



**Metropolitan Council Meeting**

**Spring 2013**

**Committees/Departments Reports**



**Meeting of the Metropolitan Council  
February 26 to February 28, 2013  
Committees/Departments Reports  
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## Charity Committee Report

In November of 2012 the Charity Committee authorized a distribution to International Orthodox Christian Charities in the amount of \$5,000.00. Since the last MC meeting, there has been a total of \$2,300.00 in donations to the Charity fund, and the balance in the fund as of January 31, 2012 was \$12,535.38.

A unique situation arose in December regarding someone who wanted to make a very specific and anonymous donation; a situation that had a rather brief window of opportunity which the Charity Committee now sees as a “teaching moment.”

A donor who insisted on his/her own peculiar type of anonymity called the chancery, wanting to donate \$10,000 to Hurricane Sandy relief. He/she did not want to donate to IOCC or any of the usual charities like Red Cross. Melanie informed that the Diocese of New York/New Jersey had a relief effort in place for flood victims and suggested the donation go there directly. The donor insisted that it would be more anonymous to make the donation through the OCA. In order to expedite this important opportunity, Melanie received the money from the donor and passed the funds through the Charity fund. Protodeacon Michael agreed and, since it seemed to be a rather small window of opportunity, the rest of the Charity Committee was not consulted. While the process was the only one that likely made sense under the circumstances, in the future the committee has informed Protodeacon Michael that they would like (and according to our policy ought) to be informed and involved in decision-making if such a situation would arise again.

Orthodox Church in America  
 Schedule of Temporarily Restricted Funds – Charity  
 Through January 31, 2013

	<b>Ending Balance as of December 31, 2011</b>		<b>\$15,235.38</b>
	<i>Donations received – 2012 &amp; January 2013</i>		2,300.00
12/18/12	Earmarked for Hurricane Relief		10,000.00
	<i>Distributions:</i>		
12/18/12	Earmarked for Diocese of NY/NJ Hurricane Relief Fund	(10,000.00)	
11/5/12	IOCC – Hurricane Sandy Relief	(5,000.00)	
	Total Distributions		(15,000.00)
	<b>Ending Balance as of January 31, 2013</b>		<b>\$12,535.38</b>

Report of the Council Development Committee  
Metropolitan Council Meeting  
Spring, 2013

Beginning with our first Metropolitan Council meeting of 2013, we are attempting to improve the quality and usefulness of our meetings in several ways. We -- the Council Development Committee, in consultation with His Beatitude and the Chancery officers -- look forward to strengthening a few basic norms that are already implicit in our present Council structure:

**(1) *Committees are where the action is.***

If you want to propose an idea, brainstorm new approaches, or dig more fully into details, the committee structure is where you need to be involved. The full body of the Metropolitan Council is not the proper place to spontaneously investigate an unanticipated problem or brainstorm new ideas. The responsibility of the Metropolitan Council is to take up action items that have been properly reviewed in advance by the appropriate committees of staff and MC members with recommendations for action.

**(2) *Agendas can be structured more efficiently.***

Starting with our February MC meeting, you will notice that there is some time built into the schedule so that new or unexpected items that need to be sent to committee - items we feel are time sensitive or need more work within committee before we can vote- can receive the attention they need without using up the time of the whole body.

We have also built in time for the Lesser Synod to meet, earlier in the day than has sometimes been the case.

Note: the time allowed for committees to meet is not intended for regular committee work but for pressing agenda-related items that may arise in the course of the MC meeting itself.

**(3) *MC meetings can be facilitated more efficiently.***

Better use of our committee structure makes our meetings easier to lead. His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon is looking forward to moderating his first MC meeting, and we believe that points **1** and **2** lead helpfully to **3**.

**(4) *MC retreat in the Fall.***

As Fr. Eric Tosi mentioned in his cover letter about our upcoming meeting, some ideas for improving the Council's effectiveness still need more time to implement. How to better prioritize agenda items in accord with suggestions from our last meeting are still very much a work in progress. We are planning a fall MC retreat to focus on a number of important areas that will ensure that our Church can get the best use of its elected MC membership in growing the life of our Church.

There are a few ongoing, practical issues our committee is looking at, but the real meat of our meeting time together is conveyed in this short report.

With joy in our Lord,

Archpriest David Lowell,  
Chair, Council Development Committee

Report of the Ethics Committee  
Metropolitan Council Meeting  
Spring, 2013

There is no written report.

**REPORT OF FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO THE  
METROPILTAN COUNCIL SPRING MEETING  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> TO 28<sup>TH</sup> , 2013  
EAST NORWICH INN, SYOSSET, 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, Michael, Synodal Liaison**

Diocese of New York and New Jersey

**V. Reverend David Lowell**

Diocese of West

**V. Reverend John J. Jillions, Ex-Officio**

Chancellor Orthodox Church in America

**V. Reverend John Shimchick**

Diocese of New York and New Jersey

**David M. Yeosock, PE, Chairman**

Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern  
Pennsylvania

**Janet Van Duyn**

Diocese of New York and New Jersey

**Melanie Ringa, OCA Treasurer**

Orthodox Church in America  
Chancery Liaison

**RESOURCES:**

The primary resource for the FDC originates from an invigorated umbrella gift giving organization 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, would be cultivated and solicited to provide earmarked and sequestered funds for individual ministries.

**PROJECTS SINCE LAST AAC:**

The FDC has initiated two minor 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. The second initiative was a letter request campaign initiated at the past AAC which solicited funds for evangelism and revitalization.

#### **FUTURE PLANS:**

The committee has held several teleconferences and meetings to begin to develop and refine our message to the Church at large. His Grace, Bishop Michael, has inspired and provided guidance to the committee sharing his years of fund raising experience. All members of the committee are committed to the task at hand and have provided enumerable resources and direction. Father David Lowell provided an overarching vision for a multi-year approach to fundraising. Janet Van Duyn has donated not only her passionate views and experience with fundraising but the printing, collation and distribution of documents. Melanie Ringa has responded to the administrative call; providing mailing lists, receiving funds and assuring the proper 501( c)(3) accounting protocols are followed. The consensus of the committee is the need for **the involvement of every single Metropolitan Council Member** if our fundraising efforts are to be a success. The committee has enlisted the help of our Chancellor utilizing the venue of the Spring MC Meeting as a springboard to his support and encouragement. The council has decided that evangelism/ revitalization would be a key focus of the fund raising effort expanding to other areas over time. Plans are underway to “push” video snippets of parishes with planting grants and begin to tell the “good news” in compelling and genuine short stories of active parish life. The committee will consider a reinvigorated the FOS, with the Chancellor as Director and Ex Officio Member of the Financial Development Committee.

#### **COMMENTS:**

His Beatitude, Metropolitan TIKHON, His Grace, 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.

The Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards (FOS) would be reestablished, with the FDC as advisory, to formulate the “case” for funding and training solicitors in the fundraising strategy. The solicitors, in turn, would employ one or several vehicle(s) of gift giving commitment. The solicitors (clergy and lay spokespeople) would then acknowledge the gift or commitment, its receipt, and its subsequent renewal and increase on an annual basis. In all, the solicitors would tap into their own spiritual and inner gifts.

Members of the Committee are soliciting comment, volunteers and will be providing much detail on this specific committee during the upcoming meeting.

**Respectfully Submitted**

**February 21, 2013**

Report of the Financial/Investment Committee  
Metropolitan Council Meeting  
Spring, 2013

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Report of the Human Resource Committee  
Metropolitan Council Meeting  
Spring, 2013

No written report.

**Metropolitan Council Report  
Internal Governance Committee  
February 2013  
Archpriest Chad Hatfield, Chairman**

This report will be brief as much of the future work of the Internal Governance Committee will rest upon decisions and directives given at this meeting of the Metropolitan Council. This is the first MC meeting with His Beatitude chairing the meeting and setting his own vision for the future. As a committee we look forward to working with His Beatitude and the Chancery Staff in implementing any changes and fresh ideas coming forth from this meeting and in the future.

Several suggestions have been forth coming from Archpriest David Lowell on possible changes to governance models and suggestions for how the business of the MC is conducted. More committee work prior to the meetings and training in fund raising techniques are two of the suggestions.

It should be noted that the 2011 external audit has been completed and the 2012 audit is in process.

Report of the Internal Audit Committee  
Metropolitan Council Meeting  
Spring, 2013

See Treasurer's report.

## **Report of the Metropolitan Council Legal Committee**

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

February 26-28, 2013

It is the intention of the Legal Committee regularly to provide a summary written report from that Committee to the members of the Metropolitan Council in connection with each of the semiannual meetings of that body 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.<sup>1</sup> This role of the Legal Committee is objectively a limited and truncated one and must be understood as separate and distinct from the important, critical functions of the General Counsel of the Orthodox Church in America who has a broad and comprehensive professional responsibility to take care for the general legal interests of the Orthodox Church in America, a scope of interest and concern far broader than that of the Legal Committee. Although the functions and roles of the GC and the LC

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<sup>1</sup> Article V, § 4 of the OCA Statute provides in this respect:

"The Metropolitan Council:

- a. Implements the decisions of the All-American Council and of the Holy Synod in the areas of its competence;
- b. Assists the Metropolitan and the Holy Synod in Implementing decisions within the areas of its competence;
- c. Establishes the budget for the operations of the Church and examines all financial reports of the Church;
- d. Supervises the collection of the assessments and fees established by the All-American Council and determines the allocation of such funds;
- e. Organizes plans for obtaining voluntary contributions for the satisfaction of the needs of the Church;
- f. Provides for the maintenance of the central administrative bodies of the Church and for the allocation of the general Church funds;
- g. Decides on the purchase, sale, or mortgaging of property of the Church, except in cases covered in Article X, Section 8;
- h. Maintains an inventory of all properties of the Church;
- i. Provides for the establishment and maintenance of institutions of charity and education, as well as for publications for the propagation of the Orthodox Faith;
- j. Determines the forms and books necessary for the keeping of records and statistical data by the dioceses, requiring all statistics necessary for reports;
- k. Appoints officers and committees on matters within its competence;
- l. Initiates, prosecutes, and defends all legal matters affecting the interest of the Church;
- m. May receive reports from any department in areas within the competence of the Metropolitan Council."
- n.

MC differ in fundamental respects, the two entities 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 member of the Committee is Fr. Deacon Tony Dyl of Denver, Colorado. The Committee is assisted on a regular 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 Meyendorf brings to the Committee his expertise on issues related to canon law, ecclesiology, and church history. The Legal Committee has since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Council continued to be in regular, often daily, contact by email, and conference calls continue to be utilized as conditions warrant. The Committee works harmoniously with the General Counsel of the OCA 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. What has been noted in previous reports to this Council remains true: the “Legal Team” – members of the Legal Committee, Consultants to that Committee, and its Special Consultant, together with Mr. Thaddeus Wojcik, the OCA General Counsel– “continue[s] to be blessed by unity of spirit and respect that marks our discussions. The lawyers and non-lawyers are truly functioning as a team.”

The charge of the Legal Committee is stated in the Council Members’ Handbook:

*“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 Fall Meeting of the Metropolitan Council in September, 2012.

### *Conference with the Metropolitan*

On December 14, 2012, the Legal Committee represented by Judge Lanier and Mr Nescott met with General Counsel Thaddeus Wojcik, Father John Jillions, the OCA Chancellor, and Father Eric Tosi, OCA Secretary, in a daylong session at the Chancery with the Metropolitan, His Beatitude Tikhon, for a general review of legal matters touching upon the interests of the Orthodox Church in America. A wide variety of matters were considered by this ad hoc working group under the leadership of His Beatitude, including legal implications in the revision of the 1971 OCA Statute in coordination with implementation of the OCA Strategic Plan; a general review and possible revision of provisions in Article XI of the OCA Statute governing church courts and canonical procedures; and the possible creation of Dispute Resolution Boards at both the diocesan and national levels of the Orthodox Church in America to provide alternative platforms for the resolution of both civil and religious disagreements *within* the Church, obviating the necessity – in obedience to the counsel of Scripture – of resort to secular courts for this purpose. Considered also was the possible institution of a standing liaison with existing diocesan counsel and measures to secure appointment of such counsel where they do not presently exist. In addition, other matters were reviewed, including the revision of the OCA Statute to reflect prior amendments which hereto for have not been included in the published version of the Statute; personnel additions to the Office for Review of Sexual Misconduct Activities; and general matters relating to SMPAC, coordination of central administrative staff with SMPAC, and the continuing review of the PSPs of the OCA. The latter would include possibly the dissemination of current or revised policies to the diocesan and parish level, much in the fashion as when the OCA first adopted its standards in about a decade ago.

### *Current Litigation*

#### Crown v. Archbishop Seraphim

Informal communications indicate that the case of Crown v. Archbishop Seraphim (Storheim) has been assigned to a trial calendar in Manitoba for mid-June, 2013.

#### Ivanov v. Notzkov

On July 20, 2012, a Memorandum Opinion and Order was entered in the case of Ivanov et al. v. Notzkov, et al., then pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois (County Department, Chancery Division, No. 05 CH 13247), dismissing the Plaintiffs' Third Amended Complaint which had sought to establish 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). After 18 days of trial during the time period October 24, 2011 through May 11, 2012, the Court issued its order in favor of the Defendants and against the Plaintiffs, denying the Plaintiffs' Complaint in its entirety. Accordingly, under the Court's judgment, "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," 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."

#### Susan v. Romanian Orthodox Episcopate

Plaintiff Father Vasile Susan ("Fr. Susan") filed a lawsuit in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, Chancery Division, against Defendant Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America ("ROEA"), Defendant Archbishop Nathaniel, and Defendant V. Rev. Fr. Simion Pavel, contesting Archbishop Nathaniel's decision to remove Fr. Susan from an OCA parish within the ROEA and to transfer him to the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Primate. Fr. Susan seeks an injunction to compel the ROEA to convene an ecclesiastical tribunal to determine his priestly status. Fr. Susan also brings related contract and tort claims arising from his ecclesiastical transfer and statements made solely within the Church as part of that process.

When Fr. Susan issued a deposition subpoena to Metropolitan Jonah, the Metropolitan moved to quash on several grounds including that the Circuit Court lacked subject matter jurisdiction over this obviously religious dispute. Although the Circuit Court originally held (multiple times) that the ecclesiastical abstention doctrine did not apply in this case, on reconsideration the Circuit Court dismissed the case in its entirety with prejudice for lack of subject matter jurisdiction by order dated July 15, 2011 and affirmed its ruling by order (denying reconsideration) dated February 9, 2012.

Fr. Susan has appealed the dismissal of his lawsuit to the First District Court of Appeals in Illinois, where the matter is now pending. Fr. Susan has now filed his initial appellate brief. The ROEA and Metropolitan Jonah have filed response briefs. Fr. Susan is now seeking an extension to file his reply brief. He has also requested oral argument.

#### *Other Matters of Interest*

### Discussion of Issues with Metropolitan Jonah

The Legal Committee, in the interim since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Council, has in cooperation with General Counsel to the Church assisted officers of the Orthodox Church in America with respect to legal aspects of the future relationship of the former Primate with the Orthodox Church in America.

### Diocese of the Mid-West

The Legal Committee, in the interim since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Council, has in cooperation with General Counsel to the Church assisted officers of the Orthodox Church in America with respect to legal aspects pertaining to the status of the Bishop of the Diocese of the Mid-West.

### Holy Spirit Church in Venice, Florida

The Legal Committee has recently received and reviewed police reports indicating a possible theft of funds from Holy Spirit Church in Venice, Florida. This matter continues under review.

### Dissolution of OCA Mission in Stafford, Virginia

The Legal Committee has since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Council assisted the officers of the Orthodox Church in America in securing the dissolution by an attorney in Fredericksburg, Virginia, of the civil corporation associated with the OCA Mission in Stafford, Virginia.

### Legal Review of Policies, Standards, and Procedures of the Orthodox Church in America on Sexual Misconduct

The current effort to revise the existing Policies, Standards, and Procedures of the Orthodox Church in America on Sexual Misconduct (PSPs) in order to bring these in line with the experience of the Church since their original adoption has been supported and advanced by a number of officers and agencies of the Church, including General Counsel. The Legal Committee has contributed to the review of these PSPs.

### Saint Catherine's Representation Church, Moscow

The Legal Committee in cooperation with General Counsel of the Orthodox Church in America have under review certain claims of the former rector of Saint Catherine's Representation Church in Moscow regarding expenditures for the

acquisition of an automobile. These claims are under evaluation by attorneys in Moscow as well.

Review of Spiritual Court Judgment

The Legal Committee, working with the General Counsel of the Orthodox Church in America, reviewed the conduct and results of a Spiritual Court recently convened by a diocesan hierarch of the Orthodox Church in America. Based upon this review, both the Legal Committee and the General Counsel recommended that the Accuser in that case seek an appellate review of the matter by the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church America in its canonical capacity as Supreme Court of Appeals as provided in Article XI, Statute of the Orthodox Church in America.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. Lanier

Chair, Legal Committee of the Metropolitan Council

## Post Conciliar Committee (PoCC)

The Post Conciliar Committee (PoCC) was formed immediately following the 16<sup>th</sup> All American Council in Seattle, Washington in November, 2011. The purpose of the PoCC is to oversee the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the OCA as developed and approved at the 16<sup>th</sup> AAC. To accomplish this, PoCC members work closely with the Implementation Facilitation Teams that have been established to work with the dioceses and the central administration to implement each of the 7 goals coming out of the AAC. The job of the PoCC is to provide oversight of the Implementation Teams, ensuring consistency with broader Church directions, providing encouragement and/or nudging where needed, and helping to overcome any barriers to the implementation of these goals.

The current PoCC members are: Fr. Robert Dick, Fr. Chad Hatfield, Fr. John Jillions, Mr. James Karabin, Judge Ray Lanier, Fr. David, Lowell, Pdn. Michael Myers, Fr. John Shimchick, Fr. Eric Tosi, Fr. John Vitko (chair) and Mr. David Zavednak.

Most of the ‘seeds’ planted at the 16<sup>th</sup> AAC have started to ‘sprout’. Some of the major accomplishments to date, include:

- **Continuing Education:** The Church has taken several major steps forward on continuing Education. The Holy Synod has approved formation of a Department of Continuing Education, including a mandate that all priests and deacons be required to take 20 hours of continuing education each year. The first training module, on Sexual Misconduct, has already been developed. For additional information, please see: (<http://oca.org/about/departments/departments-of-continuing-education>). And St. Vladimir’s Seminary has established both an Office of Continuing Education under the directorship of Dr. Paul Meyendorff and an on-line program leading to a Doctor of Ministry (<http://oca.org/news/headline-news/st.-vladimirs-seminary-offers-on-line-doctor-of-ministry-program>).
- **Leadership Development:** has focused on deaneries as the place to grow both clergy and lay leadership and is piloting this in the Diocese of the West. Archbishop Benjamin has increased the number of deaneries from five to six and directed that all deaneries meet twice a year in addition to the Diocesan Assembly. The Diocesan Council added \$1500 per deanery to the annual budget for each Dean to use as they deem best. Two deaneries have held or will shortly hold continuing education events (liturgical workshops) and one deanery has begun structured contemplations on contemporary issues.
- **Diocesan Revitalization:** is being piloted in the Diocese of Eastern PA. Major accomplishments to date include the development of a diocese wide talent directory, periodic continuing education seminars, and the tailoring of the Parish Inventory Model for use in the diocese. Recent efforts are emphasizing the application of the Parish Inventory Model to various parishes in the diocese and will be one of the subjects of the upcoming diocesan clergy meeting.

- **Youth and Young Adults:** has developed a successful Facebook page for our young adults ([www.facebook.com/yyaoca](http://www.facebook.com/yyaoca)), including the production of a pilot video. Among the most popular features are our prayer lists, photos of church life and selected Scripture verses and sayings of the Fathers. As of the writing of this report that page had 564 ‘likes’ and a weekly reach of 6,615.
- **Contemporary Moral Issues:** is piloting the first of its ‘Holy Conversation’ in the Diocese of New England on Mar. 1-2, 2013. These Holy Conversations are meant to provide a forum to present Orthodox teachings on contemporary moral issues and to discuss their pastoral implications. This pilot Conversation will focus on “Marriage and Sexuality” and will feature Fr. John Behr and Fr. Andrew Tregubov as keynote speakers. Additional comments will be provided by four panelists: Dr. Al Rossi, Matushka Jenny Mosher, Fr. Theophan Whitfield and Sister Nonna Harrison. This will be followed by small-table workshops involving the speakers, panelists and other participants. For more information, please see (<http://ocaconversations.org/> and [http://ancientfaith.com/podcasts/features/a\\_holy\\_conversation\\_marriage\\_and\\_sexuality](http://ancientfaith.com/podcasts/features/a_holy_conversation_marriage_and_sexuality)).
- **Evangelization:** As directed at the Fall 2012 meeting of the Metropolitan Council, preliminary discussions have been held with Alexei Krindatch to explore the development of an OCA focused study to better understand the current status within the OCA *vis a vis* the practicing membership and clergy of the Church and their self-perceptions. This is seen as critical for informing our future directions. The cost of this is estimated to be \$5,000 - \$7,000, with \$2,500 required up front to begin.

The above efforts are still fragile and need nurturing, but are showing great promise. One of our big challenges this year will be the lack of funding. In 2012, since we were still largely in the planning stage, Strategic Planning only spent \$2,000 of its \$25,200 budget. Unfortunately, because of the tight budgets in 2013, our funding has been zeroed out. However, the implementation of several of our goals will be paced by the available funding, i.e. Continuing Education, Holy Conversations, and the Evangelization (including the Krindatch study). We will do the best we can within these constraints.

Respectfully submitted,

Fr. John Vitko,  
Chair, Post Conciliar Committee

Report of the Organizational Task Force  
Metropolitan Council Meeting  
Spring, 2013

The purpose of the Organizational Task Force is to determine what activities are critical to accomplishing the mission of the Orthodox Church in spreading the good news of the Gospel and at what level in our Church. In other words, what is it that we *must* do at the level of the Holy Synod, or at the level of the Chancery, and what *must* be done primarily at the level of the Diocesan Bishop , Parish level, Clergy and Laity ?

Since we are one Church with one mission, there is no isolation between one part of the body and another- we all work together, often carrying several of these responsibilities in the very same day. The shared nature of our responsibilities requires us to ask what is *best* done at the central or diocesan or local level. This is a more interpretive question because of the great differences in size and composition of the various dioceses.

This kind of review is easy to start but challenging to complete. If the Task Force is successful in its work, we will, in consultation with the Holy Synod of Bishops, produce recommendations that will suggest :

- (a) Priority of activities
- (b) Optimum level of delivery
- (c) Things that might no longer be done
- (d) Funding redirection where appropriate

While we have had two meetings as we attempt to start the process face to face, both were impacted in time and attention by the pressing business of holding the 17th AAC.

We expect better in the coming year.

With joy in our Lord,

Archpriest David Lowell,  
Chair, Council Development Committee

## Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America

### Report to the Holy Synod of Bishops and Metropolitan Council for February 2013

#### Members and Resource Person:

- **Chair:** Mat. Valerie Zahirsky
- **Members:** Veronica Bilas, Mat. Myra Kovalak, Daria Petrykowski, Maria Proch, Mat. Alexandra Safchuk, Jewelann Stefanar, Mat. Christine Zebrun.
- **Webmaster:** John Pusey.

#### Regularly-Appearing Written Work

- Downloadable parish bulletin inserts for every week of the year, relating to saints Bible readings for that week as well as general theology; also including some book and movie reviews
- Articles for each issue of *The Orthodox Church*

#### Conferences, Retreats and Workshops Offered by Members since September 2012

- Women's Retreat in Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
- Women's Advent Retreat and Conference in Cleveland, Ohio
- Women's Advent Retreat in Baltimore, Maryland
- Regional Teacher Training Conference in Kansas City, Kansas (in cooperation with the Orthodox Christian Education Commission)

#### Recently-Completed and Nearly-Completed Work

- "Notes on Orthodox Worship", a pamphlet consisting of 12 questions and answers covering various aspects of worship in the Orthodox Church. Fr. John Breck had suggested that this kind of thing be produced for those who are new to Orthodoxy
- A set of activities for Great Lent, geared to different age groups and including a play by a parishioner of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Cleveland.
- Article on the Orthodox philosophy of Christian Education, and the history of the Orthodox Christian Education Commission, for inclusion in the *Encyclopedia of Christian Education*

#### Work Now in Progress

- As a cooperative effort with the Department of Music and Liturgical Translation, the Department is producing a study unit on the lives of some of the great Orthodox hymnographers, with activities and discussion questions as well as the chance to hear and sing some of their music. The first written text has been completed, so that work on the other parts of the first study can begin
- A commentary on the Book of Revelation, written by Father George Gray, as well as our Department members and other invited writers. This will be illustrated with color photographs of the frescoes of the Book of Revelation at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Cleveland. These photographs are being produced by Father Gregory Safchuk, who is also working on the physical composition of the booklet in which the text will appear
- A fourth in the series of Activity Books, with the lives of twelve saints in story form, accompanied by icon-like drawings of each saint a map of his or her travels, puzzles and activities based on the saint's story, glossary, and liturgical verses, dates and interesting facts or photographs relating to the saint
- Preparation for the Parish Ministries Conference to be held at Marymount College in Virginia from July 10 to 13 of this year. This is a follow-up to the highly successful event in 2010. Department members will present workshops on the Christian Education track, and are also working with other participating departments to publicize the event, engage speakers, and plan plenary, evening and other sessions. A Department member is the overall coordinator, and other members are contributing time and effort to work on handout materials, gathering resources and seeing to venues and accommodations, in addition to preparing their own presentations

**Anticipated Activities and Projects**

- At the request of His Grace Bishop MELCHISEDEK, Department members will present a training workshop at the Diocesan Center of the Diocese of Western Pennsylvania sometime this year
- Participation in the Orthodox Institute sponsored by the Antiochian Archdiocese
- Co-operation with the Orthodox Christian Education Commission: planning of and participation in workshops; attending annual and other meetings of OCEC; having input into materials prepared by OCEC
- Regional and Diocesan workshops as requested, and also on the initiative of the Department
- Preparation of study questions for the revised History section of Father Thomas Hopko's series of books entitled *The Orthodox Faith*. When other books in the series the Department will, as Father Thomas has requested, also provide these kinds of questions and points for discussion
- Travel to Alaska, with members of other departments, for teacher training in parishes or at regional gatherings

**Other Work**

- Monthly Departmental telephone conferences (at members' own expense)
- Departmental working retreats (usually at Holy Transfiguration Monastery)
- Ongoing website review and updating, with activities, articles and other resources added whenever they become available
- Parish visits, both planned and informal, during which members describe and promote the materials on the Departmental website
- Ongoing correspondence with clergy, teachers, and others by email and telephone to answer questions, suggest curriculum, and help church school directors plan their schedules

**A Comment**

At the All-American Council in 2012, members of the Department became aware that there were letters on all the dinner tables asking donations for another department. After discovering this we twice asked the Chancery to tell us why one department rather than all departments had been given the opportunity to seek funds in this unprecedented way. We got no reply. Later the situation was somewhat explained, but it was most disappointing that our question was not answered promptly. Those of us working for very small stipends, and carrying heavy workloads in other areas of our lives, deserve the basic courtesy of having our questions readily answered.

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)  
FEBRUARY 12, 2013 SUMMARY REPORT (September 2012-January 2013)**

**Members:** Donna Karabin – Chair, Archpriest Thomas Moore, Popadija Kitty Vitko, Nancy VanDyken, Arlene Kallaur – Resource Handbook Editor, and a number of ministry consultants

**Resource Handbook for Ministries**

- Detailed and productive discussions took place with OCA's Web Team in Nov-Dec 2012 on the most effective utilization of oca.org to communicate ministry resources to the faithful. We thank Fr. John Matusiak, Jessica Linke and Ryan Platte, especially for his tech consultation and statistical information.
- CSHA submitted a news release to oca.org after Superstorm Sandy hit the East Coast in October featuring a RH article on *Gift of the Heart Kits* (Community Service Section) to educate and encourage parishes to prepare disaster kits as requested by IOCC and Church World Service.
- A new RH article was posted on oca.org in November titled *The Spiritual Lives of Soldiers: After the Fighting is Over* (Parish Development section) written by US Navy Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cwiklinski. It provides insight to clergy and laity on the needs of a fellow parishioner upon his/her return to the local church community after combat, some possibly with physical, psychological, emotional or spiritual wounds.
- In January, CSHA updated the RH article on *Communal House Blessings* (Parish Development Section). It was posted on oca.org offering a practical option for parish priests in scheduling home visits during the Theophany season and giving parishioners an enriched fellowship experience.
- The Resource Handbook review and update will be ongoing.
- A new Resource Handbook article about one OCA parish's CROP Walk experience will be posted in time to draw attention to the Spring national schedule of Church World Service CROP Walks that raise awareness and funds for the hungry and homeless.

**2013 Parish Ministries Conference**

- CSHA is collaborating with the Departments of Christian Education, Liturgical Music, Youth and Young Adults for a July 10-13 (Wed-Sat) conference at Marymount University in Arlington, VA. *Faith in Action – Equipping the Saints for Worship, Learning and Service* will have a keynote address, workshops, liturgical services, exhibits and bookstores, and visits to local OCA parishes.

**Compassion in Action: Parish Ministry Training**

- CSHA resumed collaboration with Fr. Steven Voytovich of the Office of Institutional Chaplains on January 9-10, 2013. There was a review of the Compassion in Action Development Kit, consideration of pilot program parishes and planning for a future presentation to His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon.

### **Church World Service (CWS)**

- Arlene Kallaur and Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky represented OCA at the October 2012 CWS meeting. CWS reports a decrease in monetary contributions and donations of Gift of the Heart Kits. CSHA will encourage parishes to prepare and donate Gift of the Heart Kits (hygiene/infant/school kits and clean-up buckets for disaster response), and encourage participation in CROP Walks to raise awareness and funds for the hungry and homeless. CWS is an IOCC partner.
- The CSHA budget provided the annual \$500 OCA donation to CWS.

### **Deaf Ministry**

- In follow-up to the 16<sup>th</sup> All-American Council resolution on outreach to the deaf, CSHA has been exploring the needs of the Orthodox deaf community through resource professionals and educational materials. E-mail and social media communications began in September 2012 with deaf and hearing impaired persons and others involved with American Sign Language (ASL). In these preliminary steps, a broader scope of needs was found than expected.
- The deaf and hearing impaired are broadly scattered with small numbers in geographic areas.
- Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons span the spectrum of ages from childhood to the aged, each with varying degrees of need.
- Some express their desire for a theologically correct American Orthodox ASL translation of liturgical services.
- Others add the need for catechetical resources in ASL for their personal use and to evangelize others whom they desire to bring into the fullness of the faith.
- The faithful who are hearing impaired because of age deserve accommodation in liturgical services and other activities to the fullest extent possible.
- A full needs assessment and formation of a working group are necessary next steps. Because the scope of needs extends beyond CSHA's ministry, it would seem wise to include the Departments of Christian Education, Continuing Education, Evangelization and Youth and Young Adults.
- An effective approach would be to undertake Deaf Ministry as a Pan-Orthodox initiative. Churches would be working together towards optimum ministry outcome. In this case, the goal would be that the deaf and hard of hearing would experience the fullness of the Orthodox Faith in liturgical services, in pastoral care and fellowship, in Christian education, and in their daily lives.

### **Fr. Jacob Meyers: Memory Eternal +**

- We are saddened by the falling asleep of Fr. Jacob Meyers of St. John the Wonderworker Church (Atlanta, GA) on January 16, 2013. Fr. Jacob was the director of the Pan-Orthodox Loaves and Fishes program caring for the hungry and homeless in Atlanta. He was a CSHA department consultant and skilled photographer who provided valuable ministry photos. May his memory be eternal. May the Lord continue to guide and bless Loaves and Fishes.

**CSHA and Implementation Facilitation Teams**

- The department resource persons and materials are available for IFT projects that have a focus on charitable outreach and parish ministries.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Karabin, Chair

**The Orthodox Church in America  
Department of Continuing Education**

**Memorandum to the Metropolitan Council**

**Scope of the Department**

**Mandate**

The Strategic Plan, approved by the Holy Synod of Bishops, the Metropolitan Council and the 16<sup>th</sup> All America Council, stipulates that Continuing Education should be required of all clergy in the OCA. In February 2012 the Metropolitan Council approved “next steps” containing the same stipulation and an Implementation Plan establishing a Department of Continuing Education.

At its January 28, 2013 meeting, the Holy Synod of Bishops established the Department of Continuing Education to provide for the ongoing development of clergy and lay leaders. General information about the Department may be found at: <http://oca.org/about/departments/department-of-continuing-education>

At the same meeting, the Holy Synod mandated 20 hours annually of continuing education for every priest and deacon in the OCA, including 5 hours annually of education in the area of Professional, Legal and Ethical Issues, including Sexual Misconduct. The Department of Continuing Education carries out its mandate primarily through the Continuing Clergy Development (CCD) program. Information about CCD may be found at the Department’s FAQ page:

<http://oca.org/about/dept-cont-ed-faqs>

**Population**

The Department of Continuing Education provides opportunities for educational and spiritual growth to the 87,000 faithful of the OCA. The Department also provides specific skill-oriented training to the 750 clergy of the OCA and to the lay leadership of the OCA’s 800 parishes

**Program Areas**

Programs are offered in each of the eleven areas identified by the current Strategic Plan of the OCA (see <http://oca.org/PDF/NEWS/2012/2012-0228-pocc-powerpoints.pdf>) In 2012 and 2013 special emphasis is given to developing and delivering programs in Legal and Ethical Issues for clergy (especially clergy sexual misconduct), and Leadership and Management Training for clergy and lay leaders.

**Program Delivery**

Continuing Education is delivered via local on-site offerings, regional conferences, webinars, teleconferences and online productions.

**Co-operation with Other Entities**

Continuing Education has been, and continues to be, offered by many entities within the Church and elsewhere. The Department is not mandated as a replacement or competitor to those entities. Rather, the Department works with other entities to avert redundancies and to provide credit and recognition to clergy and laypersons who pursue continuing education in other venues.

**Goals**

1. To carry out the continuing education mandate established by the Holy Synod of Bishops for clergy and lay leaders.
2. To recommend standards for Continuing Clergy Development (CCD).
3. To create and deliver continuing education offerings and materials in response to periodic needs assessments and the demands of the national church.
4. To foster collegial clergy and lay leader development by recruiting presenters and their offerings.
5. To collaborate with other departments, diocesan and local bodies, and seminaries in the creation and delivery of CCD offerings.
6. To maintain records of CCD accredited offerings and clergy compliance with CCD standards established by the Holy Synod of Bishops.

## Structure

The Department of Continuing Education reports directly to the Holy Synod of Bishops. On a day-to-day basis, the Director of Continuing Education collaborates with the Chancery of the OCA.

Since the Department receives no funds from the operating budget of the OCA, the Department administers its own budget and funds according to its own needs and resources. All monies received by the Department are restricted for use by the Department. The Treasurer of the OCA, in accordance with Department policies and decisions, administers the funds of the Department.

The Department of Continuing Education works in consultation with the Bishops, dioceses, seminaries and departments of the OCA to provide offerings that meet the identified needs of various stakeholding groups.

The Director of Continuing Education bears all responsibility for program development and delivery, funding, and administration. This is a paid, part-time position. A Secretary provides support services to the Department.

The Department engages faculty and presenters on a contract basis. A portion of the tuition and registration fees received is used to compensate contractors for their services.

## Funding

### Fee for Service

Since the Department receives no funding from the operating budget of the OCA, Continuing Education is offered on a fee-for-service basis. Revenue is generated from registration and tuition fees, the sale of educational materials and other means appropriate to an educational ministry of the Orthodox Church.

For example, *Professional and Ethical Issues: Clergy Sexual Misconduct* may be delivered as an on-site, full-day seminar, or as an online offering to be taken in discrete segments. Online offerings may be taken individually in a private setting, or by large and small groups led by an on-site facilitator. This enables deanery, diocesan or parish level groups to gather and discuss the material presented in each sub-module. Clergy who are relatively isolated may take the sub-modules at their own convenience. Tuition for this five-hour offering is \$150 per attendee, payable in full, in advance. Normally parishes are expected to cover this expense for their clergy.

### Grants

Grants are normally offered by foundations to bodies that have a demonstrated track record of success in providing the services for which a grant is being sought. At the outset, the Department has no track record, and such grants will be difficult to obtain. As the Department matures, grant writing will become part of its routine activity.

### Donor Support

The Department makes every effort to support itself from tuition and fees for other services. While occasional gifts and donations may be received for its general or specific purposes, the Department strives to avoid even the appearance of attracting donations away from other entities in the OCA.

## Timeline -- Completed

### 2010

Summer OCA Strategic Plan developed by Holy Synod of Bishops and Metropolitan Council, calls for Continuing Education as a top-level goal.

Fall Continuing Education Working Group proposes Department of Continuing Education

### 2011

Winter Met Council approves Strategic Plan and Continuing Education proposal

Fall All-America Council adopts Strategic Plan, creates Continuing Education Implementation Team

### 2012

Winter Metropolitan Council approves Department of Continuing Education  
Spring Implementation Team secures location (completed)

Summer Report to Lesser Synod (location, funding, staffing, program)  
Lesser Synod approves pilot Continuing Education Department

Fall Needs Assessment design  
Program Development: Professional, Legal and Ethical Issues Module 1: Clergy Sexual Misconduct.  
Communications Development: Website, modalities for publicity and recruitment.

**2013**

Winter Holy Synod of Bishops establishes Department of Continuing Education  
Needs Assessment: Holy Synod, clergy, laity  
(Approx. 85 responses received)  
Initial program offering: Legal and Ethical Issues for Clergy  
(Pilot Sessions offered Feb. 12-13, 2012, Scottsdale AZ with 48 participants)

**Timeline – Projected  
2013**

Spring Begin R&D of Leadership and Management program  
Recruit presenters and offerings for expanded Continuing Education program  
Church-wide offering: Legal and Ethical Issues Module 1 (Sexual Misconduct)

Fall Initial offering: Leadership and Management Module I

**2014**

Continued course development and delivery in response to 2013 Needs Assessment results, hierarchal directives and other opportunities.

**Projected Financial Activity 2013**  
*(assuming sufficient receipts)*

<b>Director:</b>	
Salary	\$40,000
Professional Development	2,000
Travel	6,000
<b>Office:</b>	
Secretary	12,000
IT/Production	5,000
Supplies	1,000
Equipment	2,000

Summary of Recent Work  
Department of Evangelization  
Priest John Parker, Chair  
January 2013

1. Phone conferences with 2 current planting Grant Recipients, as well as incoming-grant recipients. Visited Holy Archangels, one of the three new grants, in November for their parish feast day.
2. Preparation of “mentor program” for planting grant parishes
  - a. assigning Planting Grant “Graduates” to current recipient parishes for parish visits, mentoring, and motivation (first one is Fr Christopher Foley, of Greensboro, NC, to St Nicholas Parish in Kansas. Fr Christopher will visit before Pascha for a weekend retreat.)
  - b. developing inter-diocesan mentors/partnerships which can bring added vigor to mission parishes and broaden appreciation of wider OCA mission challenges.
3. Phone conference with new dean of Wilkes-Barre Deanery on mission strategies for Eastern Pennsylvania.
4. Developed and prepared two priests (Archpriest Theodore Pisarchuk and Priest Antonio Perdomo) for a January 12, 5-day visit to the Archdiocese of Mexico. Visit is a ‘joint venture’ idea pairing the Department with a local parish which seeks to form short term missions teams to help build buildings and help catechize in Mexico. Expecting a full report, with photos, on their return in late January.
5. Developing a plan with through Fr David Mahaffey, at the encouragement of Abp Benjamin, for a visit to the Diocese of Alaska on either side of the Pilgrimage this year. Plan would include a several-day visit to a number of missionary efforts and parishes in Alaska, followed by the pilgrimage, followed by a Clergy (and lay?) retreat on Practical strategies for Missionary work in Alaska.
6. Continued Podcast with AFR
7. Attempting to gather/organize a discussion with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan and Antiochian Archdiocesan Evangelization chairs, that we might understand our mutual approaches to this vital ministry, and somehow develop a united front.
8. Attempting to develop a dialog with Mega-church Pastor Rick Warren, based on meeting him in September at a conference on Marriage and Religious Liberty in NYC, and follow-up correspondence with one another.

9. Continued ACNA/OCA dialogue in Oct 2012. Our delegation met with the ACNA delegation at Nashotah House Seminary in Nashotah, Wisconsin. Enjoyed the insights and in-depth presentation of His Eminence, Metropolitan Hilarion (Alfayev) on the History of Anglican/Orthodox Relations, specifically with the Russian Orthodox Church.
10. Applying to SVOTS DMin program, with specific focus on missions/evangelism/catechism
11. Began official financial support of the OCMC with 2012 contribution.

Upcoming:

1. Work in Mexico (mentioned above). January 12-18
2. Keynote speaker, OCMC fundraising dinner, Washington, DC, early March. Making effort to have a Pan-Orthodox Clergy synaxis on Missions/Evangelization on that Saturday, March 2, 2013
3. ACNA-OCA Dialogue next meeting in May 2013, Dallas.

Request: Opportunity to meet with/speak with/hear from Holy Synod at the Spring meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Priest John Parker  
Chair, Department of Evangelization

UPDATES since early January:

- Enjoyed one hour meeting with Metropolitan Tikhon on the eve of his Enthronement to begin to learn and to share a vision for this department with him. Represented the department at the Enthronement.
- Conversations with Bishops Melchizedek and Michael about diocesan visits.
- Fr Theodore Pisarchuk and Fr Antonio Perdomo took their trip on behalf of the Department to Mexico. Their visit was fruitful. Documentation was provided for this year's \$15,000 Evangelization grant for Mexico, and Fr Ted Pisarchuk is working on a website and to build an OCA short-term team for Summer 2013 to San Esteban with the blessing of Archbishop Alejo.

Fr Ted and Fr Antonio and I had a personal debrief and planning session together in Atlanta the week of Feb 4, at our Diocesan Pastoral Conference.

- I also had personal meetings with Fr Jason Foster, planting grant recipient, in Louisiana at the same conference, as well as with Fr Christopher Foley who will be our first “Planting Grant Graduate Mentor”—he will be taking a retreat-giving and ‘cheerleading’ trip to our St Nicholas Church in Kansas next weekend.

I am working on developing other “Planting Grant Graduate Mentors” to give retreats and support at current Planting grant parishes, and particularly making an effort to do so across diocesan boundaries for some cross-pollination.

- In discussions for:
  1. Second visit to the Diocese of Western Pennsylvania
  2. Trip to Diocese of Alaska in August. Plans are firming up for a few days of missions visitation prior to the Pilgrimage, and a few seminars following the pilgrimage on dealing with Protestant and other missionaries in the villages.
  3. Possible “Orthodoxy with the Orthodox” pilgrimage to Serbia or Russia—a trip aimed to bring Non-Orthodox Christians to an Orthodox experience, with Orthodox Christians to sites common to all Christians, but which are Orthodox.

# Spring 2013 Department Report

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## [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.

A meeting was planned with Metropolitan TIKHON to both plan for optimal way of proceeding around endorsements for institutional chaplaincy and other topics on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately Storm Charlotte prevented that by leaving us three feet of snow in CT that took a good part of the week to sufficiently clear roads from. I hope to reschedule this as soon as possible so that we prepare a good foundation.

### 2. DEPARTMENT MEMBERS & RESOURCE PEOPLE

**Chair:** V. Rev. Dr. Steven Voytovich  
**Members:** V. Rev. John Maxwell, Frs. John Brown Paul Fetsko, Alexandre Ioukhaievskikh, Michael Medis, Timothy Hasenecz, Dn. David Neff, Sarah Byrne, Elaine Mayol, Mark Anderson, Larisa Waya, Jessica D'Angio.

**Resource People:** V. Rev. Theodore Boback  
V. Rev. Sergei Bouteneff

Website: [www.orthinc.org](http://www.orthinc.org)

### 3. BUDGET REVIEW

- 2012 Budget: \$6,000 stipend, \$6,500 expenses
- 2012 Budget Actual: \$6,000 stipend, roughly \$1747 expenses (most expenses come near the end of the year for this department and some not reflected by Dec. 20 close). 2013 Budget submitted in the fall.

### 4. HIGHLIGHTS AND PROJECTED FUTURE INITIATIVES

- Fr. John Brown, our Federal Corrections Chaplain, undertook a new position in the fall of the year. Several new requests for endorsement are also in process, and now several lay persons have been commissioned for institutional chaplaincy using the service that has been blessed for use.
- A number of already certified chaplains need updated endorsements for five-year reviews. Some of these have been held pending the election of new Metropolitan.
- In October 2012, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese adopted formal endorsement for institutional chaplaincy. This is a giant step forward in terms of uniform practice of institutional endorsement!
- The Orthodox Church in America is currently represented in the following ways as of January 2012, continuing for 2013, with both bodies below meeting in January, 2013:
  - Fr. Steven is serving as Chair of Association of Religious Endorsing Bodies (AREB)
  - and member-at-large of COMISS Network.
  - The Greek Orthodox priest who shepherded their endorsement development was present for both meetings, doubling the Orthodox presence. We had good collegial exchange during both meetings!
  - On the same air ticket for above meetings, Fr. Steven was able to meet with Donna Karabin and Kitty Vitko around our shared Compassion in Action program development!

- This month Fr. Steven was to have met with Orthodox Christian Fellowship leaders for a formation day that was unfortunately canceled due to snow.
- *Spirituality and Healthcare Encyclopedia*, is going forward into publication as of November, 2012. Fr. Steven drafted the chapter representing the Orthodox Faith.
- The OCA has forwarded an application to formally join the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education as a member. This will be considered in Spring of this year.
- 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.
  - We anticipate moving forward with this program with parish implementation.

Future Developments:

- We hope to feature a number of our institutional chaplains in their ministry contexts on our [www.orthinc.org](http://www.orthinc.org) website during the coming year, as well as opportunities for continued exchange
- With the advent of now two jurisdictions having similar endorsement processes, we need to dialogue toward implementation of uniform approach to institutional chaplaincy endorsement.
- Support the Strategic Plan:
  - Our chaplains can assist with clergy continuing education; seminarian training
  - CiA Program will assist parishes in engaging in ministry development
  - Represent our OCA in the greater pastoral care and counseling arena
- Fr. Steven offered preparatory consultation to the team traveling at this time to present on pastoral care in Romania

## 5. COMMENTS

This past year in my roles as Chair of AREB and COMISS Leadership, I attended several credentialing body meetings to represent endorsers: ACPE in February, and CPSP in March. As I am also a certified member of these bodies, I have been able to pay the travel costs through work budget rather than departmental funds. The COMISS Leadership meeting occurred in August, and associated costs have been forwarded to this department. As travel budgets are tighter in my institutional context, I may be relying more on OCA travel budget to fulfill my service representing our church.

The Institutional Chaplaincy Department has only been fully formed as of about 2006 after first being established as an office in 2003. Even before forming, chaplaincy components were incorporated into the development of the original Seminarian Internship Program in 1999. We are grateful for the opportunity to form in order to support Orthodox Christians interested in pursuing institutional chaplaincy, to support ministry in parish and diocesan settings, and to represent the Orthodox Church in the greater pastoral care and counseling community nationally and internationally, bearing witness to our strong tradition of pastoral caregiving.

Of all the goals in the coming year, developing an approach for use by the Assembly of Orthodox Bishops to present one united Orthodox witness to the greater pastoral care and counseling community with respect to institutional endorsement will be an important goal transcending jurisdictional separation.

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 – Spring 2013**

**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. All days of the calendar year are provided with free, “downloadable” musical settings of troparia and kontakia (over 2,200 individual settings, including 482 in co-operation with the Music Department of the Serbian Orthodox Church).

**I. Music Settings for Liturgical Services**

- a) The complete service (music setting of all sung parts plus texts of prayers and litanies) for the Burial of a Priest has been completed and posted on the website. In 2012 Baptism was added and in spring, 2013, Matrimony will be completed and posted. In 2013 the Department will add similar collections for the various services of prayer and thanksgiving (Moleben). As soon as the completed text for the Akathist to the American Saints is reviewed and approved by the Holy Synod, the music and the full service will be posted on the website for free downloading.
- b) Approximately 80% of the required texts for the Vigil service (Vespers and Matins) of the major feasts have been set to music and posted on the website. Music for the Pre-Lenten and Lenten Sunday Vespers, the Vigil of Palm Sunday, Vespers for St Raphael and SS Peter and Paul, in both Common and Kievan Chants, has also been posted. In 2013 the Department will complete the music for the Vigils of the major feasts.
- c) Work continues on the texts and music for tones 5 thru 8 for the Resurrection Vespers, the Kanons for Resurrection Matins and the stichera on the Praises at Matins. The texts for Tones 1 through 4 have been completed and are being reviewed, corrected, and revised and will soon be prepared for music setting.

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.

**II. Texts for Liturgical Services**

In 2012 a total of 199 liturgical services containing the so-called *Propers* of Vespers, pointed to be sung according to the Common Chant, was posted on the website. Approximately the same number will be posted in 2013. These include services for all

feasts and saints that call for a Vigil in the “official” Liturgical Calendar (published by St Tikhon’s Seminary Press) in addition to the services of the Presanctified Liturgy during Lent, Sundays Vespers during Lent, and the services of Holy Week. The services are put together by the Chairman, rubrical outlines are provided by Archimandrite Juvenaly and the texts are proofread by Dr. Vladimir Morosan.

### **III. Audio Files for Teaching Liturgical Music**

As a teaching tool the Department is making available on the website audio files (MP3) of various hymns that have been prepared by the Department. Thus, not only will a choir director (or singer) be able to download a specific sheet of music for use by his/her choir, but will be able to listen via the audio file and hear how the music should be sung. Already recorded and posted are the “Lord, I call” tones in both Obikhod and Kievan chant arrangements. The Department has just posted on the website the “Tutorial for the 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 recording for the tutorial were done by singers of St. Mary’s Orthodox Church in Minneapolis, MN, under the direction of Deacon Gregory Ealy.

### **IV. 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 Tones 1-4 have been posted on the website. Tones 5-8 are completed and are being edited. 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. Part I of the Tutorial was written by David Drillock and Deacon Gregory Ealy; Dr Vladimir Morosan did the editing and provided musical assistance.

### **V. Music for the Church School**

The Department, 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. The outline for the project has been completed and a resource person has been selected and committed for the first unit.

### **VI. On-line Course in Choral Conducting**

An On-line Choral Conducting Course consisting of twelve on-line sessions 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.

The first part of the course placed special emphasis on the relationship between text and music, accented and non-accented syllables; exercises were 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 met on-line via *skype video system* with the teacher of the course, Prof David Drillock, who also provided 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.

Based on student evaluations that are being received, the course will be revised and offered again to interested and beginning choir directors.

## **VII. Joint Conference**

Plans for the three-day Parish Ministries Conference, 2013, to be held in July at Marymount University in Arlington, VA, are being finalized. The conference, *Faith in Action: Equipping the Saints for Worship, Learning and Serving*, will provide opportunities for learning, common worship and prayer, and good fellowship for the leaders of our Church and is being sponsored by the Department of Christian Education, Department of Christian Service and Humanitarian Aid, Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, and Department of Young Adult and Campus Ministries. The Liturgical Music Department is planning to again use the multi-track format to offer workshops for beginning singers as well as more advanced directors and church musicians. The workshops will cover such topics as beginning and advanced conducting, tutorial in the 8 tones, liturgical composition, vocal technique, choir rehearsal skills, and reading and chanting technique.

Respectively submitted,

*David Drillock, Chairperson*  
Department of Liturgical Music and Translations  
Orthodox Church in America  
February 15, 2013

Report of the Department of Pastoral Life  
Metropolitan Council Meeting  
Spring, 2013

No Report.

Report of the Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministry  
Spring Meetings of the Holy Synod of Bishops and Metropolitan Council  
Orthodox Church in America

### **Overview**

I was tasked with managing the Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministry starting on July 1, 2012. Although I have been working with and for the Department since 2008, stepping into a role of leadership has been an new and exciting challenge for me. I am thankful to His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon and the members of our Holy Synod of Bishops for their continued blessing to work in this position. I am also thankful to the large amount of volunteers that make the work of the department happen, always joyfully, and often without proper thanks and appreciation. I am also thankful for the Metropolitan Council's positive response to my requests and projects, and for the increase in budget in 2013.

### **Members**

A current and updated list of our Department members is available on our [department page](#) on oca.org. Apart from that list I would like acknowledge and thank specifically two teams of volunteers that meet regularly to devote their considerable talents to our department. The first, established at the 16th All-American Council is our "Strategic Planning/Social Media Team". Led by Father Christopher Rowe, the group includes myself, Father John Vitko, Matthew Andrews and Justin Nescott. The second group meets periodically to work on design and technical issues for our web projects. Led by Me, it includes Ryan Platte (OCA Tech Manager), Deacon Jason Ketz (Blog Editor), Fr. Christopher Rowe, and Sharon Spaulding (Web Designer).

These two teams have accomplished a great deal of work in the past six-months, and I am grateful for their constant help and professional guidance.

### **Travel**

I have been blessed to undertake some travel for the Department, and thanks to an increase in my travel budget for 2013, plan to undertake more. Since July, I have made the following trips/visits as Youth Director:

- Holy Trinity Church, Willimantic, CT/University of Connecticut OCF (July 2012)
- FOCA Convention, Myrtle Beach (August 2012)
- Diocese of New York/New Jersey Campus Ministry Workshop, Yonkers, NY (August 2012)
- Holy Transfiguration Chapel/Princeton OCF (September 2012)
- Saint Vladimir's Seminary Young Adult Retreat (October 2012)
- Penn State OCF (October 2012)
- Holy Archangels Mission/Annapolis College Ministries, Informal Visit (October 2012)
- Saint Vladimir's Seminary, Campus Ministry Workshop (November 2012)
- OCF East Coast College Conference, Bolivar, PA (December 2012)
- National Festival of Young Preachers, Atlanta, GA (January 2013)
- FOCA Novogodny Ball, Philadelphia, PA (January 2013)
- Episcopal Assembly Youth Committee Meeting, Austin, TX (January 2013)

- Annual Orthodox Youth/Camp Workers Conference, Austin, TX (January 2013)

## **OCF**

One of my short-term goals has been to re-establish a good and supportive relationship with the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, the official campus ministry of the Episcopal Assembly. Under the leadership of Executive Director Jennifer Nahas, the ministry has been growing stronger and stronger. Our department has supported OCF's mission in the following ways:

- Partnered with OCF to offer [Campus Ministry training](#), especially at our seminaries
- Donate \$10,000/year directly to OCF out of our budget
- Provided scholarships for all OCA attendees at College Conference East and West
- Consult weekly with OCF Staff
- Provided a Workshop at College Conference East
- Represented on the Board of Directors by Dn. Alexander Cadman (Penn State Chaplain)
- Organized OCF Chaplain training with our Department of Institutional Chaplains
- Visited 4 OCF Chapters that are connected with OCA Parishes
- Worked with His Beatitude to highlight the work of OCF at his recent enthronement

## **Youtube Challenge**

This fall we planned, launched, and executed our first Online oratorical festival, our "[Youtube Challenge](#)." Thanks to the hard work of Fr. Sergius Halvorsen (Saint Vladimir's Seminary Homeletics and Rhetoric Professor), Father Timothy Hojnicky (Holy Apostles Mission, Mechanicsburg, PA), Father Theophan Whitfield (St. Nicholas Church, Salem, MA) and Deacon Jason Ketz (Our Blog Editor) we were able to advertise the contest, accept and judge videos from participants of varying ages all over the country, secure parent permissions when needed, award the prizes and share some of the videos on our facebook page. The winner for an individual submission was Ms. Anna Vanderwall of Trinidad, Colorado, who we were able to send to the [Festival of Young Preachers](#) in Atlanta, GA. The winner for group submission was Saint Mary's Cathedral in Minneapolis, MN, whose prize will be a lenten retreat put on by our Department. We plan to start work on Youtube Challenge 2013 shortly. This program was made possible through the generosity of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America.

## **Strategic Plan/Social Media**

Our Strategic Plan/Social Media group, formed from the 16th All-American Council meets by teleconference every week. Our major task is to oversee our [Facebook page](#). Please check it out, and let us know what you think! We have built it up and continue to advertise it and support it in its task of engaging our youth in their digital space with compelling, relevant, and Christian content. We also continue to consult with social media professionals, who offer comments, corrections, and new ideas. We have also produced an excellent [video spot](#) promoting the page which I suggest you check out. The group is also working on several more video spots and on stepping into some more social media platforms (twitter, tumblr). We currently have 560 people who "like" our page and our content reaches about 3,000 people a day.

## **"Wonder"**

Our [blog](#) continues to thrive and grow, now under the direction of Deacon Jason Ketz, as editor. Publishing 4-6 articles a month on a particular theme, “Wonder” strives to be a rare positive voice in the blogosphere for our youth and those ministering to them. As we enter its fourth year of publication, we are about to embark on an ambitious redesign under the direction of a professional web designer. This design, set to debut at the end of February, will transform the site from an amateur-level blog to a professional-level online journal. Under the direction of Deacon Jason, we strive to maintain the same level of compelling, relevant, and positive content. We continue to work on providing pdf’s of past articles with discussion questions as well. Last year saw 12 issues published, with about 64,000 unique visitors (up from 36,000 in 2011 and 15,000 in 2010), 81 articles, and readers from 157 different countries. Topics ranged from “Modern Martyrdom” to “Help My Unbelief”. Perhaps tellingly, our most popular issue ever was on “Burnout.”

### **YYA Website and “The Hub”**

Working with our technical team, we have completed the massive project of dismantling the out-of-date [yya.oca.org](http://yya.oca.org) site. [“The Hub”](#), once hosted on the old site, is a comprehensive resource for youth ministry developed under the guidance of Fr. Michael Anderson and funded by FOS and FOCA . It has been transitioned from that site directly to the OCA website. This was a painstaking effort involving about 340 articles on Youth Ministry. Hopefully, this wonderful resource can now be highlighted and refreshed.

### **Podcast and Webinars**

Through the generosity of Ancient Faith Radio we continue to host our podcast, [“From My Youth: Resources for Youth Ministry”](#) on their website. We are also beginning to develop a second podcast with them.

We have begun offering monthly [job-search skills webinars](#) that are free and open to anyone. The material is presented by an Orthodox couple, one of whom is an HR consultant, the other is a hiring manager at a financial services firm. The webinar software and access is generously donated to us, as is the presenters’ time and material.

### **Peter the Aleut Grant Program**

Last year, our Department received a generous bequest amounting to around \$100,000. It is our plan to offer this money back to our Church in the form of a micro-grant program. This grant would offer small awards (\$100-\$500) to our youth/young adults for them to attend approved retreats, conferences, or vocation experiences at OCA Monasteries and/or Seminaries. It would also be offered to our clergy and lay people to help offset the cost of attending continuing education in the field of youth ministry (like the annual Episcopal Assembly Youth Workers Conference). The current team overseeing the process is Melanie Ringa, Fr. Christopher Rowe, Mr. Jeremy Pletnikoff, and myself. It is our hope to launch this program soon with the approval of the Metropolitan Council. Further information on the grant program, financial controls and procedures for awarding the grant are available from me by request.

## **Youth Protection**

I have begun working with an outside vendor used by several catholic archdioceses, some OCA parishes and camps, and the Greek archdiocese to offer two important resources for protecting our Youth and those who minister to them. They would offer one, easy place to do background checks (with several options for different “levels” of checks) and easy and affordable online training for youth ministry volunteers that identifies boundaries, problematic behaviors, mandated reporting laws, appropriate online behavior, and symptoms and signs of predatory behavior. I am looking to start offering these resources this summer for our camping programs. I would like to develop a timeline (maybe over 2 years) for making these resources mandatory for youth programs, church school teachers, clergy and camps. After testing the material myself, and speaking with several priests in the OCA and Greek Archdiocese that already use it, it is my strong recommendation that the Holy Synod and the Metropolitan Council work through the Youth Department to mandate use of these standardized background checks and online training for clergy and youth workers/volunteers.

## **18th AAC**

The Holy Synod and many in our Church have identified having a youth program at our next All-American Council as a priority. I have begun to form a committee to plan and execute this program along the lines of the past councils in Toronto and Orlando. For the Toronto Council, there was a full-time staff member, two part-time ones, and a large group of volunteers available to make the program safe, comprehensive, open to diverse age-groups, and enjoyable. We are trying to present the same program now with a much reduced staff (currently only me, and I am very part-time). Guidance and suggestions on this issue would be much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Boyd  
Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministry  
Orthodox Church in America

## **Spring 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 was conducted 14 – 17 January 2013. Father Ted attended the three meetings. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon attended all three meetings also. This was appreciated and was well received by all who attended in that they were able to engage in conversation with His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon Endorser of the OCA Military and VA Chaplains and Hierarch of the Orthodox Church in America. Pictures have been posted on the OCA website.

This year the NCMAF had as its theme “Ministry Matters”. The theme was chosen because of the various transitions that have taken place over the last decade. With the experience of 2 of the longest wars in our nation’s history, much has changed, to reflect upon what has come to pass and anticipation of the future. The EVAC Theme focused on ministry to veterans and families and dealing with matters of ministry affecting the VA Endorser and chaplains. The days included for NCMAF: a presentation of Ministry Matters setting the stage; Why Ministry Matters and how it matters in the military by three chaplains. There were six break out workshops which one could choose to participate; they were: Issues of Conscience, faith constraints, and military duties; state religion interface – is the endorsing system still adequate?; cooperation without compromise is it really possible?; religious ministry in a high tech connected environment; ministry to nones; chaplain as prophet. Priest, king working models for chaplaincy in today’s military.

Dr Kim Hansen, Assistant professor of sociology at Mount Saint Mary’s university and author of Military Chaplains and Religious Diversity was the luncheon speaker. A Panel of chaplains and endorsers presented following lunch on the theme of matters of ministry. This completed the first day of presentations.

The Second day began with devotion by the Honorable Gregory Slayton, Author of be a better dad today! Dr Robert Tuttle, Research Professor of Law and Religion at George Washington University spoke on Chaplaincy and Constitution Issues of accommodation vs. freedom of speech and religious freedom. The morning continued with briefings in the morning by the Personnel Offices of the three Chief of Chaplains. The Luncheon speaker was CAPT Roosevelt Brown CHC USN from the Department of Pastoral Care at Walter Reed National Military Center. The afternoon session was presentation by the National VA Chaplain Center Director, Chaplain Pollitt with a follow on panel presentation by the VA Chaplain Staff with dialogue with the endorsers. Business sessions of the NCMAF and ECVAC were also conducted during the afternoons.

The Armed Forces Chaplains Board hosted the final day of events with presentations by the three branch chief of chaplains: from the Navy - Rear Admiral Mark Tidd, CHC, USN; from the Army - CH (Major General) Donald Rutherford; and from the Air Force - Ch, Major General, Howard Stendahl.. Afterwards there was a presentation by the personnel directors: Ch, Colonel Mark Barnes, “USAF; CH (Colonel) Bryan Walker, USA and CAPTAIN Jack Lea, CHC, USN. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon was able to meet with the Chiefs and other staff personnel during the day. The luncheon speaker was Mr. Lernes Herbert, Principal Director, Military Personnel Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Personnel, and Readiness. A Panel discussion with Mr Herbert and the three chiefs of chaplains was conducted after lunch. Chaplain Jerry Pitts, AFCEB made a presentation – reporting on various issues of 2012. It was a great opportunity for him and the office of OCA Military and VA Chaplaincies thanks him for including this important aspect of his office as Metropolitan and Endorser in his calendar and for his active participation.

The Office of Chaplaincies remains involved with various aspects of the chaplaincies: A briefing by Fr. Theodore Boback Director and Fr Joseph Gallick Deputy Director of the Office of the Military and VA Chaplaincies was conducted on the OCA Military and VA Chaplaincies in November 2012 with Archbishop Nikon, Bishop Michael Temporary Administrator of the OCA Bishop Mark and Fr Eric Tosi Secretary of the OCA . A briefing was presented to His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon on Monday, 25 February 2013 by Fr Theodore Boback and Fr Joseph Gallick and with His Eminence, Archbishop Nikon who served on the Commission of Chaplaincies with the Episcopal Assembly of Bishops.

The Office has been in consultation with Donna Karabin of the Department of Christian Service and Humanitarian Aid, Chaplain Jerome Cwiklinski wrote material of the Resource Handbook in reference to providing for service members as they return from deployment back into our communities. We are grateful to Donna for the Department's outreach to us, to Fr Jerome for undertaking the opportunity and task to provide the outstanding resource.

### **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 George Rusty Hill will be deploying to the Middle East with his unit in the near future. Fr. George Oanca and Fr Sean Levine returned at the end of last year (December 2012) from the Middle East with their units where they served for a year.

The US Navy Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, had the first Orthodox Priest assigned in the history of the Orthodox Chaplaincy. However he received orders for a new assignment. Two retired Orthodox Chaplains who live in the Maryland region are in discussion with the hope of contracting for providing Orthodox Coverage at the Naval Academy.

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.*

<b>BRANCH</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Reserve Component</b>
Air Force	2 (3)	4 (1)
Army	6 (2)	3 (3)
Navy	3 (5)	1 (0)
Subtotals	11 (10)	9 (4)
Totals	21	13

Projections: There are two OCA Priests who have applied for the active duty military chaplaincy and one for the National Guard. Each priest has applied to a different branch of service; hence, we pray that their application is considered, that they will be accessioned and this will result in an additional priest in each branch for providing ministry. There is one active duty chaplain projected to retire in 2014.

### **ACTIVE DUTY FORCES**

Over 52% of all Orthodox Chaplains on active duty are Orthodox Church in America  
6 (29%) are priest of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese  
4 (19%) are priests of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese

The Carpatho-Russian Diocese at this time does not have an active duty priest since the retirement of the Navy Active Duty Priest a few years ago. The Russian Orthodox Church outside of Russia had an active duty priest also but not at the present time.

### **RESERVE COMPONENT**

9 (69%) of all Orthodox Chaplains in the Reserve Component are OCA  
2 (15%) are priests of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese  
1 (9%) is a priest of the Antiochian Archdiocese  
1 (9%) is a priest with the Russian Orthodox Church outside of Russia

### **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, Major, Captain, USAF – Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany  
Fr. Eugene will PCS this summer to the United States.

#### **United States Army**

Father Peter A. Baktis, Chaplain (COL) USA Fort Bliss, Texas  
Father Peter Dubinin, Chaplain (LTC) USA Hunter Air Field, Georgia  
Father. George Hill, Chaplain (MAJ) USA Fort Bragg, North Carolina  
Father Sean Levine, Chaplain (CPT), USA, Fort Lewis, Washington  
Fr. Sean will PCS to a new assignment this summer.  
Father George Oanca, Chaplain (CPT) USA Fort Carson, Colorado  
Father Paul Rivers, Chaplain (CPT) USA Kaiserslautern, Germany

#### **United States Navy**

Father Jerome Cwikslinski CAPT CHC USN who served at Camp Pendleton, California  
has been reassigned to Hawaii effective 11 February 2013.  
Father Stephen Duesenberry LCDR CHC USN Miramar - San Diego, CA  
Father Eugene Wozniak LCDR CHC USN Coast Guard, Juneau, Alaska

### **Reserve Component**

#### **United States Air Force**

Father Oliver Herbel Chaplain, Captain, USAFR  
Father James Jadick Chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel, USAFR  
Father Herman Kincaid, Chaplain, Captain, USAFR  
Father Thaddeus Werner Chaplain Captain USAFR

#### **United States Army**

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

#### **United State Navy**

Father Christopher Kilian Sprecher, LT 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 was given a full time position at the Miami VAMC this past year. We are grateful for their ministry and congratulate them on their assignment within the VAMC.

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.
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- 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 previously in the past served as chair of the group.

In conclusion, thanks to all who supported 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.