**GLOBAL MISSION COMMISSION**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**SERVE COMPASSIONATELY**

 **MISSION:** The mission of the Diocese’s Global Mission Commission is to encourage people living in our Diocese to SERVE COMPASSIONATELY.

**DIOCESE OF CAPE COAST, GHANA:** In May 2018, the Rev. Dr. Sharon Hiers, Senior Associate Rector, Church of the Epiphany, Decatur, led a team of lay and clergy on pilgrimage to our companion diocese of Cape Coast, Ghana, where the team experienced “southern hospitality” across the water. Bishop Victor Atta-Baffoe, his wife, and his staff introduced the team to both the church and the country of Ghana. The pilgrims visited the river where captives washed after walking barefoot 300 miles before marching another 30 miles to be held in coastal prisons while awaiting transport to our own state and others. The team visited two of these castle prisons, one of which is directly across from today’s Anglican Cathedral and contains an Anglican Church from the time of the captivity. Each pilgrimage was privileged to visit a different church on Sunday and meet with its clergy and congregation. Ghana’s population has a very high incidence of inherited glaucoma, so the Diocese operates an eye center to treat glaucoma and other eye diseases. The Diocese also owns several schools, some of which the team visited. These schools are operated in partnership with the government. The Global Mission Commission provided a grant of $1000 at Bishop Victor’s request to assist with the expenses of the Diocese’s annual council which focused on mission this year.

We expect to make an annual pilgrimage to Cape Coast. If you are interested in participating in the 2019 pilgrimage, please contact Rev. Hiers at Sharon@epiphany.org , or me at terryfranzen@gmail.com .

**GEMN:** The Diocese continues to be an active member of the Global Episcopal Mission Network (“GEMN”). The Rev. Grace Burton – Edwards, Rector of St. Thomas, Columbus, serves on its Board and attended the annual conference at Virginia Theological Seminary in April, 2018. The 2019 conference will take place in the Dominican Republic. See [www.gemn.org](http://www.gemn.org) for more information and to register.

**2018 GO! Summit:** The Commission held a very successful conference in February with Robert Lupton, noted author of Toxic Charity as the key note speaker. His remarks, which were relevant to both global and local mission work, provided much for conference attendees to discuss throughout the day and afterwards. The afternoon breakout sessions, featured panelists discussing issues surrounding immigration, healthcare delivery in a global context, how to start a Path to Shine program, and our diocese’s work in Cuba, among others.

**GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND GRANTS:** We encourage anyone with innovative ideas and a need for funding to consider an application for a global innovation grant. Go to the Diocese website <https://www.episcopalatlanta.org/Resources/ministry-innovative/about-ministry-innovations/>, or contact the Rev. Donna Mote at innovate@episcopalatlanta.org , for more information and to apply.

 **2018 GMC GRANTS:**  In addition to the grant to the Diocese of Cape Coast, the GMC made a grant of $500 to support a young woman from our Diocese who is serving as a missionary in the Philippines through the Episcopal Church’s Young Adult Service Corps. We also hosted a priest from Cuba and contributed to a portion of her airfare, which we shared with the Diocese of Dallas, which had invited her to present at a conference.

**2019 MISSION CONFERENCE FEATURING GUESTS FROM THE DIOCESE OF CAPE COAST, GHANA AND SPECIAL GUESTS TO BE ANNOUNCED:** Plan to attend the 2019 Go Summit, Saturday, February 16, 8:30 – 3:00, at the Cathedral of St. Philip. This conference will focus on racial reconciliation and healing across the waters with special guests speakers from Ghana and the US. Registration will open in early January.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR GREAT WORK:** We are trying to update our database of the great work that everyone in our Diocese does throughout the world. Please email the name of your parish and location, the country(s), brief description of your ministry there, and contact person for each ministry to me. Thanks for your help!

Terry Franzen

terryfranzen@gmail.com

Chair, Global Mission Commission