

Rocky Mountain Regional Council Notes, 12-6-2018

Last Updates 12/13/2018

Attendees:

Kae Madden
Mike Weil
John Head
Teri Harroun
Jim DeMuth
Jack Wolfe
Dennis Giblin
Greg Yonker
Michael Nicosia
Jane Reina

Absent:

Don Sutton

Facilitator:

Jack Wolfe (LOC)

Scribe:

Teri Harroun (LOC)

Opening Prayer:

Jingle Bells, with a singing of "Soon and Very Soon" followed by the regional prayer

Introduction:

Jane Reina is new to the group, representing Mary of Magda.

Jane's e-mail is jdelysswagner10@gmail.com

November Notes:

Approved with changes. For the pins, the seed money is \$725 for 500 pins.

Action Item: Michael Nicosia will make sure the updated notes, along with the vicar notes, will get posted to our regional website via Bill Hanzel.

Treasury Report:

Notice, paid \$725 toward ECC pins. Each community has 100 pins to try to distribute. Let us distribute them face-to-face for recommended \$5 donation each. Yet to be determined how much we will distribute them for if we need to ship them. Money received should be returned back to Rocky Mountain Regional Council. Any money over \$725 will be donated to the

National ECC. A request for addresses resulted in what is on the ECC website. We are considering sending one pin to each ECC community. The pins cost \$1.45 each.

Also, decided to leave reports as a monthly report. At the end of the year, we would like to see a yearly summary by month.

Vicar Report:

CCC – Faithful Tuesday, press conferences at capital on steps

Letter in newsletter on end of year, CCC, appeal; please mention Michael

ECC Constitution is going to a vote within HOL

CFCU Candlelight Vigil on 12/12

NOTE: note new info -- 2 other vigil locations that night:

Colorado Ceasefire and Golden GAPS will be hosting a supportive vigil in the western Metro area. SE Corner of Colfax and Wadsworth.

Join the League of Women Voters at a vigil on the steps of the Capitol; Gather on Lincoln Street Sidewalk in front of Capitol

Michael is a speaker at Sandy Hook Memorial

Soul Shop Workshop (regarding pastoral care regarding all affected by suicide) to be offered, 60-90 minutes, talk to Michael to set this up.

Local Bishop Process:

Much discussion and discernment. A general consensus that we keep the workings of the Regional Council, adding a bishop (to be proposed).

Decision, that the question of 67.4 is affirmed via the regional vote. Therefore, we have an Episcopal Vacancy.

Purpose of the February Regional Gathering is to leave with an understanding of where we are, and our next steps. To offer anyone the opportunity to join a team in developing of how we move forward.

January local meetings to be a preview of the February meeting.

February meeting will take place:

Saturday March 2nd, 2019

9:00-11:30am

With a continental breakfast starting at 8:30am

Projected attendance of 50

Asking for RSVP's

COB and LOC will check space and let us know.

Facilitator?

Reviewing Research of Other Diocese Formation:

Mid-America (no calls returned)

Pacific Northwest (summary from Bishop Kedda)

First a Suffragan – Bishop Tom Altepeter

Bishop Tom resigned.

A year of grieving.

Called a bishop to vocation: nominations, credentials and visits, vote, affirmation:

Bishop Kedda Keough

Living as a diocese for a year before writing a constitution.

Regional council forming, and developing a constitution.

Florida: Letter of intention was read.

SouthWest: Doing the reverse of PNW; first developing a constitution, then calling a bishop.

California: Jim Farris (not responded), developed organically around Peter Hickman.

Our Outline for January/February (March) Meeting:

1. After the Vote, this is what we know: We have an Episcopal Vacancy. Reference 67. 4 and the language of the ballot. Note the checkpoint built in with the Leadership Council.
2. Strength of the Rocky Mountain Region. Especially focus on the Regional Council. Our communication. Our collaboration. Our independence within our support of one another.
3. We have a polity, though not written down formally. Reference the Regional Council Mission, etc.
4. We don't have a local bishop. Reference this role as vocation. Use shepherding language. Refer specifically to these 5 ministries: sing of our local unity, clergy care, sacrament/ordination presence, episcopal council, face of the region to those outside of us.
5. Two independent parallel "path/chapter/process/journey-s" to move forward. People can join either path/chapter/process/journey. The two moving in parallel must also be in communication with one another.
 - A. Written polity/constitution for the Rocky Mountain REGION.
 - B. Episcopal Vacancy
6. Questions to discussion. (To be developed)

Let's have an expansion of this outline and created by December 20th, so that everyone can review and be prepared by our next RMR meeting on January 3rd. Team to do this work is Kae and Teri, with input as possible from Mike Weil and Dennis.

In addition, Jack will send everyone a draft of a local constitution that he constructed as a lawyer with talking point from the regional council mission statement document.

Community Reports:

Mom – time/talent/treasure complete; reconciliation service

StP - food program for homeless relocated to facility that can accommodate the need; monthly rabbi gathering well attending by ECC folks

LOC – prayer for community as they grieve; RC Holy Family HS apologetics class

HF - ordination of Cynthia this Sunday 12/9 at 10am

COB – rice/beans, everything on track

Next Meeting: January 3, 2019 6:30pm, facilitated by Mary of Magdala

Feb 7 (SP), Mar 7 (COB), April 4 (HF), May 2 (LOC)

Appendix A—Vicar Michael’s Report for RMRC 12 06 2018

FORMATION/RECEPTION

Discernment underway with Ordination Candidate from COB, Alice Bradley.

Reviewed Cynthia’s ordination rite, suggesting minimal revisions; was asked to participate as MC and in prostration ritual.

REGIONAL COLLABORATIONS

The Journey Shared, Fall edition, published and circulated.

Attended 11/2 workshop about **recognizing pathways to violent extremism** with showing of the FBI movie “Redemption.” Created and shared pdf of materials across region.

Celebrated Mass at StP 11/18, MoM 11/19.

Email connections with Fr. Stan updating him on Pax Christi fellowship, and Fr. Scott who hopes to visit StP.

Connected with Rev. Kathleen and Fr. Jim at Cynthia’s installation. Jim relayed plans to leave CHF and join another independent community; I advised him to compose a letter to +Francis informing him of his decision.

Dcn. Cynthia of CHF and Fr. Don and Pastor Barbara joined me at monthly Rabbi/Minister gathering on 11/28

COLORADO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES—11-28-18 CCC Board meeting

Back to the drawing board on drafting an **Ethical Eating** public policy statement after input from farmers.

Initiating **Faithful Tuesdays** at the state legislature, a collaboration of CO Council of Churches, City Unite, CO Catholic Conference, Greater Metro Denver Ministerial Alliance, Interfaith Alliance of CO,

Mile High Ministries and Together CO; hosting multi-faith events and press conferences promoting a faith narrative that supports a just economy, works toward equity, and eradicates racism in Colorado. CCC would particularly address Homelessness and Death Penalty Abolition, et al.

ED hopes to have Gov-elect Polis reinstate Governor's Clergy Council active in Hickenlooper Administration.

Published **CCC End-of-year Appeal** in *The Journey Shared*.

NOTE: please have contributors mention your Vicar, so that their support will go toward his expected \$500 Board Member give/get commitment.

BISHOPS/VICARS CALL 11-14-18 *Late on call; +Denise relayed following highlights:*

Open Vicar positions filled:

East Coast – Fr. Henry Pruski; I will partner with him until he's up to speed.

Southwest Region – Rev. Delores Krupp, partnered with +Kedda.

Constitutions across the ECC—+Francis notes that there is a trend focusing on building relationships within/as local church; not necessary to codify roles and policies ahead of time. Agrees with **RMR** voiced intention to articulate the soul/identity/mission of the region as first step.

PNW— Constitution on hold; will be basing it on their lived experience of being church together.

SW—appointed a Constitution Commission to develop one, 5 yrs in process already.

CA—first formed around +Peter; Constitution codified by lawyer Rev. Janine Stock with no input or collaboration (AZ split off from CA diocese because of it) and is under re-evaluation. CA just recently held their first Diocesan Council mtg.

ADVOCACY

Regularly posted on **Instagram**, **Twitter** and **regional Facebook page** at www.facebook.com/Coloradoecc/

11/29 Relayed to region info on 2 **UPCOMING anti-gun violence** events in Denver and encouraged participation in any observances in our respective communities.

- **CFCU's annual Candle Light Vigil** on 12/12, 4PM at the intersection of S. Colorado and Hampden, hosted by First Universalist and First Plymouth Churches.
- I will be one of the speakers at **Aurora - Mom's Demand Action memorial of Sandy Hook** on 12/14 https://act.everytown.org/event/moms-demand-action-event/18484/signup/?source=mdmo_MomsTakeAction&akid=&zip=

Participated in Rainbow Alley sponsored **Trans Visibility March** 11/10 and attended Denver's **Trans Day of Remembrance** 11/20

Attended 11/13 **Soul Shop** seminar on **Ministering to Suicidal Desperation**

(referenced in homily at MoM 11/19 posted on Facebook 11/19

www.facebook.com/Coloradoecc/posts/262702971258884?__tn__=K-R);

purchased program resources **so that I can offer it as a 60-90 minute workshop at regional parishes** —PowerPoint presentation, leader's guide and printable handouts. (Also suggested to OPB that full seminar could be offered as a pre-Synod opportunity in 2020.)

NOTE: CCC has proposed offering **Soul Shop weekend Youth Retreats** on the theme in the 2nd half of 2019 to all the Judicatories (primarily through their respective church camps, to which our ECC youths would be welcome if we didn't have a regional retreat of our own).

Attended 11/25 **Rally to Support the Caravan** with ELCA Rev. Dena Williams from StP

UPCOMING: 12/12 Progressive Congregations' Celebration on passing Prop 111 and strategizing on how to counter expected legislative pushback and other financial predatory practices.

UPCOMING: will be a guest panelist at **T'ruah Human Rights Shabbat** on 12/15, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

at B'nai Havurah, 6445 East Ohio Avenue, Denver, CO 80224

~ discussing the Cycle of Shifting Sentiment that often both powers and impedes progress in protecting and advancing human rights and consider how we all, as individuals and as a community, might help to break this dangerous cycle.

<https://www.bnaihavurah.org/event/humanrightsshabbat>