. Feedback on the grants that were funded from each of the convocations (letters of support etc.) will also be helpful.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

The message from last year's spring convocation meeting was very clear: Members of all convocations supported the work of the Program Grant committee but wanted to know more about the ministries funded in this way. This year's spring convocation meeting is designed to spotlight those ministries in both written and verbal reports, as well as providing contact information for those who want to learn more.

Contact Information
Bob Pohlada—Chair
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Committee Members
Vince Carroll
David Cox
Duane Martin
Mamie Meyers
Grace Aheron
Catherine Mohr

Ministries Funded by the Program Grants Committee in 2007



Companions for Mission

Daughters of the King

Ecumenical Ministry

Education for Ministry

Phoebe Needles Center, Inc.*

Prayer Calendar

Prison Chaplaincy

River Adventure Program

Small(er) Churches

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

--**Bold print** denotes a written report sent from the grant recipient for inclusion in this booklet.

--*Italics* denotes grant recipients asked to present verbal reports to the convocations.

*The Phoebe Needles report can be found on page 32.



1. Ministry Name: *Companions for Mission Committee*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

To shepherd our relationships with the Diocese of Bradford, England, and the Province of The Episcopal Church of Sudan, with whom we have companion relationships of long standing.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

We arrange visits between people in our companion regions; encourage mutual prayer support through the Prayer Calendar; encourage and then transmit donations to support ministry in Sudan, especially for theological education at the various seminaries there, for primary education (especially at the Marc Nikkel School in Bor Diocese), and for the operating expenses of the provincial office; provide information about Sudan through Council workshops/displays, the annual observance of The Feast of Marc Nikkel, and the diocesan website; participate in American Friends of the Episcopal Church of Sudan (AFRECS).

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

We help people grow in their personal understanding of the concept of Christian unity and a sense of what it means to belong to and participate in the Anglican Communion; contribute to the achievement of the MDGs; and provide a channel through which people can live out their understanding of global responsibility.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Convocations can encourage at least a few people from each to participate actively in the work of the committee and encourage parishes to publicize information that the committee sends out.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

We received no such feedback.

Contact information

Name: The Rev. Dr. Ellen Hanckel, Committee Chair

Phone: (276) 632-2896

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and/or

Name: Lynn Robertson, Diocesan Staff Support

Phone: (540) 342-6797

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1. Ministry Name: *Daughters of the King of Diocese of Southwestern Virginia*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

The mission of the Daughters of the King is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service and Evangelism.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

The Order of the Daughters of the King is organized as a religious order for women of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the Historic Episcopate. Daughters pledge themselves to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish.

I am a member of the Holy Spirit Chapter of the Daughters of the King, from St. Paul's, Lynchburg. As a daughter, I wear my cross daily. The mission of the order is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service and Evangelism. I pray daily for those people and needs on the St. Paul's prayer chain. I pray daily for our Bishop, our Presiding Bishop, our clergy in the Diocese, our ministries, Sudan, the Mark Nikkel School, all our parishes, the daughters in our diocese and daughters throughout the world, the ministries of the daughters, for unity, for peace, for the spread of Christ's kingdom and my own intentions that are added. I am a bit of an introvert so the evangelism part of our mission statement was a little intimidating at first. Then one morning at work on Child Psychiatry, as I was taking a little boy's vital signs, he looked at my cross and asked if I knew God and if I knew how to talk to Him. I acknowledged that I knew God and explained about my cross. I asked him what he knew of God. He said he had heard of God but did not know Him, but he wanted to talk with Him. We talked about how to pray and that praying was talking to God. When I came to work the next night a coworker asked me about sharing how to pray with the little boy. Then she told me he had put his two little hands together as he lay on his bed that night and asked God to find a safe place for him to live. I realized then that even an introvert can be an evangelist on a one-to-one basis. Wearing the cross has opened many opportunities to share God's love and how He has worked in my life. I am the President of the Daughters of the King of Southwestern Virginia and represent our daughters at the Province III Board. I work with the chapters within our diocese. I also am the Junior Directress for the Doves, the Junior Daughters of the King at St. Paul's. The Doves sponsored Operation Christmas Child last fall. I was so touched by how our little junior daughters put the boxes toys, school supplies, and hygiene items together. They took to heart that the boxes were meant to send God's love to children throughout the world. As they chose from the pile of donated supplies, they filled each box and wrote a note ... "God loves you" and signed the card.

For me, the prayer, the service, the evangelism, are all about spreading God's love and the good news of Christ. I used to be overwhelmed by the thought of evangelism, but I have learned the importance of one-to-one, whether it be teaching a little boy to pray, filling a box for Operation Christmas Child, or buying a mosquito net to help a child in a malaria-filled country . . . one-by-one is working to spread the Kingdom. I am truly blessed to be able to do that here in Southwestern Virginia.

--Georgia Stromer

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

We do this by prayer, service and evangelism. In fall 2007 our daughters invited women of the diocese to attend our fall assembly held at Evans House which featured the Rev. Kim Webster speaking on "Eyewitness to Sudan". To support the ministry of the Marc Nikkel School in Sudan, we took donations for scholarships and also sought donations for used laptop computers. We were able to contribute four scholarships and one laptop computer to the ministry in Sudan, which is in alignment with Millennium Development Goals.

This spring the Daughters of the King are inviting women of the Diocese to join us for our Spring Assembly. Our speaker this spring will be Nancy Strachan and she will speak on "Getting to Know

Rwanda". Ms. Strachan met the author of "Left to Tell" and traveled to Rwanda. She has a ministry supporting an orphanage in Rwanda that cares for and educates young children. The Daughters will be asked to contribute items that will be sent to the orphanage to support the education and care of the children. This is in alignment with Millennium Development Goals.

The Motto of the Daughters of the King is "For His Sake ... I am but one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do. What I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do. Lord, what will you have me do?" At the spring assembly we will be presenting "I can" cans to the attendees. These cans were developed by one of our daughters and have the millennium goals on the cans, with a slot at the top, to drop coins or other items into the can. It is a way to save money to do what one can towards the millennium goals and also a way to put in a note about what one has done towards the goals.

The Daughters of the King have sponsored the Prayer Chapel at Council. We accept prayer requests and pray for those people and needs.

The Daughters of the King have also sponsored Quiet Days. Our Mary and Martha Chapter in Bedford hosted a Lenten Quiet Day in 2008 and invited women from the local community and diocese. Our Ann-Frances Chapter in Christiansburg hosted an Advent Quiet Day in 2007 and invited women from the local community and diocese. We have honored our daughters who are clergy by sponsoring A Day in the Diocese in honor of them.

We were honored to host the Province III Assembly and Retreat at Natural Bridge in June 2007. Over 150 women from Province III attended the program on healing prayer. We also were blessed to invite women from the diocese who were interested in the program but not daughters.

Our daughters have ministries at the local chapter level that support their parishes and communities. These ministries include studies, prayer chains, making dresses for Rwanda girls in the orphanage, providing lunch for a Habitat Build team, cooking dinner for the local community the last Saturday of the month, ministering to the boys at Covington Boys Home, and many other activities to support the parish, the community, and to spread Christ's love and His Kingdom.

In July 2007 our Junior Daughters participated in the Province III Junior Daughter Retreat at Shrine Mont. Junior daughters also serve their parishes and spread Christ's love and His Kingdom. This year one chapter collected items for Operation Christmas Child and sent 40 boxes. Other projects took place, including (but not limited to) sending cards and care packages to military serving in Iraq, hosting coffee hour, assisting in Children's Chapel, and assisting in the nursery.

Our greatest honor is to pray for the Bishop every day and for all the ministries, parishes, clergy and members of our Diocese.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Since we are not allowed to raise funds, we are incredibly blessed to receive support from the Diocese and Convocations. The Daughters of the King and the Junior Daughters of the King are opportunities for sharing one's faith and service. Reaching out to other women and girls in the diocese and our communities is important for the mission to spread Christ's kingdom. We would like to work towards having more chapters throughout the Diocese.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

Our ministry is not to compete with other existing ministries in the parishes, but to support and strengthen. We have learned to open our assemblies and programs to all women of the diocese.

Contact Information

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1. Ministry Name: *EDEIO (Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer)*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

John 17:21 "That they all may be one"

This unpaid volunteer position is charged by the Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations for the Episcopal Church; the Ecumenical/Interfaith officer is:

- 1) To assist the Bishop and advise on ecumenical matters.*
- 2) Administer the diocesan ecumenical commission.*
- 3) Seek out and strengthen relations with other churches within the diocese.*
- 4) Maintain relations with council of churches and other ecumenical agencies.*
- 5) Insure that diocesan program and budget reflect ecumenical involvement where applicable.*
- 6) Keep the diocese and its agencies informed on ecumenical developments through initiation of informative programs and consciousness-raising.*
- 7) Be a resource for parishes, convocations and keep in touch with ecumenical developments in congregations.*
- 8) Initiate and plan for responsible and effective participation in ecumenical events in the diocese.*
- 9) Insure a two-way flow of ecumenical communication between the diocese and the Province.*

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

The Episcopal Church is a founding denomination in the ecumenical movement. Church unity, formal and otherwise, is an important goal and message to the world. How can we speak effectively to the world when we do not live as one body? While dialogues have born fruit in areas of prayer, missions, worship and sacramental living locally it has born fruit as well. Ecumenical parishes are growing in the church. In our diocese, this work has lead to he establishment of two ecumenical parishes. WE talk about planting churches but have not seen this come to fruition. Perhaps we should look for areas where we could work with the Lutheran church to plant or strengthen existing congregations?

According to a recently released Pew Research study, a lifetime church affiliation is no longer the norm. People change churches freely. Some of this is a direct result of the ecumenical movement which has made it easier to freely worship at God's table. I was raised Methodist, yet went between the Roman church and the Methodist church in high school. I have been an Episcopalian for over 30 years but I have an ecumenical heart. In all of this, there is the hope of living out, in some visible way, the one body of Christ. Prayer and mission are concrete ways to bring Christ to the world.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

This is an office that works for the national church to express its ecumenical and interfaith efforts.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

I am looking for at least one person, lay or ordained, to become part of an ecumenical commission/committee. We will meet infrequently to discuss/plan/communicate ecumenical/interfaith work. That person's responsibly will be to seek out and communicate back to the group the ecumenical/interfaith work going on within parishes in their convocation as will as begin to initiate programs that will enhance our ecumenical work.

I am also seeking someone who would like to travel once a month to the Richmond area to help plan the annual LARCUM workshop. Mileage will be paid. This is a chance to meet and work hands-on in the ecumenical movement. I am also seeking person who are interested in helping read theological documents/statements/issues that come to us to help draft reflection papers for the Bishop, Diocesan officers, clergy and parishes.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

As this is a new approach in this Diocese, there is nothing to report here.

Contact Information

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1. Ministry Name: EFM

Education for Ministry is an adult educational program which studies the Old and New Testaments, the history of the church, and the theological issues in a small group setting. Weekly discussions also include theological reflection.

2. What is your mission statement and or purpose?

The mission of EFM is to help students discern their ministry through study and theological reflection.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

Students gain knowledge and understanding of their ministries through discussions of weekly readings and group reflections on how they live out their ministries in their every-day lives.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

The ministry supports the mission of the global church and the diocese by helping participants become more contemplative and discerning stewards of God's world and members of our churches.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Convocations can support EFM by helping publicize the program and encouraging participation at the parish level.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

N/A

Contact Information:

Mary Page Gwaltney

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mpgwaltney@cox.net





1. Ministry Name: *Prayer Calendar*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

The Prayer Calendar connects our diocese to our companion dioceses in England and Sudan as well as the rest of the Anglican Communion (through the Anglican Cycle of Prayer).

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement/purpose?

The Prayer Calendar, published three times a year, is distributed to all parishes; members of the clergy; diocesan officers, board members, and institutions; and various people in Bradford and Sudan; with additional copies going to others upon request. For each issue, the editors of our Prayer Calendar and Bradford's Prayer Diary exchange prayer requests for inclusion in each other's publications. The prayers for Sudan come from "Sudan Church Review," a publication of the Diocese of Salisbury. The Anglican Cycle of Prayer's daily prayer requests, obtained from their website, are also included.

Visitors to England report being moved to hear familiar names from our diocese prayed for aloud at services in Bradford's churches. Likewise, people from Bradford have a similar experience when worshipping in our churches. Sudanese refugees in our area have expressed their deep appreciation for our prayers for their families and friends still in Sudan.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

Global Church: The Prayer Calendar helps bind us all together in our common life as Christians. It contributes to maintaining the links between parishes in our diocese and those in Bradford, to keeping our awareness focused on the lives of our sisters and brothers in Sudan, and to educating our people about the entire Anglican Communion as we pray for people in Bradford, Sudan, and throughout the Anglican Communion by name and as we pray for specific ministries in Bradford and Sudan.

Our Diocese: Bishop Powell has instructed each parish to include the prayers from the Prayer Calendar in the Prayers of the People at every celebration of the Eucharist, noting that our diocesan prayers are organized so that a parish receiving an Episcopal visitation, as well as its link parish in Bradford, is prayed for in all parishes of the diocese. This intentional pattern keeps our common life as a diocese in the forefront of all our hearts and minds.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Continue to carry out Bishop Powell's instructions regarding the use of the Prayer Calendar in the Prayers of the People at every celebration of the Eucharist.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year?

We received no such feedback.

Contact info

Lynn Robertson, Prayer Calendar Editor
(540) 342-6797
Lrobertson@dioswva.org





1. Ministry Name: *Prison Chaplaincy*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

The Chaplains of [Virginia State Prison] Chaplain Service are YOUR Chaplains and pastors in Virginia's prisons. They have a congregation of 33,000 adults who are desperately in need of the grace, love, forgiveness and new life that are available in Jesus Christ.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

Currently, only 13 of our 33 Chaplains in the adult prisons are full-time (40 hours per week), salaried employees. The rest are contract Chaplains that work for an hourly wage (most working 30 hours per week). However, under ACA (American Correctional Association) standards, the Virginia Department of Corrections is supposed to have a full-time Chaplain at every prison with a population of 500 or more inmates.

We plan to create two more full-time Chaplain positions this year (July 2008), bringing the total to 15. However, this still leaves eight more prisons (with average daily inmate populations of 1,000 or more) in need of full-time Chaplains. Additionally, the Department of Corrections has stated that it plans to open one new prison each year between now and 2013. This means that three more full-time Chaplain positions will have to be added in the next five years. It is hard to believe, but Virginia's adult state prison population is now approaching 33,000 inmates!

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

We are reminded again that our Lord Jesus said, "I was in prison and you visited me." We dare not neglect reaching out to any of "the least of these" brothers and sisters of Christ who are in Virginia's prisons. We thank you for helping us with this effort and for your continued support.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Our Chaplains are NOT state employees. They are not compensated with any federal or state taxpayer monies. They also receive NO benefits (beyond vacation and sick leave and a small term life policy for full-time Chaplains) - i.e. no health plan, retirement plan, etc. This makes the prison Chaplains in Virginia unique. (Separation of church and state is central in Virginia's state constitution.) We now receive approximately half of our operating budget from profits from the inmate commissaries (stores) in the adult state prisons. The other half comes from denominations, churches, foundations and individuals. We continue to go back to the General Assembly and request increased funding from the commissary fund, but this year our increase in state funding was not approved in the Senate.

However, the biggest challenge we now face is this: In recent years denominational giving has hit a "glass ceiling." Some groups have "topped out" and others have actually cut back in their giving. This budgetary "plateau" could make it very difficult for us to meet our long-range goals (of more full-time Chaplains and of fair compensation for all of the Chaplains).

Would your diocese be willing to appoint someone to study the challenges of meeting the faith needs in the prisons? This person will help find ways to promote Chaplain Service within your denomination and will hopefully find a way to make prison ministry a higher priority for your denomination. Perhaps they will be able to form a sub-group or organization within your denominational structure which could raise awareness about prison ministry. Our hope is that this person and/or their sub-group/organization will be able to challenge your denomination to increase its giving to Chaplain Service in your annual budget over the next few years. Once we know who this person is and have their contact information, we would like to set up a time to meet with and educate this individual about current needs and challenges in prison ministry.

Cecil McFarland, President
 Chaplain Service of the Churches of Virginia, Inc.
 J. Randy Myers, Religious Advisor



1. Name of Ministry: *River Adventure Program*

2. What is the program's mission statement and/or purpose?

The River Adventure Program provides participants and leaders with:

- * A safe experience of God's creation in the wilderness.*
- * An experience of Christian community, service, fellowship and worship.*
- * Training in canoe and environmentally sound camping techniques.*
- * Adult leaders trained in youth ministry.*
- * Opportunities for youth and adults to assist in each other's personal and spiritual growth.*
- * Opportunities for all participants to live simply and to practice stewardship of their bodies and of God's natural world.*

We believe the experience of God's presence in nature, in each other and in the gathered body of Christ is potentially transforming for the individual and the whole Church.

Our purpose is to build experientially a Christian community in an outdoor environment, where youth and adults face the intensive demands of supporting each other in group activities that are physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually challenging. The experience seeks to enhance self-esteem, positive Christian values, and leadership abilities that individuals take home with them.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement or purpose?

RAP is a very personal ministry. A maximum of 15 campers and 3-4 adult volunteers spend a week away from the hustle-bustle of everyday life. They are on the river, camping in the out of doors and absorbing visually and hands on the beauty of God's creation.

The Rev. Sue Bentley is a staff member who says, she wants to provide an opportunity for youth to experience God immersed in the beauty of Gods creation, and to become a part of a small Christian community that depends on each other. She also appreciates the opportunity to enjoy the peace of the out of doors.

Geno Iannaccone says when asked why he likes being part of this program, that he enjoys teaching people new skills and seeing them successfully meet new challenges. He also enjoys sharing the excitement and adventure of any outdoor experience.

4. How does the program support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

RAP supports the mission of the global church and the diocese by encouraging young people to get to know God in an outdoor setting appealing to teens. The camp and canoeing program is specifically designed to appeal to teens. It allows them the chance to meet and share or grow their faith with others who are still finding their way under the supervision of committed adults.

Since 2005 RAP has been hosted by Camp Bethel, Church of the Brethren in Troutville. This has made the offering of the RAP program available to all the youth in the church of the Brethren as well as the Diocese of Southwestern VA. Since Camp Bethel's inclusive program invites participants of other denominations as well those with no or little faith background, RAP is available to them as well.

5. How can the convocations support your ministry?

Our biggest need is promotion of the program to youth throughout the diocese. A second need is scholarship assistance to enable children to attend RAP.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year?

RAP can support the Bishop's seamless ministry, by offering youth summer programming that supports what they learn and experience throughout the year.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Maile S. Armstrong

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1. Ministry Name: *Small(er) Churches*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

To provide an exchange of information and regional workshops targeting the needs and interests of small(er) churches

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

By publicizing events and workshops targeting small churches, we meet people from other areas and dioceses. At a small church leadership conference at Shrine Mont last summer, I met a priest who served as our spiritual leader at the Knitting Ministry Retreat.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

As Bishop Powell reminds us, "There is no such thing as a Christian alone." We strive to be a clearing house for small church information.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Publicity—allowing a few minutes at meetings to tell delegates what is happening—possible conferences, new resources available, etc.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

Our ministry was not specifically highlighted last year, but many delegates were surprised to learn about all the programs the diocese supports.

Contact Information

Kathy Killian

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RESOLUTION #9

*Submitted by: Augusta Convocation and
Passed by the Eighty-Eighth Annual Council of
the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia on January 28, 2007*

WHEREAS, “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 2:9, NRSV), and

WHEREAS, for four decades Voluntary Proportionate Giving has been the philosophy of stewardship and the policy for funding the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this 88th Annual Council of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia joyfully reaffirm its philosophy and policy of Voluntary Proportionate Giving as the means of funding the mission and ministry of the Diocese; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that congregations be challenged and inspired to share in funding the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia according to a minimum standard of giving based upon a rolling average of the “Plate and Pledge” income for the preceding three years as stated in the parochial Reports received and recorded by annual Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minimum suggested level of giving for the mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, under this policy, will be calculated using the Parochial Report information as referenced above and based upon the following formula:

Plate and Pledge Income:

\$400,000 and up 14% or greater

\$200,000-\$399,999 12% or greater

\$0-\$199,999 10% or greater

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a calculation of the guideline figure for each congregation be circulated for each fiscal year by Executive Board by September of the previous year; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each congregation be invited and encouraged to exceed these guidelines with endowment and other discretionary income.

Three Year Budget View

As Of:
 SPRING CONVOCATION MEETING
 DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY
 90TH ANNUAL COUNCIL
 DIOCESE OF SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA

Income/Expense Description	2008 ANNUAL COUNCIL ADOPTED	2009 PROPOSED PRELIMINARY BUDGET	2010 PROJECTED PRELIMINARY BUDGET
INCOME/EXPENSE			
INCOME			
TOTAL 3010-CURRENT YEAR VPG PLEDGES	857,428	975,817	1,019,012
3020-CONSOLIDATED TRUST FUNDS	120,000	121,000	122,000
3021-DIOCESAN FUNDS ADMIN. INC.	6,000	6,000	6,000
3022 -DESIGNATED FUNDS	20,000	20,000	20,000
3026-GRANTS	25,000	20,000	15,000
3029 -INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	40,000	35,000	30,000
3030-ENDOWMENT INCOME	15,000	16,000	17,000
3040-PRIOR YEAR VPG PLEDGES	4,200	3,000	3,000
3045-INTEREST INCOME:	17,500	17,500	17,500
3050-PETER'S CALLAWAY-SPEC.PAY	35,460	36,701	37,986
3070-2006 Surplus	15,500	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	1,156,088	1,251,018	1,287,498
EXPENSES			
TOTAL 4502-OUTREACH	179,700	185,990	192,499
TOTAL 4504 -MDG	8,500	8,798	9,105
TOTAL 4507-PROGRAM	33,500	34,673	35,886
TOTAL 4512-GENERAL CHURCH	4,000	4,140	4,285
TOTAL 506-EPIPHANY	15,400	15,939	16,497
TOTAL 509 CONNECTIONS	8,000	8,280	8,570
TOTAL 511-B.M.R.C.	3,000	3,105	3,214
TOTAL 514-YOUTH	31,750	32,861	34,011
TOTAL 516-GRACE HOUSE	4,500	4,658	4,821
TOTAL 536- HIGHER EDUCATION MINISTRIES	56,200	58,167	60,203
TOTAL 4522-COMPENSATION	417,765	432,387	447,520
TOTAL 4523-HOUSING - CLERGY	22,900	23,702	24,531
TOTAL 4524-CLERGY - UTILITIES	6,691	6,925	7,168
TOTAL 4527-PENSIONS	62,984	65,188	67,470
TOTAL 4532-INSURANCE BENEFITS	88,036	96,840	106,524
TOTAL 4533-CONTINUING EDUCATION	0	0	0
TOTAL 4534-TRAVEL	25,000	25,875	26,781
TOTAL 4537-F.I.C.A. EXPENSE	15,792	16,345	16,917
TOTAL 4542-MEDICARE EXPENSE	3,693	3,822	3,956
TOTAL 4547-TELEPHONE	5,500	5,693	5,892
TOTAL 4552-POSTAGE	7,000	7,245	7,499
TOTAL 4557-REPAIRS/MAINT./CLEANING	11,180	11,571	11,976
TOTAL 4558-UTILITIES	11,100	11,489	11,891
TOTAL 4562-ORGANIZATIONAL INSURANCE	34,500	35,708	36,957
TOTAL 4577-OFFICE EXPENSES	31,700	32,810	33,958
TOTAL 4587-C/Y RESERVE FUNDING	28,250	29,239	30,262
TOTAL 4588-CANONICAL REQUIREMENTS	33,286	34,451	35,657
TOTAL 4589-ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES	19,150	19,820	20,514
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,169,077	1,215,717	1,264,562
NET INCOME/EXPENSE	-12,989	35,301	22,936

Diocesan Ministry Reports

Bishop Marmion Resource Center

Boys' Home

Chancellor

Chaplain to Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses/Partners

Church Pension Fund

Commission on Ministry

Companions for Mission

Episcopal Appalachian Ministries (Outreach Grant Recipient)

Episcopal Relief and Development

Fresh Start

Grace House Learning and Training Center on the Mountain

Higher Education Ministries

Historian

Jackson-Feild Homes for Girls

Millennium Development Goals

Outreach Grants Committee

Parish Nurses

Phoebe Needles Center, Inc.

Planned Giving

Registrar

Standing Committee

Stuart Hall School

United Thank Offering

Virginia Council of Churches (Outreach Grant Recipient)

Virginia Episcopal School

Westminster Canterbury of Lynchburg

Young Adult Ministries

Youth Ministries

Bold print denotes a received report.

1. Name of Ministry: *Bishop Marmion Resource Center (BMRC)*

2. What is the program's mission statement and/or purpose?

To serve our diocesan congregations by providing resources, consultations, and educational programs and workshops, and as staff support with the Education Consortium, to further enable and support the Christian Education and mission of the people of the diocese.

3. How does the program live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

- Maintaining a lending library of videos, books, CDs, and curriculum, including obtaining and cataloging new resources*
- Availability by phone, email, or in person for consultation*
- Staff support for the Education Consortium*

4. How does the program support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

The BMRC provides resources and information to support Christian growth, as well as materials to respond to global responsibility through the Millennium Development Goals. The BMRC has resources available to assist parishes and the members of their congregations in all aspects of Christian formation.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

*We continue to update the **Speakers' Bureau** and invite any who would be willing to present an informational talk or workshop to a parish group to send in contact and topic information that can be kept on file in the BMRC.*

Contact the BMRC if your parish has used materials that you'd like to see on our shelves.

Please let participants know when you are using BMRC materials for discussion or study groups. Encourage them to drop in and browse as well!

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

The BMRC is well-used. The variety of resources available is helpful to parishes. Parishes appreciate being able to receive and return resources by mail. The most-repeated request was for a searchable, interactive online catalog. Although our current software does not support this, we continue to explore this option. At this time, we are endeavoring to put PDF files of selected materials on the diocesan website as an indicator of what is available.

Contact Information
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1. Ministry Name: *Boy's Home, Inc.*

2. What is your mission and/or purpose?

Boys' Home strives to help young men in our care develop their mental, physical, social, and spiritual potentials (age 6—18).

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

Matt F. was a confused young man when he arrived at Boys' Home. His first weeks were a struggle—he wanted to follow his own rules. But after much work, he graduated from high school. Now he is enrolled in community college, majoring in Applied Science/Electrical Engineering. He also works in an apprentice program and hopes be a trained craftsman in the near future. Matt said, "Boys' Home can broaden your horizons and give you opportunities for your future. You think it is hard when you're first here but Boys' Home helps you think about your future." Since leaving Boys' Home, Matt also went on a family mission trip to Tanzania. Boy's Home has a rich tradition of successfully helping young men get back on track, focusing on education and emphasizing those skills needed to maintain happy and healthy lifestyles.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

Boys' Home helps socially and economically disadvantaged young men, ages 6—18, without regard to race, religion, or area of residence.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Since its founding in 1906, Boys' home's mission has remained constant: to help boys nurture their minds, bodies, and soul, develop character, to educate, motivate and guide. We need convocations to spread the word about this ministry so can continue to make a pivotal difference in more lives.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

I am not aware of any feedback received.

Contact Information

Janet D. Lemmer

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Chaplain to Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses/Partners

1. **Ministry Name:** *Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses/Partners*
2. **What is your mission statement and/or purpose?**
3. **How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?**
4. **How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?**
5. **How can convocations support your ministry?**

There are exactly one hundred (not an estimate!) retired clergy, spouses and surviving spouses residing in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. As appointed by Bishop Powell, I am their chaplain, while the Bishop, of course, remains their chief pastor. In this chaplaincy I pray for, visit, e-mail, telephone, and communicate in other ways, as elaborated below. A directory of all our retired clergy, et al, is prepared twice yearly and sent to every household, so that our retired clergy, spouses and survivors may keep up with each other and minister to each other. Christmas and birthday cards are sent to all. I attended funerals and visited in hospitals. Regional Advent lunches with Bishop Powell took place in Lynchburg and Roanoke, with an opportunity to chat informally with our chief pastor after lunch. When I learn of illnesses, hospitalizations and other difficulties, I inform Bishop Powell, and he does the same for me.

I attend an informative yearly conference for diocesan chaplains to the retired. As the Church Pension Group's chaplain coordinator for the dioceses in Province Three, I organize and plan this conference as well. I also serve as supplemental health insurance contact between the Church Medical Trust and my Diocesan flock, as well as those now retired from our Diocese but residing in other dioceses. This involves staying as informed as possible. Subsequently, I attend the Church Pension Group's annual Diocesan Administrators' Workshop in order to stay abreast with our supplemental health insurance plans for the retired. I assist with questions, enrollments and communication between our supplemental insurance and medications providers and our retired clergy, spouses and survivors.

Bishop Powell has also asked me to serve as coordinator for our Diocesan HEED Fund. HEED, an acronym for Henderson Endowment for the Elderly of the Diocese, gave grants in 2006 to the following: St. James, Roanoke, to assist with the purchase of a small bus; St. Mark's, Fincastle, to assist with a ramp, Christ Church, Big Stone Gap, to assist with an accessible entrance, and to the Tri-diocesan Council on Aging, for fall camp scholarships.

6. **Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.**

N/A

Contact Information
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Chaplain to Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses/Partners
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1. Ministry Name: Episcopal Appalachian Ministries

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

“Episcopal Appalachian Ministries serves the needs of the people of Appalachia in the name of the Risen Christ by proclaiming the Gospel in ways which will renew and empower and serve justice, so that all may share in the good creation with which God has blessed us.

The mission of Episcopal Appalachian Ministries is to inspire, nurture and affirm those who serve the unique needs of the people of Appalachia through networking, education, advocacy, consciousness-raising and other appropriate programs, working through diocesan channels and with the authority of the respective bishops.”

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

Our acronym—EAM—reflects our programs: Education, Advocacy, and Mission.

EAM’s education efforts include Appalachian culture and history, Appalachian issues, small church work, and ministry development. Our advocacy encompasses issues that affect the lives of the Appalachian people, their environment and their communities. Our mission work focuses primarily on work camps and matching church resources with community needs.

We help organize conferences and educational events, conduct workshops. We publish a newsletter to affirm and support ministry with Appalachians in both urban and rural settings and to inform the Church at large about the social and economic issues that affect Appalachia. We serve as a clearing house for information about small church or rural church issues, as well as Appalachian culture, history and social issues. We try to match resources with needs and network persons needing support for ministry.

We put together three weeks of intergenerational work camps each summer, designed for small congregations or individuals who would not be able to have the work camp experience otherwise. The work camps are based on the last three questions of the Baptismal Covenant: “Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?...Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons?... Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?” In this context, the work comes second to forming relationships between the work campers and the people who welcome them into their homes.

All our work camps are held at Grace House on the Mountain in the diocese of Southwestern Virginia. Last summer’s work camps engaged 56 work campers from 14 dioceses in 9 states. Two families got new roofs, one got a new porch roof, another had the shingles on their roof replaced, and one finally got plumbing in the kitchen, new wiring to cut the risk of electrical fires, and new windows and one family got a new bridge across the stream to the house. We estimate that EAM spent more than \$10,800.00 in the local area and did work valued at close to \$78,000.

Over and over we hear from our host families how much this work means to them, not only in improved living conditions but in knowing that someone cares for them. The most common compliment is “God sent you to me.”

The life affirming call to work camp is shown in the number of people who are returning for their 8th, 9th, or 10th summer. A large number of our teen age work campers enter the helping professions or the ministry.

For additional stories on work camp, please see each fall’s issue of Mountain Echoes (the EAM newsletter sent to every congregation in the diocese) or check out our website www.visit-eam.org.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

EAM provides an opportunity for people to live out the gospel in service to others. The evening reflections at work camp reinforce and help process the Christian growth taking place. The education (both structured and experiential) on roots causes of poverty and the need to respect the

dignity of all persons also fosters Christian growth. As cross cultural experiences are processed, people gain an understanding of cultures, countries and people outside their local environment.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Convocations can support the EAM ministry by encouraging people of all ages to participate in a work camp experience (either through EAM or as a church sponsored mission trip). EAM can provide assistance in setting up such an experience. They can also post Mountain Echoes on the bulletin board and encourage people to read it to have an exposure to Appalachian issues and culture. Convocations and congregations can respond as God leads to issues that are raised there or locally (especially since nearly all the diocese is classified as Appalachian). People – as individuals or congregations – can make financial gifts to EAM. But most importantly, convocations can offer their prayer support to EAM and the various programs we undertake.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

I don't believe EAM was discussed at any of the convocation meetings last year; I did not get any feedback, so I cannot answer the question. However EAM does make changes in program and especially in work camp policies and actions each year based on feedback from work campers and from Board members.

Contact Information

Sandy Elledge (submitting this report)

Michael Maloney, Interim Ex. Director

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**EPISCOPAL
APPALACHIAN
MINISTRIES**

1. **Ministry Name:** *Fresh Start*
2. **What is your mission statement and/or purpose?**
3. **How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?**
4. **How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?**
5. **How can convocations support your ministry?**
6. **Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.**

In the forward to the Fresh Start manual, "Fresh Start is a diocesan-led program for clergy in new cures and their congregations, which seeks to strengthen the relationships among Episcopal clergy, congregational lay leaders and dioceses during critical periods of transition in clergy leadership of the congregation." The 2007-2008 Fresh Start class includes active participation from eleven (11) parishes in our diocese. We meet monthly across the diocese to build collegial relationships and sharpen interpersonal skills. Our current class has fifteen (15) ordained persons who are newly called to serve in their parish. The experience level ranges from newly ordained to seasoned veterans. Fresh Start is a two year commitment meeting approximately nine (9) months of each year.

Dawn Frankfurt and Kim Webster are leading Fresh Start for this term and then both will retire to allow for a fresh start in leadership. It has been our honor and our privilege to serve in this exciting and affirming diocesan program. Our prayer is that new leadership will continue to lead our new clergy in the discovery of the beauty and diversity of the parishes in our diocese. The Fresh Start group is not only a joy to know but an honor serve with dynamic sisters and brothers in the ordained ministry of the church. We are grateful for the past leadership of The Reverend Connie Jackson who led this group for the past several years. Any and all questions are welcome at any time.

--The Reverends Dawn Frankfurt and Kim Webster

Contact Information

Dawn Frankfurt

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Kim Webster

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1. Ministry Name: *Grace House Learning and Training Center on the Mountain*

2. What is your mission statement and or purpose?

Psalm 27: "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain."

To embody a ministry of social justice and advocacy for the welfare of the people of God in Appalachia; to encourage people from different cultures to interact through shared educational and labor experiences in order to gain understanding, strength, and a compelling sense of ministry that will enrich lives, proclaim the Gospel and foster the Christian community.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

By the number of hands-on ministry groups hosted; by the colleges using Grace House as an educational base; the people served by direct services; passing on of resource information; interaction with community groups; facilities used

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

Greetings from Grace House. Our busy season is about to begin, but that doesn't mean there haven't been activities going on at GH. This fall and winter have been spent doing some reNov.ations to the bunk house and our kitchen. Our large bunk house now boasts an additional shower and toilet. The kitchen has been painted and new curtains hung. Once again our friends the Girl Scouts had a hand in our projects. Three of them earned their Silver Star award while giving us a helping hand.

And speaking of helping hands, we have 15 mission groups headed to Grace House. In fact, three have already been here. At the last count we will work with work with 20 families doing small and large projects on their homes. From June 15 to August 16 there are back to back mission groups coming to Southwestern Virginia. This year most of our mission groups are new to our program, and come from as far away as Rhode Island.

Grace House was contacted by Chaplain Mary Walton of the St. Paul School for Girls in Maryland. The school would like to form a long-term relationship with Grace House, coming twice a year for mission work. They picked us partly because the Head Mistress has in-laws in our town of St. Paul (at the bottom of our mountain) and liked what they heard. The exciting part is there is a possibility of Saint Paul's Girls working with the local High School (appropriately named St. Paul High) on some projects.

In 2007, Grace House took on a challenging project. An elderly man lived back in the mountains, and the only road out was crossed by a 12 foot ravine. The bridge was dangerous and completely worn out. No one seemed to want to take on the project, even though the steel beams were there and just needed put in place. Well, we're called to be bridge builders, right? Right. And that's what four of our mission group members did. The look on Mr. W's face was worth all of the hard work that took place during the rainiest week of the season.

Bridge building. When all is said and done, that's what we are really doing whether we are holding a paint brush, tearing out walls or talking to the host family members. One of our quotes is "The work comes second." All of our people are encouraged to take the time to get to know each family they work with. "Work with, not do for." Accepting the gifts from our host families from chocolate cake to stories passed on from generation to generation. Knowing the real gift may not be the new steps or the painted living room, but the time taken to listen to each other and share the Christ in you with another person.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Ya'll come up and see what I'm talking about. If bunkhouses aren't your style, remember our jewel of a cottage. (But not from September 15-Oct.ober 29--it's rented then).

Sure am looking forward to another season. Please keep the mission groups, our host families and me in your prayers.

In His Service,

Vickianne Dotten, Grace House Coordinator

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

Contact Information

Vickianne Dotten

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Grchse@aol.com



1. Ministry Name: *Higher Education Ministries Commission*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

The purpose of the commission is to support the work of individual ministries throughout the diocese as they 1) welcome students of all backgrounds to join in prayer, worship, and fellowship, 2) provide regular Eucharistic services in the Anglican/Episcopal tradition, 3) encourage spiritual exploration for students and faculty in safe, home like environments.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

Our “ministry” is really several ministries. Three of them, each based in a parish, provide support to students in different sections of the diocese. In Lexington, R. E. Lee Memorial has the oldest established ministry, to cadets at VMI and students at Washington & Lee. The focus of the ministry is a well-attended weekly Sunday evening Eucharist followed by dinner and time for reflection and fellowship. The ministry is fully integrated into the life of the parish, and students and parishioners participate together on the ministry steering committee, choir, youth programs, Sunday school and as leaders in worship. Parishioners also serve as host families for cadets as they enter VMI.

In Blacksburg, the Episcopal campus minister is the Assistant Rector of Christ Church, half of whose time is devoted to serving students and faculty at Virginia Tech. Canterbury House, owned by the parish, is a separate building which is both a gathering place for students and a home to six students who live there during the school year. As in Lexington, the focus of the ministry is a weekly (Wednesday evening) Eucharist with dinner and fellowship. The ministry also has a strong emphasis on social outreach. In Radford, Grace Church supports the ministry at Canterbury House adjacent to the Radford University campus. The director provides a weekly Tuesday evening prayer service, dinner, and fellowship time, as well as a Wednesday noon-time “pizza and conversation.” Because Grace currently lacks a full-time rector, the rector of Christ Church, Pulaski, comes twice a month to provide communion at the Tuesday night gatherings.

The diocese also supports two smaller program-based ministries, one at Ferrum College and one at Hollins University, and provides funds for an ecumenical outreach program to community college students in the geographical boundaries of the diocese. This year a small sum has been devoted to starting up a ministry to college students in far southwestern Virginia.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

One important aspect of the mission of the church globally and locally is to be present as the body of Christ to all ages. College students are often forgotten by the church. Most of them are away from home and therefore from their parish families. They are at an exciting and stressful time of their lives. They are seeking to explore their spiritual lives, to find their truest selves, and yet to be in community with others. The Episcopal ministries to college and university students provide welcome safe havens where students can be together, worship, have meals, share ideas and concerns, and reach out to others. The ministries are a way the church can witness to its young college students that they are loved and held close.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

First, convocations can familiarize themselves with the work of these ministries. If one of the college/university ministries is in your area, representatives from the convocation could visit it: you will be welcomed! Also, members of the commission and/or directors of campus ministries would be happy to attend convocation meetings to describe the programs. Second, convocations can support these ministries financially through the diocesan budgeting process. Third, convocation members, individually and together, can pray for our college students and those who serve them and for the success of the church’s outreach to all our young people.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

We were most pleased with the answers to the question, "What do you find valuable about each program area?" The answers were all variations on a central theme: the church must provide compassionate support for college students as they make the transition from childhood to adulthood and must be a witness of God's love as they explore and grow spiritually. All convocations commented that they would like to see campus ministries expand, but all also recognized the financial constraints we have. The commission has spent the last year reviewing and evaluating our current programs and can now address the recommendation about providing ministry to underserved areas of the diocese. We are particularly struck by one suggestion that we "think outside the box." We agree and will attempt now to do that.

Contact Information

Name: James Lott

Chair, Higher Education Ministries Commission

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Members of the Commission:

Edwin Craun, Augusta Convocation

Erin Harden, Roanoke Convocation

Geno Iannoccone, New River Convocation

James Lott, Augusta Convocation, Chair

Jack Roper, Abingdon Convocation

Nina Vest Salmon, Lynchburg Convocation

Rachel Wenner, Roanoke Convocation



Directors of College Ministries

Melissa Cox and the Rev. Tom Crittenden, Canterbury Club, Washington & Lee University and Virginia Military Institute

The Rev. Scott Russell, Canterbury House, Virginia Tech

Lucinda Piro and the Rev. Vickie Houk, Canterbury House, Radford University

Jan Fuller, Canterbury Club, Hollins University

Dave Newcomb, Canterbury Club, Ferrum University

The Rev. Vincent Carroll, Southwest Virginia College Clusters

The Rev. Stephen Darr, Ecumenical Community College Ministries

Addenda

The importance of our college ministries is often made clearer when those involved at the local level speak about their experiences.

We have been blessed to have a long heritage of student involvement in our parish. Our call to nourish the spiritual development of these young adults has also served as a discernment period for their ministry. Over the past 20 years 7 have pursued ordained ministry. Dane Boston, W&L '08 will enter Yale Divinity School in the fall. Our personal contact helps strengthen their relationship with both God and this parish community while fostering an environment for their spiritual life to grow and be enriched.

--Melissa Cox, Robert E. Lee Memorial, Lexington

*I attended the **Radford University Canterbury Club** for four years. Participating in this organization was one of the best things I did while in college. Every Wednesday night we would meet for a service and then have dinner together afterwards. I developed friendships through this fellowship that I still have almost two years after graduating. This ministry helped me keep my faith in Christ during a time when most young adults loose it. If it had not been for this ministry, I most likely would have been part of the growing statistic of young adults who stop going to church during their college years. My faith was able to grow and nurture itself into what it is today. I was provided*

with many different faith journeys through the people I met. These faith journeys helped me continue and evaluate my own faith journey. College ministry is an incredible ministry, one that is often overlooked but is one of the most crucial ministries in order to have a seamless transition between ages in the Episcopal Church. I thank God for this ministry and what an incredible impact it had on my life.

--Erin Harden, Christ Church, Roanoke

***The Hollins Canterbury Society** is a new ministry dedicated to fellowship and social activism for Episcopalians. We meet for dinner, followed by a laid-back discussion about faith and how to live and embody the tenets of our faith. Our goal is to have fellowship, explore ways we can make a difference in our community and work towards implementing the Millennium Development Goals and the ONE campaign to end extreme poverty. We hope to have a U2charist to raise funds for Episcopal Relief and Development and Kimoyo. We will work together to provide transportation to any interested students on campus to the casual contemporary Eucharist called the Gathering at St. John's Episcopal Church in downtown Roanoke on Sunday evenings. That service starts at 5, features music and is followed by a complimentary evening meal and an "edu-tainment" class dealing with religious topics. Students are returned to Hollins when it concludes at 7:15 p.m.*

--Jan Fuller, Hollins University

*During my high school involvement with my home church in Fairfax, Virginia, one of my rectors once said that the Episcopal Church was like a large tent: it has room for many people with many different opinions. It was not until I became involved with the **Virginia Tech Canterbury ministry** that I realized the truth of his words and, more importantly, how strong a community of different people could grow. The strength and versatility of the Canterbury Fellowship helped smooth my transition from an 18-year-old child to an independent adult. As I look back on my college experience, the times most influential to my development include moments of worship, prayer and fellowship with my friends from Canterbury. From passing the peace with warm hugs or sharing a beer (when we became old enough, of course), throughout four years we became linked to one another with lasting bonds.*

--Kathryn Stanhagen, Virginia Tech Class of 2007

Millennium Development Goals Committee
Outreach Grant Recipient

1. Ministry Name: *Millennium Development Goals Committee*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

To promote the fulfillment of the MDGs at the diocesan, parish, and individual level

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

*We have been active in supplying information about the MDGs at annual Council, in mailings, and in the **Epiphany**.*

4. How does this ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

This ministry attempts to advocate for Christ's calling for us to love the "least of these."

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Encourage parishes to become a "One Parish." Have at least two members from each convocation become members of the committee.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

Nothing.

Contact Information

David Dixon

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The Phoebe Needles Center, Inc.

1. Program Name: *The Phoebe Needles Center, Inc.*

2. What is the program's mission statement and/or purpose?

"To serve people of all ages in southwestern Virginia by offering a variety of educational, spiritual, and renewal programs designed to nourish people in their spiritual formation."

3. How does the program live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

By providing the following programs to people within the Episcopal Diocese of SWVA and reaching out to those beyond our diocese: Summer Camp Program for Youth, Summer Camp Program for Adults, Center for Lifelong Learning, planning and hosting retreats and conferences, providing leadership and teambuilding programs for youth and adults, renting the Center to churches, non-profits, school and college groups, government agencies, businesses, and private groups. Last summer our "senior" camper was 91 years old. On her evaluation at the end of the week she said, "The Eucharist was indeed a high point, but the moment I shall cherish is the sight of the children singing with all the power of their lungs, "All Things Bright and Beautiful." I shall never forget that, as symbolic of the love and relationships created at the Center. It is a joy to see the love and care and nurture that goes on there." It is a reminder that transformation can take place at any age and any time.

4. How does the program support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

As the camp and conference center for the diocese, all of our programs (listed above) seek to challenge and support Christian formation and our responsibility to act as faithful Christian people in our community, the nation and the world.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

*Woody Allen once said, "90% of life is showing up." The most helpful way to support the Phoebe Needles Center is **to use it**. Encourage youth in your congregation and community to attend Summer Camp 2008, have your vestry retreat, women's or men's retreat, youth retreat, choir retreat, etc. Encourage adult members to attend the monthly Center for Lifelong Learning programs, "50's More of Less" Camp, and other programs. Consider having a convocation-wide retreat or picnic at the Center. Let us know if there are programs we can host for your convocation or congregation. Give us feedback on the materials we put out through the various means of communication in our diocese. Add 1% to your church budget in support of the Center.*

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

That people in this diocese care deeply about the ministry of the Phoebe Needles Center, and want to know more about what is going on here. Continue to communicate information about our programs via all diocesan publications, as well as direct emails and mailings from the Center. We are in the process of updating our web site to make information available in a more timely fashion, and in a more interactive manner.

Contact Information

The Rev. John H. Heck, Executive Director
The Phoebe Needles Center, Inc.
732 Turners Creek Road
Callaway, Virginia
540-483-1518 800-848-1677

PNCenter@gmail.com
www.PhoebeNeedles.org



1. Ministry Name: *Stuart Hall School*

2. What is the program's mission statement and/or purpose?

Stuart Hall School offers a rigorous and supportive coeducational academic program in the liberal arts and sciences for students from kindergarten through grade 13. With respect for the development of each individual, the School is a community anchored in one multi-faceted core value:

Educating the Mind; Strengthening the Body; Renewing the Heart; Nurturing the Spirit

In the context of its Episcopal tradition, Stuart Hall School prepares boys and girls of all faiths for success in colleges and universities world wide and for engaged, healthy lives of intellectual curiosity, responsible citizenship, creative expression, ethical leadership, and compassionate service.

3. How does the program live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

"Stuart Hall is the learner's paradise. This is not to say she is filled only with calculator-wielding MIT-bound students, but that teaches the art of learning. Where public schools can offer excellence in a few narrow categories (and even then only on occasion), Stuart Hall can offer excellence wherever the student wishes to find it; this is her great strength. I took AP science and math classes as well as participating in a truly superlative art program. I was the first seed on the tennis team and acted in three of the school's plays. Indeed the options for a student are nearly inexhaustible: should he outstrip what Stuart Hall can offer him, he can take classes three blocks away at Mary Baldwin College—I took several. The result of this versatility is a versatile student, a student who has all roads open before him, a student ready for and capable of anything."

-- Robin Day '06, freshman at Swarthmore College.

4. How does the program support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

Stuart Hall educates the WHOLE PERSON, because excellent education isn't just about engaging the MIND. While we challenge students academically, we are devoted to cultivating all the core aspects of their development.

On the playing field and in the classroom, child explore ways to strengthen the BODY.

Through the beauty and richness of the arts, they expand their horizons by participating in a multitude of activities that cultivate and touch the HEART.

On campus and out in the community, students find opportunities for caring, friendship, and service to shape character and nurture the SPIRIT.

This all-encompassing approach, devoted to enriching all four areas of being, gives children something unique and infinitely valuable: an education that teaches the art of LIVING as well as the of LEARNING.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

By supporting our programs and students, and by sharing knowledge of Stuart Hall School with others.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

N/A

Contact Information
Sally Day, Director of Communication
540-885-0356
sday@stuart-hall.org

Ministry Name: *United Thank Offering*

The United Thank Offering felt the impact of all the other worthy requests for money in 2007. The Diocese of Southwestern Virginia offering was \$15,985 in 2007, down from \$17,149 in 2006 and the high of \$21,758 in 2005. In the past 8 years we have been recipients of 6 grants in SWVA often exceeding our giving. The needs in our diocese continue however requests for grants are few. Expand the circle of thankful people by having a spring and a fall ingathering in every parish .I is available to talk about the UTO to for any group, large or small, day or night, weekdays or Sundays. Your thank offering supports grants for ministries at home and overseas as an outreach of the Episcopal Church.

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

The United Thank Offering invites people to offer prayers of thanksgiving to God and to offer actual and visible signs which benefit others.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

In recent years a truck was purchased with a grant to provide transportation of materials and volunteers at Grace House.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

By combining offerings, it is possible to fund significant projects that make a real difference in the work of the Episcopal Church and a real difference in people's lives.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Encourage parishes to hold twice-yearly ingatherings, spring and fall.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year?

Several parishes have requested information and grant applications for needs within their community.

Contact Information
Jackallen Arthur
Jackallena@aol.com
434-239-3180



1. Ministry Name: *Virginia Council of Churches*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

The Virginia Council of Churches is a community of Christian communions, which, in response to the Gospel, as revealed in the Scriptures, confess Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God, as Savior and Lord. Therefore, we covenant with one another to manifest ever more fully the unity of the Church. Relying upon the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, we gather in common mission, serving in all creation to the glory of God and our neighbor's good.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

"For sixty-one years the Virginia Council of Churches has sought in humility and gentleness to make every effort to maintain the unity of Christ in the bonds of peace within the Commonwealth. We are presently 37 member bodies from 18 Roman Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox denominations.

While joined in prayer for one another and engaging in conversation with one another in matters of faith and order, we have also served together for decades in areas like rural family development which provides migrant head start classes for Hispanic workers on the Eastern shore, the resettlement of refugees throughout Virginia, the teaching of Bible to public school students on release time, and the coordination of disaster relief efforts in times of natural or man-made disasters.

In these coming years we are challenged to grow in dialogue and membership with other Christian denominations; we are challenged in increasing the number of heads of judicatories attending our assembly; we are challenged to not only speak in love and concern for a common faith in Jesus Christ, but also to speak and act in love and concern for every child and weak one within our commonwealth.

So that our Mission Statement will ring true that we 'manifest ever more fully the unity of the Church. Relying upon the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, we gather in common mission, serving in all creation to the glory of God and our neighbor's good.'"

--Bishop James F. Mauney, ELCA VA Synod, Past President of the VCC, November 2006

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

The Episcopal Church has never claimed to be the whole of the Catholic Church. Episcopalians accept that there was a time when the Universal Church existed without a separate Anglican body. Many of them look forward to a time again when Episcopal Church no longer needs to exist as a separate body. Episcopalians believe that within the providence of God, they have certain insights into the nature of the Church and the practice of the Christian life that should become part of the permanent heritage of the Universal Church. Support of and participation in the Virginia Council of Churches helps to bring this long-standing commitment of Episcopalians within the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, to ecumenism alive on a local and state level.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

The question should be what can the Virginia Council of Churches do to support the ministry of the convocations. The Council is the creation of the denominations grounded in the prayer of our Lord "that all may be one, so that the world may believe". The integrity of our witness is found in our Unity and not in our Divisions. How can the relationships and programs of the Council enhance the ministry of the Diocese by being in a closer relationship with your brothers and sisters in Christ across the Commonwealth. Ecumenism is built upon the Lund Principle that we shall do all things together except where deep conviction compels us to act separately. The convocations can participate in the various Commissions, Committee and Program Units of the VCC. Bishop Neff Powell serves on the Coordinating Cabinet and is represented by the Rev. Becky Crites, ecumenical officer for the Diocese. Some key persons who have participated in the

past are Bishop Heath Light, Robert Crewdson, and the Hon. Baldwin G. Locher, president 1953-1954.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

Information about the ministry and history of the Virginia Council of Churches is not known or understood. How the VCC and the Diocese work together in a variety of ways that enhance the ministry of the Diocese is not understood by many at the local level.

Contact Information

The Rev. Jonathan M. Barton

General Minister

804-321-3300 ext. 102

barton@vcc-net.org



Westminster Canterbury of Lynchburg

1. Ministry name: Westminster Canterbury of Lynchburg

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

To be an accredited, non-profit provider of quality senior services which promote independence and dignity, operated in a fiscally responsible manner, and guided by Christian ideals.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

We are a Continuing Care Retirement Community.

4. How does the program support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

As a diverse congregation in Christian growth, we continue to reach out to meet the spiritual needs of all of our residents.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

By supporting us in pastoral care; donations to our Fellowship Fund and by making the senior citizen population in the various churches aware of our residential services.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

We were not asked to participate last year.

Contact Information

Karen Kelly

434-386-3500

KKelly@wclynchburg.org



1. Ministry name: *Young Adults Ministries*

2. What is your mission statement and/or purpose?

The purpose of the young adult program is to provide a seamless transition between the youth program and becoming an adult in the diocese. The mission of this ministry is to keep young adults active in the church by providing opportunities to stay involved and explore their personal faith journey. This ministry is for young adults aged 18-30 as stated by the national church. Many young adults have campus ministry to attend during college. This ministry is for those young adults, young adults who grew up in the diocese, and young adults who are in the working world.

3. How does the ministry live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

"The Young Adult Program has impacted my life in an amazing way. When I left high school it was a great relief to know I had this program to be a part of. Especially while going to community college, where it is hard to get involved with anything. The fellowship we are able to share with one another is wonderful, with old, and especially new, friends. Even now, when I am away at school, coming home and knowing that I have something fun, and exciting to go to, puts a smile on my face!"

--Shannon McGuirk- St. John's, Bedford and Longwood University

"After spending 5 years on the Youth Ministries Team, it is a very hard transition to leave a family that you have become so close to. The Young Adult Ministry has given me other opportunities to keep that special bond with close friends. Through various events, I have been able to revert back to my days in high school and spend time with friends discussing more mature topics that are affecting us in our daily lives. These discussions and friends have brought me closer to God with every encounter. It is extremely easy to lose sight of God and the relationship that we have with him once we leave our comfort zones and head off to the new college world. Having the Young Adult Ministry brings each of us back down to where we need to be and revives the relationship between ourselves and God, and ourselves and each other."

--Mariah Clarke, St. Paul's, Salem and University of South Carolina

4. How does the program support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

The young adult ministry supports the mission of the global church and the diocese by helping to bridge the gap between youth and adult. Young adults are a forgotten group and are often hard to find at church. This ministry strives to communicate the value of young adults in the life of the Church. Young adults are at a point in their lives when many changes are happening. The Church can help provide a stable and inviting environment for these changes to happen gracefully.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

Convocations can support this ministry first and most importantly by prayer. Pray for the young adults of the diocese and for the support and continued success of this program. Second, by providing names of young adults in your parish so this ministry will continue to grow and reach all areas of the diocese. Third, by supporting this ministry financially. We currently do not have a budget, which affects our programs, and opportunities we can offer to support young adults of the diocese. Two programs we offer for young adults currently are a summer mission trip and Young Adults@Council. Both of these programs require a budget to help minimize the cost and enable more young adults to attend.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

Not applicable.

Contact information

Erin Harden

540-493-4571

eharden221@gmail.com



1. Ministry Name: *Youth Ministries*

2. What is the program's mission statement and/or purpose?

The mission of the Youth Ministries Team is to provide witness to and programs that spread the Good News of Jesus Christ within the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, in our communities, and throughout the world.

Through our enthusiasm for the Lord we reflect God's love and acceptance of all people and invite others into a relationship with Jesus. By our joy, we show that following Christ is both fun and life-changing. We spread the love of Christ by sponsoring, planning, and carrying out fellowship opportunities, spiritual and educational retreats, service projects, and mission experiences.

3. How does the program live out its mission statement and/or purpose?

I believe that one way the ministry is living out its mission is the fact that Y@C this year had 185 people in attendance and that YMT has increased its membership by over 30 new applicants. There is a need and desire on the part of the youth to live in Christian community with one another and not just for their own gain but in order to have a positive impact on the world around them. Outreach has become a vital part of our program as was evidenced by the support of the diocese for the Stop Hunger Now project during council.

4. How does the ministry support the mission of the global church and the diocese?

The youth program of the diocese tries very hard to meet the needs of the parishes in supplying an active program for youth which the majority of the parishes cannot afford to do. In supplying this active program they foster a connection to their church community encouraging Christian growth.

5. How can convocations support your ministry?

This past fall we began youth meetings that coincide with convocational meetings. This was a great success and we will be continuing those meetings with the spring convocations. Our hope is that while we continue to meet by convocation and relationships between youth workers and youth in different churches are formed, that youth ministry will grow within the convocations as they reach out to one another for resources and companionship.

6. Please share what you have learned or implemented based on feedback about your ministry received from convocation meetings last year.

A lot was said about encouraging youth to gather within their convocation. Our fall and spring convocation meetings have answered that request. We have also seen an increase in members of YMT from across the diocese.

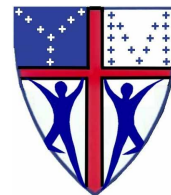
Contact Information

Aimee Bostwick

540-342-6797

800-DIO-SWVA

abostwick@dioswva.org



Appendices

Appendix A: Regarding Nominations and Elections

In the fall clergy and lay delegates will be nominated for various diocesan leadership positions. Please consider the duties of each office and consult the relevant canons (available on the diocesan website: www.dioswva.org— enter Canons in the Search box) when making the commitment to serve.

Convocation Presidents & Deans

See Canon 24

At Fall Mission Days, each convocation elects a lay person to serve as President for a three-year term that begins at the conclusion of the next annual Council. A President who has served a full three-year term cannot be re-elected President until the Fall Mission Day meeting following the end of that full term. Convocation Presidents serve on the Executive Board of the diocese (See “*Executive Board*” below), assist in all the common tasks of the diocese, preside over convocation meetings, and perform other duties as assigned by the Bishop or the Executive Board.

Also at Fall Mission Days, each convocation elects a member of the clergy to serve as its Dean for a one-year term that begins at the conclusion of the next annual Council. A Dean may be re-elected to a maximum of two additional consecutive terms after which he or she is not eligible to be elected again until the Fall Mission Day meeting following the end of that three-year period. Convocation Deans provide general supervision of deacons not otherwise supervised, help maintain a regular schedule of communion services in congregations without priests, promote missionary development and education as directed by the Bishop, institute new clergy when requested by the Bishop, preside over convocation meetings in the absence of the President, and perform other duties as assigned by the Bishop of the Executive Board.

Presidents and Deans plan and organize at least three convocation meetings each year and assist in the worship celebrations at Council.

Executive Board

See Canon 7

Each convocation is entitled to two clergy and two lay members of the Executive Board, each of whom serves a three-year term. Elections are staggered so that half of the membership of the Executive Board changes in two out of every three years. The basic function of the Executive Board is to conduct the business of the diocese between meetings of Council; detailed information is in Canon 7. Each member of the Executive Board must be willing and able to meet at various locations within the diocese on Saturdays four times per year, (give dates), make annual parish visits, and serve on one of four main committees: Program Grants, Finance, Outreach, or Personnel. (Contact Alan Boyce, Deputy for Administration, at aboyce@dioswva.org or 540-342-6797 for detailed information on these committees. Or go to the diocesan website: www.dioswva.org—enter Executive Board Committees in the Search box.)

Ecclesiastical Trial Court

See Canon 27

The Ecclesiastical Trial Court consists of three priests or deacons and two lay persons who conduct presentments and trials of priests and deacons. To be eligible for election, clergy must be canonically resident in our diocese, while lay candidates must be qualified to serve on a parish vestry. Members serve three-year terms, may succeed themselves once, and may be re-elected (and succeed themselves once again) after a hiatus of at least two years. This Council will elect

one clergy and one lay member.

Standing Committee

See Canon 6

Each convocation nominates one lay person and one member of the clergy to serve on the six-member Standing Committee. Committee members serve three-year terms. In general, the Standing Committee meets often with the Bishop, usually monthly except July and August, for purposes of advice and consent. Sometimes there are special called meetings.

Provincial Synod

See Canon 25

Our diocese is a member of Province III of the Episcopal Church. Each diocese in the Province is entitled to four members—the Bishop, another member of the clergy, and two lay persons—to represent it at meetings of the Provincial Synod. Council elects the additional clergy member and the two lay members to serve until the annual Council preceding the next Synod meeting. Alternates are the runners-up in the balloting process. Province III normally meets once per year, typically a Sunday evening, Monday, and Tuesday in June.

Appendix B: Present Incumbents

Deans and Presidents

Abingdon Convocation:
Dean: The Very Rev. Russ Hatfield
President: Barbara Hargroves

Augusta Convocation:
Dean: The Very Rev. Kim Webster
President: Nick Moga

Lynchburg Convocation:
Dean: The Very Rev. Dr. Doug Wigner
President: Glenn Updike

New River Convocation:
Dean: The Very Rev. Vickie Houk
President: Duane Martin

Roanoke Convocation:
Dean: The Very Rev. Richard Fife
President: Bob Pohlada

Executive Board

Abingdon Convocation:
2009 The Rev. Ray Moore
Emily Edmundson
2010 The Rev. Vince Carroll
Barbara Hargroves

Augusta Convocation:
2009 The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt
Nick Moga
2010 The Rev. David Cox
Mamie Myers

Lynchburg Convocation:
2009 The Rev. Michael Sullivan
Glenn Updike
2010 The Rev. Todd Vie
Max Guggenheimer

New River Convocation:
2009 The Very Rev. Vickie Houk
Bob Miller
2010 The Rev. Scott West
Duane Martin

Roanoke Convocation:
2009 The Rev. Ellen Hanckel
Bob Pohlada
2010 The Rev. John Gardner
Robin Claytor

Executive Board Ex officio members:

Neff Powell, Bishop
Mark Loftis, Chancellor
John Hall, Treasurer
Alan Boyce, Secretary
Kim Nowlin, Youth Representative (1 year term)
Isabelle Moore, Youth Representative (1 year term)
Catherine Mohr, Youth Alternate (1 year term)

Standing Committee

2009 Frances Marshall
Lynchburg Convocation
The Very Rev. Dr. Douglas Wigner
Lynchburg Convocation
2010 Ernest Holley
Augusta Convocation

2010 The Very Rev. Russ Hatfield
Abingdon Convocation
2011 The Rev. Karen Kelly
Lynchburg Convocation
Emily Cox
Augusta Convocation

Ecclesiastical Trial Court

2009 Michael Sullivan
Lynchburg Convocation

2010 Bill Kershner
Lynchburg Convocation
The Rev. Christopher Heying
Lynchburg Convocation

2011 The Rev. Jonathan Harris
Roanoke Convocation
Dr. Bill Kappes
Augusta Convocation

Provincial Synod Deputies

Clergy Deputy:
Neff Powell; Bishop
Judy Parrish
Lynchburg Convocation

Clergy Alternates:
John Lane
Augusta Convocation
Bob Copenhaver
Roanoke Convocation

Lay Deputies:
Jack Barrow
Abingdon Convocation
Gay Eure
Roanoke Convocation

Lay Alternates:
Tam Thomas
Lynchburg Convocation

United Thank Offering Coordinator:

Jackallen Arthur
Lynchburg Convocation

Assistant Coordinator:
Martha Brown
Roanoke Convocation

General Convention Deputies:

General Convention Deputies (Clergy)

The Rev. Deborah Hunley
The Rev. Michael Sullivan

The Rev. Phyllis Spiegel
The Rev. David Cox

General Convention Deputies (Lay)

Ms. Nina Salmon
Mr. Ernest Holley

Mr. Billy Kingery
Mr. Jack Barrow

General Convention Alternates (Clergy)

The Rev. Ray Moore
The Very Rev. Kim Webster

The Rev. Judy Parrish
The Rev. Melissa Hays-Smith

General Convention Alternates (Lay)

Ms. Mimi Leonard
Mr. Tray Light

Ms. Nancy Dixon
Mr. Bob Miller

Appendix C: Summary of Canons Relating to Delegates & Convocations

CANON 2: OF LAY DELEGATES AND THE EVIDENCE OF THEIR APPOINTMENT

- Parishes and Missions elect delegates and alternates no later than March 31. Sec. 1
- Delegates and Alternates must meet the requirements of vestry election. Sec 2b. [see Canon 14]
- Missions elect 1 delegate and 1 alternate. Sec. 2c
- Parishes elect delegates based on the number of communicants in good standing reported at the close of the previous council. Sec. 2a.
 - 200 or fewer = 2 delegates and 2 alternates
 - For each 150 communicants in good standing over 200, parishes elect 1 additional delegate and 1 additional alternate. Sec 2a.
- Parishes report the names of those elected on the form received from the Secretary of the Diocese. Sec. 4.
 - This form must be certified by the rector or clergy in charge and the secretary or a warden; if there is no clergy member in charge then it must be certified by the secretary and a warden. Sec. 4
- A list of elected delegates and alternates will be maintained for Council. Sec. 5
- If any delegate is not able to attend Council, an alternate shall fill the place. The Secretary of the Diocese must be notified of the change, and the alternate shall be chosen based on their order listed on the certificate of election. Sec. 6
- To receive seat and vote, parishes must return their parochial report and parish audit prior to Council. This may be waived by a majority vote of Council. Sec. 5
- Parishes shall pay the reasonable expenses of lay delegates and alternates. Sec. 7
- Seat and voice is also given to standing committee and executive board members. Sec. 8

CANON 24: OF CONVOCATIONS

- “For the purposes of promoting greater unity in the diocese and the work of the church extension in its borders, the diocese adopts the system of convocations.” Sec. 1
- The convocations are as follows: Abingdon, Augusta, Lynchburg, New River, and Roanoke. Sec. 2 a-e
- A vestry may petition the diocese to change membership of a congregation’s convocation. Sec. 2f
- Presidents: (one per convocation) Sec. 3a
 - Lay member nominated and elected at the fall convocation meeting
 - 3 year term starting at the close of council following the election
 - Serves on Executive Board
 - Cannot serve consecutive terms
 - Presides over convocation meetings
 - Promotes tasks of the diocese
 - Other duties as assigned
- Dean: (one per convocation) Sec. 3b
 - Clergy member nominated and elected at the fall convocation meeting
 - 1 year term starting at the close of council following the election
 - Serves as vice president
 - Cannot serve more than 3 consecutive years
 - Supervises deacons not otherwise supervised
 - Assists vacant congregations in having regular services
 - Promotes missionary development and education

- Presides over convocation meetings when the president is absent
- Other duties as assigned.
- Convocational meetings: Sec. 4
 - At least 3 per year
 - Fall meeting:
 - Discuss upcoming year in the diocese
 - Nominations and elections
 - January meeting:
 - Discuss matters to come before Council
 - Spring meeting:
 - Receive reports
 - Evaluate programs
 - Review budget information
 - Orientation to Council process
 - Clergy working or living in a convocation and canonically connected with the diocese are entitled to a vote at convocation meetings.
 - Elected lay delegates, are entitled to a vote at convocation meetings. Alternates serving in the place of a delegate are also entitled to a vote.
 - All members of congregations are invited and encouraged to attend. Sec. 5
- “Each Convocation may enact bylaws for its management subject to the approval of the ecclesiastical authority.” Sec. 6

Complete copies of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese may be found at www.dioswva.org.

Appendix D: Regarding Robert’s Rules of Order

Council business sessions are run in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order. These can be found at <http://www.robertsrules.org/rulesintro.htm> . The Bishop is assisted by a Certified Parliamentarian.

Appendix E: Resolutions Passed by the Eighty-Ninth Annual Council

Resolution: #1

From: Executive Board

Concerning: Site of Council

Be it resolved that Council hold its 91st Annual meeting at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, Roanoke, Virginia on January 29, 30, 31, 2010; and that Council hold its 92nd Annual meeting at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, Roanoke, Virginia on January 28, 29, 30, 2011.

Be it further resolved that the Executive Board entertain and consider invitations from any local parish, convocation or group of parishes to host Council in 2010 or later, if it can demonstrate that adequate facilities and services can be provided at comparable cost. Such invitation(s) to be issued in writing to the Executive Board by Oct.ober 1 of the year preceding the Council at which the invitation will be accepted or rejected.

Resolution: # 2

From: Executive Board

Concerning: Fund for Mission and Outreach

Be it resolved that this 89th Annual Council of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia meeting in Roanoke on January 25, 26 and 27, 2008, allocate its share of this Fund for use of the Outreach Committee in making grants in 2008.

Resolution # 3

Submitted by: The Executive

Concerning: Disaster Preparedness

Be it resolved that it is the policy of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia that the diocesan staff, all parishes, missions, and diocesan institutions take the necessary measures to have current disaster preparedness plans in place at all times, based upon ERD criteria and guidance from the Bishop.

Resolution: # 4

From: Peace in the Valley, Nelson Parish, and The Rev. Judy Parrish

Concerning: Tribal Recognition

Be it resolved that the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia meeting in Roanoke, Virginia, January 25-27, 2008, stands with our Native American brothers and sisters in the Commonwealth of Virginia and supports the resolution from The New Jamestown Covenant Summit of the Episcopal Church which met in Williamsburg, Virginia, Nov.ember 1-3, 2007, calling upon The Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations in Washington, D.C. and the Bishops and Episcopalians of the Dioceses of Virginia, Southwestern Virginia, and Southern Virginia to call upon their elected officials in support of the federal tribal recognition of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Monacan Indian Nation, the Chickahominy Tribe, the Eastern Chickahominy Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, and the Nansemond Tribe; and

Be it further resolved that we call upon the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations and the Bishops and Episcopalians of the Dioceses of Louisiana, Long Island, Georgia, Atlanta,

Hawaii, and Fond du Lac to advocate in their respective spheres of influence for the federal tribal recognition of the United Houma Nation of Louisiana, the Shinnecock Tribal Nation of New York, the Southeastern Cherokee Council, Inc. of Georgia, the Native Hawaiian Nation, and the Brothertown Nation of Wisconsin; and

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations in Washington, D.C, the Bishops of the Dioceses of Louisiana, Long Island, Georgia, Atlanta, Hawaii, and Fond du Lac, and a courtesy copy be sent to the Episcopal Native American Ministries Office.

Resolution: #5

From: Peace in the Valley

The Rev. Marian Windel, Vicar, Peace in the Valley

The Rev. Judy Parrish, Rector, Nelson Parish

Concerning: Support for the Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2007

Be it resolved that this Annual Council of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia meeting in Roanoke on January 25-27, 2008, responding to the call of the Episcopal Public Policy Network, supports the Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2007 (Senate Bill 1200) when it comes to the Senate floor;

And be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be sent, as soon as possible, to the members of Congress representing those living within the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, to the Episcopal Public Policy Network, and to the Native American Ministries Office. This bill is scheduled for consideration the week of January 28, 2008. Background from *episcopallife online* (<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/elife/>):

Resolution: #6

From: The Roanoke Convocation

Concerning: The Long Range Plan Accountability

Therefore be it resolved that the Executive Board of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia review the diocese's progress towards the goals of the Long Range Plan, publish their findings in the Fall Convocation Meeting materials, and report these findings at the 90th Annual Council of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia and at each subsequent Annual Council throughout the 5-year period encompassed by the Long Range Plan.

Resolution: #7 (as amended by the 89th Council)

From: The Rev. David Cox and Elizabeth McCarthy (St. Luke's, Hot Springs)

Concerning: Sudan Divestment

Therefore be it resolved that this 89th Annual Council of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia urge the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia to pass House Bill 556 ("Retirement System; investments related to Sudan") as well as Senate Bill 87, both of which would divest all Commonwealth funds from corporations that support the genocide in Darfur; and

Be it further resolved that this Council urges the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia and the members of this diocese to examine their own investments and divest from any companies that support the Government of Sudan in its genocidal actions in Darfur.