

Diocesan Missionary Society of Virginia
Episcopal Diocese of Virginia
2022 Annual Report

The Diocesan Missionary Society of Virginia (DMS) is a related organization of the Diocese established to purchase and hold property, and to develop various programs of support for the extension of the missionary work of the Diocese. DMS is overseen by a twelve-member board of directors, with the Bishop of Virginia as an additional ex-officio member with voting rights. The Board welcomed two new members in 2022 – the Rev. Cass Bailey and the Rev. Dina Widlake, who were nominated by annual convention and elected by the Board. Board members serve a three-year term.

At its December 2021 meeting, the Board approved a policy establishing how the funding for the on-going support of the missionary work of the Diocese is determined. This amount is provided to the Diocese through a grant to the office of Bishop. The grant is based on a rolling distribution of the past two years net operating income; 50% of the net income is set aside each year for the grant (distribution amount) and one-half of the distribution amount is provided for the next succeeding year and half is held for the subsequent year. The distribution for 2023 will be determined following the audit of 2022 activity. The purpose of the policy is to provide some stability in the amount available for grants each year. In 2022, the amount of the grant was \$42,500.

DMS supports the Diocese's campus ministry mission work through ownership of two properties - in Fredericksburg (MWU) and Harrisonburg (JMU). The buildings provide housing for the Canterbury programs in these two communities. In 2022, DMS completed a new \$1.7M facility in Harrisonburg, replacing a facility that was sold to JMU in exchange for the parcel where the new facility was constructed and \$310,000.

DMS sold a parcel of real estate in Stafford County, after it was determined by the Region and the Diocese to no longer be necessary for the mission of the Diocese. The Board is working with a broker to sell a second larger parcel. Proceeds from the sale of this real estate are available for loans to churches for capital improvements.

The Board is working with All Souls Episcopal Hanover on the potential development of property for the extension of their work in the Richmond area. This property was purchased by DMS at the request of the Bishop of Virginia more than 20 years ago. DMS is currently managing the vacant property.

The Board is also working with St. Peter in the Woods, Fairfax, on a property sale agreement with the Fairfax County to expand its fire & rescue service. The County needs the land for parking to allow it to meet zoning requirements. The parking will also benefit the church. DMS holds ownership to the property, while the church has built and has ownership to the church facility.

DMS accepts investments by parishes and other church entities which are then used in support of the missionary work of the Diocese. The funds are held in trust by the Board with interest paid at a fixed rate of return for a five-year period. These funds are used to make loans to churches in the Diocese for capital maintenance or other improvements.

DMS provides churches with short-term and long-term loan opportunities for capital and maintenance improvements to church facilities. In the past year, the Board worked with parishes on several improvements and continues to have funds available for loan. Contact Stas Jones at Mayo House if you have interest.

Respectfully submitted

Joseph S Paxton
President