

**Journal of Proceedings**  
Of the  
**One Hundred-Fifth Annual Council**  
of the  
**Diocese of West Texas**

McAllen, Texas  
February 19-21, 2009

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**FIRST DAY**

Thursday  
February 19, 2009

This being the day and place designated for the One Hundred-Fifth Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, in accordance with Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Diocese, the Council assembled in the McAllen Convention Center, McAllen, Texas, at 1:15pm on Thursday, February 19, 2009, with the Right Reverend Gary R. Lillibridge, Bishop of West Texas in the Chair. The Rt. Rev. David M. Reed, Bishop Suffragan, led the Council in opening prayers.

**“Abide in Me.”**

Bishop Lillibridge introduced the theme of the Council- “Abide in Me” (John 15). The Bishop used music, slides, and narration to recount the history of the Diocese, her Bishops, and the planting of all 90 congregations.

**Quorum**

The Bishop called on the Secretary of the Diocese, the Rev. David G. Read, to certify the quorum. Based on registrations begun at 10:00am that day, the Secretary announced that there was a quorum present of clergy entitled to seats in Council, as well as a quorum of lay delegates, of whom there were 340 eligible to be seated, and that a quorum of congregations was present in Council, in accordance with Article II, Section 7 of the Constitution. He also gave notice of those congregations which had not yet certified delegates or registered those previously certified.

**Bienvenidos**

The Bishop introduced The Rev. John Badders, Rector of St. John’s, McAllen, the host parish for the Council. Mr. Badders introduced Council Co-Chairs Heath Smith and Rachel Davies who welcomed the Council members to McAllen and the Rio Grande Valley.

**St. John’s, New Braunfels**

A goodly group from St. John’s, New Braunfels were welcomed with a standing ovation by the Council. Ron Morrison, Senior Warden, addressed the Council on St. John’s difficult task

of transforming her DNA after a split in the congregation during 2008. The Rev. Ed Dohoney, Chair of the Committee for the Status of Parishes and Missions presented the following Resolution:

*Whereas St. John's Episcopal Church has over the last several years endured serious divisions within the congregation; and*

*Whereas, the remaining members are most desirous of placing themselves under the direct authority and pastoral care of the Bishop as a mission congregation;*

*Now, therefore, be it resolved that the canonical status of St. John's Episcopal Church, New Braunfels, Texas be changed from Parish to Mission.*

Moved by Mr. Dohoney on behalf of the committee, and being seconded, the

**MOTION PASSED.**

### **Council Committees**

The Bishop announced the appointment of the Committees of Council as listed below:

#### COMMITTEE ON THE BISHOP'S ADDRESS

CHAIR:	The Rev. Dr. Patrick Gahan	St. Stephen's, Wimberley
	Mrs. Betty Jo Elder	Trinity, Victoria
	Mrs. Alice Ann Fischer	Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi
	The Rev. Paul Frey	Christ Church, Laredo
	Mrs. Kelley Bartell Kimble	St. Philip's, Uvalde
	Mr. Richard Mosty	St. Peter's, Kerrville
	The Rev. Tim Vellom	St. Matthew's, Universal City
	Mr. John Warren	Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi
	The Rev. Stockton Williams	St. Peter's, Kerrville

#### CHURCH PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

CHAIR:	The Rev. Don Lee	Ascension, Montell
	Mr. Jack Hatfield	St. Alban's, Harlingen
	The Rev. Albert Leveridge	St. Philip's, Beeville
	The Rev. Canon John Padgett	Easter PIM
	Mr. Peter Stoll	St. John's, McAllen

#### COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION & CANONS

CHAIR:	The Rev. Phillip Stevenson	Retired
	Mr. John Brooke	St. David's, San Antonio
	The Rev. Fred Brown	Retired
	Mr. Drew Cauthorn	St. Mark's, San Antonio
	Mr. Wendell Hall	Christ Church, San Antonio
	Mr. Richard Mosty	St. Peter's, Kerrville
	Mr. James Norman	St. David's, San Antonio
	The Honorable Donna Rayes	All Saints', Pleasanton
	Mr. Rob Schneider	Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS AND PRIVILEGES

CHAIR:	Mr. Ted Burkhart	St. Luke's, San Antonio
Ex-Officio	Canon Kirk Mason	DWTX
	Mrs. Beverly Bryars	St. Mark's, San Antonio
	The Rev. Dr. Robert DeWolfe	St. Margaret's, San Antonio
	The Rev. Matthew Frey	St. George, San Antonio
	Mr. Dan Hanke	St. Luke's, San Antonio
	Mrs. Elizabeth Nisbet	Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi
	Mr. Patrick Townsend	St. Peter/St. Paul, Mission

COMMITTEE ON DISPATCH OF BUSINESS

CHAIR:	The Rev. Don Lee	Ascension, Montell
	Canon Kirk Mason	DWTX

COMMITTEE ON GREETINGS AND COURTESY

CHAIR:	The Rev. Charles Woehler	St. Thomas, San Antonio
Co-Chair	Mrs. Betty Mosty	St. Peter's, Kerrville
	The Rev. George "Mac" Keeble	Good Shepherd, George West
	The Rev. Jonathan Melton	St. Helena's, Boerne
	The Rev. Andrew Thayer	St. Bartholomew's, Corpus Christi
	Ms. Jill Vassar	St. Mark's, San Antonio

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

CHAIR:	The Rev. Phillip Stevenson	Retired
	Mr. Drew Cauthorn	St. Mark's, San Antonio
	The Rev. Don Lee	Ascension, Montell
	Canon Kirk Mason	DWTX
	Mrs. Alice Sallee	Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi

COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF PARISHES & MISSIONS

CHAIR:	The Rev. Ed Dohoney	DWTX
	Mr. Robert Bates	St. Francis, Victoria
	Mr. Gil Merkel	St. Andrew's, Seguin
	The Rev. Philip Taylor	St. Andrew's, Port Isabel
	The Rev. Dori Zubizarreta	St. Boniface, Comfort

**Committee on Credentials & Privileges**

Mr. Ted Burkhart, chair, reported that having completed their audits, parochial reports, and payment of apportionments, all congregations are eligible to be seated with voice and vote.

**Agenda**

The Rev. Don Lee, chair of the Committee on the Dispatch of Business, moved that the Council adopt the Agenda as printed in Section I of the Journal except for the taking and receiving of ballots and other business which might be brought by the committee. Seconded, the

**MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Lee submitted the reports of various committees and commissions, as listed in the Agenda, and moved their adoption by title. Seconded, the

**MOTION PASSED**

Due to the subject matter of the proposed resolutions received by the Committee on Dispatch of Business, the committee moved adoption of the following special rule for the debate of all resolutions:

*RESOLVED,*

- 1.) *Debate for each resolution submitted will be for a maximum of 30 minutes.*
- 2.) *One microphone will be for affirmative speakers, one for negative speakers, and one for points of order.*
- 3.) *Each speaker will be allowed two (2) minutes.*
- 4.) *Each speaker will alternate until the time is up. Dispatch of Business will keep the official times.*

Being seconded, the  
**MOTION PASSED**

**Nominations Committee: First Report**

The Rev. Michael Hoffman, chair, presented the report of the Nominating Committee, and asked the Council to thank those who served on the committee. He submitted nominations for General Officers and other officers of the Diocese:

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Secretary of the Diocese        | The Rev. David G. Read      |
| Treasurer of the Diocese        | Mr. Ted Burkhart            |
| Chancellor of the Diocese       | Mr. Drew Cauthorn           |
| Registrar of the Diocese        | Mrs. Laura Woodall          |
| Historiographer of the Diocese: | The Rev. Dr. Robert DeWolfe |

There being no other nominations, each of those on the slate of nominees, being seconded, was elected.

Mr. Hoffman then presented nominations for Executive Board, Trustees of the Episcopal Church Corporation, Trustees of TMI – the Episcopal School of Texas; and Trustees of the University of the South. Nominations were received from the floor. The full report of the Committee may be found in Section I of the Journal.

**Presentation of New Clergy**

The Rev. Ed Dohoney presented members of the clergy new to the Diocese:

- |                            |                              |                       |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| The Rev. Tommy Bye         | The Rev. Sandra Casey-Martus | The Rev. Chris Cole   |
| The Rev. Philip Cunningham | The Rev. Kevin Dellaria      | The Rev. John Fritts  |
| The Rev. Kris Graunke      | The Rev. Sean Maloney        | The Rev. Lera Tyler   |
| The Rev. Antonio Regist    | The Rev. Douglas Schwert     | The Rev. Matthew Wise |

The Rev. Keith Turbeville  
**Graduating Seminarians**

Bishop Lillibridge introduced to the Council those seminarians who, God willing, are scheduled to graduate and be ordained this spring:

Lisa Mason – Ordination May 27 at Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi. Will serve at St. David’s, San Antonio.

Robert Johnston – Ordination June 3 at Trinity, Victoria. Will serve in the Eastern Partners in Ministry.

Jennifer Brooke-Davidson – Ordination June 10 at St. Stephen’s, Wimberley. Will serve at St. Stephen’s, Wimberley.

**Visiting Bishops and Clergy**

Bishop Lillibridge introduced The Rt. Rev. Benito Juarez-Martinez, Bishop of Southeast Mexico. Bishop Juarez-Martinez briefly greeted the Council and presented gifts to Bishop Lillibridge and Bishop Reed. Bishop Lillibridge presented him with a stole.

The Rev. Scott Brown introduced Serge Villalobos, Alejandro Morales, and Saul Palafox - clergy from the Diocese of Northern Mexico, commenting, “*they are rich in ways that we are so poor.*” The Rev. Serge Villalobos presented the Bishops with purple clergy shirts made by members of his congregation. The Council viewed a video explaining the intentional building of relationships between border clergy in West Texas and in Northern Mexico.

**Report from the Resolutions Committee**

The Rev. Philip Stevenson, chair, read each of five (5) resolutions received by the Council.

**Resolution 1-2009  
Anglican Covenant**

*WHEREAS the Diocesan Councils of 2005, 2006, and 2007 passed resolutions supporting the Windsor reports and its recommendations, and*

*WHEREAS the Bishop of West Texas, Gary Lillibridge, remains an ardent supporter of the Windsor process as a means towards unity and reconciliation, serving at the Archbishop of Canterbury’s pleasure on the Windsor Continuation Group, and*

*WHEREAS, the consideration of an Anglican covenant by both Provinces and dioceses represents the next step in the Windsor Process and as part of a covenant, the opportunity for individual Windsor compliant dioceses to seek recognition as Covenant partners, therefore*

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Diocese of West Texas fully reaffirms its commitment to the Windsor principles, including, in principle, the formation of an Anglican Covenant within the Anglican Communion to strengthen our common life and witness as the Body of Christ in order to*

*preserve and safeguard our relationship with the Anglican Communion and the historic See of Canterbury.*

**Resolution 2-2009  
Communion Partners**

*WHEREAS the Bishop of West Texas, Gary Lillibridge, has helped forge the Communion Partners as a relational fellowship to further the continuing Windsor process of preserving communion with the historic See of Canterbury, and*

*WHEREAS the express purpose of the Communion Partners is specified in the Statement of Organizing Bishops dated May 31, 2008 attached hereto, therefore:*

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Diocese of West Texas affirms its full support for the Communion Partners initiative.*

**RESOLUTION 3-2009  
TEC Litigation Expense Disclosure**

*Be it RESOLVED, that the Diocese of West Texas requests that the office of the Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church provide the following information to each diocese of the Church:*

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

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

*RESOLVED, that the Presiding Bishop's response be reported to the clergy and people of the Diocese prior to commencement of General Convention 2009.*

**RESOLUTION 4-2009  
TEC Litigation Forbearance Policy**

*Be it RESOLVED the Diocese of West Texas 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 do everything in their power to cease and desist from engaging in secular lawsuits with fellow Christians.*

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

*RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Diocese report the Presiding Bishop's and Executive Council's response be reported to the clergy and people of the Diocese prior to the commencement of General Convention 2009.*

## **RESOLUTION 5-2009**

### **Affirming the Integrity of Diocesan Governance in the Episcopal Church**

*WHEREAS, the General Convention of The Episcopal Church and the Office of the Presiding Bishop are constitutionally and historically instruments of the various dioceses, and serve at the pleasure and for the benefit of the dioceses; and*

*WHEREAS, in a letter dated October 14, 2007 to Bishop John W. Howe of the Diocese of Central Florida, the Archbishop of Canterbury affirms that "The organ of union with the wider Church is the Bishop and the Diocese rather than the Provincial structure as such;" and*

*WHEREAS, the Communion Partners Bishops, of which our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Gary Lillibridge, is a participant, has stated that the office of "bishop" is the focus of unity for The Episcopal Church, and that "Traditionally, this has been understood in terms of bishop-to-bishop relationships;" and*

*WHEREAS, the General Convention Budget has historically been funded by dioceses based on their financial capability and voluntary choice;*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 105<sup>th</sup> Council of the Diocese of West Texas affirms that the Diocese of West Texas is in union with the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ directly through the Anglican Communion, its Instruments of Unity, and our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Gary Lillibridge; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council accepts no actions by General Convention that would reverse the authority roles between Dioceses and the General Convention, or would grant the Office of the Presiding Bishop executive powers over Dioceses and their Bishops; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council accepts no specific actions by General Convention that would*

- *Mandate financial assessments from Dioceses to the General Convention budget;*
- *Unilaterally impose trust interests on diocesan and congregational assets.*

Following the reading of all five resolutions, Bishop Lillibridge made explanatory and pastoral remarks regarding the resolutions.

### **MORNINGSIDE MINISTRIES**

The Rev. Alvin Loewenberg, President/CEO of Morningside Ministries addressed the Council on their status and work in both San Antonio and Boerne.

## **CHRISTIAN FAITH in ACTION**

Members of Christian Faith in Action, presented summaries of their ministries in 2008 and their plans for the future.

- Eleanor Stromberber introduced the report and discussed the Recovery Ministry's plans for a Children's Program.
- Bill Thompson reported for the Restorative Justice Program/ Kairos
- The Rev. Robert Creasey reported on the activities of Habitat for Humanity. 1.5 million homes have been built world-wide. The first was built in San Antonio. Leadership of this area for the diocese will be handed-off to The Rev. Jeff Hammond.
- Jerry Fulenwider reported on the Mental Health Initiative.
- Hall Hammond addressed the Council on the subject of ecological stewardship and encouraged each congregation to host a "Green Sunday."
- Bob Thompson summarized the response of the diocese to hurricanes in our diocese and in the Diocese of Texas, and the role of the diocesan Disaster Task Force.

## **GOOD SAMARITAN COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Representatives of Good Samaritan Community Services presented a video of their work. Dori Contreras-Garza made a presentation of their work in the Rio Grande Valley.

## **BALLOT RESULTS**

Bishop Lillibridge announced the results of the first ballot taken: Elected to the Diocesan Executive Board were The Rev. Michael Hoffman, The Rev. Jonathan Wickham, and The Rev. Willie Davilla (2 year term). In the lay order, the Council elected Mrs. Becky Warren.

## **COUNCIL EUCHARIST**

The Council moved from their session to the Council Eucharist. Bishop Lillibridge was the Celebrant, and Bishop Reed the preacher.

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## **SECOND DAY**

**Friday  
February 20, 2009**

The Rt. Rev. Gary R. Lillibridge, Bishop of West Texas, called the session into order at 9:02am and Bishop Reed led the Council in prayers.

## **BALLOT**

Pages distributed and collected ballots for the offices of Trustees of the Episcopal Church Corporation in West Texas, Trustees of Sewanee, and Trustees of TMI – the Episcopal School of Texas.

## **THE BISHOP'S ADDRESS**

The Bishop presented his annual Address to Council. The full text may be found in Section I of the Journal.

## **BALLOT RESULTS**

The results of the previous ballot were announced: Mrs. Amy Hoffman was elected a Trustee of Sewanee; The Rev. Chris Roque was elected a Trustee of TMI. Ballots were then distributed for those positions remaining on the Diocesan Executive Board.

## **MINISTRY MOMENT**

A "Ministry Moment" video of the work done by St. Phillip's, Uvalde was shown to the Council.

## **STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Rev. John Rayls addressed the Council on strategic development by asking thought-provoking questions, "Why would anyone want to be a part of Christ, or your local church?"

## **RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Phillip Stevenson moved Resolution 1-2009 "Anglican Covenant" on the floor. (See Day 1 proceedings for the full text.) The resolution was **SECONDED**

The Rev. Patrick Ormos moved to **TABLE** the resolution. **MOTION FAILED.**

The Rev. Robert Woody moved to **CHANGE THE ORDER OF THE DAY** from debating resolutions to discussing resolutions. **SECONDED.** Discussion followed. Lance Brun **MOVED THE QUESTION.** **SECONDED.** **PASSED.** Motion to Change the Order of the Day: **FAILED.**

Bishop Lillibridge moved that the Council recess for lunch.

## **BALLOT RESULTS**

Bishop Lillibridge announced the results of the previous ballot for positions on the Diocesan Executive Board: The Council elected Mr. Gregg Robertson, Mr. Steve Roederer, and Mr. Mike Davies.

## **PRAYERS**

Bishop Reed led the Council in Noonday Prayers, the reading of the Necrology, and in the UTO prayer.

-LUNCH-

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Michael Hoffman presented the nominations for Standing Committee. Nominated from the floor were The Rev. Nancy Coon and Mr. Rob Schneider.

### **RETURN TO DEBATE OF RESOLUTION 1-2009**

The Rev. John Hardie moved to reconsider the motion to Change the Order of the Day. **SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

A motion to amend the agenda to allow for a period of discussion was made. **SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

### **DISCUSSION TIME**

Bishop Lillibridge opened the floor for 45 minutes of discussion with the parameters that the discussion time could be extended 15 minutes by a vote of the Council, and that no person could come to a microphone a second time until everyone at microphones had spoken once.

During the discussion period 46 members of Council spoke. Bishop Lillibridge then took the podium to summarize the discussion and share his thoughts on the five resolutions before Council. Bishop Lillibridge concluded his remarks by noting that Resolution 1-2009 was still on the table and suggested that we resume our discussion.

### **RETURN TO DEBATE OF RESOLUTION 1-2009**

The Rev. Chuck Woehler **MOVED** the Question. **SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**  
**RESOLUTION ADOPTED** without amendments.

### **RESOLUTION 2-2009 – COMMUNION PARTNERS**

The Rev. Phillip Stevenson **MOVED** the resolution. **SECONDED.**  
A motion to Move the Question was **SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**  
**RESOLUTION ADOPTED** without amendments.

### **RESOLUTION 3-2009 – TEC LITIGATION EXPENSE DISCLOSURE**

The Rev. Philip Stevenson **MOVED** Resolution 3-2009. **SECONDED.**

The Rev. Allen Conley moved to **AMEND** the motion by adding a fourth bullet to the second paragraph to read, “*an estimate of the amount of property value retained and expected to be retained by the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America because of pending and completed litigation as of General Convention 2009*”. **SECONDED. MOTION ON THE AMENDMENT PASSED.**

Mr. John Warren proposed a second amendment to add an additional bullet to read, “*an explanation of the line item described in the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society Budgetary Summary as: Additional Draw from short-term reserve for legal support to dioceses exceeding budget for 2008 - \$1,520,000.00;*” **MOVED. SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

A motion to Move the Question was made. **SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**  
Resolution 3-2009 **ADOPTED WITH TWO AMENDMENTS.**

Resolution 3-2009 (Final form w/ amendments.)

TEC Litigation Expense Disclosure  
Proposer: The Diocese of West Texas

Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, that the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church direct the office of the Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council to provide the following information to each Diocese of the Church:

- (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) An explanation of the line item described in the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society Budgetary Summary as: Additional Draw from short-term reserve for legal support to dioceses exceeding budget for 2008-\$1,520,000.00;
- (d) The amount of money budgeted for litigation for the next Triennium;
- (e) An estimate of the amount of property value retained and expected to be retained by the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America (PECUSA) because of pending and completed litigation as of General Convention 2009.

Explanation: TEC has engaged in litigation in numerous dioceses across the country in cases involving property disputes with local parishes which have elected to depart TEC. This litigation has been initiated by either the local diocese or the parish against the other party. TEC intervened as a party in interest aligned with the local diocese. Substantial legal fees and related expenses have been incurred on behalf of TEC. Beginning in 2007, requests have been made by various parties to the Executive Council which is responsible for the governance of TEC between General Conventions for financial disclosure of the source of funds and the amounts expended. However no response has been made to date.

#### **RESOLUTION 4-2009 – TEC Litigation Forbearance Policy**

The Rev. Philip Stevenson MOVED Resolution 4-2009. **SECONDED.**

A motion was made to AMEND the resolution by striking the words, “cease and desist from” in the third line, and replace them with the words, “resolve such disputes prior to.” **SECONDED. ADOPTED.** A motion to Move the Question was made. **SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.** Resolution 4-2009 was **ADOPTED AS AMENDED.**

#### **RESOLUTION #4-2009 (Final form W/ Amendment)**

TEC Litigation Forbearance Policy

Be it RESOLVED the Diocese of West Texas 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 do everything in their power to resolve such disputes prior to engaging in secular lawsuits with fellow Christians.

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

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Diocese report the Presiding Bishop’s and Executive Council’s response be reported to the clergy and people of the Diocese prior to the commencement of General Convention 2009.

## **Resolution 5-2009 – Affirming the Integrity of Diocesan Governance in the Episcopal Church.**

The Rev. Philip Stevenson MOVED Resolution 5-2009. SECONDED. Bishop Folts called for a Point of Order by noting that because the resolution could be interpreted to violate the ordination vows of the clergy, that the vote be divided by orders. The Rev. Patrick Ormos requested clarification of whether we are only voting on the “resolves” of the resolution and not on the explanation? The Bishop noted that the vote was on the “resolves” only. The Rev. Robert Woody **MOVED TO TABLE** the resolution. SECONDED. **MOTION PASSED.**

The final form of all adopted resolutions may be found in the Journal of Proceedings.

### **Conversation with The Bishop**

Bishop Lillibridge returned the Council to a discussion of the theme – “To Abide in Me.” He presented a variety of translations of John 15. The Council then broke into small groups to discuss the following questions.

1. Make note of the different images and phrases in these translations. Which images bring meaning to the passage for you?
2. What challenges does the passage pose for you? How does it call you to change?
3. What does maturing as a disciple mean to you?
4. What is joy that is “wholly matured?”

Bishop Lillibridge made a presentation on the subject of Faith using Hebrews 11. He then invited the Council to discuss the following four questions:

1. What aspects of Jesus’ life and teaching do you find compelling for your own life?
2. How has your faith blessed your life?
3. What has your faith cost you?
4. How has your faith affected your neighbors? How? If not, why not?

### **BALLOT RESULTS**

Bishop Lillibridge announced the results of the ballot on Trustees of the Church Corporation and Trustees of TMI.

### **COUNCIL BANQUET**

The Council moved into recess at 4:30pm to reconvene for the Council Banquet at 7:00pm.

-END SECOND DAY-

**++Third Day++**

Saturday,  
February 21, 2009

The third day of Council began with Christian music provided by members of St. John’s, McAllen. Bishop Lillibridge called the Council to order at 9:03am and Bishop Reed led the Council in prayer.

**Ballot Results**

Bishop Lillibridge announced that Mr. John Warren and The Rev. David G. Read had been elected to the Trustees of the Episcopal Church Corporation in West Texas, and that Mr. Ben Houck had been elected a Trustee of TMI. A ballot to elect Standing Committee members was distributed and collected.

**The Episcopal Church Foundation**

Mr. Dan Butt reported for The Episcopal Church Foundation. The turbulent economic trends of the fall had resulted in results that are “off the charts in the wrong direction.” The diocesan funds were not immune to market trends. The S&P 500 lost 52% of its value. The Church Foundation fund lost 20.9% of its value. Mr. Butt praised the fund managers and noted that six out of seven had outperformed their peers.

**The Diocesan Budget**

Mr. Ted Burkhart, Diocesan Treasurer, presented the financial reports of the Diocese. He noted that the books of the Diocese and the Foundation have been audited for 2007 and copies are available in the diocesan offices. He **MOVED** the approval of the 2008 Operating Budget. **SECONDED** the motion **PASSED**.

Mr. Burkhart then presented the balanced 2009-2010 budget and **MOVED** adoption. Being **SECONDED** the motion **PASSED**. Complete details of the operating budget can be found in Section IV of the Journal.

**Bishop’s Appointments**

Bishop Lillibridge **MOVED** adoption by the Council of the following appointments to Committees and Commissions:

<u>Committee/Commission</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Church</u>
Commission on Ministry	Chair	The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark’s, SA
Continuing Education	Chair	Canon Kirk Mason	DWTX
	Ex-Officio	The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark’s, SA
	Ex-Officio	The Rt. Rev. David Reed	DWTX
		The Rev. Faith Bledsoe	St. Francis, Victoria
		The Rev. Nancy Coon	Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs
		Ms. Barbara Duffield	St. Matthew’s, Universal City
		The Rev. Don Lee	Ascension, Montell
	Mrs. Carol Miller	Christ Church, SA	
	The Rev. Jane Patterson	St. Mark’s, SA	

		The Rev. Charles Sharrow	St. Paul's, Brownsville
		The Rev. Philip Taylor	St. Andrew's, Pt. Isabel
Discernment Committee	Chair	Mr. John Otto	All Saints, Corpus Christi
	Ex-Officio	The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark's, SA
		Mrs. Patty Brooke	St. David's, SA
		Mrs. Betty Chumney	Christ Church, SA
		The Rev. Nancy Coon	Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs
		Ms. Angie de los Santos	St Andrew's, Seguin
		The Rev. William Dugat	St. Barnabas, Fredericksburg
		The Rev. Ripp Hardaway	St. Christopher's, Portland
		Mrs. Thurma Hilton	St. Bartholomew's, Corpus Christi
		Mrs. Carol Husbands	St. Mark's, San Marcos
		The Rev. Mike Marsh	St. Philip's, Uvalde
		Mr. Tom Taylor	St. Barnabas, Fredericksburg
		The Rev. Dori Zubizarreta	St. Boniface, Comfort
Examining Chaplains	Dean	The Rev. John Lewis	St. Mark's, San Antonio
	Ex-Officio	The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark's, San Antonio
	Ex-Officio	The Rt. Rev. David Reed	DWTX
		The Rev. John Badders	St. John's, McAllen
		The Rev. David Chalk,	St. James', Del Rio
		The Rev. Nancy Coon	Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs
		The Rev. William Dugat	St. Barnabas, Fredericksburg
		The Rev. Richard Dunham	St. Christopher's, Bandera
		The Rev. Paul Frey	Christ Church, Laredo
		The Rev. James Friedel	St. Peter's, Rockport
		The Rev. Dr. Patrick Gahan	St. Stephen's, Wimberley
		The Rev. Mike Marsh	St. Philip's, Uvalde
		The Rev. Randy Melton	Messiah, Gonzales
		The Rev. Jane Patterson	St. Mark's, SA
		The Rev. Robert Woody	Reconciliation, SA
Good Samaritan Community Services Appoint for 3 years		The Rev. Chris Cole	Resurrection, SA
		Ms. Vanessa Hurd	
		Ms. Tina Martin	
		Mrs. Mary Meek McNelis	Christ Church, SA
Good Samaritan Community Services Valley Board. Appoint for 3 years		Mr. John Della Maggiora	St. John's, McAllen
		Mrs. Jane Cozad	St. John's, McAllen
Texas Conference of Churches	Chair	Dr. Henry Hare	St. Paul's, SA
	Ex-Officio	The Rt. Rev. David Reed	DWTX
		The Rev. Rick Dunham	St. Christopher's, Bandera

Being **SECONDED** the motion **PASSED**.

### **Bishop of Northern Mexico**

Bishop Lillibridge presented The Rt. Rev. Marcelina Rivera-Delgado, Bishop of Northern Mexico to the Council. Bishop Rivera-Delgado addressed the Council and announced that he will be retiring in October. He thanked the Diocese for making him a part of our Councils. Bishop Lillibridge presented him with a stole.

## **World Mission**

Marthe Curry introduced The Rev. Ned Bowersox, The Rev. Chris Roque, and The Rev. James Murguia. Each of them spoke about how world mission led to growth in their congregations.

## **Ballot**

A ballot for election to the Standing Committee was distributed and collected.

## **TMI – The Episcopal School of Texas**

Dr. James Freeman, Headmaster of TMI, shared with the Council that the school year began with the dedication of a new chapel and dormitory on the campus. Current enrollment is 402 with 50 students boarding on the campus. He stated that “other schools recruit scholars, but at TMI we create them.” A video presentation of the school was viewed by the Council.

## **Diocesan Development**

Bishop Lillibridge delivered a presentation on the work of the Diocesan Development program. The program continues during difficult economic times. Begun in 1999 by Bishop James Folts, the Development committee looks at the needs of the diocese in three phases: Now, Next, and Later. The Phase I goal was \$11.67 million, and raised \$12.10 million. We are now in Phase II. The committee is chaired by Ms. Alice Sallee, has 20 members, and meets every six weeks. They are involved in six areas in the Diocese: (1) *TMI*, (2) *Good Samaritan Community Services* (seed money for new initiatives.) (3) *Mustang Island Conference Center*, where Family Camps are a strong and growing program. (4) *New Church Starts*. The Camp Bullis Road church plant is scheduled to hold their first worship service in September, 2009 with The Rev. Jay George as church planter. (5) *Christ Chapel* in San Marcos on the campus of Texas State University. St. Mark’s facilities have been purchased and the program is developing. (6) *Camps & Conferences*. This program now has four components: Camp Capers, Mustang Island, Trip Camps based at Duck Lake in Colorado, and the Brismade Ranch property near Wimberley. The Development Committee provided the funds to hire an Executive Director for Camps & Conferences – Mr. Rob Watson. Bishop Lillibridge then introduced Mr. Watson to the Council.

## **Camps & Conferences**

Mr. Rob Watson, Executive Director of Camps & Conferences, addressed the Council for his first time in this role. He reported on attendance during the previous year at Camp Capers and at Mustang Island. Family Camps at Mustang Island served 220 families – an increase of 10% over 2007. 86% of our congregations sent children and youth to a session of camp at Camp Capers in 2008. He reported that the 62 year old facility at Camp Capers is well used and is receiving a face lift: dining hall floors, Centrum surface, fire-suppression system, remodeled dining hall bathrooms.

Mr. Watson also announced that thanks to a new initiative with The University of the South we will host two interns from the Forestry Department this summer who will help us better understand the habitats of our properties.

Mrs. Stacy Dowdy reported on the Camp Annual Fund which was used to plant 80 new trees at Camp Capers. In the coming year the Fund will focus on repair and expansion of the 12 year old swimming pool at Camp Capers.

### **Youth & Young Adult Ministries**

Mrs. Stacy Dowdy distributed forms seeking basic information about youth ministry from each congregation. She reported to the Council that she serves as a clearinghouse for congregations searching for a youth minister. The Diocese sent 20 youth and 4 sponsors to The Episcopal Youth Event held at Trinity University last summer. 140 youth had attended a Happening during 2008. A Ministry Moment video was shown, and Mrs. Dowdy reported on college ministry in the diocese.

### **Bishop's Golf Classic**

The Rev. Ed Dohoney reported that 143 golfers had played and raised \$19,697 for camp scholarships and youth ministry. The 2009 tournament will be held on November 13, 2009 at Canyon Springs Golf Club.

### **Fishin' for Mission**

Mr. Michael Glick invited members of the Council to a fishing tournament to benefit World Mission in the diocese and sponsored by St. Peter's, Rockport and St. Helena's, Boerne. The tournament will be held August 7-8 in Rockport.

### **Committee on the Bishop's Address**

The Rev. Patrick Gahan, Chair of the Committee on the Bishop's Address, introduced the members of the committee. Mr. Richard Mosty presented the first resolution on the Bishop's Address:

#### **Resolution 1: Core Purpose and Core Values in Congregations**

*WHEREAS, Our world-and our congregations – are full of people who, like Philip of Galilee, receive the request, “Show me Jesus!”*

*AND WHEREAS, the local congregation is one of God's primary ways of “showing them Jesus,” and there is no higher calling or more exciting adventure;*

*AND WHEREAS, Committed people in our diocese have carefully articulated clear and logical ways that any Christian should be able to “show them Jesus;”*

*AND WHEREAS, “the world will not know peace until individuals in the world know peace,”*

*AND WHEREAS, The Bishop has called us to “show them Jesus” by actively engaging faith, evangelism, mission, and reconciliation in alignment with the Core Purpose and Core Values of the Diocese;*

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE 105<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL THAT EACH CONGREGATION IN THE DIOCESE SHALL:**

- 1. Provide means and encouragement for each person in its community to systematically study Scripture, pray every day, and actively participate in worship.*

2. *Lead participatory conversations, preferably in small gatherings and one-on-one with its leaders, staff, and congregation asking:*
  - A. *“How do our daily lives reflect the life and teachings of Jesus?”*
  - B. *“How do we personally proclaim, by word and example, God’s saving love revealed in Jesus Christ?”*
  - C. *“How do we serve people in our community and throughout the world?”*
  - D. *“What specific actions can we take to reconcile our relationship with God and all people?”*
3. *Urge each congregation to send a team to the June 6 Abiding in Christ: Congregations Growing Together Conference.*

Being MOVED and SECOND, the motion **PASSED**.

**Resolution 2: Core Purpose and Values in Vestries, Bishop’s Committees, and Diocesan Groups:**

*BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 105<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL THAT EACH CONGREGATION IN THE DIOCESE SHALL ALSO:*

*Align its congregational work with the five Core Values of Faith; Scripture; Prayer and Worship; Evangelism; Mission: and Reconciliation, and begin each vestry/bishop’s committee meeting this year with a planned meditation or reflection on what is meant by “abiding in Christ.” Over the course of this year each shall:*

1. *Focus at least one meditation on the Diocesan Core Purpose of Being Jesus’ Witnesses;*
2. *Focus at least five other meditations on the Diocesan Core Values (one per session);*
3. *In each session, discuss: “How is this calling me, and our congregation, to change”.*
4. *Model the ministry of the baptized by having each meditation led by laypersons.*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THIS 105<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL THAT EACH COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND OTHER DIOCESAN ENTITY SHALL:*

1. *Hold an organized and thorough discussion of its group’s mission and the Core Purpose and Core Values.*
2. *Reach beyond ourselves and serve our community and the world by planning all its group activities in alignment with the Core Purpose and Core Values of the diocesan family.*

Being MOVED and SECONDED, the motion **PASSED**.

**Resolution 3: Stewardship Planning and Education**

*WHEREAS, counting the cost and making Godly preparations are an important part of abiding in Christ, and the Lord’s ministry requires money and other resources,*

*AND WHEREAS, experience teaches us that uncertain financial times can jeopardize the work of the Church unless we teach and plan carefully,*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 105<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL THAT EACH CONGREGATION IN THE DIOCESE SHALL:*

- 1. Appoint its' Every Member Canvass or Stewardship Chair and committee during Lent of this year and implement carefully considered stewardship plans using diocesan staff and other resources as needed.*
- 2. Clearly teach that it is the privilege and duty of every Christian to work, pray, and give for the spread of the Kingdom.*

Being MOVED and SECONDED the motion **PASSED**.

#### **Resolution 4: The Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

*WHEREAS Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans is perhaps his richest, most mature and influential writing, inspiring deep spiritual and theological reflection;*

*AND WHEREAS Reading Scripture in depth together as a diocese deeply enriches our experience of God and also equips us to do his work in the world;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 105<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL THAT THE CLERGY AND STAFF OF EACH CONGREGATION IN THE DIOCESE SHALL:*

*Provide resources and encouragement to its members to read and study Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans during 2009.*

Being MOVED and SECONDED the motion **PASSED**.

#### **Ministry Moment**

A Ministry Moment video of the ministry at St. Stephen's, Wimberley was shown to the Council.

#### **Ballot Results**

The Bishop announced that the Council had elected Mr. Ron Tribo and The Rev. David G. Read to serve on the Standing Committee.

#### **Pennies From Heaven**

Mrs. Betty Chumney announced to the Council that our pennies have provided 350 scholarships totaling \$91,000 dollars.

#### **Report of the Committee on Greetings & Courtesy**

Members of the Committee presented the following Courtesy resolutions:

#1 – Thanking the Council Pages

#2 – Thanking bishops and clergy from Southeast and Northern Mexico, and our retired Bishops Folts & Bishop Hibbs; Extending the greetings and love of the Council to them.

- #3 – Thanking the Council musicians.
- #4 – Thanking and affirming St. John’s Episcopal Church, New Braunfels.
- #5 – Thanking St. John’s, McAllen for “Border Buttermilk.”
- #6 – Commending Lisa Mason, Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, and Robert Johnston . Calling on the Council to lift them up in prayer as they begin their ordained ministry.
- #7 – Thanking St. John’s, McAllen for hosting Council.
- #8 – Thanking the Diocesan Staff.
- #9 – Thanking our Bishop.
- #10 – Commending the diocesan staff for the underwear drive.
- #11 – Commending the Bishop Suffragan.

Bishop Lillibridge adjourned the 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Council at 12:54pm.

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## Record of Elections at the 105<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Council

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### Clergy

The Rev. Michael Hoffman  
The Rev. Jonathan Wickham  
The Rev. Willie Davila

#### Lay

Rebecca (Becky) Warren  
Mike Davies  
Gregg Robertson  
Steve Roederer

### STANDING COMMITTEE

#### Clergy

The Rev. David Read

#### Lay

Ron Tribo

### CHURCH CORPORATION TRUSTEES

#### Clergy

The Rev. David Read

#### Lay

John Warren

### TMI TRUSTEES

#### Clergy or Lay

The Rev. Chris Roque  
Ben Houck

### UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH TRUSTEE

#### Lay

Amy Hoffman

SUMMARY  
of Certification and Registration  
105<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COUNCIL

February 19-21, 2009

CERTIFIED:

Of the 90 eligible parishes and missions in the Diocese, 83 submitted certified delegate lists. No Certificate of Election of Delegates and Alternates was received from the following: St. Timothy's, Cotulla; Holy Trinity, Carrizo Springs; St. Matthias, Devine; Trinity, Edna; St. Michael's, Lake Corpus Christi; Calvary, Menard; St. Luke's, San Saba.

REGISTERED:

Delegates	304
Alternates	189
Total	953
Lay Delegates certifiable	340
Voting Clergy in Attendance	92

Of the 55 parishes of the Diocese, 54 were represented by delegates in Council. Of the 35 missions, 29 had delegates in Council. All congregations which had certified a delegate were represented in Council. There were also 11 Licensed Clergy registered and in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. David G. Read  
Secretary

ATTEST:

The Rt. Rev. Gary R. Lillibridge, D.D.  
Bishop of the Diocese of West Texas.