

February 2023

Points of Communication

- **Opening Prayer and Dwelling in the word** John15:1, 6-16 (This is a regular feature of our meetings, reading and using scripture to set our hearts for the meeting)
- **Our Council Norms were reviewed and acknowledged**, January minutes were approved.
- **Council of Advice**

The Bishop's Report previously received was discussed. Bishop Mark explained that our initial ERD grant has been tripled and Council discussion focused on the resulting administrative implications of ERD's huge support and recognition of our ministries in Europe. Using some of the grant funds, a new staff administrative position is being explored to help with this as well as our already identified need for further admin support for the Bishop.
- **Diocesan Council**
 - A draft for the revised 2023 Budget draft was presented and needed changes were highlighted.
 - Denis le Mouillac, Convocation treasurer, presented the chosen official auditors as is legally required for our *Association* in France. Official appointment of the firm must be made by vote during an in-person extraordinary *Assemblée Générale of the Association*.
 - Timing for the extraordinary meeting was agreed to be most convenient in June when we already have Convocation Heads of Ministry meetings scheduled June 8-10 in Geneva.
 - Our 9 parishes who are listed as the *Association* members will be notified of the need to give power of attorney to at least one of their members who will be attending the June meetings and thus can vote at this time. A revision of the *Association* by-laws will also be presented at that time, including a change to allow online extraordinary meetings of this type in the future.
- **Standing Committee**
 - We were informed that our consent to the Election of The Reverend Canon Dr. Justin Holcomb to be Bishop of Central Florida was approved unanimously.
 - Council acknowledged having received changes to the By-Laws of St. Paul's Within the Walls. These changes as had been voted by their Vestry, were approved.
 - COMC's response to Resolution 2022-8 was received. During the following workplan discussion, Council appointed two members to review COMC's recommendations with a mind to assuring that it all adheres to our canons.

- **Council Work Plan - status check**

- Companion relationships, as resolved at our 2022 Convention, were discussed. Bishop Mark noted the forging of a relationship between the MEFR, Paris and Emmanuel, Geneva. Liaison partners are encouraged to explore creating such relationships. It is understood that the relationships will be established by the ministry groups ourselves. A relationship between congregations that are different in size or other characteristics was noted as most beneficial. All our ministry groups are encouraged to begin exploring this process.
- **The next full meeting of the Council of Advice will be held over Zoom on 19 April 2023.** There will not be a full Council meeting in March although efforts for an informal gathering are being explored during this time when most of us will be in Paris.