

A Message from the Program and Budget Committee

September, 2016

Our draft 2017 Diocese of Maryland Budget has been collated and is available here:

<http://bit.ly/2dDS6L1>. Please keep in mind the following things:

- Some of our income comes from Designated Funds that can only be used in certain areas or certain ways.
- The bulk of our Undesignated Income derives from Congregational Assessments, supplemented by the income from a modest endowment.
- There are always many more things that deserve to be funded than actually can be, and so the process of making decisions between worthy efforts is always difficult. We are blessed to have caring and creative budget managers who bring great sensitivity to their work.
- This is a draft budget, which is subject to the final approval of Diocesan Council, and therefore
- Your comments, suggestions and other input are most welcome at this stage and will be respectfully considered by members of the committee as the final form is prepared for submission.

A resolution concerning the use of some of our undesignated endowment as a significant gesture of reparations for slavery was presented to the Diocesan Convention last May. That resolution was referred to Diocesan Council for review, and there will be news soon of public conversations on the proposal around the diocese. Since no formal action has been taken on the resolution beyond the request for further study and conversation, the 2017 Budget is not affected by the resolution.

Please send any comments, questions or suggestions to the committee by emailing the Chair, the Rev'd Canon Dr. Mark Gatza at mgatza@emmanuelbelair.org or calling 443-752-0573.