

## Notes of Meeting held on July 21, 2021

**Attendees:** Lesley MacKellar, Heather Barta, Armida Zapien, Fran Board, Silvia Huth, Sandra Castillo, Terri Morrissey, Sally Craige Christensen.

**Opening Prayer:** Offered up by Terri Morrissey.

**Announcement of Co-Conveners:** Lesley shared that Armida and Sally (aka Craige) had kindly agreed to lead the group going forward as co-conveners. Lesley will continue to provide support and guidance as Executive Board liaison and Heather will continue to provide help in her capacity as the Province V Coordinator.

**Report on Meeting of Community Building Sub-Group of EMM:** Craige shared the outcomes from a meeting of this group earlier in the day. She explained that they are a nationwide network and are currently heavily engaged in asset mapping around migration ministry. This is something we might want to consider doing in Province V. Heather pointed out that anyone can add to the Episcopal Church Asset Map through this link: [www.episcopalassetmap.org](http://www.episcopalassetmap.org)

**Big Provincial Gathering:** Heather reminded everyone that BPG will take place in *South Bend, IN* on *April 29-30, 2022*. On Friday the 29<sup>th</sup>, we will have the opportunity to conduct 0, 1, 2 or 3 hour-long workshops around migration ministry. This would be a great way to introduce participants to the ministry and do some education. We could do this alone or perhaps in conjunction with other networks. We will need to provide Heather with final wording on what we plan to offer and details of any guest speakers by *December 15, 2021*. During the BPG, there is a chance to meet in affinity groups on the Friday evening and we can also share a 5-minute network report to the entire gathering on the Saturday. Full details of the schedule can be found at: [www.provincev.org/bpg2022.html](http://www.provincev.org/bpg2022.html)

### **Updates from the Group:**

- Sandra shared details of the “We Can’t Wait” rally that took place in Chicago on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The march was advocating for passage of federal immigration legislation that provides a pathway to citizenship for undocumented workers and their families. Terri and Craige also participated in the march.
- Armida is working with the Rev. Cristina Rathbone on doing a Neighbor-to-Neighbor presentation at the Font du Lac diocesan convention later this year.
- Silvia reported that she is part of the Advocacy sub-group of EMM and they are working on a resolution for convention (stay tuned).
- Sandra said that although some progress is being made with the Dreamers Act, she encouraged us all to contact our congressmen about including undocumented workers who had worked in essential roles to get us through the pandemic. This would be a great way to show our gratitude and is the right thing to do as Christians. See the Episcopal Office of Government Relations website for a sample letter format: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/advocacy-resources/>

**Closing Prayer:** Offered up by Sandra Castillo

**Next Meeting:** August 19, 2021 at 8 pm ET/7 pm CT

Submitted by: Lesley MacKellar