

**Report of the Deputies to the Province III Synod
to the 224th Convention of the Diocese of Virginia
November 1, 2018**

Preface: Under the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, the 110 Dioceses of the Church are organized into nine Provinces to facilitate inter-diocesan collaboration in ministry and to enable more effective communications and regional advocacy of significant programmatic efforts. The Diocese of Virginia is one of thirteen dioceses in the mid-Atlantic states that comprise Province 3 of the Church. The 222nd Convention of the Diocese amended Canon 3 of the Constitutions and Canons of the Diocese to require the Diocesan Deputies to the Provincial Synod to report to the Annual Convention of the Diocese following each meeting of the Provincial Synod. In this first such report to the Annual Convention, the Provincial Deputies, in an effort to provide a greater understanding among the Delegates to Annual Convention and the Diocese, have filed an expanded report that discusses the current organization and functions of Province III, as well as the actions of the Province III Synod and Council during the past year.

Province III Goals, Ministries and Governance: Province III exists to further the mission of the Episcopal Church in the Province by coordinating the interdependent ministries of its thirteen dioceses in a spirit of mutual responsibility. It consists of the thirteen Dioceses within the mid-Atlantic states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia, and Washington, DC - a geographic area of 128,000 square miles. The Dioceses of Bethlehem (BETH), Central Pennsylvania (CPA), Delaware (DE), Easton (EAST), Maryland (MD), Northwestern Pennsylvania (NWP), Pennsylvania (PA), Pittsburgh (PGH), Southern Virginia (SVA), Southwestern Virginia (SWVA), Virginia (VA), Washington (WASH), and West Virginia (WV) include 1187 parishes and about 300,000 reported members, just under 100,000 of whom attend church each Sunday. The members of the parishes are unevenly spread out, but on-average, widely dispersed with less than 3 Episcopalians per square mile.

Province III Goals: The goals of Province III are:

- to create and support a forum for the sharing of programs and ministries by the people of parishes and interest groups of the 13 Dioceses in such a way as to develop effective strategies for coordinating the use of regional and national resources for the increase of such programs and ministries.
- to provide opportunities for the Province, dioceses and other groups and networks within the Province to influence those people involved in decision-making at all levels of this Church, particularly the General Convention and the Executive Council.

Governance:

Province III Synod: The responsibilities of the Province are exercised through a Synod consisting of a House of Bishops (composed of the Bishops from each Diocese in the Province) and a House of Deputies (one clerical deputy and two lay deputies elected by each of the Dioceses), all of whom have seat and vote. The Synod normally meets and votes as one body, unless otherwise requested.

The Synod meets annually in April or May. In General Convention years, Synod meets to help the Deputies to General Convention prepare for the Convention. In other years, Synod meets for an educational program and business meeting for election of Provincial Officers and Representatives to the Episcopal Church Executive Council, review of the provincial budget, reports from ministry coordinators and task forces, and other matters that may be raised. Resolutions for General Convention and Executive Council are considered.

Province III Council: During the period between the meetings of the Synod, the powers of the Synod are exercised by a Provincial Council, which consists of the Officers of the Synod, the Deputies to the Executive Council and diocesan

representatives to the Council, who are chosen at the annual synod by the Bishops and Delegates from each diocese for the Diocese they represent. The Council meets at such times and places (or via electronic means) as may be designated by the President, or by concurrent action of the other officers. The Council may also add such advisory members to its membership as it may deem necessary. Normally, the Province III Council meets annually in October to hear ministry updates and needs, as well as to review and pass the annual budget.

Province III Synod Meeting, May 2018

Activities of the Province III and the Province III Synod in 2018 have continued the focus begun in 2016 and 2017 to make the Province more relevant to the Dioceses: providing a forum for the sharing of mutual programs, resources and ministries among the Dioceses and their parishes; developing and incentivizing effective strategies for coordinating mutual ministries in response to critical issues and program areas; and capitalizing on the experiences and strengths of individual dioceses in mutual support of one another.

The Provincial Synod convened on May 7 in Martinsburg, WVA, to prepare for General Convention. Presentations on the workings of the Conventions were made by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, President of the House of Delegates The Rev. Gay Jennings, and Executive Officer of the General Convention The Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe. In the afternoon presentations were made on a number of issues that would be faced at the convention: nominees for election to the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of Presiding Bishop . compensation and leadership, impairment, Book of Common Prayer revision, and provinces and church structure. In the evening, break-out sessions were held on peace and justice, altar guild, anti-racism, compensation and leadership, impairment, BCP revision, and provinces and church structure.

On May 8 the Provincial Synod shifted into the business meeting mode:

- Considered resolutions by the province to be introduced at General Convention (of particular significance was the resolution to restore the Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations);
- Received reports from the lay and clerical representatives to the Church's Executive Board;
- Elected Province III Officers and delegates to General Convention (see list below);
- Approved the proposed revision of Ordinance VI of Province III on the organization and powers of the Provincial Council and reviewed job descriptions detailing the responsibilities and Duties of Office for all officers, staff, representatives to the Executive Council, synod and council diocesan representatives, ministry coordinators, and the Province III Coordinator;
- Received Ministry updates on technology upgrades at the Claggett Center (MD) (an initiative supported by a \$10,000 grant from the Province to provide increased information technology and teleconference capability throughout Province III), the Opioid Task Force (a major initiative throughout the Province to coordinate actions to address the Opioid abuse pandemic), Title IV training, campus ministry and youth ministry; and
- Reviewed execution of the 2017 (final) and 2018 (to-date) Province III budgets

The meeting of the Synod adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Province III Council Meeting, October 2018

The Province III Council convened in Martinsburg, WV, on October 22, 2018.

In his opening remarks, Synod President The Rt. Rev. "Mike" Klusmeyer (WV) exhorted the Council on the need for the province to continue to adapt and change. He spoke of the positive examples of the progress in the opioid task force and Title IV training as examples where the Province could talk about what we are doing, about opportunities to share resources among the dioceses – looking at new ways of doing things, structures, ministries, and funding. "This is our church and we're living in it today; let's be creative as we live into it and create the church of the 21st century."

Episcopal Visitor. Council received a visit from Bishop Joseph, Diocese of Renk, Sudan, who remarked, “You are our partners in mission!” and “Unite the churches so that they, ‘we’ can talk with one voice – about peace!”

2018 Province III Budget. The Council reviewed the execution to date of the 2018 Province III budget. Judith Gregory (DE), the new Province III treasurer, reviewed the assumptions on which the 2018 budget had been based. As in 2017, the 2018 budget was a deficit budget, and had been balanced using cash reserves from a budget surplus which had accumulated prior to 2017. She expects all dioceses to fulfill their 2018 apportionments. She will emphasize zero-based budgeting for ministry areas and expenses. She anticipates that grants for ministry initiatives might be available from actions taken by the General Convention and by the Executive Council.

2019 Proposed Budget. Treasurer Gregory reviewed the proposed 2019 **Budget for Province III.** Ministry Coordinators have submitted their individual budget requests which have been reviewed by the Province III Coordinator. An initial decision was made to not include a place holder amount for a program that either has not utilized funds in the recent past or did not respond. The initiatives of the Presiding Bishops Office and General Convention Resolutions, where applicable, have been assumed. New initiatives have been included in information technology, the youth budget, ecumenical relations, and additional Title IV training opportunities. A cost of living increase of 2.7% has been included in the salary of the Province Coordinator.

Fully funding the 2017 and 2018 budget from the budget surplus while holding the line on no increase in the dioceses apportionments, if continued, will result in a potential reduction in the Province’s cash reserve in the 2019 budget to an undesirable level and makes necessary consideration of either a cut in ministry or a modest increase in diocesan apportionments desirable in 2019. After extension discussion, Council voted to change the baseline by which the annual apportionment to the dioceses of Province III is calculated to the same baseline “Total Adjusted Operating Income” (TAOI) (used by the national church (DFMS) in calculating the Dioceses annual assessments for support of the national church., Council voted to hold the line on percentage asking to 0.25% (the same percentage applied in 2017 and 2018). Each diocese will be asked for an apportionment of 0.25% of the dioceses TAOI. For the Diocese of Virginia, this results in small increase in its Province III apportionment from \$9,019.00 in 2018 to \$10,887.00 in 2019.

Council approved the 2019 Proposed Budget with the revised change to the apportionment formula as indicated. Council then discussed creation of a pool of funds from within the approved budget that could be used for support of developing mission area initiatives.

Council also voted to forward to the Province III Synod for consideration in its May 2019 meeting a proposal to increase the percentage assessment to 0.35% of TAOI.

Legislation. Council next reviewed a proposal from the By- Laws subcommittee that would make a number of changes to the Ordinances of Province III (executive summary attached) and approved the distribution of the final draft to all voting member of the Synod twenty days in advance of the Synod’s May 2019 meeting.

Ministry Coordinators. Ministry Coordinators reported on their respective ministry areas, including an extensive report on the activities of the Opioid Task Force. Coordinators reports will be posted on the Province III website (www.provinve3.org) The Province III Coordinator will advise on available.

The appointment of Steven Jones (Easton) as Ministry Coordinator for Environmental Stewardship was proposed by Vice-President Nathaniel Pierce and approved by the Council.

Executive Council. Delegates to Executive Council reported that the next meeting on the national church’s Executive Council will be in Oklahoma City in February 2019.

The meeting of Council adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Province III Officers, Deputies, Members of Synod and Council and Ministry Coordinators.

Province III Officers:

President – The Rt. Reverend W. “Mike” Klusmeyer (WV)
Vice President – The Rev. Nathaniel Pierce (Easton)
Secretary – Mr. Bob Klip (CPA)
Treasurer – Ms. Judith Lane Gregory (DE)
Province III Coordinator – Dr. Pamela D. H. Cochran

Province III Deputies to The Episcopal Church Executive Council

Mr. Russell Randle, Esq. (VA)
The Rev. Patricia Downing (DE)

Diocese of Virginia Members of Synod

The Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston
The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. “Ted” Gulick, Jr./replaced by The Rt. Rev. Robert W. Ihloff
Clerical Deputy – The Rev. Alex Riffée, St. James’ Church, Louisa
Lay Deputy – Ms. Ellyn Crawford, St. George’s Episcopal Church, Arlington
Lay Deputy – COL Jean D. Reed, Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria
(also, Member of Provincial Council)

Ministries:

In addition to the Province III Coordinator, the ongoing ministry work of the Province is done mostly by individual ministry coordinators, almost all of them volunteers. Currently, the ministries and their coordinators include:

- **Altar Guild**
Coordinator: Mrs. Sharon Stewart Nachman (VA), sharonsnachman@gmail.com
[National Altar Guild Association](#)
- **Anti-Racism**
Coordinator: Mrs. Nancy Travis Bolden (PGH), nltbolden@yahoo.com
Anti-Racism Ministry Leaders of Province III [Facebook Group](#)
- **Campus Ministries**
Coordinator: The Rev. Tyler L. Montgomery (SVA), tmontgomery@brutonparish.org
Province III Campus & Young Adult Leaders [Facebook Group](#)
- **Campus Ministries**
Coordinator: Open
Province III Campus & Young Adult Leaders [Facebook Group](#)
- **Christian Formation**
Coordinator: Mr. Bill Campbell (VA), bill@forma.church
Province III Christian Formation Network [Facebook Group](#)
- **Church Periodical Club**
Coordinator: Ms. Linda Getts (PGH), linda.getts@aol.com
[CPC Website](#)
- **Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations**

Coordinator. The Rev. Canon Maria Tjeltveit, mtjeltveit@episcalmediator.org

- **Episcopal Church Women**

Coordinator: Ms. Belon Parks (VA), bebparcs@gmail.com

National ECW – Province III page

- **Health Ministries**

Coordinator: Ms. Sharon Logsdon (MD), sll@atlanticbb.net

Episcopal Health Ministries [Facebook Page](#)

- **Justice & Peace Ministry**

Coordinator: The Rev. Linda Watkins (CPA), rector@stmaryswaynesboro.org

- **Opioid Addiction Task Force**

Coordinator: The Rev. Dina van Klavern (MD), Rector, St. Andrews Episcopal Church,
2892 Maryland 97, Glenwood, MD 21738, tele: (410) 489-4035

- **Small Church Ministry**

Coordinators: The Rev. Judy Parrish (SVA), revgr8hugger@aol.com

- **United Thank Offering**

Coordinator: Ms. Rosamond Daniels, rosamond47@gmail.com

[United Thank Offering website](#)

- **Vocations Ministry**

Coordinator: The Rev. Joan Fisher (Easton), joanne@dioceseofeaston.org

Mission area information and reports, and contact information for Province III officers, staff and delegates are available on the Province III website www.province3.org

Respectfully submitted

Jean D. Reed, Lay Deputy

On behalf of the Province III Deputies

Executive Summary of the proposed changes to the Ordinances of the Third Province; to be presented at the meeting the Provincial Council on October 22, 2018

III.1 - newly elected Officers take office when the Provincial Synod adjourns; nominees must be canonically resident in a diocese which paid its full assessment to the Province in the previous fiscal year

V.5 (new) - Provincial Council (PC) to adopt the annual budget and will inform all dioceses of the proposed assessment for a subsequent fiscal year at least twelve months ahead of time. The proposed assessment for the subsequent fiscal year (to be approved by Synod) will determine the basic outlines of the P-III budge 7 1/2 months ahead of time (all income minus basic fixed expenses = funds available for program)

V.6 (new) - authorizes the PC to hire paid staff consistent with the financial resources of the Province

V.7 (new) - defines the membership, duties, and accountability of the Executive Committee of the PC

VI.1 (new) - defines the budgeting process

VI.2 (new) - defines the Provincial assessment for each Diocese to be that which is defined by a formula proposed by the PC and approved by the Province III Synod (the current process is unchanged); example: the PC adopts a recommendation in 2020 and submits it to the Provincial Synod in 2021; if approved by the Synod, it will take effect in fiscal year 2022.

VII (new) - defines the minimum requirements of a Letter of Agreement for each paid staff person

VIII (formerly VI) - DFMS Executive Council representatives must undergo a background check; no nominations from the floor; said representatives shall report to each meeting of the Synod and the PC; nominees must be canonically resident in a diocese which paid its full assessment to the Province in the previous fiscal year

IX (Court of Review) -- *deleted*. Resolution A110 adopted by the 2018 General Convention eliminated Provincial Courts of Review but failed to elect a new one as required by All 0. We need to delete Ordinance IX because that is what All 0 mandated. The fact that GC 79 did not elect a new national Court of Review is not our problem. Well, it is also our problem but there is nothing we can do about it.

X (new) - defines the membership of the Nominating Committee and its duties; specifies various deadlines

The Process

a) the By-Laws sub-committee submits a final draft to all members of the Provincial Council by 10/15/18

b) the Provincial Council approves a final draft (as may be amended) on 10/22

c) the final draft is distributed to all voting members of the Synod twenty days ahead of time (as

per

Ordinance XI)

d) the Provincial Synod adopts the Ordinances (as may be amended) in May 2019.

Submitted to the Provincial Council by the By Laws sub-committee:

Bishop W. Michie Klusmeyer, President

The Rev. Nathanel W. Pierce, Vice President

Mr. Eddie Vance, Diocese of Easton

Mr. Russell Randle, Dioceses of Virginia and EC Rep

