



63rd Arizona Diocesan Convention October 17th & 21st, 2023

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Anti-Racism Committee

The year 2023 was a year of transitions. Our co-chair of three years, the Rev. Monica Whitaker, stepped down due to family life changes that called for her deeper attention. We are grateful for her leadership and her skilled shepherding of the complex task of creating the new online curriculum and training of new facilitators for the August 2021 launch and the subsequent refinements. Her dedication and steady attention to the work of antiracism in the Diocese served as an inspiration to us all as we continue this challenging work.

Responding to the feedback from facilitators and participants, we once again modified the curriculum this year. The three-hour introduction session was eliminated and much of the material presented in the one and a half day was changed to focus on the listed essential components of antiracism training as approved by the 79th General Convention. We are introducing more modifications in 2024 that will reduce the length of the one and a half day to one day and keep a follow up half day.

In 2023 we hosted 10 training cohorts with 136 participants, including Deacon Formation Academy and five in-person trainings. Two Sacred Ground series have been offered this year by people that also serve as our antiracism training facilitators.

We express our deep appreciation to the following people who facilitated anti-racism cohorts over the past 12 months: Bishop Reddall, The Rev. Dcn. Janetta Beaumont, The Rev. Dcn. Scott Deasy, Ms. Sara Dechter, The Rev. Dcn. Robin Hollis, The Rev. Amy Jacober, The Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, The Rev. Lynn Perkins, Ms. Heidi Thomas and The Rev. Carmen Valenzuela.

Respectfully submitted,
Ms. Sara Dechter, Co-Chair
The Rev Carmen Valenzuela, Co-Chair

Border Ministries

*Rescue those being led away to death;
hold back those staggering toward slaughter.
If you say, "But we knew nothing about this,"
does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?
Does not he who guards your life know it?*

Proverbs 23:11-12

As many of you know, our planet has, for a while now, been experiencing an unprecedented flow of global migration. In 2023 we continue to see the flows of individuals and communities from continents near and far; peoples displaced by climate change, civil unrest, war, persecution by criminal gangs and organizations, unemployment and lack of opportunities; many have been forced to migrate in order to simply survive, to live another day. This year through the work of Cruzando Fronteras and your faithful support we've been able to help over 2,000 asylum seekers take the next step in their pursuit of asylum and a better future for their families. I present the following report to give you an idea of the work that we've been able to do during this very busy year.

Cruzando Fronteras: In 2019 Bishop Reddall asked me to lead our effort to help establish Cruzando Fronteras as its own 501c3 nonprofit organization. With the help of our Bishop, our diocesan Director of Finance, and members of the Cruzando Fronteras steering committee, we completed this process and are well on our way to making all of the executive and structural changes to reflect our new nonprofit status. We are excited to explore ways to expand our donor base and cultivation processes, broader exposure to international and national organization working within the migration/asylum space, and explore a myriad of grant possibilities. We are also thankful that other denominations are interested in exploring a more formal connection with Cruzando Fronteras; we are hopeful to develop closer missional ties with our friends and siblings from the Disciples of Christ and Methodist branches of the Jesus movement. This year we've not suffered any significant flow in financial support for the work of CF. We continue to invite churches and organization to support the work of our partners at La Casa de Misericordia y de Todas Naciones, in Nogales, Sonora. Our current ecumenical partners have been extremely generous with their financial and resource support. Every Thursday of the week, members from the Cruzando Fronteras board deliver much needed food, clothing, and other donation directly to La Casa. We are so blessed to count on the abundance and generosity of our ministry partners as together we continue to serve our migrating neighbors.

La Casa de Misericordia Shelter

At La Casa we continue to serve the needs of shelter clients by ensuring that during their stay, they are provided the opportunity to apply for asylum using donated smart phones, receive expert legal advice from lawyers with Arizona Justice for Our Neighbors and HAIS, take advantage of quality K-12 educational programming, receive vocational training, and spiritual as well as social emotional support from clergy, therapists and wellness practitioners from Sonora and the US. In 2023 La Casa has served well over 1,700 clients take the next step in their asylum journeys. Over the course of this year, La Casa has also hosted groups from the United Church of Christ, The Episcopal Church, the ELCA, Mennonites, Roman Catholics, and the Methodist Church. La Casa has also hosted many international agencies such as the Red Cross, the International

Organization on Migration (IOM), the United Nations (UNHCR), HAIS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) and local and federal Mexican agencies. Over the summer, La Casa hosted students from La Universidad de Sonora, Notre Dame, and Stanford. La Casa leaders, Sister Lika Macias, Intake Officer Consuelo Macias, Paralegal Ismael Sotero, and Community Life Director Ester Mongdragon, work hard to ensure that each shelter client is cared for, properly and carefully processed, and that all who wait at La Casa “wait with dignity.”

Border Pilgrimages

2023 was a very busy and good year from border pilgrims. In January we hosted a student from Virginia Theological Seminary for a two-week J-term border pilgrimage as part of her work with the Center for Anglican Community Studies at VTS. We also hosted the Province 8 bishop’s gathering in AZ with a trip to the US Mexico border and La Casa de Misericordia Shelter. We also hosted scouting trips from members of various church throughout the Episcopal Church. We continue to strengthen our connection with Sanctuary Ministry leaders from the Washington National Cathedral and Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM). In March we hosted the YACM (Young Adult Campus Ministry) provincial gathering and border pilgrimage to the Douglas/Agua Prieta Border. I would like to mention the amazing work of Gale Hall and Mic Tixiera of Church of the Apostles, Sister Lika Macias of La Casa de Misericordia, and Fr. John Caleb, for partnering to make the YAMC border experience an impactful success. Through Cruzando Fronteras we hosted over 8 more pilgrimages from UCC, the Moravians, Disciples of Christ, Methodist, and Lutheran communities. In late October of 2023 Neighborhood Ministries of Phoenix, AZ., will be taking a pilgrimage to La Casa and spending time with our friends from The Green Valley Samaritans.

Canon for Border Ministries:

In addition to ensuring that all pilgrims are served and cared for during their visit to our diocese, 2023 also provide me some opportunities to serve our diocese both within and beyond the border of Arizona. I preached and taught throughout our diocese on twelve occasions; served as a lecture respondent at Virginia Theological Seminary for their 2023 Mollegan Forum; provided a presentation on our diocesan border ministry at the It’s All About Love Festival in Baltimore, Maryland, served as mentor for the Spanish Language Preaching Forum sponsored by the Episcopal Preaching Foundation; and started my term as a board member of the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing. I continue to serve on the General Convention’s Mexico Covenant Committee and as instructor in Theology for our diocesan Deacon Formation Academy. I want to take the time to thank many of the amazing border ministry leaders throughout our diocese, beginning with the members of the Border Ministry Council, Henry, Dea, Margaret, Marjorie, Keri, Karen, and Tom, surely a group with amazing hearts and endless patience and grace. I would also like to acknowledge and thank, Valerie Lee James of Artisan Beyond Border who organized the Bordados Devocionales / Devotional

Embroideries First Friday Opening at Olney Gallery at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. There are many more amazing leaders that continue to reflect and demonstrate the welcome of God to our migrating siblings. It has been a true honor to serve our migrating siblings along with seasoned, committed, creative, and impactful border ministry leaders.

Calling the Circle of the Four Winds



In August of 2021, the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona received a matching grant to begin working on a “New Community” and Calling the Circle from the Four Winds was birthed. Relationships with Indigenous people and the church are not often understood. We hear comments like, “I am traditional not spiritual” and yet most of us recognize that our traditions, ceremonies and cultures are spiritual having evolved over time from our relationship with God and all of God’s creation. The opportunity for spiritually based community gatherings has always been present but they have not often been seen as “church” communities.

The idea of Four Winds originally began to take shape around community organizations and relationships. Theologian Virgilio Elizondo describes ministry in an indigenous context as needing to be where the people are and if they are celebrating, worshiping, praying ceremonially in spite of the church, that is where the church must be – with them – worshiping, praying and living out their understanding of their relationship with God, each other and all God created.

For the last two years, Four Winds has been shaped by the life of the people, by the organizations and community representatives who come together each quarter to share their individual plans and invite us all to join in where appropriate. Because of our work together, we have hosted many ribbon skirt clinics where women come together to learn about the traditional patterns and meanings in a ribbon skirt design. After the skirts are completed, we bless them because we know they were sewn in preparation for another ceremony. We have hosted events for young people who are struggling with their identity and brought them together with their peers who have published, written, produced or appeared in some way through various media. We have hosted Cultural Competency training empowering Native students to be respected, seen and heard by

the systems offering education opportunities. We have beaded, sung, drummed, sat in circles to pray, to share and to learn.

The Episcopal Church grants for forming “New Communities” offers many opportunities for those of us who are called to widen the net. We receive coaching by Congregational Developers and Church Planters and from each other in monthly online gatherings. We have access to individual coaching as well as coaching opportunities for the shared leadership teams for these developing communities. There are challenges. The impact of how current issues are playing out also impacts how people gather. There are also blessings especially when the community participants begin to take on leadership roles contributing to the strength of the community.

I am often asked by people in the church, “where is Four Winds” and my answer remains the same. We are in the Four Winds.

Chapel Rock Camp & Conference Center



Chapel Rock is in its 92nd year of operation and service to The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona. Revenue for 2023 is projected to be at the highest level to date. It is very rewarding to serve our guests and campers and fulfill our mission of providing God’s expansive hospitality to those in need of rest, renewal, and spiritual transformation.

Chapel Rock’s summer programs saw an average enrollment of about 65%, this is up from 2022. Thank you to the many churches and parishioners that supported our fundraising efforts. We continue to see the need for financial support as 2/3s of our campers are on full or partial scholarship. Within the past few years, Chapel Rock has become an Angel Tree-affiliated camp, which means that we receive referrals and scholarships for young people who have incarcerated family members. Including Camp Genesis, we served 30 Angel Tree campers, up from 23 in 2022. With the continued support of the Diocese and individual donors, the Summer Program can maintain our commitment to welcoming every camper, regardless of their financial means. Thank you

to the Summer Camp Manager Deanna Fair, The Rev. Jana Sundin Canon for Children and Youth, Canon Kathleen O’Leary RN, Toni Murdock Events Coordinator, and the many Chaplains and volunteers.

Throughout the year, we have continued to see the demand for our services increase. Unfortunately for another camp in the greater Prescott area, the determination was made by their leadership to close and sell the property. As a result, and fortunately for Chapel Rock, all the groups they served have been looking for a new home and many have found a spot on our calendar. With this increase in revenue, we are looking forward to staying current on payroll as well paying down our outstanding payroll debt to the Diocese that is mostly from the pandemic, making improvements on the grounds, finalizing the new high ropes course and creating new amenities for our guests and campers.

We have experienced some staffing changes in 2023. Chef Tom Farley has been with the Chapel Rock team for over a decade and has determined it is time for retirement. Scott DeJoseph has been promoted to Director of Food Services and has trained under Chef Tom. Mr. DeJoseph has owned and operated a catering company for years, and at one point, had his own brick and mortar restaurant, but, like many, had to close during the pandemic. After an unexpected resignation from our Head of Housekeeping position, Aidan Smith has been hired to fill that role and has truly hit the ground running. We will be reaching out to our many churches and missions to request artwork or décor that we can feature in some of the rooms at the camp.

Thousands of campers’ and participants’ lives have been changed, many have encountered the love of Christ, life-long memories and friendships have been made over the years on this holy ground that is Chapel Rock. All of this is possible thanks to the generous support of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona. Whether it be through one of our many summer programs or on retreat, we look forward to serving you soon!

God Bless,

Kelly Wood
Executive Director

Chaplains to Retired Arizona Clergy and Surviving Spouses

It's been an eventful year since October 2022 with Retired Clergy/Surviving Spouses. During Open Enrollment last October/November clergy were notified of Webinars, support contact information and important health plan changes to a new Medicare Advantage plan. On November 12, 2022 Retired Clergy joined Bishop Reddall and the Chaplains for lunch in Phoenix.

A principal outreach for the Chaplains is regular communication with retired clergy/surviving spouses, which from October 2022 – October 2023 included:

- Christmas cards
- Easter cards
- May invitation to Church Pension Group (CPG) June Webinar on “Fraud to Elderly,” in which we also participated
- May update on the Province VIII Conference including updated contact information for Financial Help, Health Help with Medicare Advantage Plan and CPG Contact Information
- September Invitation to CPG October Webinar on Open Enrollment
- September Email notice regarding important changes for 2024
- September reminder regarding 2024 Open Enrollment and required on-line changes
- Monthly birthday greetings on behalf of the Bishop and recognition of “milestone” ordination anniversaries

In May we attended the Province VIII Chaplains Conference in Seattle and learned valuable financial and wellness tips which we shared with all clergy/surviving spouses.

In the report required by the Church Pension Fund twice a year, for January – July 2023 we noted a dozen personal contacts, five “other” meeting contacts and 256 email/written notes (birthdays, ordination anniversaries, condolences) contacts.

We participate in monthly ZOOM meetings for Province VIII Chaplains, hosted by the CPG.

We will notify clergy in the south of Arizona and look forward to lunch with them and Bishop Reddall on November 17.

Plans for the coming year include offering small group lunches with the chaplains by area, in addition to regular meetings and communications as reported above.

We continue to enjoy the privilege of staying connected to the many retired Clergy/Surviving Spouses in Arizona, celebrating their milestones and keeping them up to date on Church Pension Group information; we anticipate more personal connection opportunities in the next year.

Submitted in Christ's love,
The Rev. Colville & Sylvia Smythe

Children, Youth & Young Adults Ministry

The Diocesan Ministry for Children, Youth, and Young Adults supports ministry with these age groups and oversees summer camp programming. Following are the activities of this ministry since last October, beginning with the 2022 Diocesan Convention.

2022 Diocesan Convention—We had 21 youth and eleven chaperones and volunteers throughout the weekend representing seven congregations or ministries in Phoenix and Tucson at our Diocesan Convention youth program. Attendees experienced Nightsong, an Episcopal Campus Ministries and St. Philip's in the Hills collaboration, dinner, games, and a lock-in. On Saturday the youth attended worship, completed a service project assembling care packages for traveling migrants, were led in a storytelling workshop by Rev. Shaneequah Brokenleg, and finished the day with time in the pool.

Family camps—We had Winter Family Camp over New Year's weekend and Summer Family Camp over the weekend just before July 4 at Chapel Rock, with attendees representing eleven different congregations. We have witnessed long-term friendships between families formed at family camps over the years, as well as deepening relationships among individuals from the same congregation. Family camps are for families of all shapes, sizes, ages, and composition, with or without children.

Professional Development—We offered assistance for those in Christian formation leadership to attend the annual Forma conference in January, and one person attended the conference virtually. I attended the ELCA Youth Ministry Extravaganza in February to form and deepen connections with Episcopal and Lutheran youth ministry professionals.

LCM Canterbury—I serve as a liaison between the Bishop's office and the board of LCM Canterbury, the campus ministry at NAU, and I chair the search committee for a new chaplain. The interim chaplain, Pastor Michael Girlinghouse, started on August 1.

Campus and Young Adult Ministries—In November, the campus ministries hosted an annual retreat for young adults at Chapel Rock. In March, Arizona hosted the annual Province VIII gathering of campus and young adult ministries in Bisbee. This experience, planned mostly by the Rev. Ben Garren, provided opportunities for participants to hear stories about the ministry that happens among the neighbors at the border and visit the wall to contemplate social and theological implications of borders and walls.

Summer Camp—See the Chapel Rock report for details about Summer Camp and the Prison Ministry report for details about Camp Genesis.

Episcopal Youth Event (EYE)—EYE is the second largest gathering of Episcopalians, and this summer was the first EYE since 2017. We took a delegation of 17 teenagers and three chaperones, from a total of seven congregations, to the University of Maryland in Baltimore. I want to thank the leadership at St. John’s, Bisbee, Trinity, Kingman, St. Augustine’s, Tempe, St. Paul’s Sudanese Congregation, Phoenix, Epiphany, Tempe, St. Anthony on the Desert, Scottsdale, and St. Matthew’s, Chandler, for supporting their youth and chaperones with prayer and financing so they could attend this transformational event. See the article in the Fall AZ Episcopalian magazine for more details about this amazing summer.

Supporting Parish Ministries—We once again offered grants for VBS/Outreach formation programs, using Episcopal Community Service funds, and listed all summer programs on the diocesan Children and Youth web page. We had monthly networking and check-in meetings open to all children, youth, and young adult ministers, September through May. In addition to Godly Play trainings for the Godly Play Foundation and other dioceses, I offered a Doorperson workshop at no cost to members of this diocese. I visited churches to preach, preach and celebrate, or observe and discuss children’s/youth formation 15 times. Many thanks for all of the invitations and a wonderful year of partnership in ministry!

Commission on Ministry

Annual Report to Convention for 2022-2023

The Commission on Ministry (COM) is made up of priests, deacons, and lay members of the Diocese of Arizona. Members of the COM are appointed and they serve on the Commission to assist and advise Bishop Reddall on decisions of discernment and formation for ministry.

The annual COM’s Day of Ministry Discernment (DMD) for people discerning both lay and ordained ministry was held in February 11, 2023 at St. Mark’s in Mesa. The COM interviewed aspirants in discernment January 21st, March 24th and 25th. The Parish Discernment training was held on April 29th.

The following are the 2023 milestones:

- Bishop Reddall ordained Donald K. Bebber and Omar Rodriguez De La O to the Priesthood.
- Lucian Berry Taylor was named a candidate and will continue with his local formation.
- Carsten Michael Seiler was named a candidate and received his Diploma of Anglican Studies from The University of the South in Sewanee in May.
- Postulants Vincent Caranchini, Sam Christopher, Daniel Collier, Bradford Eubanks, Carter Johnson, James Newman and Alexander Swain completed their first year of seminary.

- Elizabeth Hazel Clarke was named a priest postulant in January 2023 and entered into her first year of seminary.
- James Baldwin Graves, Susan Lynn Hillman, Kym Jamie Kennedy, Jennifer Renee Lopez, Tamara Nicole Noel were named deacon postulants in March 2023.

Sincerely,
Janet Beason
COM Secretary

Council for Native American Ministries



The Council for Native American Ministry met in November 2022 at Church of the Transfiguration; in February 2023 in Camp Verde hosted by St Andrew, Sedona; at Church of the Advent in Sun City West in April 2023 and for the Annual Retreat held each year at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale.

The hosting congregations shared their Native American partner relationships with us, used the opportunity to share what is being learned in the process and how it guides us in reflecting our mission: Remember, Recognize, Reconcile and Relationships. Meetings have averaged about 20 people but the April meeting almost doubled in size with more Native Americans present at the meeting. And the Retreat attendance was 50% higher than in years past.

In addition to the local ministries being developed, we have also been undertaking the steps towards truth-telling in regard to the Arizona Boarding School history and its ongoing impact. Members of the Council for Native American history have been researching this history and bringing it back to share with the whole Council.

This year, the focus of the Retreat was completely on the legacy of Boarding Schools. Story Boards were created for the schools that were identified first in the Investigative Report of May 2022 by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland and Assistant Secretary

for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland where Arizona is identified as the state with the second largest number of Boarding Schools and also home to the second largest Boarding School in the US (Phoenix Indian School). The report can be found here <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/department-interior-releases-investigative-report-outlines-next-steps-federal-indian> and the story boards for those schools within the geographical boundaries of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona will be available at Convention. Additionally, we have published a Boarding School Primer that will also be available at Convention and on the Diocesan website (Native Ministry).

There will be one more meeting in November 2023 at Church of the Nativity in Scottsdale but all of the gatherings in 2024 will take place in the format of a Pilgrimage for Listening & Healing. The dates and locations will be available on the Diocesan website, and all are welcome to attend. This decision has been made without the need for additional funds added to the Diocesan Budget. Instead, the funds budgeted for Native Ministry in 2024 will be redirected to the Pilgrimage.

Whether or not you are able to travel to any of the Pilgrimage sites, those who have quilting/sewing ministries are being invited to create Prayer Quilts depicting the logo for the 2024 Listening & Healing Pilgrimage. The Prayer Quilts will be gifted to the survivors and their family members at each of the Pilgrimage locations. We invite your prayers as we undertake this work and ministry.

Arizona Episcopal Cursillo

Arizona Episcopal Cursillo is a lay-led diocesan ministry that began in the mid-1970s in this diocese.

Currently we are gathering as a community for Gather Us In events to restart the Group Reunions and AZ Cursillo. We have held one at St Matthew's in Chandler in May 2023. There are 2 others that are schedule at St Paul's in Payson in October 2023 and at St Peter's in February 2024. The next Cursillo weekend tentatively during the summer months of 2024.

Beyond 2024, Arizona Episcopal Cursillo plans to hold least one Cursillo weekend each year, so that there will be more Cursillo reunion groups in the parishes of this diocese who are committed to making new friends, being a friend to others; and with time, bringing those new friends to Christ. Over time, a Cursillista may ask a new friend in the parish to consider joining their reunion group and attending a Cursillo weekend in the future.

Living a Christian life guided by God's grace and inspiration and helping others in our parishes and other environments to do the same is a goal of most Cursillistas. Weekly group reunions of three or more Cursillistas who meet to share Christ's presence and love in their lives by discussing worship, study and personal Christian action mark the signature activity of the Cursillo Community in the Diocese of Arizona and throughout the Anglican Communion. Most members are continuing Group Reunions meet via Zoom or telephonically or in person.

Currently monthly meetings of the reunion groups, called Ultreyas, that are normally held in parishes all over our diocese to support and strengthen reunion groups have started to get back together. New group reunions are meeting.

Arizona Episcopal Cursillo is currently led by the following elected Cursillistas who serve on the Secretariat:

- President Steve Cifone of St. Stephen's, Phoenix
- President Emeritus Joe Albo of St. Matthew's, Chandler
- Secretary Tom Hiscox of St. Paul's, Payson
- Treasurer Janet Kaiser of St. Stephen's, Phoenix
- Spiritual Advisor The Rev. Canon Dan Tantimonaco, rector of St. Stephen's Phoenix
- Other lay persons from several parishes in the Diocese of Arizona represent the threemajor geographical areas of the diocese and help with various Cursillo activities in the diocese between Cursillo weekends.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Cifone, Secretariat President

Make a friend, Be a friend, Bring that friend to Christ

Daughters of the King

The Order of the Daughters of the King® is an order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the historic episcopate but not in communion with it. Our membership currently includes women in the Anglican, Episcopal, Lutheran (ELCA) and Roman Catholic churches.

As a part of our Anglican Tradition we recognize episcopal (bishop's) oversight. We believe that Holy Scripture contains all things necessary for salvation.

DOK acknowledges the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism, the real presence of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist, and worship according to The Book of Common Prayer (or the standard liturgies of Lutheran, Roman Catholic, or other Anglican churches that sponsor chapters). We reaffirm the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation; a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism. She receives support in this commitment from a worldwide community of like-minded women.

In solidarity with one another, all Daughters everywhere make the same promises upon their admission to The Order:

- To obey the two Rules of The Order: the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service.
- To offer at all times loyal aid to our clergy and parish to spread Christ's kingdom.
- To wear faithfully the cross of The Order.

- To work for the purposes of The Order as God may give us the opportunity.
-

Deacon's Council

The Purpose of Deacons Council is to empower and give voice to the deacon community in the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona.

- The Rev. Dr. Robin Hollis announced she is stepping down as Director of Deacon Formation following the next diaconal ordinations in January 2024.
- Bishop Reddall appointed The Rev. Sally Niles as new Director of Deacon Formation, effective January 2024. She began shadowing DFA in June 2023 at the postulant retreat.
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- Monitor the formation progress of Deacons-in-Formation (Vocational):
 - No 2023 diaconal ordinations, as ordinations have been moved from June to January the following year.
 - This extension in DFA curriculum has resulted in an externship with not-for-profit organizations in the community.
 - COM and Standing Committee review dates updated (reincorporated interviews with SC)
 - Extension also creates a third cohort in formation.
 - Continuing to adjust the schedule and discern how best to incorporate the extension within the program.
 - Classes continued virtually with the exception of June Retreat, and will remain virtual for the foreseeable future, with the exception of retreats and presentations.
 - Ordinations in January 2024 will include Fran Coleman, Michael Smithson, and Lucian Taylor (transitional - Lucian discerned a call to priesthood while in DFA, has continued program as part of his formation)).
 - March 2023 - six aspirants named as postulants; Jim Graves, Tamara Noel, Kym Kennedy, Barbara Lopes, Susan Hillman, and Jennifer Lopez.
- Council members in action with DFA and Key Diaconal Activities:
 - Deacon Retreat March 17-19, 2023 Theme: God Brings Water to a Thirsty People
 - 42 in attendance
 - 15 peer-led activities, including creative activities, contemplative meditations, social justice workshops, and self-care activities
 - Robin Hollis & Amy Bryan attended AED Conference virtually June 22-24, *Growing the Diaconate: Lifelong Learning*
 - New DFA faculty: The Rev Canon Anita Braden, Karen Bruhn, Tim Gianni

- Continue to implement Vocational Deacons Compensation throughout the diocese, which should be fully implemented to deacons under 72 and not already receiving CPG benefits, by the start of Fiscal Year 2024.
- In the planning and early testing phase of “supply” and “roving” deacons around the diocese, spreading the visibility and ministry of the deacon beyond their home church and community.

DEACONS COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Reddall (Bishop), The Ven. Amy Bryan (Archdeacon), The Rev. Ben Garren (Priest - South), Elaine Pope (Lay - Central), The Rev. Dr. Robin Hollis (Director DFA), The Rev. Alison Lee (Priest - North)

Report submitted September 15, 2023 by Amy Bryan - Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of Arizona

Episcopal Church Women in the Diocese of Arizona

December 17th, 2022, was so long ago. A New Look for ECW, St. Andrew’s, Sedona and Zoom, 13 in person 5 online. The gathering learned the **listening protocols**, pause before responding, notice where your heart leads you, stay in silence before speaking, do not try to fix anything, one person at a time, allow everyone the opportunity. And the **principals of dialog**, when you are listening, suspend assumptions, when you are speaking express your personal response, use “I” statements, listen without judgment, and suspend status, honor confidentiality, listen for understanding, not to agree with or to believe. **Remember what is said in a circle stays in circle.**

St. Andrew’s, Sedona has continued with their circle monthly with sister from Epiphany, Flagstaff coming down to join us. Pondering how we view religion, how we view church, to Mary Magdalene the way she was presented. One person’s view of the Parliament of World Religions.

Province VIII ECW, Leading With Heart group is working on adaptive leadership providing the tools we need to find our voices and calling. Using the circular leadership model, we build reciprocal relationships that honor diversity of culture, race, age, gender, personality, and ministry. They have a Practice Circle that meets every month on the first Saturday’s by zoom where anyone can join

<https://ecwprovinceviii.org/leading-with-heart-resources/> come and join.

Winifrid Follett is part of Province VIII ECW, at their annual meeting she helped present Circular Leadership to the ladies of the Province, how you can conduct leadership within a circle and get projects done with everyone having voice, not just the leaders.

With the help of the Diocese of Arizona and several others, three ladies from the Province attended The Parliament of World Religions in Chicago, where they presented a workshop on Leading With Heart, Non-Violent Communication: Finding voices for freedom, justice, and the integrity of creation. These were the ladies that helped present our workshop, all from Province VIII.



(L/R) The Rev. Racheal Taber-Hamilton, Evita Krislock, Kay Lindahl, Winifrid Follett, and

Christine Budzowski

Winifrid Follett and Barbara Schafer would be willing to come to parishes to help get Circular Leadership started in your parishes, just contact one of us to set up a time.

Winifrid Follett winnieandcj@gmail.com and/or Barbara Schafer schaferb75@yahoo.com

Blessings and Peace

Winifrid Follett

ECW Contact for the Diocese of AZ

Ministry for Religious Life

The Ministry for Religious Life promotes the spirituality of religious orders in the Diocese of Arizona through retreats and workshops. It provides resources for congregational enrichment and to individuals exploring vowed religious life within the Anglican tradition.

In 2022, we held our second annual Monastic Retreat on September 12-14, ending on Holy Cross Day. Nearly 30 participants collaborated to create a monastic environment for three days among the familiar, beloved grounds of Chapel Rock in Prescott.

Our time together began after dinner on Monday with introductions and a blessing of the monastic grounds, and after Compline, we settled into The Great Silence, which was

broken by the first words of Morning Prayer: “O God, open our lips” on Tuesday.

As the day progressed we ate together in silence, celebrated the Eucharist, and prayed the other daily offices. In between meals, prayer, and worship, those present participated in optional sessions that included self-directed hikes, group *lectio divina*, spiritual direction, the Rite of Reconciliation, and simple, quiet reading. In the evening, after Evening Prayer and a conversational dinner, we gathered for a guided group discussion about how the charisms of religious life relate to the ministries of our various parishes.

Tuesday ended much as Monday, with Compline and The Great Silence, and Wednesday began much like Tuesday with Morning Prayer and a silent breakfast. Our final group session on Wednesday morning consisted of sharing books and resources for study and devotion that had been meaningful to the participants, and after a short break, we closed our time together with a Festal Eucharist for Holy Cross Day.

Our 2023 Monastic Retreat will be much the same, but this time in mid November and with the option for a longer retreat. Participants may choose to arrive on either Wednesday evening, November 15, or on Friday evening, November 17 with adjusted pricing. The 2023 Monastic Retreat will conclude for all participants after Eucharist on Sunday, November 19.

All are invited to participate in this unique experience, and we hope you will join us in November to create a monastery for a few days in the Diocese of Arizona.

Pax.

The Very Rev'd Prior Chad-Joseph Sundin, OSBCn
Convener

Prison Ministry Program

Statement of Purpose: “To charge the Diocese of Arizona to minister to prisoners and their families (*during and post incarceration*), advocate for changes to the current prison system, and to mutually share God’s forgiving love.” The Diocesan Prison Ministry team currently has 13 active members and 11 interested parties that participate in monthly Zoom meetings and events. These individuals represent 14 churches located throughout the Diocese.

Weekly worship services at Perryville Women’s Prison in Goodyear, AZ are being held on 5 units with 2 additional services held on a closed yard once a month. Monthly attendance at these services is about 300. Rev. Gay Romack coordinates the worship teams. The Mentoring Beyond the Gates program continues to grow and serve those

being released from prison. This program provides women who are released from Perryville prison with a caring and compassionate mentor who will help them cope with the many demands made upon them as a condition of their release. Multiple mentor training sessions were held in 2023 providing 30 mentors and 35 mentees currently. Mentor training is going online in the fall. Videos will be available. Having more mentors available, means more women can be helped.

The mentoring program offered inside Perryville via videocasts continues to be successful and now includes approximately 165 women. Rev. Romack was awarded a \$55,000 UTO Grant for the Building Bridges Program for the women of Perryville. This grant will go toward 3 new programs (2 that were recently rolled out – Raising My Voice and a Financial Class offered through the Second Chance Center at Perryville - and one that is in development called Transition to Success which researches poverty and how it affects reentry. Rev. Romack reports that over 90 individuals participated in the Second Chance Financial Academy. A Parole Preparation Class, led by Diocesan Prison Ministry team member Chris Leedy, is in the final stages of approval by ADCRR. We are hoping to have it running in 2024. Two Re-entry simulations were held in the Diocese this year to inform/educate church and community members about the challenges facing those re-entering society after being incarcerated.

The Magdalene House West reentry facility is currently housing six women. One woman will graduate from the facility later in the fall. In order to graduate, women have to meet their goals, including financial security.

Camp Genesis was held in June with 16 attendees (9 returning campers). Six clergy members and 4 workshop leaders participated in the revamped 2023 camp which included music therapy, a field trip to a therapy horse farm, and more. The goal is to provide more faith-motivated opportunities to meet the needs of these at-risk kids. Two of the older boys served as Jr. Leaders and one of the older kids served as a Jr. Counselor and plans to return next year as a Counselor. Backpacks for the campers were provided with the help of donations from several churches. Donations are needed for 2024 when we plan to offer two camps; one for ages 8-12 and the other for ages 13-17. The Camp Genesis Card Program currently has 6 churches participating in sending cards each month to the children who have attended Camp Genesis. The Camper Prayer Heart Program now includes 3 churches.

Five “Straight from the Heart” Art Exhibitions occurred in 2023 featuring artists currently or previously incarcerated. Shows are booked through 2024 and continue to be a successful method of raising awareness about the issues of incarceration in Arizona. Two of the art shows in 2023 were included in a feature-length documentary [“Confined to a Canvas: A Story of Artists Behind Bars”](#) which was released in September 2023. Creating a team to handle the demand for art shows is a primary goal as Rev. Kim Crecca will be stepping down from this ministry (and as Convener) at the end of 2024.

The Diocesan Prison Ministry team continues to work toward raising awareness about incarceration, reducing recidivism, facilitating successful re-entry for releasees,

advocating for legislative reform, and serving the needs of loved ones affected by incarceration.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Kim Crecca, Convener, Diocesan Prison Ministry Program

Standing Committee

As the Board of Directors for the Diocese, the Standing Committee is responsible for the governance of the Diocese. Elected voting members serving this year, along with the Rt. Rev. Jennifer Reddall, include Canon Clyde Kunz (President), The Rev. Gerardo Brambila and Canon Lisa Derrick (Co-Vice Presidents), The Rev. Canon David Benedict Hedges (Secretary), Cody Bro, The Rev. Michael Halle, Sara Haas, The Rev. Dr. Robin Hollis, Dr. Stanlie James, The Rev. Alison Lee, The Rev. Susana Santibanez, Mahaliah (Mae) Sinclair.

Three members, Canon Lisa Derrick, Rev. Canon David Hedges, and Canon Clyde Kunz are completing their second 3-year term on Standing Committee and will conclude their work on Standing Committee at this year's meeting of Diocesan Convention. I am grateful for their dedication and service.

Several non-voting ex-officio members have also diligently served as part of the committee this year. They include Don Bivens (Chancellor), The Rev. Anita Brade (Canon to the Ordinary), Suzy Mortenson (Treasurer) The Ven. Amy Bryan (Archdeacon), The Rev. Perry M. Pauley (Secretary to Convention), and Kelly Wood (Director of Chapel Rock) and Serrena Fuentes (Executive Assistant to the Bishop and Assistant Secretary of Standing Committee). I am similarly grateful to each of them for their participation this year.

This year the Standing Committee began a process, based on our new Mission Statement ("Follow Jesus. Grow in Faith. Walk in Love"), began a process of discerning our shared core values: Love, Discipleship, Vitality, Integrity, and Diversity & Inclusion. Based on both Mission and Values, the Committee then articulated the Key Diocesan Priorities on which the diocese is to remain focused in coming years:

- To grow the church in membership and spiritual depth;
- To be a public voice and witness for justice;
- To support congregations and communities of faith through programs, education and financial resources;
- To provide lifelong Spiritual formation; and
- To create competent, transparent, and effective administrative practices.

One important national role of the Standing Committee is in providing consent (and on rare occasion not doing so) of Bishops elected in other jurisdictions throughout the Church. Several came before Standing Committee this year, including the Bishops-elect in the Dioceses of Oklahoma, Central Florida, New Jersey, Florida, the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries, and Arkansas. Our Standing Committee consented to all but one of those elections.

Representatives of Standing Committee met with a delegation from The Episcopal Church earlier in the year as Arizona was in consideration as a location for the Triennial Convention in 2027; ultimately, the Church's Executive Committee voted to award Arizona the location of General Convention that year!

In addition to reviewing diocesan finances every month (with reports from both the Investment and Finance Committees) and recommending the 2024 Statement of Mission being presented at this year's Convention, Standing Committee has reviewed and approved a number of transactions related to diocesan properties, and approved several outreach program grants based on applications received from communities of faith in Arizona.

Each year, Standing Committee is required by Canon to interview candidates for ordination, based on recommendations from the Commission on Ministry and the Deacon Formation Academy. The Standing Committee interviewed and affirmed support for every candidate recommended this year (although one was later formally removed from the process).

Following a request from a member of the clergy, the Standing Committee - in an effort to make its work as transparent as possible - voted to post summaries of approved Committee minutes on our diocesan website. Those summaries of the Committee's work are now available.

Early in the year the Committee extended by three years our Agreement with Bishop Reddall, and approved a significantly-updated Diocesan Employee Handbook, which is now applicable to all diocesan staff and our mission churches.

Respectfully Submitted,

Canon Clyde W. Kunz
President, Standing Committee
Episcopal Diocese of Arizona

Treasurer's Report

The Diocesan Financial team has experienced a number of changes in 2023. After 14 months of employment with us, Liz Hansen left the Diocese of Arizona in late August to accept the position of Chief Operating Officer for an entity within the Catholic Diocese of Phoenix. We wish Liz well in her new position. We have hired a new Director of Finance, Pattie Henderson, who will join our team on October 1. As the Treasurer of the Diocese, I'm continuing to work and support the efforts of the Finance team during this time of transition.

The Finance team consists of Pattie Henderson, Director of Finance and Operations, Kasey Lyttle, Human Resource Administrator, Toni Murdock, Finance Assistant for Property, and Nanette Zdrojewski, Financial Assistant. I'm grateful to work with such dedicated and talented people.

The Finance Committee of the Diocese meets in advance of each Standing Committee meeting. They review all financial reports and many other financial matters that impact the Diocese and our congregations. I truly appreciate the work that they do and the counsel that they offer.

The Investment Committee, under the leadership of Larry Erickson, meets three times each year. A representative of our primary advisor, Northern Trust, attends each meeting and reports on our investment results and domestic and global economic issues that could affect future performance. Our custodial and Neely funds are held at the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF). Northern Trust, ECF and the committee have a long-term investment outlook.

The Investment committee continues to support Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investments. Approximately 20% of our equity securities are ESG related.

Through August of 2023, an estimated 65%, or \$1,497,000 of our total revenue has been expended for support programs, mission and ministry, church growth and the greater church. For 2024, we are projecting that we will spend 59% of our revenue on these types of programs.

The Diocese is fulfilling our assessment obligation to The Episcopal Church. In 2022, we paid the full amount due of \$334,950. Through August 31, 2023, we have paid \$215,098. Our full 2023 obligation will be paid before the end of the year.

The majority of our congregations are filing and paying their monthly mission share reports on a timely basis. We are pleased to be able to continue the mission share rebate program into 2024 at the rate of 1%. The Finance staff thanks all congregations for their efforts in reporting and paying their mission share timely.

The proposed Financial Statement of Mission Plan (the 2024 Budget) was sent to convention delegates in advance of the convention. Completing the Plan is a collaborative effort involving the Bishop, key staff in the Diocese, and a number of program managers. The Proposed Statement of Mission was approved by the Diocesan Finance Committee on September 7 and the Standing Committee on September 13. On October 17, Convention Delegates will have the opportunity to vote to support the ministries and programs of the Diocese. Your support is vitally important to allow the Diocese and our congregations to realize our vision of a growing, mission-driven Diocese.

2024 Projected Revenue is \$3,915,600 which is a decrease of (\$81,500) from the 2023 Statement of Mission. Projected Mission share is \$2,750,000 and remains unchanged from the 2023 Plan. Mission Share percentage continues to be 16.9%. 2023 actual mission share is projected to be close to the 2023 plan of \$2,750,000.

2024 Projected expenditures are \$3,915,600 which is a decrease of (\$81,500) from the 2023 Statement of Mission.

On behalf of myself and the Diocesan Finance team, I want to extend our thanks to members of the Finance and Investment Committees for their continued efforts to manage and assist our team to ensure the financial well-being of the Diocese. Thanks also to the Standing Committee for their support and oversight of the Diocese.

Thank you to Bishop Reddall, Canon Anita, and all the Diocesan staff. They continue their efforts to provide services that will enable our congregations to serve their parishioners and help grow their congregations. Please keep them in your prayers.

Faithfully,
Suzy Mortenson, Treasurer

Necrology Report

St. Peter's, Casa Grande

Chris Germaine
Joan Karnes
Lew Merrick

Good Shepherd, Cave Creek

Rev Herman Jones
William Ketler
Reid Alvin McBride
Shawn Solon

St. John The Baptist, Glendale Kay Revino

Susan Young

St. John's, Globe

Jean Austin
Dr. Wilber Haak
Charmion McKusick
Mary Ann Rasmussen
Tommie B Rasmussen

St.

**Francis-in-the-Valley,
Green Valley**

Al Bowman
Lee Cornelison
Ona Gibson
Edith Hawkins
Carol Hinterthuer
Doris Kuzmak
Grace Marben
Jerry McAllister
Nancy Pearce
Barbara Phillips
Julie Ratley
Richard Tinney
Lois Weinert

**Church of Our Saviour,
Lakeside**

Ed Chapman
Dorothy Coleman
Dudley Connell
Joyce Mueller
Tom Mueller
Marlene Sternburger

St. Mark's, Mesa

Ray Andreas Haug
Winnifred Jackson
Lisa Louise Kaupke
Darrell Roy Summers

St. Andrew's, Nogales

Marcia Ivory Clark
Richard Delong
Patricia Shriver

**Church of the Apostles,
Oro Valley**

Virginia Draper Fleming
June Ann Habinek
Phyllis May Petersen

**St. Paul's Sudanese,
Phoenix**

Ayom Amor Arop
Paul Marail Dot Agok
Mawien Deng
Fafth Reign
Rebecca Diing Chuei
Mike Ohure
Seasor Nicholora Aufo

St. Mary's, Phoenix

Rev Gordon A Bardos
Jean Daws

Nativity, Scottsdale

Michael T N Fitch
Nancy Jean Sullivan
David Clay Monson

**St. Anthony on the
Desert, Scottsdale**

Eloise Crosman
John Kyler
William (Bill) Luke
John (Jack) Meinert
Gretchen Stephenson
Carolyn Welsh

**St. Barnabas,
Scottsdale**

James H Adams
Ronald Daniel Bell
Lawrence L Bullen
Rev Philip Carson
Roger Allen Coltvvet
William Randolph Davis
Bradfield Fellowes Eliot
Donald B Fahland
Beebe Rae Jennings
Joan Cooper Lamont
Margaret Ann Loewen
Nellie Mae Lokken
Linda Parrott Magill
Richard Joseph Mattes
Carol Bender McGraw

Diana Schunk Nelson
David Alexander Patton
Mark L Perkins
James Clark Purdy
Phyllis Ann Brandreth
Rocker
Patricia Louise Toombs
James Foster Wessman

St. Andrew's, Sedona

Isabella Agnes Blanton
Eileen French Schlossman

**St. Stephen's, Sierra
Vista**

Wonda (Wendy) M
Gannon

**All Saints of the
Desert, Sun City**

Elizabeth Courtney
Kenneth Florence
Barbara Hively
Pete Hively
Becky Tesar

Advent, Sun City West

Nancy Amechetti
Beverley Bradshaw
Panos Charlambous
Ellen Cromwell-Cecrle
George Huffman
Rosaria Mauri (Sadie)
Emily Peterson
Betty Riley

**St. Christopher's, Sun
City**

Carolyn Bellerive
Nicole Marie Avery
Jackson
Gordon Bernard Lindvall
Margaret Mae McAnally
Dorothy Jane Meyers

Church of the Epiphany, Tempe

Rowan Hansen
Steve Kandybowicz
Robert Murray
Francene Pearce
Christopher Rowan
Michael Wooten

St. Augustine's, Tempe

Lavinia Baker
Jeannine Joette Merrill

Christ the King,

Tucson

Maxine Gray
Pam Kolkema-Stevens
Linda Matter
Ric Richter
William Seese

Grace St. Paul's,

Tucson

Richard Bradley
Lee Hunt
Cricket Kelbaugh
Christopher Ledyard
Kathy Roberson
James Steinman
Ralph Wong

St. Alban's, Tucson

Fe Carol Pittman Brittain
Katherine Jean Brown
Clarke Duncan
Wilbur A (Bill) Haak
Valeria Angela Hirsch
Roy Brooks Kile, Jr
Marcia Kay Olsen
Macpherson
Kimberly Anne Paris
Philip Slater
James Edward Stoller
Charles E Thompson
Aram Lee Tootelian

Frederick E Webster

St. Andrew's, Tucson

Kathleen Ann DeBoer
Joseph M Graves Jr

St. Matthew's, Tucson

Marcia Bailey
Lloyd Hunt
Louise Janak Betty
Lenci Loring
Susan Powers
Beth Janelle Rhoades

St. Michael's & All

Angels, Tucson

Barbara Butler
Thomas Casey
Ronald Edwards
Deborah Flagg
Joan Gerhart
James Gow
Albert Hooper
Margaret Larson
Mari Parsons
Margaret Shetka
Joan Stone
Ann Katie Taffs
Thomas Watson Sr