

Budget Res-1: To amend the Diocese of Virginia 2021 Budget, Draft for the 226th Annual Convention

Resolved by the 226th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia that \$40,360 be restored to Line Item B, Subsection 1d, subtitled “*Grants for Episcopal College Ministries*”.

Resolved that a portion of this increase shall be offset by a decrease in expense in Item A “*Support Of Our Greater Community*” be reduced by \$40,360.

Resolved that “*Anticipated Pledge Income*” in Item A be increased by \$16,293.

Background:

Numerous General Conventions of the church have indicated campus ministry as a top priority for The Episcopal Church. Campus ministries are a place of welcome, transformation, community, service, and prayer. The Canterbury Episcopal Campus Ministry - Harrisonburg, which supports James Madison University, has as its mission “God loves everyone, no exceptions. We strive to provide a dynamic, safe and accepting Christian environment for students, faculty, and friends of James Madison University,” all while promoting spiritual growth through worship, Bible study, prayer, reflection and service. Campus ministries invite the church to engage in mission and the Jesus Movement in new, innovative ways. To reduce diocesan support for this ministry by half belies the priorities that have been established.

2020 Young Adult and Campus Ministry Grant recommendations were approved by the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church during their February meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. A total of \$132,638 was awarded; the Diocese of Virginia was not among the recipients. Such funding is a source of potential, future revenue. Grants for the 2021-2022 academic year totaling \$133,000 will be available next year and the deadline for submitting grants is November 20, 2020.

Provisions are in place for the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church to grant waivers to the 15% required assessment. During this time of COVID-19 and unforeseeable hardship, requesting a waiver of only one percent (1%) would fund this shortfall.

At the 2020 Diocesan Convention, Bishop Goff announced a task force for “Resourcing God’s Mission”. That Task Force has yet to report its recommendations to increase participation in funding diocesan ministries, from evangelism and church planting to caring for creation, supporting racial justice and campus ministries. The diocesan budget forecasts a significant reduction (15.3%) in anticipated pledge revenue in the draft budget but provides no data to support this projection. Restoring three percent (3%) in proportional giving from the projected reduction would result in an additional \$16,293 in anticipated revenue.

The Diocesan Missionary Society of the Diocese of Virginia is currently funding in its entirety the \$1.67 million dollar construction of the new Canterbury Campus Ministry facility for campus youth in Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, and James Madison University

communities. The construction of the facility is underway with anticipated completion in Spring 2021. Such an investment in campus ministry aligns with the priority both The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Virginia places on youth and developing ministries. Reducing funding in Line Item B which supports the staffing of the full-time campus missionary who will oversee this new campus ministry facility lacks vision for the future of the church and its mission to young adults.

Sponsors:

The Reverend Kathleen Murray, Rector
Beckford Parish
St. Andrew's, Mt. Jackson
Emmanuel, Woodstock
Beckfordrector@gmail.com
540-233-1888

Maggie Keller, Lay Delegate
St. John's, McLean
mskeller@gmail.com

The Rev. Valerie J. Hayes, Rector
Calvary Episcopal Church, Front Royal
vhayescalvary@gmail.com

Helen Penrod, President
Southern Shenandoah Region
Helen_penrod@merck.com

Neil Goldsborough, Retired Priest
revgold@gmail.com

The Rev. Amanda Kotval, Associate Rector
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Ivy
amanda@stpaulsivy.org

The Very Rev. Matt Rhodes, Rector
Cunningham Chapel Parish
Winchester Region, Dean
priest@cunninghamchapel.org

Kaelie Jager, Youth Delegate
Southern Shenandoah Region
kkjager99@gmail.com

The Very Rev. Cathy Tibbetts, Rector
Christ Episcopal Church, Luray
Southern Shenandoah, Dean
cathytibbetts@gmail.com

Marcia Brownfield, Lay Delegate
St. Andrew's, Mt. Jackson
marcia.brownfield@yahoo.com

The Rev. Justin M. McIntosh, Rector
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Ivy
rector@stpaulsivy.org

Rebecca Shannon
Canterbury-Harrisonburg Campus Ministry
rebeccashannon@gmail.com