**Executive Council**

The Executive Council’s primary responsibility is administering the budget approved for a given year by the Diocesan Convention. It also is to prepare a budget for the coming year. As you can see from the Treasurer’s Report and the Proposed 2018 Budget, we do our best to live with an appropriate balance of income and expenses. The Executive Council is especially grateful to the parishes of the diocese. We are remarkable in that for the past three years we have 100% compliance by our parishes in paying apportionment. This is unheard of in the Episcopal Church. The Council and I salute you!

We also thank Mr. Robert Weathers of Christ Church LaCrosse who since 2012 has served as Diocesan Treasurer. His careful monitoring of income and expenses, his preparation of detailed reports, and his astute attention to trends has made him a superb guardian of Diocesan finances and has helped us to know our limitations and to establish priorities based upon informed choices.

The Executive Council is working on bids to provide a suitable SKYPE like system of audio and visual access. This will allow members of the Executive Council, Standing Committee, and Commission on Ministry periodically to attend meetings from remote locations. Hopefully this will be in place by 2018.

In June, Deacon Charles Farrell resigned as Vice President after two years service. He resigned because he relocated to Chicago. In September we elected Mr. Tim Donahue of Christ Church LaCrosse as Vice President. We welcome Tim’s energy and wisdom as he leads the Executive Council into 2018 and beyond. In September Deacon Marlene Hogue received appointment to the Executive Council. She is eligible to and is running for a three year term at Convention. We also thank Mr. Ron Hall for his service on Executive Council. He is retiring after completing a three year term.

 —Bishop Jay Lambert

 President, Executive Council