

Gwynne Lawlor

From: Wesseloo <pwesseloo@absamail.co.za>
Sent: Saturday, May 4, 2013 4:34 PM
To: 'Gwynne Lawlor'
Subject: RE: Distinctive Diaconate

Hi Gwynne

Thanks for the two reports. I think that our meeting with the Bishop was very beneficial to us as we are on the new road in the Diocese and I pray that we as distinctive deacons will grow. My thanks to you for sharing with us your knowledge of the diaconate.

God Bless
Pieter

From: Gwynne Lawlor [<mailto:gwynne@lawlor.co.za>]
Sent: 30 April 2013 09:29 AM
To: pwesseloo@absamail.co.za
Subject: FW: Distinctive Diaconate

Hi there

It was wonderful seeing you again! Here is the email I sent to the others. I had to ask your daughter-in-law for your e-mail address as I had lost it (new computer!!).

Best wishes and God Bless
Gwynne

From: Gwynne Lawlor [<mailto:gwynne@lawlor.co.za>]
Sent: Saturday, April 27, 2013 9:47 PM
To: 'philliplaurings@yahoo.com'; 'barbaraam@telkomsa.net'
Cc: bishophveld@iafrica.com
Subject: Distinctive Diaconate

Hi all,

It was a privilege to meet with you and to hear about the scope and diversity in the work you are doing in your parishes. As a new deacon, I was excited, humbled, amazed and motivated by what is being accomplished by all of you in His name. There was also a sense of not working in isolation! The backing and support from Bishop David, and his ideas of incorporating all the deacons in the Chrism Service on Maundy Thursday, by having them gather around the deacon reading the Gospel, sounded really affirming of the Servant Ministry of the deacons in our Diocese.

The image of deacons being the spokes emanating from the hub (Bishop and Diocese), through the parishes to the margins and fringe of society, and back from the "rim", through the parishes, back to Diocese, thus maintaining the connection between the Church and the world was mentioned. It occurs to me, as I write this e-mail, that this image resembles the emblem of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa!

Some of the points for reflection, coming out of our meeting, were as follows:

- 1) How do we understand the distinctive diaconate and how do we understand our role (liturgical, pastoral etc.)
- 2) Do we require any training, or further training, for ministries needed in our contexts?
- 3) What support do we need from Diocese in exercising our calling?

I am encouraged by our agreement to meet after the Diakonia Conference in Berlin and look forward to giving feedback – I do hope that it will be relevant, and hope that this is the beginning of a mutually supportive gathering of deacons. I wonder if it would be possible for me to have a short description of what you do (much as you spoke