Notes by Annette Foster Alexandria Region Vice President Regional President’s Retreat Shrine Mont June 15-16, 2018

Friday

Speaker Bill Martin, Assistant to the Secretary of the Diocese

Topic: Convention Tell-All with handouts

Each region is to submit their annual report (one page) by October 17, 2018 to Bill Martin.

Each region budget is required to have their annual budget approved by the Executive Board. Alexandria Region has theirs approved. Executive Board meets four times a year.

Thursday, September 27, 2018 Executive Board with regional presidents at Christ Church in Irvington,VA.

Regions elect their Executive Board member for a three-year term. Rotates between lay person and clergy from the region. The rotation is purposely not in November when Annual Convention is happening. Executive Board president is a Bishop. Executive Board vice president is a lay person elected by Executive Board members.

2018 Diocese of Virginia Convention is November 1-3 at the Marriott in Richmond, VA. Youth Delegate and alternate to convention are ideally elected by each region in April. Youth Delegate will have convention voting rights and must be confirmed. Send the region Youth Delegate paper work to Bill Martin. Alexandra Region needs to submit its youth delegate and alternate names to Bill Martin. It is fine to have a youth as delegate two years in a row. Regional President should not also be the church lay representative to convention since these are both voting delegate positions at convention. Resolutions for convention must be submitted by October 17, 2018 deadline for consideration. The 2019 Diocese of Virginia Convention is the second weekend in November at the Marriot Crystal City, VA.

Alexandria Region will need to let Bill Martin know who the next Alexandria Region President and Vice President are when the elections are completed in January 2019.

Speaker Bishop Bob Ihloff; An Introduction-

Bishop Ihloff was bishop in Maryland Diocese for 12 years and he’s been ordained for 51 years. He gave region presidents his personal cell phone number. He says his interest and what he searches for is diversity. He grew up in Connecticut in a white upper middle-class area. He was affected by the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s. He got a Bachelor’s of Arts in History; he then attended divinity school in Cambridge, Massachusetts; following divinity school he was assigned as campus minister in Pennsylvania and got his Maters of Arts in History. He likes parish work best, likes to teach, and lead conflict management resolution in church. He will answer to Bob, Sir, Mister, Father, and Bishop.

Biahop Ihloff discussion with Region Presidents-

For those churches seeking a new church minister a good question to ask the candidate is “If you are called, will you come here?”

Why do we need regions? Share resources, share expertise, decrease duplication, see Cannons.

Maryland regions vote on the Dioceses of Maryland annual budget.

Saturday

Speaker Paris Ball, Phone her if questions 804-307-8261

Topic: Regional Youth Delegates to Convection

Regions are key to growing youth delegates and alternates. The Dioceses of Virginia is lifting up young people (a work in progress). We are building leaders who serve the church - This is not just an activity. Region is host and shepherd of their youth delegate and alternate. Regions budget for your delegate to the dioceses annual convention. To get youth delegates the region must recruit youth (former youth delegates help recruit), share what is the youth delegate roll, signup the delegate for housing (hotel room) at convention and registration at convention, provide transportation to convention, during convention keep track of youth delegate. Dioceses will be with the delegates during much of the convention teaching, Thursday night social, Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast. Dioceses can help with youth delegates sharing of housing (hotel room)- contact Bill Martin. Regions may have multiple years the same delegate. Ages 16-21 for confirmed delegate and confirmed alternate. At age 16 the Episcopal church considers you an adult in the church- How will you serve?

Speaker Nancy Chafin, DoV Director, Communications

Topic: A Regional President’s Toolkit, Resources for Regions on the go

Regional Ministry Resource Center Regional Resource portal is a way to communicate and facilitate support amongst regions. It is for Region Deans and Presidents. It needs input from the regions. To access it Regions.TheDioceses.net or go to the Dioceses webpage and click on the “Regions” tab. Tool kit for Regional President example documents: Annual Council Report, Cannon Eight, Youth Delegate information, sex abuse prevention-all vestry must have this training, Region events section, link to diocesan calendar… Each region should have its own website and maintain it. Diocese can help region set it up. Region has to provide an administrator for their Region web site... can be taught by the Dioceses. Region funds their website approximate $300 per year. E-Communique you sign up on the Dioceses Website It comes out bi-weekly. Regions may advertise events and ministries in it. At the dioceses Erin Kamran or Nancy can help with sprucing up a regions website or Facebook page. Regional Ministry Resource Center tabs need to be populated: about regions, stories, communities’ food pantry, refugee work, homelessness, thrift sore, annual event… Send your inputs to dioceses Erin Kamran or Nancy and label it “this is for Regional Ministry portal”. We then took a look at the Diocesan of Virginia Website and who runs the different programs out of the dioceses. Discussed how to add value to Region meetings: give a guest speaker 15 minutes, ask region members “what do you what at the region meeting?” i.e. Opioid crisis bring in DEA liaison, help county build halfway house (needs several regions), separate kids and adult education, what you see, what happen, how does this work, responders, home family environment, education, intervention. Security in Schools what actions do we take, can we take, should we take, bring in someone to educate us leverage parishioners who work at State Department, FBI, business. Isha at the dioceses is resource on social justice issues and how to organize civil disobedience. Discussed Bishop Shannon’s letter concerning personnel at Mayo House. There are no job descriptions and this may have led to the personnel problem. Several Region President stated Bishop Shannon’s letter caused much concern in their region-left too much to the imagination. This is not a money mismanagement or sexual misconduct problem- it is a personnel problem. Kate Wettstein would like Region President’s ideas for the next President’s Retreat in June 2019. Please email them to her.

Speaker Jill Morecrest from St Timothy in Herdon.

Topic: Virginia Diocesan Home Summit

Next summit Maximizing Mission with Parish Property will be October 20, 2018 from 9:30am-4pm at Aquia Church Stafford. Virginia Diocesan Home (VDH) is a not-for-profit organization. Projects may be revenue neutral or revenue positive. VDH is a Diocesan and nationwide faith-based initiative with property, housing, and services to community. VDH vision is for senior housing and two low cost senior housing (30% of income residents pay). I.e. St Paul on-the-hill, Winchester has 5 acres of land built new four-story building with 70 senior independent living units, church, and church office. Developer pays church ground lease long term 99 years. VDH is always on the hunt for properties. VDH requirements: Land 50+ living units; Location urban; amenities hospital, shopping, bus lines. VDH is willing to talk with regions at the October meeting about their property potential. Reverend Jo will present the Resurrection Church building project at the October meeting.

Speaker Bishop Bob Ihloff

Topic: The Special Charism/Gift of Anglicanism

Talked about Episcopalians. Catholicism has sacraments doctrine protestants use mind and interpret from personal perspective liturgy, music, look to the Bible not to doctrine. Protestants have standard-liturgical creed broad based “we believe” not “I believe” platonic with liberal interpretation. Mentioned Anglicanism is an accident of Providence lecture by Bishop of Durham. Bishop Ihloff went on to give the history of Anglicanism. Bishop Ihloff ended by stating how the church has more recently changed: girls acolyte, women priests (note 1/3 of churches still do not ordain women), gay and lesbian wedding and ordination. Ideology is unity (through Christ and communion) not uniformity. Broad based. Future change? In Africa polygamy is the norm. The Anglican church follows its pastoral heart in dealing with this issue coming in the future.