Living Our “Why” Process at Convention

At this year’s Diocesan Convention members of Trustees and Council will be leading delegates and visitors through a small-group process that will gather shared stories of the “Why” of our diocesan ministry. This time of small-group sharing will occur during the beginning of Saturday morning’s session.

During Saturday morning there will be two difference seating arrangements at numbered tables: first, a small-group seating (for diverse connection building) for the Sharing Our “Why” Process, and second, after a break, a business seating (by congregation) to conduct the business components of Convention.

Why ask Why?
Any time we engage someone in conversation about the Church and church attendance we hear a story told often with frustration and desperation about a spouse or child or grandchild who was reared in the church, was active in the youth group, choir, etc. and now never comes. For children and grandchildren they not only no longer come, but are not raising their children with any faith tradition at all. They seem content to live lives filled with work, sports, extracurricular activities – but not a faith tradition and certainly not coming to church.

Even for those who do come to church their connection seems to have changed. Regular attendance can be once a month or once a quarter or sporadically. Engaging with the church to grow their spiritual lives or attend functions outside of the regular service can be iffy or nonexistent.

In other words – the world and the church have changed – and will continue to do so.

We presume that those of us here at Convention are still engaged with the church in attendance and leadership. We know that our faith fills a void that all the other activities in our busy lives do not. We have found connection to God and are ever searching to deepen that relationship and find it important to do so with others on the same journey. But how do we convey to others just how meaningful this connection is – that it is the core reason for our being and not just one more activity to fill our time here on earth.

This is the reason we are working to find our Why! – that core question that applies not only to our parish life but to our life as a diocese and larger church. We hope that as we explore our diocesan Why it will enable us to articulate that to others in a more coherent form. That when we know our Why we will be able to discern what is at the core of our life together and working from these core values we will be able to more clearly discern what is most important to us as a whole. We are hoping that from this work together it will inform where we put our time, our
talents and our monies. We are hoping that we can use today’s work that we will continue to
guide us into the future that God has in mind for us.

We are thrilled to be doing this amazing work with you. We hope that you will be as excited as
we are at the possibilities before us.

- “Why”/ Visioning Sub-group of Trustees and Council

WHY Discovery for Small-Groups at Convention
November 9th, Saturday Morning after Morning Prayer

Total event time: 2 hours
Introduction (5 minutes)
The Golden Circle and the concept of WHY (25 minutes)
Small-Group Conversations (90 minutes)