

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
of the
One Hundred -Sixth Annual Council
of the
Diocese of West Texas

Corpus Christi, Texas
February 18-20, 2010

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FIRST DAY

Thursday, February 18, 2010

This being the day and place designated for the One Hundred-Sixth 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 American Bank Center in Corpus Christi, Texas, at 1:03pm with the Right Reverend Gary R. Lillibridge, Bishop of West Texas, in the Chair. The Rt. Rev. David M. Reed, Bishop Suffragan, led the opening prayers.

Council Committees

Bishop Lillibridge announced the appointment of the committees of Council as listed below:

Committee/Commission	Position	Name	Church
Bishop's Address	Chair	The Rev. Paul Frey	Christ Church, Laredo
		The Rev. David Chalk	St. James', Del Rio
		The Rev. Nancy Coon	Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs
		Mrs. Alice Ann Fischer	Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi
		Mr. Tom A. Hardin	Christ Church, San Antonio
		Mrs. Kelley Kimble	St. Philip's, Uvalde
		Mr. Richard Mosty	St. Peter's, Kerrville
		Mr. Howard Ray	St. Philip's, San Antonio
		Mrs. Lorena Molina-Rojas	St. John's, McAllen
		The Rev. Tim Vellom	St. Matthew's, Universal City
Mr. John Warren	Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi		
Church Pension Fund	Chair	The Rev. Don Lee	Ascension, Montell
		The Rev. Canon John Padgett	Eastern Partners in Ministry
Constitution & Canons	Chair	The Rev. Phillip Stevenson	Retired
		Mr. John C. Brooke	St. David's, San Antonio
		The Rev. H. Frederick Brown	Retired
		Mr. Drew Cauthorn	St. Mark's, San Antonio
		Mr. Richard Mosty	St. Peter's, Kerrville

		Mr. James Norman The Hon. Donna Rayes Mr. Jeffrey A. Rochelle Mr. Rob Schneider	St. David's, San Antonio All Saints', Pleasanton St. Mark's, San Antonio Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs
Credentials & Privileges	Chair	Mr. Ted Burkhart	St. Luke's, San Antonio
	Ex-Officio	Canon Kirk Mason	DWTX
		Mrs. Beverly B. Bryars	St. Mark's, San Antonio
		The Rev. Dr. Robert DeWolfe	Retired
		The Rev. Matthew Frey	St. George, San Antonio
		Mr. Dan Hanke	St. Luke's, San Antonio
		Mrs. Elizabeth Nesbit	Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi
		Mr. Patrick Townsend	St. Peter & St. Paul, Mission
Dispatch of Business	Chair	The Rev. Don Lee Canon Kirk Mason	Ascension, Montell DWTX
Greetings & Courtesy	Chair	Mrs. Betty Mosty The Rev. James Friedel The Rev. Jonathan Melton Mrs. Caroline Mowen Mrs. Deanna Murphy The Rev. Chuck Woehler	St. Peter's, Kerrville St. Peter's, Rockport St. Christopher's, Portland St. Luke's, San Antonio St. Alban's, Harlingen St. Thomas, San Antonio
Resolutions	Chair	The Rev. Phillip Stevenson Mr. Drew Cauthorn The Rev. Don Lee Canon Kirk Mason Mrs. Alice Sallee	Retired St. Mark's, San Antonio Ascension, Montell DWTX Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi
Status of Parishes & Missions	Chair	The Rev. Ed Dohoney Mr. Robert Bates Mr. Gil Merkle The Rev. Philip Taylor The Rev. Dori Zubizarreta	DWTX St. Francis', Victoria St. Andrew's, Seguin St. Andrew's, Pt. Isabel St. Boniface, Comfort

Certification of a Quorum

The Bishop called on the Secretary of the Diocese, The Rev. David G. Read, to certify a quorum. Based on registration begun at 10:00am that morning, the Secretary certified 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 336 eligible to be seated; and that a quorum of congregations was present in Council, in accordance with Article II, Section 7 of the Constitution.

Welcome

Bishop Lillibridge introduced The Rev. Milton Black, Rector of Church of the Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi, along with a large delegation from the parish which is celebrating her 150th Anniversary. Council viewed a video of the history of Church of the Good Shepherd.

Visiting Bishop

Bishop Lillibridge introduced The Rt. Rev. Surya Prakash from the Diocese of Karimnagar, South India. He greeted the Council in his native language, and sang a song about the Council theme: "bearing one another's burdens." He presented the bishops and Catherine Lillibridge with shawls. Bishop Lillibridge presented the bishop with a ceramic plate with the Council theme: Bear One Another's Burdens. Milton Black presented Bishop Prakash with a cross from Church of the Good Shepherd.

Commission on the Status of Parishes & Missions

The Rev. Ed Dohoney reported that Trinity Church, Junction has petitioned the Council to become a parish after 119 years as a mission. He was joined at the microphone by former vicars The Rev. Phillip Taylor and The Rev. Mac Keeble. The following resolution was offered to the Council

Whereas, the communicants of Trinity Church, situated in Junction, in the County of Kimble, State of Texas, have expressed their desire to change their status of mission to that of parish,

And Whereas, the Vicar, Bishop's Committee, and members have met all of the requirements to achieve such change,

Therefore, be it resolved that this 106th Annual Council grant parish status to Trinity Church in its 119th year of life and ministry in the Diocese of West Texas.

The motion was MOVED by The Rev. Phillip Taylor. SECONDED, and ADOPTED with great applause. The Rev. Jim Sproat, Vicar of Trinity Church, and a goodly delegation from the new parish processed to the stage.

Committee on Credentials

Mr. Ted Burkhart reported to the Council that all congregations have submitted parochial reports for 2009. All have submitted 2008 audits. Apportionments have been paid except for two congregations who have submitted a plan. Mr. Burkhart MOVED that all congregations be seated with voice and vote. SECONDED. ADOPTED.

Dispatch of Business

The Rev. Don Lee MOVED the adoption of the agenda as printed. SECONDED. ADOPTED. He MOVED the adoption of reports to Council by title as printed in the pre-Council materials. SECONDED. ADOPTED.

Nominations

The Rev. Chuck Woehler, Chair of the Nominating Committee MOVED the slate of nominees for General Officers of the Diocese:

Secretary of the Diocese – The Rev. David G. Read

Chancellor of the Diocese – Mr. Drew Cauthorn

Treasurer of the Diocese – Mr. Ted Burkhart

Registrar of the Diocese – Mrs. Laura Woodall

Historiographer of the Diocese – Mrs. Susan Johnson

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

The Rev. Chuck Woehler MOVED the slate of nominees for the Executive Board:

CLERGY

The Rev. Steve Bilsbury – Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi
The Rev. Faith Bledsoe – St. Francis', Victoria
The Rev. Philip Cunningham – St. John's, New Braunfels
The Rev. C. Earl Mahan – St. Matthew's, Edinburg
The Rev. Charles Sharrow – St. Paul's, Brownsville
The Rev. Matthew Wise – Reconciliation, San Antonio

LAY

Kathleen Ackerman – Our Savior, Aransas Pass
Esther Bell – Messiah, Gonzales
Blaine Bennett – St. Philip's, Uvalde
Bernie Brauer – All Saints, Corpus Christi
Gary Chatham – All Saints, Corpus Christi
Kim Dozier – Trinity Church, Pharr
Sara Edwards – St. Andrew's, Seguin
Susan Johnson – St. Alban's, Harlingen
Cash Keith – St. Philip's, Uvalde
Robert W. Thompson – St. Thomas, San Antonio
Robin Walker – St. Andrew's, Seguin
Patricia Whitehouse – St. George, San Antonio
SECONDED

The Rev. Woehler MOVED the slate of nominees for Trustees of the Episcopal Church Corporation:

CLERGY

The Rev. David Chalk – St. James, Del Rio
The Rev. Christopher Cole – Resurrection, San Antonio
The Rev. Robert McAllen – Epiphany, Raymondville

LAY

Blaine Bennett – St. Philip's, Uvalde
Bennie W. Bock, II – St. John's, New Braunfels
Michael L. Bridges – All Saints, Corpus Christi
Mark Browning – St. John's, McAllen
Bill Cline – St. Stephen's, Wimberley
Brady Marcus Johnson – St. John's, Sonora
Kelley Kimble – St. Philip's, Uvalde
SECONDED

The Rev. Woehler MOVED the slate of nominees for Trustees of TMI – The Episcopal School of Texas:

Edward Jay Foreman – Trinity Church, Victoria

Cheryl L. Johnson – Trinity Church, Victoria
Joseph L. Maverick – St. Stephen's, Wimberley
Triana Sames – Christ Church, Laredo
The Rev. Charles Sharrow – St. Paul's, Brownsville
Charles A. Stephens, II – St. Thomas, San Antonio
SECONDED

The Rev. Woehler MOVED the slate of nominees for Trustees – University of the South

The Rev. Michael Hoffman – St. Peter & St. Paul, Mission
The Rev. Chris Roque – St. John's, Sonora
The Rev. Matthew Wise – Reconciliation, San Antonio
SECONDED

Presentation of New Clergy

The Rev. Ed Dohoney presented clergy new to the Diocese since the previous Council: The Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant at St. Stephen's, Wimberley; The Rev. Douglas Hutchings, Acting Rector at Church of the Advent, Alice; The Rev. Robert Johnson, MD, Assisting in the Eastern Partnership; The Rev. Lisa Mason, Assistant at St. David's, San Antonio; The Rev. Patricia Riggins, Assisting at St. Francis-by-the-Lake, Canyon Lake; The Rev. Jason Roberts, Vicar of Holy Spirit, San Antonio; The Rev. Patrick Soule, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Corpus Christi. Bishop Lillibridge also introduced The Rev. Larry Boyd, licensed priest serving as Interim Rector at St. Francis-by-the-Lake, Canyon Lake.

Welcome to Seminarians & Visiting Bishops

Bishop Lillibridge presented the senior seminarians of the Diocese and announced their assignments and ordination dates:

Chris Caddell – to be ordained deacon on June 8 at St. Luke's, San Antonio. Placed at St. Alban's, Harlingen as Assistant.

Stephen Carson – to be ordained deacon on June 9 at All Saints, Corpus Christi. Placed at St. Luke's, San Antonio as Curate.

Virginia Frnka – to be ordained deacon on June 10 at St. Stephen's, Goliad. Placed as Assistant in the Eastern Partnership.

Richard McLeon – to be ordained June 2 at St. Francis, San Antonio. Placed as Assistant in the Eastern Partnership.

Tom Turner – to be ordained deacon June 24 at Advent, Alice. Placed through his diaconate at St. Mark's, Corpus Christi.

Clergy from Northern Mexico

Bishop Lillibridge welcomed three priests from the Diocese of Northern Mexico: The Rev. Serge Villalobos, La Ascension, Matamoros; The Rev. Saul Palafox, San Juan, Rio Bravo; The Rev. Alejandro Morales, Santa Anna, Rio Bravo. The clergy briefly addressed the Council.

Welcome Lutheran Bishop Ray Tiemann

Bishop Lillibridge introduced The Rt. Rev. Ray Tiemann, Bishop of the Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). Bishop Tiemann greeted the Council, and Bishop Lillibridge presented him with a gift.

World Mission

The Council viewed the Nooma Video, "Corners for World Mission." Marthe Curry then reported to the Council on the work of the Department of World Mission. She reported that the people of West Texas have sent \$110,000 for earthquake relief to the people of Haiti with our love. During 2009, 548 members of the Diocese visited 13 countries on 59 short term mission trips. The Diocese supports 12 full-time missionaries throughout the world.

Ballot

The first ballot for Executive Board elections was distributed.

Community of Hope

The Rev. James Friedel, Rector of St. Peter's, Rockport reported on Community of Hope. This program trains lay people for pastoral care ministries. The Council viewed a video on the subject which featured The Rev. Patrick Gahan, Rector of St. Stephen's, Wimberley.

Introduction & Welcome

Bishop Lillibridge introduced John Rayls who has been working in Congregational Development in the Diocese. He announced that John will be ordained a deacon this spring. John thanked the Council for their grace and kindness in allowing him to be part of the Diocese. Bishop Lillibridge welcomed The Rt. Rev. James Folts and The Rt. Rev. Earl McArthur, retired bishops. He also welcome the Bishop-elect of Northern Mexico, The Rev. Francisco Moreno.

First Covenant Conversation

Bishop Lillibridge addressed the Council: "Welcome to the 106th Annual Council of the Diocese of West Texas. This council will have several focal points for our life together. First, we are launching the diocesan theme for 2010 – *Bear One Another's Burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2)*.

This passage will also permeate this council in all that we do, and I hope it will be your companion throughout this year as you seek to grow in your personal discipleship and in your response to Christ through service to others – and often this means bearing a burden for someone.

This council will also engage the idea of "covenant" and our agenda provides generous amounts of time to engage one another for conversation and interaction. The three sessions of Bible study and conversation will allow us to explore how Christ is calling us to engage one another, and the world around us, in ways which lead us into more fully living into, as St. Paul puts it, "the mind of Christ." (I Corinthians 2:16)

Thousands of times each week, week after week, Christians are praying the Lord's Prayer. As we pray this prayer, we say "...thy kingdom come, thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven." In all of this praying, I wonder – is earth looking more like heaven? If not, why not?

I wonder what our world, our churches, and our individual lives would look like if we were bearing one another's burdens in such obvious ways that God's will was reflected through our lives so that earth might look a little more like heaven.

The three conversations are entitled Covenant and Companions (this afternoon); Covenant and Communion (tomorrow morning) and Covenant and Compassion (tomorrow afternoon.) At this council, we will consider bearing one another's burdens as daily companions; as disciples in a world- wide fellowship (Anglican Communion); and as servants who reach out to others in compassion (needs such as poverty, disaster, grief, daily hardships.)

As we begin our conversations in a few minutes, I have asked the Reconciliation Commission which I appointed at last year's council to come forward and give you a brief overview of their work over this past year and to explain the principles which we will use to engage one another."

Reconciliation Commission

In preparation for the first Covenant Conversation Bishop Lillibridge introduced members of the Reconciliation Commission. Tom Hardin of Christ Church, San Antonio spoke first on the Kaleidoscope Conference presented by Eric Law. The workshop focused on developing practical skills for beginning reconciliation activities. It dealt specifically with the context of Hispanic-Anglo relations in South Texas.

Jesse Valdez, St. Francis, San Antonio, reported on the Reconciler's Conference. The Rev. Patrick Ormos, Rector, St. Francis', San Antonio presented reconciliation as a moral vision. He presented the Respectful Communications Guidelines and the Mutual Invitation Process.

Bishop Lillibridge addressed the Council again and introduced the outline for the first conversation (see Bishop's Address.) The Council spent 20 minutes in conversation.

Welcome

Bishop Lillibridge welcomed The Rt. Rev. Claude Payne and his wife Barbara. Bishop Payne is the retired Bishop of Texas. Bishop Payne briefly addressed the Council.

Ballot

Ballot #2 – Church Corp. Trustees, TMI Trustees, University of the South Trustees was distributed.

Video – Bearing One Another's Burdens

Bishop Lillibridge introduced a video on the Council theme. The video interviewed Johny Cozad, Asa Cozad, Sarah Cozad, and Judy Bland and they reflected on how their congregation had helped them bear the burden of the illness and death of Jane Cozad.

Ballot #3

There were no elections on the first ballot for Executive Board. The next ballot was distributed.

Recess

Council recessed to the Council Eucharist where Bishop Reed preached and Bishop Lillibridge was the celebrant. Bishop Reed's sermon is available in another section of the Journal.

Council reconvened on the second day at 8:53am and Bishop Reed led the Council in opening prayers.

Welcome Ecumenical Guest

Bishop Lillibridge welcomed ecumenical guests to the Council: The Rt. Rev. James Dorff, Bishop of the Southwest Texas and Rio Grande Conferences of the United Methodist Church. Bishop Dorff brought greetings to the Council from his Conferences and spoke briefly on the Methodist-Episcopal dialogue process. Bishop Lillibridge presented him with a gift.

Ballot

Bishop Lillibridge reported that on the previous day's ballots the Council had elected to the Executive Board: The Rev. Earl Mahan, Blaine Bennett, Pat Whitehouse, and Robert Thompson. Ballots for Executive Board were distributed.

Department of Camps & Conferences

Mr. Rob Watson reported on moving forward with a unified, cohesive ministry and unveiled the new Camps & Conferences logo. He reported on the new ministry of trip camps to Duck Lake, Colorado. Three weeks of sessions were held in 2009. In 2010 we will be adding a 4th week. Camp Capers 2010 summer staff is already hired and in place. The camp has been accredited by the American Camp Association. The pool has been enlarged. Mustang Island Family Camps were a tremendous success in 2009. Two additional sessions of family camp have been added in 2010. For the first time we had an intern from Sewanee. In 2010 we will host four Sewanee interns. Flyers were distributed with upcoming Mustang Island programs. A Staff Residence for Ken & Nita Shaver has been purchased and remodeled. The 2010 Camps & Conferences Annual Campaign will provide scholarships and support for environmental stewardship programs. In 2008 we awarded \$11,000 in scholarship. In 2009 we awarded \$30,000 in scholarships. Mr. Watson concluded by thanking the site staff at Camp Capers and Mustang Island Conference Center.

Bishop's Address

Bishop Lillibridge then addressed the Council. (Copies of the address are found in another section of this journal.)

Ballot

Second Covenant Conversation – Covenant & Communion

The second Covenant Conversation was set in the context of Bible study. Bishop Lillibridge introduced Janet Flohr who reminded the Council of the respectful communication guidelines and the mutual invitation process. Bishop Reed read I Cor. 12:12-31. The Council was invited to discuss the following questions

1. Verse 26 states: "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." How have you experienced this as a fact in your life in the Church?
2. Why do you think God values unity in the church?

3. In this passage, what does unity in the church look like? What human practices, dispositions, and habits serve to build up the unity of the church as Paul imagines it? What appears to be threatening that unity?
4. Paul was addressing a single group of people with a shared day-to-day life, while the Anglican Covenant attempts to shape a relationship among diverse people who likely will never see one another face-to-face. What does it mean to you to be in communion with these other churches and people? How might your life be deepened in Christ by such a communion? What practices would need to be engaged in order to experience such a deepening? What are the challenges inherent in trying to be in communion with people you likely will never see?
5. The proposed Covenant describes the Communion as a “worldwide family of interdependent churches.” What are the benefits of such a worldwide family? What are the costs? What might we learn from and about Christ that we would not know otherwise?

The Council engaged in 30 minutes of discussion.

Ministry Moment – Haiti

A ministry moment video highlighting the work of St. George Episcopal School’s domino project was viewed by Council. The project raised money for relief in Haiti. St. George School has had a companion relationship with a school in Haiti for several years. In 2008 school children at St. George raised \$18,200 for St. Benoit’s Episcopal School in Haiti.

Noonday Prayers

Bishop Reed led noonday prayers and read the Necrology.

Recess for lunch.

Nominating Committee

The Rev. Chuck Woehler returned to the podium on behalf of the Nominating Committee to present nominees for Standing Committee:

Clergy

The Rev. John Badders – Rector, St. John’s, McAllen

The Rev. Milton E. Black – Rector, Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi

The Rev. Michael K. Marsh – Rector, St. Phillip’s, Uvalde

*The Rev. Earl Mahan’s name which was included in the pre-Council materials was from nomination because he was elected to the Executive Board.

Lay

Marilynne Herbster – St. George, San Antonio

Mike Horridge – St. Thomas, San Antonio

Ella Mason – All Saints, Corpus Christi

Ronald G. Morrison, St. John’s, New Braunfels.

Ruby Payne

Ruby Payne, author of Bridges Out of Poverty – Strategies for Professionals and Communities, was a speaker at one of the Council luncheons. She now addressed the Council on issues surrounding the church's response to poverty and answered questions.

Good Samaritan Community Services

Neel Lane, Retiring Chair of Good Samaritan addressed the Council on the expansion of ministries at "Good Sam." Over the last several years Good Sam has shifted from serving just the neighborhood around the center in S.A., to serving 17 towns in 16 counties in the diocese including the Valley, Hebronville, Laredo, Bandera, Comfort, Boerne, Floresville, Fredericksburg, Hondo, Kennedy, Kerrville, New Braunfels, Pearsall, Seguin, and Zapata. He introduced Max Navarro, a member of the Good Samaritan Board. In the early 1950's Max lived in the neighborhood as Good Samaritan Center was built. The neighborhood had the highest infant mortality rate in San Antonio, and the highest poverty rate. He shared how the center was a safe refuge during his childhood. Jill Oettinger presented the Bishop Jones Award to The Rev. Cliff Waller.

Ballot

Bishop Lillibrige announced that on previous ballots the Council had elected:
Trustees of the Church Corporation: Kelley Kimble, The Rev. David Chalk.
Trustees of TMI: The Rev. Chuck Sharrow
A ballot was distributed for election to the Standing Committee and runoffs in TMI, and Univ. of the South Trustees.

Resolutions Committee

The Rev. Phillip Stevenson MOVED Resolution 1-2010:

*Commending the Boy Scouts of America
on its 100th Anniversary*

Be it RESOLVED, that in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America in February 1910, the 106th Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas commends the Boy Scouts of America for its efforts in teaching boys and girls to be reverent to God Almighty, to fulfill one's duty to our country, to act in the service of others at all times, to live one's life with honesty and integrity, and to be good stewards of all of nature.

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

The Rev. Phillip Stevenson MOVED Resolution 2-2010:

*Proposed Amendments to the Canons
of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas*

I. Amendment to Canon 6

Be it RESOLVED, Canon 6, Section 5 is hereby amended by the addition of the following sentence as the last sentence in Section 5:

“Said corporation may also enter into an agreement with The Episcopal Church Foundation in West Texas to invest its permanent funds, and other funds, and to have custody thereof.”

Be it RESOLVED, Canon 6, Section 7 is hereby amended by the addition of the following sentence as the last sentence in Section 7:

“Pursuant to Chapter 163 of the Texas Property Code, as it may be amended from time to time, the Trustees may appropriate for expenditure, for the uses and purposes for which said funds were established, the net appreciation, realized and unrealized, in the fair market value of the assets of said funds over the historic dollar value of said funds to the extent prudent.”

II. Amendment to Canon 7

Be it RESOLVED, Canon 7, Section 1 is hereby amended by the addition of the following sentence as the last sentence in Section 1:

“Pursuant to Chapter 163 of the Texas Property Code, as it may be amended from time to time, the Trustees may appropriate for expenditure, for the uses and purposes for which said fund was established, the net appreciation, realized and unrealized, in the fair market value of the assets of said fund over the historic dollar value of said funds to the extent prudent.”

Be it RESOLVED, Canon 7, Section 3 is hereby amended by the insertion of the words “or The Episcopal Church Foundation in West Texas” after the words “trust company.”

III. Amendment to Canon 8

Be it RESOLVED, Canon 8 is deleted in its entirety.

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

Ministry Moment

The Council viewed a video of the ministry started by St. Luke’s, San Saba. In the San Saba County Courthouse a room has been set aside for children called The Good Samaritan Room.

Visiting Bishops

Bishop Lillibridge welcomed The Rev. Francisco Moreno, Bishop-Elect of Northern Mexico. Bishop-Elect Moreno brought greetings to the Council. He will be consecrated March 5, 2010 in Monterey, Mexico.

Bishop Lillibridge welcomed Bishop Charles Obaikol and his wife Margaret of the Diocese of Soroti in Uganda.

Habitat for Humanity

The Council viewed a video of the work of Habitat for Humanity in the Diocese. Ralph Schleicher was recognized by Bishop Lillibridge for his daily dedication to Habitat for Humanity. He has raised over \$100,000 through the sale of his woodworking projects, all of which benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Third Covenant Conversation: Covenant & Compassion

Bishop Reed addressed the Council on the theme of “Covenant & Compassion.” (His address may be found in another section of the Journal.) He then invited the Council to engage in two conversations.

Covenant & Compassion: Part One

The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a lonely place and rest awhile.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves. Now many saw them going, and knew them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns, and got there ahead of them. As Jesus went ashore he saw a great throng, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a lonely place, and the hour is now late; send them away, to go into the country and villages round about and buy themselves something to eat.” But Jesus answered them, “You give them something to eat.” (Mark 6:30-37)

- 1.) Discuss a word, phrase or idea from the passage from Mark or from the presentation that speaks most deeply or loudly to you.
- 2.) Most of us like to think of ourselves as pretty competent. How hard is it for you to see yourself as needing Jesus’ compassion? What might be the promises of welcoming that compassion? What might be the challenges?
- 3.) In the Mark passage, and in the earlier passage from Matthew, Jesus clearly expects and empowers his disciples to do as he does. (‘You feed them,’ ‘He gave them authority over unclean spirits...and to heal.’) What are the challenges or obstacles to following Jesus in his compassionate ministry? What are the promises?

Covenant & Compassion: Part Two

Jesus said, “Then the King will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous answered him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’” (Matthew 25:34-40)

- 1.) Talk about a word, a phrase, or an idea from the passage from St. Matthew or the presentation that speaks deeply or loudly to you.
- 2.) In your daily life, where are you most often called to practice compassion? What makes that possible? What makes it difficult?
- 3.) Consider your church and your community. What ‘strategies of compassion’ are used to strengthen the church’s practice of compassion? Where is there suffering within your community that your church might effectively enter into with compassion? What is necessary for that to happen?
- 4.) What persistent or looming ‘interruptions’ might become opportunities in which your church can serve with compassion?

Ballot

Recess for the Council Banquet at the Texas State Aquarium

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Third Day
Saturday, February 20, 2010

Council reconvened at 9am with prayers led by Bishop Reed.

Youth in Action

Christy Martinez, a teenage delegate of Grace Church, Weslaco, addressed council as Bishop Lillibridge commissioned over 100 youth and sponsors of Youth In Action. The large group then left the Council chambers to do ministry in Corpus Christi.

Ballot

Bishop Lillibridge announced that the Council had elected The Rev. John Badders and Martha Steves to the Standing Committee. This concluded all balloting.

Welcome Bishop Juarez-Martinez

Bishop Lillibridge welcomed The Rt. Rev. Benito Juarez-Martinez and his wife Angelica from the Diocese of Southeast Mexico. Bishop Juarez-Martinez brought gifts for Bishop Lillibridge and Bishop Reed, Catherine and Patti. He brought greetings from his diocese. A group from West Texas, including Bishop Lillibridge, visited the diocese in 2009.

Committee on the Bishop's Address

The Committee on the Bishop's Address, chaired by The Rev. Paul Frey, MOVED the following resolutions related to Bishop Lillibridge's address to Council:

RESOLUTION ONE: Relationship with Christ's Body, the Church:

WHEREAS, w give thanks for our Bishops work and ministry among us, for our guest Bishops, our companion relationships, and our guests;

AND WHEREAS, we give thanks for our many mission partners around the globe, for the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church, and the Diocese of West Texas, and for all the work of the whole body of Christ around the world;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 106TH COUNCIL THAT EACH CONGREGATION AND INDIVIDUAL IN THE DIOCESE SHALL:

Model maturity as Christians, seeking the best in one another, particularly those with whom we may disagree, taking to heart the warning of St. Paul in Galatians 5:15 "if you keep on biting and devouring one another...you will be destroyed by each other." And that we continue to 'respect the dignity of every human being.'"

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION TWO: Bear One Another's Burdens

WHEREAS, we are committed to living in reconciled relationships with God and all people that we might be called to a deeper doctrine of the Church and thereby seek the highest degree of Communion possible:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 106TH COUNCIL THAT WE SHALL:

Strive to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2) and placing the needs of others ahead of our own thereby coming as close to Christ as we may ever be this side of heaven.

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION THREE: The Anglican Covenant

WHEREAS, it is the hope and expectation of the Bishop that the Diocese engage the scriptural understanding of "Covenant" in general and the theological understanding of the Anglican Covenant in particular.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 106TH COUNCIL THAT THE LEADERSHIP AND CONGREGATIONS SHALL:

Give prayerful consideration and study of the proposed Anglican Covenant and prepare to address it at our 2011 Council so that the bonds of affection which hold us together may be re-affirmed and intensified.

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION FOUR: Diocesan Stewardship Conference

WHEREAS the current state of the economy has impacted our communities and many of our churches with budgetary challenges:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 106TH COUNCIL THAT CLERGY, STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS, VESTRY AND BISHOP'S COMMITTEES FROM EACH CONGREGATION SHALL:

- 1. Appoint their stewardship chairperson by April 15, 2010 and complete the Needs Assessment survey promptly following its receipt.*
- 2. Attend one of the diocesan stewardship conferences to be held August 21, 2010 in Corpus Christi or August 28, 2010 in San Antonio.*
- 3. Acknowledge Christian stewardship is "faith-raising" not "fund raising." It demands the best we have to offer, all the time.*

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION FIVE: Second Diocesan Abide in Me Conference:

WHEREAS the "Abide in Me" conference held in 2009 was successful beyond expectation:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 106TH COUNCIL THAT A SECOND "ABIDE IN ME" GATHERING SHALL BE HELD AT TMI ON SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2010.

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION SIX: Recommittal by Diocesan Leadership to 'Clergy and Lay Wellness:'

*WHEREAS difficult times require visionary leadership from both clergy and laity and;
WHEREAS participating in the living body of Christ we are called to deeper understanding and a higher standard*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 106TH COUNCIL THAT WE:

Recommit ourselves to our baptismal promises and that clergy renew in a solemn way with our Lord, their ordination vows.

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION SEVEN: 2010: STUDY

WHEREAS, we desire to recognize and continue the study of Biblical texts each year as assigned by the Bishop,

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 106TH COUNCIL THAT EACH CONGREGATION IN THE DIOCESE SHALL:

- 1. Provide resources and encouragement to its congregation to read and study Galatians and 1 & 2 Thessalonians during 2010.*
- 2. Participate in sharing resource suggestions and best practices through the Departments of Christian Education, Congregational Development, and congregation-to-congregation.*

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION EIGHT: Mission Congregations Administration

WHEREAS, Bishop David Reed has formally undertaken responsibility for all mission congregations of the diocese in order to maintain a centralized location for planning, questions and coordination:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THIS 106TH COUNCIL EXPRESS ITS DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE MINISTRY AND LEADERSHIP OF BISHOP REED.

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION NINE: Our Purpose

WHEREAS, some fifty three years ago, a young child had water sprinkled on his head and prayers offered on his behalf. Although he had no idea what God was up to that morning, yet that morning began to change his life; and

WHEREAS, some twenty-eight years ago, also in a church, a young deacon was ordained and yet, unknowing even as those hands were laid upon him, his life began to change once again;

WHEREAS, he was being called and prepared –as we are being called and prepared – to be leaders in our church through perhaps the most tumultuous time in her history.

WHEREAS, six years ago, also in a church service, hands were once again laid upon his head and was ordained a bishop, still unknowing, and yet, his life was changed again that day.

WHEREAS, each one of us can discern the same things about God’s activity and purpose in and through the events of our own lives, at our baptisms, at our confirmations, and many other moments in our lives; and

WHEREAS, God had and has a plan for Bishop Lillibridge and each of us throughout the moments of our lives; though we often think that nothing in our lives has prepared us for those moments, when, in truth and fact, everything in our lives has prepared us for those moments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS 106TH COUNCIL INDIVIDUALLY AND CORPORATELY:

That each of us, the leaders of the Diocese, are needed right where God has put us; that God is counting on us to stick with it, and that we will stick with you Bishop, staying right here in what we understand to be faithful obedience to God’s call and committed to our journey together;

*AND, let the simple exchange **Lift up your hearts – we lift them up to the Lord** help us understand that we are the Church, the body of Christ in West Texas; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we hear the Holy Spirit calling each person and each congregation to love God, and to participate in transforming the world for Jesus’ sake while living into our diocesan theme this year to **bear one another’s burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ**, that we will be intentional in discovering ways in which we can put the needs of others ahead of our own – for when we do this, we will be as close to Christ as we will ever be, this side of heaven.*

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION TEN: Relationship with the World

WHEREAS, it is the world for whom Christ died and to whom God seeks to reconcile us;

AND WHEREAS, give thanks for the world God has made, for the creatures and people therein. Believing St. Paul’s words to the Ephesians

Right Reverend Sir, we so move and ask that each person here join with us in their assent by standing and reading the following in unison, “Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21)

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

St. John’s, New Braunfels

Ron Morrison, former Senior Warden of St. John’s, New Braunfels, described progress made in the renewal of the congregation following division. Ron thanked the diocese and bishop for “bearing one another’s burdens” as St. John’s, New Braunfels went through division. He reported attendance continues to grow. In December of 2009 attendance was in excess of 100 and is still growing. In 2009 they remodeled parish hall, all classrooms, offices, and sanctuary and paid for it with cash. The

congregation is now building a Habitat for Humanity house. The future of St. John's is bright and promising. Stewardship included 30 new pledges for 2010. He thanked The Rt. Rev. James Folts who served as Interim. The Rev. Ripp Hardaway is now vicar. Ripp addressed the council.

Nominations by the Bishop

Bishop Lillibridge MOVED the following nominations to Diocesan offices, ministries, and commissions be approved by Council:

<u>Committee/Commission</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Church</u>	
<i>Commission on Ministry</i>	Chair	The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark's, San Antonio	
<i>Compensation Committee Chair</i>	Ex-Officio	Mr. Ron Tribo	St. Helena's, Boerne	
	Ex-Officio	The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark's, San Antonio	
	Ex-Officio	Susan Hardaway	DWTX	
	Ex-Officio	Canon Kirk Mason	DWTX	
	Ex-Officio	Laura Woodall	DWTX	
	Treasurer		Ted Burkhart	St. Luke's, San Antonio
			Terry Bickerton	St. Helena's, Boerne
			William Hoffman	St. David's, San Antonio
		Caroline Mowen	St. Luke's, San Antonio	
<i>Discernment Committee</i>	Chair	John Otto	All Saints, Corpus Christi	
	Ex-Officio		The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark's, San Antonio
			Patricia Brooke	St. David's, San Antonio
			The Rev. Nancy Coon	Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs
			Angie de los Santos	St. Andrew's, Seguin
			The Rev. Paul Frey	Christ Church, Laredo
			The Rev. Ripp Hardaway	St. John's, New Braunfels
			Thurma Hilton	St. Bartholomew's, Corpus Christi
			Carol Husbands	St. Mark's, San Marcos
			The Rev. Michael Marsh	St. Philip's, Uvalde
			Tom Taylor	Ascension, Montell
<i>Examining Chaplains</i>	Dean	The Rev. John Lewis	St. Mark's, San Antonio	
	Ex-Officio		The Rev. Michael Chalk	St. Mark's, San Antonio
			The Rt. Rev. David M. Reed	DWTX
	Ex-Officio		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. 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. Michael Marsh	St. Philip's, Uvalde
			The Rev. Randy Melton	Messiah, Gonzales
			The Rev. Jane Patterson	St. Mark's, San Marcos
			The Rev. Robert Woody	Reconciliation, San Antonio
<i>Good Samaritan Community Services</i>		3 yr. term	Grace Labatt	
	Jeff Rochelle		St. Mark's, San Antonio	
	Bill Neely			

		Simon Slas Tina Trevino Carla Yzaguirre	Christ Church, Laredo
<i>Good Samaritan Community Services Valley Board</i>	3 yr. term	Heather Marks The Rev. Scott Penrod Heath Smith	St. Peter & St. Paul, Mission Trinity, Pharr St. John's, McAllen
<i>Texas Conference of Churches</i>	Chair Ex-Officio	Dr. Henry Hare The Rt. Rev. David M. Reed The Rev. Richard Dunham	St. Paul's, San Antonio DWTX St. Christopher's, Bandera

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

2010 & 2011 Budget

Mr. Ted Burkhart, Diocesan Treasurer, presented and MOVED the 2010 & 2011 budgets as printed in the pre-Council packets. (see other section of Journal)

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

Episcopal Church Foundation in West Texas

Dan Butt reported, "What a difference a year makes." In early March, 2009 the stock market set a new low. The rest of the year the market was smooth sailing. Bottom Line: Investment gains of \$6.4 million or 20.7%. Assets increased \$9.4 million to a total of \$39.8 million. Stocks and bonds produced strong results. All 4 of the model portfolios of the foundation achieved gains. 2009 was a very good year. The foundation significantly outperformed all benchmarks in stocks, bonds, and cash equivalents.

There are 142 accounts in the foundation – 88 churches, schools, and other diocesan institutions. About ½ of congregations in the diocese have accounts with the foundation. 7 new accounts were added in 2009. Looking forward, Dan suggested "Caution." He believes the financial system has stabilized, but he does not believe the economy has entered a time of sustained growth. Visit www.foundation-dwtx.org.

Sabbatical Committee

The Rev. Tim Vellom, The Rev. Mike Marsh, and Ms. Kelley Kimble presented the theology and planning behind a future sabbatical for Bishop Lillibridge. In 2009 the Standing Committee recommended to Bishop Lillibridge that he give consideration to taking a sabbatical leave. A committee chaired by Tim Vellom and Alice Ann Fischer was formed to make plans for this. The committee recommends this opportunity as a chance for our bishop to remain healthy, study, and rest as our leader. Bishop Lillibridge did not ask for this, it was brought to him by Standing Committee. The current plan is for the Bishop to take sabbatical leave June – September, 2011.

Mike Marsh & Kelley Kimble from the Executive Board reported that the Board approved the sabbatical and made a recommendation that a line item be added in the budget which is to be funded from outside the operating budget. They MOVED the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 11-2010: Sabbatical

WHEREAS, The notion of cyclical rest has been part of God's economy from the very beginning ("on the seventh day he rested);

AND WHEREAS, his command was not simply for clergy and Bishops. He also commanded the farmers of Israel to “rest” their farms every seven years.

AND WHEREAS, it’s not so much about holiness or sanctification. It’s just a wise way to live and God knows that.

AND WHEREAS, Jesus said, “Come to me all who are heavy laden with burdens and I will give you rest;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 106th Council that each congregation and individual in the Diocese hereby

- 1. Supports the Standing Committee and Executive Board in recommending that Bishop Lillibridge participate in four months of Sabbath, or Sabbatical time.*
- 2. Recommends to Bishop Lillibridge that he disconnect, rest, renew, and reconnect as a part of his sabbatical.*
- 3. Recognizes that we are all called to participate in time of rest and renewal and commits to engage in Diocesan and congregational activities created for such purposes.*

SECONDED. ADOPTED.

Fishin’ for Mission

Michael Glick and The Rev. Jim Friedel reported that the first “Fishin for Mission” fishing tournament raised \$7,100 for World Mission in 2009. The next tournament will be June 25-26 in Rockport.

Bishop’s Golf Classic

The Rev. Ed Dohoney reported that the 2009 Bishop’s Golf Classic included 158 men and women. Cash prizes for youth ministry in 2009 were: St. Thomas, SA = \$1,000. Epiphany, Raymondville = \$250. St. John’s, New Braunfels = \$250. St. Mark’s, S.A. = \$250. Trinity by the Sea, Port Aransas = \$150. The net profit was \$20,800 for scholarships and grants for Camps & Conferences. 2010 classic will be Friday, Nov. 12 at Canyon Springs Golf Club in San Antonio.

Christian Education

Lou Taylor reported that the General Convention adopted the Charter for Lifelong Christian Formation in 2009. Copies were distributed to each congregation. The department has produced 2 publications: Sustaining Abundant Life: Women’s Prayer and Poetry. Proceeds go to Women at the Well House. The second publication is My Bishop’s Visit – a Fun Guide for Children in the Diocese of West Texas. The department has invited Phyllis Tickle to return to the Diocese. She will be the speaker October 8-9, 2010 hosted by St. Luke’s, San Antonio. The Rev. Scott Brown announced that the 2010 Acolyte Festival will be hosted by St. Alban’s, Harlingen May 1-2.

Closing Announcements

Bishop Lillibridge invited the Council to the second *Abide in Me* Conference featuring Reggie McNeal. Marthe Curry announced the winners of a raffle which supports clergy children’s scholarship in the diocese of Nebbi, Uganda: Winner #1 – Carol Wilson. Winner #2 – Stan Martin. Bishop Lillibridge summarized the results of “Council in Action” accomplishments: Last night 130 meals were delivered to the Good Samaritan mission center. 18 churches have participated in the Council in Action and have raised \$12,000. Total amount of To Go boxes was over \$4,000.

Invitation to 2011 Council

The Rev. Patrick Gahan and The Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, and the deputation from St. Stephen's, Wimberley invited the Diocese to the 107th Council in 2011 at the San Marcos Convention Center.

Thanks Good Shepherd!

Bishop Lillibridge extended the hearty thanks of the Council to the people of Church of the Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi for hosting our Council.

Courtesy Resolutions

The Committee on Courtesy presented the following resolutions which were adopted by the Council:

- #1 – Send greetings to Bob Creasy & Jane, Al Leveridge and Judy.
- #2 – Invitation to “Extreme Makeover Church Edition.”
- #3 – Acknowledging and welcoming our guests.
- #4 – Thanking Good Shepherd for hosting council.
- #5 – “Bear”ing one another’s burdens.
- #6 - Welcoming home our seminarians.
- #7 – Take the banquet out of the box.
- #8 – Thanking pages.
- #9 – Retaining traditional baptismal rituals.
- #10 –Thanking the real Kirk Mason.
- #11 – Bearing with the Bishop right where he is.
- #12 – On the bishop’s sabbatical.

Adjournment

Bishop Lillibridge adjourned Council at 11:22am.

RECORD OF ELECTIONS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Clergy

The Rev. C. Earl Mahan

The Rev. Matt Wise

Lay

Blaine Bennett

Robert Thompson

Patricia Whitehouse

Esther Bell

STANDING COMMITTEE

Clergy

The Rev. John Badders

Lay

Martha Steves

CHURCH CORPORATION TRUSTEES

Clergy

The Rev. David Chalk

Lay

Kelley Kimble

TMI TRUSTEES

Clergy or Lay

The Rev. Chuck Sharrow

Trianna Sames

UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH TRUSTEE

Clergy

The Rev. Michael Hoffman

SUMMARY
of Certification and Registration
106TH ANNUAL COUNCIL
February 18-20, 2010

CERTIFIED:

Of the 90 eligible parishes and missions in the Diocese, 86 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; St. Michael's, Lake Corpus Christi;

REGISTERED:

Delegates	303
Alternates	164
Total	<u>467</u>
Lay Delegates certifiable	336
Voting Clergy in Attendance	98

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. David G. Read

Secretary

ATTEST:

The Rt. Rev. Gary R. Lillibridge, D.D.

Bishop of the Diocese of West Texas.