

Commission on Liturgy Report to Council 2013

The Commission on Liturgy meets on the second Thursday of each month. Our charge from the bishop is to partner with him in imagining, gathering and producing worship opportunities that invite, instruct and transform people.

We have adopted the following mission statement: To strengthen the liturgical lives of worshipping communities in the diocese by providing liturgical resources, educational opportunities and support. To that end the Commission has four groups working on various aspects of our mission.

The Acolyte Festival Working Group is planning the upcoming Acolyte Festival, scheduled for February 8th at the Cathedral of St. Philip. The Festival is an educational and fellowship opportunity for acolytes from around the diocese and their leaders. The day will include fun (the Acolyte Olympics), learning (various workshops, including a break out session for leaders to explore best practices), and a festival Eucharist. This year both Bishop Wright and Bishop Whitmore plan to be there, and we hope you will too. Watch Connecting for information about registration. If you have ideas or questions about the Festival I invite you to speak with a member of the working group: Nancy Rizor (Convener), Ken Singleton, the Rev. Daron Vroon, Karl Sachsenmaier and the Rev. Wendy Porter Cade.

The Diocesan Services Working Group is responsible for planning worship services unique to our diocesan common life, particularly Confirmations and Ordinations. Prayers of the People specific to the occasion have been written for the Diocesan Confirmations in December, and the group is working on a unique liturgy for the ordination of both transitional deacons and priests later that same month. The group coordinates with the Music Commission in planning music for the services, as well as the ministry teams at the Cathedral to facilitate communication of special set up needs. The working group consists of the Rev. Canon. Beth Knowlton (Convener), the Venerable Ed Fuller, the Rev. Brian Jemmott and the Rev. Fabio Sotelo.

The Presbyters Conference, Retreat and Renewal of Vows Working Group does exactly what you might expect—it plans the worship for clergy oriented meetings and special services. At the Presbyters' Conference at Mikell in October a number of resources were used in addition to the Book of Common Prayer. The first night we prayed Compline using a form often used by campers at Mikell. One of the morning services was from the Church of England's new resource "Common Worship," and a midday service was from the New Zealand Prayerbook. The rest of the worship was from the BCP, including Rite I Morning Prayer, sung Compline, and the Eucharist. In the future we hope to incorporate an office in Spanish and broaden our musical offerings further. We would love feedback about your experience. You may share

ideas or concerns with any member of the group: the Rev. Ben Wells (Convener), the Rev. Mandy Brady and the Rev. Rebekah Hatch.

The Resourcing Working Group is about the business of gathering and imagining resources that will invite, instruct and transform people as we worship and work together in our worshipping communities and in our wider communities. The work is newly begun, but in time we will be offering resources on the diocesan website. If you have ideas or interest in helping, please contact a member of the working group: the Rev. Elizabeth Roles (Convener), Ellen Gallow, the Rev. Noelle York-Simmons and the Rev. Dennis Patterson.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Mandy Brady, Chair

On behalf of the Commission of Liturgy: the Venerable Ed Fuller (St. Patrick's, Atlanta), Ellen Gallow (St. Dunstan's, Atlanta), the Rev. Rebekah Hatch (St. Benedict's, Smyrna), the Rev. Canon Beth Knowlton (St. Philip's, Atlanta), the Rev. Dennis Patterson (St. Luke's, Atlanta), Nancy Rizor (St. Philip's, Atlanta), the Rev. Elizabeth Roles (Emmaus House, Atlanta), Karl Sachsenmaier, Ken Singleton (St. Paul's, Atlanta), the Rev. Daron Vroon (St. James, Marietta), the Rev. Ben Wells (St. Francis, Macon) and the Rev. Noelle York-Simmons (All Saints, Atlanta).