February 6, 2019

Greetings ECMN,

At General Convention in July of 2018, The Episcopal Church took action in response to conversations that have been happening for years regarding the failures of the church to address issues of sexual harassment, exploitation, and abuse.

One of those actions came in the form of resolution 2018-D034. You can read the full text of the resolution here, but the summary is this:

Beginning in January 2019, for a period of three years, the time limit set on bringing complaints and initiating proceedings in cases of clergy misconduct against adults is being lifted. There has never been a time limit for reporting clergy sexual misconduct against children and youth. This will remain the same.

Any allegations of misconduct in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota can be directed to the ECMN intake officer, Rebecca Bernhard, who can be reached by email at bernhard.rebecca@dorsey.com or by phone at (651) 261-8940.

This is just one small step among the many necessary to bring justice and accountability around this issue. We hope, however, as stated by the President of the House of Deputies, The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, and the Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael Curry, that actions like these help "our church move closer to the day when, having repented of our sins and amended our common life, we may be restored in love, grace and trust with each other through our Savior Jesus Christ." Click here to read their full letter regarding this issue.

It is requested that this letter is posted and shared widely within each faith community to ensure that everyone in ECMN knows about this provision and can utilize it in order to see that justice is done.

The Rt. Rev. Brian N. Prior
IX Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota