

Task Force on Formation & Ministry of the Baptized

Zoom Meeting

February 19, 2019, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm EST

Present: Lisa Kimball, Russell Kendrick, Paul Aparicio, Lydia Bucklin, Heather Erickson, Timothy Hodapp, Demi Prentiss, Melissa Rau, Byron Rushing, Peter Wong, Robert Wright

Absent: Lisa Brown, Carol Gallagher

ACTION ITEM REQUIRED BY Midnight, Sunday, March 17

- Populate our [working spread sheet](#) with resources you know and trust on formation of the baptized, baptismal ministry, discipleship, etc.

1. Welcome and Getting Settled (Lisa & Russell)
2. Opening Prayer (Lydia) Disturb Us Lord
(https://www.worldprayers.org/archive/prayers/invocations/disturb_us_lord_when_we.ht
[ml](#))
3. Introductions
 - **Lisa Kimball** - Virginia Theological Seminary Associate Dean of Lifelong Learning, the Director of the Center for the Ministry of Teaching, and Professor of Christian Formation and Congregational Leadership, Her area of teaching is the Sunday - Saturday out in the world context, Passionate about this work and feels the time is right to gather together all that is being done, loves deadlines, has a full plate and doesn't mind reminders and folks checking in on tasks she's supposed to do
 - **Paul Aparicio** - Diocese of Fond du Lac, electrical engineer and deacon, was influenced by the book Unexpected Consequences and the section on Total Ministry in particular, background in project management - areas such as transparency, planning, tracking are all things that could impact our work, ENFJ
 - **Demi Prentiss** - lives north of Dallas, formerly served as Canon to the Ordinary in the reorganizing Diocese of Fort Worth, served on PB staff as Program Officer for Lay Leadership (a position that was defunded), experience in diocesan and parish ministry, certified coach and ministry developer, editor and communicator, her vocation is in gathering people to create something larger than anyone could do on their own. Called specifically to not be ordained. She was part of the group that called forth the resolution that created this Task Force and also served on the Task Force on Clergy Formation in Small Churches from last triennium. ENTP, strategic input, learner and relational, "thought rocket" throws lots of ideas out there, but then doesn't claim ownership or take offense if they aren't followed through, researched Title 3 Canon 1 while on staff, deadline driven, wants to point out that realistically we have 18 months to do this work
 - **Peter Wong** - Rector at Church of the Nativity in Dothan, Alabama. 15 years in youth ministry, moved by the work of youth claiming faith as their own and the lack of that work being done among faithful adults who have spent their lives in

church. Very extraverted, loves working with groups, deadline person, focuses on task right in front of him

- **Melissa Rau**- Senior Program Director for Leadership and Episcopal Church Foundation, worked as consultant with Ministry Architects, background in children, youth, & family ministries (her passion). Lives outside of Philly, husband is a rector, passion to help lay people reclaim discernment, for it to not just be about ordained ministry. How can we as a church do a better job helping children and youth to live into their baptismal covenant. Deadline driven, action oriented. Likes action steps and really seeing things happen.
- **Heather Erickson** - Lives in San Francisco, went to VTS, Is a school chaplain in Oakland. Grew up and worked at All Saints, Beverly Hills where she experienced strong Christian & Spiritual formation. Especially interested in “what is our Episcopal identity?” and how do we pass it on? Believes we need to do a better job translating the gospel for a wider reach. Deadline driven, but may not have things done until the end. INFP, close to E, draws energy on others, husband is also an Episcopal priest
- **Timothy Hodapp** - INFP, loves both crowds and alone time. Works for Episcopal Church in Connecticut, Canon for Mission Collaboration - working with parishes taking on new endeavors, including those ready for closure and those ready for new life. 168 worshipping communities, but one of the least religious areas in USA, 55,000 Episcopalians and a lot of church buildings. Has Commission on Ministry experience focusing on the role of the baptized, realizing incredible gap in formation and desire by people for opportunities to learn. Stressed the importance of making things accessible. Spent much of his life as an “Ad Man” and understands importance of marketing and packaging. Believes people are waiting to get their itch scratched.
- **Rob Wright** - Bishop Diocesan Atlanta, 7 years experience as bishop, 10 years as a rector, served as canon pastor at St. John the Divine, also as school chaplain (loved ministry with kids best), Diocese of Atlanta does a great deal with lay people for discernment for ministry in daily life, feels passionately about this work and chose this task force (over the BCP!). Feels there is enthusiasm, readiness, and resources. Efficiency and deadlines are important.
- **Byron Rushing** - Civil Rights Worker & Community Organizer, Passion for public history and the sharing of it, founded Museum of African American History in Boston, Served as elected official in the Massachusetts Legislature for 36 years, just wrapping up that career and has an opportunity to engage now more with The Episcopal Church. He traces his enthusiasm for church back to high school with religious leaders who honored his gifts and didn’t assume ordination. He came into adulthood assuming that is how the church was forming all of us and has spent a lot of time thinking about this issue. Reflected on the “organic theology” of the 1979 BCP and implications of that. Taught baptismal ministry at EDS. He would like to get this back on the vocabulary agenda of The Episcopal Church. We are stuck with increased clericalism, and yet despite that people have figured out how to make profound meaning of liturgy and eucharist in their

personal lives, so how do we do that in a corporate way? In terms of group work, he loves not running groups and is happy to participate.

- **Russell Kendrick** - Bishop Central Gulf Coast, 18 years as a parish priest (always avoided General Convention and is new to all of the structure), We've lost the discipline of discernment, Commission on Ministry has charge to do the work of discernment with all people, but never had the time to do the work of discernment for those not on the ordained track. Vocational call to be builders (architecture background), what does it mean to be a builder of God's kingdom within our lives? Believes strongly in the stewardship of time and is visual to a fault.
- **Lydia Bucklin** - Canon to the Ordinary for Discipleship & Vitality Northern Michigan, children of mutual ministry, 15 years in Iowa children, youth, young adult ministry & communications, Moved back to Upper Peninsula June 2018, working with congregations to find new ways of being church 30 years into mutual ministry. Outgoing and people person, lots of big ideas and dreams, not great with details

4. Review Charge

- Demi and Byron have history with the resolution that guides our work.
- This resolution was a recap of a resolution passed in 2009
- Demi's group Episcopalians on Baptismal Mission (livinggodsmisson.org) drafted the original resolution and asked a number of dioceses to sponsor it for adoption at their provincial synods. Several were submitted to GCO. SW Virginia was named as the "author."
- Byron said there was some energy and desire to change canons, but he suggested to instead create a task force or commission to look more closely at the work that needs to be done
- Lisa has described this to folks as "putting the wheels on the baptismal bus," we have some windows, we have a good base, we have a theological engine, but we need to get all the pieces together and set it into motion.
- There are some natural allies that line up with our goals and efforts that we need to raise up and keep the conversation going
- Big ideas that we need to spend time with
- Important to be clear about vocabulary and lexicon and to perhaps articulate a statement to express how we are claiming full living as baptized Christians
- Paul wondered if there was an idea or charge to pull together a library or end product
- Lisa suggests that when we meet in Chicago we can look at the landscape of what we know exists - what's out there, how do we measure growth?
- One size delivery will not work for all, but our theology should be consistent
- Our goal is to name what the church needs to shift us to this goal of ministry and then to possibly assign tasks to various groups - perhaps suggestions for particular groups such as curriculum in theological schools, liturgy, vocabulary...
- We need to begin with clarity, which will also be helpful in the report which is due December 2020

- How do we create momentum and direction for the wider church?
 - What is the mechanism of our institution, the means and direction, to steer us this way?
5. Assumptions Guiding Our Work
- Grounded in baptismal theology & mission of the Church
 - Commitment to ministry of all the baptized
 - That ministry is exercised in daily life, work, and leisure, not principally within the church.
 - Build on existing strengths and sound data
 - Collaborate whenever possible
 - Recognize diversity of voices and experience throughout the Church
 - Model discernment and prayer
 - Be really honest about disappointments, setting down that which was not received
 - Recognizing lack of atino voice in our group - how might we rectify that or at least keep it front and center?
 - Justice & clericalism, importance of keeping a broad view of leadership/ecclesiology
 - Allow space for Spirit, for God to be at the heart of our work
 - Pay attention to who we gather with and when we do - might there be people in Chicago we can dine with to make connections and share our work? (See chart of other Task Forces meeting in Chicago, below.)
6. What's out there? Mapping the landscape [Google Sheet](#)
- If everyone could take time to enter resources/people/events/etc that would be relevant to our work before Chicago
7. Concerns/Thoughts
- Demi - Term of service is until 2021, need to keep working even past when the report is due
 - Need to be strategic and creative about our work until the end
 - Resolutions and processes are what will get our work done, not a report
 - We need to share our own enthusiasm about this work and let others know about our participation in the Task Force
 - Important to identify stakeholders and those who inform and will benefit from our work
 - The resistance that we are experiencing for coming up with something fully baked is a good resistance
 - Importance of resonance, checking in with others that what we hear and record is an accurate representation of what someone is sharing
8. Next Meeting: 5pm (registration) March 20 – Noon March 22
Hyatt Regency O'Hare Chicago
9. Closing Prayer - Russell

Schedule of Task Force Meetings in Chicago:

GROUPS:	
Group	Meeting Dates
Task Force to Study Sexism in TEC & Develop Anti-Sexism Training	March 19 (6pm) – March 21 (12pm)
Task Force on Communion Across Difference	March 19 (6pm) – March 21 (12pm)
Task Force on Theological Education Networking	March 19 (6pm) – March 21 (12pm)
Task Force to Develop Model Sexual Harassment Policies	March 19 (6pm) – March 21 (9pm)
Task Force on Formation & Ministry of the Baptized	March 20 (6pm) – March 22 (12pm)