

Report on Diocesan Council Zoom Meeting March 18, 2020

Prayers were led by Heidi Edson.

The Treasurer's Report given by Gerry Davis for the first two months of 2020 prior to the pandemic indicates the diocese is slightly below budget due to the departure of the communications minister. However, parishes need to be diligent in contributing their assessments by the 15th of each month in order for the Diocese to avoid a deficit in the future. As of now, there are 6 parishes in arrears for a total of \$15,000.

It is recommended that all parishes contribute assessment payments based on their actual monthly operating revenue during the corona virus pandemic. With social distancing as well as suspension of services in a church setting, it is incumbent on parishes to encourage their members to honor pledges and continue giving either by direct deposit or by mail. Recommendations for on line giving will be forthcoming from the Diocese.

There is \$17,318 in the Alleluia Fund available for distribution through the Grants and Loans Committee.

Parochial reports were due March 1 at the diocesan office, and completed on line by May 1 for the national church. 26 out of 45 have been filed.

The Bishop discussed the response to COVID-19. She met on zoom with clergy and discussed worship services on line as well as all other church related meetings. She will continue weekly zoom meetings with them. Holy week and Easter services will need to be electronic.

At this point the staff at Rock Point are working from home with email and telephone access if there is a need for communication. There is also information on the web site. Future discussion will explore financial relief to congregations' diocesan obligations.

It was agreed to postpone the timing of the Alleluia Fund appeal in light of the pandemic and anticipated financial insecurity for individuals and families.

The Bishop is offering services at 8 am and 8 pm daily as well as 11 am on Sundays via zoom. Join by using the link: <https://zoom.us/j/531110497> or by phone using the following information: dial (646) 876-9923, code 531110497#

The meeting ended in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Dinny Hawksworth