**Region IV Council**

Regular Meeting

October 26, 2011

Church of St. Clement

The President of Region IV, Cleve Corlett called the meeting to order at 7:30pm and we opened with prayer. Representatives from Christ Church, Church of St. Clement, Church of the Resurrection, Emmanuel Church, Grace Meade Church and St. Paul’s were present.

A motion to approve the Treasurer’s report as submitted was made by Geoff Giovanetti, seconded by Cindi Bartol and passed.

Cindi Bartol volunteered to take the minutes for this meeting.

The Rev. John Hortum has brought to our attention that his term on Executive Council will end at the close of Diocesan Council and a lay person must be elected in the next rotation. The President is accepting nominations prior to the November meeting when the election will take place. [Subsequently, via email, it was announced that Karen Grane from St. Paul’s, has been nominated – nominations remain open].

The report from the committee appointed to look at the revitalization of our region’s structure and activities was led by the Very Rev. Oran Warder, Dean of the Region. Members of the committee were Oran, Bob Malm+, Karen Grane, Cleve Corlett and Beth Wiggers

* There is concern that the Council is moving from meeting to meeting but has no real purpose.
* They developed a Mission Statement which was circulated prior to the meeting and revised by the members present this evening. A motion to approve the following statement was made by Karen Grane, seconded by Beth Wiggers and passed. It is:

Region IV Council connects the eight Episcopal churches in the City of Alexandria to the Diocese of Virginia; promotes communication between the leadership bodies of the diocese and the wider church and our parishes; recognizes the needs of our local community and the outreach missions of the diocese and reaches out to those that can best be supported jointly by our parishes; and supports shared programs and activities (education and fellowship) among our parishes.

* Suggestions for our communal focus were broad:

1. How we support the need for food among our poor

2. Conversation around the Bishop’s call for generous pastoral response on LGBT issues

3. Need to have a way that delegates receive information from parish vestries and bring issues and concerns to the Regional Council

4. Need to look at an issue needing start-up financial support that all parishes could focus upon

5. A place that can link/coordinate different feeding ministries that take place through our churches’ support.

6. Rather than small contributions we might concentrate a bigger chunk to fewer entities

7. We need to cut the asked for contributions from each parish to the region.

8. Should we be a ‘giver of last resorts’ or give an amount that can make a change

Conversation was held about the Department of Social Services of Alexandria and the interaction our various parishes have with them and how effective and supportive are we to each other. Karen Grane suggested we put on hold all disbursement of regional monies which we usually do at this time of year while we gather information and assess our goals and purpose.

Cleve Corlett asked each congregation to bring a report to the November 16th meeting about where our giving is going and how our individual parishes interact with the people of Social Services. He will send a memo reminding everyone of this endeavor.

Oran Warder will write a proposal and bring it to the next general meeting of the clericus on November 1st. Information will be shared with the Council at our next meeting.

Delegates are reminded that, because of Thanksgiving, we will be meeting 1 week earlier on November 16th at 7:30pm at St. Clement’s. Following that, due to Christmas and Diocesan Council, we will gather next on February 15, 2012.

Respectfully,

Cindi Bartol

Acting secretary