



April 8, 2022

Dear Clergy and Vestry Members,

Resolution R-1 of the 2021 Diocesan Convention directs us to gather at group meetings throughout the Diocese to begin the process of Covenantal Giving. On June 18, 2022 between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., members of the Executive Board and of the Resourcing God's Mission Task Force will convene meetings at four locations (listed below) to begin this work.

This is a new process for all of us – the Executive Board and the churches – and what we want in this first year is to hear your stories and begin to understand each church individually. Financial information is part of this process and so is the character and ministry of each church. This is about working together and not about judgment.

All churches are encouraged to participate in these meetings, even if they currently meet or exceed the pledge guidelines of Resolution R-1. By going through the worksheets, calculating projected pledges, and answering the questions related to each congregation, we believe that churches will gain insight about their community lives. We also believe that having representatives in attendance at the meetings will strengthen the spirit of covenant and allow for exchange of ideas, increased understanding, and fuller cooperation by learning from each other.

In preparation, every church in the Diocese is asked to fill out pages 1 and 2 of the accompanying form (so that both the churches submitting the information and the conveners receiving them are better prepared for our time together), and to submit this information by June 1. We ask that every church do this, regardless whether or not your church plans to attend the June 18 gathering in person.

In addition, we are asking churches that do not anticipate making a pledge of 8% of their rolling three-year average of line 3 of the Parochial Report to attend the June 18 gathering, in order to review the new pledge process and enter into dialogue with us, as directed in R-1. These churches will also need to fill out page 3 of the accompanying form.

Finally, we are also providing a planning worksheet that will help churches prepare for the full implementation of the pledge guidelines of R-1. This planning worksheet is simply for your information and guidance.

As with all cooperative efforts, communication will be very important. We are providing contact lists so that as you have questions, concerns, or insights that you may speak with us as you prepare for the dialogue on June 18. This journey is one for the whole body of the Diocese of Virginia and we encourage you to enter it with us as journeyers who are looking to build God's kingdom.

Sincerely,
Diocesan Executive Board

WHEN: Saturday, June 18, 2022, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

WHERE & WHO:

- 1) **Group A:** The Falls Church, 115 E. Fairfax St., Falls Church
The Rev. David Lucey, Executive Board Representative, rector@stfrancisgreatfalls.org,
phone: 703-759-2082, ext. 102
The Rev. Chris Miller, RGM Task Force Member

- 2) **Group B:** St. James Church, 73 Culpeper St., Warrenton
The Rev. Webster Gibson, Executive Board Representative,
rector@chrischurchwinchester.org,
540-931-5288
The Rev. Kathleen Murray, RGM Task Force Member

- 3) **Group C:** Christ Church, 5000 Pouncey Tract Rd., Glen Allen
The Rev. Emily Dunevant, Executive Board Representative, emilydunevant@gmail.com,
804-995-5045
Ken Royston, RGM Task Force Representative

- 4) **Group D:** Grace Church, 303 S. Main St., Kilmarnock
The Rev Jay Morris, Executive Board Representative, morris@aquiachurch.org, 540-659-4007
The Rev. Sven vanBaars, RGM Task Force Member

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Rector, Vicar, or Priest-in-charge, Senior Warden or other church officer or Vestry Appointee, and/or the Treasurer.

WHAT TO BRING (Please submit these items to the Executive Board by June 1)

- 1) The 3-year rolling average provided by the Treasurer sometime after April 30
- 2) The last three years of Parochial Report financial data
- 3) Do you have a priest to serve the congregation as a pastoral leader who is not interim?
- 4) Answers to the following prompts:
 - a) Two moments or actions by the church that proved to be blessings during the past two years.
 - b) Two moments or actions that proved to be challenges.NEITHER OF THE ABOVE ANSWERS NEED INVOLVE FINANCES! We are hoping to get an idea about your ministries and missions in the places you serve.
- 5) Tell us who and how many will be coming.

JUNE 18, 2022 SCHEDULE

9:30 AM	Introduction and Worship
10:00 AM	Presentation
10:30 AM	Dialogue w/ Churches (Large Group)
11:30 AM	Small Groups and 1 on 1 w/ Churches
12:00 PM	One-on-one with Churches
12:30 PM	Into the World

CALENDAR DATES TO REMEMBER

May: Treasurer sends church the 3yr. Avg #
May/June: Churches accumulate data/stories/
questions
June 1: Churches submit data, stories, and
attendees to the Executive Board
June 18: R-1 Gatherings