

## 20260121 Standing Committee Minutes

Present: Chuck Theobald, President; Karla Schapansky, Recording Secretary; Nancy Jones, Diocesan Treasurer; Michelle Danson+, Chaplain; Wren Blessing+; Donna Colville, Kate Dykstra, Matthew Fry+; Melissa Adzima+; Deacon Linda Brown, Lucy Amerman+; Canon Mike Orr, Chip Page

Absent: Chris Ditzenberger+; Greg Foraker+; Vanessa Stickler Glass+

The meeting was called to order at 9:07am by Chuck Theobald, President.

Representatives from the Colorado Indigenous Allies made a presentation. They were Marti Dever, Sarah Hartzell and Rick Williams. They explained that their organization has grown significantly in the last three years. They are building relationships with our indigenous neighbors. They are leading pilgrimages including other faith communities, especially to the site of the Sand Creek Massacre. One of their goals as an organization is to dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery and submit an amicus brief toward dismantling this ancient practice.

Michelle offered a prayer.

The agenda for the day and the minutes of the December 17, 2025 meeting were approved by consent.

Nancy continued with the Treasurer's report and Cathedral Ridge update. The budget for 2026 is on track and spring and summer sign-ups for camps are filling up.

Karla gave a report for the Northwest Region. She talked with Reverend Jeremy Lucas, Regional Missioner. Grant payments are made to date and Jeremy intends to visit parishes around the region as time and weather allow.

Bal Patterson gave a property update. This included several properties that need attention and Bal will attend the April meeting with more information.

Canon Lucy gave an update on the status of Holy Redeemer, Denver. After much discussion it was agreed that the next best step was to officially designate Holy Redeemer as an imperiled church. It should be noted that this discussion was seriously considered and grief and loss will be present. This was a motion made by Nancy and seconded by Donna and approved unanimously. This will position the Office of the Bishop to assist directly with future planning. A good example of repurposing is the success of St. Michael and All Angels, Colorado Springs, with St. Andrew, Manitou Springs as an Outreach Center.

Canon Mike gave an explanation and update on the \$3million Grant from the Eli Lilly and Company for the Show and Tell project. It is a five-year grant and is organized in three sections:

1) Equipping Congregations

Equipping Congregations aims to help churches find their voice, reach their neighbors, and build a culture of invitation. Over time, 90 engaged faith communities will create a ripple of storytelling vitality and a scalable model for other small churches across the Mountain States.

2) Common Good

Common Good will produce 150 short-form videos and 22 documentary podcasts (in English/Spanish), designed for digital natives, offering inviting glimpses into faith, justice, and belonging within the mainline, positing a compelling alternative vision of Christianity amid clamorous online voices.

3) Concerning Christianity

Concerning Christianity will be a narrative podcast in two bilingual (English/Spanish) seasons. Led and hosted by Gen Z, the series will follow young adults as they navigate faith, doubt, and identity in uncertain times. With probing curiosity and honest concern, each episode will highlight candid quests for meaning, authentic relationships, and a deeper understanding of Christianity's role in our lives and in society

Michelle concluded the meeting with 10 questions on which we could reflect and closed with The Black Rock Blessing.

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Schapansky,  
Recording Secretary

can I just ask this to take a moment to let that sink in? Because that was profound. Donna, yes, I think it's something that's under the surface we don't name, and it can just take a few seconds to let that thank you. I

**Speaker 1**

thank thank you all Ken and Lucy is moved to imperiled status, something that's desired by the remaining congregants, I believe.

**Speaker 4**

So they have, in fact, asked Vanessa when the bishop will come out and do their closing service. So they're jumping from where they are now to the very end. So I think they they understand imperiled status as a next step, and they're expecting it.

**Speaker 2**

Okay. Are they still talking about being a

**Speaker 4**

home church? They're talking about it, but they haven't really articulated what they mean by that.

**Speaker 5**

Or isn't, isn't that kind of the definition of church? Anyways? I mean, the church is what's left in the building's gone the building that represents the church. And so in one sense, Redeemer hasn't stopped, doesn't cease to exist, unless those people say, we no longer choose to be a body in in That's right, in this sense. So the Imperial part has probably more to do with the financial aspects of trying to maintain a building and trying to keep

any formal

**Speaker 5**

pastoral hiring, I mean, to have a Supply person or a vicar or any kind of ordained presence. But you could have a you could have a congregation that does morning prayer in perpetuity, if

they chose. They say, This is who we are. They.

**Speaker 5**

They could still be recognized as as Holy Redeemer, if they want to do that. Yes.

**Speaker 3**

And Matthew, when I was on daily, 2002 in the diocese, before openly gay people were allowed to be openly gay in the church, they used to have whole new Chris on Sunday nights, and invite certain priests to go, and I was one of them, and give them a you do a Eucharist, and we just go and do the Eucharist and then leave them to their church community building. And so it's something that has been done before, and I think there's many priests who'd be willing to do that, to just go in and do Eucharist with them.

Well as it is now, they have

**Speaker 4**

a retired bishop who goes in and gives them communion once a month, and the rest of the time it is morning prayer. I don't know you know how much they have talked we've talked to two people about there being their idea of being a home church. I'm not sure how much conversation has taken place with the rest of the group or how far that has gotten. They just happened to mention it when we met with

**Speaker 6**

them, Lucy Vanessa had given the Holy Redeemer team whoever they might be, including Darren Armstrong, my name, if as a participant and the his and my last exchange was that they're in the process of figuring out what their calendar even is.

Are we ready to call the question? I'm

going to take that as a yes,

**Speaker 1**

all in favor of the motion to officially place Church of the Holy Redeemer in imperiled status, raise your hand or say, Aye, Aye.

Any opposed. This is hard. Yes, it is. It's very hard. Art, sorry did did chip vote back now he did

**Speaker 1**

not vote. Thanks. We, we just voted and we wanted to be sure that we had your support. Thank you.

Now, having heard all of that,

**Speaker 1**

I know there are a number of other property issues that the standing committee has been tracking. Can you give us a little summary of activities that you've taken and things you know?

Yes, good morning.

**Speaker 5**

I'll start with an easy one. My first visit was to Lake City, and the parish that was closed last summer, that building I received evaluation on the property for the local realtor, the building does not have, is not connected sewer, has power water, but no sewer, no bathroom, and It is does not even have a lock on the door,

so it is open

**Speaker 5**

for anyone to enter. It is safe, and it is being watched over by the local lake city historic society. So I for now I believe it's safe and wider head. Heads might prevail on what how that property could be used. Going forward, not much is going to happen there in the winter. I'm also involved with Yang Street, as you know, that's under contract. But there's, there continues to be things like sewer inspections, boiler inspections, backbone inspections, so that that property is safe and secure, and

making sure that.

**Speaker 5**

So that's fine to the two problem children are our merciful Savior and Saint Andrews in mohanda. I'll start with our merciful Savior. As most of you may know, we've had a couple of efforts from clergy and lay people within the Front Range region to go in and salvage, store, clean up, pack away and inventory sacred and important items. We also had some cleaning done. There's I'm working on getting graffiti off the side of the building, and I my colleague from our creative reuse computing committee,

Jay Jones and I have joined the honey neighborhood association meeting last week, so we're beginning to get some information from them on how that how that property could be reused,

with the neighborhood's input

**Speaker 5**

that group, plus discussions that we've had among Jay and Lucy and I, it's

probably intelligent to

**Speaker 5**

refer to restore the rectory to a place where it is livable and Have someone in there so that we have a we could generate some rent to cover some of the carry cost, but that rent would be reduced in turn of being a quasi caretaker or watchdog for that property, that's that's a plan that's just just surfaced last week, so that there's no more information on that than the idea but that neighborhood is is a few years ahead of what's happened that Holy Redeemer, the neighborhood gentrified, And the parish did not react. Holy Redeemer in Whittier, that neighborhood is gentrified, and the parish did not react. So hopefully we'll be able to a little better job of transitioning that property then we've done at our merciful Savior.

I'm happy to answer any questions on that before I

my visit to La Hunter last weekend.

**Speaker 3**

I'll move ahead. I just like to commend you for talking about deck with the neighborhood, about the and I know in some ways it's pretty obvious, but on the other hand, it will be easy to go ahead and not not take it the input of listening to the neighbors. So thank you.

**Speaker 5**

Well, I'm at Captain Ken and Mike for originally putting this together with that group. It turns out that the gentleman I mentioned, James is well acquainted with one of the founders of that organization, Paul tamarillo, so they are buddies, and that was really a an excellent contact. And Paul came and joined us on our cleaning day in January. And tour we'll be hosting, I'll be hosting a tour sometime the next six or seven weeks of the property with that honey group, h, u, n, i is that acronym? So again, we're working on building a plan. We don't have one in place yet, beyond respecting the space and detecting what was there

so on to La Junta, it

**Speaker 5**

took us about that there's a family that that grew up in that church. The matriarch owns the true value store and the Ace Hardware store in town. And they have, they have done some shepherding or overlooking of the property. I now have keys to the property and go to the catalog of the burial grounds outside is called a columbarium. But more on that in a minute, the condition, as you probably know it can condition of the building inside is not good. The pirates who broke into there, not quite two years ago, stripped all the copper out of the building, including the baseboards, the pipes in the walls, the pipe and the organ, and just really made a mess of the of the building, the bar that does not work and the roof is suspect. So that is a challenge. Property to begin with.

The columbarium

is not a column bearing under state

statute. I learned this when I

tried to, when I involved

mortuary owner, friend of mine,

**Speaker 5**

talking about what we could do, because the ashes are stored in the ground, is a graveyard. Columbarium is above ground structure, so the state regulations for disinterment. I don't have all that information yet, but I'm waiting for that report from from my friend Mike,

as to what we can do there.

**Speaker 5**

We're still waiting. We have had an initial contact with the mayor of Joe Ayala. After that initial contact, he has he has gone radio silent on us. So we'll to get some sense of city, if they if there is an interest in or a direction in which the city would like to see the building go,

the building is

quite challenged. It's in a residential neighborhood.

**Speaker 5**

Not sure what kind of reuse could be developed there, but at least we're starting to work on it. So I'm open for questions on any of those properties,

and I hope I have an answer for you.

I just want to make a comment, if I could,

**Speaker 4**

I think that this church in La Junta, because of the columbarium challenge, has been an example of

**Speaker 5**

our tending to

**Speaker 4**

kick the ball down the road and not do anything in in not do anything conflict about making a decision about the space, and the result is the fact that it's been vandalized, and, you know, fallen apart, and we see ourselves with our merciful Savior, fighting the same kind of battle, which is why it's so important that if a church is going to close, or we're going to or it's going to empty and just be a building there, that we have some sort of process for making decision about its future, rather than just letting it sit there and rot. So one of the things I'm really excited about with this alternative use visit visioning committee is the idea that we're going to begin to look at these properties even before they close, and think about what's possible for where they are. Because it's just it's financially for one thing, sort of irresponsible for us to just sit there and let these places fall apart without because then our options are limited. We're really not in a position to to consider, for instance, reopening it as some sort of a worship space, unless we do all the work that needs to be done. So I just, I think this particular location is a real example of how important it is for us

to move promptly on

**Speaker 1**

this stuff. This location is an example of the wrong way.

Yes, yeah. Val is there

**Speaker 1**

the distinction? I appreciate, the distinction between a columbarium and a cemetery are the ashes that are in the ground in the ground, or the ashes that are in the ground in containers in the ground.

We have no records

**Speaker 7**

of that. So, I mean, Chuck's going the same place. I'm going to St Michael's has a columbarium, but, but, but ashes are in a container, but they are in the ground. So is it not a polymer? I mean, we're now, we're on a whole different thing.

**Speaker 8**

But senior Warden, I was like, I can't bring this up now, but

they're in the ground. Here the issue it's not a

columbarium unless it's

**Speaker 7**

above ground. I mean, those don't necessarily think that's a different question for a different day that somebody maybe needs to look into, because all of us are like,

let Ken and Lucy talk.

**Speaker 4**

I was just gonna say it doesn't really matter whether it's a columbarium or or a graveyard, if they're in containers that can be moved. The issue is really the permitting process. Do we are we required to have a permit in order to move these things, which is why Val has been consulted with a mortician. And

**Speaker 5**

any disinterment requires permit from

**Speaker 1**

the state, okay, but if they're not in containers, then we can't then we have a prop reasonably move them, and the only use for this ground is going to be as a cemetery.

**Speaker 5**

There is that possibility, okay, yes, I've seen, personally, seen those situations in the smaller churches, like the Cripple Creek. They drop the ashes into the ground. They're not in a container. Oh boy. Well, as an aside, the column bearing the Holy Redeemer is a hole in the floor, and the ashes are called

Saint Lawrence and Karla. Was in contact.

Okay, so now I

**Speaker 7**

have a question, Deacon. Lynn Bell, I know that our merciful Savior and the building is is a historic landmark designation, yes, and does the rectory also have that designation.

**Speaker 5**

And then overall, how does that impact what you're able to do with the church? I will know more than that. I am hosting representative of historic Denver on site tomorrow. They had they they reached out. They have some easements on the property, which I'll learn about and and I'll get a full story on what, what the status of it's not just historic building, it's in historic district. So the the possibilities for what can be done are complicated. Okay?

**Speaker 7**

Understand, you know, the rectory also falls under that designation.

**Speaker 5**

I believe it does not, but I will make sure. I will

know for certain shortly.

**Speaker 2**

Thank you. I have a question also related to La Junta. I know that there's too soon to to know exactly what should be done for the future of the building. Do we have a sense of what would what it would take to to keep it from further disintegration, probably, so I can at least hold the rust, so to speak, and give by ourselves some time to make a decision about the future of this, of the of the space and the lot

**Speaker 5**

it is pretty the building is pretty well fortified now. Okay, you know, case of slamming the barred door after the horses leave so but, but like our merciful Savior, both properties are reasonably well secured

now. Okay, good, good to know.

**Speaker 2**

Well, thank you for for that report, and thank you for attention to these problems. It's difficult, I know, yeah, well, I just want to

**Speaker 7**

say it's so comforting to know that you're doing all of this. It's a huge relief. And so thank you. I mean, you are doing an

amazing job.

I'm I

**Speaker 5**

I'm I'm honoring Ken and Lucy and Ken and John, because I'm understanding all of the issues that they faced, along with the myriad of other issues that they have on their plate. So I'm really happy to be able to jump in and help and look forward to three months from now, I'll have a much better grounding in where we're at on all of these properties.

**Speaker 1**

So that sounded like a commitment to come to the April standing committee meeting.

Mark it down, baby. Okay. Okay.

Thank you for joining this morning. Thank you.

Lily grant, yes, let's go

**Speaker 9**

to good news. Want to make sure you guys are not over time or anything like that. And I can be as short and sweet as you want, or answer as many questions as you want.

**Speaker 1**

I think because it was a short agenda, that we're a little flexible on time. If anyone disagrees, like let us know.

**Speaker 9**

So the show and tell is a project from Lily that the total budget is \$3 million these are the team leads for this project. Miguel Escobar is a priest in New York. Ashley Graham Wilcox is somebody that I've engaged with caffeinated church for the last three years as a contract worker. And Joseph poliniak is a priest in our diocese for Christ Church Denver, who lives and resides in Seattle, Washington, and so the four of us are overseeing this project as we move forward. So there's three, basically pieces of the show and tell project, equipping congregations concerning Christianity and common good. Equipping congregations is the piece that I'm overseeing that is with 90 faith communities here in the Mountain States, focused solely on Colorado in the first year, and it's in partnership with the Presbyterian Church, the ELCA, as well as a smattering of other churches that we're going to try to engage around 50 Episcopal churches in Colorado will be hopefully engaged with this work. If we're unable to get 50 churches, we will be expanding to Wyoming and some other other surrounding states, but the focus is

on Mountain States. The focus the focus of equipping congregations is where a consultant, which I've just hired four consultants over the last two weeks that are my team, and so I'm going to be training them in the next couple of weeks, but they will be walking alongside a church. So a consultant will work with the church, and the church is asked to basically contribute about five hours every other week to working with this consultant. And they're basically being trained up a whole maybe team in a church trained up on how do we do Instagram posts or Facebook posts, how do we engage the work that we're creating on our website all things communications. So it's very narrow in focus, and that is the basic generality of this. What success looks like is that churches are saying, Yeah, I'm feeling a lot more confident using these digital tools to share stories of faith and connection. And then we want small and rural communities to feel more spiritually seen and Invitational to their community. So we're going to be following these metrics from beginning to end and afterwards, reporting back to Lily saying as a result of this consultant's training of these churches, helping them to produce videos, and even there's marketing funds to where a church can have \$1,000 to go in and boost their posts for Easter or Christmas or reaching new generations. Gen Z and millennials are the focus of this entire project as an umbrella. And so the hope is increased local engagement. The second piece is common good, and it will be producing 150 short form videos and 22 documentary podcasts, both in English and Spanish. And it's designed for, again, Gen Z and millennials. We want the focus of faith and justice and belonging, which we're doing a lot of marketing research. I'm actually signing the contract to today with egg marketing firm here in Denver, who will be doing significant research into Gen Z and millennials and what those people who say that they're spiritually, spiritually excited, but they're not willing to engage with the church quite yet. They're going to be doing research into over 2500 individuals who have indicated that through different marketing research things, interviewing them and then creating something that we can share with mainline denominations that says, actually, if the church wants to be the church of the future, this is what we need to be doing. I think I'm really excited about that research. I think it's going to raise up a lot of things that we can respond to. And so what success looks like for this is those pieces that come out of this will be compelling. We're already in conversations with NPR and Religion News Service because they're looking for content, and they love this idea. If you're if you can read between the lines and what I don't normally say out loud, but all of the work that we're doing is meant to combat what's going on in our world right now. It is meant to be another voice that right now is Christian nationalism is rising up. This needs to be a voice that says, Actually, there is a different way. And so we are pointing to that, and that's our intent. Through this, the hope is to also, throughout all of these videos, all of this content that we're creating, we're creating a library that churches, youth groups can use this content, like stories of mercy. We're going to tell those stories. And these are significant interviews that are going to be done. This will be Marion buddy that's talking about mercy, and you know, this is going to be talking with Stephen Colbert about his faith life. These things are going to go viral. That's our hope. That's why we have significant money this third piece that we're doing is concerning Christianity, and it's a narrative podcast in both bilingual seasons, and so it's going to be Gen Z people that are interviewing people in their communities about faith and doubt and identity and about where we're at in this world right now. And so it's gonna be led with curiosity, and that the honesty that's going to be brought up in these really faithful conversations. We're going to go deep in these these conversations, and I think that's going to be interesting that doesn't exist right now. So what success looks like for this is that listeners, and we can follow the data back through these podcasts, maybe help them with their struggles and their spiritual seeking, and we're hoping to in the metrics, find that Gen Z and millennials are really responding to that and listening to those. And we

want faith leaders, we're going to try to create some curriculum that surrounds these podcasts that might be useful for small groups or churches to say, let's have a conversation about this. Maybe that's our Sunday morning faith formation time is listening to these podcasts during the week, but then engaging with it during the week, about how can we as a church respond to what Gen Z's are saying right now? How can we be a church of the future? So that is, in a nutshell, what the total project is. It's interesting, when you get a big grant like this, what comes out of the woodwork. I've seen everything from a church saying, Oh, we're so glad that you can now pay our church administrator. No, actually, it's very narrow in scope. This is we have consultants that are going to work alongside your parish administrator, and people that you've raised up in your church that want to do this work. It doesn't just go to pay for your church administrator. It's not for it's equipping congregations. It's not equipping your pet project that's not a part of your church congregation. And it also excludes our diocesan institutions. It is meant to raise up our churches, and I've been in constant conversations with the ELCA and the Presbyterians, and they are so excited you've probably seen in the digest or the church leaders newsletter that for what this means for a congregation, It's about \$8,000 in value for congregation.

So it's significant. Yeah, exciting.

#### **Speaker 4**

So one of the things that I think is so wonderful about this is a lot of our churches need help with certain kinds of things, and can't get it because they can't pay for it. And I mean, that's true with the auditing that Nancy was talking about earlier, and it's true with all of the tech and it stuff that a lot of churches have people who just don't know enough about that stuff to be able to do it so to get help and know that this will advance you and you don't have to pay for it, is Very cool.

I love the depth of where you're going,

#### **Speaker 6**

spirituality versus religion. I'm really very tired in my own world of, oh, well, I'm I'm spiritual. I have a spiritual life, but I don't go to church. I'm not religious. Well, let's really identify what? What are you really not saying? Yeah, the

#### **Speaker 9**

initial data that we've learned is that we as the church have to earn trust, and we have not done anything to earn trust. And so one thing that was interesting to me is that young people said, and are we did \$50,000 in initial data research, young people from that said, Boy, if the church could really understand me and my own needs of personal finance, they're like, I have no idea what I'm doing with my own personal finances. I'm now have my first job, and you keep on saying that I need to save a retirement. I can't save for retirement. I have no I can't barely feed myself. I'm not eating ramen because it's so good, tastes good. I'm eating it because you need to survive. But if the church has tools that then connect us with younger people through maybe personal finance. That's an opportunity for us to earn trust where they distrust institution. So I'm excited about that. I'm working on another project that's actually been born out of this with Project resource. If you're familiar with Project resource and

you've done that, I'm meeting up with three other people. With three other people, hopefully in Minneapolis in 10 days, and we're sitting down for three and a half days and writing the curriculum to start to address this awesome so this is how we're expanding.

**Speaker 3**

Yeah, Mike, how can we best support you in this, besides being aware of it,

encourage your trip just to apply.

**Speaker 9**

And when we have the podcast come out, you'll be seeing that down the road, and these materials start to share it.

**Speaker 10**

Hi, my Keith extra, I just had a quick question. I just wanted to say, I love, you know, hearing about all the metrics you guys are taking and all the data, I think that's really helpful as you think about, like, assessing, and I know that'll be helpful when you're doing all your grant follow ups and stuff. You said that it's a \$3 million grant. What's the timing of that? Just I knew nor the same committee, so I don't have the background. Yeah.

**Speaker 9**

So the equipping congregations is spread out evenly over five years, so between 18 to 20 churches, as far as the podcasts and videos, it's front ended. So it's we hope to be done by end of year three.

Do you think you're gonna use all 3 million

**Speaker 9**

we so it took us five months. So Lily gave us \$50,000 initially, after they said we're really interested in your project, you have to use this \$50,000 to prove that you can do what you said you were going to do. So we're not at the stage where we're now going out and trying to find people that might help us with this. We already have the contracts in place, so everything is already moving along. I think we will be able to accomplish what we've set out to do. And the

**Speaker 10**

stories sound really great, and I love thinking about curiosity and honesty and like just having these candid conversations, I think it's going to be really good to have just like, a whole arsenal of stories and content for

**Speaker 6**

will make it, and that'll be the truth.

**Speaker 1**

Yeah, it's branding. Is caffeinated church, though not Diocese

**Speaker 9**

of cover up. It is the the ministry of caffeinated church, of the Episcopal Church in Colorado.

So the where the buck stops is Bishop Kim.

**Speaker 1**

I have wanted for so long to think that the mainline churches and the evangelical churches are

on the same journey. I don't

**Speaker 1**

I've lost that conviction. I think we were walking in different directions, and every time someone defines Christian based on that direction instead of our direction, I think that it's a missed opportunity. And I want to, you know, write letters to the editor that say that's not the way I understand Christianity, and this seems like a much more

comprehensive way to make that Clear.

**Speaker 3**

Is there, sorry, what you just said, and Mike, when you said what we didn't hear that. This is a good speaking against what's going on there, but we get that. What I like about it is it's not blatantly a push against because then we add energy to them. It's coming up from a place of love and community and respect and storytelling is always life giving, both for the storyteller and for the hearer, because it's creative, and the creativity is of God, so I really like it a lot. Mike, thank you.

Is there a thought of

you? In the branding,

**Speaker 1**

how you say this is not Christianity as it's become understood in this country. This is Christianity as it was originally understood by the early Christians.

**Speaker 9**

I remember, I worked in evangelical churches. Before coming to the Episcopal Church and focus on your focus on family, started to become known of what they were, what they were against, but not what they were for. And I think our own story as the Episcopal Church in Colorado needs to be known what

we're for, not what we're against, and so that's why I'm not saying that we're intentionally going and saying we are against this Christian nationalism. What we're saying is we are for this Jesus who we know and what compels us to love radically? What does that mean? And so we can tell all the stories, stories of what it means to be an Episcopal identity in our own context, and that we think that that story is going to stand out above the

building on

**Speaker 1**

former presenting Bishop Curry's catchphrase of, if it's not about love, it's not about Jesus, Right?

Anything else for Canada? Very

good. Thank you. Yeah.

Question, will you? Will you have

a one page or two hit

you send out to churches just here's what this are.

You will be invited to participate

**Speaker 9**

that might be helpful to know. Yeah, so in the in the digest and in the church leaders newsletter, we've been promoting churches to learn more about the show and tell project. So if you go to caffeinated church, there's a whole section on all of these different areas, and that's where the resource hub is going to be built out of so if you want to learn more, you can go through the those newsletters, or just go straight to caffeinatedchurch.org I love that Bishop Kim gives us, as staff members the opportunity to chase things. She wants to say that we are research and development for the greater Episcopal Church, and we leaned into that. And thank you for being a standing committee that supports that. Because we have to take opportunities to possibly fail. We have to do things like, Thank you for giving me the time to go off to Minneapolis to sit down for three days to write curriculum to maybe change the world. That's not a part of my job description. But that's not how Bishop Kim operates either. Is our job description is to do the work of Jesus and to don't be afraid to fail. So I just want to commend you guys for supporting this

**Speaker 1**

when, when you need advocacy, when you need contacts, when you need anything from the standing committee. I think we're very excited by the potential here, absolutely and want to seek ways for us to support you, not

**Speaker 3**

to meddle. Just before you came on the call, the indigenous allies were singing your praises. So yes, your work is very much appreciated.

All right? Anything else? Thank you. Thank you,

**Speaker 1**

and you're welcome to stay for this part, but the last thing on our agenda is to do a little deeper exploring of how reflection on standing committee work with Chaplain Michelle.

**Speaker 3**

Thank you, Chuck. I promise you that I can use flexible time so I have eight minutes left, not 40 minutes. Perfectly fine. Can I just comment the people in the office of the bishop? I'm really pleased being at home on the Zoom to see that you're opening up your laptops and then sharing the owl. So if we can make that standard procedure, it really makes it cohesive. And yeah, is that the experience of everybody else on Zoom? Yeah. And as long as you knew your laptop and use the owl for the voice that is, that is fine. So we have these

reflection questions.

Can you see that? Okay? Is

**Speaker 3**

that okay? Yes, okay, okay. So we have 10 reflection questions. I just invite you to see if there's anyone that has any energy for you at this moment. So we'll just take a few minutes, a few moments to look at that. Okay, so with those questions in mind, is there anything anybody would like to offer the group as a whole in response to our time together?

**Speaker 1**

I love seeing was I'm curious on the list. on the list? The point of conversation indigenous allies or the show and tell project are to help us be curious about the activity that we are interior and facilitating through the diocese, and to have more in our toolbox as individual members of the standing committee to help us both manage that and to represent it back to our regions and parishes.

**Speaker 3**

Thank you. Anybody else have any comments, reflections, thoughts? I'll

chime in here a bit

**Speaker 2**

on the indigenous allies presentation a few months back. I don't know what happened, but something came into my awareness about this issue, and I felt somewhat powerless to respond, and so

I am appreciative of

having that

**Speaker 2**

presented, that information presented to us today, because it helps me have a focus for my sadness about that history.

**Speaker 8**

Thank you. Mel, yeah, so we've been members of caffeinated church for a little while now, and we've been really excited about this project. It's great to hear it from you, personally, and at the same time, I didn't get the lily grant, and I had put off my sabbatical for a couple years to kind of make because we kept missing it and still getting a sabbatical this summer. But I was both excited and curious and just a little bit better. So that's a lot better, right? But I'm really excited for the church in this sense,

thank you for being honest, man, of course, yeah.

**Speaker 8**

I mean, they tell you to bring in your family, right? But they're not there to tell your six and eight year olds that you didn't get it, right.

So we're really excited about this. Anything else,

**Speaker 5**

I'd just like to say that reflecting on what we were discussing, that the Sand Creek Massacre part, the Indians part, really struck home with me, because I've studied that history frontwards and backwards, and

I've gone to a lot of the historical sites still,

**Speaker 5**

but there's a recording in progress that happened outside of me. But when I when I start thinking about that and listening to them today, to me it just really is very inspirational that something is finally being done to correct that history. So, yeah, it was moving for me.

Thank you. Thanks chip.

**Speaker 3**

And I would like to reflect again. Oh, Linda,

**Speaker 7**

yeah, Linda, yeah. Just briefly, I just so appreciated this whole conversation we've had this morning, the compassion that I think that this committee,

we're using what they're you,

**Speaker 7**

the group and its allies, what they were talking about, and then the celebration of what Mike and the lily grant is all about. So I really appreciated being part of this community and experiencing those emotions.

**Speaker 3**

Thank you. Yeah, I was going to mention that Linda for Donna, about bringing up the awareness of the grief. And I think I felt that we formed in this time together, a really good presence, a big listening space that has been safe for everybody who's presented. That's been my experience. And I think it's no small thing, the work that we've done in doing that. Yeah, so if there are no more comments and questions and thoughts, if there are, I'm still open to them. If not, I will do the Black Rock blessing. And then Linda, if you can dismiss us, if that okay, so

hold on, let me just do

do that?

**Speaker 3**

Okay? Me, the world now is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone, your ears so that you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips so that you speak nothing but the truth with love, may your feet be so.