2019-2020 Theme Focus for VELI: Leadership as we engage “Shaped by Faith”, The Way of Love and Becoming the Beloved Community.

Outcome for 2019: Discover the gifts for leadership that are present in VELI members and how the gifts are needed in their specific locations. Outcomes include: Peer and colleague group support for ministry opportunities, tools and models for increasing our leadership competencies, and sharing the ways we engage as a diocese in Shaped by Faith, The Way of Love and Becoming the Beloved Community.

**2019 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**September 10th** -Alexander Crummell, 1898 (Cloud of Witnesses)

Theme: Leadership Identity: 1) Who do you model yourself after as a leader? 2) What qualities, characteristics, styles and principles do you follow as a leader?

**October 8th** -William Dwight Porter Bliss, Priest, 1926, and Richard Theodore Ely, Economist, 1943 (Cloud of Witnesses)

Article to read/engage: to be determined

Theme: As a leader what are your challenges/and/or frustrations? 1) Where are you afraid to go? 2) where do you dare to go? 3) How are you calling out their gifts for particular areas of service?

**November 12th** Charles Simeon, Priest, 1836 (Cloud of Witnesses)

Article to read/engage: To be determined

Theme: Who are your people? 1) What are their stories, gifts, values? 2) Their spiritual inventory; what are their spiritual gifts?

**December 10th** Thomas Merton, Contemplative and Writer, 1968 (Cloud of Witnesses)

# Article or text to read/engage: **Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church Is Transforming the Faith,** by Diana Butler Bass

Theme: Where are you in relationship to the institutional church? To the Diocese? Testing our assumptions in relationship to the decline of the main line Protestant church.

**2020**

**January 14**

Article or text to read/engage: **Celebrating Liturgical Time: Days, Weeks, and Seasons**. By j. Neil Alexander. New York: church ?ublishing, 2014. viii + 160 pp.

Theme: Discovering what is most helpful to us as VELI until June. Include two meetings with the Lutheran; First Call.

**February 11**- Frances Jane (Fanny) Van Alstyne Crosby, Hymnwriter, 1915 (Cloud of Witnesses)

Theme:

Article or text to read/engage

**March 10**-Tuesday in the Second week of Holy Week

Theme:

Article or text to read/engage

**April 14th** Tuesday in Easter Week- Edward Thomas Demby, 1957, and Henry Beard Delany, 1928, Bishops (Cloud of Witnesses)

Theme:

Article or text to read/engage

**May 12th**

Theme:

Article or text to read/engage

**June 16th** -George Berkeley, 1753, and Joseph Butler, 1752, Bishops and Theologians (Cloud of Witnesses)

Informal gathering