

## **ECIM Meeting September 20, 2004**

*Present:* Bishop Carol Gallagher, (chairing meeting), Bishop Mark Mac Donald, Bishop Michael Smith, Coke Smith, Becky Clark, Malcolm Chun, Linda Sproat and Debbie Royals

*Staff:* Janine Tinsley-Roe, Vera Barker

Bishop Mark MacDonald opened us in prayer. Bishop Carol Gallagher thanked everyone for attending and assisting in the service September 19<sup>th</sup> at the National Cathedral. She mentioned that there are tickets available through the Cathedral for the opening of the Museum, Tuesday, September 20. Many people had commented on how nicely the service went and how proud everyone felt to be a part of such a nice event. The Cathedral staff was very nice and helpful and also thanked everyone who participated. Janine said that she would send a letter of thanks and would encourage us to send cards of thanks.

Janine also suggested considering an annual event at the National Cathedral. Malcolm mentioned the upcoming renewal of the Jamestown Covenant and the decade of the three R's (Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation). We talked about the possibility of having a Native focus for a liturgical event every year and maybe even focusing on the saints on the liturgical calendar. Malcolm also mentioned that maybe the annual event could involve the youth and their families.

Janine shared the information regarding the budget meeting coming up in Boise, Idaho. The \$450,000 allotment for education may mean that distribution could occur outside of ITTI. She will keep us informed of the decisions.

Janine's installation is scheduled for November 22 at St. John the Divine. In conjunction with that event, Janine is planning a Youth event beginning on November 19<sup>th</sup>. She has sent out letters to the bishops of the dioceses and is expecting responses. There is also a First People's dinner planned for Friday evening, November 19<sup>th</sup> at St. John the Divine. The youth event will include a tour of New York and there will be educational pieces set up for the youth. Malcolm suggested that there be a focus on liturgy instruction and allows the youth to construct their own liturgy service. One bishop responded by offering scholarships to a Diocesan Boarding School for youth interested.

The conversation continued about how important it is for us to foster leadership training and empowering youth by walking with them as they move into leadership roles. It is important to emphasize that lay leadership is as important as ordained leadership. We need to remain aware that there is no way to empower youth if we do not also take the responsibility to be their mentors and to walk with them.

For those who are pursuing funding from the 2020 budget it may be helpful to read the booklet Jim Lehmler wrote. Janine shared that she has an appointment scheduled with Jim Lehmler. Bishop Smith recommended that Janine read the booklet before she meets with him.

Bishop Carol thought that this was a good opportunity to point out that Janine was not trained or oriented when she started the job. We talked about how this practice sets people of for failure. We encouraged Janine to trust her instincts and allow us to share information when we can be helpful to her. The committee assured her that we would be of help to her and hoped that she would ask if she needed information in regards to any issues or questions.

Bishop Mark talked about the request from Bishop Steven Plummer for assistance. The bishops involved will be meeting prior to the HOB meeting at the end of September. Bishop Plummer's health is failing and he is asking for assistance for the Navajo area mission. Bishop Mark pointed out that the clergy are probably the healthiest and most stable as they have ever been. He pointed out the problems that can occur when people who have no knowledge of Native culture are involved but he is hopeful. He also asked everyone to help discourage the rumors that the Navajo Area Mission will be reabsorbed into the dioceses of New Mexico, Utah and Arizona. There is no indication at this time that it would happen. Debbie shared that Bishop Plummer has been forthcoming about his health at the area meetings and that is adding to the stability.

The committee for planning Winter Talk was appointed in August at the last meeting. They are Malcolm, Coke, Bishop Carol Gallagher, Bishop Michael Smith, Carol Hampton and Janine as the staff person. The committee reiterated the transition taking place on emphasis and given the history we talked about at the last meeting we hoped the committee would consider this Winter Talk theme to include transformation and an emphasis on raising up lay and ordained leaders. In light of the theme of training in liturgy, in our baptismal call to lay and ordained leadership, Debbie Royals and Bishop Mark shared their thoughts of conducting Debbie's ordination to the Transitional Diaconate at Winter Talk this year. Debbie spoke to the support she has felt by the committee and by Native Ministry throughout her formation and process. She said she had prayed about this and would be honored to share this event in this way. She commented on how appropriate she and Bishop Mark thought it would be to the theme of Winter Talk. The committee was unanimous in supporting this idea and agreed to have Debbie's ordination take place at Winter Talk. Debbie will contact Carol Gallagher and begin making plans so that the ordination will take place at the Cathedral in Oklahoma City.

ECIM will meet in conjunction with the AIN meeting at the Pala casino outside of San Diego on April 8<sup>th</sup> in the evening and the 9<sup>th</sup> all day. The AIN gathering will begin on the 10<sup>th</sup> in the evening with a meeting with the tribal chair. We would also pencil in a meeting on October 7-8 followed by a service on October 9<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon or Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> for Columbus Day.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Royals, acting recorder