

May Report for Diocesan Council
Presented by A. Howton
June 5, 2021

Leadership Team: Larry James, co-convener; Rev. Michelle Dayton, co-convener; Miriam McKenney; Catherine Duffy; Deborah Stokes; Ariel Miller; Rev. Rick Inconvati; Rev. Christopher Richardson; Rev. Melanie Slane; Jason Williams; Amy Howton, liaison

- Co-created diocesan budget proposal, incorporating Dismantling Racism and Social Justice and Public Policy budgets for the first time. Acknowledging and responding to the relationship with Creation Care Task Force; Reparations Committee; and the Diocesan Formation Team with the aim of integrating and connecting our one body in Christ.
- The leadership team welcomed Budget Committee shepherds, Harold Patrick, Kathy Mank, and Patrick Reachmack to join us to review the proposal, share intentions, discern together as we prioritize and move forward.
- Together and in solidarity with the Union of Black Episcopalians, we submitted a letter to the Standing Committee outlining concerns around decision-making and distribution of resources and asking for clarity, information, and transparency.

MLK's Last Sermon: "How do we stay awake in a social revolution?"--quoted by Canon Spellars at the beginning of Chapter 1 in *The Church Cracked Open*

"There is nothing more tragic than to sleep through a revolution"

- Stay connected.
- Share information, truth.
- Welcome grief to move and release the old, making room for the new.

StorySharing: Time of listening, opening, truth-telling. As we grow, together. [Join the upcoming series. Sundays throughout June from 4:30-6pm.](#)

From the Testimonies:

- Diocesan Leader; BBC Leadership Team: We are not a corporation. We are the corporate body of Christ. Previous ways--withered away, so we are dry bones. We are becoming live bodies. We are becoming One BODY. Instead of line items, we have ligaments. We are not alone in the work but have muscles, surrounded and connected. In relationship.
- Diocesan Leader; Standing Committee: What is the FIRE of the Holy Spirit? Hope. I have hope that we are choosing to be our genuine selves, to be who God intended us to be. And to carry that genuineness out into the world.

<http://dsobeloved.org/from-many-one-a-storysharing-series/>
September 25 Convocation + Revival

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You're Invited: Current Becoming Beloved Community Formation Offerings:

- **Tuesday Circle of Practice**, beginning February 23; 8 attending weekly.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf84yPkavVe5daSIXx_ZnIfIU6VoqgovsvMBwMOTX0HRHzigA/viewform?usp=sf_link
- **From Many, One StorySharing Series**, each Sunday, 4:30-6pm throughout June.
- **Sacred Ground Teach-In: June 23 or June 25.**
- **Anti-Racism Training in July:** At least three trainings will occur this year; also leaning into the Zoom through the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healings in Atlanta. Next one: April 24.