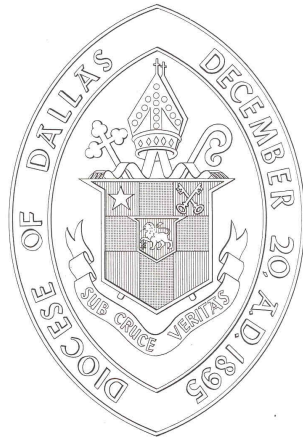


*JOURNAL  
TO THE  
ONE-HUNDRED THIRTEENTH  
ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
DIOCESE OF DALLAS*



*SouthFork Ranch  
Parker, TX  
October 17 & 18, 2008*

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## DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

### DIOCESAN OFFICE

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Canon to the Ordinary	The Rev. Canon Dr. NEAL MICHELL
Secretary of Convention	Mr. RICHARD D'ANTONI
Assistant Secretary	Ms. VIRGINIA WILDER
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Assistant Treasurers	Mr. G. THOMAS GRAVES, III
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Missioner for Finance and Budget	Mrs. TICCOY YOUNG
Missioner Assistant	Ms. VIRGINIA WILDER
Receptionist and Director of Hospitality	Mrs. MARY ALICE RIDENOUR

**THE CORPORATION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF DALLAS**

Contact : Mr. DAVID E. GIBBS  
1630 N. Garrett Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75206  
214/826-8310 - 800/851-8497

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Chair The Rt. Reverend JAMES M. STANTON  
President Mr. TIMOTHY A. MACK (term ending 2010)  
Vice-President Mr. G. THOMAS GRAVES, III (term ending 2009)  
Treasurer Mr. ROBERT A. HULSEY (term ending 2013)  
Mr. WILLIAM BEECHERL (term ending 2009)  
Mr. GERALD DAHLANDER (term ending 2010)  
Mr. TOMMY VALENTA (term ending 2013)  
Mr. STUART BUSH (term ending 2011)

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The Rev. DAVID HOUK  
The Rev. CLAY LEIN  
Mr. ROBBY GERBER  
Mr. G. THOMAS GRAVES, III  
Mrs. LAURA ALLEN

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Standing Committee President The Very Rev. Kevin Martin  
Treasurer Mr. JOHN HIND  
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The Very Rev. KEVIN E. MARTIN  
Mr. GREG FOX  
Mr. DOUGLAS S. LANG  
Mr. HOWARD M. (MATT) STROUD, Jr.  
Mrs. LANA VALENTA  
Term Ending 2009:  
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Mr. RICHARD R. D'ANTONI  
Mrs. JUDIE FIRMIN  
Mrs. LYDIA LANDRUM  
Mr. LAWRENCE R. MAXWELL, JR.  
The Rev. MICHAEL W. MICHIE



**Dispatch of Business/Resolutions Committee**

The Rev. David Houk, Chair  
Mr. Tim Mack  
Mr. Richard D’Antoni

Mr. Scott Matheson  
The Rev. Cn. Dr. Neal O. Michell,  
Canon to the Ordinary

**Elections Committee**

Mr. Tommy A. Valenta, Chair  
Mr. John Macauley, Co-Chair  
Mr. Scott Matheson

The Rev. Cn. Sue Ross  
The Rev. Terry Reisner  
Mrs. Ticoy Young

**Nominations Committee**

Mrs. Rebecca Wellborn, Chair  
Mr. Tony Briggie  
Mrs. Martha Lang  
Mr. Bob Mebus

The Rev. Jerry Hill  
The Rev. Rob Leacock  
The Rev. Ally Perry  
The Rev. Greg Pickens

**113th Annual Convention - Diocese of Dallas  
October 17-18, 2008**

**OPENING PROCEEDINGS OF ANNUAL CONVENTION**

The Convention began with Morning Prayer led by the Reverend Mike Michie, St. Andrew’s, McKinney.

Bishop Stanton called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer for the 113th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas, and thanked The Rev. Mike Michie, St. Andrew’s, McKinney, for serving as the Chaplain of the Convention.

Mr. Robby Gerber, Chair of the Credentials Committee, reported the following delegates present:

Clerical Order:  
189 Canonically Resident  
63 Required for a Quorum  
106 Registered to Vote

Lay Order:  
69 Parishes and Missions in the Diocese  
23 Required for a Quorum  
191 Lay Delegates representing 66 Parishes & Missions

The Rt. Reverend James M. Stanton declared a quorum present. The Convention unanimously voted to adopt the report of the Credentials Committee.

The Rev. David Houk, Chair, Committee on Dispatch of Business, presented the Agenda for the Convention, which had been distributed to the Delegates.

# 113<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas

## PROPOSED AGENDA

*"Press On"*

*I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in  
Christ Jesus.*

*Phil. 3:14*

### Thursday, October 16, 2008

3:00 pm and on	Hotel Check-In	SouthFork Hotel
5:00 – 9:00 pm	Exhibit Set-Up	Lone Star Atrium

### Friday, October 17, 2008

7:00 – 8:00 am	Exhibit Set-Up	Lone Star Atrium
8:00 – 9:00	Registration – Exhibits open, coffee	SouthFork Ranch Lobby & Lone Star Atrium
9:00 – 9:30	Opening Worship	Oil Baron's Ballroom <i>Delegation Seating</i>
9:30 – 12:00	Business Session I The Rt. Rev. James M. Stanton, Presiding Including Bishop's Address	
12:00 – 1:15	Lunch – Exhibits Open	Lone Star Atrium
1:15 – 2:30	Business Session II	Oil Baron's Ballroom <i>Delegation Seating</i>
2:30 – 2:45	Break – Exhibits Open	
2:45 – 3:45	Workshops	
3:45 – 4:00	Break – Exhibits Open	
4:00 – 5:00	Workshops	Oil Baron's Ballroom
5:00 – 6:00	Hospitality with Cash Bar – Exhibits Open	Ewing Ballroom
6:00 – 7:00	Dinner	Lone Star Atrium

### Saturday, October 18, 2008

8:00	Clergy Vesting	Dallas Palace
8:30	Clergy, Banner Bearers & Servers Gather	Lone Star Atrium
9:00 – 10:30	Festival Eucharist & Ordination of Deacons	Oil Baron's Ballroom
10:30 – 11:00	Break Exhibits Open	Oil Baron's Ballroom <i>Delegation Seating</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Business Session III	Lone Star Atrium
12:00 – 1:00	Clergy Spouse Lunch	Mansion

	Exhibits Close at 1:30	
1:00 – 3:00	Business Session IV	Oil Baron's Ballroom <i>Delegation Seating</i>
3:00	Closing Prayer	

The Agenda was adopted by Convention.

The Rev. Houk presented the Rules of Procedure for the Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas as distributed. The Rules of Procedure were adopted without objection.

## **RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF DALLAS**

### ***Presiding Officer***

1. The Bishop shall be the President of the Convention and preside at its meetings. He may call to the chair any qualified person to relieve him temporarily. The Bishop shall have full power and authority to take such action (consistent with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese) as he deems necessary to expedite the orderly disposition of the business of the Convention.
2. After the Convention is called to order by the Presiding Officer, an opening prayer shall be offered by the Bishop or someone designated by him.
3. The Bishop shall have the authority to appoint a parliamentarian of his own choice to advise him on parliamentary questions arising during the Convention.
4. Any person addressing the Chair or desiring recognition of the Chair while the Convention is in session shall address the Chair as "Right Reverend Sir" if the Bishop is in the chair. If some other person is in the chair, he shall be addressed as "Mr. President."

### **Order of Business**

5. The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall report the number of clergy and lay delegates in attendance and whether or not there is a quorum present.
6. If a quorum is present, the Bishop shall announce that a quorum is present. In the absence of a quorum, the Convention shall transact no business other than to recess or stand adjourned from time to time until a quorum is present.
7. Immediately after the Convention is convened, the Bishop shall call for the report of the Committee on the Dispatch of Business. The Committee shall submit a proposed Order of Business and Rules of Procedure, which will be acted on by the Convention. The Bishop shall have the authority, within his discretion, to deviate from such Order of Business adopted as the exigencies of the occasion may require. Following these reports, the Convention shall be considered organized.
8. The first order of business shall be the election of a Secretary and one or more Assistant Secretaries, if needed.
9. The Bishop, within a reasonable length of time before the convening of the Annual Convention, shall appoint from among the delegates of the Convention and such other confirmed persons in good standing in

the Diocese as the Bishop may designate, a Committee on the Dispatch of Business, consisting of a Chair and not less than four other members. It shall be one of the duties of this Committee to prepare an Order of Business agreeable to the Bishop and to perform such other acts and duties as may be deemed necessary or advisable to dispatch the business of the Convention, including a review of the final draft of the Convention Journal before it is printed. Such Committee shall always be entitled to the Floor on business pertaining to that Committee. Members of this Committee shall continue in office until their successors are appointed.

10. All Resolutions of Substance (thus exempting Resolutions of Courtesy) shall be submitted to the Secretary of Convention no later than 11:00 in the morning of the first regular business day. Such resolutions shall be submitted in writing with enough printed copies for distribution to all voting delegates. If the resolutions mention outside data, resolutions, etc., copies of such material shall be made available to those requesting same. Such resolutions shall be referred by the Presiding Officer to the Committee on Dispatch of Business. The Committee shall give due and timely consideration to such resolutions and reports and, with reasonable dispatch, make its report thereon back to the Convention with its recommendation for final disposition on any such resolution or report.

### **Conduct of Business**

11. A delegate desiring recognition of the Chair shall give his/her name and the name of the church he/she represents.
12. A delegate making a report or speaking at length on any subject shall use the microphone on the stage of the Convention with the permission of the Presiding Officer.
13. A delegate making a report or debating shall go to the designated microphone. At the discretion of the Bishop, microphones may be designated "pro" and "con" to expedite debate. A third microphone may be utilized for procedural motions and questions.
14. To expedite the business of the Convention, debates on any pending resolution or motion shall be limited to three minutes per speaker, and one person shall not speak more than once on the pending matter until all other persons who so desire have had an opportunity to be heard. No member shall speak more than two times to any one motion. The number of speakers for discussion shall be divided, as near as is practical, equally between the proponents and opponents of the pending subject.
15. Any item of business of the Convention may be set as a special order of business or taken up out of its regular order at any time by the concurring majority vote of the delegates of both orders.
16. A question having been decided shall not be reconsidered at the same Annual Convention without the consent of two-thirds of the members present, nor without a motion for that purpose being made by one of the majority on the prior decision. No question shall be reconsidered more than once and only on the same day.
17. No motion shall be considered as before the Convention unless seconded and, when required by the Presiding Officer, reduced to writing.
18. A motion to lay on the table shall be decided without debate.
19. When any proposed amendment to the Constitution or Canons is before the Convention, amendments thereto may be sent up from the floor if, within the judgment of the Presiding Officer, such floor amendments are germane to the pending amendments and do not change the purpose of such pending amendments.

20. When consideration of the proposed Diocesan Budget is before the Convention, (a) each amendment thereto must indicate the specific line item(s) being increased and/or decreased, and (b) the aggregate dollar amount of changes proposed must be offsetting.
21. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order when no member is speaking and shall be decided without debate. A motion to fix the hour or day for the Convention to adjourn takes precedence of a motion to adjourn and shall be decided without debate.
22. The mover may withdraw a motion or resolution at any time before decision or amendment, in which case it shall not be entered in the Minutes.
23. If a question under debate contains several distinct propositions, the same may be divided, at the request of any member, and a vote taken separately.
24. All questions of order shall be determined in the first instance by the Presiding Officer; however, any member may appeal any decision of the Chair, and on such appeal, no member shall speak more than once without leave of the Convention.

### **Reports**

25. All reports, which have been printed and distributed in advance to all members of the Convention, shall be presented by title only and not read; however, any person presenting such a report may give a summary of it requiring not more than five minutes delivery.
26. All committee reports shall be reduced to writing and filed with the Secretary. Those requiring action by the Convention need not be presented to the Convention as soon as filed, but shall be put before the Convention at an appropriate time within the discretion of the Presiding Officer. The budget materials prepared for Diocesan Convention shall include both descriptions of line items and rationale for changes in funding or deletions of line items from the budget of the previous year.

### **Nominations and Elections**

27. The Bishop (or in the event of his failure to act, the Standing Committee) shall appoint, not less than 60 days in advance of each Annual Convention, a Nominating Committee composed of four clergy and four lay persons resident in the Diocese, which shall report to the Convention nominations for all elective offices (other than those for which the bishop makes the nominations) in accordance with the following provisions:
  - a) Except as to the Office of Secretary, Trustee, University of the South, and Trustee, Theological Seminary of the Southwest, there shall be nominated not less than two nominees for each office.
  - b) There shall be obtained from each nominee presented his/her personal assurance of his/her willingness and availability to serve, if elected.
  - c) The name of each nominee shall be accompanied by suitable brief biographical data, including a listing of parish, mission, and diocesan offices then and previously held.
  - d) Suggestions as to persons for consideration shall be sought from parishes, missions, and diocesan institutions, and from individuals.
  - e) Further nominations for any office may be made on or before the first regular business day of Convention. All such nominations must be submitted in writing on the prescribed nomination form to the President of the Convention no later than the call to order of the first business session of the Convention; and accompanied by the copies of the biographical information required in sections (b) and (c) above with a

sufficient number of nomination forms and biographical sheets for delivery equal to all lay and clerical Convention Delegates; and accompanied by the signatures of the nominator and the nominee. The Secretary of the Convention shall certify that any nominations so received are in good order and satisfy the requirements set forth in sections (b) and (c) above. After the Nominating Committee makes its report for each office to be elected, in succession, the Secretary of the Convention shall announce the names of the additional nominees for the same offices whose names have been placed according to the provisions of this rule and shall distribute the nomination forms and biographical information on those so certified to all Convention Delegates. No seconding speeches or endorsements of any candidate shall be allowed. Nominations made according to the provisions of this rule shall be added to the election ballots of delegates according to the direction of the Chair of the Election Committee and thus eligible for election as the vote for each office proceeds. A nominee (or in his absence at the Convention, the Rector of the nominee's Parish) may withdraw his name from consideration at any time.

28. When two or more equal positions are voted on simultaneously, a nominee must receive a majority of the total number of legal votes cast for such office. In the event a majority is received by more candidates than there are positions to be filled, those with the highest legal vote totals shall be elected. In determining the total number of legal votes cast for an office, the total number of legal votes cast for such office shall be divided by the number of positions to be filled.
29. In the election of persons wherein a concurring majority of both orders is required, in which only the number of persons required to fill the position or positions under consideration have been nominated, the Bishop, by unanimous consent of the Convention, may instruct the Secretary to cast ballots for either or both the clerical and lay delegates.
30. The Presiding Officer shall appoint sufficient number of Tellers of Elections to count ballots promptly and with all reasonable dispatch. Additional tellers who are not members of the Convention may be appointed in order that the official tellers may not be obligated to absent themselves from the Convention while the ballots are being counted.
31. The Bishop shall have the authority to appoint all Board Members, Trustees, and Committee Members, and fill other positions which are not required to be elected or otherwise selected by the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese of Dallas or any other lawful authority.
32. Doors shall be closed during voting and entry to the Convention floor shall be denied until ballots are collected, or, if not a ballot vote, until the results of the vote are announced.

#### Miscellaneous

33. The Presiding Officer, or such person as he may designate, shall be in charge of the admission of all media personnel to the Convention floor, and no TV or video cameras shall be permitted on the floor without the permission of the Presiding Officer. No literature shall be distributed at the Convention, on the floor or on the premises, without prior approval of the Presiding Officer.
34. The audible use of cell phones and other personal accessories shall not be permitted during sessions of the Convention.
35. The proceedings of the Convention shall be tape recorded and permanently filed.
36. Any of these rules may be suspended by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates. These rules may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates, provided such amendments are not in violation of the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese.
37. The Constitutions and Canons Committee shall be authorized to correct article, canon and section designations, numbering, grammar, punctuation and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes that will not change the meaning or intent of an amendment or resolution as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Convention in approving the amendment or resolution.

38. The Rules of Procedure of the previous meeting of Convention shall be in force until they are amended or repealed.

With the acceptance of the Credentials Committee Report and the approval of the Agenda and Rules of Procedure, the Chair announced that the Convention was ready to proceed with its business.

Mrs. Rebecca Wellborn, Chair of the Nominations Committee submitted the name of Mr. Richard D'Antoni on behalf of the nominating committee to be Secretary of the Convention. Mr. D'Antoni was elected unanimously.

The Chair asked if there was objection to seating licensed clergy serving in churches in this Diocese, but who are not canonically resident, with their congregations and allowing them to have voice but no vote. There was no objection. The Chair announced that the licensed clergy to be seated are The Rev. John Kalimi, St. George, Dallas; Rev. Stanford Chambers, Epiphany, Dallas; Deacon Philip Mayer, St. Peter's By the Lake, The Colony; Mother Christiana Olsen, SMAA and Rev. Kevin Huddleston, SMAA, Dallas.

The Chair asked if there was objection to seating members of Canterbury Ministry on the Convention floor and giving them voice but no vote. There was no objection. The Chair introduced Nate Bostian, Chaplain and three representatives from Canterbury Ministry, Southern Methodist University.

The Chair announced that the Daughters of the King of the Diocese would be praying during the entire Convention.

Mr. Richard D'Antoni, Secretary of the Convention, presented the minutes of the 112th Annual Convention as printed in the Journal.

The Bishop nominated Mr. Timothy A. Mack to be Chancellor of the Diocese. Mr. Mack was elected unanimously.

The Chair appointed Mr. Neil D. Anderson as Senior Chancellor, Mr. Scott Matheson as Vice Chancellor and the following Assistant Chancellors: Mr. Paul A. Schweizer, and Mrs. Jennifer Hargrave.

The Chair nominated Mr. John Hind to be Treasurer of the Diocese. Mr. Hind was elected unanimously.

The Chair appointed Mr. Tom Graves, and Mr. Robert G. McKenzie to be Assistant Treasurers.

The Chair appointed Ms. Kay Crews, PRP, as Parliamentarian for the Convention.

The Chair appointed Mr. Jim Morris, Mr. Bobby Pope and Mr. Johnny Slovak as Sergeant at Arms for the Convention.

The Rev. Canon Neal Michell reviewed the procedures for issues being presented to the floor.

### **NEWLY ORDAINED CLERGY AND ORDINANDS**

The Chair recognized Canon Neal Michell for the purpose of introducing the newly ordained Clergy and the ordinands in the Diocese as follows:

#### **Ordained to Priesthood:**

The Rev. David Petrash  
The Rev. Daniel Ofoegbu

The Rev. Anita Slovak

#### **Ordained to Diaconate:**

The Rev. Maria (Betty) Barrios  
The Rev. Elizabeth S. Breyfogle (Betty)  
The Rev. Marci Pounders

The Rev. Carol Hobson  
The Rev. Noe Mendez  
The Rev. Anita Slovak

#### **To be Ordained to Diaconate October 18, 2008:**

Clayton Elder

Paul Thomas

To be Ordained to Priesthood November 1 & 6, 2008:

The Rev. Marci Pounders

The Rev. Stephen Danzy

Received:

The Rev. Diana Freeman

The Rev. Augustine Lee

The Rev. Mark Wright

The Rev. J. J. Bernal

The Rev. Jacob Muiruri

The Rev. Harold Lowe

The Rev. Ann Willett

The Rt. Rev. Anthony Burton

The Rev. Marc Dobson

The Rev. Robert Odom

The following Licensed:

The Rev. Frank Reeves

The Rev. Karen Calafat

The Rev. Philip Mayer

The Rev. Richard Towers

The Rev. Christiana Olsen

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston

The Rev. Kathy Garrett

Bishop Stanton spoke of the passing of Henry Beck, a great member of the Diocese and a man of vision and immense integrity. Bishop Stanton also announced that just before the convening of the Convention he learned of the death of Mr. Jos. Irion Worsham. These two men are giants not only in the Diocese of Dallas but in the General Church as well. Mr. Worsham was several times a deputy from this Diocese to the General Convention and was instrumental in crafting the legislation that finally resulted in the adoption of the Book of Common Prayer in 1979. He was widely respected. One of the senior-most members of the General Convention, Charles Crump of West Tennessee, wrote Bishop Stanton a message saying that he was a man of deep integrity, honesty, good humor and generosity and that he would be missed. Bishop Stanton led prayer on behalf of the family.

## NOMINATIONS

Mrs. Rebecca Wellborn continued the report of the Nominating Committee, as follows:

### Standing Committee:

Clergy: The Rev. David Holland  
The Rev. David Houk  
The Rev. Jerry Morriss  
The Rev. Frederick C. Philputt  
The Rev. Rob Smith

Lay: Mr. Robby Gerber  
Mrs. Mary Ann Lyons  
Mrs. Lana Valenta

### Executive Council:

Clergy: The Rev. George Willcox Brown, III  
The Rev. Peter R.R. Getz  
The Rev. William Lovell  
The Rev. Matthew S.C. Olver

Lay: Ms. Nancy Anderson  
Mr. Robert H. Bowling  
Mr. Jack Rue Coleman  
Mr. Richard (Rick) Hayslett  
Ms. Anna Houston  
Ms. Toni Luc  
Mr. Robert S. MacFarland  
Mr. William E. McGannon (Bill)  
Ms. J. B. (June) Wage  
Ms. Pat Ward

### Trustee - University of the South:

Lay: Mr. Dan E. Wilson

The Chair asked if there were nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. The Chair closed the nominations and recognized Mr. Tommy Valenta, Chair of the Elections Committee, to explain the voting procedures. The Chair announced that there will be three elections as follows: Standing Committee, Executive Council, and Trustee of the University of the South.

The Chair announced that he had appointed the following persons as Tellers to assist the Elections Committee: Kelley Howe, Marian Rogers, Kelly Ogden, Patricia England, James Cavanaugh, Robert Wood, Alina Somodevilla, Heather Alexander, Toni Luc-Tayengo, Deacon Pam Dunbar, Nadia Hill, Kevin Geiger, Melissa Poole, Molly Wren, Eric Pope, Kelsey Pope, Nate Bostain, Chris Weeks and Rachel Weeks.

## ELECTION RESULTS

There were three votes taken. The Tellers' Report begins on page 38. The final results of the voting were as follows:

### Standing Committee

(Clergy)

The Rev. David Houk

(Lay)

Mr. G. Thomas Graves, III

### Executive Council

(Clergy)

The Rev. Matthew S. C. Olver

The Rev. William Lovell

(Lay)

Ms. Nancy Anderson

Mr. Richard (Rick) Hayslett

Mr. William E. McGannon (Bill)

Ms. Pat Ward

### Trustee to the University of the South

(Lay)

Mr. Dan E. Wilson

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND CANONS

Mr. Tim Mack reported on the proposed Constitutional and Canonical revisions and reviewed the following rule: Any Alternations and Amendments to the Constitution, approved by this Convention shall be published in the Journal and shall lay over to the next Annual Convention and if then approved by the concurrent majority of the vote of both orders, the Constitution shall be altered accordingly, and such alteration or amendment shall take effect thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the Convention. (Note: the underlined sections in the Amendments are the changes to the existing Constitution).

Mr. Mack began with the report of the Committee on the Constitution and Canons on Amendment #2008CO1.

### **Amendment #2008C01 - Amendment of Article 15 (First Reading)**

**(Sponsors: Committee on Constitution and Canons)**

***Resolved, that Article 15 of the Constitution of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas be amended to read as follows:***

### ARTICLE 15

#### FUND FOR THE ENDOWMENT OF THE EPISCOPATE

**There shall be a Fund for the Endowment of the Episcopate which shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Trustees consisting of not less than five and not more than nine Lay Persons of the Church in this Diocese, who shall be nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Convention at the Annual Meeting. They shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.**

They shall be entrusted with the investment and management of the said Fund for the Endowment of the Episcopate. Securities purchased by the Trustees in their capacity as such may be registered in the names of such Trustees and their successors in office. They shall make an annual report of the affairs of the said Fund to the Annual Convention.

After paying the necessary expenses incident to the management of this Fund, ~~ten (10) percent of the net annual income remaining shall be returned to, and become a part of, the principal Fund. The remainder of the said net income shall be applied, so far as may be necessary,~~such portion of this Fund and the earnings thereof, as determined by the Board of Trustees (not to take more from the principal than seven percent of its value at the beginning of the year), shall be applied annually toward the ~~salary compensation~~ of the Bishop of this Diocese, and of the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, and of the Suffragan Bishops, if there be any, ~~after which any of said net income remaining shall upon the approval of the Convention, either be returned to and become a part of the principal Fund or be made available in whole or in part for~~ or for other expenses of the Office of the Bishop or general Diocesan purposes.

*(Strikethrough text represents deletions to the present text; underlined text represents additions to the present text.)(Text shown is the text inclusive of an amendment adopted by the Convention).*

The Committee recommended approval of 2008C01. An amendment was presented and adopted. The motion was adopted as amended on the first reading and will be presented at the next Annual Convention for a second reading.

**Amendment #2008C02 - Amendment of Article 16 (First Reading)**  
**(Sponsors: Committee on Constitution and Canons)**

**Resolved, that Article 16 of the Constitution of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas be amended to read as follows:**

**ARTICLE 16**  
**ELECTION OF A BISHOP, BISHOP COADJUTOR**  
**OR SUFFRAGAN BISHOP**

The election of a Bishop, a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Suffragan Bishop for this Diocese shall take place at the regular meeting of the Convention, or at a special meeting of the Convention called for that purpose. In the election, the vote shall be by ballot and by orders, and concurrent majority of the two orders shall be necessary to a choice if two-thirds of all the Clergy entitled to vote ~~and,~~ and whose attendance at the Convention has not been excused by the Bishop due to infirmity or other good cause and Lay Delegates from two-thirds of the Parishes and Missions entitled to representation are present ~~and voting at the Convention;~~ present-voting otherwise, two-thirds of the votes of each order ~~present-voting~~ shall be necessary to a choice. In any event, the election may not occur unless a quorum ~~be and remain present~~ has been determined to exist.

*(Strikethrough text represents deletions to the present text; underlined text represents additions to the present text.)*

The Committee recommended approval of 2008C02. The motion was adopted on the first reading and will be presented at the next Annual Convention for a second reading.

Amendment #2008C03 - Amendment of Canon 26  
(Sponsors: Committee on Constitution and Canons)

*Resolved*, that Canon 26 of the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas be amended to read as follows:

CANON 26  
ELECTION OF A BISHOP

**Section 26.1** Whenever the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese shall call for the election of a Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop and the Convention, where required, shall have given its consent thereto, a committee shall be appointed to consist of four (4) Priests or permanent Deacons and four Lay members, appointed by the Standing Committee, six (6) Priests or permanent Deacons and six (6) Lay members appointed by majority vote of Executive Council, and the Chancellor, ex-officio. The members of said Committee shall be appointed not less than four (4) months prior to the date set for the Convention at which such election is to be held.

**Section 26.2** The Committee may at any time fill any vacancies in its membership for whatever reason caused. Vacancies in the Clerical membership shall be filled with Priests and in the Lay membership, with Laity.

**Section 26.3** The members of the Committee shall continue as members thereof until the close of the Convention at which the Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop shall have been elected or until the Committee shall have been discharged by action of the Convention.

**Section 26.4** The Committee Chair shall be designated by the Standing Committee, and the Committee shall choose its secretary from among its members and shall have power to adopt rules and regulations governing its procedure, not inconsistent with this Canon.

**Section 26.5** The Committee shall call for and receive and may itself propose for its consideration names of members of the Clergy who may lawfully be elected to the Episcopal Office to be filled; and fix the time within which such suggested names may be filed with the Committee, but in no event less than thirty (30) days prior to the date set for the Convention at which such election is to be held. Any member of the Committee whose name shall be proposed for consideration as a candidate for Episcopal Office may withdraw his name as a candidate, and if he shall not withdraw as a candidate, he shall withdraw from the Committee.

**Section 26.6** The Committee shall inform itself as to the persons so proposed and, after due consideration, ~~shall select~~ of their background, references and qualifications, shall forward to the Convention the names of all those persons (but not fewer than three (3)) whom ~~it~~ the Committee deems qualified for such office. The ~~committee~~ Committee shall prepare a report to the Convention giving the names of the persons ~~so selected~~ nominated which includes biographical information and a photograph of each nominee.

**Section 26.7** The Report of the Committee shall be printed and mailed by the Secretary of Convention in the manner provided in Canon 3.

**Section 26.8** The presentation of the Report of the Committee shall constitute a nomination of each of the Candidates therein named. Nominations shall not be made from the floor at any time ~~after the report of the Committee shall have been presented and until the close of the Convention or until an election shall have taken place, except when a vote is being taken. A nomination from the floor shall be accompanied by the same biographical information and photograph as is required of committee nominees. This requirement for information may be waived by a majority vote of the Convention.~~

**Section 26.9** Upon the conclusion of all preliminary business and all nominations, the Convention shall recess for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The propers of said celebration shall be those "Of the Holy Spirit," unless the Convention is meeting on a major Holy Day, in which case the propers of the feast shall be used. A sermon shall be preached on the office and work of a Bishop.

**Section 26.10** Upon conclusion of the Eucharist, the Convention shall reconvene and proceed to an election in accordance with Article 16 of the Constitution. Each ballot shall be preceded by a period of silent prayer.

*(Strikethrough text represents deletions to the present text; underlined text represents additions to the present text.)(Text shown is the text inclusive of an amendment adopted by the Convention).*

The Committee recommended approval of 2008C03. An amendment was presented and adopted. The motion as amended was adopted and the amended Canon will go into effect in 30 days.

**Amendment #2008C04-S1 - Amendment of the Canons to add a new Canon 41**  
**(Sponsors: Committee on Constitution and Canons)**

**Resolved**, that the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas be amended to add a new Canon 41, to read as follows:

**CANON 41**  
**VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

**Section 41.1** Upon the death or resignation of the Bishop and if there is no Bishop Coadjutor, then the Standing Committee may ask the ranking active Suffragan Bishop to be in charge of this Diocese and shall be temporarily the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese until such time as a new Bishop shall be chosen and consecrated.

**Section 41.2** If the Standing Committee declares the disability of the Bishop and there is no Bishop Coadjutor able and present, then the Standing Committee may ask ranking active Suffragan Bishop to be in charge of this Diocese and to be temporarily the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese until such time as the Standing Committee shall declare the Bishop able to serve.

**Section 41.3** If the Bishop shall give written notice to the Standing Committee of his extended absence or leave and his desire that provision be made for a temporary Ecclesiastical Authority and there is no Bishop Coadjutor able and present, then the Standing Committee may ask the ranking active Suffragan Bishop to be in charge of the Diocese and to be temporarily the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese until such time as the Bishop shall give the Standing Committee written notice of his return. In any event, such leave shall not exceed 36 months.

**Section 41.4** During any period in which a Suffragan Bishop shall temporarily be the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese, the Bishop (or, if the Bishop has resigned or is permanently unable to perform the duties of office or is deceased, the Standing Committee) shall nevertheless retain the authority to call for the election of a Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop, pursuant to Canon 26.1.

*(Text shown is the text inclusive of an amendment adopted by the Convention).*

The Committee recommended approval of 2008C03. An amendment was presented and adopted. The motion as amended was adopted and the amended Canon will go into effect in 30 days.

Mr. Bob Davis, St. Francis, Dallas, moved to Reconsider the vote on Amendment #2008C02, Article 16. Mr. Davis affirmed that he voted in the affirmative on the motion, and that he was moving to Reconsider in order to offer an amendment allowing the acting Ecclesiastical Authority to excuse attendance at Convention. The motion to Reconsider was adopted. Mr. Davis moved to amend Article 16 by inserting “or the acting Ecclesiastical Authority” after the phrase “excused by the Bishop.” The amendment was adopted. The motion was adopted as amended on the first reading and will be presented at the next Annual Convention for a second reading.

Bishop Stanton then gave the following address:

# *We Press On!*

## **EPISCOPAL ADDRESS AT THE 113<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION Of the Diocese of Dallas**

SouthFork Ranch  
Friday, October 17, 2008  
The Rt. Rev. James M. Stanton  
Bishop of Dallas

I have some good news and some bad news. Like Custer's scout, I will begin with the bad news.

### **Looking Back**

This year has been in many ways a low point for me. I have watched this Church I love riddled with further division and taking courses which I think twist and diminish us.

I was saddened that the year began with questions about who would attend the Lambeth Conference, and whether in fact the Conference should be postponed. I was saddened further by the absence of many friends and colleagues from the Conference when it was finally underway. I had spoken with many of these colleagues and encouraged them to attend. But it was not to be. Those whom I have known are not only strong witnesses to the Christian faith, but men of honor as well. These had given their pledge that if the Episcopal Church bishops who, in their view, had helped to bring division in the Anglican Communion attended, then they would not. And because their honor was at stake, they did not. I respect their sense of honor, but was saddened even so.

I was saddened too by the actions of our own House of Bishops when in March, and again in September, they took steps to depose certain bishops who were also friends and respected colleagues. More than saddened, I would say that I was appalled. I say this for the simple reason that while I could not condone their actions in approaching the state of our current divisions, the actions of the House of Bishops went against the clear meaning and intent of our Canons. The reasons most given for these depositions were that we had to defend the polity of our Church – the integrity of the way we govern. And yet, as I have said previously, this appeal to polity rings hollow when we subvert our own polity to achieve our ends.

The bishops in question were deposed for “abandoning the communion of this Church.” There were many problems with these actions on this basis.

Deposing a bishop or other cleric for Abandonment of Communion was enacted in our canonical history to deal with a rather infrequent and difficult situation: where a bishop or priest had actually left the Church and become an adherent of another religious body. In such cases, a trial could not be had for the simple reason that the one who departed would likely not show up to endure it or pay for it. So a canonical means was laid out in the Canons to enable the Church to dispose of the matter and move on.

At the same time, the canons made it a difficult thing to accomplish, especially in the case of Bishops. It is a part of our polity to respect the special bond between the people of a diocese and the bishop they have chosen and called to lead them. So the bar for deposing a bishop was set high.

There are many aspects of the present cases that could be commented on. But I have neither the time nor the patience to cover that ground. Much of it has already been covered by careful legal analyses available on the internet. But the critical issue, it seems to me, is the vote required to actually depose.

The relevant Canon reads as follows: “If the House, by a majority of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote, shall give its consent, the Presiding Bishop shall depose the Bishop from the Ministry”. Everything turns on the phrase, “a majority of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote.” Who are those bishops? All of them, according to Article I, Section two of the Constitution. A quorum for the House of Bishops is also defined there with the same phrase – a majority of all Bishops entitled to vote – with the one notable exception that for a quorum to be established, those bishops who have resigned their jurisdictions or positions need not be included. There is no such qualification in the Canon dealing with deposition. So the bar for deposing a bishop was set high and would require a majority of the whole House. That is the clear and plain sense of the wording of the Canon.

But as clear as this wording and requirement was, it was the ruling of the chair that the words meant merely a majority of those in attendance at the House. Many critics have questioned whether there was even a majority of the House in attendance at either of the meetings of the House of Bishops, and if that is so, then the votes did not meet the standard set by the Canons. But the majority of the House of Bishops sustained the ruling from the Chair on this interpretation of the Canons, and the deed was done.

I want to be clear: As I have said from this podium often enough, and in many other venues, I do not believe separation from the Episcopal Church to be a strategy, or to be consistent with my understanding of the ministry entrusted to me or us, or to be necessary under our Constitution and Canons. I respect these bishops who have determined otherwise, but I do not condone their actions, just as I do not condone the actions of the House of Bishops.

But there is a larger concern here for any of us who love the Church and who are committed to carrying out the apostolic ministry we have received through her. The order that we have received is intended to guard us from the tyranny of the majority. That is why we have a Constitution and Canons. The great scholar and churchman, Massy Shepherd, used to say to seminarians that the point of the Canons, the principle that drove them in the Episcopal Church, is to protect the laity from their priests and the priests from their bishops. Constitutional law is intended to set limits to power – to what a majority can set out to do. But in these recent episodes, this principle of protection, of limits is undermined. If everything comes down to a matter of interpretation, and the majority rules in each case, then I find it hard to imagine what a Constitution or Canons is for.

Some pointed to ambiguities in the texts of the Canons. If this is so, and I think it is far from certain that there are, it seems to me that the proper path would have been to use another part of the Canons to correct the problem and clear up the ambiguities: in short, to amend them. But that would have required patience and effort, and time for both. And that was not to be.

These are not happy episodes in the life of the House of Bishops. And they are worrying for what they portend for the future. If the Church is to strive toward a healthier and healing life, it will have to give attention how it addresses these matters in a more wholesome way.

That is the bad news.

But there has been good news in this year as well.

### **Bishop Election**

Last year, as we neared the end of our Convention, I called for the election of a Bishop Suffragan. As you will know, of course, that call was endorsed by Convention and we received the necessary consents,

carried out the search, held an election, again received the necessary consents, and held a Consecration. The result, for all to see, is here in the flesh – the Rt. Rev. Paul Emil Lambert.

That much is apparent. What may not be so apparent is that the time between the call and the consecration of our Suffragan was as short as it was. Our first meeting with the consultant from the Office for Pastoral Development of the Episcopal Church was on November 7, 2007. The Standing Committee and Executive Council formed the Elections Committee under our diocesan canons on November 13. We received sufficient consents to engage in the process by February 19. The election was held at a Special Convention on March 29. And the Consecration took place on July 12. The election process took 4 months and the consecration took another three months.

This remarkable effort, and the even more remarkable efficiency of the effort, enabled the Bishop Suffragan to attend the Lambeth Conference with me. And it all happened because we had a very dedicated team of leaders who undertook their responsibilities for the sake of all of us with dedication, skill, unity and timeliness.

I wish to identify all those involved in this process and ask those who are here to stand. We will recognize them all and express our gratitude to them when all the names have been read.

#### THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Rev. Canon Ed Monk, President  
 The Very Rev. Kevin Martin  
 The Rev. Clay Lein

Mrs. Laura Allen  
 Mrs. Cherie Wetzel  
 Mr. Tom Graves

#### THE ELECTION COMMITTEE

Tommy Valenta, Chair  
 The Rev. Larry Smith, Chaplain

Clergy	Lay
The Rev Bob Dannals (St. Michael and All Angels)	Mrs. Rebecca Wellborn (St. Paul, Waxahachie)
The Rev. Garrin Dickinson (Holy Nativity, Plano)	Mr. Jay Patterson (St. John’s, Dallas)
The Rev. William Lovell (Trinity Church, Dallas)	Mr. Robby Gerber (Holy Nativity, Plano)
The Rev. Mike Michie (St. Andrew’s, McKinney)	Mr. Armando Barrios (St. Matthew’s Cathedral)
The Rev. Curt Norman (St. Luke’s, Denison)	Mr. Pike Burkhardt (Holy Cross, Paris)
The Rev. Kai Ryan (Ascension, Dallas)	Mr. Richard D’Antoni (St. Michael and All Angels)
The Rev. Todd Wetzel (Good Shepherd, Cedar Hill)	Mr. Doug Lang (Incarnation)
The Rev. Bill Cavanaugh (Epiphany, Richardson)	Mr. William Murchison (Incarnation)
The Rev. David Houk (St. John’s, Dallas)	Mr. Jim Riggert (St. Michael and All Angels)
The Rev. Don Perschall (St. Matthias, Athens)	Mr. Tim Mack (ex-officio)

#### THE CONSECRATION COMMITTEE

Dana Pope, Chair  
 Robbie Gerber  
 Malcolm Catter  
 Tony Briggie  
 Fr. Rob Leacock  
 Canon Ed Monk

James Diaz  
 Hyeon Jeong  
 Pollyann Matson  
 Ellen Gunn  
 Ticoy Young

I was pleased to call the Rev. Canon Neal Michell to serve as Canon to the Ordinary, and I thank him for accepting this call. As you may know, Neal has served this Diocese as Missioner for Strategic Development. I asked him also to serve as interim rector at St. Nicholas, Flower mound, and St. Luke's Dallas in their time of need. He truly did an outstanding job with both congregations. As Canon to the Ordinary, he will continue to bring his gifts and expertise in church development to our congregations.

#### Evangelism

Of course, the election of a Suffragan was only one of the emphases of this past year. We continue to carry out the mission God has entrusted to us.

I want to highlight some of the work of your Diocesan Evangelism Initiative. This past year, parishes throughout the Diocese have engaged in bringing Christ to their communities in new ways. We spoke last year of the partnership we have established with Harvest Unlimited, a program that provides a systematic approach to outreach, witness and church growth. The program works with local congregations to identify, reach, invite and pray for the unchurched living in their communities.

Last year, 13 congregations participated. This year, five new congregations undertook the Harvest and one came back for another go round. The results of this program are very encouraging. They teach us first not to fear the word Evangelism. And second, they teach us that there are things we can do to shape the image of our churches wherever we live. All the participants report that the faith was strengthened as they stepped out of their comfort zones and invited new people into their parishes. Astonishingly, over 7000 people have been personally invited to attend these churches. And over 3000 specific requests for prayer have been received and acted on.

Your Cathedral has launched an effort called Follow Me – an intentional program to reach out to their community.

There is now an Evangelism Network that connects over 100 members of our congregations, engaging in thinking about and looking for opportunities to engage in evangelism. The Initiative offers several other programs, including Evangelism 101 – a workshop in the basics of articulating our faith and communicating with and inviting others to grow in faith. 10 congregations have participated since our last Convention. Evangelism 202 is a workshop for Church leaders to understand how to “open the front door and close the back door” for Church growth. And our Canon for Evangelism, Carrie Boren, offers individual parish consultations. She has done this for 22 congregations this past year alone.

I am especially pleased to tell you that our Carrie has been invited to teach on Evangelism over the past couple of years in dioceses from Texas to Florida, Ohio, Massachusetts, Georgia, Washington DC, North Carolina, Tennessee and Indiana. She was the only American speaker asked to address the Alpha Evangelism Conference at Holy Trinity, Brompton, in London, where she shared our work with representatives from over 82 countries. And she has taught on Evangelism at Nashotah House, Oxford University, and George Mason University.

#### Renewal Ministries

This year the Center for Renewal of the Diocese celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> year. I want to give special mention this year to the Renewal Center and its ministries. Ironically, my first acquaintance with the Diocese of Dallas came while I was a Rector in Iowa and served on the National Cursillo Committee. We held a Board meeting here and I got to meet Frank Bain and others at the Renewal Center at that time. They had already deserved national attention as the leading center for Cursillo within the Episcopal Church. I say this is ironic, because over the years I have said very little about this important work and the many contributions they make to our common life.

The Renewal Center is responsible for the conduct of the Cursillos between this Diocese and the Diocese of Fort Worth. This past year they have completed 5 Cursillos in English and 1 in Spanish. These are significant undertakings in their own right. But that is not all they have done.

The Renewal Center has also hosted nine sessions of the School of Spirituality. And they have conducted three Happenings for high school aged youth and two New Beginnings for junior high aged youth. The Happening and the New Beginnings programs were created by the Renewal Center to aid in helping young people discover a relationship with Jesus and find their place in Christ's Church.

And, in fact, the Renewal Center has also crafted two other programs – Mustard Seeds and Living Stones – which do the same for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade children and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade children respectively.

But having said all that, I am still not done. The Renewal Center has worked with our African brothers and sisters in Christ and in the Anglican Communion to bring the blessings of the Cursillos and other programs to dioceses in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. They have helped to establish a center for renewal in Kenya that will serve dioceses in the other countries. And, while they were working on these worthy and labor intensive efforts, they also engaged in mission outreach, serving for example, in a clinic in the Diocese of Shinyanga, Tanzania, serving over 300 people in the community.

#### Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry continues to strengthen in our diocese. It is becoming a more recognized professional area of ministry. Churches now automatically seek to replace vacancies when a youth minister moves and, while our large and program-sized churches continue to support this ministry, our transitional-size churches are beginning to call youth ministers as well. One of our youth ministers, by the way, Sarah Sevick, at Redeemer, Irving, grew up at St. Anne's in DeSoto, and is a beneficiary of the youth ministry of our Diocese. Several churches are searching for replacements at this time and Transfiguration, Dallas, even has an interim youth minister, Keith Jackson, to keep their active ministry going during their search process. It's significant that the ministry has grown to such importance that churches don't want to do without.

Professionalism in this field is growing. Youth Ministers in the Diocese of Dallas are not activity directors and babysitters but full-fledged ministers - both lay and ordained - who have chosen an exciting and challenging field of ministry. This year, the school at the Cathedral is offering our second Youth Ministry Class, and it is bigger than last year! (This class is team-led by Deacon Pam Dunbar, with Nate Bostian and Toni Luc-Tayengo).

The Youth Commission continues to be a strong group of both students and adults and we can expect them to plan for another year of diocesan youth events. This year's chair, Marian Rogers, will be addressing this Convention on behalf of the youth community.

A new trend in the area of Christian Education is the re-organizing and re-naming of "DREs" - Directors of Religious Education - into Directors of Children's Ministry or Children's and Family Ministries moving beyond the "just Sunday School" model. The Christian Formation Commission continues its good work with the ever-growing Resource Center and training workshops throughout the year.

I have had the opportunity to meet with the Youth Ministers at different times this year. I stress with them the importance of the work they are doing, and the importance of offering to each young person who comes in contact with them the opportunity to make a commitment to Jesus Christ. Just a couple of weeks ago, a mother came up to me after a service and told me how her daughter, who had worked at the Summer in the City program, had done just that. The work she did there reoriented her daughter's life, the mother said, and now she is looking at how she can give her life to ministry to others. This, my brothers and sisters, is the great joy and the great possibility of youth ministry!

## Church Planting

We have continued to give emphasis to the much needed work of Church Planting.

Last winter, the Commission on Church Planting began fundraising for new land for our newest churches. I am pleased to tell you that to date, the Friends of Church Planting effort has raised over \$82,000 toward the purchase of new church sites. Perhaps even more importantly, this group is telling our story and raising interest in this quintessential mission of the Church.

Through this last year, three new congregations have been moving forward in gathering people, reaching the unchurched, serving their community and beginning an Anglican presence in the area or an ethnic community.

Fr. Alfredo Williams, who had just arrived at Convention last year, had 125 people at his installation this September, and I was able to confirm or receive 14 souls at that celebration. You will recall that some of the members of Resurrection had determined to leave the Diocese. They proposed selling off the property and sharing the proceeds. But when Rez was dedicated, a group of Church of God women surrounded the property and took part in the service with their hymns and prayers. And one of them said, "God has a purpose for this Church, and we pray that you will serve that." I recalled this moment when I issued my Godly Judgment on the disposition of the property. I told the whole body that I was sure God was not done with his purpose for this property yet, and that the property would remain in the Diocese. I am happy to report that the English speaking congregation of Resurrection which remained with the Diocese has doubled, and that the Spanish service has quadrupled in the past year. There is now also a Burundian contingent who worships at the Church. And tomorrow, I will ordain two Deacons, one of whom will serve this mixed community, and who happens to be fluent in Spanish, Swahili and English. God provides! These trends give an appropriate and richer meaning to the name, "Church of the Resurrection."

This June, Fr. Augustine Lee arrived to found the Diocese of Dallas' first Korean congregation. He has been welcomed at St. Andrew's Church, Farmer's Branch and has his office there. In three months, he has gathered a launch team of 25 persons and his new effort has received extensive coverage in the Korean language community of the Metroplex. I am excited about this development and its potential, though I wonder about the possibility of learning Korean!

Latest achievement in church planting has been the grand opening of St. Paul's, Prosper the first Sunday of October... attendance was 87, which is twice that of the first service of, say, SMAA. In addition to the new parish's ministry to children and youth and the formation of a Christian education program for adults, St. Paul's has already sent mission teams to work with the Collin County City House for troubled families, and has a ministry to the local elementary school. We have secured a seven acre site for St. Paul's in Prosper.

Although, strictly speaking, they are not Church Plants, I want to speak to you of some congregations and their progress. We might call these Church Re-plants. As you know, these churches were impacted by departures from the Diocese. It is in such circumstances a real challenge to pick up the pieces when your family has been torn apart. But these folk have done it, and I want you to recognize them:

Holy Trinity Garland has a Rector, Fr. J. D. Brown, and is moving forward.

St. Nicholas, Flower Mound, also has a Rector in place. They have seen several families return and are growing. And they are excited.

St. Luke's, Dallas also has a new Rector. They lost several families with the departure of their former rector. But their average Sunday attendance is now only 10 below their previous mark.

I have already spoken to you of Church of the Resurrection.

Pressing on after the blows these congregations have taken is very hard work, and calls for extraordinary patience and faithfulness. I'd like for you all to recognize them and to show your appreciation.

And while they are by no means new, I want to thank our old-timer Church Planters, the Rev. Mike Michie and the people of St. Andrew's McKinney for their leading music and worship at this Convention.

#### All Saints Camp

All Saints Camp has continued to flourish under the leadership of Chris Tokarz and the Camp Board. You will be hearing more from them in the Convention. I simply want to remind you of the gift we believed God was giving us in this beautiful facility and the care and skill with which many in this Diocese have engaged in developing and utilizing this resource. The Camp is now moving ahead in its business plan and is well ahead of its projections. The Journey on Lake Texoma program, which educates children and youth about the wonders of God's creation and the environment, is a key piece to the well-being and viability of the Camp. And the Summer Camp Program is expanding as well, serving more and more of your young people. This year, more congregations are finding and using the resources of the Camp. And, of special interest, I think, to the Clergy will be the fact that St. Cuthbert's Cottage – a clergy family house – is now open for their use. The Clergy Family Commission has long wanted such a resource to permit clergy families to get away and become familiar with and enjoy the natural beauty of the All Saints Campus.

There is much more to say. You will hear from Bishop Lambert about the Episcopal Charities initiative and the Rural Ministries work of the Diocese. I have also asked him to give you some insight on the Lambeth Conference and its important work this year. You will also hear from Canon Neal Michell on the membership and growth statistics of the Diocese, and celebrate some successes that concern us all. This is the good news.

#### The Future

We live in a time of change. That is more than a campaign slogan. It is especially poignant for us as a Church and for the ministries we carry on.

This next year will see our General Convention. It is hard to say what matters will be considered at the Convention in any detail. I can tell you that we have a sound deputation acting on your behalf in Anaheim. If the past is any indication of the future, I suspect that this next General Convention will generate a great deal of heat and attract a great deal of attention. And I suspect it will be unsettling to many in this Diocese, be regarded as a great blessing to many, and further exacerbate the tensions with which we live.

So what will we do?

One of the greatest stories in the Bible concerns a good news/bad news scenario of its own. It's found in the Book of 1 Kings, chapter 19. You may recall a part of that story. The prophet Elijah came to Mt. Horeb and there found a cave. He entered the cave, very weary and dispirited. The Lord came to Elijah and spoke to him:

“What are you doing here, Elijah?”

Elijah has a great opportunity, and so he vents: “He said, "I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

Can you sense the desperation, the anxiety, the anger even – and can you feel in Elijah the kind of righteous indignation and exasperation that comes with having been faithful, and yet now finding yourself isolated, abandoned and in danger?

In response, the Lord tells him to stand at the mouth of the cave. Then in succession, there passes by him a great wind; but the Scripture says, “The Lord was not in the wind.” Then came a great earthquake, but “The Lord was not in the earthquake.” Then came a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire. Then there came a deep silence – a silence translated as “a still small voice” – but a silence that was profound.

You might think that such a display would have shaken Elijah from his despondency and his self-pre-occupation. But if so, you would be wrong.

Again the Lord says, “What are you doing here Elijah.”

And Elijah answers with the very same words he had used before - "I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

When Elijah was finished, the Lord – we can surmise with a slight edge to his voice – said to Elijah, and here I paraphrase, “Get on the road. I have work for you to do.” And he tells Elijah what he must do next. At the end of the Lord’s words, God says, “Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to the idols, and every mouth that has not kissed them.”

I spoke of this episode the other night to a group in one of our churches. I would sum it up as follows: The Lord says I have some bad news and I have some good news. The bad news is that you are right, Elijah. You are worn out, you are weary, you are faithful, and you are in a mess. Things couldn’t get much worse. But I have good news as well: I am God, you are not, and I have work for you to do. And, oh yes, I have resources you cannot even dream of!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ: I do not know what the future holds, even though there are lots of people who seem to. I do not know what challenges we have yet to face – though I must tell you that anyone who follows a crucified Lord must know that he or she will face challenges in abundance.

But this I know: God has work for us to do. And when we face the kinds of unknowns we face today, we had better know what our mission is and we had better focus on carrying it out for as long as we may if we take God seriously. Faith is not just having the right set of beliefs. Faith is trusting in the God we believe in and bearing fruit to His glory and honor.

And this I know: we serve the crucified and living Lord who was himself quite able to face the bad news and the good news. Listen to him:

“In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

There it is: the bad news is that you will face the impossible. The good news: I have overcome them. We have souls to fit for eternity. I know that sounds old fashioned. I know that many look to solve this world’s problems – hunger, poverty, oppression, war. And that they discount all that pie-in-the-sky stuff about salvation, and heaven, and sweetness and light. But I will tell you that it is souls who know the living God, and who know the victory of the crucified Lord Jesus, and who live from the knowledge and obedience of the Holy Spirit – who know they are heaven made and heaven bound – who will be able to give themselves for others and courageously contend against all that demeans and distorts life, including hunger, poverty, oppression and war.

We build churches, we challenge our young, we reach out to our communities with the good news, we seek to serve the least and the lost where we live – we worship and pray, read the scriptures and give – we even build a camp, not because we can save our world, but because *we are* saved and belong to the maker of this world and we must serve him. And we care for, reach out to and minister to souls because they, too, are God’s – they belong to him and they need to know of the Love he bears for them and died to win for them.

We can sit in a cave somewhere and fret. Or we can get on the road and do what we have been called to do. Whatever the future holds, this much is certain – we have been given to help shape some little part of it!

And we are!

Let me show you how: St. John’s, Dallas, has just this week made calls in the Harvest program. They talked to 516 people. They have prayed for 225 requests – 52 of them from people who have no Church. Just statistics? Not at all.

Here are the email notes from one such interchange:

“This morning a woman called the church office saying that she saw St. John’s Episcopal on her caller ID. She wasn’t at home last night, and she was calling us to see why we would have called *her*.

I said that I imagined that she was called by one of our members participating in the Harvest Program where we call neighbors to let them know about us, and to ask how we might be praying for them. She was totally taken aback, and we then had a most enjoyable 15-minute conversation. Because they could never agree on a denomination as a compromise, she and her husband never joined a church.

Now, she is raising a 7 year old grandson. She does not want to make the same mistake with the grandchild that they made with her children (not having a home church). And then we call her.

She feels strongly that God has put this before her and she plans to come visit us. I spoke with her about the church and the children’s programs.”

Three souls. Real needs. A real opportunity. God at work. And we are His hands, and ears, and voices. Here’s another:

“A woman answered the phone and declined the invitation to visit our Church because she was Jewish. The caller said, “While I have you on the phone, we are praying for the needs of those in our community. Is there anything you need prayer for?” The woman said, “Yes. I have been on an oxygen machine for 3 years and I feel like a caged bird, trapped in my own home.”

Two weeks later, a woman arrived at the Church and asked to talk with the pastor. The woman said to him, “What have you people been doing with your praying? Not only am I off oxygen. I walked over here to your office.” She is now in a Bible Study group at Trinity Church on Hillcrest.

We change the world, and the future, one soul at a time. Jesus started with twelve. Paul started with a handful. We are here today because they did. How many will come after us because we were faithful, because we dared to do what seems impossible?

We don't have all the answers. But we have some. Paul, writing to the Philippians said, "Brothers and sisters, I don't consider myself perfect yet. I press on to make Jesus and his resurrection my own, because he has made me his own. I say again, I have not obtained it all. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind, and stretching forth to what lies ahead, I press on for the upward call of God in Christ Jesus!" Sit in a cave and fret? Not on your life. We have work to do. We Press On!

At the conclusion of Bishop Stanton's address, Tommy Valenta presented the Teller's Report for the first ballot, and announced that further balloting would be required during the afternoon session. Noonday prayer was then led by The Rev. Mike Michie.

The Chair moved that the Convention recess and reconvene at 1:15 p.m..

Upon reconvening, the Chair called for ballots to be distributed and the second ballot was taken. The Chair then called upon The Rev. Canon Dr. Neal O. Michell to address the Convention.

**STRATGIC PLAN - 2008**  
The Rev. Cn Dr. Neal O. Michell  
Canon to the Ordinary

So, how are we doing?

It has been enjoyable to report the good news in years past. It is less pleasant to report in years when there is not-so-good news.

Well, this is one of those years. There is good news and there is not-so-good news.

First, let's start with the not-so-good news.

In 2007, our membership declined by 698 persons. We have lost over 1,000 members from churches where a sizable portion of the congregation along with their rector separated themselves from us. Additionally, a number of churches have cleaned their rolls. So, overall, our membership numbers have grown, but not dramatically.

The more challenging news is that our Average Sunday Attendance has declined by over 3,000 per Sunday. Two-thirds of that decline is from churches that have left. One third of the decline is from other churches. Some of those churches are in transition with or without clergy, but this is the first year of real decline in average Sunday Attendance in our diocese in the last 12 years, with the exception of 2003.

Revenues to churches is down overall, but up if you take out the churches that have left and those remnant congregations, but that decrease is due to our churches that have lost their rectors under these extraordinary circumstances.

Baptisms of Adults, Receptions, and Confirmations are down, and they typically are when we have only one bishop. We're expecting a lot of work out of Bishop Lambert to bring up those numbers!

The upshot of all this is that we are doing okay in a very challenging denominational environment. We all know that ministry is hard work.

There are lots of really positive things going on around our diocese. We have several new rectors and vicars. We will survive.

Actually, I believe we can do more than survive. We can actually thrive. These are challenging times in which to live.

So, did you think we would be spared challenging times? If it were not these battles, there would be others.

During the height of World War II Winston Church was honored at his prep school with a hymn written in his behalf. Let me read to you his account of that event:

You sang here a verse of a School Song: you sang that extra verse written in my honour, which I was very greatly complimented by and which you have repeated today. But there is one word in it I want to alter—I wanted to do so last year, but I did not venture to. It is the line: "Not less we praise in darker days."

I have obtained the Head Master's permission to alter darker to sterner. "Not less we praise in sterner days."

Do not let us speak of darker days: let us speak rather of sterner days. These are not dark days; these are great days—the greatest days our country has ever lived; and we must all thank God that we have been allowed, each of us according to our stations, to play a part in making these days memorable in the history of our race.

Yes, we all have our part to play in these stern and memorable days. The needs of the ministry continue. The work for the Kingdom of God goes on. I would like to highlight two examples of how the work for the Kingdom continues in our diocese.

First, I have been privileged to serve for ten months as the Interim Rector of St. Luke's in Dallas. As I was leaving, we called Clayton Elder to come serve as the curate. One of his tasks has been to redevelop a ministry at St. Luke's in a more contemporary vein. What they are doing at St. Luke's is exciting. I've asked him to come share with us for THREE MINUTES what they're doing at St. Luke's.

Next, Mother Ally Perry, Vicar of St. John's, Pottsboro, will come and share with us their building plans.

Finally, and this is the part of Diocesan Convention that I enjoy most of all: Awards for significant growth in Average Sunday Attendance. This year we have fourteen churches who have had significant growth in their attendance. In fact, each of these churches grew over 10%. I will ask that the delegation to come forward to receive your plaque, remain standing up front until all have received their plaques, and hold your applause until we have given out all our awards.

Family

St. Matthias, Athens – 21%  
Our Merciful Saviour, Kaufman – 13.7%  
St. Philip's, Sulphur Springs – 25.8%  
St. Peter's, The Colony – 22%  
St. Justin's, Canton – 25.8%

Pastoral

St. Mark's, Irving – 50.8%  
St. Paul, Waxahachie – 19.4%  
St. John's, Pottsboro – 25.8%  
St. Andrew's, McKinney – 22%

Transitional

Trinity, Dallas – 22%  
St. John's, Dallas – 11.1%  
St. David's, Denton – 15.4%  
St. Barnabas, Garland – 25.6%

Program

St. Philip's, Frisco – 15.5%

Following Canon Michell's address, Mr. Tommy Valenta presented the Tellers' Report for the second ballot. The Chair then called upon ballots to be distributed and the third ballot was taken.

The Chair recognized Ms. Christine Tokarz, Executive Director, All Saints Camp & Conference Center to give an update on camp activities.

The Convention was led in prayer by Bishop Stanton and then recessed.

Workshops were held from 2:30 – 3:30 and 4:00 – 5:00.

Saturday, October 28, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

Ordination of Clayton Elder and Paul Thomas, Order of Diaconate.

The Chair opened the meeting in prayer.

Mr. Tim Mack presented the Teller's Report for the third ballot on behalf of the Committee on Elections. Bishop Stanton announced that elections were complete, and thanked the Committee on Elections for their service.

Bishop Stanton reported that he has been honored by the Vestry of St. Matthews Cathedral and the leadership of The Cathedral Center School for Ministry to change the name of the school to The Right Reverend James M. Stanton Center for Ministry Formation, to recognize his 15<sup>th</sup> year as Bishop. Bishop Stanton thanked everyone with his deep appreciation for this action. In that connection, the Christian Formation, Youth Commission, along with the Evangelism Network, St. Matthews Cathedral, Canterbury Ministry at SMU and Stanton Center have joined together to present a lecture series in honor of his 15<sup>th</sup> year of consecration, which they are calling the Stanton Lecture Series.

On November 8, 103<sup>rd</sup> Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord George Carey, will give the inaugural lectures at St. Matthew's Cathedral.

Bishop Stanton stated that he has announced to the Standing Committee his desire and plans to take a sabbatical beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> of January through April.

Bishop Stanton announced that he has awarded an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St. Matthew as provided for in the Canons to Mrs. Laura Julia Allen.

#### **REPORT BY COMMITTEE FOR DISPATCH OF BUSINESS**

The Chair called upon The Rev. David Houk for the Report of the Committee on Dispatch of Business on Resolutions. The Rev. Houk presented to the Convention the following Resolutions:

##### **Resolution 2008 R01**

Be it RESOLVED, that the One Hundred Thirteenth Convention of the Diocese of Dallas, in the spirit of its theme to PRESS ON toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Jesus Christ, reaffirm our church's commitment to encourage, nurture and support the discipleship of individuals and congregations, to emphasize the link between evangelism and Corporal Works of Mercy, to strengthen existing charitable programs, to work in partnership with already existing community services, and to inspire the creation of new ministries that address unmet needs, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the One Hundred Thirteenth Convention encourage the Executive Council to direct the Episcopal Community Service Network to develop programs to assist our congregations in their outreach ministries by providing educational resources and networking opportunities with one another.

The resolution was adopted.

##### **Resolution 2008 R02**

RESOLVED: The 113th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, meeting at SouthFork on October 17 and 18, 2008, as part of fulfilling our Baptismal Covenant, commits to join with our brothers and sisters throughout the Anglican Communion and the world to free those who suffer from hunger, illiteracy, disease, poor housing, and inequality through the proclamation of the Gospel in word and deed.

The resolution was adopted as amended.

Resolution 2008R03 was withdrawn by its makers, who offered Resolution 2008 R03-S1 in place of the original:

Resolution 2008 R03-S1

RESOLVED: The 113th Convention of the Diocese of Dallas dissociates itself from the affiliation of The Episcopal Church (TEC) with the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC) and resolutely affirms the normative Christian teaching on the sanctity and dignity of all human life, from conception to natural death.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolution 2008 R04

RESOLVED, the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas at its 113th Annual Convention requests that the 2009 General Convention urge the Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to provide funding to the Society for the Increase of the Ministry for the next triennium, at least matching the current work of the SIM in the amount of \$100,000 in year one, \$150,000 in year two, and \$200,000 in year three.

Further resolved, that the General Convention request the SIM to report annually to the Executive Council this work and its effectiveness in meeting its demands, and that the Executive Council provide a full report to General Convention 2012.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolution 2008 R05 was withdrawn by its makers, who offered Resolution 2008 R05-S1 in place of the original:

Resolution 2008 R05-S1

RESOLVED, that the 113<sup>th</sup> Convention direct that the nomination form for Diocesan elections include a question asking nominees to state their readiness to evaluate all persons in the ordination process without prejudice due to “race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities or age” (Title III: Canon 1: Of the Ministry of All Baptized Persons).

The resolution was postponed indefinitely.

Resolution 2008 R06-S1

Be it RESOLVED, that this 113th Convention of the Diocese of Dallas express its gratitude to Bishop Stanton and Bishop Lambert for voting No to the deposition of the Rt. Rev'd Robert Duncan, Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, at the Fall 2008 House of Bishops Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. We are grateful for their faithful exercise of Episcopal ministry in this matter and we encourage them to continue to witness for truth and fidelity in our Diocese and The Episcopal Church, and convey our support and encouragement to Bishop Duncan during this difficult time.

Further RESOLVED, that this Convention disassociates itself from this action and denounces the House of Bishops' effort to depose Bishop Robert Duncan.

A motion to Postpone Indefinitely failed. Without objection, consideration of the resolution was laid on the table in favor of Noonday Prayer led by Rev. Mike Michie, followed by lunch.

Upon reconvening following lunch, an amendment to the resolution was adopted, and the resolution was adopted as amended.

Resolution 2008 R07

RESOLVED, that the 113th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas requests that the office of the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church provide each diocese of The Episcopal Church with the following information:

- a. the dollar amount spent by TEC on litigation against dioceses, parishes, groups of churches and individuals since General Convention 2006;
- b. a list of the church accounts and/or budget items from which these funds were taken;
- c. the proposed amount of money for litigation to be presented to the 2009 General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Convention of the Diocese of Dallas communicate this request to the Presiding Bishop upon passage.

RESOLVED, that the Presiding Bishop's response (or lack thereof) be reported to the clergy and people of the Diocese of Dallas prior to General Convention, 2009.

The resolution was adopted.

Resolution 2008 R08

RESOLVED, that the One Hundred Thirteenth Convention of the Diocese of Dallas requests that the Episcopal Church and all Dioceses, parishes and bishops adopt a policy of negotiation and/or mediation with regard to disputes over property, and according to the request of the Dar Es Salaam Primate's Communiqué, cease and desist from engaging in lawsuits with fellow Christians.

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of Convention of the Diocese of Dallas communicate this request to the office of the Presiding Bishop and Executive Council of The Episcopal Church.

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of this diocese report the Presiding Bishop's response (or lack thereof) prior to the General Convention 2009.

An amendment to the resolution was adopted and the resolution, as amended, was adopted.

Resolution 2008 R09

RESOLVED, that the 113<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Diocese of Dallas directs the Executive Council of the Diocese to revise the process of budget development for the Diocese to include formal open opportunities for members of the Diocese to examine, discuss and provide feedback of proposed budgets during the time of their development, and not less than 30 days before the Executive Council adopts the budget and includes it in the printed materials for the 114<sup>th</sup> Convention and subsequent conventions, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Council notify parishes and clergy of these opportunities through the Esprit, the Diocesan list serve and e-mail messages to delegates to Convention.

The resolution was adopted.

The Chair called upon The Right Reverend Paul E. Lambert to address the Convention:

# *We Press On!*

Saturday, October 18, 2008

**THE RT. REV. PAUL E. LAMBERT**

**Bishop Suffragan of Dallas**

I would like to begin my address to you this afternoon by thanking Bishop Stanton and the clergy and laity of the Diocese of Dallas for providing me with the opportunity to become your Seventh Bishop Suffragan. It is indeed an honor and I will endeavor to humbly serve you as your Suffragan and to work with you for the building up of the Kingdom of God in this place.

I also want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Fr. Bob Dannals, his staff, and the good people of St. Michael and All Angels for their wonderful hospitality extended to our diocesan family on the occasion of my Consecration. I am sure you would all, agree, it was a wonderful service! Thank you also to Dana Pope, the Chairman of the Consecration Committee and all those who served with her, your contributions mean more to me than you will know. Finally, to Mr. James Diaz and Dr. Hyeon Jeong and the choirs of St. Michael and All Angels and the Church of the Incarnation for the beautiful music, Wow!

I also want to thank my beloved wife of 33 years, Sally. Words cannot adequately express my gratitude for her love and support, particularly this past year. Our lives have changed significantly and she has been an anchor in the midst of that sea of change for me and our family. Her faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and her commitment to him and her love of the Episcopal Church (Fourth Generation Episcopalians are that way you know!) have been an inspiration to me. Even when she says, "what have you gotten us into now?" I know she will be my bastion of support and always at my side. Thank you, Sally.

As one can imagine my first three months as a Bishop of the Church has been interesting to say the least. Since the Monday after Easter when my third grandchild was born, I was elected as Bishop Suffragan five days later, then five days after that we had our fourth grandchild, followed by the graduation of our youngest daughter from Sewanee on Mother's Day. In the midst of all that we patiently waited for the consent process to be completed, not something I would encourage others to do! Two days after the consecration Sally and I left for the Lambeth Conference for three weeks of fun in the South of England! It was in travelling there that I got a glimpse of what my life would be like from now on, luggage, luggage, and luggage. It seems the life of a bishop is one in which he or she is always packing or unpacking their vestments. Boy, could I have used a deacon or Verger! You haven't lived until you tote your suitcase, computer case, and your vestment bag through Victoria Station! Having said that, I want to thank the diocese and our bishop for making it possible for Sally and me to attend this historic event, we will not soon forget our experience. I will spare you my report on the nuts and bolts of the conference and reserve my comments for our gatherings next month when Bishop Stanton and I will join Dr. Christopher Wells to present our post-Lambeth reflections.

## Episcopal Community Service Network

One of the defining moments in my ministry as a parish priest occurred one cold winter morning while I was serving as Rector of St. James in Texarkana. There had been a fire in a vacant house the night before that destroyed the house completely. It was later discovered during the investigation that the fire had been started by a homeless man who had broken into the house to get out of the cold. He built a fire in the middle of the living room to keep warm, then passed out because he had been drinking. I was overwhelmed thinking how could this happen in the United States. How desperate does a person have to be to do something like this? It was at that moment that I set my sights on building a safe shelter for those who had none. With the help of many individuals in the community of Texarkana and the assistance of \$50,000.00 from the Diocese of Dallas, we built the Randy Sam's Shelter for the Homeless.

I share this reflection as a way of introducing the Episcopal Community Services Network that has been in the developmental stages for the past seven months. An initiative put forth by the Executive Council, the Episcopal Community Services Network will endeavor to continue the long standing tradition of the Diocese of Dallas' reaching out into our communities to make a difference in the lives of those who often fall through the cracks. It is our hope that through the network we will be able to encourage cooperation between our congregations in addressing the myriad of needs within each of our communities. In some cases, it may be as simple as providing resources of information and knowhow to a congregation wishing to engage externally in their communities. In other cases, it may mean joining forces with our sister congregations in developing and implementing a social outreach project that would benefit a large group of people in a significant way. It is my pleasure to announce to you that Ms. Dabney Dwyer of Ascension, Dallas has been appointed our Executive Director of Episcopal Community Services Network. She will serve as a resource for the diocese much like Carrie Boren does for Evangelism.

We are blessed within this diocese with many congregations who are already engaged in their community and making a difference. From Church of Our Savior, with its garden initiative that is an icon on how people who care can make a significant difference in their community, to the Jubilee Ministry project of St. Michael and All Angels. The Church of the Incarnation is engaged in their community with their Zip Code initiative reaching out to their surrounding community. Church of the Ascension, Dallas has developed a far reaching Externally Focused Church Initiative that has become a keystone in their parish's life and ministry and many of our Rural congregations do wonderful work in their communities, the least of which is St. James, Kemp who has no fewer than 28 ministries that they participate in. Gardening, driving cancer patients to their appointments, visiting those in prison, teaching English as a second language, AIDS outreach, and serving in homeless shelters, these are wonderful ministries that can be shared with one another in a way that can bind us together as One Church, because we care.

The benefits for becoming externally focused in an intentional way are too numerous to count. Being engaged in your community allows your church to be known in a positive way as one that is not merely one that hears the Word, but is a doer of the Word. We are not only a church that prays, we are a church that does. This in and of itself makes a difference in the lives of so many in our communities. The more we are engaged in our communities, the stronger our communities of faith becomes spiritually (because we are living into our Baptismal Covenant of Faith) and in our growth, because people will be drawn into our community because of our good work.

Yes, outreach is evangelism and evangelism is outreach. Being engaged in our communities allows us to witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ in our lives. We go into the world not because it's a good thing to do alone, but primarily because our Lord Jesus Christ calls us into the world to bring Good News to the poor. As we share our faith with one another and those outside of our communities our lives are transformed by the power of Jesus Christ as well. We must have Church Growth eyes, and see the needs before us and endeavor to fill them. We cannot do this on our own, but by the grace of God in Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### Rural Ministry

Interestingly enough, where these initiatives come together, evangelism and outreach, can be seen in our rural congregations. Working with our Rural Ministry commission it is my hope that we can implement many of our evangelism and outreach programs where they are not already in existence for the welfare and benefit of the congregation and their communities. Through the sharing of all of our ministries and networking with larger congregations it is my vision that we can bring new life and encouragement to our rural congregations.

I will be spending a significant amount of my time and energy in these congregations bringing with me the resource persons for Evangelism, Outreach, Catechesis, Stewardship, and Youth and Clergy Development from our diocesan staff to help them along their way. We are beginning our Titus project to raise-up qualified individuals from within the rural churches for the ordained ministry. We have five candidates already in the process. Along with these initiatives the Rural Church Commission continues to do invaluable work to assist our congregations.

## Clergy Wellness

During the next year I hope to begin developing a Clergy Wellness program. Using the resources of the Church Insurance Corporation, the Church Pension Fund, and CREDO we will begin to develop a comprehensive program to address the needs of our clergy and their families. We will incorporate the Parish Nurse Ministry, the Clergy Family Commission, and any other resources we may identify as being helpful in this initiative. Too many of our clergy are victims of their own need to help others, while not taking care of themselves. Burnout leads to despair, despair leads to lack of enthusiasm for the ministry God has called them to, and in the end, the souls given unto their care go wanting. This plan, when complete, will address the Spiritual, Physical, and Emotional Health of each of our clergy and their families.

The benefit of such an initiative will prove enormous in the long run. Healthier clergy lead to healthier congregations, and healthy congregations lead to communities of faith that are vibrant and alive. Once we have established this program it is my hope that it will become part of an individual parish life as well, much like the other programs in a congregation.

Let us then work together to build up the Body of Christ where each congregation is healthy and externally focused, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior and work together for that which is well pleasing in the sight of the Lord.

In closing let me say how much I appreciate the people of the Diocese of Dallas (clergy too!) When I came into the diocese in 1978 Bp. Davies was our bishop. I witnessed the dividing of the diocese and then served under Bishop Patterson, then Bishop Stanton. I have seen the good and the bad of the diocese, lived through the best of times and the worst of times, and yet one thing has remained constant- the heart and spirit of the diocese and her people. We can be proud of where we are in the life of the church because we have always stood for something and never wavered. This cannot be said of too many other dioceses.

The majority of the clergy here today were not here when I began my ministry and I have been privileged to watch our parishes grow under their leadership. I have witnessed the pain and agony of congregations separating from us and anguish over our brothers and sisters who feel it necessary to leave even now. I pray they choose otherwise because leaving pierces the heart of this diocese and deters us from the work at hand in the building-up of the Kingdom of God. We become less than what God calls us to become and I pray that we can stay the course, keeping our eye on the upward call in Christ Jesus, while working together to bring others into his church and care for the needs of those less fortunate than we ourselves. We have the heart to, I pray we have the will and I believe we do. After all, we are the diocese of Dallas and there is no other like it in the Anglican Communion! Let's "PRESS ON" together!

Mr. Richard D'Antoni Secretary of the Convention, moved that the Convention recess and convene as the Corporate Meeting of THE CORPORATION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF DALLAS. The motion was seconded and adopted and the corporate meeting was called to order.

### **BISHOP'S PRESENTATION OF NOMINATIONS**

Bishop Stanton presented the nominees as follows:

#### **CORPORATION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF DALLAS BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Term ending 2010:

Mr. Gerald Dahlander

Term ending 2013:

Mr. Robert Hulsey

Mr. Tommy Valenta

Mr. Richard D’Antoni Secretary of the Convention, moved that the members of the Corporation accept the nominations to the Board of Trustees. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. D’Antoni then moved that the Corporate Meeting be adjourned and the Convention reconvene. The motion was approved unanimously. Bishop Stanton then presented the following nominees for election to various Diocesan bodies:

**FUND FOR THE ENDOWMENT FOR THE EPISCOPATE-BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Term ending 2009:

Mr. Neil Anderson, Chair	Mrs. Laura Allen
Mr. John Hind	Mr. Tom Graves
Mr. Robert Hulsey	Mr. Neils Agather
Mr. Tom Gowan	Mrs. Martha Lang

**ECCLESIASTICAL TRIAL COURT**

Term ending 2009:

The Rev. Frederick Philputt, President	Ms. Paula Miller
The Rev. Michael Harmuth	Mr. Jay Madrid
The Rev. Donald R. Pershall	

**COMMISSION ON MINISTRY**

**Term Ends 2009**

The Rev. Ally Perry  
 Mr. Gene Autrey  
 Ms. Joan Hodges  
 The Ven. Diana Luck  
 The Rev. Phil Snyder  
 Mr. Dick Comstock  
 Mrs. Martha Lang  
 Mrs. Laura Allen  
 Mr. Robert Mebus  
 The Rev. Curt Norman  
 The Rev. Cn. Antonio Munoz

**Term Ends 2010**

The Rev. J. J. Bernal  
 The Rev. Jerry Hill  
 The Rev. Jerry Morriss  
 Mrs. Lana Valenta

**Term Ends 2011**

Mr. Armando Barrios  
 Mrs. Adriana Elliott  
 The Rev. Clifton Gardner  
 The Rev. Gail Gateley  
 Mr. Robert Hulsey  
 Mr. Bill Ward  
 Mrs. Rebecca Wellborn

**COMMISSION ON ART AND ARCHITECTURE**

Term ending 2009:

Mr. John Wright, Chair	Ms. Brenda Stubel
The Rev. David Holland	Mr. Tommy Valenta

**COMMITTEE ON CHURCH PENSION FUND**

Term ending 2009:

Mr. Steve Eggers, Chair	Mr. Ford Keith
The Rt. Rev. Paul Lambert	Mr. John Hind

Upon motion by Mr. D’Antoni all nominees were elected unanimously.

**OTHER REPORTS**

The Chair recognized Ms. Marian Rogers, Chair of the Youth Commission who presented report of growth of participants in DDYC and activities held.

## 2009 PROPOSED BUDGET

Bishop Stanton notified the delegates that the Diocese had that very day received information that the additional premium benefits for Medicare for retired clergy would not be funded by The Church Pension Fund, as had previously been expected. This will result in a \$120,000 budget shortfall to the Diocese. Due to the late receipt of the information, Bishop Stanton asked if there was objection to waiving the rules and allowing the Finance Committee to deal with this particular budget change following the Convention and without having offsetting line items. There was no objection.

Mr. John Hind, Treasurer, presented the 2009 Proposed Budget and on behalf of the Executive Council.

### RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR 2009

#### RECEIPTS:

Parishes & Missions	4,228,254
Less 15% Reduction	(634,238)
Transfer from Strategic Reserve	100,000
Endowment of the Episcopate	75,000
SMAA Support Of Canterbury	50,000
Miscellaneous Income	<u>20,000</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	3,839,016

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

I. One Church	1,369,511
II. Mission Oriented	918,150
III. Building Leaders	207,985
IV. Diocese as Resource	<u>1,343,370</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$3,839,016

John Parkinson, Church of the Annunciation, Lewisville, pointed out a typographical error in the yellow assessment sheet; however, page 47 of the booklet was noted to be correct.

Rev. J. D. Brown, Holy Trinity, Garland, noted that his Parish would probably not be able to pay the assessment, as noted in the financials. Mr. Hind pointed out the line item for “Uncollectable Assessments” on page 36.

Oyibo Odinamadu, St. Peter’s Anglican Church, Dallas, requested that the \$30,000 requested for the African Ministries at St. Peter’s be restored.

John Parkinson, Church of the Annunciation, Lewisville, noted that the method used to calculate the assessments may be overly optimistic. He then moved that the Budget as presented be adjusted to define the income to 2008 levels, and to see whether or not the Executive Committee can work out a budget within those levels. The motion was ruled out of order by Bishop Stanton for its failure to comply with Standing Rule 20.

Bishop Stanton noted that the Executive Committee would be working throughout the year to ensure that the budget is adjusted to reflect actual income.

Randy Moravec noted that budgets are plans. He also asked that the comments made during discussion of the budget be included in the minutes, and there was no objection to complying with that request.

The Proposed 2009 Budget was adopted on a voice vote. Following the vote, J. B. Wage, Church of the Annunciation, Lewisville, asked that the minutes reflect that she voted no on the motion.

The Rt. Rev. Paul Lambert led prayer for the faithfully departed: Deacon Susan Price, Fr. Michael Tuck, Fr. Jay Hobbs, Fr. Carl Danielson, Fr. John Wyatt, Fr. Richard Cook, Fr. Norman Amps, Fr. John Twyman.

## COURTESY RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Richard D'Antoni, Secretary of the Convention presented the following Courtesy Resolutions:

### JOSEPH IRION WORSHAM

RESOLVED, that the 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas upon the passing of Joseph Irion Worsham give thanks to God for his servant, for his life and witness to Jesus Christ and for his many contributions to the life of the Diocese of Dallas and the Episcopal Church, not least his service as a Deputy to the General Convention, member of the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church, and as Chancellor and Honorary Canon of the Diocese of Dallas.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby express our condolences to his family in the conviction that those who die faithful in the Lord are in joy and felicity.

### KEN PALMER

RESOLVED, that the 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas send greetings to Ken Palmer and his wife, Patricia, upon his continuing recovery and express our gratitude for his faithful service as a Board Member and President of the All Saint's Camp Board, for his many contributions to securing All Saint's Camp for the use of the Diocese and its young people; and pray for his well-being and continuing witness.

### ST. ANDREW'S, MCKINNEY WORSHIP TEAM

"WHEREAS, this One-Hundred Thirteenth Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas has enjoyed the gifts and talents of the Worship Team from St. Andrew's, McKinney,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this One-Hundred Thirteenth Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas does hereby extend its appreciation to The Rev. Mike Michie, Archdeacon Diana Luck, St. Matthew's Cathedral and the members of the congregation of St. Andrew's, McKinney for joyful participation in the worship of this Convention."

### SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas extends its thanks and gratitude to the Rector, Clergy, Vestry, Staff and people of Saint Michael and All Angels for their gracious and generous hospitality extended to the Diocese on the occasion of the consecration of the Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert as 7<sup>th</sup> Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Dallas.

### SOUTHFORK RANCH

"WHEREAS, this One-Hundred Thirteenth Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas has enjoyed the hospitality and use of the facilities of SouthFork Ranch for this Convention:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this One-Hundred Thirteenth Annual Convention of the Diocese of Dallas does hereby extend its appreciation to Wendy Schreher, Bill Hodges, and the members of the staff of SouthFork Ranch for their gracious hospitality extended to the delegates and visitors to this Convention."

All Courtesy Resolutions were adopted without objection.

Bishop Stanton gave recognition to those leaving and having served on the Executive Council for the past three years: The Very Rev. Kevin Martin, Doug Lang, Church of the Incarnation; Robert Mebus, Church of the Incarnation; Matt Stroud, St. Nicholas, Flower Mound; and Lana Valenta, Epiphany, Richardson.

Bishop Stanton gave recognition to Rev. Ed Monk and Cheryl Wetzel and having served on the Standing Committee for the past three years.

Bishop Stanton gave recognition to Linda Gallatin for her work on Convention Arrangement Committee in setting up two conventions this year.

Bishop Stanton recognized Dana Pope for her years of service on the Convention Arrangement Committee.

Bishop Stanton thanked the staff at the Diocesan office for all the work that is done.

The Chair recognized Fr. Doug Anderson. Fr. Anderson extended an invitation to host the 2009 Convention at St. James, Texarkana.

The Convention was closed in prayer led by Bishop Stanton.

### TELLERS' REPORTS

See page 12 for the final results of the elections.

#### TABULATION OF VOTES FOR STANDING COMMITTEE

Ballot #1	Clergy	Lay	
Votes Cast	112	199	
Necessary to Elect	57	100	
<u>Clergy (elect 1):</u>			
Holland, David	46	65	
Houk, David	41	83	
Morriss, Jerry	8	19	
Philputt, Frederick C.	9	14	
Smith, Rob	8	18	
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Ballot #2	Clergy	Lay	
Votes Cast	111	197	
Necessary to Elect	56	99	
<u>Clergy (elect 1):</u>			
Holland, David	50	78	
Houk, David	52	97	
Morriss, Jerry	5	18	
Philputt, Frederick C.	4	4	
Smith, Rob			WITHDREW
<hr/>			
Ballot #3	Clergy	Lay	
Votes Cast	113	195	
Necessary to Elect	57	98	
<u>Clergy (elect 1):</u>			
Holland, David	50	79	
Houk, David	63	115	ELECTED
Morriss, Jerry		1	
Philputt, Frederick C.			WITHDREW
Smith, Rob			
<hr/>			
Ballot #1	Clergy	Lay	
Votes Cast	108	197	
Necessary to Elect	55	99	
<u>Lay (elect 1):</u>			
Gerber, Robby	49	88	
Lyons, Mary Ann	34	56	
Valenta, Lana	25	53	
<hr/>			
Ballot #2	Clergy	Lay	
Votes Cast	111	195	
Necessary to Elect	56	98	

<u>Lay</u> (elect 1):			
Gerber, Robby	67	120	ELECTED
Lyons, Mary Ann	43	74	
Valenta, Lana	1	1	WITHDREW

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**TABULATION OF VOTES FOR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

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Ballot #1	Clergy	Lay	
Votes Cast	211	392	
<u>Necessary to Elect</u>	53	99	

<u>Clergy</u> (elect 2):			
Brown, III, George Willcox (Will)	32	39	
Getz, Peter R. R.	45	84	
Lovell, William	55	117	ELECTED
Olver, Matthew S. C.	58	112	ELECTED
19.		1	

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Ballot #1	Clergy	Lay	
Votes Cast	98	189	
<u>Necessary to Elect</u>	50	95	

<u>Lay</u> (elect 4):			
Anderson, Nancy	51	101	ELECTED
Bowling, Robert H.	17	36	
Coleman, Jack Rue	32	59	
Hayslett, Richard (Rick)	35	100	ELECTED
Houston, Anna	34	84	
Luc, Toni	40	56	
MacFarland, Robert S.	25	40	
McGannon, William E. (Bill)	66	117	ELECTED
Wage, J. B. (June)	18	42	
Ward, Pat	53	116	ELECTED
32.		1	
34.		2	

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**TABULATION OF VOTES FOR UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH**

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Ballot #1			
Votes Cast	276		
<u>Necessary to Elect</u>	139		

<u>Lay</u> (elect 1):			
Wilson, Dan E.	272		ELECTED
36.	3		
37.	1		

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