Vice President Report

At the April Board of Trustees meeting, we met the new members of the Office of the Bishop Staff. The Rev. Dr. Stephen Hasset currently serves as the Missioner for Church Vitality (in addition to being the Priest in Charge at Ascension in Vallejo). Stephen oversees capacity discernment, Faith X, Fresh Start, and any program that supports and celebrates ministry life. We also met Sherry Walmark, the Missioner for Disaster Resilience. Sherry spoke of her work representing the diocese at local, state and national VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters) gatherings. Sherry also updated the Board about the ongoing Project Restart ministry.

Dean Cliff Haggenjos updated the Board on the work of the MAP (Missional Apportionment Process) team. The team has a subcommittee that is reaching out to half a dozen similar sized dioceses throughout the country to discern how their models and practices for apportionment. The Board also approved the questionnaire that will be sent to our congregations within the next few weeks. The MAP team is committed to getting a response from every parish and will be hosting listening sessions after the surveys are returned. The MAP team is faithfully following through on the will of convention and are working hard to make sure the diocese is missional and sustainable throughout the process.

The Board was delighted to hear that the West Coast Collaborative, a joint venture of the Dioceses of El Camino Real, San Diego, and Northern California, received a Lily Foundation grant to create a bi-cultural and bi-lingual program to train Spanish speaking deacons. This program would be the first of its kind in the Episcopal Church to reach out to and train our Spanish speaking leaders.

In addition, the Board also heard a report from Historiographer Rev. Jim Richardson about a new project organizing our archives. We had our first look at the 2027 budget. The Board rejoiced to hear that Bishop Megan and Canon Julie would be representing us at the consecration of the new Bishop Gregory Kimura in the Diocese of San Joaquin – a diocese that has worked hard to heal and rebuild since 2007 when former Bishop Schofield led many congregations out of the Episcopal Church. Finally, the Board approved a budget for each Deanery to host a “Deanery Day” in the summer or fall.

Margie Harrison-Smith
Vice President