

Task Force on Church Planting and Congregational Redevelopment

January 16, 2019

Zoom Meeting

Present: The Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde, The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, Dr. Gandhi Lopez, The Rt. Rev. Gretchen Rehberg, Ms. Caroline McCall, The Rev. Canon Dan Morrow, The Rev. Mike Michie, The Very Rev. Amy McCreath, The Rev. Dr. Gray Lesesne, Ms. Katie Forsyth, The Rev. Canon Betsy Ivey, The Rev. Eric Metoyer, Ms. Natalie Finstad, The Rev. Daniel Velez-Rivera, The Rev. Canon Janet Waggoner, The Rt. Rev. Allen Shin, The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Mr. Jason Evans, The Rev. Tom Brackett

Absent: The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, The Rev. Canon Ada Wong Nagata, The Rev. Canon Janet Waggoner, The Rev. Michael Sells

Task Force Business

Opening of Meeting

The Rev. Tom Brackett opened the meeting and announced that he facilitate the meeting given the Rev. Canon Janet Waggoner's absence with a reading from the Lao focused on pilgrimage and the approach of the sacred. Following the reading each of the members of the Task Force responded to the question, "What's most alive for you right now?"

Update on Existing Business - Church Planting

The Rev. Mike Michie gave a presentation on church planting that included a report on upcoming discernment retreats, a review of promotion material for New Episcopal Communities, and celebrating a recent conference.

The following suggestions were made in regards to the promotion material for New Episcopal Communities:

- The Rt. Rev. Gretchen Rehberg: Noted the lack of clarity in describing "new communities or dioceses" and suggested that be clearer as to not suggest that there is a new diocese forming.
- The Rev. Daniel Velez-Rivera - Request to clarify that by new we do not mean "never been done" but new as in "not supporting a currently ongoing ministry in this context."

Decision to Extend Funding

The Rev. Mike Michie requested an extension on the remaining funding appointed to the Dinka Language Ministry (\$6,666.66) through the next triennium so that they can buy supplies on an upcoming trip to the Sudan. The Task Force unanimously agreed to extend the funding.

Update on Existing Business - Congregational Redevelopment

The Rev. Tom Brackett then gave a report on the updated progress of Congregational Redevelopment Work that included a request to read and review a letter for the House of Bishops that follows-up on an email sent in 2018 introducing the Congregational Redevelopment Work and an update on a conversation with Nancy Davidge about the website.

Note that in his report the Rev. Tom Brackett mentioned the need for a glossary but we did not follow-through this this request and may need to bring it up again in our next meeting.

Update on Existing Business - Communications

The Rev. Dr. Gray Lesesne then presented on the work of the communications subgroup that includes suggested edits to the webpage, a press release about discernment retreats, and a rough draft of theological grounding.

Summary of Actions Made in Meeting

Decisions Made by Task Force

- The Task Force agreed unanimously to extend the remaining funding appointed to the Dinka Language Ministry (\$6,667.00) through the next triennium so that they can buy supplies on an upcoming trip to the Sudan.

Action Items from The Meeting

- All Members:
 - Share information about the New Ministry Discernment Retreats with people that might be interested in attending
 - Review the letter that Tom will send to House Of Bishops about The Community of Practice for congregational redevelopment and send him any feedback.
 - By Thursday, January 24th: Review minutes and make edits using google docs
- The Rev. Mike Michie:
 - Share the New Episcopal Community definition on the Extranet Site
 - Incorporate suggested edits to the NEC document that were raised by the Rt. Rev. Gretchen Rehberg and the. Rev. Daniel Velez-Rivera - see detailed notes for specific comments.
- The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson
 - Schedule an appointment with The Rev. Tom Brackett to discuss her commitment to supporting the congregational redevelopment initiative
- The Rev. Tom Brackett
 - Share the letter that will be sent to the Bishops and the notes on communications needs conversation with Nancy on Extranet for taskforce
 - Work with the Rev. Canon Janet Waggoner to send out doodle for the in-person meeting of Task Force
- Ms. Natalie Finstad
 - Create minutes for this meeting by Friday, January 18th and post them on extranet - send edited copy of minutes to general convention office for posting by Friday, January 25th
 - Follow-Up with the Rt. Rev. Allen Shin about the use of a preamble in our documents

Next Meeting of the Task Force

The next meeting of the Task Force will be Wednesday, February 20 (3:00 pm EST / 2:00 pm CST / 1:00 pm MTN / 12:00 noon PST) on Zoom