



**THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA
DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

Saturday, 31 January 2015, 09:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

916 S Swanson St

Philadelphia PA 19147

215-389-1513 – www.old-swedes.org

AGENDA

How will what we do or say here today affect the lives of those living in poverty?

Attendance

Bishop: Rt Rev Clifton Daniel 3rd

Brandywine Deanery: Terri Connelly

Bucks Deanery: William Atkinson

Delaware Deanery: Rev Gregory Wilson, Janet Ross

Merion Deanery: Richard Bauer, George Vosburgh

Montgomery Deanery: Elise Bowers, Joseph Madison

Pennypack Deanery: Dr. Carole Baxter

Schuylkill Deanery: William Berry

Southwark Deanery: Rev D Joy Segal, Peggy Hatch

Valley Forge Deanery: Rev Sandra Etemad, Beverly Loftus

Diocese: Mary Kohart, Chancellor; Canon Rob Rogers, Canon for Financial Administration

1. Call to Order
09:05 AM

The Rev D Joy Segal

2. Host – Welcome and Scripture Reflection (*10 minutes*)

The Rev D Joy Segal

Our church, Gloria Dei, often spoken of as “Old Swedes,” is the descendant of a church begun in Tincicum (near the present Philadelphia International Airport) by Swedish Lutherans moving up the Delaware from Wilmington DE. That church was the first church in the Delaware Valley. In 1677, a blockhouse near our present site was repurposed as a church. When the decision was made to construct a permanent church, the choice was between this site, known as Wicaco, and the Tincicum site. This site was chosen by lot. Construction of the church was begun in 1698 and the church was dedicated on the 2nd Sunday after Trinity in 1700 and has been used continuously since then.

Eventually, the Swedish presence and mission to the new world ended. Gloria Dei eventually joined the episcopal church, in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, in 1845. Two other of the original Swedish Lutheran churches joined at the same time and that event is commemorated by the presence of the three Swedish crowns in the coat of arms of the Diocese (see top of this page). Gloria Dei works at maintaining the connection to our Swedish heritage and to our Lutheran heritage.

The scripture reflection was based on the Gospel reading for St. Brigid of Ireland whose feast is celebrated on 01 February.

3. Opening of the meeting (5 minutes) The Rev D Joy Segal
Peggy Hatch
- a. Prayer
- b. Welcome and Introductions The Rev D Joy Segal

c. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented with the exception that the Rev Nicole Diroff from the Interfaith Center of Philadelphia was unable to attend because of the change in date (snow event) for this meeting.

d. Recognition of Visitors

4. Minutes of the November 22, 2014 meeting of Diocesan Council (5 minutes) Jerome Buescher, Secretary
A motion to accept the minutes as presented was moved, seconded, and accepted.

5. Presentation – Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia (20 minutes) The Rev Nicole Diroff
The Rev Diroff could not attend because of the meeting being rescheduled from its original date of 24 Jan 2015 (snow). An effort is being made to reschedule her appearance at a later date.

6. Diocesan Council “101”

- a. What is the Diocesan Council, Anyway? Canonical roles and responsibilities, relationships to other leadership bodies, leadership structure of the Diocesan Council. (Mary Kohart, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese)

Used to be convention-between-conventions. Canonical changes that instituted a Finance Committee obviated some of that role. Now, moving forward, the Diocesan Council is concentrating on specific ministries. The Council is still defining the month-to-month role of Council. At present, the main issue of the Diocese is the episcopal search. Canons 6 and 7 spell out roles and duties of the Council. Joseph Madison – the Schwartz amendment is still in effect; the situation needs to be addressed.

Questions about conflict of interest – need to make sure people are aware of issues and what can and can’t be done.

- b. Diocesan Financial Statements and Reports (Canon Rob Rogers, substituting for James Pope, Treasurer)
How the Diocese gets money, where the money goes. Some from assessments, donations; others from endowments. Assessments – episcopate, clergy compensation and employee benefits, clergy financial assistance; these are mandatory. Others are voluntary – no hammer to collect.

- c. Communications (Jerome Buescher, Secretary of Diocesan Council)

List of contact information is on-going project, will be revised continually until all changes are noted. Circulating sign-up sheet to indicate interest in working with, as Diocesan Council member, the Committees and Commissions of the Diocese. Please indicate your choices and return. Master list will be compiled and distributed.

7. Bishop’s Report (30 minutes) The Rt. Rev Clifton Daniel, 3rd

“I have asked the Deans to call meetings in their deanery to consider what might be fruitful missional goals over the next 2-3 years and to report back to the Council of Deans. I will be asking DC and some other groups to think about what it considers to be missional goals as well. I will then be asking DC to take all this material and form it into a coherent whole for communication to the diocese as our “road map” for the near future in terms of the work and goals we wish to pursue and accomplish.”

The Diocese has moved into new offices. Smaller space but we’re doing it. What to call this place? Church house? Church place? Let bishop know.

Youth and young adult work. Andrew Kellner is resigning, search for new director. Bishop will choose person.

Maryland property. Hosts 20 overnight, larger for daytime meeting. Goal is to break even on costs. Has been used for parish retreats, other functions. Use by organizations within the Diocese is encourage.

Absalom Jones service at Cathedral. Bishop Michael Curry to preach. Jill Mathis will be honored.

Request from St Paul's Elkins Park. They have history of having been a station on the Underground Railroad. Want to become a museum. Asking for money to open by Dec 2015. Question: where does Bishop take this request?

Requesting from Finance Committee discretionary line item for \$50K beginning in 2016 for Diocesan Council for health of diocese. Idea: enable Diocesan Council access to funds to carry out its responsibilities – moving forward specific ministries of the diocese. The proposal was approved. Letter needs to be composed and submitted to Finance Committee.

Darby Mission moving ahead, Doris has support.

Fire for the Mission 2 this year – Fire for Mission 2 in Chester PA.

Deans – asked to call Deanery Meeting in their deanery about electing new bishop. Asking for all of us to determine goals accomplishable in next 2-3 years as part of selection process. Some goals: (1), elect a new bishop. (2), increase use of the Maryland property.

Over arching goal –make the Diocese of Pennsylvania take its rightful place as a flagship diocese of the Episcopal Church. New models of ministry, new models of the Episcopal Church. Setting accomplishable goals will further accomplishment of that over arching goal.

As an important step in this process, the Diocesan Council needs to form a short-term missional goals team.

8. Presentation – Report from DC Task Force for DTT Action Items (15 minutes)
Rev Gregory Wilson, William Atkinson, Beverly Loftus*

1. DTT recommendation – continue re-remembering past and its meaning. Can't know self too much, need to know all of the history. Two workshops are already scheduled, facilitators are willing to do more. Costs – cost neutral. Who has responsibility to find locations, advertise? Where do we start? Meetings already scheduled: Feb 28, 09:00 AM, Good Samaritan; Calvary St Augustine, 21 Mar, 09:00-13:30. Other dates, places, times as needed.

2. Deans should push “a way forward” as a tool for accomplishing these goals.

Motion from Rev D Joy Segal, Rev Gregory Wilson, to share this report with the other bodies named. Moved, seconded, passed.

9. Report from the Stewardship Working Group (10 minutes) The Rev Greg Wilson
See written report. Over-riding principle – “determine values before setting goals.” Where do values included under “stewardship” fit with other goals, programs of the Diocese? Determine that before trying to “duplicate” efforts as a “Stewardship Committee.”

a. Executive Committee Report (10 minutes) The Rev D Joy Segal
Diocesan Council Committee participation and responsibilities
Sign-in sheet being circulated. Master list will be compiled, distributed by the Secretary.

b. Schedule of Diocesan Council meetings for 2015
March 28th, May 9th, June 13th, September 19th, November 14th.

10. Treasurer's Report *(10 minutes)* Canon Rob Rogers, substituting for James Pope
Canon Rogers distributed extensive materials exhibiting diocesan finances and explained those to members of the Council.

11. Standing Committee Report *(10 minutes)* The Rev Frank Allen
Standing Committee is moving forward on constitution of committees to find a new bishop and to manage process of bringing the elected bishop into the Diocese of Pennsylvania.
12. Committee Reports (oral and written) *(10 minutes)*
13. Old Business
None
14. Schedule of next meeting Jerome Buescher, Secretary
(March 28, 2015 – Trinity Episcopal Church, Ambler, PA)

15. Reflections *(10 minutes)*

16. Closing Prayer

17. Adjournment The Rev D Joy Segal
12:05 PM