



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Diocesan Council Meeting  
Saturday, 10 Jun 2017 – 09:00 AM to 12:00 noon  
Emmanuel Resurrection Church (Pennypack Deanery)  
8201 Frankford Ave –Philadelphia PA 19136  
215-624-8520

Celebration of Holy Communion (20 minutes)

Rev Deirdre Whifield celebrating, Rev Mike Rau preaching

(Transition to meeting - 5 minutes)

**AGENDA**

Those attending:

Rt Rev Daniel GP Gutiérrez, Bishop

Brandywine Deanery: Jeff Dean, Elizabeth Curtis Swain

Bucks Deanery: Rev Marlee Norton, Dave Dixon, George Pollitt

Delaware Deanery: Rev Marjorie Oughton, Henry Nuenga

Merion Deanery: Stephen Krouse

Montgomery Deanery: Rev Mike Rau, Joseph Madison, Warren Wanlund

Pennypack Deanery: Rev Richard Datos-Robyn, Dr Carole Baxter, Peter Datos-Robyn

Schuylkill Deanery: Pattie Davis

Southwark Deanery: Rev D Joy Segal, Jeanette Woehr, Peggy Hatch

Valley Forge Deanery: Rev Mike Sowards, Beverly Loftus

Wissahickon Deanery: Rose Muriel Rains, Helen Zartarian

James Pope, Treasurer; Doug Horner, Finance and Business Administrator; Jerome Buescher, Secretary

1. Call to Order  
09:45 AM

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez

2. Host – Welcome (10 minutes)

Rev Samuel Murgani

- a. Information about Parish and Community

Emmanuel Resurrection is a small church in northeast Philadelphia. Thanks to Rev Mike Rau and the Bishop for words on community. Thanks to the women of Emmanuel Resurrection for their hospitality; Rev Murgani asked them to come out of the kitchen and introduce themselves. Thanks to Dr. Baxter for engineering the invitation to have you come here. People here at this parish have a strong sense of belonging to the DIOPA (Diocese of Pennsylvania), and that's new at this location. We are looking at the possibility of a 2nd service with contemporary music. This church began as a chapel of ease, and is now celebrating 185 years. "Emmanuel," God with us, a great name for church.

The Bishop asked for personal input from the members present. Muriel Rains – she and 2 deacons went to Thistle Farms in TN, great experience, gained ideas about doing more for anti-human trafficking in DIOPA. Rev Mike Sowards – earned D Min degree from Sewanee. Rev Samuel Murgani finished his degree at Seminary.

- b. Opening Prayer

3. Opening of the meeting (5 minutes)

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez, Presider

a. Recognition of Visitors  
Rev Lynn Hade, Rev Liz Colton

b. Adoption of the agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was presented and seconded. There was no discussion. The agenda was accepted.

4. Minutes of the 13 May 2013 May 2017 meeting of Diocesan Council (5 minutes)

Jerome Buescher, Secretary

The secretary reported a correction from the Rev John Sorensen. The minutes stated that Rev John Sorensen “asked the Bishop whether he was asking for help for the congregational development Canon position or was actually filling that position? Bishop – filling it.” Rev Sorensen pointed out that what he actually asked was whether “the Bishop was going to advertise the new Congregational Development position, or just fill it. And the Bishop replied that he would fill it.”

A motion to accept the minutes with the Sorensen correction was made and seconded. The motion was accepted.

5. Anti-Racism Commission

George Vosburgh

The Anti-Racism Commission is working to bring DIOPA into compliance with the resolution from convention of 2006. DIOPA is now in compliance. There is a clergy and lay balance, gender balance, all such issues dealt with. Education committee has been active in developing curriculum for anti-racism training. Jane Cosby is chair; she can be contacted about assistance. Recently in area, meeting of BEST. Did 90 minute training with 90 people about anti-racism. Training at St Andrew Yardley, search committee and vestry involved in rector search. Now: the Anti-Racism Commission wants to work with you and tailor what we do to what you want and need. “Tailoring” is what this commission is good about.

The Bishop asked Rev Deirdre Whitfield for her input as a member of the Standing Committee. Goal: to become racism-free diocese, people who respect dignity of every human being. E.g., work at St Andrew in course of rector search – to make sure their hearts and minds were open, not excluding any possibilities in their search. Bishop – it’s sad that as a church we have to bring up this issue. But it does exist; it’s how we live, how we exist. Hope – to put all our “isms” to rest.

6. Sub-Committee on Missions and Path Forward

Doug Horner, Sub-Committee Members

Doug Horner, facilitator of the DCMM process raised at budget time. Introduced Rev Lynn Hade, Rev Deirdre Whitfield. Document distributed [scan of document appended at end of these minutes. JGB]

Rev Lynn Hade, beginning page 2, resources located. Discussion of history as known at this point. Bishop – thanks for hard, fast work. Rev Liz Colton – now know that Don Graf at Trinity Oxford would know what COAC did and how they established criteria. Rev Liz Colton – a note that the report of 2011 is not to be published. Joe Madison – need additional backward research, and work to establish a path forward. Bishop – these missions are not stepchildren; they do God-centered, Christ-centered work, nothing to be ashamed of.

Motion: Initiate a mission development committee as outlined and start soon. Seconded. Discussion – Dave Dixon: -- representation numbers. No other discussion, passed. Question from Warren Wanlund – will secretary distribute copies of report? Yes, appended at end of these minutes.

7. Finance Committee Report to Diocesan Council

Peter Datos-Robÿn

See material submitted ahead of meeting. FC (Finance Committee) incorporated suggestions of 13 May 17 Diocesan Council meeting. Budget now in later draft form. Points – take 2018 pledge goal back to \$690K. Ask – please look at pledge analysis. 3-4 parishes in each deanery need talking to. Bishop – community-building work requires participation from ALL parishes, let’s show what we can all do together. Building trust = building community. Increase in travel & office expense, about 25%; just too low. Committed to transparency, all expense items need to come onto budget; means that aided parishes need to come onto budget, will be clarified in next draft of budget. All told, deficit of about \$340K at this moment. Can be resolved via one-off use of accumulated funds. But – can’t do that forever. Need structural change to budgeting. Bishop -- Budget needs to be geared to mission. Joe Madison reiterated – have to tell people what the money goes for. Bishop – everyone has to carry this message, because everyone is a part of the diocese.

Peter Datos-Robÿn, on material distributed – page 17-18, pledge by deanery. Please look at your deanery. Please reach out to churches where there is a real gap. Rev Mike Rau – action plan moving forward? Should it come from the FC budget effort or from Fair Share Sub-Committee? Bishop – should come from Diocesan Council.

Motion from Rev Mike Rau – Moved: to form a subcommittee, from council members, tasked with identifying non-pledging parishes and with contacting the specific non-pledging parishes in hopes of having a pledge received. Second, no discussion. Motion approved.

8. Executive Committee Report (10 minutes)

The Rev. Richard Datos-Robÿn

Asked for show of hands of Executive Committee. Thanked Rev Joy Segal for her help in assisting him with taking over the Vice Chairperson position. Need to set dates and places for 2018 meetings of Diocesan Council – January, May, June, and September. Please – volunteers for locations, around the diocese. November – need to elect Executive Committee and DC committee positions for DIOPA. Looking for people to form nominating committee – Dave Dixon and Elizabeth Swain agreed to take on that task. Rev D Joy Segal – that committee should also find four persons for the committee positions within DIOPA; the Executive Committee needs to elect a Vice Chairperson at the November DC meeting.

Rev Rick Datos-Robÿn asked the Bishop to outline his views of where DC needs to go. The Bishop wants to meet with the Executive Committee at least quarterly to pursue action items.

9. Bishop’s Report (15 minutes)

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez

Break – 10:50 AM.

The Bishop said his report would be brief. The Bishop gave thanks for good therapeutic results for Dr. Carole Baxter. The Bishop announced that he must travel to the House of Bishops meeting next week. Has to go, and he’s part of a good class.

Budget Committee – the Bishop noted that he has called for five budget sessions throughout DIOPA. Opportunities for input into process. Foundational, good work.

The Bishop has been asked to be co-consecrator for new Bishop of West Texas; this is first time in that role. Also – new priests calling the diocesan offices, asking about opportunities in this diocese.

In response to a question, he said he’d shaved his beard at wife’s “request.”

Congregational Life & Redevelopment – he has built a committee of about 10. Committee’s role: Supportive, not punitive. Now discerning how and where this is going.

10. Treasurer's Report (10 minutes)

Mr. James Pope, Treasurer

Will be talking again about things already said. Assessments should have been paid by 01 Jun 17. Remind your parish. If help is needed, please ask.

His reactions to how budget is working this year: striving for absolute clarity of communication. Looking at deficits for 2017 and 2018. 2018 will be dealt with. "Undistributed" funds; need to look at that pot and understand restrictions. We are stewards but stewards at a point in time. Fiduciary responsibilities. Parable of talents. Should be investing in our mission not just in Church Foundation. His pledge: full transparency in budget so Bishop can harness all our talents for the work of the diocese, Christ's work.

Aside from Bishop – to use about \$300K per year from endowment for funds to help a church grow. \$30K limit per church. Asking for endorsement from DC to do that. James Pope – 2 weeks from now will meet with consultant about identifying funds that could be used for various purposes. Joe Madison – could we have report in September about status of this project. Bishop – would DC endorse motion to proceed with project? Move, seconded, accepted.

11. Standing Committee Report (5 minutes)

Standing Committee Liaison

George Vosburgh. SC actions and reports now up to date on DIOPA website. What was distributed to DC was current. Thanks to whoever made that happen [note added by Secretary: I understand that came from Rev Kirk Berlenbach. –JGB] George appreciative of talent and hard work on SC.

12. Committee Reports (oral and written) (10 minutes)

Committee on Incorporation (Elizabeth Swain) – planning for 09 Sep 17 meeting. At the moment, sponging up information and facts, reconciling needs with PA law and Canon Law.

Dave Dixon – Poor job of communicating with DIOPA. "Failure to communicate." suggests an effort called "DC Corner;" brief, to all churches and deans. Easiest way: develop PDF template that could be populated by this group and distributed to churches. Dave Dixon asking for help to accomplish this project.

Muriel Rains – no formal report in a while from the [Anti-Human Trafficking Action Commission](#) but have been active with county agencies. Met the Bishop and Canon Wamsley about what the Commission is doing. From TN, ideas about what to do here. E.g., a drop-off center. Have some here but they're often at capacity. Successful places don't take federal, state, or diocesan funds; need freedom for victims to get what they need not what someone else thinks they can have. Bishop – asked everyone to keep in mind churches that we can re-purpose. E.g., crucifixion. Can we schedule a meeting to do that? Answer: yes.

13. Old business

None

14. New business

(Note: Canon Wamsley has to move, "busy.")

15. Schedule of next meeting

Jerome Buescher, Secretary

Christ Church & St Michael's (Wissahickon Deanery)  
30 September 17  
29 W Tulpehocken St  
Philadelphia PA 19136  
215-844-7274  
<http://www.christchurchandsaintmichaels.org/>

16. Reflections (*5 minutes*)

Rick

Thanks to Rev Samuel Murgani for making this church available.

17. Closing Prayer

Rev Rick Datos-Robyn

18. Adjournment

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez

11:38 AM

Submitted by  
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**Evaluation of DCMM Process  
Team Report**

*For the Bishop and Diocesan Council, June 10, 2017*

*This document is a summary of the information the group was able to locate and review relating to the establishment, funding, and support of DCCM churches. This report provides the summary of this information throughout the history of DIOPA. The report for Rev. Dr. John Sorenson was received this week and is not fully evaluated for assimilation with the other materials located.*

*The team was charged with locating, reviewing and summarizing any history of the process of becoming a mission in the diocese, a DCCM or its equivalent and the process for the appointment of a vicar. While there are reports located there is no clear evidence of the adoption and implementation of clear and followed procedures for the designation of DCCM and appointment of Vicars at those parishes. A number of clergy and laity have parts of the historical story there is not one definitive source for a complete view.*

## **The Report**

Material reviewed included the following documents:

Missions and Aided Parishes (1994)

*This Far by Faith*

Development of a Diocesan Urban Strategy.

The Congregational Development Priority Report to the Diocesan Convention, October 2011

*A Way Forward, 2014*

- 1971 Viable Parish Commission formed in 1971 in response to on-going decline of many parishes in the diocese. The group came up with a set of 'marks of a healthy congregation. (We are not aware of the specific criteria established and can locate no document evidencing use of consistent criteria at that time).
- 1974 Based on the work of the Viable Parish Commission, the Coalition of the Aided Congregations (COAA) was established in 1974 to provide grants to parishes seeking aid. A set of criteria was established that gave priority to parishes with ministries in outreach and less to parishes seeking self-maintenance. (We could locate no documentation describing how the grants were specifically funded.)
- 1984 In 1984 the COAA was re-configured as the Diocesan Coalition for Mission and Ministry, to include parishes in need of additional funding for program and building expansion of growing suburban parishes, new ministry initiatives including ministry in prisons, to the elderly and outreach to growing immigrant populations. At that time the funding was increased by 44%.

- How grants were initiated, evaluated and monitored is outstanding information that still needs to be discovered.
- 2006 Developing a Diocesan Urban Strategy, which includes a detailed report on the activities of the DCMM from its inception through 2006, with a specific request for the Standing Committee to create a Urban Strategy Task Force. This resolution was passed and an additional resolution was proposed for funding the work of the task force. While the original resolution requesting a the formation of an Urban Strategy Task Force was passed, we are unsure if the resolution for funding the work of the USTF.
- 2009 At the following convention (2009)a task force named the Diocesan Mission Planning Commission was proposed and passed with resolution (R-6-2009) and an amendment made to include the preface “mindful of our commitment to eradicate all racist structures, practices and policies”. Motion was carried as amended.
- 2011 The work of the Diocesan Mission Planning Commission was carried forward by a committee that included a diverse representation from the diocese. A report was published in 2011 of the DMPC, their conclusions and recommendations. This report came to our attention late in the process and we have not had sufficient time to incorporate the information in the report with regards to policies and procedures and history of the DCMM.