Episcopal Diocese of Arizona

Voices From The Margin:
A Jesus Movement Response to Oppression

8 June 2019
AED Triennial – Providence, RI

Reflection

Share with your neighbor your notes on your Reflection Card...

1. Share how you identify with being or living at the margins?

2. How are we called to embody HOPE... as the body of Christ ...and as a member of the Jesus Movement?

How We Got Here

Our mission is to engage, educate, inspire and mobilize the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

❖ A brief historical perspective
❖ Canon Requirements
❖ November 4, 2017
❖ The top priority identified at this gathering is to increase our visibility and presence in the public square in order to advocate for gospel values in our social and political systems.
❖ Specifically, the group encourages the Diocese to be courageous in social action, provide a prophetic voice in social, political and economic issues both within and outside of the church
❖ Collaborate with community partners to effect those changes for which we advocate
Resource Hunt

To a greater or lesser degree …

- Identify and inventory list of all resources available at your location
- Pastor/Priest-in-charge
- Deacon
- Vestry/Bishop's Committee
- Congregation/Parish
- Community
- Pulse of your Parish to an issue
- TEC (The Episcopal Church)
- Financial and Human Capital

Refer to Supplemental Guide

House Rules

1. Culture of Inquiry – goal for rules is to provide an environment that is safe to question and leads to action.

2. Example – [similar to the practice used by Education for Ministry (EFM) sets ground rules for participation – created and agreed to by all] – to include:
   - Confidentiality
   - Be Active Listeners
   - Be Participants
   - Respectfully disagree when necessary
   - Agree to be on time
   - Begin and end each meeting with prayer

Refer to Supplemental Guide

Barriers - Fears

Talks to levels of vulnerability and state of self-defense and sensitivity

- Disability
- Being blamed for nothing I did
- Racism may never end
- Human nature
- Power
- My "blindspot"
- How prejudice I am
- Bullying
- Violence from racism
- Who I am
- Unconscious impulses vs. action
- Judgement
- What tomorrow will bring
- Frightened of own anger
- What's going to happen next
- Inability to think before acting
- Feel out of control with rise of overt racism

Talks to levels of vulnerability and state of self-defense and sensitivity
**Expectations - Hopes**

What is reasonable to expect to be accomplished...

- Live together without killing each other
- Respect for each person’s uniqueness and individuality
- Everyone will be the face of Jesus
- Ways for transformation
- Peace
- Patience
- Spreading compassion
- Deeper humility
- Lose judgment-ism
- Better care of this fragile earth, our island home
- Deeper awareness
- Better listening
- Peace
- Patience
- Spreading compassion
- Deeper humility
- Lose judgment-ism
- Better care of this fragile earth, our island home
- Deeper awareness
- Better listening

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**Agenda**

4 November 2017

- Liturgical Highlight - Bishop leading liturgy
  - Opened with Native American 4 Directions
- Singing (“What Does the Lord Require of You”)
- Stories - 3 personal stories shared (brief)
- Resources and literature (reviewed)
- Table groups
- Facilitated discussion, priority setting
- Call to action
- Blessing for the new Steering Committee
- Wrap up
- Evaluation
- Continued - ongoing meeting
- TODAY (2019) - working with Cruzando Fronteras

(Time: 10 am to 4 pm Central Phoenix)

Refer to Detailed Agenda copy in Supplemental Guide

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**Priorities**

1. Political Action
2. Training/Education/Resources
3. Youth Focus
4. Personal Action
5. Communication
6. Community Outreach
7. Prayer
Vision

Two immediate goals of this ministry are:

1. Developing a diocesan-wide network of social justice teams in local parishes along with:
   - Social Justice Academy
   - Social Justice Team Network
   - Social Justice Resources
   - Social Justice => Diocesan Position


How to Engage Your Community

STEP #1:
- Identify champion and raise up intentional leaders
  - It’s the initial “organizing” activities;
- Discuss emerging ministry with community/parish leadership
  - Frame the question;
- Identify community/parish concerns for the marginalized.

STEP #2:
- Conduct organizational meeting with diocesan VfM Team – facilitated discussion and planning;
- Building relationships within community;
- Uncover and identify spiritual gifts;
- Individualize the message to the community.
How to Engage Your Community

STEP #3

• Conduct parish workshop (the 2+/- hour meeting) the following tasks:
  o Share vision for a social justice ministry,
  o Listen to your stories and concerns.
  o Identify together and will help plan a local "action" (e.g. join a protest, initiate a letter writing or telephone campaign, start a petition). Alternatively, we will help you partner with another parish to plan an action on an issue the community feels called to address.

• Commit to becoming part of the diocesan-wide social justice network, identify parish leadership, provide resources, and gather social justice team member contact information.

Goal is for people to leave empowered and know that with God’s Help and in community they can do this!

What’s Next?

• Sustainability
• Budget
• Leadership plan
• Communicate and Educate
• Success Criteria
• Church-wide network (work with EPPN, UTO, Community Organizations)
• Include as an offering in the Christian Formation for all
• Share the Gospel and the Stories
• Rapid Response Team –
  ✓ Ability to respond to issues or acts contrary to our teachings and traditions of the Jesus Movement and support those who are acutely and chronically abused.

A Champion’s Role

Interactive / Polling Activity

Press Enter — receive response connected to Poll

"You’ve joined Robin Hollis’ session (VFM19)…"
**Polling Instructions**

Instructions for using real-time polling

Step 1: Take out your smartphone
Step 2: Compose a new text message *
Step 3: In Text Message Body type VFM19
Step 4: Send to number 22333
Step 5: Respond to each question using the words or letter that best represents your answer

* Text message rates may apply.

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**Testing Technology**

Individual real-time polling [Q1]

“Fun with Interactive Polling!”

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**Q1. Please select one of the following:**

Lay
Bishop
Deacon
Presbyter
Observer

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**Your Voice**

Individual real-time polling [Q2]

**One Word**

ROLE OF DEACON in this process

**Leadership Charge**

We charge you to act justly, love mercy, and to walk humbly with God.

As you move forward with your work, we encourage you to listen first.

To listen to our stories, to listen to the urgencies of our world, to listen, first.

We encourage you to be faithful in your meeting, diligent in your work, so that your hard work reflects the hopes and longing of our beloved and diverse Diocesan community.

We ask that your work lead to a summary statement and plan of action to present to the Diocese. Tell our story, discern thoughtful and transformative strategies to reflect and express the practices of God’s kingdom of grace, radical welcome, and justice.

Engage, educate, inspire, shape, and mobilize new generations of thoughtful and transformational leaders.

Written and Delivered by Rev. David Chavez, 4 November 2017
Leadership Pledge

I CAN DO THIS!

I AM an AGENT of CHANGE!

Questions

Individual real-time polling [Q3]

Please text your questions.

Questions & responses will be posted on the AED Triennial Site after the conference.
Q3. Please text your question. We will post answers on AED Website in the coming weeks. Thank you.

Thank you for participating.

In the message area type Leave to exit the poll.

Closing
Thank you for blessing us with your presence and sharing your gifts today!

Training a herd of raptors hard?

Please try herding a group of deacons

Go in Peace to Love & Serve the Lord!
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Resources
The Episcopal Church website – multiple resources available:
• https://www.episcopalchurch.org/racial-reconciliation
• https://www.episcopalchurch.org/resources-racial-reconciliation-and-justice
• https://www.episcopalri.org/ministries/the-center-for-reconciliation/
  - RI Center for Reconciliation
• https://www.centerforracialhealing.org/ - Absalom Jones Center – Episcopal Center for Racial Healing

Ten Ways to Fight Hate - 2010 – Southern Poverty Law Center

Dismantling Racism Works Web Workbook - DRWORKSBOOK
• http://www.dismantlingracism.org/

Dismantling Racism Workbook 2016

Refer to Supplemental Resource Guide

10 Ways to Fight Hate

Ten Ways to Fight Hate - 2010 –
Southern Poverty Law Center

Key Message
(1st 5 pages of 36 pages in Supplemental Guide)

1. Act
2. Join Forces
3. Support the Victims
4. Speak Up
5. Educate Yourself
6. Create An Alternative
7. Pressure Leaders
8. Stay Engaged
9. Teach Acceptance
10. Dig Deeper