

## **Summary of the Minutes of the Diocesan Council meeting August 20-22, 2004**

The Diocesan Council met at the Diocesan Center, The Dalles, from 9:00 AM on Friday, August 20, through Sunday, August 22, at 1:50 PM. The major focus of the three day meeting was a run through of the proposed format and agenda for Diocesan Convention.

The meeting began on Friday morning with Eucharist, and worship was an integral part of the entire weekend. The Daily Offices were said each day and Eucharist was celebrated again on Sunday morning.

The process included individual and small group work reflecting on Most Important Things (MITs) for the Diocese to be about in the coming year. After each session of the process, Council members reflected on the process and agenda, as well as continuing with the work of discerning the three MITs to take to Convention. The three Most Important Things decided on by Council were:

1. Advertising on a large scale who we really are
2. Re-claim/proclaim/affirm who we are as Episcopalians
3. Intentional, periodic planning for spiritual, physical and financial awareness and growth

These MITs will be added to those produced by Convention.

Other business items included:

- dividing Council into three small groups. Each group will follow the Transformation Group process through the coming year. This process will be similar to that which congregations are invited to undertake with the Transformation Resource Pool.
- Bishop Gregg's and Canon Lewis' reports on their activities since the last Council meeting, and Bishop Gregg's report on his plans for Sabbatical leave from May 1-Sept. 1, 2005.
- Updates on churches in transition
- Review of the draft budget for 2005 and a motion passed for formatting of the budget to take to Convention
- Motion passed to undertake Phase I of a major fund drive for 2005-2008 as outlined by Bishop Gregg and to re-evaluate at the end of Phase I.
- Policies for the Protection of Children and Youth from Abuse were accepted as presented.

The next meeting of Diocesan Council will be the Retreat on November 19-21, at Ascension School