**Report from Regional Presidents’ Retreat**

**Shrine Mont**

**June 16-17, 2017**

**Submitted by June Huber, President, Region IV**

**Exploring the Changing Landscape of Formation and Transition in the Diocese (Ed Keithly)**

* Of our 180 churches, 23-40 churches are “in transition” (change in clergy).
* 70% fewer applicants for rectorships than 15 years ago.
* More rectors leaving after conflict within the parish (not misconduct).
* More straight-out-of seminary rectors.
* Fewer associate rector positions.
* Diocese providing transition support for clergy and for churches.
* The ordination process has grown 75% over past 10 years. More LGBT, non-white and under 40 years old.
* Transition and ordination goals include racial diversity, continuing education, helping first-time rectors, putting development up front.
* Transition and ordination hopes include funded mentor training and stipends, continuing education for everyone every year, small professionally-facilitated colleagues groups.

**Re-visioning the Regions (Diane Miller)**

* Standing Committee approved recommendations of Region Re-visioning Task Force.
* Changes go into effect after 223rd Annual Convention on November 4, 2017.
* Regions will continue to be based on geography.
* No change envisioned for Region IV.
* Bishop Johnston will appoint a Dean for each new and revised region.
* Other adjustments may be made – all Deans, Executive Officers and Presidents are “potentially in play.”
* New Deans effective after November 4, 2017.
* There will be a new Regional Portal on the Diocesan website. This will take the place of current regional websites. Regions will no longer have to pay for a website. There is a detailed plan for it. It is still “under construction.” We will preview the initial version at the November 4 Convention.
* Region IV will need to identify someone to maintain our portion of the website.
* Establishment of “Communities of Ministry” (virtual regions) so that congregations can collaborate on shared ministries without regard to geography. They will have their own area within the Diocesan Regional Portal.