**Region IV Council**

November 18, 2015

Church of St. Clement

**Draft Minutes**

**Present:**

* Christ Church: Geoff Giovanetti, Susan Hahn
* Church of St. Clement: Annette Foster
* Church of the Resurrection: The Rev. Jo Belser, Betsy Faga, Beth Wiggers
* Emmanuel Church:
* Grace Church: June Huber
* Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill: The Rev. Randolph Alexander, The Rev. David Crosby
* Meade Memorial Church:
* St. Paul’s Church:

President Beth Wiggers opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with a prayer said by all.

Minutes of the September 16, 2015 meeting: Two corrections to the minutes were suggested – (1) to strike “Susan Weber” as present under Church of the Resurrection and (2) in the fourth paragraph, first line of the Executive Board Report, add the word “to” in “needed to recruit.” A motion made by June Huber and seconded by Geoff Giovanetti to approve the minutes as corrected was passed.

Treasurer’s Report: There was no report in the absence of the Treasurer.

**Old Business**:

2016 Region IV Lenten Series Update

The Rev. Jo Belser is coordinating the Lenten Series “The Theology of Harry Potter” presented by Patricia Lyons. Although Cindi Bartol, Region Delegate from Christ Church was unable to attend the meeting, she sent comments on several subjects by e-mail prior to the meeting. Rev. Jo reviewed Cindi’s comments to provide bio information on Patricia Lyons on the flyer and to circulate the flyer prior to Christmas so it meets the deadline for those churches who have a monthly newsletter. Rev. Jo indicated those requests should be able to be met.

Outreach Committee Report: West End Lazarus Program

Betsy Faga, Convener of the Outreach Committee, reported on the West End Lazarus Program that began at Resurrection on September 17. The hours are 3:00-6:00 pm. The Ministry is currently helping 7-10 clients a week as the word begins to spread among the community in the West End. Exciting elements of the program are the fact that most of the clients are new ones and counselors are coming from a broad representation of Region IV churches and Goodwin House.

Betsy commented on the dedication of the Alexandria Food Center on October 16 that was attended by a number of Region IV clergy, delegates, and parishioners. The warehouse space made available by the City is available to all food providers meeting the food needs in our community.

Betsy also reminded the group of the “Music for Food Concert” coming up on November 21 at 4:00 p.m. at Christ Church featuring artists from the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. All proceeds will benefit Region IV’s outreach programs related to food.

Geoff Giovanetti submitted a written report on the Child and Family Network Centers that may be found on page 4. He was delighted to announce that CFNC has been awarded the Nonprofit Leadership Award for 2015, sponsored by the Northern Virginia Leadership Awards. The award will be presented at a December 3 luncheon.

Report on the Region IV Youth Event

The Revs. Randy Alexander and David Crosby reported there were 40-50 attendees at the Region IV youth event hosted by Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill. Christ, Immanuel, Meade, Resurrection, and possibly one other church had youth there and everyone had a good time. The evening included pumpkin carving, a bon fire, dinner, s’mores, and a big circle for compline. The organizers were very pleased with the event as a first effort.

In the future the group will consider another time of year and discussed such ideas as a movie night, white water rafting, an activity in DC, and a focused program with a speaker.

Immanuel will send an article to the Diocese and will pass along some pictures to help promote the next event.

**New Business:**

Nomination and Election of Officers for 2016-2018

Due to the lack of volunteers to serve on a Nominating Committee, retiring Region president Beth Wiggers served as a committee of one. She provided a written report that may be found on page 5 and recommended the following slate of officers for election:

* President June Huber
* Vice President Annette Foster
* Treasurer Barbie Frank

All three persons have agreed to serve. Beth provided background on the loyal service each have provided to the Region.

Beth suggested that since no volunteer has expressed a willingness to serve as Secretary of Region IV that the secretarial role continue be filled by lot, each of the eight parishes in Region IV being assigned the date of a meeting at which that parish will be responsible for recording minutes and seeing that they are distributed in a timely manner. It was agreed to table the question of a permanent Secretary to the February meeting.

A motion was made by The Rev. David Crosby to accept the slate of officers as presented. The motion was seconded by The Rev. Jo Belser and passed.

Betsy Faga was asked and agreed to continue as Outreach Chair for the Region.

Nominations and Election of Youth Delegate and Alternate to 2016 Diocesan Council

Two young people were were nominated prior to the meeting for consideration as the Region IV Youth Delegate to the 2016 Diocesan Council. Cindi Bartol nominated Elizabeth Quill from Christ Church. Elizabeth was the Region’s youth delegate in 2015 and took an active voice on the floor of the Council. The Rev. David Crosby nominated Emma Cuddy of Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill. Background information on both nominees was circulated prior to the meeting and may be found on pages 6-7.

During discussion Susan Hahn suggested written feedback be requested from the delegates in the form of a 300 word report. It should also be understood that those elected now will serve only until after Council. The youth delegate could potentially help spearhead a future youth event.

June Huber made a motion to elect Elizabeth Quill as the Youth Delegate and Emma Cuddy as the Alternate Youth Delegate to 2016 Diocesan Council. The motion, seconded by Betsy Faga, passed unanimously.

June Huber made a motion to fund the expenses for both the delegate and alternate delegate for the Council registration and a one night stay. The motion, seconded by Susan Hahn, passed.

It was agreed to ask both to address the Region IV meeting in February if possible and to plan to submit a 300 word report on their experience.

Beth Wiggers will contact Barbie to advise her of the approved expenditure.

Endorsement for Nominations Coming before Diocesan Council

Prior to the meeting Cindi Bartol submitted, in writing, the nomination of The Rev. Randy Alexander, Rector of Immanuel-Church-on-the-Hill, for a clergy position on the Standing Committee. The nomination may be found on page 8. She requested the Region IV Council affirm the nomination and that President Beth Wiggers sign the affirmation on behalf of the Region.

The Rev. Jo Belser made a motion, seconded by June Huber, to endorse the nomination of The Rev. Randy Alexander for a clergy position on the Standing Committee. The motion passed.

Budget for 2016

It was reported the Region IV budget for 2016 has been accepted by the Diocesan Executive Committee.

**Reports**

Dean’s Report:

In the absence of the Dean, The Very Rev. John Hortum, there was no Dean’s report.

Report from the Executive Board:

The Rev. David Crosby provided a written report on the November 5 meeting of the Executive Board on which he serves. The full report may be found on page 9 of the minutes. Of particular significance to Region IV was the announcement at the Board meeting of Beth Wiggers’ retirement on April 15, 2016 and her last Sunday at Resurrection on April 17 prior to moving to western Massachusetts.

The Regional Revisioning Task Force workgroup held its initial meeting October 28. During that meeting they developed the definition of a region and questions to be considered.

**Once Around the Churches**

Churches were asked to send their “Once Around the Churches” information to Betsy Faga. That news may be found on pages 10-11 and was circulated as received.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held November 3, 2016. The secretary will be Meade Memorial.

**Closing Prayer**

The Rev. Jo Belser said the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Faga

Secretary for this meeting



**November 18, 2015**

**Report to Region IV Episcopal Churches**

We are proud to share that the Child and Family Network Centers (CFNC) has been awarded the **Nonprofit Leadership Award for 2015**, sponsored by the Northern Virginia Leadership Awards ([www.leadershipfairfax.org](http://www.leadershipfairfax.org)). The award will be presented at a December 3 luncheon at the Waterford at Fair Oaks. This is the 19th year in which the NVLA has recognized notable groups and leadership within the non-profit community.

We regard this as an appropriate tribute to the leadership and staff at CFNC, now in its 32nd year of operation.

For further information about this NVLA award, or about CFNC, please contact CFNC’s Executive Director, Lissette Bishins: 703-836-0214 or LBishins@cfnc-online.org.

CFNC is dependent on the local community for its financial support. We are grateful for the continued generosity of the Region IV Council, its Episcopal churches, and their parishioners. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey N. Giovanetti

Region IV Designate to the CFNC Board

703-200-3597, ggiovanetti@gmail.com

Nominations of Officers 2016 – 2018

Region IV

At a meeting of Region IV on September 16, 2015, Beth Wiggers, retiring president of the region, volunteered to head a small committee to recommend a slate of officers to serve during the three year period beginning at the end of Diocesan Council in January 2016 through Diocesan Council in 2019. No member of the Region IV Council agreed to serve with Ms. Wiggers on this committee, and she became a committee of one.

The following slate is offered for your election:

For President: June Huber (Grace Church)

For Vice President: Annette Foster (Church of St. Clement)

For Treasurer: Barbie Frank (Emmanuel Church)

All three persons have agreed to serve in these respective capacities. All three have provided loyal service to the Region and Ms. Wiggers believes each would offer the leadership required of these positions. Ms. Huber has served for the past three years as Vice President and has been an active member and participant in the affairs of Region IV for the last six years; she is the person primarily responsible for development of the Region IV website. Ms. Foster has been an active participant in the region for the last three years, especially in the outreach ministries. Ms. Frank, through her service as Treasurer for several years, has the knowledge and experience to continue in this role.

The committee (of 1) recommends their election.

Once again there is no delegate from one of our eight parishes willing to serve as Secretary. Therefore, Ms. Wiggers offers the following motion:

*Moved*, inasmuch as no volunteer has expressed a willingness to serve as Secretary of Region IV, and as the rotation among the Region IV churches has proven successful over the last three years, and as the region selected the churches to serve in 2016, that the secretarial role continue be filled by lot, each of the eight parishes in Region IV being assigned the date of a meeting at which that parish will be responsible for recording minutes and seeing that they are distributed in a timely manner.

Respectfully submitted

Beth Wiggers

Nomination for Elizabeth Quill

Youth Representative for Region IV

November 17, 2015

Dear Region IV Members,

I am writing to express my interest in serving as the youth representative for Region IV to the Diocesan Council in Reston in January 2016.

I am a lifelong member of Historic Christ Church Alexandria. As an active member of the church, I have participated in the Church Choirs for over twelve years and I am currently a youth forum member and leader. During my Sophomore year, as a member of the High School Youth Forum, I participated in, and helped lead, a Sunday educational forum on hunger with fellow church members and the Reverend David Beckman of Bread for the World, where we organized a letter writing campaign to oppose cutting the SNAP budget. As a follow-up to the forum, I participated in a small group of youth leaders that advocated for the protection of the SNAP Program on Capitol Hill, meeting with our Congressional leaders Senator Tim Kaine, Senator Mark Warner and Congressman Jim Moran.

Last in youth forum, I have helped initiate Christ Church’s, and neighboring Episcopal churches, involvement in the Alexandria Gleaning Program at the Old Town Farmer’s Market. In this program, we have collected leftover food from local farmers (at the end of the market) that would normally go to waste and distributed the fresh produce to our Lazarus Ministry and the Annie B. Rose House, an elderly apartment building in Alexandria. Last year, I also had the honor to act as celebrant with the Reverend Ann Gillespie on Christ Church's Youth Sunday on October 12th. This year I was honored to give the Sermon for Youth Sunday on October 25th.

I am a Senior at TC Williams High School (TCW) where I am a member of the Advanced Choir and serve as Choir President, leading the choir in service projects and public performances. For the last three years I have served as a student ambassador for TCW. I also act as Student Ambassador Secretary.

I hope to be a youth representative because I want to represent the church's youth and get them more engaged in the regular function of the church. I also hope to increase their interest and participation with church events. I enjoyed my time at Council last year and appreciated being able to see the legislation process and debate.

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination to become the youth representative for Region IV.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Quill

Christ Church Alexandria

Email: Quille360@gmail.com

Address: 9 W. Walnut St. Alexandria, Virginia 22301

Telephone: 703-836-0928

Nomination for Emma Cuddy

Youth Representative to Diocesan Council for Region IV

 November 17, 2015

Dear Region IV members:

Please consider this nomination of Emma Cuddy as a youth delegate for Region IV to Diocesan Council. Emma is a member in good standing at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill. She is a regular attendee of worship at Immanuel, has served as an acolyte at our Altars for eight years, acted as a Godly Play greeter four years, been active in our Youth Group the last five years, has been a St. George’s camper eight years, and has participated in Parish Youth Ministry in the diocese the past two years.

Emma is a junior at Thomas Jefferson School for Science and Technology. She is involved in many activities including, but not limited to: WISE (Women in Science and Engineering), a volunteer program acting as mentors to 4th and 5th grade girls with an interest in math and science; serving as Co-President of Sci-Talk, a club that researches and debates controversial scientific topics; is a member of the Spanish Honor Society; rows Crew; is involved in Jazz Dance; and spends time at the Chesapeake Bay.

She is a fine young woman who recently served as a volunteer counselor at St. Elizabeth’s Camp at Shrine Mont, providing campers with mild to moderate disabilities an opportunity to participate in traditional camp activities in a supportive environment. Emma loves the intimate, loving community of Immanuel and PYM, knowing people by name and growing up with a strong circle of friends. Her favorite thing about Immanuel is hanging out “with my slightly odd friends and family!”

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is pleased with Emma’s interest to serve as a lay youth delegate to Annual Council this year in Reston, and we are happy to put her name forth to you for consideration as our Region IV nominee.

In Christ’s service,

David

The Rev. David M. Crosby

Associate Rector

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

3606 Seminary Road

Alexandria, VA 22304-5200

dcrosby@icoh.net

(703) 370-6555

From Cindi Bartol:

I am PRIVILEGED to place in nomination the Rev. Randy Alexander, Rector of Immanuel-Church-on-the-Hill, on the slate of nominees in the clergy order for Standing Committee. I am requesting that the Region IV Council affirm this nomination and that our President, Beth Wiggers, sign this affirmation on our behalf if this vote passes. I have asked Randy to forward to Beth and thus to us, the information going forward with this focus.

**Region IV Council Meeting - Nov. 18, 2015**

**Executive Board Report – Nov. 5, 2015 @ Aquia Church in Stafford, VA**

* $2,073,213.00 raised so far towards the $2.5 Million “Stretch Goal”
* It was noted that of the eight churches in Region IV, three have contributed to the Shout It from the Mountain: Church of St. Clement, St. Paul’s, and Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill. If this is incorrect for your particular parish, please contact Kirk Gibson.
* Paris Ball said they are trying to identify churches that are not sending kids to Shrine Mont camps; want to partner w/ organizations serving children. 90-100 parishes send campers; another 90-80 congregations to reach.
* +Bishop Ted reported 30+ parishes out of the 181 congregations are in a search process.
* Ed Jones, Secretary to the Diocese & Chief of Staff, mentioned Region Revisioning Task Force.
* The theme for Diocesan Council 2016 in Reston is “Connected to the Kingdom.” Registration materials are now on-line. Agenda being formulated; will include Stories of the Diocese, Racial Reconciliation, etc.
* Beth Wiggers, President of Region IV is retiring from GEC 4/15/16; last Sunday @ Resurrection 4/17/16.
* +Bishop Susan related her visit to Rome with 10 of 14 Suffragan Bishops (7 women; 3 men) & talked about her audience with Pope Francis at the Vatican.

**Regional Revisioning Task Force workgroup – initial meeting Oct. 28, 2015 @ Trinity, Fredericksburg**

Definition of a Region as a Starting Point: *“A Region of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia is a community of congregations formed to collaborate in shared ministry within a geographic area and to enhance communications between the Diocese and a congregation.”*

Questions to be considered:

* Should regions continue to be defined by geography?
* If so, should there be a secondary infrastructure for ‘communities of shared interest’ around specific ministries (Outreach, Mission, Pastoral Care, …)?
* How should boundaries of regions be determined?
* What missional role can/should regions play in the Church of the future?
* What ideas may increase opportunities for success of our regions? What do we mean by “success”?

Representing Regions IV (8 parishes) and VI (10 parishes)

Next meeting: December 7, 2015

**ONCE AROUND THE CHURCHES**

*Reports were received from the following churches and circulated as they were received:*

**Christ Church**

Christ Church and Beth El Hebrew congregation will continue a long-standing tradition of holding a joint **Thanksgiving Day Service**. This year Rabbi Brett Isserow will be the preacher for the service to be held at Christ Church in the historic church, 10 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 26. A reception will follow the service in the Christ Church Auditorium, located on the second floor in the Parish House.

**Welcoming Prayer Workshop**, 7:00 p.m., on Friday December 4, Historic Christ Church welcomes Mary Dwyer, one of the early founders of the Centering Prayer movement, to teach the basics of the Welcoming Prayer — a prayer technique that acknowledges God’s presence in the middle of a difficult physical or emotional situation. The Welcoming Prayer is a wonderful tool to help us ground ourselves in God as we move more deeply into the challenges of the holiday season. For more information, please contact the Rev. Ann Gillespie, agillepie@ccalex.org.

**A Festival of Nine Lessons And Carols**, 5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 6 (doors open at 4:30 for seating). Join the combined choirs of Christ Church, guest organist Dr. Daniel Aune, a brass quintet and members of the community in celebrating our annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Works by Roland Martin, David Briggs, Michael Bedford, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Charles Wood, Malcolm Archer, and June Nixon will be sung. Festival brass arrangements for the hymns by Richard Webster and David Willcocks will help bring the joy of the Advent and Christmas season to life. A reception will follow in the church Auditorium. Childcare will be available.

**Advent Quiet Day** – Rev. John Branson will lead a day of quiet reflection on poet W. H. Auden’s “For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio” from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 12, in McMurray Commons at Christ Church. The book is available for purchase in the Christ Church Gift Shop. For further information or to register, contact Pat Henkel, pathenkel@gmail.com

**Children’s Christmas Pageant** – 5:00 p.m., Sunday December 20, in the Historic Christ Church. Yuletide Feast to follow in the Auditorium.

**New Year’s Eve, Thursday, December 31** -- Christ Church will be among venues in Old Town for First Night Alexandria, hosting performances by Barbara Martin, a local singer/songwriter, and Broad Street Brass, a 5-person jazz ensemble from Richmond.

**Grace Church**

On Sunday, December 6, there will be a surprise visitor (St. Nicholas) at the 9:00 am and 11:15 am Eucharists. At the 5:00 pm Eucharist we will have an Advent Procession of Lessons and Carols.

On Sunday, December 13, our children's Christmas Pageant will take place at 5:00 pm.

On Christmas Eve we will have Festival Eucharists at 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm and 11:00 pm. Child care will be available during the 5:00 pm service only.

On Christmas Day we will have a Festival Eucharist at 12:00 Noon. No child care will be provided, and there will be no Children's Chapel.

**Saint Clement**

Christmas tress for sale at Saint Clement 1701 N Quaker Lane Fridays 5-8:50PM, Saturdays 9:30AM-7:30PM, and Sundays 11:30-7PM.  Trees will be for sale starting Sunday, November 29 11:30AM -7PM.

Saint Clement Christmas Bazar, is Saturday, December 5, 10AM-4PM.  Get a jump on your shopping!  Kids' books and toys, jewelry, rubs and marinades, crafts, and so much more.  Raffle items, gift wrapping, and concessions too.

Cookies and Cocoa with Santa, Sunday, December 6, 3-4:30PM.  Santa is coming to Saint Clement.  Children will make ornaments with Santa's helper, snack on tasty treats, listen to Santa read a story,and get a chance to tell Santa what they want for Christmas.  RSVP at [stclementsanta2015.eventbrite.com](http://stclementsanta2015.eventbrite.com/).