



September 7, 2017

Common Life Share Report: Second Quarter 2017

The focus of the second quarter has been the episcopate transition. We said farewell to Bishop Mathes, and prepared the standing committee and diocesan staff to run the bishop's office in his absence. We also hired a search consultant to help us connect with Bishop Jefferts Schori, who now serves as our $\frac{3}{4}$ time assisting bishop. None of this would be possible without the common life share, which made all of the following possible in the second quarter.

- **Episcopate** expenses are costs related to the office of the bishop. Together they comprise 48% of the budget. The office of the bishop supports a robust committee structure that engages the gifts of time and talent of people in the work of the diocese. On July 1 we hosted a farewell Eucharist and reception for Bishop Mathes at St. Paul's Cathedral, for which much staff time was devoted in Q2.
- **Congregational Operating and Property Support** provides direct support for churches. Because of uncertainty around projected need, a mission contingency budget of \$58,000 enables the executive council or the finance committee to authorize expenditures. In the second quarter, St. Matthew's, National City received a \$3,000 grant to bridge the gap between revenue from an old lease and a new one.
- **Programs, Ministries and Outreach:** In the second quarter, the diocese provided extensive planning for fall stewardship campaigns, as well as teachings about congregational development through the beginning of the Learning from London series. These day-long workshops focus on what the Diocese of London has learned over the past 20 years about how to grow the church. Two more workshops will be held in the third quarter and a final homecoming workshop is scheduled for diocesan convention in the fourth quarter. Other congregational development activities include: schools resourcing, planned giving support, congregational self-assessment support, and access to tools such as Holy Cow Consulting, a congregational assessment tool. A lunch and learn about the Braid Mission, which is a ministry that reaches homeless youth, was held in April.

Eleven youth from our diocese attended the Episcopal Youth Event in Oklahoma, much of which was supported through the common life share plus. Youth also participated in a middle school mission trip at St. Mark's, San Diego. St. George's Day Evensong commemorated our rich Anglican heritage at the end of April. We pulled together for a multifaith prayer service for shooting victims in La Jolla. A communications gathering featuring Bishop Mathes in May provided communicators with one last chance to glean wisdom from him about communication in person.

- **Clergy Support:** The diocese hosted the annual renewal of vows service during Holy Week for all clergy to renew their vows alongside their Lutheran brothers and sisters. We welcomed the new bishop of the ELCA Pacifica Synod, the Rt. Rev. Andrew Taylor to that liturgy. A deacon's retreat took place at Camp Stevens, the first of its kind in our diocese. The Rev. Christie Fleming and the Rev. Susan Green were ordained to the diaconate in June.
- The **Episcopal Church Center** continues to host diocesan meetings and conferences, in addition to over 20 activities per week for the members of our community including: AA meetings, mail services, hot meals, yoga, meditation, Bible study, prayer groups, Sunday services for the Jesus Revival Ministries, medical care, haircuts, showers and clothes giveaway.
- **Operating Funding** supports programs that happen less than once per year. The savings in these reserves would not be possible without common life shares, which are especially critical now as the operating reserve is funding the episcopate transition.