

Standing Commission on Domestic Mission and Evangelism
The Maritime Institute of Technology
692 Maritime Blvd.
Baltimore, MD
October 1- 4 , 2008

Present: Angelica Duque, Charles Fulton, Ora Houston, Colenzo Hubbard, David Jones, Lallie Lloyd, Jim Mathes, Don McClain, Kirsten Nielsen, Joanne O'Donnell, Beth Panilaitis, Silito Romero, Stephanie Spellers, Sandye Wilson
Not present: Frank Brookhart, Ted Mollegen

Next Steps/Action Items

Efforts to complete Final Report

1. Summary of Work: **Lallie and Beth**
 2. Evangelism and Mission among Underserved Communities: small group inc. Beth, Angelique, Joanne, Kirsten, Ora, Stephanie. **Joanne will submit final, w/ support**
 3. Church planting and Assessment Tools
Small group: David, Jim. **David and Jim will submit final.**
Note: Need to have other info besides assessment tools: demographics, movement of groups in and out of church, who we are, who we reach and don't reach.
 4. Reconciliation Training: **Joanne will submit final.**
 5. Community-building/Reduced Resolution Load @ General Convention: **Jim will submit**
- Jim will review resolutions in final form (Oct. 31) and identify budget implications for each resolution.
 - Need to determine our top three priorities. In final report, include statement that "We hope the --- will consider our resolutions in order of priority."
 - Lallie will convene conference call in November, choose top 3 priorities, do overview of all resolutions and make sure no commitments conflict.
 - Calendar
October 24: Final versions of materials from this meeting due to Lallie
October 31: Lallie will return a draft of final report to us
December 1: Mail back revisions
December 12: Final report sent to GC Office
 - Write letter to SC on Liturgy and Music re: Rachel's Tears liturgies (not assigned) (see p. 8)

Wednesday, October 1, 2008

7:30 pm **Meeting convenes**
Welcome, personal check ins since last meeting in Los Angeles and agenda review

8:30 pm **Compline**

Thursday, October 2, 2008

9:00 am **Morning Prayer**

9:20am–Noon **Session 1: Discussion of Final Report and Resolutions**

1. **Public Narrative Trainings:** If interested in serving as facilitator for Public Narrative Project @

General Convention, go to provincial, pre-GC assemblies in spring '09.

2. FINAL REPORT

Basic structure already laid out:

- a. membership
- b. mandate
- c. resolutions referred
- d. summary of work
- e. resolutions proposed

A. Membership: Frank Brookhart, Angelica Duque, Charles Fulton, Ora Houston, Colenzo Hubbard, David Jones, Lallie Lloyd (chair), Jim Mathes, Don McClain, Ted Mollegen, Kirsten Nielsen, Joanne O'Donnell, Beth Panilaitis, Silito Romero (vice-chair), Stephanie Spellers (secretary), Sandye Wilson

B. Updated Mandate: Standing Commission on Structure of Church will submit our new mandate for approval.

C. Referred Resolutions:

- A087 Committee on Missionary Dioceses: No sense of what issue the resolution was designed to fix. Lallie has done due diligence, no response.
- A159 Commitment to Interdependence in the Anglican Communion:
- B023 Response to Decline
- D031 Budget Priorities for following triennium

D. Summary of Work: (Joanne, Beth, Jim, Lallie will work on)

Halve this section. Focus less on our work/process as a Commission, more on the action and rationale. We've buried the lead; can we shout? Call to Action is so low. Need specific examples, stories of what we've seen.

DAVID: What's the unique contribution we could offer @ GC? Named systemic decline 3 years ago. Come back – further confirmed by (fill in blank.) Then a resolution. We see opportunities for the future. Cast everything that follows as a positive response, focus in these places to grow:

- emerging church, reconciliation, youth and young adults
- affirm Mission Funding Initiative
- canonical changes to remove ineffective people – a very carefully worded canon with a lot of safeguards is needed. Priests, Vestry or Bishop & Standing Committee can start process.

JOANNE: The current set of resolutions doesn't rise out of the Summary of Work or Call to Action. Work backward from resolutions, and make sure the summary language supports.

JIM: The very ones in systemic decline are the ones who don't care. Close or be proactive.

Gargantuan mission field opportunity. In market-speak: let's not talk about declining sales, but 1) issues with our product (incompetent leadership in franchises) and 2) issues with the market. Not here right now.

CHARLES: Assessment tool that will determine clergy who can restart/turn around declining churches will be available @ end of year. Most subversive tool. Congregations use to decide who to call (what else? tool useful for deciding how to compensate?).

JIM: Will the tool be used by Commissions on Ministry? Bishops? Could use in Bishop's Search, as well.

DAVID: Both/and. Where fear and timidity in leadership, and no mission, see shrinking.

CHARLES: A lot of bright people say evangelism is only something the conservatives do. In addition, no national program can tell folks what to do. But create incentives to succeed, then tell the story of why they succeeded.

DAVID: Acronym to capture the 3-5 essentials that move toward growth?

E. Resolutions to the 2009 General Convention: Initial review and discussion

(based on where we left off in L.A.; growth/decline resolutions grouped together)

1. Systemic Decline: be sure to talk “missional opportunity” at the same time. Face into decline. Leap toward mission opportunities (growth/decline)
2. Diocesan Self-Assessment: (growth/decline umbrella)
3. Scenario Planning AND Average Sunday Attendance update: (decline) ASA doesn’t get at where growth may be happening -- # young children, average weekly attendance
4. Presiding Leaders’ Conversation: (growth/decline)
 - a. Sounds like a lot of posturing and protectiveness. If Katharine decides she wants to gather her colleague group, then she’ll make it happen.
 - b. Could gather not just presiding figures but also evangelism and mission folks from mainline churches re: “generous, open-hearted Christianity” (what does this mean???). Good to share best practices and get outside of our denominational boxes. Meet several times over course of triennium. BUT without a missional focus, no purpose for gathering. Ex: The Christian message has been taken by the Far Right. Time to marshall our resources to present a cogent, compelling voice sharing the good news of God in Christ.
 - c. Every denomination needs to understand its particular charism, defined as part of our evangelical effort. Need to pull in our prior work on Episcopal evangelism, Episcopal identity – what’s our charism?
 - d. Create a spot on our Commission for a person from Lutheran, Methodist, etc., churches.
5. Evaluate Congregations using Life-Cycle (growth/decline)
6. ~~Continuing Ed for Bishops (remove)~~
7. ~~Continuing Ed for Clergy and Lay (remove)~~
8. Remove Ineffective Clergy (amend canon). Congregations need protection, and Bishops are the ones who have the power to make the change.
9. ~~Continuing Ed for Clergy (remove)~~
10. Tool for Assessing Clergy, inc. developing and training to be effective leaders. Beware sense of entitlement to employment. Seems to lay groundwork for #8. Hold House of Bishops session on tools. Meeting of chairs of Commissions on Ministry and Bishops to get familiar with tools. Good for Provincial-level gathering, but they function unevenly. BUT does requiring it help? Smart clergy will want to be in line with this tool, and smart dioceses will see the use of it.
11. Leadership Training and Development: is this actionable for us? Just work with Center for Evangelism and Congregational Development
 - a. National conference with lay and ordained who are gifted evangelists (not just evangelism as a topic).
 - b. Roll rest into next Standing Commission
12. Mission Funding Initiative: To be discussed in greater detail (*see header below, same page*).
13. General Convention focus shift to community-building, using resources well, focus on mission. *Study Indaba Process*: Planners for 2012 study the Indaba Process at Lambeth. Link legislative sessions with the bible studies and table conversations. Currently disconnected. 2009 already has a real narrative focus – what more?
Reduce Resolutions: Require reduction of resolutions. Canonical change. Change the way resolutions are vetted, place a reasonable number of resolutions before the body.
Downlinks to GC: Who’s not at the table? How make meaningful and authentic? Create venues with downlinks across country where GC experience can be shared with those who can’t travel.
Coaching for CCAB Chairs and Leaders: No resolution necessary. Talk to GC Office.

14. Affirm Healing Liturgies: Can we support work of Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music: Rachel's Tears, Hannah's Joys (connect with families and individuals at times of pastoral distress; approved litanies that meet real needs of contemporary life). Is this related to our Commission's mandate? Review copies, then affirm in the body of report w/o resolution (affirm as example of creatively responding to missional/pastoral needs on the ground).

Process Note: When we invite other Commissions to partner/endorse, make sure it's clear what it has to do with that Commission's mission (and vice versa).

15. Reconciliation: Keep doing A039. JOANNE will come up w/ language.
16. Youth and Young Adults: Could charge next Commission to have as its focus ministry w/ youth and young adults. Make sure next Commission includes someone w/ real passion to make the change.
17. Emerging Leaders: non-college bound and college-based. Steph has done some research with emerging church leaders across country, will contribute their input. (see Evangelism resolutions and attachment titled *SCDME_Baltimore_EmergentVoices_10.2.08*)

Discussion of #12: Mission Funding Initiative

History (CHARLES)

Asked bishops, anything in your mission where you need help: starting new churches. But not much experience of asking for gifts over \$1million (get them via bequests). Raise money nationally? Little action for a while. Then Jim Lemler and 2020. Talk of a fund for new congregational development, but focus got spread out – 5 large missional areas. GC '06 funded office at rate of \$300K a year. Charles brought back in to work on Mission Funding, and Susan McCone now staff person. Office is fairly lean: asking for \$1.2m/year, half of what Lutherans spend, but a lot in terms of TEC budget. Eventually effort will be self-funding.

Discussion

JIM: How communicating and collaborating with dioceses? I'm a bishop, but I don't know about this. Major gift campaign. Come and say, "We want to develop this. Will you, locally, help us to plan it?" Doesn't feel like enough strategic vision. Can't afford NOT to have that strategy in place early on. Haven't defined message, haven't done the process to make sure the case for support has wide participation. Don't take it public without building the consensus. Transform the culture of the church. Don't just go to the big donors, quietly raise the money. Make it something we can all buy in on, using broad planning process. Missed opportunity to build enthusiasm. Otherwise, it will bite us later on. Even the draft in front of us should be marked as DRAFT, in order to look collaborative, not just a presentation of what someone else has already decided.

CHARLES: Support/buy-in happened yet. Frankly, 2.5 staff people, hard to do on more than a case-by-case basis. Katharine quite good at doing "the ask." Ready to spread the word and the hope when the money starts coming in. Will do this diocese by diocese. Advisory Board includes some bishops, geographically representative. Each fund will have its own Advisory Board, each w/ a Committee that inc. member of Exec Council, donors, etc. Will go to Katharine for approval of strategies and plans.

- Current list is heavy on East Coast
- Need more money to go further
- Go to bishop first, talk about local/regional priorities, go in suggesting people support their parishes and dioceses. Honoring turf issues.
- May need to go to donors re: costs for office.

Sort of like major gifts campaign. Exec Council has approved. These aren't yet cases; they're arenas. Asking donors with passion to join us on developing the full-blown case.

Need from SCDME: Support for full funding for office. Right now, two asks: 1) what's absolutely necessary, 2) what should be provided. Note: SCDME forwarded original resolution to fund, makes sense to be the ones who come back saying more is needed.

Review of current draft of MFI: Sharing doc with a few potential donors, using it to see where the passion is. See need for major changes in the structure and case as it stands?

- Five funds

- Congregational Development: \$125m

- JIM: Need closer to \$250m. \$1 a day for all Episcopalians would be \$250m. Fact is 100+ dioceses = \$1.5m per diocese. Pennies compared to what we need, esp. if need land and buildings. Holy, sanctified places are important.
- ORA: We need to get outside of box, and perhaps outside of building. Not just find the land, get the people, build the building. Some may need significant land and infrastructure, but some might not.
- DAVID: 24/7 availability for flexible programming, not putting up walls too early. Building a building limits the scope and vision of what the congregation can become. Still under a roof, sanctified space. But it's flexible leased space.
- JIM: Is this just capital funding? Use for other purposes?
- CHARLES: Started as matching funds for land and buildings, but what if don't want a building? What if there are some that have potential, but need some juice? Incentive for local congregations and dioceses. Donors like this part. They want an outcome, not an idea. Money can be the incentive. *Incentive program that respects local planning and initiative.*
- DAVID: Who is initiating the new congregation? Diocese, a region, a parish? If a diocese is founding without a parish host, about 10x harder. If a diocese could be reimbursed for its costs, would be a real incentive to the bishops.
- ORA: Some mission churches may never be able to get the funds to put up their quarter, and they might also need assistance beyond the start-up years.
- CHARLES: If can get enough support for three years, enough. Forever and ever won't be attractive. Give a leg up to be able to contribute something for their own.

- Leadership in Ministry: \$20m. Great b/c includes lay and clergy; training and education for leaders ordained via local canons

- LALLIE: looks like an administrative nightmare. Why managed at national level? Why an Institute when the seminaries are going under AND they're doing flexible curricula. Important part is seminary debt – whole separate fund being raised by Society for the Increase of Ministry. Can imagine it being co-opted by people of privilege, someone knows someone, privileged young people who want an "experience". Want to see the person being lifted up to serve and stay, not just to pass through.
- JIM: Is the plan to support seminaries struggling b/c we don't send people. Don't send people b/c too expensive. \$20m, use for endowment, draw enough to help a few students.
- COLENZO: Need flexible resources esp. to assist leaders in underserved communities. Have congregations that can't afford a full-time priest, seminary trained. Person called, trained, vocational deacon, hard to support that person out of the local congregation.
- STEPH: Is it covering training for people who serve in underserved communities, or is it subsidizing work once someone moves into the work?
- CHARLES: Giving young people the chance to explore ministry in places they might not find themselves. Or a person with other responsibilities, but can't find a way to meet those other responsibilities, might do something to help take up slack.
- BETH: The needs are so different, esp. in underserved communities, has to be bottom-up. Not just for people of privilege to say, I'd like this experience, but for a community to say, Here's the need we have.
- JIM: Wary of co-dependent relationships, always giving money to a particular mission. Lay ministry development simply doesn't produce the returns for the church. All have to

make personal commitments, financial commitments. If you want to transform the leadership of the church, got to focus on the clergy leadership.

- STEPH: Let's focus on all people who have a commitment to work full-time (or at least their main job) for the church. Vital Leaders Fund. Don't care if they're lay or ordained.
- Spiritual Enrichment: \$15m (discussed on Friday)
- Global Ministry: \$50m (discussed on Friday)
- Fund for Communication: \$30m (discussed on Friday)

LALLIE: Could we double the amount raised, and give half away to companion dioceses, etc.? Group agreed not a realistic goal, though intention right on.

Noon Break for Lunch

1:00-5:00pm Session 2: Work on Proposed Resolutions

Small Group Work on Resolutions: worked in small groups for 2 hours. Then reconvened to discuss work.

Growth/Decline and Missional Opportunity: Discussion of related resolutions

Gathering of PBs from mainline churches: Not much interest in PB being directed....combined 2, 3, 5 for second resolve.

Assessment Tool for Mission: Tried to figure out what resolution 10 meant...went with the direction of assessment tools...decided not to modify canon. Can modify canons to find a way for diocese to reduce a parish to mission status, without their consent. Otherwise, vestry becomes the protector of a church with a dysfunctional rector. Don't wait til 2012.

Direct dioceses to engage in intentional planning to address future plans for growth and evangelism. When? How? To what effect? Where's the accountability? Report these plans to the Office of Evangelism and Congregational Development. Language of decline isn't helpful. Need a positive statement. Energy around strategic, future planning for growth and evangelism. 2020 didn't work because everybody was waiting for somebody else to design it. Becomes hopeful and positive. How develop legislation that gets folks who wouldn't ordinarily engage in the conversation?

Given that the church is in decline, how will we act? Reached point where we can't keep talking in vague terms. Explicit, numbers, decline. But nobody is motivated by being pounded.

Develop by (insert date) tools for diocesan and congregational assessment using life cycle tools (diagnostic to recognize when church is healthy, struggling, dying and what to do at each stage in the cycle), to be used in year 2 of triennium.

Mainline Evangelism: Addressing Decline Together: Buried the lead in the resolution. Move questions section to report. Also, be honest about our particular way of understanding Christianity, that it's different from what the general public thinks. Provide a different voice (see George Barna) that doesn't depend on church "code" talk.

General Convention as Opportunity to Build Community: Discussion of related resolutions

Amend Rule 12 of the Joint Rules of Order: creates a prioritizing process. GC committees would dispatch priority business first, and then get on with hearings, other legislation.

Three pieces of legislation is actually a lot, and some will have more than 3 absolute priorities. Would this help the dispatch process? Slows the funnel, gets the priorities up front. Folks who love tons of legislation will hate it. But it's a good discipline to have committees do their own discernment.

Create programmatic, worship opportunities that run concurrent with GC. Service as part of the GC experience: do Habitat for Humanity in downtown Indianapolis. Also, use technology to facilitate community (Need to employ technology to bring the gospel day and night). Rather than be told what GC is, people could be there, via downlink. Need to figure out funding: Up the visitor fee? Shorten GC? Hospitality fee for those who take part?

NOTE: The following resolution referred to us, with request that we respond:

75th General Convention reaffirm Anglican Communion, reaffirm relationship with Canterbury, commit to interdependence in Christ, commend Windsor Report and process as a means of deepening commitment. Presiding officers of both houses work with churches of Anglican Communion to explore inter-Anglican consultation and participation in Standing Commissions.

- What is the Windsor Process? Moving target. Not endorsing it.
- All we've been asked is to respond.
- Act of sharing work with a corresponding group in another church in Communion would be fruitful.
- Respond to the part that's "sane." Tell Bonnie's office the ways we'd be excited about interdependence.
- **Place in Final Report: Next triennium, make contact and explore other parts of Communion with similar committees/teams on evangelism and mission, share our passion & best practices.**

Friday, October 3, 2008

9:00am Morning Prayer

9:20am–Noon Session 3: Discussion of Proposed Resolutions

Mission Funding Initiative (discussion cont'd)

Spiritual Enrichment Fund:

JIM: Do monastic communities really need money? Could we connect the dots -- CREDO (for clergy and lay), Bishops' College -- and bring religious communities into that? Create resources for doing work. Enrich programmatic life.

CHARLES: Fact is, these five funds have been vetted, approved, not going to change overall. But will change in some ways, internally. Focus is good.

STEPH: More compelling if the connection between spiritual reflection and action/mission were more intentional, built into the fund's purpose. Support institutions that specifically want to provide social action/reflection & contemplation models.

DAVID: Fund for clergy to take annual retreat, spiritual direction, travel – for those who would not otherwise be able to make it happen. Not much energy for maintaining institutions. Stay on the opportunity side: focus on wholeness, reversing burnout.

ORA: Seems institutional, funds for already operating retreat centers and houses. Is this a bailout? Let's be honest. ALSO: Wounded clergy may come back better, but the lay leaders they left are still hurting. Need resources to support the ones working day-to-day in the church.

LALLIE: Fund the demand side: don't build capacity of institutions unless people are opting to go.

JIM: Talking burnout. The source of burnout is structural, not spiritual.

DAVID: Lost their love for vocation, for God. How recapture? Need care and spiritual direction.

Global Ministry Fund:

LALLIE: Focused on Washington, superstructures. Susan McCone: focused on relationships between interfaith leaders, at a personal level, which provide foundation for reconciliation work.

JOANNE: Important b/c it takes us outside ourselves.

JIM: Collaboration w/ Trinity Wall Street and Tutu Center. Maybe not enough is being done, but just make sure we're not raising a lot of money to replicate.

STEPH: Do we need the fund to create new institutions, centers? Why not keep the focus on local initiatives, existing initiatives, including the ones with national reach? Keep it open, flexible, collaborative, not just creating an 815 program.

CHARLES: Once funds are raised, a board will research and make decisions.

Communication Fund:

BETH: Where is the web? How communicate with emerging generations without real focus on online communications?

CHARLES: Key position re: identity, reaching the young – must have a savvy person here.

LALLIE: Good news of God, not just the church. Not much energy for promoting the Episcopal Church, but energy for promoting the Episcopal Way of being God's people. Unpack the code words: inclusive, invitation, etc. "Unchurched" change to "underserved."

CHARLES: FYI: A rising demographic with no experience of the church.

BETH: Unchurched puts the blame on the folks who haven't come in. Maybe call it unreached – it's our church that hasn't reached out.

ORA: "Branding" is a loaded word (cf: branding of slaves).

DAVID: Work on issue of branding (as in marketing term). Fact is, saw damage to our brand – we've been the church that (fill in with negatives). Need a positive effort, "Oh, you're the church that (fill in with positives)."

LALLIE: Acknowledge the two uses of the word "brand."

SANDYE: Maybe it's good to find another word without the code/baggage.

STEPH: Find a word that bridges corporate and spiritual (and avoids the negative connotations of "branding").

Funding for the Mission Funding Initiative:

JIM: Need \$12m (if raising \$120m, need 10 cents on the dollar to fund effort). Granted, this is a capital funds campaign budget. \$1.5m isn't enough. Plus, sweet-spot for Katharine is the next year: get this up and going. Pay competitive salaries, development person should be second-highest paid in the building. Market-savvy program.

LALLIE: Currently \$900K per triennium. Can we really expect GC to approve this big an increase?

CHARLES: We tend to lowball. Might also get support from foundations, donors that say can help to get the actual office going. Also, paying Church Center standards rather than what the market requires. Lucky for now (getting Susan McCone), but will eventually need to match up.

JIM: Willing to write the rationale, but only if Susan wants it and will back it.

CHARLES: Part of education is to explain why need this much. In end, we'll work with what she's got. "Done so much with less for so long ..." Want best program -- if we really did this with our whole heart, we'd need \$12m. Also a realist.

DAVID: The \$900K budget for triennium was for one fund: church-planting initiative. Now it's four more funds, a different ball of wax. Staffed with multiple staff to do this endeavor. The SCDME needs to co-sponsor with other Commissions, b/c it's grown beyond our initial vision. World Mission, Communications, State of the Church, Leadership, etc.

Discussion of the "Rachel's Tears" liturgical resource

Liturgy and Music Commission has asked for our support for this resource. We want to encourage flexibility around liturgy so that congregations can respond to local contexts. See that it informs mission and connectedness. Accessibility: make sure liturgies are open and available to variety of needs. Part of mission and evangelism is recognizing liturgically underserved communities.

Write letter to SC on Liturgy and Music: We are happy to offer our support. 1) Please feel free to cite this letter. 2) In our report, we state our support for liturgies and mission that connect with underserved communities.

Priorities for Next Triennium: Discussion

Discussion based on document titled [SCDME_Baltimore_MemoReBudgetPriorities](#). The GC Office shared these budget priorities with chairs of all Standing Commissions. Our task: to pull out the areas that feel especially important for this SC's work.

1. Claiming Our Identity
 - Multicultural, inclusive, multilingual, international church
 - Communicate in order to proclaim our identity
 - Articulate what it means to be a Christian, Anglican Episcopalian (*see Baptismal Covenant*)
2. Growing Congregations
 - Congregational development
 - Church planting
 - Evangelism of underserved
 - Multicultural
 - Children, youth, young adults
3. Strengthening Governance and Foundations for Mission
4. Leadership Development
5. Communication and Technology

Our Priorities – encourage next SC to pay attention to these areas

- Refugee/migrant communities– Evangelism and mission
- Young adult leaders not on campus
- Youth (not just young adults)
- Cultivation of young leaders, especially campus ministries
- Listening to voices of youth adults who are not in the church
- Piggyback on ongoing research/conferences.
- Be mindful of time commitments
 - Students
 - Lay working people
- Increased focus on technology
 - Site visits
- Vigilant attention to demographic shifts which are standing up.
- Paradigm shift: How effectively plan for change in 3-year cycles? 6 months most effective (Eric Law)
- How support new office on church planting?
- Focus on definition: What does it mean to be a Christian – critical to approach to evangelism
- Liturgical evangelism – building connections between liturgy and evangelism.
- Ministry with <-> the poor – classism.
 - Possible site visit?
 - Colenzo's community (Memphis)
- Focus on SCDME's relationship w/ Province IX
 - Commission meeting
 - Dominican Republic – Quito
- Commission members

What resources and tools does next SCDME need to do our job?

- Video conference
As means of doing some of SCDME's business
Save meeting for experiential emphasis
Need tech support: show us how to do it, provide equipment, introduce to Skype
- Staff support: Suzan Watson – Communicate with 815

SCDME leadership for next triennium

- Need more transparent, realistic process for choosing leadership for Commission
- Recommend a process of how to choose the chair.

Who do we need at the table? (as SCDME members/as consulting voices)

- Congregational development (Suzanne Watson)
- Church planting (Tom Brackett) ok to ask for an 815 rep
- Evangelism (Terry Martin)
- Ethnic ministries desks
- Cater Echols – Newark
- Congressional Development specialist
- SCDME should look like the whole church – **pass priorities to Bonnie Anderson**
 - More representatives from Province IX (inc. Caribbean, West Coast)
 - 3 young adults (at least): 35 and younger
 - Someone engaged in ethnic ministries
 - Variety of representatives w/ different socio-economic backgrounds
 - Geographical diversity

Noon-3:30pm Session 4: Conclusion

Note: *Fewer than half of Commission will remain after 4:00pm, so meeting will adjourn this afternoon instead of Saturday morning.*

Discussion of SCDME leadership

Last triennium's process odd: President of House of Deputies chose a convener for first meeting. Natural that this person would get group nod to be chair. Lallie great, but process awkward. Not a real election/discussion opportunity for the Commission. And yet, tough to ask new members to vote on people they don't know. Depending on institutional memory of continuing group.

Why not have this group make a recommendation re: Commission chair, and then the next group can ratify when time comes? Honest, realistic, transparent.

After discussion/nominations, group recommended Jim Mathes and Stephanie Spellers serve as co-chairs in next Triennium.

Tasks to Complete Report

1. Summary of Work: **Lallie and Beth**
2. Evangelism and Mission among Underserved Communities: **Joanne will submit final.**
3. Church planting and Assessment Tools
Small group: David, Jim
David and Jim will submit final.

Note: Need to have other info besides assessment tools: demographics, movement of groups in and out of church, who we are, who we reach and don't reach.

4. Reconciliation Training: **Joanne will submit final.**
5. Community-building/Reduced Resolution Load @ General Convention: **Jim will submit**

Concluded with personal sharing, gratitudes and prayer around our experience as a Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm Friday.

Minutes respectfully submitted by The Rev. Stephanie Spellers, Secretary to the Standing Commission for Domestic Mission and Evangelism