



**ORTHODOX
CHURCH in
AMERICA**

Metropolitan Council Meeting

Fall 2014

Committees/Departments Reports



**Meeting of the Metropolitan Council
September 23 to September 25, 2014
Committees/Departments Reports
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Charity Committee Report

Since the Spring 2014 session of the Metropolitan Council, the Charity fund has made one disbursement. A \$5,000 gift to International Orthodox Christian Charities was made in August; specifically, to assist in IOCC’s ongoing efforts to provide relief to the beleaguered Christians in Iraq. During that time, there were also donations to Charity in the amount of \$267.00. Those donations, less the \$5,000 disbursement, leave a balance of \$3,143.22 in the fund. The chart here depicts all activity in the Charity line-item beginning in 2012.

Orthodox Church in America
 Schedule of Temporarily Restricted Funds - Charity
 Through August 31, 2014

Ending Balance, December 31, 2011 **\$ 15,235.38**

	<i>Donations Received - 2012 - Sept 3, 2013</i>		\$ 2,755.00
12/18/2012	Earmarked Donation for Hurricane Relief		\$ 10,000.00

<i>Distributions:</i>			
	- Earmarked for Diocese of NY/NJ Hurricane Relief Fund	\$ (10,000.00)	
12/18/2012		\$	
11/5/2012	- IOCC - Hurricane Sandy Relief	(5,000.00)	
		<u>\$</u>	
5/30/2013	- IOCC - Oklahoma Tornado Relief	<u>(5,000.00)</u>	
	Total Distributions		<u>\$(20,000.00)</u>

Ending Balance September 3, 2013 **\$ 7,990.38**

	<i>Donations Received 9/4/13 through 1/17/14</i>		\$ 1,782.00
<i>Distribution:</i>			
	Sun Pointe Health - medical insurance payment	\$ (689.67)	
1/14/2014		\$	
		<u>(689.67)</u>	
	Ending Balance January 17, 2014		<u>\$ 9,082.71</u>

	<i>Donations Received 1/18/14 through 8/31/14</i>		\$ 267.00
<i>Distributions:</i>			
	Sun Pointe Health - medical insurance payment	\$ (1,206.39)	
3/18/2014		\$	
8/12/2014	IOCC - Iraqi Relief	(5,000.00)	<u>\$ (6,206.39)</u>
	Ending Balance August 31, 2014		<u>\$ 3,143.32</u>

Looking at the chart, it is obvious that there has not been a lot of “charitable activity.” One could add immediately that there hasn’t been a great deal of funding. We should recall that the only charitable donations the OCA has actually requested were for the faithful to donate directly to IOCC projects (typically disaster relief); funds earmarked for charity received by the OCA directly were entirely due to unsolicited discretion on the part of generous individuals.

After consultation among members of the Charity Committee and Chancery staff, the Committee requests that the Metropolitan Council, during this Fall 2014 session, authorize the addition of a page on the OCA website specifically for the Charity ministry. This page would hopefully include, broadly, the following components:

- An explanation of the methodology of the Charity Committee, possibly including our policies as they have been approved by the Metropolitan Council; specifically, that the Charity fund is only used to fund projects by recognized and approved Orthodox ministries such as FOCUS or IOCC; that individual clergy can receive aid by having extraordinary expenses paid, and that cash is never disbursed directly to any individual.

- A clickable “button” that would lead to an immediate way for persons visiting the page to make a donation directly to the Charity ministry of the Orthodox Church in America.

A copy of the Charity policies as legislated by the Metropolitan Council is attached to this report.

Finally, the committee asks, with increasing urgency, that any Metropolitan Council members who are trained in 501(c)3 Best Practices would consider joining the Charity Committee. The chair’s MC term ends with the election of a new Metropolitan Council representative at the Diocesan Conference of the Bulgarian Diocese to be held in tandem with the next All-American Council.

The Charity Committee
His Eminence Melchizedek, Synodal Liaison
Protodeacon Michael Myers, Chair
Father John Dunlop
Father John Jillions, Chancery Liaison

Charity Committee Policies

-All requests for charitable assistance from the OCA will be forwarded to the Charity Committee for review and disposition.

-The primary focus of charitable disbursements is for food, medical care, shelter and clothing.

-Clergy are expected to request charitable assistance from their diocesan hierarch. Any request for Charity Committee assistance will be accompanied by documentation that such request has been made and has been denied or is insufficient to the need.

- Laity are expected to request charitable assistance from their parish priest and/or hierarch. Any request for Charity Committee assistance will be accompanied by documentation that such requests have been made and have been denied or are insufficient to the need.

-Recipients of Charity Committee assistance are not eligible for additional assistance for one year.

-Applicants who are denied Charity Committee assistance cannot re-apply until six months after the date the Charity Committee denies the first application.

-Typical Charity Fund grants will not exceed \$10,000. The Committee may, by unanimous decision, exceed this amount in extraordinary circumstances.

Report of the Ethics Committee
Metropolitan Council Meeting
Fall, 2014

There are no items to report.

**REPORT OF FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO THE
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL FALL MEETING
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
SEPTEMBER 22 TO SEPTEMBER 25, 2014
SEMINARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK**

MANDATE:

Originating from the Statutory Authority of the All-American Council, the Financial Development Committee (FDC) was brought into existence in the fall of 2010 and subsequently defined its Charter during the Spring 2011 Holy Synod/ MC Joint Meeting as follows:

“The [Financial] Development Committee offers guidance, suggestions and support to the central administration for annual, major, and planned giving programs. It assists the Metropolitan and Giving Officers/ Staff in identifying, cultivating and soliciting donors to the OCA. It reports to the MC, presenting appropriate recommendations for action concerning the OCA’s fund-raising policy and activity.”

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

His Grace, Bishop Michael, Synodal Liaison
Diocese of New York and New Jersey

Protodeacon Nazar Polataiko
Archdiocese of Canada

V. Reverend John J. Jillions, Ex-Officio
Chancellor Orthodox Church in America

Janet Van Duyn
Diocese of New York and New Jersey

V. Reverend John Dresko
Diocese of West

Melanie Ringa, OCA Treasurer
Orthodox Church in America
Chancery Liaison

V. Reverend John Shimchick
Diocese of New York and New Jersey

David M. Yeosock, PE, Chairman
Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern
Pennsylvania

RESOURCES:

The primary resource for the FDC originates from an invigorated umbrella gift giving organization, called the “Stewards of the OCA”, that acts “to articulate a compelling vision and plan for funding the outreach ministries of the Church and other Church needs.” An advisory board (not restricted to MC members) formulates the “case” for funding and training solicitors in the fundraising strategy. Donors, in turn, are cultivated and solicited to provide funds for individual ministries and special projects.

PROJECTS SINCE LAST AAC:

The FDC has initiated three fund raising programs of varying success. The “Point-n-Click” website drive was a successful fund raising drive to assure better attendance from delegates in more remote locations for the 16th AAC. The second initiative was a letter request campaign initiated at the past AAC which solicited funds for evangelism and revitalization beginning with the members of the MC that has received positive support. The third was a second “Point-n-Click” donation page for the OCA website with emphasis on expanding the Stewards of the OCA in a stepwise approach to building new members. The most recent project has been an updating of the mailing list using past and current resources.

FUTURE PLANS:

Since the spring meeting of the Metropolitan Council, the committee has focused on “**building relationships**” as has been stressed in past reports and practice. We continue to strengthen our commitment to fundraising by getting to know the “Steward of the OCA”, thanking them, and making personal phone calls and connections with potential future Stewards. Our goal of securing 300 members reached a half way point in December 2013 with 143 members realized at the close of last year.

The FDC has begun a program to secure and add additional members to the mailing list by reestablishing lost ties with historical donors. Through this effort, we hope to secure additional members by the close of the year by taking the time to compile accurate general information. The historical list is woefully out of date and includes names of people who may be omitted due to sundry reasons and contact information in obvious need of revision. The staff is currently evaluating the list against its internal databases and updating it accordingly. This effort is a personal call and follow-up process which will require the chancery’s staff time under the direct supervision of our Chancellor. The office will allocate approximately twenty hours per week to ensure the successful completion of this task.

We also would like to highlight a comeback to the old support network and campaign to help the FDC achieve greater numbers. We all should be reaching out and building new ties like FOCA, the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, an official organization of the Orthodox Church in America. Their mission is to proclaim, share and reveal our Orthodox Christian Faith through service, fellowship and example and we should work closely together.

We have stressed that we need authentic, personable and inspiring people from within our ranks to reach out and rebuild the relationships within our Church (and this is not a short term process with a quick fix approach). We are respectfully asking you: the person who cares enough to read this report, please become a spokesperson. Our cause is close to the OCA’s emotional move away from assessments toward tithing and we ask you to put your heart as well

as your mind into this effort. We need you to tell the Good News about the Church as we all care much and expend our time to participate to such an extent.

In a final note, we thank you; for all that you have done to realize a healthy return of our Church by listening to the voice and mandate of the 16th AAC. It is through the impetus of this council from whence we gain our strength and we ask those who support that initiative to, “place their interest where their hearts are, and have been, to realize that future.”

COMMENTS:

His Beatitude, Metropolitan TIKHON, His Grace, Bishop MICHAEL, along with Diocesan Hierarchs from the OCA supports the formation of the Financial Development Committee (FDC) and the goal of involving the entire Church in fundraising through relationship in an authentic environment.

The Stewards, those that we have currently recruited and those that will come into their ranks have a responsibility that is more than being than just being a “donor”. We challenge all of our Stewards, within the vision that is the OCA, to the renewal of relationships putting behind conflicts by repair and asking advice from our future supporters to meet the needs of the Church.

Members of the Committee continue to solicit comment, volunteers and provide information to the Church at large.

Respectfully Submitted
August 30, 2014

Report of the Finance/Investment Committee
Metropolitan Council Meeting
Fall, 2014

Report to be issued with Treasurer

Report of the Human Resources Committee
Metropolitan Council Meeting
Fall, 2014

No written report

Report of the Metropolitan Council Legal Committee

Fall Meeting of the Metropolitan Council of the Orthodox Church in America

September 23-25, 2014

Recent developments since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Council in February, 2014, have generated an ongoing but healthy and productive discussion within the structure of the Orthodox Church in America regarding the provision of professional legal services to the Church, a discussion centering on the methods whereby the Church can secure necessary legal advice and counsel while remaining safely within the boundaries of relevant canonical, financial, and legal requirements and restraints. A necessary part of that discussion has focused on the proper role and function of the Legal Committee of the Metropolitan Council generally and, perhaps more specifically, the special responsibilities of the Committee during interims between meetings of the full Metropolitan Council. This Committee has regularly over the past several years taken the occasion of its semiannual Reports to the Metropolitan Council as a convenient platform in which to underscore and emphasize to the members of the Metropolitan Council the special and unique tasks and responsibilities of the Legal Committee in this regard. We take the liberty of doing so once again here.

In the belief that it would be helpful to all of the members of the Metropolitan Council, and especially to those members who have joined the MC in the past year and are relatively new to the work of this body, to be reminded of the basic organization, charge and responsibility of this particular Committee, the Legal Committee will regularly provide a summary written report from that Committee to the members of the Metropolitan Council in connection with each of the semiannual meetings of the MC with respect to matters of current legal interest or concern to the Orthodox Church in America insofar as these relate reasonably to the functions and role of the Metropolitan Council in the overall governance of the Church as defined in the Statute of the OCA.¹ The role of the Legal Committee within the Metropolitan

¹ Article V, § 4 of the OCA Statute provides in this respect:

"The Metropolitan Council:

Implements the decisions of the All-American Council and of the Holy Synod in the areas of its competence;

Assists the Metropolitan and the Holy Synod in Implementing decisions within the areas of its competence;

Council is objectively a limited and truncated one and must be understood as separate and distinct from other attorneys charged with responsibilities for the legal welfare of the Church, particularly the important functions of Special Counsel to the Orthodox Church in America who has a broader and more defined professional responsibility to take care for specific legal interests of the Orthodox Church in America, a scope of interest and concern broader than that of the Legal Committee. Although the functions and roles of the Special Counsel and the LC MC differ in fundamental respects, the two work in a cooperative, supportive and reinforcing manner.

The Chair of the Legal Committee of the Metropolitan Council is Judge E.R. Lanier of Monticello, Georgia; the remaining members of the Committee are Professor Paul Meyendorff of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary and Fr. Deacon Tony Dyl of Denver, Colorado. The Committee is assisted on an intermittent, as needed basis by Ms Angela Parks of Montgomery, Alabama, and by Mr. Sergei Givotovsky, an attorney now retired but very active in corporate transactions involving Russian and American interests. Mr. Gregory Nescott of Pittsburgh – a long time member of the Metropolitan Council and former Chair of the Legal Committee – is Special Consultant to the Legal Committee. Professor Paul Meyendorff brings to the Committee his expertise on issues related to canon law, ecclesiology, and church history. The Legal Committee has since the Spring 2014 meeting

Establishes the budget for the operations of the Church and examines all financial reports of the Church;

Supervises the collection of the assessments and fees established by the All-American Council and determines the allocation of such funds;

Organizes plans for obtaining voluntary contributions for the satisfaction of the needs of the Church;

Provides for the maintenance of the central administrative bodies of the Church and for the allocation of the general Church funds;

Decides on the purchase, sale, or mortgaging of property of the Church, except in cases covered in Article X, Section 8;

Maintains an inventory of all properties of the Church;

Provides for the establishment and maintenance of institutions of charity and education, as well as for publications for the propagation of the Orthodox Faith;

Determines the forms and books necessary for the keeping of records and statistical data by the dioceses, requiring all statistics necessary for reports;

Appoints officers and committees on matters within its competence;

Initiates, prosecutes, and defends all legal matters affecting the interest of the Church;

May receive reports from any department in areas within the competence of the Metropolitan Council."

of the Metropolitan Council continued to be in contact by telephone and email, and conference calls are utilized as conditions warrant. The Committee works harmoniously with Mr. Robert Koorey, Special Legal Liaison on Sexual Misconduct Matters, and with Father Eric Tosi who, in his capacity as Secretary of the Church, has a primary responsibility under the terms of the OCA Statute for legal matters within the Chancery.

The charge of the Legal Committee is stated in the Council Members' Handbook²:

“The Metropolitan Council Legal Committee, consisting of at least three to five members, shall between meetings of the Metropolitan Council act for and on behalf of the Metropolitan Council to discharge its legal responsibilities. The Legal Committee shall work and in conjunction with the General Counsel and members of the Central Administration. Responsibility for major policy and legal decisions, such as initiation of litigation and settlement of litigation, shall be retained by the Metropolitan Council as a whole.

The Legal Committee shall fully and promptly report to the Metropolitan Council its activities and decisions between meetings. The Legal Committee shall act by majority vote. The Legal Committee may act by telephonic meeting or consent evidenced in writing or email, or such other means as means that the Legal Committee shall determine to be useful or appropriate.”

In accordance with this mandate, the Legal Committee submits the following indication of its work since the Spring Meeting of the Metropolitan Council in February, 2014.

OCA Legal Counsel

In our Report to the Metropolitan Council submitted in connection with the Spring 2014 Meeting of the MC we communicated to you certain decisions of the Metropolitan touching on an adjustment of the internal structural organization of the OCA regarding the provision of legal services to the Church. We distributed to you at that time a copy of a letter (with its attachments) which the Chair of the Legal Committee sent to the Legal Committee and its consultants on January 9, 2014, providing information in greater detail regarding recent independent decisions of the Metropolitan to reconfigure in some measure the methods by which the Orthodox Church in America secures law-related services in specific areas of need.

² See also the original enacting resolution passed by the Metropolitan Council and blessed by the Holy Synod at the Spring 2008 Metropolitan Council meeting (cf. Motion at paragraph 10.4 on page 11 of the minutes thereof).

By the direction of the Metropolitan in his letter to him of January 2, 2014, Mr. Thaddeus Wojcik was, as Special Counsel, assigned tasks in a broad range of legally sensitive areas including oversight and monitoring of general litigation; matters touching on local, state, and federal taxation; matters in which property interests of the OCA are of concern; and the broad arena of state and federal corporation law compliance. In addition, we reported to you at the Spring 2014 Meeting of the MC that Mr. Robert Koory -a distinguished attorney from Troy, Michigan; a former Chancellor of the Antiochian Christian Archdiocese; and a member of the Holy Synod's Sexual Misconduct Policy Advisory Committee (SMPAC)- was appointed by the independent action of the Metropolitan on January 9, 2014, as Special Legal Liaison from SMPAC to the Metropolitan, to the Holy Synod, and to the Office for Review of Sexual Misconduct Allegations (ORSMA). In that role he is to act as the primary legal liaison required in connection with all sexual misconduct matters in which the interests of the OCA are implicated, including pending and future litigation.

We take the occasion of this Report to now communicate to you that Mr. Wojcik, by his letter to the Metropolitan dated May 23, 2014, has submitted his resignation as Special Counsel to the OCA. Following a series of bilateral discussions and a meeting of the full Legal Committee on this matter, the Chair of the Legal Committee on August 20, 2014 communicated to the Chancellor of the OCA its unanimous consensus that the Church should now return to the earlier model whereby the Church would be placed under the general legal care of a General Counsel retained for this purpose. We stated in that communication:

“After much discussion of this question the Legal Committee reached a unanimous consensus that it would be in the best interest of the Church to return at this time to the earlier model for securing legal services of this type, i.e., the appointment of a General Counsel who would be charged with expansive legal duties to advise the Church and its principal officers on the broadest range of legal matters touching on the interests of the OCA. I take this opportunity to convey that recommendation to you here.

Implementation of this recommendation would necessarily implicate, in our view, an open and transparent search for candidates to fill this important role in the life of the Church. There are a number of subsidiary questions touching on the qualifications of a potential General Counsel as well as issues involving the integration of a new GC into the existing structure of the OCA for procuring advice and counsel of legal nature. It appears to us, however, that these questions will best await a response after a definitive decision on the part of the officers of the Church to proceed with a search for such a new General Counsel.”

After a telephone conference of the Legal Committee and the Metropolitan, the Chancellor, the Secretary of the OCA on August 22, 2014, the Chair of the Legal Committee on August 29, 2014, forwarded the following formal request to the Metropolitan:

“On August 20 of this year we addressed a communication to the Chancellor reporting the consensus of the Legal Committee that the time is in our judgment now appropriate for the Orthodox Church in America to consider the reestablishment of the position of General Counsel within the leadership structure of the Church. ...

We now ask that you refer this matter to the Holy Synod for a definitive directive from our Bishops regarding this matter, a step which we believe would be appropriate in initiating the establishment of a Search Committee to seek candidates for this important appointment in the life of our Church.”

Matters Pending in the Courts of Interest to the Orthodox Church in America

Susan v. Romanian Orthodox Episcopate

The Legal Committee reported to the Metropolitan Council at its meeting in February, 2014, that the *Susan* litigation which had for several years been pending in the trial and appellate courts of Illinois now stands dismissed by the First District Court of Appeals in Illinois and that the plaintiff's petition to the Illinois Supreme Court for leave to appeal his claims to that Court was also denied by letter from that Court addressed to OCA local counsel, Mr. James C. Geoly of the Chicago law firm of Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serritella, P.C. Mr. Geoly now reports informally to us that no activity has taken place in this matter since that time.

Avis Smith v. Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., et al.

The Legal Committee had previously reported to the Metropolitan Council that the trial judge in this breach of contract civil action filed in the Circuit Court for Howard County, Maryland, had dismissed the claims of the Plaintiff Avis Smith against “The Most Blessed Jonah Archbishop of America and Canada (a.k.a. James Paffhausen)”; certain other claims against other defendants, both corporate and individual, thereafter remained pending after the grant of that motion. A footnote to this Report, drawn from the report of this matter at the Fall Meeting (2013) of the Metropolitan Council, restates in fuller detail the nature and content of the Plaintiff's complaint in that case.³ On July 10, 2014, a hearing was held in the

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“On July 30, 2013, a civil suit (Case No. 13-C-13-95739) was filed in the Circuit Court for Howard County, State of Maryland, captioned *Avis Smith v. Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. The Orthodox Church in America; His Beatitude, The Most Blessed Jonah Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of all America and Canada (a.k.a. James Paffhausen) (a.k.a. Metropolitan Jonah); The Orthodox Church of St. Matthew; St. Matthew Housing Development, Inc.; Jean Byrnes; Teresa Thomas; Cheryl Campbell; Eugenia Ordynsky; Jim Dramby; John Zahore; Cooper Pappas; Wayne Hajos; Eric Hajos; and Susan Goodknight*. The complaint sets forth a series of separate counts, including "Count One-Battery (Defendant Byrnes)"; "Count Two-Battery (Defendants Thomas, Byrnes, Hajos, and Goodknight)"; "Count Three-Defamation of a Private individual (All Defendants)"; "Count Four-Civil Conspiracy (All Defendants)"; "Count Five-Intentional Interference with Economic Relations (All Defendants)"; "Count Six-Wrongful Discharge (Defendants Archdiocese of Washington, D. C., Metropolitan Jonah, Orthodox Church of St. Matthew, and St. Matthew Housing Development, Inc.)"; "Count Seven-Employment Discrimination (Defendants Archdiocese of Washington, D. C., Metropolitan Jonah, St. Matthew Church, St. Matthew House)"; "Count Eight-Unjust Enrichment

Circuit Court on the motion of the Archdiocese of Washington to be dismissed from this action; this motion was granted by the trial judge at the conclusion of that hearing. The Legal Committee will continue to monitor this litigation and report to the Metropolitan Council any further developments in this matter.

Ivanov v. Notzkov

The Committee has previously reported to the Council that a suit (*Ivanov et al. v. Notzkov, et al.*) had been initiated in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois (County Department, Chancery Division, Number 05 CH 13247), seeking a court ruling that the parish of Saint John of Rila Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church in Chicago was not subject to the Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church Diocese of the United States of America and Canada (OCA). The Committee also reported that on July 20, 2012, after 18 days of a trial which took place periodically between October 24, 2011 and May 11, 2012, a Memorandum Opinion and Order had been entered in the suit dismissing the claims of the Plaintiffs and denying the Plaintiffs' Complaint in its entirety, specifically ruling that "Defendants [OCA party] may govern St. John of Rila [parish] under the hierarchical jurisdiction of the Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church of the Diocese of the United State [sic] of America and Canada," the Court grounding its decision on the religious abstention doctrine and "refrain[ing] from imposing the Court's determination in the governance of St. John of Rila Bulgarian Orthodox Church." The Legal Committee now reports to you that the Second Division of the First Illinois Appeals Court, in its Order of March 25, 2014, has denied the Plaintiffs' request for remand of this case to the trial court and that it is further denied the Plaintiffs' prayer for relief that a parish meeting be ordered pursuant to provisions of the Illinois General Not for Profit Corporation Act of 1986. The Appeals Court in its March 25, 2014, Order affirming the decision of the trial court in favor of the OCA parties noted specifically that "[b]ecause plaintiffs have chosen not to seek review of the circuit court's judgment that St. John's is a hierarchical church within the Diocese and the determination of membership qualification rests with the sole power and authority of St. John's and the Diocese ... we must accept the circuit court's findings. We will not disturb the judgment of the circuit court. Therefore, we decline to grant plaintiffs' request."

Thompson v. Orthodox Church in America

As the Legal Committee reported to the Metropolitan Council earlier, a lawsuit was filed on June 25, 2013 in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles (Central District), Case Number BC 513443, captioned Krista Thompson, plaintiff, v. Orthodox Church in America, St. Innocent Orthodox Church, Father John Soucek, and Does 1-100, as defendants. The complaint seeks damages for negligence; negligent supervision; negligent hiring/retention; negligent failure to warn, train, or educate; constructive fraud

(Defendant St. Matthew Church)"; and "Count Eight-Unjust Enrichment (Defendant St. Matthew House)." The factual matrix of the claims asserted in these various Counts center upon events alleged to have taken place when the plaintiff was purportedly employed in the summer of 2009 as a kitchen manager and house caterer at St. Matthew Church; her alleged employment in October, 2009 as a part-time office manager for St. Matthew House; and her employment beginning in November 2009 as office manager."

(California Code §1573); intentional infliction of emotional distress; sexual battery (California Code §1708.5); assault; sexual harassment (California Code §51.9); and gender violence (California code §52.4). At the request of the counsel for Plaintiff in this case, the OCA waived the formal requirement of service of process in this suit. Thereafter, with the consent of the OCA, local counsel for the OCA waived the requirement of service of process in the action and subsequently filed a motion to quash service for lack of personal jurisdiction on the OCA. A hearing in the trial court on this motion to quash has now been set for October 24, 2014, and counsel for the plaintiff has indicated his agreement to continue the trial date in this matter. The Secretary of the Orthodox Church in America provided notice of the claims asserted in this lawsuit to insurance carriers of the Church. The insurer is providing a defense to the OCA through local counsel. Further procedures in this case are in the hands of local counsel although close liaison has been maintained with attorneys concerned for the interests of the OCA in this case. The Legal Committee will continue to monitor this litigation and report further developments to the Metropolitan Council.

Crown v. Archbishop Seraphim

The Legal Committee reported to the Metropolitan Council that a decision in Case No. CR12-01-31687 (*Queen v. Seraphim Kenneth W. Storheim*), pending in the Court of Queen's Bench, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, was rendered by the trial court in Winnipeg on January 24, 2014. A statement of the Holy Synod released the day of this decision appears on the OCA website at www.oca.org and provides further details regarding this matter. Subsequently, on July 9, 2014, Archbishop Seraphim was sentenced to eight months incarceration, a fact also reported on the OCA website. The Legal Committee is now informed that appeals procedures on behalf of Archbishop Seraphim have been initiated in this case. The Committee will continue to monitor this proceeding and will report developments in the case as they transpire.

Other Matters with Potential Legal Implications for the Orthodox Church in America

Xenia Weigel Estate

The Orthodox Church in America was named the residuary beneficiary of the estate of Xenia Weigel, a Pennsylvania resident prior to her death. This Committee has reported to the Metropolitan Council on a regular basis the proceedings in the Pennsylvania Orphans Court regarding the administration of this Estate. At its meetings in both Fall 2012 and Spring 2013, the Metropolitan Council took action, later blessed by the Holy Synod, at the urging of another beneficiary of the estate to release approximately \$185,438 to the benefit of that beneficiary. Because of reservations regarding certain distributions later asserted by the Counsel for the Weigel Estate in an attempt to achieve an amicable and informal settlement of this Estate, the Pennsylvania attorney representing the OCA in this matter made formal

demand before the Orphans' Court for a formal accounting and adjudication of the matter. The proposed order prepared by Estate's Counsel was taken under consideration by the Court in Pennsylvania and, on January 10, 2014, it entered a Decree Absolute in the matter, essentially ordering a distribution of the assets of the Estate as prayed by the attorney representing the Weigel Estate. On January 20, 2014, the OCA was notified by its attorney of a communication from the attorney representing the Estate that an additional asset of the Estate of an approximate value of \$100,000 had been discovered since the entry of the Decree Absolute and that supplementary procedures before the Orphans' Court would be necessary to take this additional amount into account in a revised Decree Absolute.

More recently, the attorney representing the OCA in this matter has informed Counsel for the Estate that the OCA would prefer that the distribution of the additional, recently discovered assets (which are in the form of certain bonds), be made to the OCA in-kind as opposed to having the bonds sold by the Estate and the proceeds then distributed to the Church. In order to receive these assets in kind, it will be necessary for the Church to open a special account to receive these assets, and we are now informed that the OCA Treasurer is attending to this necessary administrative measure. The attorney for the Estate has now indicated his willingness to transfer the proceeds owing to the Church at the present time, reserving a \$5000 contingency from these proceeds to cover any additional expenses which might appear between now and the time of distribution. This proposal is under review by the OCA Treasurer.

The Legal Committee has now learned that the Attorney for the Weigel Estate has filed an updated inheritance tax return with the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue; the Committee is attempting to obtain a copy of this tax return for its review. It is our understanding that this return has not been approved as of this point in time by the Department.

Task Force on OCA Statute Revision

As reported by the Legal Committee earlier, the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America at its meeting in October, 2013, blessed a proposal supported by the Legal Committee of the Metropolitan Council to establish a Task Force on OCA Statute Revision in an effort to address a number of issues, ambiguities, and anomalies identified in the present Statute over the course of the past several decades. Archbishop Nathaniel was named by the Holy Synod to chair this Task Force; in addition, Archpriests John H. Erickson, Alexander Rentel, Dimitri Cozby, and David (now, Hieromonk, Daniel) Brum were named to serve in this group, along with Father Ioan Cozma, a canonist of the OCA Romanian Episcopate. The OCA Archivist, Alex Liberovsky, and the Chair of the Legal Committee were also named members of this Task Force. The Task Force has met repeatedly since its establishment: the first session a telephone conference for organizational purposes on November 13, 2013, at which Father Alexander Rentel, a noted canonist on the faculty of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary, was named Secretary of the Task Force; a second meeting hosted by Father Daniel Brum was convened under the leadership of the Archbishop

at the Church of Saints Peter & Paul in Phoenix, Arizona, during the period January 15-17, 2014. Yet another gathering of the Task Force took place at Holy Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction, Michigan on April 22-25, 2014, and the last meeting of the Task Force on August 19- 22, 2014, also took place at the monastery in Rives Junction.

A full report on the work of this Task Force will be provided to the Metropolitan Council at this meeting by Father Alexander Rentel, the Secretary of the Task Force.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. Lanier
Chair, Legal Committee of the Metropolitan Council of the Orthodox Church in America

**Internal Governance Committee
Report to the Metropolitan Council
Fall Session 2014
Archpriest Chad Hatfield, Chairman**

Members:

Fr. Chad Hatfield, Chairman
Archbishop Melchisedek (Synod Liaison)
Fr. Eric Tosi (Chancery Liaison)
Fr. Michael Anderson
Fr. William Evansky
Fr. James Weremedic
Pdn. Michael Myers
David Yeosock
David Zavednak

Fr Eric Tosi and I made an onsite visit to Immaculate Conception Retreat Center on Long Island this summer where we were well received and where we are now meeting as a Metropolitan Council. Feedback after this meeting will be most welcome.

As a follow-up to last year's successful retreat on "Conflict Resolution" a second retreat on "Christian Stewardship" has been organized with Fr. Robert Holet leading the retreat. Fr. Robert is a priest in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, USA and their director of Stewardship in addition to being the pastor of St. Nicholas Church, Charlottesville, VA and an instructor at St. Sophia Seminary South Bound Brook, NJ. He is the author of The First and Finest: Orthodox Christian Stewardship as Sacred Offering. This book has been provided to all members of the MC.

Our current internal auditor's terms will expire at the next All-American Council. This committee will need to recommend new members to serve prior to next July's meeting. Again, suggestions are most welcome.

At this meeting we will need to form our working groups to begin the update of the MC Handbook. The long awaited "Talent Survey" will also be submitted electronically to the members of the MC.

It should be noted that external auditors have been working on the 2013 audit with a report from Melanie Ringa to be received at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Archpriest Chad Hatfield

Report of the Strategic Planning Post Conciliar Committee (PoCC) to the Metropolitan Council – September 2014

We are nearing the completion of the implementation of the Strategic Plan. As envisioned at the 16th All American Council (Seattle, 2011) most of the goals of this plan have already been incorporated in a natural, sustainable way into the normal life and infrastructure of the Church – both at the central administration level and at the diocesan and deanery levels. The treasurer and the OCA Financial development committee are pursuing new ways of funding the church. Simplified financial reporting tools have been developed and provided to the OCA Treasurer for voluntary use by any interested parishes. The Diocese of the West is piloting the increased use of deaneries to grow both clergy and lay leadership in our geographically extended dioceses. An annotated bibliography of evangelization related sources has been developed and transitioned to the OCA Department of Evangelization. And a format for discussing sensitive contemporary moral issues in an Orthodox context has been developed and piloted and is available for use by an interested parties.

The few remaining goals will be fully transitioned by the time of the 18th All American Council, at which time the Post Conciliar Committee will come to an end. Progress on these remaining areas is summarized below.

Continuing Education: The OCA's continuing education activities continue to grow. This summer, St. Tikhon's hosted their 2nd Annual Continuing Education Symposium. The Symposium attracted over 60 participants and featured talks on the saints, personal and corporate prayer, the Book of Revelations, and clergy health – accounting for up to 18 of the 20 hours of the OCA's annual requirement for continuing education. Also, St. Vladimir's offers a day and a half program in which they will send faculty to your deanery or diocese to provide on-site training on end of life issues, homiletics, or conflict resolution. And the Department of Continuing Education continues to develop resources for use across the OCA: including the next required 5 hour training module on legal and ethical issues, as well as seeking to develop on-line materials so as to facilitate meeting the remaining 15 hours of required annual training.

In addition to the above efforts, which are focused on meeting the 20 hours of continuing education now required of our clergy, St. Vladimir's is also seeking to provide distance learning opportunities for obtaining advanced degrees. It has initiated a distance learning DMin program with 18 people in its first cohort And, it is also considering developing an on-line MA degree program which would be more focused on lay education

Diocesan Revitalization is being actively pursued by at least four dioceses. Three are working with Joe Kormos and are using versions of his Parish Health Inventory Model (PHIM) tailored to their particular situation and needs. Both Eastern and Western Pennsylvania have been working with this model for some time now. Results to date have been mixed. Seeds have been planted and in some places are taking hold. But it is slow going and the parishes that often need it the most don't always seem to pursue it.

The latest to adopt the PHIM is the Bulgarian Diocese, who after hearing Joe speak at their Assembly this summer, engaged him to come in and work with their parishes over the next two years – so that the parishes that want to change can change. It seems that there are now enough dioceses implementing the PHIM in ways tailored to their specific needs that it might be useful for the involved diocesan leaders to all get together and share lessons learned and brainstorm approaches to getting over any barriers.

In addition to these sustained revitalization efforts using the PHIM, there are several other very notable revitalization efforts:

- The Diocese of NY/NJ focused their annual Parish Council Conference on Church Vitality, with Fr. John Reeves leading workshops in all 3 of its deaneries;
- In June, Joe Kormos ran a webinar on Profiles in Orthodox Parish Revitalization, that provided vignettes of 3 previously small or declining parishes that had ‘turned around’;
- In July, the Dioceses of the Midwest and of W. PA, co-sponsored a 3-day Small Parish Forum geared for parishes with 50 members or less. This Forum featured workshops, case studies, and clergy and lay break-out sessions and was so successful that a follow on Forum is already in the planning for 2015. Materials from the first forum may be viewed at: <http://www.ocadwpa.org/smallparishforum.html>
- The Diocese of New England ONE Stewards program received a record \$25,000 in donations for grants this year and awarded 3 new grants: one for a Bible Lecture Series, one for a community garden to support food pantries and one for a week long Vacation Church School..
- In October, Joe Kormos will lead the Archdiocese of WPA’s 2014 Archdiocesan Leader's Day event on the theme, “Parish Council: Roles & Responsibilities “. New related articles are available on the WPA website www.ocadwpa.org: Toward Strengthened Parish Councils, Eight Good Parish Council Practices and Email Communication Promotes Parish Engagement.

Evangelization: our primary effort in this area has been to develop an annotated bibliography of evangelization related sources. This has been transitioned to the OCA Department of Evangelization and will be featured on their soon to be deployed new website (goodnews.oca.org). We continue to ‘keep abreast’ of other notable OCA Evangelization activities. Of particular note is the decision to use the interest off a recent million dollar endowment to establish a 1 week per year mission school to help train ‘mission priests’. The school will focus on parish management, logistics, growth and other areas of import in establishing and growing a mission. His Grace, Bishop Michael, is the episcopal advisor for the school. The goal is to hold the first session sometime before the 18th AAC.

Youth and Young Adults: This team has focused on using social media to enable the interaction of young adults throughout the country (and the world) and to present a ‘daily liturgical presence on social media’. Our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/yyaoca), is rapidly approaching 1,600 ‘likes’ and regularly reaches thousands of Facebook users. To

keep this vibrant, we have new postings nearly everyday. The most effective postings seem to be spiritually centered items with a good picture and a short text. Seeking to further broaden our reach, we will soon be adding a short bi-weekly video feature (minute or less), tentatively entitled "On the road" which will feature a young adult discussing spiritual topics of interest: prayer, fasting, anger, seeing God's beauty. We are very excited about this feature. This overall social media outreach effort is being transitioned to the OCA Department of Youth and Young Adults.

Respectfully submitted,

Fr. John Vitko,
Chair of the Post Conciliar Committee (PoCC)

Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America
Report to the Metropolitan Council: September 2014

Department Personnel

- *Chair:* Matushka Valerie Zahirsky
- *Members:* Mrs. Veronica Bilas, Matushka Myra Kovalak, Mrs. Daria Petrykowski, Miss Maria Proch, Matushka Alexandra Safchuk, Mrs. Jewelann Stefanar, Matushka Christine Zebrun (plus part-time webmaster Mr. John Pusey)

Regular Work

- Weekly downloadable bulletin inserts on our Department website
- Seasonal activities on our Department website (presently on the site is “Fall Discussion Activities” centering on saints commemorated in October)
- Monthly Departmental teleconferences

Projects in Process

- Material on St. Cosmas and St. Kassiane is completed and has been sent to the Dept. of Liturgical Music and Translations for them to add singable music to complete the lessons. These will be the first two units of our joint Hymnographers Project for church school students.
- Texts for North American Saints project are completed and submitted; next step is to determine how they will be illustrated and presented.
- The fourth Activity Book is nearing completion.
- A new project is our quarterly Newsletter, to be sent to teachers and others on our database; first issue will be out in September.
- Study questions for each of the 20 chapters of the “History” section of Fr. Thomas Hopko’s *Orthodox Faith* book series have been completed and sent to SVS Press.
- Preliminary plan for curriculum at AAC (Youth Program) has been sent to Fr. Benjamin Tucci
- Title and general content description of workshop at AAC for teachers (and others interested) have been sent to Fr. Eric Tosi

Conferences and Meetings in which Department members participated or which they planned

- Women’s retreat at St. Tikhon’s Monastery
- OCEC meeting at Lackawanna, New York
- Departmental working retreat at Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Future and Ongoing Projects, Workshops, Conferences

- Develop study questions for other books in the *Orthodox Faith* series
- Develop Department display for AAC
- Continue work on Youth Program curriculum and Department workshop for AAC
- OCEC-sponsored workshop in Willimantic, CT
- Orthodox Institute at Antiochian Village (co-sponsored by AODCE, GOA, OCA Departments of Christian Education)

Continuing Efforts of the Department

- Correspond with teachers, clergy, and inquirers
- Offer help in finding good curriculum materials
- Offer help in setting up and maintaining church school programs
- Reviewing and recommending educational materials
- Cooperative work with the Orthodox Christian Education Commission (meeting, reviewing new curricular materials, taking part in OCEC-sponsored workshops)
- Act as a clearing house for materials used in our parishes that could be distributed for other parishes to use

Respectfully submitted,

Matushka Valerie Zahirsky, Chair

Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America

**OCA DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND HUMANITARIAN AID (CSHA)
AUGUST 29, 2014 SUMMARY REPORT (JANUARY - AUGUST 2014)**

Chair - Donna Karabin; Members - Archpriest Thomas Moore, Priest Timothy Yates, Popadija Kitty Vitko, Diana Pasca, Nancy VanDyken, and eight consultants; Resource Handbook Coordinator – Arlene Kallaur
Episcopal Liaison - His Eminence, Archbishop Melchisedek, Archbishop of Pittsburgh and W. PA

Ministry Focus

Parish Ministries, Charitable Outreach, Senior Life and Family Life

[CSHA](#) promotes the integration of charitable and caring ministries into all levels of OCA life.

Resource Handbook for Ministries

The [Resource Handbook for Ministries](#) (RH) is a collection of nearly three hundred articles based on effective parish and outreach ministries. They are written by both clergy and laity who have a strong desire to share their stories in order to help others begin and sustain short and long term service programs. The content is practical, yet has Christian compassion at the heart of every article – certainly of value to every parish in the OCA.

The RH is an ongoing work. We continue to seek out new topics and authors with several now in development. Simultaneously, we review existing articles for updating. The new and the refreshed documents are periodically featured on the OCA homepage and Facebook page. To access the RH, follow the link above or go to the OCA homepage and select from the menu under “Work of the Church”.

RH Postings on the OCA Website and Facebook page during this reporting period:

- Two updated articles on Lenten Projects
- A follow up article on Humanitarian Lenten Projects for Parishes with a feature on IOCC and Church World Service “Gift of the Heart Kits”
- Eight RH prison ministry articles in a promotion for the May 25 Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday
- NEW: [Introducing Children to Hymnography through Iconography](#) by David Lucs
- NEW: [Aging with Alzheimer's Disease, Work for All the Church](#) by Matushka Natalie Stavrevsky

Resource Handbook Working Group

CSHA is anticipating a meeting this Fall at the Chancery with Consultants who have agreed to advise the Resource Handbook Working Group on effective ways to increase readership and application of the RH. Consultants are Fr. John Shimchick (Holy Cross-Medford, NJ), Matushka Deborah Belonick (St. Vladimir’s Seminary-Communications Director and Media Liaison) and Ryan Platte (Technical Manager-OCA Web Team). In December of 2012, Ryan provided statistics and analysis of RH on-line activity to help the Working Group better understand readers’ interests and access points. He provided updated 2014 statistics to inform the current effort. Everyone agrees it is vitally important to make the RH more visible and more readily available to our OCA faithful and to anyone searching for relevant ministry resources.

Compassion in Action: Parish Ministry Training

Our collaboration with the Department of Institutional Chaplaincies (IC) continues on Compassion in Action: Parish Ministry Training (CiA). At this time, CiA is not funded by the 2014 budget. We urge consideration of program support so that this exceptional ministry may be initiated in parishes.

Invitation from St. Juliana Society at St. Vladimir’s Seminary

Matushka Thekla Hatfield extended an invitation to Donna Karabin to offer a presentation on CSHA programs to SVS Clergy Wives as they plan ahead for parish life. The original date in March was postponed because of a snowstorm. It is rescheduled for October 13.

Diocesan Ministry Network

CSHA members have been developing a communication network made up of one representative from each OCA diocese in an initiative to strengthen parish ministries and charitable outreach programs throughout the Church. Diocesan hierarchs and chancellors have been contacted with requests to appoint service-oriented clergy, lay men or women of any age to serve with the Diocesan Ministry Network. As liaisons, they would communicate CSHA news to the diocese and likewise provide information on their diocesan and parish programs to the department. The exchange of information would greatly facilitate networking of like programs for fresh ideas and problem solving. CSHA could then better highlight successful programs for the encouragement and growth of programs in all dioceses. At this time, the dioceses of NY-NJ, the South and Washington, DC have made appointments to the Ministry Network.

Orthodox Living Will

The Orthodox Church in America and CSHA were contacted by Dr. Tom Neal, Faith and Ethics Advisor of the [Aging with Dignity](#) organization in Tallahassee, FL. It is a non-denominational organization founded on the life teachings of Mother Teresa. Dr. Neal is encouraging us to consider offering their *Five Wishes* Advance Directive to our OCA faithful as a comprehensive legal document for end-of-life planning. It reportedly is America's most popular living will with more than 18 million copies in circulation.

Dr. Neal has been working with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese on a customized Orthodox version of *Five Wishes* that includes "Additional Instructions for Orthodox Christians" inside the specially designed cover. GOARCH uses this advance directive/living will as part of their Planned Giving Packet. CSHA has been in communication with Fr. James Kordaris, Director of Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism and pastor of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in NYC who kindly provided sample documents.

We are now contacting a number of OCA chaplains, one of whom is ethics director at a hospital, and healthcare professionals in order to gather opinions on applicability of this living will for our faithful. Responses have been enthusiastic in support of an Orthodox Living Will. Whether *Five Wishes* is a feasible model is yet to be determined. Consultation with ethics and legal advisors is necessary.

Annual Church World Service (CWS) Meeting

Arlene Kallaur was an official representative of the OCA and CSHA at the April 2014 CWS Annual Meeting. (Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky is an OCA representative as well.) Also attending were Fr. Alexander Kuchta, Dr. Constantine Kallaur and Michael Strelka. CWS was restructured in 2013 and is now a separate organization from the National Council of Churches. There are 37 faith groups, two being the OCA and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. CWS is consolidating its work into some 30 countries, continuing its work in disaster relief and country development with partner agencies, one of which is the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). The CWS Refugee Resettlement Program remains active. CSHA continues to promote two parish level programs: the CWS CROP Walks to help eradicate hunger worldwide and the Gift of the Heart Kits, so vitally important to disaster response for CWS and IOCC. OCA's annual \$500 donation to CWS is funded by the CSHA budget.

18th All-American Council

Planning is underway for the 2015 AAC in Atlanta, GA. CSHA will have a display in the Exhibit Hall and a workshop titled **"Send Me Lord!" Expanding Our Vision through Matthew 25 Ministries** to raise awareness of the needs of "the least of these" and provide resources to facilitate action by parishes to meet those needs.

The Orthodox Church in America
Department of Continuing Education

Report to the Metropolitan Council
September 2014

Clergy Participation:

Self-Reporting

Clergy self-reporting is the principal method by which the Department gathers data on clergy participation in Continuing Education. This is facilitated by an online form, accessible on the *oca.org* website. In the first eight months of 2014, the Department received 239 self-reports by priests serving under the omophoria of nine diocesan bishops or *locum tenentes*.

Hierarchal Initiatives

Six dioceses have invited the Department to present offerings at their Clergy Conferences or Symposia. Notably, the Romanian Episcopate and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey have organized annual diocesan gatherings, at which clergy are able to fulfill all or almost all of their annual Continuing Education requirements. In addition, clergy in the Indianapolis area, and in the Carolinas Deanery of the Diocese of the South, are to be commended for organizing ongoing efforts to provide Continuing Education at the local level.

Legal, Professional and Ethical Topics:

Clergy Sexual Misconduct Education

Six of twelve dioceses have now offered the first course on Sexual Misconduct to their clergy. The Department will contact the remaining dioceses to encourage their participation during the next year.

The Bulgarian Diocese also admitted laypersons to participate in the course together with clergy. The resulting experience was positive and uplifting, as each constituency heard comments and observations from the other. The Department intends to make this course generally available to laypersons in the future.

Leadership and Management

The Department conducted an online Needs Assessment in 2012. “Leadership and Management” was reported to be the area of highest perceived need by respondents to that assessment. Accordingly, the Department is including an introductory module on the topic in its second round of offerings for 2014-2015

Future Work

Proposed Conference

At the initiation of His Eminence Archbishop Benjamin in 2013, the Department began to explore creation of a curriculum for the pastoral care of those who have experienced the loss of a child, particularly by infant death, stillbirth, miscarriage or abortion. In 2014-2015, the Department will collaborate with the Committee for Pastoral Practice, of the Assembly of Orthodox Bishops of the United States, on an invitational conference to further this work.

On-Site Offerings:

Early in 2014, the Department presented a second offering at the annual “Clergy Confertreat” of the Romanian Episcopate. During the fall, the Department will present to the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey.

Until now, the Department has relied on invitation by a diocesan bishop before presenting Continuing Education offerings in a diocese. During the remainder of 2014, the Department will contact bishops of nonparticipating dioceses directly, to encourage their participation in Clergy Sexual Misconduct Education specifically, and in Clergy Continuing Education generally.

V. Rev. Ian G. Pac-Urar
Director

Department of Evangelization

Priest John Parker, Chair

Report for Fall 2014

PLANTING GRANTS

All planting grant applications are in for the coming year. I will be evaluating them and making my recommendations shortly. At present, we support 5 parish grants (in 5 diocese), plus a non-traditional grant to Mexico. In December, two of the missions will graduate the grant, opening two spots. I have not had a request for a third year to Mexico. Of the current applications, fewer are looking “traditional”—that is strongly-based missions who, in all likelihood could be self-sufficient within three years of a grant. There are a few, but the pool is not as strong as it has been.

DIOCESAN WORK

I am invited and scheduled to speak at the Diocese of NY/NJ in November, at their Assembly in Endicott, NY.

OCMC

Board Meeting:

Represent the OCA on the Board of the OCMC. Attended meeting in June by teleconference.

Trip to Albania:

As an OCMC board member, attended and served at the consecration of the Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Tirana, Albania. Visited with OCMC missionaries. Assisted Archbishop Nikon; visited School, Seminary, Monastery, and other ‘resurrected’ ministries of the Albanian Church.

Mission to Mexico:

The bulk of my departmental time for this Summer was the OCMC/OCA team to Mexico. This is the second year of the team; last year it was organized strictly in-house (OCA) by Fr Ted Pisarchuk and Fr Antonio Perdomo. This year, it was done in partnership with the OCMC with some decent success. We were 10 on the team. I assisted on the team this year, mainly in order to observe with my own eyes how this is going, and in what direction it might head. The OCA sent \$4000 last year to purchase land in a remote village, on which a house/missionary center is to be built. I visited the land, and spoke with Abp Alejo and the local priest-in-charge about the building plans.

While we had budgeted in the Planting Grant \$15,000 last year and the same for 2014 for Mexico, wires crossed, and only a portion was sent last year. This has been worked out with Melanie. The balance of the funds will build a three or so story building with a priest’s residence, housing for a dozen short-term team members, and meeting space, as I understand it. Once the OCA funds are there, construction can begin, and it is hope to complete this before the team next year.

The teams right now are catechetical, as the village has had only 2 weeks with a priest per year. The residence will allow him to move there, and for San Esteban to be a hub for other village missionary work close by.

A second, additional, team could be sent next year to do construction-type work, mainly to help repair and beautify the churches. Whereas the main team must be Spanish-speaking, the second team would require only one Spanish-speaker, in order to translate for the team.

I highly recommend that you take the time to go and witness this work with your own eyes. It is time-consuming and very rustic, but to my mind, it is the closest to the Russian Mission of 1794 that any of us could see with our own eyes today.

MEDIA

Website

I am working on the [goodnews.oca.org](http://www.goodnews.oca.org) website, which should be up soon. It will be functional, but incomplete. The Journal portion and the Russian Language portions need content and more planning. You can see the site now, if you'd care to:
www.goodnews.oca.org

Ancient Faith Radio

I continue my regular podcast "Lord, Send Me!" on Ancient Faith Radio. Interviews, reflections, and commentary on the Great Commission.

I am scheduled to join Fr Barnabas Powell on a new AFR show on Sunday Night, Sept, 14. The topic that night is practical evangelism. The Chairs of the GOA and the AOCA are also invited to participate.

Orthodox Christian Network (OCN)

I was recently asked, and accepted, to write at least monthly for the Orthodox Christian Network, a remarkably sizable venue for sharing our teachings on Evangelization.

OUTREACH EFFORTS

Navigators

In June in Colorado Springs, CO, Fr Jason Foster attended Orthonet, a meeting of Orthodox Christian leaders and Navigator staff to discuss discipleship and evangelism, and possible collaboration between us. See attached report. Fr Jason indicated that it was a few days devoted almost entirely to a presentation of Orthodoxy by the Orthodox, with many questions asked and many new friendships forged.

Anglican Church in North America

We did not have our typical meeting this Spring/Summer, in part due to the change in ACNA leadership, with the retirement of Archbishop Robert Duncan in June, and the election of a new Archbishop, Foley Beach. A tentative date for Dec 12, 2014 has been suggested, on the west coast.

Saddleback Church/Rick Warren

I am in touch with Rick Warren, but do not have a plan at the moment to return to his Church to teach this year, though he has indicated an openness to that.

CONVERSATIONS

- ❖ I have had extensive conversations with and reporting to Fr John Vitko and Protodeacon Michael Myers.

- ❖ I had an extensive conversation with Andrew Boyd about the Good News Website, to learn from his excellent work on the Youth site and Wonder Blog.

IDEAS

Replica Alaskan Chalice

I have a conversation started with Abp Alejo and Bp David in order to make replica copies of the beautiful St Innocent-Era sterling Chalice at the Kodiak Cathedral. It is my hope that replicas can be made through Mexican Silversmiths of Abp Alejo's acquaintance, and can be sold throughout the OCA for the missionary benefit of both Dioceses. It could be a beautiful partnership.

If we are able to do this, a copy of such a chalice set may be an important gift to give to the Russian Church, perhaps, on the 225th anniversary of 1794?

Mexico/Alaska Missionary Exchange

I would also like to promote and facilitate a missionary interchange/visit between Mexico and Alaska. They have so much in common, and so much to learn from one another.

Catechism/Discipleship Retreat/Summit

I would like to organize a small meeting of 5-10 priests to discuss the various approaches to Catechism and Discipleship, to see if we might find common vision to share across the OCA.

Alaskan Spotlight

I would like to reach out to help facilitate a better national awareness of the Missionary Treasury of our Church, beginning with Alaska.

ON THE RADAR SCREEN

- ❖ Visit to St Tikhon's Seminary
- ❖ Visit to St Herman's Seminary

With gratitude for the honor and privilege,

Respectfully submitted by

Fr John Parker

September 2, 2014

Fall 2014 Department Report

[Institutional Chaplaincy Department]

1 DEPARTMENT MANDATE

The Department of Institutional Chaplaincies supports the ministry of full and part-time hospital, hospice, long-term care, prison, fire, police chaplains, and those in other settings.

The Orthodox Church in America is a member of the Commission for Ministry in Specialized Settings (COMISS Network) and endorses chaplains to serve in specific institutional settings and toward certification with the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC), the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE), and the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP).

Archpriest Steven Voytovich serves as the Department's Director, supporting the formal endorsement process for institutional chaplains and facilitating dialogue among those ministering in a variety of institutional settings.

2. DEPARTMENT MEMBERS & RESOURCE PEOPLE

Chair: V. Rev. Dr. Steven Voytovich

Resource People: V. Rev. Theodore Boback

Members: V. Rev. John Maxwell, Frs. John

V. Rev. Sergei Bouteneff

Brown Paul Fetsko, Alexandre Ioukkliaevskikh,
Michael Medis, Timothy Hasencz, Dn. David Neff,
Sarah Byrne, Logan Johnson, Elaine Mayol,
Anna Nikitina Larisa Waya,

Website: www.orthinc.org

3. BUDGET REVIEW

- 2013 Budget Actual: \$6,000 stipend, roughly \$4,350 expenses (most expenses come near the end of the year for this department and some not reflected by Dec. 20 close).
- 2014 Budget: \$6,000 stipend, \$4,925 expenses.

4. HIGHLIGHTS AND PROJECTED FUTURE INITIATIVES

- A number of already certified chaplains needed updated endorsements for five-year reviews.
- Earlier this year, Logan Johnson was both commissioned and endorsed for chaplaincy in Ohio.
- Fr. John Brown will soon begin new Federal Correctional position in US Penitentiary in Atlanta, Georgia.
- Fr. Paul Fetsko was named the Director of Ethics for the Mercy Fort Smith communities, which includes our main hospital, four critical access hospitals, and over 30 clinics, beginning service in July.
- Fr. Stephen Powley, now Executive Director of OCPM, visited St. Tikhon's Seminary to meet with seminarians visiting local correctional facility. In the context of this meeting, we held significant dialogue around endorsement processes already in place for their consideration. It is hoped that Fr. Stephen will attend our endorsement meetings in January.
- Fr. Steven presented on the Department of Institutional Chaplaincy to our Metropolitan Council (Feb. 6th) and Holy Synod (March 20th) at respective Spring meetings.

Future Developments:

- We are featuring a number of our institutional chaplains in their ministry contexts on our www.orthinc.org website during this year, as well as opportunities for continued exchange.
- With the advent of now two jurisdictions having similar endorsement processes, we need to continue dialogue toward implementation of uniform approach to institutional chaplaincy endorsement.
- Complete Compassion-in-Action program with CSHA Department to empower laypersons to engage in ministry and mentoring skills among the clergy with the support available through those who have received clinical training in ministry represented by our institutional chaplains.
 - The first portion of this program is nearly complete as of the writing of this report.
 - Our presentation at Parish Ministries workshop sought volunteers to serve as facilitators.

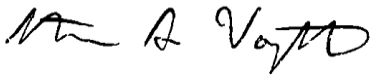
- Support the Strategic Plan:
 - Our chaplains can assist with clergy continuing education; seminarian training. Fr. Steven began a dialogue with Fr. Ian, now in charge of continuing education about the ongoing continuing education chaplains are already undertaking (at least 50 hours each year). We hope to come to some kind of understanding so that chaplains are not having to duplicate continuing education in chaplaincy and church settings.
 - CiA Program will assist parishes in engaging in ministry development
 - Continue to represent our OCA in the greater pastoral care and counseling arena
- Hopefully opportunities will arise to continue the dialogue begun one year ago with our Orthodox Campus Fellowships (OCF) to support their chaplains.

5. COMMENTS

As the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops itself is going through growing pains, it remains challenging to discern where we as OCA should stand in relation to institutional chaplaincy and endorsement. At the least, the program in place is working and assisting our clergy and faithful to serve in institutional chaplaincy roles, and the OCA continues to have the most significant experience in the non-military institutional chaplaincy arena alongside military chaplaincy.

It remains meaningful for me to serve in the role of Department Director, and I look forward to supporting our growing number of chaplains serving in a variety of settings. For the first time this month I was able to locate an OCA chaplain entering supervisory training through facebook, and in time others will grow into leadership roles to continue the important work of the members of this department in ministering between the parish and broader community.

Respectfully submitted,



The V. Rev. Dr. Steven Voytovich, Director
Department of Institutional Chaplaincies

Orthodox Church in America
Department of Liturgical Music and Translations
Report to the Holy Synod and the Metropolitan Council – Fall 2014

A. Music Downloads

Since January, 2002, the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations has produced “downloadable” sheet music on a weekly and seasonal basis for the “Liturgical Music Downloads” section of the OCA website. The Troparia and Kontakia Project has been completed as all days of the liturgical and calendar year are provided with troparia and kontakia. Over 2,400 individual settings of troparia and kontakia representing a variety of chant settings (Russian Common Chant/Bakhmetev-Lvov Obikhod, Kievan, Greek (Russo), Galician, Carpatho-Russian, Serbian, Byzantine, and Bulgarian) are posted on the website and available for free downloading.

During the past five years most of the required music for the services of Vespers, Matins, and the Divine Liturgy for the major feasts of the Church, Pre-Lenten and Lenten Sundays and Palm Sunday, has been prepared and posted on the website. The Department plans to fully complete this project by the end of 2015.

Last year we began working on the texts and music the Kanons for Resurrection Matins and the stichera on the Praises at Matins. The texts for Tones 1 through 4 have been reviewed, corrected, and revised. Kanon tones 1, 2, 3, and 4 have been completed and posted on the website. We hope to complete Tones 5-8 by Summer, 2015.

Music for the Vigil services for the individual American saints is currently in production. The music for the Vigil to St Herman (Glorification, Aug 9) and St Raphael of Brooklyn has been completed and posted. The Department is currently preparing (and posting) music for the commemorations of Hieromonk Juvenaly and Peter the Aleut (Sept 24), St Innocent (March 31, Oct 6), St Tikhon (April 7, Oct 9), St Alexis (May 7), St Jacob the Enlightener (July 26), and the Holy New Martyrs of Alaska (Sept 24). Sources of texts for newly-canonized saints – i.e., St John Maximovich, etc. need to be authorized.

The services (music setting of all sung parts plus texts of prayers and litanies) for Baptism, Matrimony, and the Burial of a Priest have been completed and posted on the website. The Department in 2015 will begin preparing similar collections for the Panikhida, the Burial of a Layperson, and the Burial of a Child.

All the texts that are set to music and posted on the website are reviewed, corrected, and revised when necessary by competent translators who are fluent in Greek, Slavonic, and English. Translators include Archimadrite Juvenaly (Repass), Father Benedict Churchhill and Dr Elizabeth Theokritoff. Proofreading and grammatical corrections are done by Dr. Vladimir Morosan. Final texts are then reviewed by Dr. Paul Meyendorff and the members of the Department. Setting of music in *finale* is done by V. Rev. Lawrence Margitich, Deacon Gregory Ealy, Dr Kevin Lawrence, David Lucs, and John Black.

B. Texts for Liturgical Services

In 2013 approximately 200 liturgical services containing the so-called *Propers* of Vespers, pointed to be sung according to the Common Chant, were posted on the website. Approximately the same number will be posted in 2014. These include services for all feasts and saints that call for a Vigil in the “official” Liturgical Calendar, in addition to the services of the Presanctified Liturgy during Lent and the services of Holy Week. The services are put together by the Chairman, rubric outlines are provided by Archimandrite Juvenaly and the texts are proofread by Dr. Vladimir Morosan. Plans are underway for the posting of Texts for Liturgical Services in both the “You-Your” and “Thee-Thou” format, beginning in October, 2014.

C. Tutorial for the Study of the Eight Tones

Part I of the Tutorial for the learning of the Church Tones, including both the Obikhod (Common Chant) and Kievan “melodies” used for the singing of the *stichera* (Part I), has been completed and has been posted on the website. The scheme of the tutorial is to break down each tone and identify its musical phrases. The sequence for the proper use of the melodic phrases is fully explained as well as the “formula” (intonation pattern, the recitation pitch of the body of the phrase, and cadence) for each melodic line. All phrases are illustrated with musical and textual examples.” Recorded choral demonstrations of the written examples for each tone are presented, including full (SATB) choir, and individual lines for soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. The Tutorial will eventually include analysis and learning tools for the Prokeimena, Kanons, Special Melodies (Podoben), and Psalm verses. Work is now underway on Part II of this tutorial, which will include the tones for the chanting of the Prokeimena. Part I of the Tutorial was written by David Drillock and Deacon Gregory Ealy; Dr Vladimir Morosan did the editing and provided musical assistance.

D. Audio Files for Teaching Liturgical Music

The Department has made available on the website audio files (MP3) for Tones 1-8 in both Obikhod and Kievan chant arrangements for the “Tutorial for study of the Eight Tones, Part I.” Recorded choral demonstrations of the written examples for each tone are presented, including full (SATB) choir, and individual lines for soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. The recordings for the tutorial were done by singers of St. Mary’s Orthodox Church in Minneapolis, MN, under the direction of Deacon Gregory Ealy.

E. Music for the Church School

The Department of Liturgical Music, in cooperation with the Department of Christian Education, will inaugurate the first of a series of materials that will acquaint our young persons with the liturgical, poetical, and musical forms that are used in our liturgical services. Two segments (Cosmas of Maium and Kassiane) have been written by Dr. Elizabeth Theokritoff, and reviewed by the Department of Christian Education which is also preparing lesson plans. Examples of hymns, set to music and sung by a church choir, are being prepared by the Department of Music.

The first segment in 2015 will be devoted to the St Germanos of Constantinople, and will be written by Dr. Stig Symeon Froyshov.

F. On-line Course in Choral Conducting

In Fall and Winter, 2012-13, the on-line course for Beginning Choir Directors was offered by the Department to interested and beginning choir directors in the Diocese of New York-New Jersey. Bishop Michael and the Diocese's Commission on Liturgical Music promoted the on-line course and assisted in the recruiting of students. Seven of the eight students (not all were from the Diocese of New York-New Jersey) who were enrolled in the class completed all twelve sessions successfully.

Based on course evaluations submitted by the participants, minor adjustments were made to the course and the Department offered the course again, beginning October 1, 2013 and ending in January, 2014. A total of 19 students from all areas of the United States and Canada (and one from England) enrolled for the course. 13 of the 19 students successfully completed the course.

The on-line course will be given again, beginning September 15, 2014.

The first part of the course places special emphasis on the relationship between text and music, accented and non-accented syllables; exercises are focused on learning the beat patterns. The second half of the course concentrated on techniques of conducting chant, singing in phrases, analyzing specific examples of both metered and unmetered music, and preparing the music for conducting. Each session consisted of video and textual teaching demonstrations. Weekly each student meets on-line via *skype video system* with the teacher of the course, Prof David Drillock, who also provides written weekly evaluations to the participants.

Music examples were sung by choir members of St Paul Orthodox Church, Dayton, Ohio. Video recording for the sessions was done by Dr Mark Pearson, Instructional Technologist and Designer at Earlham College. Dr Pearson designed the online course format and provided technical support and program assistance.

Respectively submitted,

David Drillock, Chairperson
Department of Liturgical Music and Translations
Orthodox Church in America
September 4, 2014

Youth and Young Adults Department Report Spring 2014 Metropolitan Council Meeting Andrew Boyd

The work of this Department continues, at pace, and with several new initiatives in the works. Overall, the department continues to undertake ambitious projects with limited resources and would still benefit from more direct guidance from the Church at large as to what our intended mission should be. Should we be supporting local (i.e. parish, deanery, and diocesan) efforts? Should we be encouraging Church-wide programs and initiatives? Or should we seed ministry efforts to the dioceses and parishes while merely providing administrative functions (such as representing the OCA on the OCF Board and the Episcopal Assembly Youth Committee). Currently, we are attempting all three models with limited resources.

Wonder Blog

The popular and now long-running blog has recently received a major facelift and technical upgrade. Besides the redesign, there were several major "back-end" upgrades that will allow us to continue to enhance and tweak the design in the coming months. Now that the bulk of the redesign is done, we can focus again on publishing on a more regular schedule. Check out the new site! wonder.oca.org

OCF

We continue to be represented on the OCF board by Deacon Alexander Cadman (Diocese of Western Pennsylvania) and Bill Birchfield (Romanian Episcopate). Their contributions to the leadership and administration of this important ministry are incalculable. The OCA continues to bear an important leadership role in OCF and continues its strong financial support as well.

In September, we will celebrate together as a Church the 50th Anniversary of the Chapel of the Transfiguration at Princeton University, one of the forerunners to our modern OCF ministry. Started by the late Father John Turkevich (a distinguished professor of Chemistry at Princeton), this ministry has been a vibrant witness to the Gospel on that esteemed campus all these years.

As we are again at the beginning of many academic years, I encourage all members of the OCA to find ways to support campus ministry in the coming year.

ROCOR

Conference

For the first time, the OCA was represented at ROCOR's All-Diaspora Youth Conference held this year in San Francisco. Myself and two other young adults attended the conference which featured liturgical services, workshops, fellowship, community service, and the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Saint John of San Francisco's canonization. This is the first time OCA youth have joined in formally, and we look forward to extending invitations to their youth to our upcoming programs.

Pilgrimages

It was my hope this year to reinstate the long tradition of young adult service pilgrimages to Alaska, our mother diocese. Unfortunately, we were not able to make that happen this summer, but plans are underway for a service trip to Alaska in June of 2015.

Social Media

Our active engagement on Facebook continues. We are currently working on my video offering and series as we move into the end of 2014 and into 2015. We also hope to have an interactive social media display in the exhibit section of the upcoming All-American Council and to offer a workshop for attendees on the missionary aspects of social media.

AAC

Most of the effort of our department in the coming months will be dedicated to rebuilding our once robust All-American Council youth program. There has been no Youth component since the All-American Council in Toronto in 2005. We are rebuilding the program from the ground up, with Father Benjamin Tucci running the operations and planning. We are in need of volunteers and attendees for all age groups.

Fall Report Office of Orthodox Church in America Military and Veterans Affairs Medical Center Chaplaincies

Very Rev. Theodore Boback, Jr. – Dean/Executive Director OCA Military and VA Chaplaincy
Very Reverend Joseph Gallick - Assistant Dean/Deputy Director OCA Military and VA Chaplaincy

Vision

The Orthodox Military Chaplain is an Orthodox Priest in uniform serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The Veterans Affairs Medical Center Chaplain serves in the Department of Veterans Affairs in a medical center. They are active members of the respective chaplaincy and share a common core of professional responsibilities for worship services, personal counseling, administrative duties, pastoral visitations, cultural activities, humanitarian projects, moral leadership, and appropriate collateral duty assignments.

They in addition to fulfilling the disciplines, dogmas, doctrines of faith and other canonical directives required of all Orthodox Priests, comply with the administrative requirements of their Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agency.

They exercise their priestly mission in three ways: to those of the Orthodox Faith, to those of other faiths, and to those who have no religious affiliation.

Mission

The mission of the OCA's military chaplain is the propagation of the Orthodox Faith; to serve, worship, and love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and to bring spiritual nourishment and enlightenment to thousands of Orthodox military personnel and their families serving their country throughout the world.

The mission of the Veterans Affairs (VA) Chaplains is to counsel and to bring spiritual nourishment through the Holy Sacraments to hundreds of Orthodox veterans in VA Medical Centers throughout the United States of America.

Operation

The Office of Military Chaplaincies operates directly under the supervision of the Metropolitan and forms a unique deanery of the Church. According to the Statutes of the Orthodox Church in America (Article II section 5) deaneries within the boundaries of a diocese are established by the diocesan council. However, the Dean of Orthodox Military Chaplains is appointed by and directly responsible to the Metropolitan (Cf. Article II, section 7p).

The Executive Director and Dean of Chaplains is the chief administrator for the Metropolitan in all matters concerning the OCA chaplains in the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and the Veterans Administration. The Executive Director/Dean is the representative of the Metropolitan to the National Conference of Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF) and the Endorsers Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (ECVAC). The Assistant Executive Director works together with the Executive Director. The Executive Director/Dean and the Assistant Executive Director recruit and screen candidates for the chaplaincy, prepare ecclesiastical endorsement for the Metropolitan and maintain contact with all Orthodox chaplains and with the Executive Director of the Armed Services Chaplains Board, Military Chief of Chaplains and the VA National Staff Chaplain and chaplain staff. . They do this through telecommunications, email, correspondence, and by participating in various meetings and site visitations throughout the world. The Executive Director/Dean provides guidance to chaplains serving throughout the world on spiritual matters and ensures that Orthodox personnel, regardless of where they are

stationed can freely exercise their religious beliefs. The Executive Director/Dean attends all conferences and executive board committee meetings of the NCMAF and ECVAC.

The Military chaplains from the Orthodox Church in America serve in the United States Armed Forces in the United States, Germany, Korea, Japan, and the Middle East, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Endorser's Conferences:

The annual National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF), the Endorsers Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (ECVAC) and the Armed Forces Chaplains Board with the three branches Chief of Chaplains will be conducted in January 2015.

Jack Lea, retired CAPTAIN. CHC, USN is the new coordinator for NCMAF and ECVAC. Jack Williamson had retired from the coordinator position after 15 years of service.

I will participate in the NCMAF/ECVAC executive board meeting in September in Alexandria, VA.

Military Chaplains:

Orthodox Military Chaplains perform a full cycle of liturgical services including Vespers, Matins, Divine Liturgy, Feast Days, and services during Advent, Great Lent, the Dormition and Apostles Fasts, Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts and administering the Sacraments of the Church.

Continued deployment in particular of Orthodox Priests to the Middle East during the Nativity of Christ and Theophany, Holy Week and Pascha, and Dormition Fast and Feast day. This was based upon a request initially written by his Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman (Swaiko) and reaffirmed by Metropolitan Jonah (Paffhausen) to the Army Chief of Chaplains.

Fr Peter Dubinin serves in Kuwait

Fr George Hill selected for graduate schooling, he will attend the University of Virginia where he will study Ethics. Afterwards he is scheduled to join the faculty of the JAG School to teach ethics for three years at Charlottesville, VA.

Included among the Ministry Concern of our chaplain are:

Spiritual Renewal, Ministry of Present, Readiness, Interfaith and Ecumenical Ministries Programs, outreach programs, service on various boards such as family action; biomedical ethics, advisory councils.

Military and VA Chaplain Personnel Strength

Personnel Statistics have changed through the years and continues to change based on requirements of the United States Armed Forces and the Veterans Affairs Medical Centers in fulfilling its missions.

Military Personnel Strength.

Our current personnel outlook is reflected in the following table: In each column the figure at the left indicate the number of OCA Chaplains while the figures within the parentheses indicate the number of non-OCA Orthodox Chaplains. The bottom line – "Totals" shows the total number of Orthodox Chaplains from all jurisdictions.

BRANCH	Active Duty	Reserve Component
Air Force	3 (3)	1 (1)
Army	5 (3)	4 (1)
Navy	3 (7)	1 (0)
Subtotals	11 (13)	6 (2)
Totals	24	8

Projections: There will be four losses on the active duty side this fiscal year. Among those are one OCA Priest, two Antiochian Archdiocese Priest and one priest of the Greek Archdiocese.

ACTIVE DUTY FORCES

46% OCA
 29% Antiochian Archdiocese
 17% Greek Archdiocese
 8% ROCOR

RESERVE COMPONENT

75% OCA

Chaplain Candidates

Currently there are several seminarians who are participating in the chaplain candidate programs in either the United States Army or the United States Air Force. The seminarians attend St. Tikhon and St Vladimir Seminaries.

Chaplaincy Specialized Training

Both the Military and VA Chaplains received training in their particular areas.

Most if not all Orthodox Military Chaplains have training in suicide prevention, moral leadership training, personal value/values clarification, stress management, marriage enrichment, chaplain orientation, and crisis incident response and critical incident stress management.

Some of the chaplains receive specialized training in areas including: ethics, family life, alcohol and drug counseling, fund management, administration, combat developments, training and curriculum development, task analysis and development, total quality management, facility management, security management, interpersonal relationship development, leadership development, organizational effectiveness and development, marriage and family life training and counseling; clinical pastoral education; hospital ministry; and confinement ministry and volunteerism.

Both the military and VA chaplain are good resources for speaking at retreats and workshops.

Military Orthodox Priests are assigned throughout the world. The following is a list of current Orthodox Church in America military Priests serving our nation and location.

Active Duty

United States Air Force

Father Ioan I Dumitrascu Chaplain, Captain USAF Langley AFB, Virginia

Father Eugene Lahue, Chaplain, Major, Captain, USAF – Keesler Air Force Base
Father Thaddeus Werner, Chaplain, Captain, USAF – Lackland AFB, Texas

United States Army

Father Peter A. Baktis, Chaplain (COL) USA Fort Belvoir, VA
Father Peter Dubinin, Chaplain (LTC) USA Kuwait
Father. George Hill, Chaplain (MAJ) attending graduate school.
Father Sean Levine, Chaplain (CPT), USA, Fort Bliss, Texas
Father George Oanca, Chaplain (CPT) USA Fort Carson, Colorado

United States Navy

Father Jerome Cwikslinski CAPT CHC USN Hawaii Fr Jerome is schedule to retire in November 2014..

Father Stephen Duesenberry LCDR CHC USN Miramar - San Diego, CA

Father Eugene Wozniak LCDR CHC USN Cam Lejeune North Carolina

Reserve Component

United States Air Force

Father Oliver Herbel Chaplain, Captain, USAFR

United States Army

Father Ian Burgess, Chaplain (CPT) USAR
Father Danut Palanceau Chaplain Captain USAFR
Father James Parnell, Chaplain (CPT) USAR
Father James Sizemore Chaplain (CPT) USAR

United State Navy

LTJG Herman Kincaid, CHC USN

Retired Military Chaplains

There are over 30 retired Orthodox Priests from the United States Armed Forces with over of them serving within the OCA in various ministries. The retired chaplains have a range of special skills and are an additional asset within our Orthodox Church. Please read the Continuing Education Report within the Strategic Plan as well as the paragraphs above for more information.

Veterans Affairs Medical Center Chaplains

Father Joseph Martin, VAMC, Wilkes-Barre, PA and Father Sergei C. Bouteneff VAMC Newington, CT serve as the Chief of Chaplain Service at their respective VAMC. Father Philip Reese serves in a full time position at the Miami VAMC. We are grateful for their ministry.

VA Chaplains might attend training that equips them to perform specific tasks and or to fill certain positions such as PTSD, palliative care, substance abuse; etc.

There are nine OCA Priests who serve our VAMCs

Father Sergei C. Bouteneff – Newington, CT
Father Igor Burdikoff – Albany, NY

Father Daniel Degyansky – Manhattan, NY
Father John Klembara – Brecksville, OH
Father Joseph Martin – Wilkes-Barre, PA
Father Philip Reese, Miami, FL
Father Paul Suda – Pittsburgh, PA
Father Michael Westerberg – New Haven, CT
Father George York, Pittsburgh, PA

ENDORISING CONFERENCES

- The Orthodox Church in America continues to be an active member and participant in the National Conference of Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF) and the Endorser Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (ECVAC). The membership is comprised of more than 200 faith groups and denominations.
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- The Orthodox Church in America is recognized by each of these organizations and the Military Chief of Chaplains and the VA National Chaplain Center as the endorser for OCA priests. To be considered for the military or veterans affairs medical center chaplaincy, a candidate must first have his Diocesan Bishop's Blessing, then an ecclesiastical endorsement from the Metropolitan, which is prepared by the Director of the OCA Chaplaincies as well as meet the requirements of the United States Armed Forces or the Veterans Affairs Medical Center National Chaplain Office.
-
- As noted earlier, Fr. Theodore Boback serves as a member of the organizations and has served in the past on the executive board of NCMAF and currently serves on the executive board of ECVAC – having been reelected at the recent meeting in Virginia. He in the past served as chair of the group.

In conclusion, thanks to all who continue to support the Office of Chaplaincies, to Fr. Joseph Gallick the Deputy Director, to our active duty, reserve component, VA and retired chaplains and various members of the office, to the Chancery Officers and Staff for their consultation on concerns and various items. We express especially our gratitude to the Hierarchs for their prayers and for their support of providing qualified chaplains for the active and reserve forces of the United States Armed Forces. We ask that you continue to remember our chaplains and family members in your prayers. An update of the chaplaincies will be given at the upcoming Metropolitan Council Meeting

Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA)
President's Report to the Metropolitan Council
September 2014
Respectfully Submitted by President Becky Tesar

The FOCA held another successful National Convention in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 25 through July 28, 2014. We are thankful that His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, His Eminence Archbishop Melchisedek, His Grace Bishop Mark and the Very Reverend Father Jillions were able to attend.

Outreach:

We completed another successful St. Nicholas Day Gift Campaign for our seminarian families. This program has become an integral part of our charitable giving. We have completed our 2014 Gifts of Love Campaign which was designated to raise money to purchase the components of and assemble prayer kits for our Orthodox service men and women stationed around the globe.

Our 2015 Gifts of Love campaign will raise money for St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center, located in Farmdale, Ohio.

St. Tikhon's Married Student Housing

We are still collecting funds to meet our \$300,000 pledge to the seminary. We have raised approximately \$190,000 in donations to St. Tikhon's and plan to fulfill our pledge by July 2015.

National Conventions:

Plans are currently underway for our 89th National Convention which will be held in conjunction with the 18th All American Council of the OCA in Atlanta in July of 2015. This is a unique opportunity for our members who may not normally have the ability to attend an AAC to share in that experience. It is also our hope that those unfamiliar with the FOCA will have the opportunity to interact with our members and learn more about our organization.

Juniors:

Marge Kovach continues to do an excellent job heading our Junior department. Several of our Juniors participated in a Bowlathon for IOCC. It is heartening to see our young members getting involved in charitable activities!

National Junior Summer Sports

July 6-12 saw a very successful week for our annual National Junior Summer Sports Camping week under the direction of Deacon Daniel and Catrina Kovalak. We had another record number of campers registered for the weeklong camping session. This is an excellent opportunity for our Orthodox youth from across the country to meet, socialize and compete in friendly sporting events.

Communications Director

Based on 2013 Convention action, the Executive Board has hired a Communications Director. After posting the job description, we received resumes from many qualified individuals. Please join me in congratulating Angelika Delimaris who accepted the position of FOCA Communications Director. Angel is well qualified for this position bringing experience from various business roles including Area Sales Manager, Key Accounts Manager/Social Media Manager and Marketing Consultant. She holds a B.S. in Finance from Rutgers State University as well as an MBA from the University of Delaware.

Angel is an active member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, and resides in Somers Point, New Jersey.

As Communications Director for the FOCA, Angel will be responsible for executing the FOCA’s communication plans as well as implementing our social media strategy with the goal of developing awareness, increasing engagement, generating website traffic and encouraging donations. She will also produce collateral materials including website content, press releases, articles and newsletters; collect and maintain event updates, articles and other content for posting on the FOCA website; develop and maintain media contacts and develop and maintain a membership database.

Upcoming Events:

2015 National Basketball Tournament	May 15-17	Cleveland, Ohio
2015 National Bowling Tournament	TBD	Columbus, Ohio
2015 National Junior Summer Sports Camp	TBD	Farmdale, Ohio
89 th National Convention	July 18-20	Atlanta, Georgia
2015 Celebrations of Faith Creative Arts Contest		

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to share this update on the FOCA with you. Know that the Metropolitan Council, the Holy Synod and the OCA remain in our prayers and that we humbly ask you to keep the FOCA, its members and works in your prayers.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Tesar
FOCA President