



Report to the 2017 Synod of the Diocese of Christ our Hope, ACNA

Glenn Wise

Lay Member, Diocesan Council

As the Diocesan Council (DC) reflects back on this past year a few words come to mind; Trust, Comfort, and Honesty. These words describe the maturing of the DC as we begin to fully understand our role in the Diocese and recognize the rhythm and expectations set before us. Although much of our work as the DC involves details, numbers, and the process of the Diocese, it is encouraging that our discussions, discernment, and prayers are more “heart” and Gospel focused. The DC has developed a respect for one another, which has fostered the Trust, Comfort, and Honesty that describe our year together.

The DC meets on a monthly basis via video conferencing and consists of three representatives (2 lay, 1 clergy) from each region. The DC seeks to represent the geographic and demographic diversity of the Diocese, and bring to the meetings the practical experience of the members and the prayerful commitment to seeing Christ’s work flourish in the Diocese.

The work of the DC this past year has consisted of the following:

- Budget
 - Monthly review of the Diocese budget and accounting reports. The Diocese Director of Operations and Treasurer present the monthly updates and field any questions from the DC.
 - Creation of the 2018 Diocese budget.
- Regional Retreats
 - The DC made a concerted effort to attend the Regional Retreats to ensure we are communicating well with the individual parishes.
- Policies
 - A Travel Expense Policy was developed and approved. This policy addresses Pre-Approval Budgetary Travel, Incidental Diocesan Travel, Reimbursement Process and Information Requirements.
 - The DC continues to develop and evaluate the best processes for Reporting and Accountability of New and Existing Mission Ministry Partnerships (MPPs). The DC has developed and approved an MPP Reporting and Accountability Policy that is being implemented.
- Mission Ministry Partnerships (MPPs)
 - The DC spends 2 to 3 months prayerfully evaluating all MPPs submitted to the DC and ultimately responds to each request. This is a very important process for the DC and the overall ministry of the Diocese.
- Bishop Updates
 - Bishop Breedlove provides an update to the DC at each meeting regarding his recent parish visits and overall activities for the prior month. The Bishop takes this time to request prayer for specific Diocese and personal needs.



DIOCESE *of*
CHRIST our HOPE

P.O. Box 52449
Durham, NC 27717
Office: (984) 999-4604

- Miscellaneous
 - The DC reviewed and provided feedback to the Diocese Staff Retreat and Strategic Plan Report.
 - The DC reviewed and approved the 3 Position Papers of the Diocese: 1) “The Ministry of Women in the Church and the Ordination of Women as Deacons in the Diocese of Christ our Hope.” 2) “Summary Vision and Foundational Principles Concerning the Ministry of the Saints” and 3) “Convictions and Practices Concerning the Diaconate and Ordination
 - The DC provided oversight and reviewed the Proposed Amendments to Diocesan Constitution and Canons prepared by the Constitution and Canons Committee.
 - The DC has reviewed and commented on the plan for the Bishop’s Sabbatical in 2018.

This has been an exciting year for the DC and we look forward to continuing to serve the Diocese in 2018. The DC covets your prayers for wisdom and discernment and we seek to be faithful with all that God has entrusted to our Diocese.

In Christ,
Glenn Wise
On behalf of the Diocesan Council 2017