

167th ANNUAL COUNCIL

Marriott Waterway, The Woodlands

FEBRUARY 12-13, 2016

#COUNCIL16

www.epicenter.org/council

CANONS & CONSTITUTION // NOMINATIONS // RESOLUTIONS



THE WOODLANDS' EXPANSION IS BEYOND INITIAL VISION

The Woodlands is a master-planned community 28 miles north of Houston with a population of 107,769. Though it began as a suburban development and a bedroom community by Texas oilman George P. Mitchell. Mitchell broke ground in 1974 and originally planned to establish a conference center, hotels, office parks, retail malls, schools, large distribution centers and golf courses. As the area grew, it also attracted corporations and now is home to several large corporate campuses including Chevron Phillips, Anadarko, ExxonMobil, Bader Hughes and others. It won a Special Award for Excellence in 1994 from the Urban Land Institute.

Bill Schadewald of the Houston Business Journal said that Mitchell wanted the development to “entice city slickers looking for far-flung suburban quality of life.” At its founding, there were those who doubted its successful future. The land was previously occupied by the Grogan-Cochran Lumber Mill, hence Grogan’s Mill and Cochran’s Crossing neighborhoods, called “villages.” The original planning utilized many of the planning concepts and design consultants employed in other well-regarded new communities of that era such as Columbia, Maryland,

Irvine Ranch, California and Reston, Virginia. The original development plan included environmental design principles espoused by Ian McHarg, a distinguished landscape architect, teacher and author of the seminal work *Design With Nature*.

Residential and commercial growth continue with Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Chicago Bridge U Iron, M&S Engineering and Woodforest National Bank. The Town Center includes shopping and eating facilities, a waterway resembling the San Antonio River Walk, and water taxis known as “Waterway Cruisers” that are enclosed and cooled for added comfort.

On September 13, 2008, The Woodlands sustained extensive damage from Hurricane Ike. Sustained winds of 85 mph brought down thousands of trees, powerlines, and billboards in the area and severely damaged the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. Thousands more trees were lost to drought during and after 2011.

For a complete list of restaurants, hotels and shops see www.visitthewoodlands.com.

Trinity Wall Street Vicar is Guest Preacher

Council Donations Benefit Seafarers Ministry

The Rev. Philip Jackson (pictured right), vicar of Trinity Wall Street, New York will preach at the 167th Annual Diocesan Council's opening worship service on February 12 at 7:30 p.m. at The Woodlands Marriott Hotel and Convention Center. Jackson is the former vicar of Incarnation Episcopal Church in Houston and served churches in Michigan and Arizona before joining the staff at Trinity.

Jackson has served at Trinity Wall Street for the past year. A former attorney, Jackson leads the mission and ministry programs at Trinity, organized in three areas: Faith Inspiration, Faith Formation & Education, and Faith in Action. Jackson holds a bachelor's degree in history from Amherst College, a J.D. from Yale Law School, and an M.Div. from The Church Divinity School of the Pacific.

The opening service features a diocesan-wide choir and procession of church banners and will be followed by a reception in the nearby exhibits area.

Annual Council

Each parish and mission elects representatives during their individual annual meetings and along with diocesan clergy, volunteers, visitors and exhibitors, nearly 1000 people are expected to participate in this year's 167th Council.

Workshops for new delegates, the proposed budget and amendments/changes to the Constitution and Canons are scheduled for Friday afternoon. An extensive exhibits area features artists and imported goods, clerical garments,



Camp Allen, Diocesan resources and many other vendors.

Morning and afternoon business sessions are scheduled for Saturday, February 13, during which elections for a number of diocesan positions will be held. See nominee profiles beginning on page 10. Elections will be done digitally for the first time this year. Loaner mobile devices are available with a reservation, but delegates are asked to bring their mobile devices if they have them. While Wi-fi is available, electrical connections for recharging are not provided at delegation tables.

This year, the Council offering and donations will benefit the Seafarers Center of the Port of Houston. See page 4 for a list of items to donate and a feature story about this diocesan ministry.

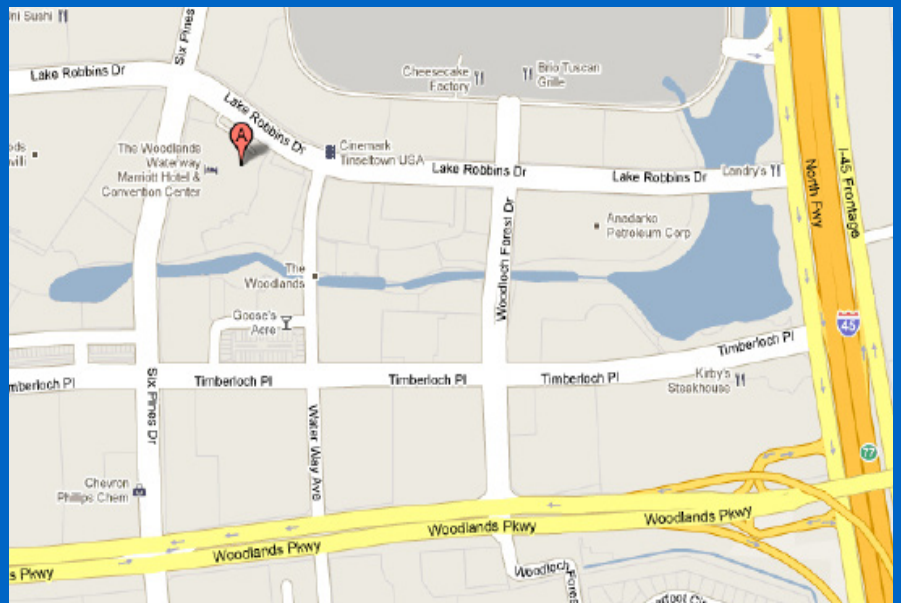
The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel & Convention Center

1601 Lake Robbins Drive
The Woodlands, Texas 77380
Phone: 281.367.9797
www.marriott.com

Additional hotel information is listed on the diocesan website, www.epicenter.org.

Parking

- On-site parking, fee: \$4 hourly, \$11 daily
- Valet parking, fee: \$15 daily
 - Complimentary off-site parking



Seafarers' Ministry at the Port of Houston



Seafarers' Ministry is an incredible form of World Mission. Instead of traveling overseas to reach the world with the Gospel, the world comes to us! There is an ecumenical crew of chaplains that are sent out each day of the year to visit the people of the sea aboard ships in the Port of Houston—the eighth largest port in the world! The Port of Houston is also the #1 Petrochemical Port in the USA, and the #1 Port in Foreign Cargo in the USA. Each Chaplain meets people from no less than ten different countries each day, making this an incredible multicultural ministry! The ministry of the Seafarers' Chaplain is one of outreach, pastoral care, evangelism, practical service, advocacy and hospitality. In addition to their ship visitation, a Chaplain is available at both Seafarers' Centers located in Houston and Barbours Cut (near La Porte). To give you a sense of how many seafarers enter the Port of Houston in just one month's time, during December of 2015 the chaplains distributed 12,278 Christmas Shoeboxes to seafarers on 538 ships!

How does a ministry to seafarers in the Port of Houston impact the breadth of the Diocese of Texas? Because every one of us benefits from the work of the seafarer! You may be interested to know that in the United States, 90% of everything we consume has been brought to us aboard ships! So, though you may not be anywhere near the Port of Houston or see any relevance to your

local outreach area, the seafarers served at the Port have brought us all 90% of everything we consume! Now, that's local! (If this statistic intrigues you, please read the book "Ninety Percent of Everything" by Rose George).

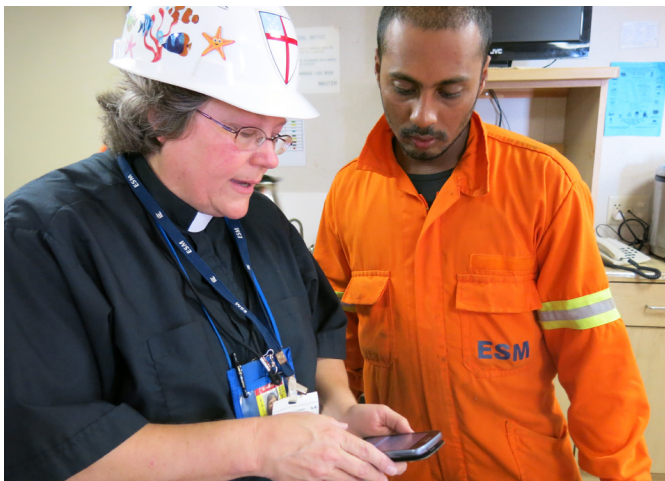
How can you help? The one item we give away most often is the pocket-sized English New Testaments with Psalms. Though we stock Bibles in 47 languages, the pocket Bibles remain the Bible most in demand. Many seafarers are fluent in English, and many want to improve their English by reading something familiar to them. There is many a pocket Bible being carried in the boiler suits of seafarers! During our ship visits it can also make a big difference if we carry extra work gloves, socks, knit caps and scarves, playing cards, and even nail clippers!

How is the Seafarers' Ministry supported? The Houston International Seafarers' Centers, Inc. (HISC) is its own entity with its own 501(c)3, but it provides no compensation for any of its chaplains. HISC does provide all of the facilities, insurance, transportation, and support personnel for the functioning of the overall seafarers' ministry within the Port of Houston. Traditionally each denomination has funded its own chaplain(s), but in these difficult economic times, the trend for non-Roman Catholic chaplains is for the chaplain to secure their own funding through the help of a committee of interested



BRING DONATIONS FOR SEAFARERS TO COUNCIL

The Seafarers Ministry at the Port of Houston will receive the Council offering and donations brought to Council by representatives of the Diocese's 150 churches, institutions and chaplaincies. According to the Rev. Lacy Largent, the Episcopal chaplain at the Seafarer's Center, critical items include: pocket-sized New Testaments/Psalms, work gloves, knit caps and scarves, socks, playing cards, nail clippers and toiletries.



persons who believe in the value of ministry to the seafarers whose ships call on the Port of Houston. Should you or your church want to provide funding to insure the ongoing presence of an Episcopal Port Chaplain, please make checks payable to the "Great Commission Foundation" with "Seafarers' Ministry" in the notation section, and mail to the Diocese. Thank you for your interest in Seafarers' Ministry!



The Rev. Lacy Largent carries several currencies aboard ship to provide phone cards to seafarers.

Summit*

Invite • Welcome • Connect

Camp Allen April 28-30, 2015

Workshops include how to use the Invite • Welcome • Connect materials in addition to a number of practical offerings from those who have used the newcomer project in their own churches.

These materials provide excellent congregational development tools that include creative, concrete resources to form a strategic and intentional newcomer ministry.



The Rev. Dr. Patrick Gahan, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in San Antonio is the featured preacher.

Plenary Speakers

The Rev. Jimmy Abbott
The Rev. Marcus Halley
The Rev. Dr. Hillary Raining
The Very Rev. Carol Wade

Invite • Welcome • Connect: each is a vital step for building healthy, vibrant and growing congregations. Plan now to attend. Details at www.epicenter.org/summit.

* **Summit:** A conference of leaders called to shape a program of action

PUT YOUR CHURCH ON THE MAP

Episcopal Relief & Development Invites Episcopalians to Build Church Presence on Asset Map



NEW YORK – Episcopal Relief & Development invites congregations, dioceses and institutions to promote their church and their ministries on the Episcopal Asset Map.

The Episcopal Asset Map is an online tool that allows users to select categories of ministries or search by keyword to connect with local services or get advice on how to start a new program at their own church.

Nearly all of the churches in the Diocese of Texas have added basic information about the church to their map and more than 75 have completed a listing of their outreach ministries and available programs.

Any user can edit or upload content for any Episcopal Church on the Asset Map. Edits are reviewed by a diocesan-appointed administrator before appearing on the public profile.

A short promotional video in English and now in Spanish shows how the Episcopal Asset Map can be a source of information and inspiration.

“The Episcopal Asset Map is a powerful tool for church networking and cross-collaboration,” said Katie Mears, director of ERD’s U.S. Disaster Program.

“This is helpful in normal times, of course, since strengthening and promoting ministries in our communities helps bring people in and connects them to everything our churches offer—worship in your preferred language, summer day camp for your kids—but it can be even more helpful in times of disaster. Knowing our assets and literally having a map of where the nearest shelter ministry is located, for example, can help us respond quickly with what we have, rather than scrambling to make something from scratch. I think this is the real

strength of The Episcopal Church—presence, and willingness to help in times of need.”

“Building resilience and building capacity are two sides of the same coin,” said The Rev. Canon E. Mark Stevenson, Domestic Poverty Missioner for the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. “The things we do to make our churches and communities stronger and more vibrant, such as creating a community garden or starting a youth group, can also be incredibly helpful in responding to and recovering from disasters. Working on projects together helps us learn what we can do and what we’re good at, and it creates space to form relationships and grow together.”

The Diocese of Texas has responded enthusiastically, entering data with the help of Episcopal Health Foundation’s Melodee Toles as project manager. Paulette Martin, communication specialist for the Diocese has worked with Spanish-speaking congregations to ensure their presence on the Map, and volunteer Paula Haenchen, newcomer ministry coordinator at Holy Comforter, Angleton, continues to help churches in the Southwest Convocation include their information on the Map.

Is your church on the Map? Check in at the Communication booth in the Exhibits area during Council to see the map and have all your questions answered.

To see the map of the Diocese of Texas, go to: <http://edtx.episcopalassetmap.org/> and check to see if your church is on the Map. If not, work with your clergy and lay leadership to include your information.

See a demonstration at the Episcopal Health Foundation Booth in Exhibits

edtx.episcopalassetmap.org

Nominations

All voting at this year's Council will be done electronically using tablets or mobile devices. Laptops and mobile devices (tablets and phones) utilized at Council will have to run on battery charges. There will be no electrical outlets available at delegation tables although there will be wifi. Expectations for each position are listed below.

This document and all other council information is available for download at epicenter.org/council.

Treasurer of the Diocese

The responsibilities of the treasurer include: receiving and accounting for all monies collected by authority of the Council or deposited for any church purpose; keeping a separate account of each fund on which payments are made; making specific payments required from each fund; paying all approved expenses under the Diocesan Fund and paying the quota of the diocese to the Contingent Fund of the General Convention; notifying parishes of assessments; furnishing statements of accounts annually to the Council; acting as a member of the Executive Board.

Note: Canonical requirements call for election by Council; minimum number of two nominees does not apply; one-year term; all other requirements are related to duties.

Secretary of the Diocese

The secretary's duties include: recording the proceedings of the Council; preserving the records, books and papers of the Council; attesting transcripts from the Council's records; notifying all persons in regard to elections, resolutions or actions taken by the Council; furnishing prescribed forms for reports; certifying lists of the diocese's clergy and deputies to the General Convention; preparing and submitting reports from the diocese; supervising the proper publication of the printed Journal of the proceedings of the Council and distributing copies of the Journal.

Note: Canonical requirements call for election by Council; minimum number of two nominees does not apply; one-year term; all other requirements are related to duties.

Standing Committee

(Nominate at least 2 lay & 2 clergy, elect 1 lay & 1 clergy)
The Standing Committee functions as a council of advice to the bishop and shall meet at the request of the bishop or on its own as needed. The Standing Committee gives consent for persons to become candidates for Holy Orders and gives consent for ordinations. Additionally, the committee gives consent to elections of bishops in other dioceses. When there is no bishop or bishop coadjutor, the Standing Committee takes on the role of ecclesiastical authority of the diocese. The Standing Committee of the diocese consists of three priest and three lay persons, at least 18 years of age, who are confirmed communicants in good standing of the Church within the Diocese.

Note: Canonical requirements: elected at Council by ballot; Nominations Committee to submit two names per position; 3 year term; one priest and one lay person elected every Council; if full term served has to lay out one year; meets typically 6 times a year at Camp Allen, the Diocesan Center, or Diocesan Council.

Executive Board

(Nominate at least 6 lay & 4 clergy, elect 3 lay & 2 clergy)
The Executive Board directs the administration of the missionary, educational, and social service work of the diocese. It exercises all powers of the Council between its annual meetings in connection with long-range planning and development of the work of missions, church extension, Christian education, communication, the Church Pension Fund, the church and community, and any other works given to it by Council. The Executive Board is composed of 15 elected members including six clergy and nine laypersons, at least 18 years of age, who are confirmed communicants in good standing of the Church within the Diocese, with the bishop as its chair. Additionally, the bishops coadjutor, suffragan, and assistant (if there be any) serve on the board along with

president of the Church Corporation, the treasurer of the diocese, and the president of the diocesan Episcopal Church Women. The chairs of the diocese's 17 divisions and the convocational deans have voice without vote.

Note: Canonical requirements call for election by Council; Nominations Committee to submit two names per position; elect 5 members each year, 2 clergy persons and 3 lay persons; 3 year term; if any part of term served (full or unexpired), have to lay out a year; meets 3 times a year over multiple days at Camp Allen and includes active participation in subcommittee work between meetings.

Trustee of the Church Corporation

(Nominate at least 2, elect 1)

The Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas, also known as the Church Corporation, is a nonprofit Texas corporation that holds the titles to all diocesan parish, mission, institution, and school properties. It also administers the clergy housing trusts, various endowments and funds, assisted by the diocesan treasurer and business manager. The Board of Trustees of the Church Corporation consists of five elected members with the bishop as its chair. Trustees of the Church Corporation are clergy or laypersons of at least 18 years of age, who are confirmed communicants in good standing of the Church within the Diocese. The president of the Church Corporation is an ex-officio member of the Executive Board.

Note: Canonical requirements call for election by Council; Nominations Committee to submit two names per position; one member elected each year; 5 year term; no restrictions on reelection; meets 5 to 6 times a year at the Diocesan Center and as needed.

Trustee of the University of the South

(Nominate at least 2, elect 1 lay)

The Board of Trustees for the University of the South is the principal governing body for the University of the South. As one of 28 founding dioceses, the Diocese of Texas elects one clergy and two lay on a three year rotating basis to serve as Trustees on behalf of the Diocese.

Note: Canonical requirements call for election by Council; Nominations Committee to submit two names per position; one trustee each year; 3 year term; no restrictions on re-election; meets once a year in October with other gatherings and meetings as needed.

2016 Nominees

Secretary of the Diocese (Elect 1)

_____ The Rev. Canon John A. Logan, Jr.,
Diocese of Texas, Christ Church Cathedral

Treasurer of the Diocese (Elect 1)

_____ Robert J. Biehl, Diocese of Texas, St. Martin's,
Houston

Standing Committee (Elect 1 Lay/1 Clergy)

_____ David Bollinger, Good Shephard, Tomball
_____ Rebecca Brindley, St. Michael's, Austin
_____ Louise Elizabeth Eriksen, St. Christopher's,
Houston

_____ The Rev. Elizabeth Ruth Dowell, St. John's,
Columbus

_____ The Rev. Christine Faulstich, Epiphany, Houston

_____ The Rev. Ralph Morgan, St. Cyprian's, Lufkin

Executive Board (Elect 3 Lay/2 Clergy)

_____ DeAnna Bosch, St. Andrew's, Houston

_____ Ellen Eby, Holy Comforter, Angleton

_____ Maria Dalila Figueroa, San Francisco de Asis,
Austin

_____ Dennis Itzep, Santa Maria Virgen, Houston

_____ Melinda Little, St. Thomas, Houston

_____ Flint Risien, St. Paul's, Katy

_____ Betsy Sullivan, St. Dunstan's, Houston

_____ The Rev. Freda Marie S. Brown, St. Vincent's
House, Galveston

_____ The Rev. Eric Hungerford, St. James La Grange

_____ The Rev. Dean Lawrence, St. Francis,
College Station

_____ The Rev. Brandon Peete, St. Stephen's, Houston

_____ The Rev. Ted Smith, St. Stephen's, Liberty

Church Corporation (Elect 1)

_____ Jerry P. Campbell, St. Alban's, Waco

_____ Charles W. Hall, St. John the Divine, Houston

_____ Van. D. Valentine, St. Christopher's, Houston

Trustee of the University of the South (Elect 1)

_____ William Gage, St. John the Divine, Houston

_____ Michael Lewis, Christ Church, Tyler

_____ Sandy Wilkins, St. Martin's, Houston

Nominations

Treasurer of the Diocese



Robert Biehl, St. Martin's Houston

I have just completed my 15th year on the Diocesan staff. I am a CPA and graduated from TCU with a BBA in accounting in 1972. My experience includes public accounting, controllership and personal financial planning. For the 18 years prior to joining the Diocesan Staff I was a Trust Officer with Bank of America where administered the accounts to the Diocese and its' Foundations for almost 10 years. I have been married to Marilyn for 37 years and have one daughter. I have been blessed to be able to use my talents as the Treasurer of the Diocese. I appreciate tremendously the support, friendships and prayers that you have given me while I served in this role. I am also grateful for the confidence that you have bestowed on me and look forward to completing a smooth transition as I retire.

Secretary of the Diocese



The Rev. Canon John Logan, The Diocese of Texas

I probably shouldn't admit it, but the fact is I've really enjoyed serving the past twenty-eight years as Secretary of the Diocese. During that time I have served as Diocesan Secretary with four of the nine Bishops of Texas. It's the kind of experience that is helped if you have a lot of resilience as well as a good sense of humor. I've still got both and would enjoy the opportunity to continue serving in this capacity.

Standing Committee: Lay (Elect 1)



David Bollinger, Good Shephard Tomball

My wife, Charlotte, and I have been members of the Diocese of Texas since 1987. As a Congregational Coach for 14 years, I have had the pleasure to work with over 20 congregations within the diocese and facilitated their work to prepare for a rector search. My experiences as a congregational coach, an Executive Board member, and those at Good Shepherd, Tomball, have been prepared me to faithfully serve the Diocese as a member of the Standing Committee, and I seek your support.

Nominations

Standing Committee: Lay (Elect 1), continued



Rebecca Brindley, St. Michael's Austin

I have served my current parish in many capacities and continue to cherish the work that I do to build God's Kingdom through St. Michael's. However, the call to serve the Diocese of Texas is a call that I cannot ignore. If elected I will use the skills and talents that God has provided to me to help unify diverse groups within the Diocese that we might better serve Him through the work in each of our parishes throughout the Diocese. I will work with Bishop Doyle and this great Diocese as we lead the way to unity and peace in our world.



Louise Elizabeth Eriksen, St. Christopher's Houston

I am a lifelong Episcopalian and a member of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Houston where I serve as Junior Warden. As a physics teacher for Katy ISD, I have worked with children and adults. I am currently President of the Executive Board of St. Christopher's Hospice Resale Shop, and previously served on the Board of Trustees of St. Christopher's Day School as well as several other committees. As my years of service on the St. Christopher's vestry come to a close, I would like to continue doing what I can to help sustain and grow the Church by serving the Diocese of Texas on the Standing Committee.

Standing Committee: Clergy (Elect 1)



The Rev. Elizabeth Ruth Dowell, St. John's Columbus

I am a non-stipendiary, bi-vocational priest serving St. John's in Columbus. As a young mother of three, serving a small community, I offer fresh perspectives that need to be represented in leadership for this very diverse diocese. I love traditional liturgy, am progressive on social and ecclesiological issues, and am radical about living the Gospel today. I'm an "all-of-the-above" ("comprehension not compromise"--a good Anglican!). I have served on the Executive Board, the Supervisors and Tellers Committee, and the Committee on Nominations and have worked for the Episcopal Church in various capacities (children and youth, ordained ministry) for 16 years.



The Rev. Ralph Morgan, St. Cyprian's Lufkin

I am the rector of St. Cyprian's Church in Lufkin. I have served the diocese as a youth minister, summer camp director, member of Happening and YES steering committees, Cursillo Secretariat, Lord of the Streets board member, and head of an Episcopal School. Ordained in 2006, I have served large and small parishes in the diocese. My wife, Terri, and I have three daughters and several grandchildren spread around the diocese. If elected, I would be honored to serve on the Standing Committee.

Nominations



The Rev. Christine Faulstich, Epiphany Houston

I have been an enthusiastic participant in the life of our diocese since I was an undergraduate at Rice University. I currently serve as the rector of the Church of the Epiphany, Houston, where I am grateful to lead a vibrant and growing parish. I also serve as Chair of the Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services, an initiative of Epiphany to improve the quality of life of vulnerable individuals in our community by facilitating access to healthcare, education and job training. Having worked with the Standing Committee during my five years on the Commission on Ministry, I am mindful of the important role this body plays in making sure that the canons of both The Episcopal Diocese of Texas and The Episcopal Church are being followed

properly. If elected, I will undertake this work carefully and faithfully to ensure responsible governance for a missional church.

Executive Board: Lay (Elect 3)



DeAnna Bosch, St. Andrew's Houston

Having actively and joyfully been a member of Executive Board previously, I feel called to serve again. My considerable background in business systems and finance (corporate and non-profit) equips me to contribute in various areas. I have worked for non-profit agencies and churches for the past 10 years. I am now retired, but serve as the Clerk of the Vestry and am active in other ministries of my church, volunteer at Lord of the Streets, and serve on Board of Directors of several local and national non-profit organizations. My husband and I are members of St. Andrew's, Houston.



Ellen Eby, Holy Comforter Angleton

I feel called to serve, because of the spiritual confluence of a sermon by Br. David Vryhof, *SSJE* and a text from Fr. Travis Smith, Rector of Holy Comforter Episcopal Church. I have been EYC sponsor, Holy Comforter board member, vestry member, senior warden, and ecclesiastical authority. These roles have forged within me an open heart and discerning spirit.



Maria Dalila Figueroa, San Francisco de Asís Austin

A native of El Salvador, I moved to Austin in 1993. I was raised without a faith tradition, but discovered the Episcopal Church in my first weeks as a new American through El Buen Samaritano, where my family sought medical care. I received such a warm welcome that I began attending San Francisco de Asis the following week. I have served on the board of El Buen Samaritano, helping to lead a successful capital campaign, and have also had the privilege of serving three non-consecutive terms as San Francisco's Senior Warden. I will strive for peace and unity within our church, looking always to Jesus Christ, its head.

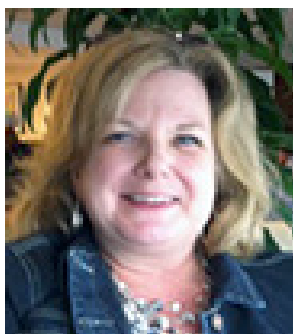
Nominations



Dennis Itzep, Santa Maria Virgen Houston

I was born into the Episcopal Church thirty years ago. I have served my congregation and community faithfully and joyfully in finance, worship and outreach. My additional service at the parish level includes Lay Eucharistic Minister, Senior Warden, Treasurer, food fair, music ministry, and co-chair of the capital campaign. I have been a Delegate to Diocesan Council, and was the 164th Diocesan Council Chair. Additionally, I am a committeeman to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. My church, finance, and business experiences have prepared me to serve and contribute to this mission.

Executive Board: Lay (Elect 3), continued



Melinda Little, St. Thomas Houston

I am a Senior Specialist for the State and Local Campaign Team for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. I am a 13 year veteran and graduate of St Thomas' Episcopal School, and was confirmed at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church. I am the current senior warden, and have been been junior warden and program chair for the vestry. Additionally, I am also the adult education director and founded the Prime Timers fellowship group for empty nesters. My husband, Russell, and I have three grown children.



Flint Risien, St. Paul's Katy

As a member of St. Paul's since 2008, it has been a privilege to serve as Diocesan Council Delegate for three years, Sr. Warden, Eucharistic Minister, Worship Leader, and Usher. As a lifelong Episcopalian, I have been an active part of many different parishes throughout Texas. I recently retired from a 30-year career in education and now work as a Business Development Manager for a real estate investment and development company. It is my hope, if elected, that my experiences can help make a contribution to the building up of the kingdom of God and to our great diocese.



Betsy Sullivan, St. Dunstan's Houston

A lifelong Episcopalian, I have lived most of my life in the Diocese of Texas. I learned about church involvement from my parents, who passed along their love of the Episcopal Church. A member at St. Dunstan's, Houston, for 35 years, I believe service in the church community helps spread the Gospel to the wider community. My experience: vestry, diocesan council, parish administration, stewardship planning, past presidency of the Diocesan Episcopal Church Women equip me to serve on the Executive Board. Our diocese is strong and growing, and we need dedicated leadership that will continue to expand God's kingdom.

See Executive Board: Clergy next page

Nominations

Executive Board: Clergy (Elect 2)



The Rev. Freda Marie S. Brown, St. Vincent's House Galveston

I am the Executive Director of St. Vincent's House in Galveston. As an advocate for the poor in Galveston I serve on the Research, Education, and Community Health Coalition at the University of Texas Medical Branch, the Advisory Council of the UTMB School of Nursing, and D'Feet Breast Cancer Advisory Council. Prior to this, I was an associate priest at the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation in Lewisville, TX. I am very excited about my new ministry, in which I have been invited to serve Jesus among the poor. I also like to hike, read, write, and listen to jazz, have recently began a new venture in "clean eating," and am Crystal's Mom.



The Rev. Eric Hungerford, St. James La Grange

I am the rector of St. James Church in La Grange and I've previously served at Trinity, Woodlands and St. Mark's, Houston. I've served on the World Mission Board of the Diocese since 2010, as a delegate to Provincial Synod in 2012, and as treasurer of the Alumni Steering Committee of the Seminary of the Southwest. I'm currently serving as President of the Board of Fayette Resale Inc., large nonprofit run by area churches in Fayette County. I am proud to have grown up in our diocese and would be honored to help guide the mission of the diocese as a member of the Executive Board.



The Rev. Dean Lawrence, St. Francis College Station

I have been in ordained ministry for nearly seven years and have served two parishes. I cherish daily the opportunities I am given to deepen the faith journeys of individuals and families. I feel particularly strongly about encouraging individuals to discern and explore their unique gifts and callings in the reconciling mission of God. I am currently serving as rector of St. Francis Episcopal Church in College Station where I have been since 2013. I appreciate the many ways in which the diocese supports ministry at the parish level and would consider it an honor to serve in this role.



The Rev. Brandon Peete, St. Stephen's Houston

I currently serve as the assistant rector of St. Stephen's, Houston while also mentoring EFM at St. Stephen's, Huntsville. My diocesan ministry includes the Texas Episcopal Service Corps and supporting Bishop Doyle's planning team for the rolling out of Vision 2020. Previously, I have served on the staff of Christ Church, Tyler, as chaplain at All Saints Episcopal School, Tyler, and as priest-in-charge of St. Paul's, Kilgore. I feel called to share leadership on the Executive Board of the Diocese as we seek to imagine the future of the Episcopal Church, particularly the areas of evangelism and Christian Formation.

Executive Board: Clergy, continued

Nominations

Executive Board: Clergy (Elect 2) continued



The Rev. Ted Smith, St. Stephen's Liberty

I serve as rector of St. Stephen's, Liberty, and have always believed that the Gospel message must be carried outside the walls of the church building into the greater community, where the love of Christ is best seen and experienced through our service to others. I am actively involved in our community where I serve on various committees and boards, as well as offer emotional and spiritual care as a law enforcement chaplain. I love being involved in the "big picture," working for continued growth and vitality for our parish and community. I would be honored to serve the Diocese of Texas as we grow into the future.

Church Corp (Elect 1)



Jerry P. Campbell, St. Alban's Waco

I am a native Texan who grew up in Houston and Waco. As a member of St. Alban's for 40 years, I have loved being involved in many capacities, from serving as Senior Warden to teaching Sunday School. Active in litigation for 30 years, I have expertise in construction and property. If elected, I would be honored and ready to bring my extensive professional experience to serve our Diocese as a trustee of the Church Corporation.



Charles W. Hall, St. John the Divine Houston

I am an attorney with Norton Rose Fulbright in Houston and have served as head of the firm's tax department. I have been blessed to have served as Trustee of the Church Corporation over the last five years. I have previously served the Diocese as Trustee on the Episcopal Foundation board and as a board member of Camp Allen for nine years. I have utilized my background and experience to assist institutions in the Diocese. There are exciting endeavors underway in the Diocese. I would be honored to serve another term as Trustee of the Church Corporation.



Van D. Valentine, St. Christopher's Houston

I serve as the financial administrator of St. Christopher's and treasurer of St. Christopher's Day School in Houston. Previously I have served St. Christopher's as Sr. Warden and Treasurer. My gifts and business experience have allowed me to improve St. Christopher's financial and administrative operations. My career involved computer software development, marketing, and management consulting, as well as owning a commercial property management firm. I hold a B.S. from Southwestern University in Georgetown, TX. I would joyfully contribute these skills to serve the Diocese of Texas as a trustee of Church Corporation.

Nominations

Trustee of the University of the South (Elect 1)



William Gage, St. John the Divine Houston

I graduated from Sewanee (1985) and have continuously supported the University. I am currently a member of the Sewanee School of Theology Campaign Committee, and the Class of 1985 Chair. I have served this diocese on the Board of Trustees, and served on the Sewanee Executive Board of the Alumni. I would like to continue my service to this Diocese, the School of Theology and College through the Board of Trustees. I am a partner at Buck, Keenan, LLP, in Houston, volunteer for Can-Care, past member of the Associate Vestry of St. John the Divine, and current chair of the SJD Seminary Scholarship Committee.



Michael Lewis, Christ Church Tyler

I attended St. John's Episcopal School and graduated from the Episcopal School of Dallas. I was called to the promised land in 1988, and spent four glorious years on the Mountain, where I was fully immersed in all aspects of Sewanee life (e.g., academics, Greek life, social organizations, athletics, and leadership). That experience provided insight into issues facing the University today. As an Arcadian, I promote the merits of a Sewanee education. I have served in leadership positions at Christ Church and All Saints Episcopal School. I am passionate about the University of the South, and hope to contribute to its role as a leader in higher education.



Sandy Wilkens, St. Martin's Houston

I'm the widow of Richard B. Wilkens III, a graduate of the University of the South, 1969, and the daughter-in-law of a graduate of the University. My two children graduated from Sewanee. Through the years I have continued to return to the Mountain to support the university's activities, including student recruitment and fund raising. As a retired educator, I respect the education it affords students in preparing them for leadership. It is important that a diocesan trustee have a strong connection to and understanding of the University of the South.

Canons & Constitution

II. STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

*Pre-Council Report of the
COMMITTEE for CONSTITUTION & CANONS
to the 167th Council*

A. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

(Presented for second reading requiring 2/3rds majority approval from each Order)

*Article 2
THE COUNCIL*

EXISTING:

Section 2.1 *Membership of the Council*

The Council of this Diocese shall consist of the following:

- (f) *Lay delegates representing the Division of Youth. The Division of Youth shall mean those communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese who are at least 11 years of age and no older than 18 years of age.*

Section 2.2 *Lay Representation in Council*

Each Parish in union with the Council shall be entitled to representation therein by four Lay Delegates, and each College Chaplaincy in union with the Council shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate. Lay representation for each Mission in union with the Council shall be based on the Mission's Average Sunday Attendance reported in the Journal of the previous year's Council: Each Mission reporting up to 200 shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate; each Mission reporting between 201 and 400 shall be entitled to two Lay Delegates; and each Mission reporting 401 or more shall be entitled to three Lay Delegates. The Division of Youth shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate from each convocation within the Diocese; provided that, any such Lay Delegate under the age of 18 years shall have seat and voice, but without the right to vote. Delegates from Parishes and Missions shall be elected by the congregation, or by the Vestry or Bishop's Committee, as the case may be, which may, at the same time, choose an equal number of alternates. In the event that, of those elected, less than the number permitted is able to attend the Council, the Rector or Priest in Charge is authorized, and is hereby obligated, to make such selections as may ensure a full representation in the Council. Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be appointed by the Bishop, after consultation with the Chaplain, if there be one. Upon being seated by the Council, those so selected shall have the same standing as those elected. Lay Delegates from the Division of Youth shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Youth Missioner.

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Section 2.3 Qualifications of Delegates

All Lay Delegates representing Parishes and Organized Missions shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of the Parish or Mission they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Episcopal Church, registered students at the institution they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Vicars in charge of an Organized Mission, or Lay Chaplains in charge of a College Chaplaincy must be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese and placed in charge of the institution they represent by the Bishop. All Lay Delegates from the Division of Youth shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese in the particular convocation they represent, at least 14 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon.

Section 2.6 Time and Place of Meeting

The Council of the Diocese shall assemble annually on the Friday following the first Sunday in February at such time and place as may be designated by a preceding Council; provided that for urgent cause, the Bishop, with the approval of the Standing Committee, may designate or alter the place or time, or both place and time, in which case due notice must be given.

PROPOSED:

Section 2.1 Membership of the Council

The Council of this Diocese shall consist of the following:

- (f) *Lay delegates representing the ~~Division of Youth~~ Youth Ministry of the Diocese. The ~~Division of Youth~~ Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall mean those communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese who are at least 11 years of age and no older than 18 years of age.*

Section 2.2 Lay Representation in Council

Each Parish in union with the Council shall be entitled to representation therein by four Lay Delegates, and each College Chaplaincy in union with the Council shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate. Lay representation for each Mission in union with the Council shall be based on the Mission's Average Sunday Attendance reported in the Journal of the previous year's Council: Each Mission reporting up to 200 shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate; each Mission reporting between 201 and 400 shall be entitled to two Lay Delegates; and each Mission reporting 401 or more shall be entitled to three Lay Delegates. The ~~Division of Youth~~ Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate from each convocation within the Diocese; provided that, any such Lay Delegate under the age of 18 years shall have seat and voice, but without the right to vote. Delegates from Parishes and Missions shall be elected by the congregation, or by the Vestry or Bishop's Committee, as the case may be, which may, at the same time, choose an equal number of alternates. In the event that, of those elected, less than the number permitted is able to attend the Council, the Rector or Priest in Charge is authorized, and is hereby obligated, to make such selections as may ensure a full representation in the Council.

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Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be appointed by the Bishop, after consultation with the Chaplain, if there be one. Upon being seated by the Council, those so selected shall have the same standing as those elected. Lay Delegates from the ~~Division of Youth~~ Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the ~~Youth Missioner~~ appropriate youth missioner.

Section 2.3 Qualifications of Delegates

All Lay Delegates representing Parishes and Organized Missions shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of the Parish or Mission they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Episcopal Church, registered students at the institution they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Vicars in charge of an Organized Mission, or Lay Chaplains in charge of a College Chaplaincy must be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese and placed in charge of the institution they represent by the Bishop. All Lay Delegates from the ~~Division of Youth~~ Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese in the particular convocation they represent, at least 14 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon.

Section 2.6 Time and Place of Meeting

The Council of the Diocese shall assemble annually on ~~the~~ a Friday following ~~any~~ the first Sunday in February at such time and place as may be designated by a preceding Council; provided that for urgent cause, the Bishop, with the approval of the Standing Committee, may designate or alter the place or time, or both place and time, in which case due notice must be given.

IF AMENDED:

Section 2.1 Membership of the Council

The Council of this Diocese shall consist of the following:

- (a) The Bishop, when there is one, who shall be ex-officio President of the Council, and of the Bishop Co-adjutor if there be one, and of the Bishops Suffragan, if there be such; and they shall be entitled to all privileges and membership in the Council.*
- (b) All Members of the Clergy, canonically resident in the Diocese, whose letters dimissory have been accepted by the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese, or who have been ordained within this Diocese and who have not, in contemplation of removal from this Diocese, applied for letters dimissory.*
- (c) Lay Delegates chosen by and representing the several Parishes and Missions of this Diocese, which may, in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese, be entitled to such representation.*

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- (d) *Lay Delegates representing College Chaplaincies of this Diocese. “College Chaplaincies” shall mean those colleges and universities, and any branch thereof, in which the work of the Episcopal Church is approved by the Bishop for such representation.*
- (e) *Pastoral Leaders who have been placed in charge of a Parish or an Organized Mission, or Lay Chaplains who have been placed in charge of a College Chaplaincy, of the Diocese by the Bishop.*
- (f) *Lay delegates representing the Youth Ministry of the Diocese. The Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall mean those communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese who are at least 11 years of age and no older than 18 years of age.*

Section 2.2 Lay Representation in Council

Each Parish in union with the Council shall be entitled to representation therein by four Lay Delegates, and each College Chaplaincy in union with the Council shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate. Lay representation for each Mission in union with the Council shall be based on the Mission’s Average Sunday Attendance reported in the Journal of the previous year’s Council: Each Mission reporting up to 200 shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate; each Mission reporting between 201 and 400 shall be entitled to two Lay Delegates; and each Mission reporting 401 or more shall be entitled to three Lay Delegates. The Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate from each convocation within the Diocese; provided that, any such Lay Delegate under the age of 18 years shall have seat and voice, but without the right to vote. Delegates from Parishes and Missions shall be elected by the congregation, or by the Vestry or Bishop’s Committee, as the case may be, which may, at the same time, choose an equal number of alternates. In the event that, of those elected, less than the number permitted is able to attend the Council, the Rector or Priest in Charge is authorized, and is hereby obligated, to make such selections as may ensure a full representation in the Council. Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be appointed by the Bishop, after consultation with the Chaplain, if there be one. Upon being seated by the Council, those so selected shall have the same standing as those elected. Lay Delegates from the Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the appropriate youth missionary.

Section 2.3 Qualifications of Delegates

All Lay Delegates representing Parishes and Organized Missions shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of the Parish or Mission they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Episcopal Church, registered students at the institution they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Vicars in charge of an Organized Mission, or Lay Chaplains in charge of a College Chaplaincy must be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese and placed in charge of the institution they represent by the Bishop. All Lay Delegates from the Youth Ministry of the Diocese shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese in the particular convocation they represent, at least 14 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon.

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Section 2.4 Other Members – Voting

All officers of the Council, members of the Standing Committee, members of the Executive Board, members of such regular or special committees as may be by action of the Council charged with a special duty during the interval between its usual meeting, and the President of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas, shall be members also of the Council, but unless duly elected Lay Delegates, shall be without the right to vote.

Section 2.5 Attendance

It is hereby declared to be the duty of every member of the Clergy entitled to a seat to attend the Council; and of every Parish and Mission to send one or more delegates. Each Parish or Mission is expected to make suitable provision, either by collection or otherwise, for the expense of the Clergy in fulfilling the above required duty.

Section 2.6 Time and Place of Meeting

The Council of the Diocese shall assemble annually on a Friday following any Sunday in February at such time and place as may be designated by a preceding Council; provided that for urgent cause, the Bishop, with the approval of the Standing Committee, may designate or alter the place or time, or both place and time, in which case due notice must be given.

Section 2.7 Quorum

At the regular Annual Council, one quarter of the Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese and a Lay Delegate from one quarter of the congregations in union with the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but less than a quorum may adjourn from day to day until a quorum is obtained.

Section 2.8 Procedure in Meeting

In all meetings of the Council, both annual and special meetings, the procedure shall be according to provisions set forth by Canon.

Section 2.9 Deliberations – Voting

The Clerical and Lay Delegates shall deliberate as one body and shall vote as such on all questions and in all elections except in the election of a Bishop, or a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Bishop Suffragan. Each Clerical and Lay Delegate shall be entitled to one vote, and a majority of the aggregate votes shall be the decision of the question, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution and Canons.

Section 2.10 President Pro Tem

At all meetings of the Council, in the absence of the Bishop, or if the office of Bishop be vacant, a President Pro Tem shall be designated as prescribed by the Canons.

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Section 2.11 *Special Meetings*

- (a) *Special meetings of the Council may be called by the Bishop at the Bishop's discretion, or upon the request of a majority of the Standing Committee. Notice of the meeting shall be as provided by Canon. If there be no Bishop, the Standing Committee shall have the power to call special meetings of the Council. When a vacancy in the Episcopate occurs more than four months before the next regular meeting of the Annual Council, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee to call a special meeting of the Council to fill the vacancy, in which event, the Standing Committee must give reasonable notice of the time and place and purpose of the meeting.*
- (b) *Whenever a special meeting of the Council shall be called, the business to be transacted shall be specified in the call, and no other business shall be transacted except that specified in the call.*
- (c) *At any special meeting of the Council, a majority of all Clergy entitled to membership and lay representation from Parishes and Missions containing a majority of the communicants of the Diocese as reported at the next preceding Annual Council shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, but less than a quorum may adjourn from day to day for three days for the purpose of obtaining a quorum.*

SUBMITTED BY: The Executive Board.

RATIONALE (by the Executive Board): The term "Division of Youth" and "Youth Missioner" are organizational and positional terms no longer in used in the Diocese. Youth Ministry in the Diocese and youth missioner are more appropriate terms that describe the current approach to diocesan youth ministry and its leadership. Allowing the Council of the Diocese to assemble on the Friday following any Sunday in February allows the Council more flexibility in scheduling the next annual Council assembly.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS PROPOSAL FOR A SECOND READING.

Article 2 THE COUNCIL

EXISTING:

Section 2.1 *Membership of the Council*

The Council of this Diocese shall consist of the following:

- (f) Lay delegates representing the Division of Youth. The Division of Youth shall mean those communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese who are at least 11 years of age and no older than 18 years of age.

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Section 2.2 Lay Representation in Council

Each Parish in union with the Council shall be entitled to representation therein by four Lay Delegates, and each College Chaplaincy in union with the Council shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate. Lay representation for each Mission in union with the Council shall be based on the Mission's Average Sunday Attendance reported in the Journal of the previous year's Council: Each Mission reporting up to 200 shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate; each Mission reporting between 201 and 400 shall be entitled to two Lay Delegates; and each Mission reporting 401 or more shall be entitled to three Lay Delegates. The Division of Youth shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate from each convocation within the Diocese; provided that, any such Lay Delegate under the age of 18 years shall have seat and voice, but without the right to vote. Delegates from Parishes and Missions shall be elected by the congregation, or by the Vestry or Bishop's Committee, as the case may be, which may, at the same time, choose an equal number of alternates. In the event that, of those elected, less than the number permitted is able to attend the Council, the Rector or Priest in Charge is authorized, and is hereby obligated, to make such selections as may ensure a full representation in the Council. Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be appointed by the Bishop, after consultation with the Chaplain, if there be one. Upon being seated by the Council, those so selected shall have the same standing as those elected. Lay Delegates from the Division of Youth shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Youth Missioner.

PROPOSED:

Article 2 THE COUNCIL

Section 2.1 Membership of the Council

The voting membership of the Council of this Diocese shall consist of the following:

- (a) The Bishop, when there is one, who shall be ex-officio President of the Council, and of the Bishop Coadjutor if there be one, and of the Bishops Suffragan, if there be such; and they shall be entitled to all privileges and membership in the Council.*
- (b) All Members of the Clergy, canonically resident in the Diocese, whose letters dimissory have been accepted by the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese, or who have been ordained within this Diocese and who have not, in contemplation of removal from this Diocese, applied for letters dimissory.*
- (c) Lay Delegates chosen by and representing the several Parishes and Missions of this Diocese, which may, in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese, be entitled to such representation.*
- (d) Lay Delegates representing College Chaplaincies of this Diocese. "College Chaplaincies" shall mean those colleges and universities, and any branch thereof, in which the work of the Episcopal Church is approved by the Bishop for such representation.*
- (e) Pastoral Leaders who have been placed in charge of a Parish or an Organized Mission, or Lay*

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Chaplains who have been placed in charge of a College Chaplaincy, of the Diocese by the Bishop.

(f) Lay delegates representing the Division of Youth. The Division of Youth shall mean those communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese who are at least 11 years of age and no older than 18 years of age.

Section 2.2 Lay Representation in Council

Each Parish in union with the Council shall be entitled to representation therein by four Lay Delegates, and each College Chaplaincy in union with the Council shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate. Lay representation for each Mission in union with the Council shall be based on the Mission's Average Sunday Attendance reported in the Journal of the previous year's Council: Each Mission reporting up to 200 shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate; each Mission reporting between 201 and 400 shall be entitled to two Lay Delegates; and each Mission reporting 401 or more shall be entitled to three Lay Delegates. The Division of Youth shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate from each convocation within the Diocese; ~~provided that, any such Lay Delegate under the age of 18 years shall have seat and voice, but without the right to vote.~~ Delegates from Parishes and Missions shall be elected by the congregation, or by the Vestry or Bishop's Committee, as the case may be, which may, at the same time, choose an equal number of alternates. In the event that, of those elected, less than the number permitted is able to attend the Council, the Rector or Priest in Charge is authorized, and is hereby obligated, to make such selections as may ensure a full representation in the Council. Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be appointed by the Bishop, after consultation with the Chaplain, if there be one. Upon being seated by the Council, those so selected shall have the same standing as those elected. Lay Delegates from the Division of Youth shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Youth Missioner.

IF AMENDED:

Section 2.1 Membership of the Council

The voting membership of the Council of this Diocese shall consist of the following:

(a) The Bishop, when there is one, who shall be ex-officio President of the Council, and of the Bishop Coadjutor if there be one, and of the Bishops Suffragan, if there be such; and they shall be entitled to all privileges and membership in the Council.

(b) All Members of the Clergy, canonically resident in the Diocese, whose letters dimissory have been accepted by the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese, or who have been ordained within this Diocese and who have not, in contemplation of removal from this Diocese, applied for letters dimissory.

(c) Lay Delegates chosen by and representing the several Parishes and Missions of this Diocese, which may, in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese, be entitled to such representation.

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(d) Lay Delegates representing College Chaplaincies of this Diocese. “College Chaplaincies” shall mean those colleges and universities, and any branch thereof, in which the work of the Episcopal Church is approved by the Bishop for such representation.

(e) Pastoral Leaders who have been placed in charge of a Parish or an Organized Mission, or Lay Chaplains who have been placed in charge of a College Chaplaincy, of the Diocese by the Bishop.

(f) Lay delegates representing the Division of Youth. The Division of Youth shall mean those communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese who are at least 11 years of age and no older than 18 years of age.

Section 2.2 Lay Representation in Council

Each Parish in union with the Council shall be entitled to representation therein by four Lay Delegates, and each College Chaplaincy in union with the Council shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate. Lay representation for each Mission in union with the Council shall be based on the Mission’s Average Sunday Attendance reported in the Journal of the previous year’s Council: Each Mission reporting up to 200 shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate; each Mission reporting between 201 and 400 shall be entitled to two Lay Delegates; and each Mission reporting 401 or more shall be entitled to three Lay Delegates. The Division of Youth shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate from each convocation within the Diocese. Delegates from Parishes and Missions shall be elected by the congregation, or by the Vestry or Bishop’s Committee, as the case may be, which may, at the same time, choose an equal number of alternates. In the event that, of those elected, less than the number permitted is able to attend the Council, the Rector or Priest in Charge is authorized, and is hereby obligated, to make such selections as may ensure a full representation in the Council. Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be appointed by the Bishop, after consultation with the Chaplain, if there be one. Upon being seated by the Council, those so selected shall have the same standing as those elected. Lay Delegates from the Division of Youth shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Youth Missioner.

Section 2.3 Qualifications of Delegates

All Lay Delegates representing Parishes and Organized Missions shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of the Parish or Mission they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Delegates from the College Chaplaincies shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Episcopal Church, registered students at the institution they represent, at least 18 years of age, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be required by Canon. All Lay Vicars in charge of an Organized Mission, or Lay Chaplains in charge of a College Chaplaincy must be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese and placed in charge of the institution they represent by the Bishop. All Lay Delegates from the Division of Youth shall be confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese in the particular convocation they represent, at least 14 years of age, and shall possess such

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other qualifications as may be required by Canon.

Section 2.4 Other Members – Voting

All officers of the Council, members of the Standing Committee, members of the Executive Board, members of such regular or special committees as may be by action of the Council charged with a special duty during the interval between its usual meeting, and the President of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas, shall be members also of the Council, but unless duly elected Lay Delegates, shall be without the right to vote.

Section 2.5 Attendance

It is hereby declared to be the duty of every member of the Clergy entitled to a seat to attend the Council; and of every Parish and Mission to send one or more delegates. Each Parish or Mission is expected to make suitable provision, either by collection or otherwise, for the expense of the Clergy in fulfilling the above required duty.

Section 2.6 Time and Place of Meeting

The Council of the diocese shall assemble annually on the Friday following the first Sunday in February at such time and place as may be designated by a preceding Council; provided that for urgent cause, the Bishop, with the approval of the Standing Committee, may designate or alter the place or time, or both place and time, in which case due notice must be given.

Section 2.7 Quorum

At the regular Annual Council, one quarter of the Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese and a Lay Delegate from one quarter of the congregations in union with the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but less than a quorum may adjourn from day to day until a quorum is obtained.

Section 2.8 Procedure in Meeting

In all meetings of the Council, both annual and special meetings, the procedure shall be according to provisions set forth by Canon.

Section 2.9 Deliberations – Voting

The Clerical and Lay Delegates shall deliberate as one body and shall vote as such on all questions and in all elections except in the election of a Bishop, or a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Bishop Suffragan. Each Clerical and Lay Delegate shall be entitled to one vote, and a majority of the aggregate votes shall be the decision of the question, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution and Canons.

Section 2.10 President Pro Tem

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At all meetings of the Council, in the absence of the Bishop, or if the office of Bishop be vacant, a President Pro Tem shall be designated as prescribed by the Canons.

Section 2.11 Special Meetings

(a) *Special meetings of the Council may be called by the Bishop at the Bishop's discretion, or upon the request of a majority of the Standing Committee. Notice of the meeting shall be as provided by Canon. If there be no Bishop, the Standing Committee shall have the power to call special meetings of the Council. When a vacancy in the Episcopate occurs more than four months before the next regular meeting of the Annual Council, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee to call a special meeting of the Council to fill the vacancy, in which event, the Standing Committee must give reasonable notice of the time and place and purpose of the meeting.*

(b) *Whenever a special meeting of the Council shall be called, the business to be transacted shall be specified in the call, and no other business shall be transacted except that specified in the call.*

(c) *At any special meeting of the Council, a majority of all Clergy entitled to membership and lay representation from Parishes and Missions containing a majority of the communicants of the Diocese as reported at the next preceding Annual Council shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, but less than a quorum may adjourn from day to day for three days for the purpose of obtaining a quorum.*

SUBMITTED BY: The Diocesan Youth Delegates.

RATIONALE (by The Diocesan Youth Delegates): The impact of this amendment is to give youth the right to vote as members of Council. According to the Constitution of the Diocese of Texas, every youth delegate must be a confirmed member in good standing. Within these confirmation vows rests a deep maturity of faith in Jesus Christ and a responsibility to the Church. Each youth delegate takes that responsibility seriously by undergoing a nomination and application process. This includes interviewing and responding to a series of essay questions. After appointed, youth delegates attend an intensive two-day council orientation that educates them over proposed amendments, resolutions, and nominations. This displays that selected delegates are mature in their faith and duty to the diocese. Currently, six out of the twelve dioceses in Province VII give seat, voice, and vote to their youth delegates.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS PROPOSAL FOR A SECOND READING.

Article 4

OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

EXISTING:

Section 4.2 Bishop's Salary

The salary of the Bishop of this Diocese shall never be less than five thousand dollars.

PROPOSED:

~~Section 4.2 Bishop's Salary~~

~~*The salary of the Bishop of this Diocese shall never be less than five thousand dollars.*~~

IF AMENDED:

Section 4.1 Election of Officers

Election of a Bishop, a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Bishop Suffragan for this Diocese shall be as follows: After special petitions for divine guidance, the members of the Council shall nominate some fit and qualified members of the Clergy for the office. A majority of the votes cast on the same ballot by both the Clergy and Lay delegates entitled to vote and present in Council and voting separately and concurrently by orders on such ballot shall be necessary for such an election.

In the case of all other elections of officers, or members of committees, or delegates, the Council may by unanimous consent provide that a plurality of all votes cast by the qualified voters shall be decisive.

Section 4.2 (This section has been deleted)

Section 4.3 Officers

The officers of the Diocese shall be as follows: the Standing Committee, the Executive Board, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, an Archivist, a Historian, a Chancellor, one or more Vice Chancellors, and such other officers as the Council may hereafter create by Canon. All officers shall be at least 18 years of age and shall be confirmed communicants in good standing in some Parish or Mission in union with the Council, and shall possess such other qualifications as may be set forth by Canon.

Section 4.4 Time of Elections – Special Elections

The officers of the Diocese shall be elected at the Council at such time as the Council may direct. The election of the Registrar, Archivist, Historian, Chancellor, and Vice Chancellor shall be upon nomination of the Bishop.

Section 4.5 Terms of Office

The terms of all officers, if not otherwise fixed by the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese, shall be for one year and until their successors are elected, unless sooner removed by the Council.

Section 4.6 Duties of Officers

The duties of all officers shall be such as may be incident to their offices and such other duties as may be declared by Canon.

Section 4.7 *Deputies to General Convention*

- (a) *The Annual Council next preceding the date which is one year prior to the next regular meeting of the General Convention of the Church shall elect four Clerical Deputies and four Lay Deputies to represent this Diocese in the said General Convention at any regular or called meeting of the General Convention. The Clerical Deputies shall be Presbyters or Deacons, in either case canonically resident in the Diocese. The Lay Deputies shall be at least 18 years of age and shall be confirmed communicants in good standing resident in the Diocese.*
- (b) *There may be elected at the same time four Clerical Alternates and four Lay Alternates from whom the Bishop may designate one or more as necessary to supply any deficiency in the representation. If there be no Bishop, the power of designation shall be exercised by the Standing Committee.*
- (c) *To assure a full representation of this Diocese in the General Convention, the Standing Committee, when necessary, shall appoint qualified representatives to supply any deficiency and such appointments shall have the full force and effect of an election by the Council.*

Section 4.8 *Delegates to Provincial Synod*

The Annual Council next preceding the meeting of the Provincial Synod of the Church shall elect four Clergy and four Lay Delegates to represent this Diocese in the meeting of the Synod. The same provisions concerning the election of alternates and the powers of the Bishop and Standing Committee, as well as qualifications of representatives, shall apply in this election as in the choice of deputies to the General Convention.

Section 4.9 *System of Voting*

In all elections the voting shall be by voting machines or other mechanical or electronic devices or by ballot unless unanimously dispensed with. To facilitate elections, except in an election to the Episcopate, the Council may adopt and define by Canon some form of the preference system of voting.

SUBMITTED BY: The Executive Board.

RATIONALE (by the Executive Board): Fixing a minimum for the bishop's salary is an obsolete practice and is no longer needed.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS PROPOSAL FOR A SECOND READING.

Article 6

SUSPENSION AND DISSOLUTION OF PARISHES AND MISSIONS

EXISTING:

Section 6.3 *Failure to Pay Quotas, or to Comply with Canons*

Provision may be made by Canon to suspend a Parish or Mission from the right of representation in the Council for failure to pay its quota of taxes or assessment, or to comply with requirements of the Canon, and provisions may be made in the Canon with reference to the vote necessary to suspend the Parish or Mission aforesaid.

Section 6.5 Aided Parishes

When a Parish for any reason deems it necessary to receive aid for the support of its rector, either from the Diocese, or as provided in the Canons by combining with another congregation, such congregation or congregations shall be automatically listed on the official roll of the Council as “aided parishes” until such time as that relationship is discontinued and the Parish resumes the entire support of its rector.

PROPOSED:

Section 6.3 Failure to Pay ~~Quotas~~ Assessments or to Comply with Canons

Provision may be made by Canon to suspend a Parish or Mission from the right of representation in the Council for failure to pay its ~~quota of taxes~~ or assessment, or to comply with requirements of the Canon, and provisions may be made in the Canon with reference to the vote necessary to suspend the Parish or Mission aforesaid.

Section 6.5 — Aided Parishes

When a Parish for any reason deems it necessary to receive aid for the support of its rector, either from the Diocese, or as provided in the Canons by combining with another congregation, such congregation or congregations shall be automatically listed on the official roll of the Council as “aided parishes” until such time as that relationship is discontinued and the Parish resumes the entire support of its rector.

IF AMENDED:

Section 6.1 Action by Council

Any Parish or Organized Mission may be suspended from the right of representation in the Council of this Diocese, or its existence wholly dissolved, whenever the same shall be deemed necessary, by a two-thirds vote of each order.

Section 6.2 Action on Recommendation of Bishop

Whenever, in the opinion of the Bishop, any Parish or Organized Mission is essentially defunct, and the Bishop shall so report to the Council, it may proceed to suspend or dissolve the Parish or Organized Mission.

Section 6.3 Failure to Pay Assessments or to Comply with Canons

Provision may be made by Canon to suspend a Parish or Mission from the right of representation in the Council for failure to pay its assessments, or to comply with requirements of the Canon, and provisions may be made in the Canon with reference to the vote necessary to suspend the Parish or Mission aforesaid.

Section 6.4 Remitting Parishes to Missions

Provision may also be made by Canon for remitting dormant Parishes to the position of an Organized Mission.

Section 6.5 (This section has been deleted)

SUBMITTED BY: The Executive Board.

RATIONALE (by the Executive Board): “Quotas” is a term no longer utilized in the Diocese. “Aided Parishes” is a category no longer used in the Diocese.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS PROPOSAL FOR A SECOND READING.

Article 7

SUPPORT OF THE DIOCESE

EXISTING:

Section 7.1 **Council May Levy Taxes and Assessments**

The Council shall have the power by Canon or by Special Resolution to raise money by tax or assessment upon the Parishes and Organized Missions in union with the Council for the necessary and proper expenses of the Diocese, which include the incidental expenses of the Council, the charges of the General Convention, the support of the Episcopate, and for such other objects and purposes as the Council may from time to time approve and direct. In making assessments against Parishes and Missions, regard shall be had as far as practicable to their financial strength and ability. The Council may, by Canon, prescribe such regulations and penalties as it may deem expedient to secure the prompt payments of taxes and assessments.

PROPOSED:

Section 7.1 **Council May Levy ~~Taxes and~~ Assessments**

The Council shall have the power by Canon or by Special Resolution to raise money by ~~tax or~~ assessment upon the Parishes and Organized Missions in union with the Council for the necessary and proper expenses of the Diocese, which include the incidental expenses of the Council, the charges of the General Convention, the support of the Episcopate, and for such other objects and purposes as the Council may from time to time approve and direct. In making assessments against Parishes and Missions, regard shall be had as far as practicable to their financial strength and ability. The Council may, by Canon, prescribe such regulations and penalties as it may deem expedient to secure the prompt payments of ~~taxes and~~ assessments.

IF AMENDED:

Section 7.1 **Council May Levy Assessments**

The Council shall have the power by Canon or by Special Resolution to raise money by assessment upon the Parishes and Organized Missions in union with the Council for the necessary and proper expenses of the Diocese, which include the incidental expenses of the Council, the charges of the General Convention, the support of the Episcopate, and for such other objects and purposes as the Council may from time to time approve and direct. In making assessments against Parishes and Missions, regard shall be had as far as practicable to their financial strength and ability. The Council may, by Canon, prescribe such regulations and penalties as it may deem expedient to secure the prompt payments of assessments.

SUBMITTED BY: The Executive Board.

RATIONALE (by the Executive Board): The term “taxes” is no longer used in the Diocese.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS PROPOSAL FOR A SECOND READING.

B. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
(Presented for publication on first reading)

NONE

C. CANONICAL AMENDMENTS

The Executive Board has submitted the following reorganization of the Canons. As the charts below indicate, most of the Canons have been re-numbered without any changes to the wording of the Canon. Proposed Title I, Canon 3, Title II, Canon 2, and Title III, Cannon 1 each contain a combination of two prior Canons and are set forth below. The Executive Board’s proposal removes Canon 43 from the Canons, which removal is also set forth below.

TITLE I

ORGANIZATION, POWERS, AND PROCEDURES OF COUNCIL

Canon 1	The Council	(Former Canon 1)
Canon 2	The Dispatch of Business for Council	(Former Canon 2)
Canon 3	Nominations and Elections	(Former Canon 3 becomes new Title I, Canon 3, and former Canon 26 becomes new Title I, Canon 3, Section 3.8)

EXISTING:

Canon 3
NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 3.1 *Membership*

The Committee for Nominations shall consist of seven members of the Clergy, seven laypersons, and the Chancellor of the Diocese, or in the event of the Chancellor’s inability to serve, a Vice Chancellor of the Diocese. The clergy and lay members of the Committee for Nominations shall be selected in the following manner:

- (a) *Six members of the clergy and six lay persons shall be appointed for rotating three- year terms as follows:*

At the Council in which this amendment first becomes effective, the Bishop shall select two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a one-year term; two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a two-year term; and two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a three-

year term. At each subsequent Annual Council, the Bishop shall select two members of the Clergy and two lay persons to serve three-year terms on the Committee, plus fill any vacancies that have arisen. The Bishop shall designate one of the members of the Clergy on the Committee as its Chair for the ensuing year. No member of the Committee who has completed a three-year term shall be eligible for reappointment to the Committee until a period of one year shall have elapsed.

- (b) *The Standing Committee shall select one member of the Clergy from its membership and the Executive Board shall select one layperson from its membership. Such selections shall be made at the first meeting following each Annual Council, and each shall certify the name of its selected member to the Bishop before March 1.*

The Committee for Nominations so selected shall serve until the close of the next Annual Council.

Any member of the Committee for Nominations may resign at any time prior to November 15th of any year. Any vacancy occurring on the Committee for Nominations shall be filled by the Bishop for the unexpired term of the position to be filled; provided that a vacancy in the position of the member selected by the Standing Committee shall be filled by the President of the Standing Committee for the unexpired term of the position to be filled; provided that if no Clergy member of the Standing Committee is eligible, the position shall be filled by the Bishop from other members of the Clergy of this Diocese.

Section 3.2 Nominations

The Committee for Nominations shall meet annually, after November 10th, but prior to the deadline for submission for publication in Volume I of the Journal. Notice of the time, date, and place of meeting with the name and address of the Chair of the Committee shall be posted on the Diocesan website prior to the meeting date, and references to the posted information shall be contained in Diocesan electronic news publications distributed at least four weeks prior to the date of the meeting to all members of the Clergy entitled to membership in the Council and Parishes and Missions. Suggestions to the Committee for Nominations of the persons to fill all offices in the Diocese and representative positions on Committees and as Deputies, Delegates, or Alternates to the General Convention or Provincial Synod shall be submitted with complete biographical information to the Chair of the Committee not later than November 10th preceding the next Annual Council at which the nominations will be considered. The Committee is directed to choose from the persons suggested, and if necessary or appropriate, from persons it selects, the nominees it believes to be best qualified for the positions to be filled, being mindful of the desirability of a balanced slate of nominees representative of the diversity of the Diocese. At least two persons shall be nominated by the Committee for each office or position to be filled, except that this minimum number of nominees shall not apply (a) to the offices of Secretary of the Diocese and Treasurer of the Diocese or (b) to those offices to be filled on the nomination of the Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Council. No member of the Committee for Nominations may be nominated by the Committee for any elective office, but such member may be so nominated from the floor.

Section 3.3 Notice of Nominations

The names of the nominees of the Committee for Nominations shall be posted on the Diocesan website and referenced in Diocesan electronic news publications distributed prior to the Annual Council meeting.

Section 3.4 Report of the Committee for Nominations

The report of the Committee for Nominations shall be presented to the Council at a time set by the Com-

mittee for Dispatch of Business. Unless voting machines, or other mechanical or electronic devices are used, the report shall contain sufficient copies of a ballot for use in voting, and shall show the names of those selected by the Nominating Committee. Nominations may be made from the floor. One or more groups of supervisors and tellers for the election shall be appointed.

Section 3.5 Voting

The voting shall be by voting machines or other mechanical or electronic devices, or by written ballot, unless the delegates shall unanimously desire a voice vote. If the voting is by written ballot, it may commence at any time after the presentation of the report of the Committee for Nominations. However, if the voting is by voting machines, or other mechanical or electronic devices, it may be conducted at such place and time as the Council may direct.

Section 3.6 Elections

Elections shall be by a majority vote of the valid votes cast for each office. A majority of the valid votes cast for each office shall be computed by dividing the total number of votes cast by twice the number of offices or positions to be filled and adding one (1) vote. Each delegate shall have one vote on each ballot for each office or position to be filled.

When more than two persons are nominated for a single office, or when two or more persons are to be elected on the same ballot and there are more nominees than twice the number of offices or positions to be filled, and if upon the first ballot there is no majority of the votes cast for one or more of the offices to be filled, a second ballot shall be cast. The nominees on such ballot shall be the candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast on the preceding ballot, not to exceed twice the number of the offices remaining to be filled; except in the case of a tie vote in the last place, in which event the candidates receiving the tie vote shall also be candidates on the next succeeding ballot. Similarly, ballots shall be cast until all offices shall be filled.

When elections are for different terms of office, the nominee first elected shall be the one elected for the longest term; or if two or more are elected on the same ballot, the candidate or candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be the one or ones elected for the longest term.

In all elections where officers or positions are designated to be filled by both Clergy and lay persons, separate ballots shall be taken for each order.

Section 3.7 Election of Deputies to General Convention and Alternates

There shall be four Clerical Deputies and four Lay Deputies elected to represent the Diocese at each General Convention. A minimum total of eight members of the Clergy and eight qualified laypersons shall be nominated to fill the positions. Each voting delegate, Lay and Clergy, shall initially have four votes for each order. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.6, the number of nominees for each order shall not be reduced until there shall have been elected at least one Deputy from such order, after which the number of nominees from such order shall be reduced from those receiving the highest number of votes to twice the number of offices of Deputies remaining to be filled from such order. After a reduction in such order, each voting delegate shall have as many votes as there are positions to be filled in such order. The four members of the Clergy and four qualified laypersons receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be elected as Deputies. Cumulative voting shall not be permitted in the election. Four alternates shall be selected from each order. The alternates shall be the eliminated nominees from each order receiv-

ing the four highest number of votes prior to elimination and shall be ranked in the order of votes received. If there is a tie vote for an alternate position, the precedence shall be chosen by lot.

EXISTING:

Canon 26

TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

Section 26.1 Elections – Terms of Office

There shall be elected by the Council of the Diocese, three Trustees for the University of the South, consisting of one Clerical and two Lay Trustees. The 118th Annual Council shall elect one Trustee for a one-year term, one Trustee for a two-year term, and one Trustee for three-year term. Thereafter each Annual Council shall elect one Trustee to serve for a term of three years.

PROPOSED:

TITLE I

Canon 3

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 3.1 Membership

The Committee for Nominations shall consist of seven members of the Clergy, seven laypersons, and the Chancellor of the Diocese, or in the event of the Chancellor's inability to serve, a Vice Chancellor of the Diocese. The clergy and lay members of the Committee for Nominations shall be selected in the following manner:

(a) Six members of the clergy and six lay persons shall be appointed for rotating three-year terms as follows:

At the Council in which this amendment first becomes effective, the Bishop shall select two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a one-year term; two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a two-year term; and two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a three-year term. At each subsequent Annual Council, the Bishop shall select two members of the Clergy and two lay persons to serve three-year terms on the Committee, plus fill any vacancies that have arisen. The Bishop shall designate one of the members of the Clergy on the Committee as its Chair for the ensuing year. No member of the Committee who has completed a three-year term shall be eligible for reappointment to the Committee until a period of one year shall have elapsed.

(a) The Standing Committee shall select one member of the Clergy from its membership and the Executive Board shall select one layperson from its membership. Such selections shall be made at the first meeting following each Annual Council, and each shall certify the name of its selected member to the Bishop before March 1.

The Committee for Nominations so selected shall serve until the close of the next Annual Council.

Any member of the Committee for Nominations may resign at any time prior to November 15th of any year. Any vacancy occurring on the Committee for Nominations shall be filled by the Bishop for the unexpired term of the position to be filled; provided that a vacancy in the position of the member selected by the Standing Committee shall be filled by the President of the Standing Committee for the unexpired term of the position to be filled; provided that if no Clergy member of the Standing Committee is eligible, the position

shall be filled by the Bishop from other members of the Clergy of this Diocese.

Section 3.2 Nominations

The Committee for Nominations shall meet annually, after November 10th, but prior to the deadline for submission for publication in Volume I of the Journal. Notice of the time, date, and place of meeting with the name and address of the Chair of the Committee shall be posted on the Diocesan website prior to the meeting date, and references to the posted information shall be contained in Diocesan electronic news publications distributed at least four weeks prior to the date of the meeting to all members of the Clergy entitled to membership in the Council and Parishes and Missions. Suggestions to the Committee for Nominations of the persons to fill all offices in the Diocese and representative positions on Committees and as Deputies, Delegates, or Alternates to the General Convention or Provincial Synod shall be submitted with complete biographical information to the Chair of the Committee not later than November 10th preceding the next Annual Council at which the nominations will be considered. The Committee is directed to choose from the persons suggested, and if necessary or appropriate, from persons it selects, the nominees it believes to be best qualified for the positions to be filled, being mindful of the desirability of a balanced slate of nominees representative of the diversity of the Diocese. At least two persons shall be nominated by the Committee for each office or position to be filled, except that this minimum number of nominees shall not apply (a) to the offices of Secretary of the Diocese and Treasurer of the Diocese or (b) to those offices to be filled on the nomination of the Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Council. No member of the Committee for Nominations may be nominated by the Committee for any elective office, but such member may be so nominated from the floor.

Section 3.3 Notice of Nominations

The names of the nominees of the Committee for Nominations shall be posted on the Diocesan website and referenced in Diocesan electronic news publications distributed prior to the Annual Council meeting.

Section 3.4 Report of the Committee for Nominations

The report of the Committee for Nominations shall be presented to the Council at a time set by the Committee for Dispatch of Business. Unless voting machines, or other mechanical or electronic devices are used, the report shall contain sufficient copies of a ballot for use in voting, and shall show the names of those selected by the Nominating Committee. Nominations may be made from the floor. One or more groups of supervisors and tellers for the election shall be appointed.

Section 3.5 Voting

The voting shall be by voting machines or other mechanical or electronic devices, or by written ballot, unless the delegates shall unanimously desire a voice vote. If the voting is by written ballot, it may commence at any time after the presentation of the report of the Committee for Nominations. However, if the voting is by voting machines, or other mechanical or electronic devices, it may be conducted at such place and time as the Council may direct.

Section 3.6 Elections

Elections shall be by a majority vote of the valid votes cast for each office. A majority of the valid votes cast for each office shall be computed by dividing the total number of votes cast by twice the number of offices or positions to be filled and adding one (1) vote. Each delegate shall have one vote on each ballot for

each office or position to be filled.

When more than two persons are nominated for a single office, or when two or more persons are to be elected on the same ballot and there are more nominees than twice the number of offices or positions to be filled, and if upon the first ballot there is no majority of the votes cast for one or more of the offices to be filled, a second ballot shall be cast. The nominees on such ballot shall be the candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast on the preceding ballot, not to exceed twice the number of the offices remaining to be filled; except in the case of a tie vote in the last place, in which event the candidates receiving the tie vote shall also be candidates on the next succeeding ballot. Similarly, ballots shall be cast until all offices shall be filled.

When elections are for different terms of office, the nominee first elected shall be the one elected for the longest term; or if two or more are elected on the same ballot, the candidate or candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be the one or ones elected for the longest term.

In all elections where officers or positions are designated to be filled by both Clergy and lay persons, separate ballots shall be taken for each order.

Section 3.7 Election of Deputies to General Convention and Alternates

There shall be four Clerical Deputies and four Lay Deputies elected to represent the Diocese at each General Convention. A minimum total of eight members of the Clergy and eight qualified laypersons shall be nominated to fill the positions. Each voting delegate, Lay and Clergy, shall initially have four votes for each order. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.6, the number of nominees for each order shall not be reduced until there shall have been elected at least one Deputy from such order, after which the number of nominees from such order shall be reduced from those receiving the highest number of votes to twice the number of offices of Deputies remaining to be filled from such order. After a reduction in such order, each voting delegate shall have as many votes as there are positions to be filled in such order. The four members of the Clergy and four qualified laypersons receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be elected as Deputies. Cumulative voting shall not be permitted in the election. Four alternates shall be selected from each order. The alternates shall be the eliminated nominees from each order receiving the four highest number of votes prior to elimination and shall be ranked in the order of votes received. If there is a tie vote for an alternate position, the precedence shall be chosen by lot.

Canon 26
TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

Section 3.8 ~~26.1~~ Elections — Terms of Office Trustees of the University of the South

There shall be elected by the Council of the Diocese, three Trustees for the University of the South, consisting of one Clerical and two Lay Trustees. The 118th Annual Council shall elect one Trustee for a one-year term, one Trustee for a two-year term, and one Trustee for three-year term. Thereafter each Annual Council shall elect one Trustee to serve for a term of three years.

IF AMENDED:

TITLE I

Canon 3

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 3.1 Membership

The Committee for Nominations shall consist of seven members of the Clergy, seven laypersons, and the Chancellor of the Diocese, or in the event of the Chancellor's inability to serve, a Vice Chancellor of the Diocese. The clergy and lay members of the Committee for Nominations shall be selected in the following manner:

- (a) *Six members of the clergy and six lay persons shall be appointed for rotating three-year terms as follows:*

At the Council in which this amendment first becomes effective, the Bishop shall select two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a one-year term; two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a two-year term; and two members of the clergy and two lay persons to serve a three-year term. At each subsequent Annual Council, the Bishop shall select two members of the Clergy and two lay persons to serve three-year terms on the Committee, plus fill any vacancies that have arisen. The Bishop shall designate one of the members of the Clergy on the Committee as its Chair for the ensuing year. No member of the Committee who has completed a three-year term shall be eligible for reappointment to the Committee until a period of one year shall have elapsed.

- (b) *The Standing Committee shall select one member of the Clergy from its membership and the Executive Board shall select one layperson from its membership. Such selections shall be made at the first meeting following each Annual Council, and each shall certify the name of its selected member to the Bishop before March 1.*

The Committee for Nominations so selected shall serve until the close of the next Annual Council.

Any member of the Committee for Nominations may resign at any time prior to November 15th of any year. Any vacancy occurring on the Committee for Nominations shall be filled by the Bishop for the unexpired term of the position to be filled; provided that a vacancy in the position of the member selected by the Standing Committee shall be filled by the President of the Standing Committee for the unexpired term of the position to be filled; provided that if no Clergy member of the Standing Committee is eligible, the position shall be filled by the Bishop from other members of the Clergy of this Diocese.

Section 3.2 Nominations

The Committee for Nominations shall meet annually, after November 10th, but prior to the deadline for submission for publication in Volume I of the Journal. Notice of the time, date, and place of meeting with the name and address of the Chair of the Committee shall be posted on the Diocesan website prior to the meeting date, and references to the posted information shall be contained in Diocesan electronic news publications distributed at least four weeks prior to the date of the meeting to all members of the Clergy entitled to membership in the Council and Parishes and Missions. Suggestions to the Committee for Nominations of the persons to fill all offices in the Diocese and representative positions on Committees and as Deputies, Delegates, or Alternates to the General Convention or Provincial Synod shall be submitted with complete biographical information to the Chair of the Committee not later than November 10th preceding the next Annual Council at which the nominations will be considered. The Committee is directed to choose from the persons suggested, and if necessary or appropriate, from persons it selects, the nominees it believes to be best qualified for the positions to be filled, being mindful of the desirability of a balanced slate of nominees representative of the diversity of the Diocese. At least two persons shall be nominated by the Committee for each office or position to be filled, except that this minimum number of nominees shall not apply (a) to the offices of Secretary of the Diocese and Treasurer of the Diocese or (b) to those offices to be filled on the nomination of the Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Council. No member of the Committee for Nominations may be nominated by the Committee for any elective office, but such member may be so nominated from the floor.

Section 3.3 Notice of Nominations

The names of the nominees of the Committee for Nominations shall be posted on the Diocesan website and referenced in Diocesan electronic news publications distributed prior to the Annual Council meeting.

Section 3.4 Report of the Committee for Nominations

The report of the Committee for Nominations shall be presented to the Council at a time set by the Committee for Dispatch of Business. Unless voting machines, or other mechanical or electronic devices are used, the report shall contain sufficient copies of a ballot for use in voting, and shall show the names of those selected by the Nominating Committee. Nominations may be made from the floor. One or more groups of supervisors and tellers for the election shall be appointed.

Section 3.5 Voting

The voting shall be by voting machines or other mechanical or electronic devices, or by written ballot, unless the delegates shall unanimously desire a voice vote. If the voting is by written ballot, it may commence at any time after the presentation of the report of the Committee for Nominations. However, if the voting is by voting machines, or other mechanical or electronic devices, it may be conducted at such place and time as the Council may direct.

Section 3.6 Elections

Elections shall be by a majority vote of the valid votes cast for each office. A majority of the valid votes cast for each office shall be computed by dividing the total number of votes cast by twice the number of offices or positions to be filled and adding one (1) vote. Each delegate shall have one vote on each ballot for each office or position to be filled.

When more than two persons are nominated for a single office, or when two or more persons are to be elected on the same ballot and there are more nominees than twice the number of offices or positions to be filled, and if upon the first ballot there is no majority of the votes cast for one or more of the offices to be filled, a second ballot shall be cast. The nominees on such ballot shall be the candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast on the preceding ballot, not to exceed twice the number of the offices remaining to be filled; except in the case of a tie vote in the last place, in which event the candidates receiving the tie vote shall also be candidates on the next succeeding ballot. Similarly, ballots shall be cast until all offices shall be filled.

When elections are for different terms of office, the nominee first elected shall be the one elected for the longest term; or if two or more are elected on the same ballot, the candidate or candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be the one or ones elected for the longest term.

In all elections where officers or positions are designated to be filled by both Clergy and lay persons, separate ballots shall be taken for each order.

Section 3.7 Election of Deputies to General Convention and Alternates

There shall be four Clerical Deputies and four Lay Deputies elected to represent the Diocese at each General Convention. A minimum total of eight members of the Clergy and eight qualified laypersons shall be nominated to fill the positions. Each voting delegate, Lay and Clergy, shall initially have four votes for each order. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.6, the number of nominees for each order shall not be reduced until there shall have been elected at least one Deputy from such order, after which the number of nominees from such order shall be reduced from those receiving the highest number of votes to twice the number of offices of Deputies remaining to be filled from such order. After a reduction in such order, each voting delegate shall have as many votes as there are positions to be filled in such order. The four members of the Clergy and four qualified laypersons receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be elected as Deputies. Cumulative voting shall not be permitted in the election. Four alternates shall be selected from each order. The alternates shall be the eliminated nominees from each order receiving the four highest number of votes prior to elimination and shall be ranked in the order of votes received. If there is a tie vote for an alternate position, the precedence shall be chosen by lot.

Section 3.8 Trustees of the University of the South

There shall be elected by the Council of the Diocese, three Trustees for the University of the South, consisting of one Clerical and two Lay Trustees. The 118th Annual Council shall elect one Trustee for a one-year term, one Trustee for a two-year term, and one Trustee for three-year term. Thereafter each Annual Council shall elect one Trustee to serve for a term of three years.

Canon 4	Annual Budget and Assessments	(Former Canon 13)
Canon 5	Amendments of the Constitution and Canons	(Former Canon 48)

TITLE II DIOCESAN OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Canon 1	Duties of the Officers of the Diocese	(Former Canon 4)
Canon 2	The Executive Board of the Diocese	(Former Canon 5 becomes new Title II,

EXISTING:

Canon 5

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE DIOCESE

Section 5.1 *Administrative Duties*

The Executive Board of the Diocese, as hereinafter constituted, shall administer and carry on the Mission, Formation, and Outreach ministries of the Church of this Diocese, of which work the Bishop shall be the executive head.

Section 5.2 *Powers – Authority*

The Executive Board shall exercise all powers of the Diocesan Council, between meetings thereof, in connection with the unification, long range planning, development, and prosecution of the work of Missions, Church Growth, Christian Formation, the Church and the Community, Communication, and the Church Pension Fund; and in supervision and direction of the acts of the Trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Church Council in the Diocese of Texas, the Trustees of the Episcopal Foundation of Texas, the Trustees of The Bishop Quin Foundation, the Directors of the Episcopal Health Foundation, and the Directors of the Great Commission Foundation for the performance of such work as may be committed to such diocesan institutions by the Council; and in the initiation and development of such new work between said meetings as the Executive Board may deem necessary; subject, however, to the provisions of the Constitution and Canons, and other directions of the Council.

Section 5.3 *Membership – Elections – Vacancies*

(a) *The Executive Board shall be comprised of the following persons:*

(1) *The Bishop of the Diocese, who shall be the Chair.*

(2) *The following persons will serve, ex-officio:*

(a) *The Coadjutor Bishop, if there be one.*

(b) *The Suffragan Bishops, if there be any.*

(c) *The Assistant Bishop, if there be one.*

(d) *The President of the Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas.*

(e) *The Treasurer of the Diocese.*

(f) *The President of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas, with voice but without vote unless an elected member of the Executive Board as defined in Section 5.3(a)(3).*

(3) *Fifteen elected members, of whom six shall be members of the Clergy and nine shall be laypersons who are at least 18 years of age and are confirmed communicants in good standing of the Church in this Diocese. At each Annual Council there shall be elected five members, who shall serve for a term of three years thereafter. Two of the members so elected shall be members of the Clergy and the remaining three shall be laypersons; no retiring members elected by Council or by the*

Executive Board, either for a full term or to fill an unexpired term, shall be eligible for re-election until a period of one year shall have elapsed.

- (4) *The Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Board with voice, but without vote if either be elected from outside the elected membership of the Board, as hereinafter provided in Section 5.3(a)(3).*
- (b) *In addition to the members, the following persons shall attend the meetings of the Executive Board from time to time, as the Board shall require and for such purpose as the Board shall specify: the Convocational Deans, the Committee Chairs, the Chancellor, the President of the Episcopal Foundation of Texas, the President of The Bishop Quin Foundation, the Executive Chair of the Episcopal Health Foundation, the President of the Great Commission Foundation, and the Canon to the Ordinary. In addition, the Bishop may invite other persons to attend Executive Board meetings as the Bishop deems appropriate.*
- (c) *The members of the Board shall remain in office until their successors are duly elected. Provided, however, that should a member of the Board fail to attend one-half of the meetings of the Board in a calendar year, a vacancy shall be declared to exist and the vacancy shall be filled by the Board. The Board shall have the power to fill such other vacancy in its membership that may occur through death, resignation, or removal of any member elected by the Council.*

Section 5.4 Officers of the Board

The officers of the Board shall be the Bishop of the Diocese, who shall be ex-officio Chair of the Board and President, or the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, and if the Bishop Coadjutor be thereto assigned by the Bishop; a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected at a meeting of the Board immediately succeeding the annual Diocesan Council.

Section 5.5 Duties of Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive, safely keep and disburse, as the Treasurer may be directed by the Executive Board, all funds under the purview of the Executive Board, and all other moneys contributed or accruing from whatever source for Diocesan Mission, Formation, or Outreach. The Treasurer shall be required to furnish a bond satisfactory to the Executive Board, the expense of the same to be borne by the Diocese; and the Treasurer shall conduct all the duties of the office as directed by the Board.

Section 5.6 Administrative Committees

- (a) *The Executive Board may organize its membership, staff and/or persons appointed by the Bishop into one or more committees and shall determine the scope of work for each committee.*
- (b) *The Bishop or the Bishop's designee shall be the Chair of each Committee. Any Committee Chair need not be an elected member of the Board. Such Chair, if not an elected member of the Board, shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Board and shall be entitled to a voice but no vote. Such Chair shall be allowed to serve as Chair as long as the Bishop desires. Each Committee shall have the power to appoint, subject to confirmation by the Bishop, additional members, who shall have seats and votes in the Committee but without seats and votes on the Board.*
- (c) *The Board also may enact all necessary bylaws for its governance, and for the governance of each Committee, subject to the provisions of this Canon, and not inconsistent with the Canons of the Diocese.*

- (d) *Each Committee shall make to the Bishop, annually, and at such other times and in such form as the Bishop shall require, a report of the work done under its direction.*
- (e) *The Finance Committee of the Executive Board may request Committees to report, annually, and request such funds as the Committee thinks necessary for carrying out its work.*

Section 5.7 Reports

- (a) *The Executive Board shall submit to each annual meeting of the Diocesan Council a report of the work done under its supervision for the preceding year, which report shall include the annual report of the Treasurer of the Board.*
- (b) *At each annual meeting of the Diocesan Council, the Board shall also submit for approval and adoption by the Council, a Diocesan Budget for support of the Bishop's office and ministry as specified in Article 7 of the Constitution for all the work for the Church in the Diocese, and such other work as the Board may propose to undertake for the ensuing year. Such budget and estimate shall be considered by the Council and appropriate action taken.*
- (c) *The Board shall have power to expend all sums of money provided in said budget as adopted by the Diocesan Council. It also shall have power to expend any money received in any year over and above the amount required for the budget of that year for the work under its administration, and shall have the right for good cause, to transfer amounts from one budget item to another within the framework of the budget but not to transfer amounts from one budget to another.*

Section 5.8 Meetings with Bishop

The Executive Board shall meet with the Bishop or the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, and if the Bishop Coadjutor be assigned thereto by the Bishop, at such stated times as the Board, in conference with the Bishop, shall appoint; at least twice a year, and at such other times as the Bishop shall convene it. Six members of the Board, with the Bishop, or with the Vice President, shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5.9 Fixing Salaries

All salaries, other than those fixed by the Diocesan Council, shall be fixed by the Executive Board upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee of the Executive Board.

Section 5.10 (Removed by vote at Council 2015)

EXISTING:

Canon 39

GENERAL FUNDS APPEALS

Section 39.1 Definition

- (a) *For the purpose of this Canon the term "General Funds Appeal" shall mean any solicitation of funds made by or for the Diocese or any institution thereof among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese for any Diocesan purpose which requires the action and support of the Vestry or Bishop's Committee of the Parish or Mission in which the appeal is made.*

- (b) *The term “General Funds Appeal” shall not mean any solicitation of funds by any Parish or Mission of its own volition among its own members for any purpose.*
- (c) *The term “General Funds Appeal” shall not mean any solicitation of funds made among all the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese in support of any program of the National Church.*

Section 39.2 (Removed by vote at Council 2015)

Section 39.3 *Requirements*

- (a) *No General Funds Appeal shall be made among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese until the proposal therefor has been presented at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the annual council to the Bishop and the Executive Board for their consideration and recommendation*
- (b) *It shall be the duty of the Bishop and the Executive Board to report to the next meeting of the Council following the submission to it of any proposed General Funds Appeal.*
- (c) *No General Funds Appeal shall be made among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese unless authorized by the Council after hearing the reports of the Bishop and the Executive Board.*

PROPOSED:

Title II

Canon 25

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE DIOCESE

Section 52.1 *Administrative Duties*

The Executive Board of the Diocese, as hereinafter constituted, shall administer and carry on the Mission, Formation, and Outreach ministries of the Church of this Diocese, of which work the Bishop shall be the executive head.

Section 52.2 *Powers – Authority*

The Executive Board shall exercise all powers of the Diocesan Council, between meetings thereof, in connection with the unification, long range planning, development, and prosecution of the work of Missions, Church Growth, Christian Formation, the Church and the Community, Communication, and the Church Pension Fund; and in supervision and direction of the acts of the Trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Church Council in the Diocese of Texas, the Trustees of the Episcopal Foundation of Texas, the Trustees of The Bishop Quin Foundation, the Directors of the Episcopal Health Foundation, and the Directors of the Great Commission Foundation for the performance of such work as may be committed to such diocesan institutions by the Council; and in the initiation and development of such new work between said meetings as the Executive Board may deem necessary; subject, however, to the provisions of the Constitution and Canons, and other directions of the Council.

Section 52.3 *Membership – Elections – Vacancies*

- (a) *The Executive Board shall be comprised of the following persons:*

- (1) The Bishop of the Diocese, who shall be the Chair.
- (2) The following persons will serve, ex-officio:
 - (a) The Coadjutor Bishop, if there be one.
 - (b) The Suffragan Bishops, if there be any.
 - (c) The Assistant Bishop, if there be one.
 - (d) The President of the Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas.
 - (e) The Treasurer of the Diocese.
 - (f) The President of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas, with voice but without vote unless an elected member of the Executive Board as defined in Section 5.3(a)(3).
- (3) Fifteen elected members, of whom six shall be members of the Clergy and nine shall be laypersons who are at least 18 years of age and are confirmed communicants in good standing of the Church in this Diocese. At each Annual Council there shall be elected five members, who shall serve for a term of three years thereafter. Two of the members so elected shall be members of the Clergy and the remaining three shall be laypersons; no retiring members elected by Council or by the Executive Board, either for a full term or to fill an unexpired term, shall be eligible for re-election until a period of one year shall have elapsed.
- (4) The Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Board with voice, but without vote if either be elected from outside the elected membership of the Board, as hereinafter provided in Section 5.3(a)(3).
- (b) In addition to the members, the following persons shall attend the meetings of the Executive Board from time to time, as the Board shall require and for such purpose as the Board shall specify: the Convocational Deans, the Committee Chairs, the Chancellor, the President of the Episcopal Foundation of Texas, the President of The Bishop Quin Foundation, the Executive Chair of the Episcopal Health Foundation, the President of the Great Commission Foundation, and the Canon to the Ordinary. In addition, the Bishop may invite other persons to attend Executive Board meetings as the Bishop deems appropriate.
- (c) The members of the Board shall remain in office until their successors are duly elected. Provided, however, that should a member of the Board fail to attend one-half of the meetings of the Board in a calendar year, a vacancy shall be declared to exist and the vacancy shall be filled by the Board. The Board shall have the power to fill such other vacancy in its membership that may occur through death, resignation, or removal of any member elected by the Council.

Section 52.4 Officers of the Board

The officers of the Board shall be the Bishop of the Diocese, who shall be ex-officio Chair of the Board and President, or the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, and if the Bishop Coadjutor be thereto assigned by the Bishop; a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected at a meeting of the Board immediately succeeding the annual Diocesan Council.

Section 52.5 Duties of Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive, safely keep and disburse, as the Treasurer may be directed

by the Executive Board, all funds under the purview of the Executive Board, and all other moneys contributed or accruing from whatever source for Diocesan Mission, Formation, or Outreach. The Treasurer shall be required to furnish a bond satisfactory to the Executive Board, the expense of the same to be borne by the Diocese; and the Treasurer shall conduct all the duties of the office as directed by the Board.

Section 52.6 Administrative Committees

- (a) The Executive Board may organize its membership, staff and/or persons appointed by the Bishop into one or more committees and shall determine the scope of work for each committee.
- (b) The Bishop or the Bishop's designee shall be the Chair of each Committee. Any Committee Chair need not be an elected member of the Board. Such Chair, if not an elected member of the Board, shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Board and shall be entitled to a voice but no vote. Such Chair shall be allowed to serve as Chair as long as the Bishop desires. Each Committee shall have the power to appoint, subject to confirmation by the Bishop, additional members, who shall have seats and votes in the Committee but without seats and votes on the Board.
- (c) The Board also may enact all necessary bylaws for its governance, and for the governance of each Committee, subject to the provisions of this Canon, and not inconsistent with the Canons of the Diocese.
- (d) Each Committee shall make to the Bishop, annually, and at such other times and in such form as the Bishop shall require, a report of the work done under its direction.
- (e) The Finance Committee of the Executive Board may request Committees to report, annually, and request such funds as the Committee thinks necessary for carrying out its work.

Section 52.7 Reports

- (a) The Executive Board shall submit to each annual meeting of the Diocesan Council a report of the work done under its supervision for the preceding year, which report shall include the annual report of the Treasurer of the Board.
- (b) At each annual meeting of the Diocesan Council, the Board shall also submit for approval and adoption by the Council, a Diocesan Budget for support of the Bishop's office and ministry as specified in Article 7 of the Constitution for all the work for the Church in the Diocese, and such other work as the Board may propose to undertake for the ensuing year. Such budget and estimate shall be considered by the Council and appropriate action taken.
- (c) The Board shall have power to expend all sums of money provided in said budget as adopted by the Diocesan Council. It also shall have power to expend any money received in any year over and above the amount required for the budget of that year for the work under its administration, and shall have the right for good cause, to transfer amounts from one budget item to another within the framework of the budget but not to transfer amounts from one budget to another.

Section 52.8 Meetings with Bishop

The Executive Board shall meet with the Bishop or the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, and if the Bishop Coadjutor be assigned thereto by the Bishop, at such stated times as the Board, in conference with the Bishop, shall appoint; at least twice a year, and at such other times as the Bishop shall convene it. Six

members of the Board, with the Bishop, or with the Vice President, shall constitute a quorum.

Section 52.9 Fixing Salaries

All salaries, other than those fixed by the Diocesan Council, shall be fixed by the Executive Board upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee of the Executive Board.

~~Section 5.10~~ (Removed by vote at Council 2015)

Canon 39 **GENERAL FUNDS APPEALS**

Section 39.1 2.10 Defenition General Funds Appeal

- (a) For the purpose of this Canon the term “General Funds Appeal” shall mean any solicitation of funds made by or for the Diocese or any institution thereof among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese for any Diocesan purpose which requires the action and support of the Vestry or Bishop’s Committee of the Parish or Mission in which the appeal is made.
- (b) The term “General Funds Appeal” shall not mean any solicitation of funds by any Parish or Mission of its own volition among its own members for any purpose.
- (c) The term “General Funds Appeal” shall not mean any solicitation of funds made among all the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese in support of any program of the National Church.

~~Section 39.22~~ (Removed by vote at Council 2015)

~~Section 39.3~~ Requirements

- (d) No General Funds Appeal shall be made among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese until the proposal therefor has been presented at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the annual council to the Bishop and the Executive Board for their consideration and recommendation
- (e) It shall be the duty of the Bishop and the Executive Board to report to the next meeting of the Council following the submission to it of any proposed General Funds Appeal.
- (f) No General Funds Appeal shall be made among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese unless authorized by the Council after hearing the reports of the Bishop and the Executive Board.

IF AMENDED:

Title II

Canon 2

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE DIOCESE

Section 2.1 Administrative Duties

The Executive Board of the Diocese, as hereinafter constituted, shall administer and carry on the Mission, Formation, and Outreach ministries of the Church of this Diocese, of which work the Bishop shall be the executive head.

Section 2.2 Powers – Authority

The Executive Board shall exercise all powers of the Diocesan Council, between meetings thereof, in connection with the unification, long range planning, development, and prosecution of the work of Missions, Church Growth, Christian Formation, the Church and the Community, Communication, and the Church Pension Fund; and in supervision and direction of the acts of the Trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Church Council in the Diocese of Texas, the Trustees of the Episcopal Foundation of Texas, the Trustees of The Bishop Quin Foundation, the Directors of the Episcopal Health Foundation, and the Directors of the Great Commission Foundation for the performance of such work as may be committed to such diocesan institutions by the Council; and in the initiation and development of such new work between said meetings as the Executive Board may deem necessary; subject, however, to the provisions of the Constitution and Canons, and other directions of the Council.

Section 2.3 Membership – Elections – Vacancies

(a) The Executive Board shall be comprised of the following persons:

(1) The Bishop of the Diocese, who shall be the Chair.

(2) The following persons will serve, ex-officio:

(a) The Coadjutor Bishop, if there be one.

(b) The Suffragan Bishops, if there be any.

(c) The Assistant Bishop, if there be one.

(d) The President of the Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas.

(e) The Treasurer of the Diocese.

(f) The President of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas, with voice but without vote unless an elected member of the Executive Board as defined in Section 5.3(a)(3).

(3) Fifteen elected members, of whom six shall be members of the Clergy and nine shall be laypersons who are at least 18 years of age and are confirmed communicants in good standing of the Church in this Diocese. At each Annual Council there shall be elected five members, who shall serve for a term of three years thereafter. Two of the members so elected shall be members of the Clergy and the remaining three shall be laypersons; no retiring members elected by Council or by the Executive Board, either for a full term or to fill an unexpired term, shall be eligible for re-election until a period of one year shall have elapsed.

(4) The Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Board with voice, but without vote if either be elected from outside the elected membership of the Board, as hereinafter provided in Section 5.3(a)(3).

(b) In addition to the members, the following persons shall attend the meetings of the Executive Board from time to time, as the Board shall require and for such purpose as the Board shall specify: the Convocational Deans, the Committee Chairs, the Chancellor, the President of the Episcopal Foundation

of Texas, the President of The Bishop Quin Foundation, the Executive Chair of the Episcopal Health Foundation, the President of the Great Commission Foundation, and the Canon to the Ordinary. In addition, the Bishop may invite other persons to attend Executive Board meetings as the Bishop deems appropriate.

- (c) *The members of the Board shall remain in office until their successors are duly elected. Provided, however, that should a member of the Board fail to attend one-half of the meetings of the Board in a calendar year, a vacancy shall be declared to exist and the vacancy shall be filled by the Board. The Board shall have the power to fill such other vacancy in its membership that may occur through death, resignation, or removal of any member elected by the Council.*

Section 2.4 Officers of the Board

The officers of the Board shall be the Bishop of the Diocese, who shall be ex-officio Chair of the Board and President, or the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, and if the Bishop Coadjutor be thereto assigned by the Bishop; a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected at a meeting of the Board immediately succeeding the annual Diocesan Council.

Section 2.5 Duties of Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive, safely keep and disburse, as the Treasurer may be directed by the Executive Board, all funds under the purview of the Executive Board, and all other moneys contributed or accruing from whatever source for Diocesan Mission, Formation, or Outreach. The Treasurer shall be required to furnish a bond satisfactory to the Executive Board, the expense of the same to be borne by the Diocese; and the Treasurer shall conduct all the duties of the office as directed by the Board.

Section 2.6 Administrative Committees

- (a) *The Executive Board may organize its membership, staff and/or persons appointed by the Bishop into one or more committees and shall determine the scope of work for each committee.*
- (b) *The Bishop or the Bishop's designee shall be the Chair of each Committee. Any Committee Chair need not be an elected member of the Board. Such Chair, if not an elected member of the Board, shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Board and shall be entitled to a voice but no vote. Such Chair shall be allowed to serve as Chair as long as the Bishop desires. Each Committee shall have the power to appoint, subject to confirmation by the Bishop, additional members, who shall have seats and votes in the Committee but without seats and votes on the Board.*
- (c) *The Board also may enact all necessary bylaws for its governance, and for the governance of each Committee, subject to the provisions of this Canon, and not inconsistent with the Canons of the Diocese.*
- (d) *Each Committee shall make to the Bishop, annually, and at such other times and in such form as the Bishop shall require, a report of the work done under its direction.*
- (e) *The Finance Committee of the Executive Board may request Committees to report, annually, and request such funds as the Committee thinks necessary for carrying out its work.*

Section 2.7 Reports

- (a) *The Executive Board shall submit to each annual meeting of the Diocesan Council a report of the work done under its supervision for the preceding year, which report shall include the annual report of the Treasurer of the Board.*
- (b) *At each annual meeting of the Diocesan Council, the Board shall also submit for approval and adoption by the Council, a Diocesan Budget for support of the Bishop's office and ministry as specified in Article 7 of the Constitution for all the work for the Church in the Diocese, and such other work as the Board may propose to undertake for the ensuing year. Such budget and estimate shall be considered by the Council and appropriate action taken.*
- (c) *The Board shall have power to expend all sums of money provided in said budget as adopted by the Diocesan Council. It also shall have power to expend any money received in any year over and above the amount required for the budget of that year for the work under its administration, and shall have the right for good cause, to transfer amounts from one budget item to another within the framework of the budget but not to transfer amounts from one budget to another.*

Section 2.8 Meetings with Bishop

The Executive Board shall meet with the Bishop or the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, and if the Bishop Coadjutor be assigned thereto by the Bishop, at such stated times as the Board, in conference with the Bishop, shall appoint; at least twice a year, and at such other times as the Bishop shall convene it. Six members of the Board, with the Bishop, or with the Vice President, shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2.9 Fixing Salaries

All salaries, other than those fixed by the Diocesan Council, shall be fixed by the Executive Board upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee of the Executive Board.

Section 2.10 General Funds Appeal

- (a) *For the purpose of this Canon the term "General Funds Appeal" shall mean any solicitation of funds made by or for the Diocese or any institution thereof among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese for any Diocesan purpose which requires the action and support of the Vestry or Bishop's Committee of the Parish or Mission in which the appeal is made.*
- (b) *The term "General Funds Appeal" shall not mean any solicitation of funds by any Parish or Mission of its own volition among its own members for any purpose.*
- (c) *The term "General Funds Appeal" shall not mean any solicitation of funds made among all the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese in support of any program of the National Church.*
- (d) *No General Funds Appeal shall be made among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese until the proposal therefor has been presented at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the annual council to the Bishop and the Executive Board for their consideration and recommendation*
- (e) *It shall be the duty of the Bishop and the Executive Board to report to the next meeting of the Council following the submission to it of any proposed General Funds Appeal.*

(f) *No General Funds Appeal shall be made among the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese unless authorized by the Council after hearing the reports of the Bishop and the Executive Board.*

Canon 3	Convocations	(Former Canon 7)
Canon 4	The Church Pension Fund	(Former Canon 18)
Canon 5	Property and Liability Insurance	(Former Canon 20)
Canon 6	Diocesan Commission on Ministry	(Former Canon 42)
Canon 7	Diocesan Action on Matters of Public Policy Touching Issues of Liberty, Justice and Peace	
Canon 8	Cathedral	(Former Canon 46)
Canon 9	Seal	(Former Canon 47)

**TITLE III
PARISHES, MISSIONS AND SCHOOLS**

Canon 1	Parishes and Missions	(Former Canon 8 becomes new Title III, Canon I and former Canon 22 becomes new Title III, Canon 1, Sections 1.6-1.8)
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EXISTING:

**Canon 8
PARISHES AND MISSIONS**

Section 8.1 *Organization – Name*

A Parish, which has not been previously organized as a Mission, may be organized under any appropriate name by the adoption of Articles of Association and by duly choosing a Vestry and Wardens, at such time as it is capable of meeting all the financial obligations of a Parish, as well as its Quota and Assessment.

- (a) *By not less than twenty-five confirmed communicants residing in any place in the Diocese, where there is not an organized Parish, and not less than ten of whom shall be at least 18 years of age.*
- (b) *Notice shall be given to the Bishop, but if there be no Bishop, then to the President of the Standing Committee, of the intention thus to associate and organize. Said notice shall be in writing and shall contain such information as will enable the Bishop to pass upon the propriety of the act, and such notice shall be signed by the persons proposing to organize a Parish.*
- (c) *The notice shall be substantially as follows:*

“We, whose names are hereunto affixed, earnestly desiring to promote the holy influence of the Christian religion in our hearts, and those of our families and neighbors, do hereby associate ourselves under the name of _____ in communion with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America and the Diocese of Texas, the authority of whose Constitution and Canons we do hereby recognize and to whose Liturgy and mode of worship and discipline we promise conformity.

We further certify our ability to maintain the regular services of a Minister without assistance from the Diocese, or from any other Parish, and to this end we pledge ourselves to raise annually not less than the sum of _____ dollars for the salary of the Rector.”

- (d) *The Bishop, if the Bishop shall approve the notice, or in the Bishop’s absence, the Standing Committee if they approve, shall give a certificate to that effect, which approval shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Diocese with the papers upon which the certificate of approval was granted. Such approval shall be a condition precedent to the admission of the Parish into union with the Council of the Diocese.*
- (e) *As soon as the Bishop or Standing Committee, if there be a vacancy in the Episcopate, gives approval, the parties signing the notice of intention to organize shall meet and enter into Articles of Association as follows:*

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

“We whose names are hereunto subscribed, desiring to enjoy the privileges of religious worship and instruction according to the forms and doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, have this _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, at _____, in the State of Texas, formed ourselves into a congregation and adopted the following Articles of Association:

Article 1. This congregation shall be known by the name of Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of _____ Church.

Article 2. This congregation acknowledges, accedes to and adopts the Doctrines, Discipline, and Worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas.

Article 3. When any person uniting with this congregation shall disclaim or refuse conformity to the authorities mentioned in the preceding article, that person shall cease to be a member of this congregation.

Article 4. In the election of a Rector of _____ Church, the Vestry shall have due regard for the wishes of the Communicants of the Church, but no election is to be had until the name of the person selected or desired has been made known to the Bishop by the Wardens of the Church, and sufficient time been given the Bishop to communicate with the Wardens and Vestry.

Article 5. The annual rents, contributions, and other revenues raised by this congregation from time to time shall be applied by the Wardens and Vestry to the maintenance and support of the Rector or Minister and to such other objects as are connected with the well-being of the Church and to no other purposes whatever.

Article 6. In the case of the dissolution of this congregation for any cause whatever, the lands, tenements, and other estates, real or personal, if such there be, shall vest in the Corporation known in law as the ‘Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas,’ to be held in trust by said corporation for the benefit of any future congregation of the Protestant Episcopal Church which may be formed in this place or its vicinity, upon

the same principles as the present congregation.”

- (f) *A certified copy of the Articles of Association shall be presented at the Annual Council next after said organization upon which the Council may act, giving or withholding its consent to the union of the said Parish with the Council as may seem best for the interests of the Church; and the Council may, if it be deemed expedient, define the boundaries of the Parish.*

Section 8.2 Parochial Missions

Missions may be organized by any Parish, with the consent of the Bishop, by the Rector of the Parish or under the Rector's supervision, and such Mission shall be governed by such officers, and under such rules and regulations as may be satisfactory to the Rector of the Parish; but no such Mission shall be admitted into union with the Council, or be entitled to any allowance from the Executive Board of the Diocese without the consent of the Rector of the Parish and its Vestry.

Section 8.3 (Removed by vote at Council 2015)

Section 8.4 Missions Petitioning to Become Parishes

Any Mission organized under the provisions of Canon 12 may petition the Council to be admitted as a Parish, at such time as it is capable of meeting all the financial obligations of a Parish, as well as its Assessments.

Section 8.5 Remitting Parishes to Missions

- (a) *Whenever the Rector, Wardens, and Vestry, or if there be no Rector, the Wardens and Vestry of an existing Parish, shall unite in a petition to the Bishop, asking that such Parish shall be remitted to the position of an organized Mission, stating fully the grounds for such petition, the Bishop may, in the Bishop's discretion, grant or refuse said petition and the Bishop's action thereon shall be recorded with said petition in the minutes of the said Parish, and by the Bishop reported at the next Annual Council.*
- (b) *If the Wardens and Vestry of any Parish shall fail for a period of six months without just cause to elect a Rector, such Parish shall be considered dormant, and the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, may remit such Parish to the position of an Organized Mission, and such action shall be reported by the Bishop to the next Annual Council.*

Section 8.6 Suspending Parishes or Missions

- (a) *Suspending Parishes or Missions from the right of representation in the Council of the Diocese shall be effected according to Article 6 of the Constitution. The suspension or dissolution of a Parish or Organized Mission must be in accordance with Article 6 of the Constitution.*
- (b) *Any Parish failing in three years out of the five years next preceding any Annual Council to elect a Vestry, to pay its assessments as assessed by the Council, to make the reports required by Canons, or to provide for the services of a Minister at least quarterly, shall lose voice and vote in the Council until the Council, by a two-thirds vote, after hearing the recommendation of the Executive Board, shall otherwise determine; and upon a like failure for five consecutive years, shall be dropped from the roll of Parishes and remitted to the missionary field, unless the Council by a two-thirds vote, after hearing the recommendation of the Executive Board, shall otherwise determine. Any Parish failing for*

one year to comply with the terms of its organization may, at the discretion of the Bishop, be declared by the Bishop to cease to exist as a Parish and to thereby become a Mission of the Diocese, and such action by the Bishop shall be reported by the Bishop to the next Annual Council for record.

(c) Any Mission failing for two years to comply with the terms of its organization shall be suspended from union with the Council, subject to restoration by a two-thirds vote of the Council, and upon a like failure for three years it forfeits its organization.

EXISTING:

Canon 22

INCORPORATION AND MINISTRY EMPLOYEES OF A DIOCESAN ENTITY

Section 22.1 Incorporation of a Diocesan Entity

Any Diocesan entity, as defined herein, may incorporate or exist in any corporate form upon and subject to the terms and conditions of the Constitution and Canons.

For the purpose of this Canon, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below. The term “Diocesan entity” shall mean the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas (the “Diocese”), any Parish or Mission of the Diocese, any Episcopal school of the Diocese, as defined in the Canons, and any other entity expressly identified, singularly or by category, in the Constitution and Canons as an instrumentality or entity of the Diocese. The terms “Constitution” or “Canons” shall mean the existing Constitution or Canons, respectively, of the Diocese, and any amendment thereof. The term “Act” shall mean the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act and any amendment thereof.

Section 22.2 Consent of the Bishop

The Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of each incorporated Diocesan entity, and any amendment, modification, or restatement thereof, shall at all times require the prior written consent of the Bishop. The Bishop shall have the right to require the amendment, modification, or restatement of the Articles of Incorporation, or By-Laws, or both, of each incorporated Diocesan entity at any time and from time to time as a condition to the Bishop’s consent, or the continuation of such consent. If the office of Bishop is vacant, the rights and duties of the Bishop, as set forth in this Canon, shall be those of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

Section 22.3 Ministry Employees

All Youth Ministers, Directors of Christian Education, Directors of Lay Ministry, and Directors of any other ministry, whether compensated or otherwise, serving in any Diocesan Entity shall be adult confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Mission of the Diocese. The Bishop may make exception of the requirement set forth in the preceding sentence, within such limitations and conditions as the Bishop may prescribe. Every Diocesan Entity shall report annually with respect to all Lay Ministry Directors: (1) the names, offices, and addresses of each Lay Ministry Director; (2) the Parish or Mission of which each Lay Ministry Director is an adult confirmed communicant in good standing; and (3) such other information as the Bishop may require.

PROPOSED:

TITLE III

Canon 81

PARISHES AND MISSIONS

Section 81.1 Organization – Name

A Parish, which has not been previously organized as a Mission, may be organized under any appropriate name by the adoption of Articles of Association and by duly choosing a Vestry and Wardens, at such time as it is capable of meeting all the financial obligations of a Parish, as well as its Quota and Assessment.

- (a) By not less than twenty-five confirmed communicants residing in any place in the Diocese, where there is not an organized Parish, and not less than ten of whom shall be at least 18 years of age.
- (b) Notice shall be given to the Bishop, but if there be no Bishop, then to the President of the Standing Committee, of the intention thus to associate and organize. Said notice shall be in writing and shall contain such information as will enable the Bishop to pass upon the propriety of the act, and such notice shall be signed by the persons proposing to organize a Parish.
- (c) The notice shall be substantially as follows:

“We, whose names are hereunto affixed, earnestly desiring to promote the holy influence of the Christian religion in our hearts, and those of our families and neighbors, do hereby associate ourselves under the name of _____ in communion with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America and the Diocese of Texas, the authority of whose Constitution and Canons we do hereby recognize and to whose Liturgy and mode of worship and discipline we promise conformity.

We further certify our ability to maintain the regular services of a Minister without assistance from the Diocese, or from any other Parish, and to this end we pledge ourselves to raise annually not less than the sum of _____ dollars for the salary of the Rector.”

- (d) The Bishop, if the Bishop shall approve the notice, or in the Bishop’s absence, the Standing Committee if they approve, shall give a certificate to that effect, which approval shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Diocese with the papers upon which the certificate of approval was granted. Such approval shall be a condition precedent to the admission of the Parish into union with the Council of the Diocese.
- (e) As soon as the Bishop or Standing Committee, if there be a vacancy in the Episcopate, gives approval, the parties signing the notice of intention to organize shall meet and enter into Articles of Association as follows:

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

“We whose names are hereunto subscribed, desiring to enjoy the privileges of religious worship and instruction according to the forms and doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, have this _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, at _____, in the State of Texas, formed ourselves into a congregation and adopted the following Articles of Association:

Article 1. This congregation shall be known by the name of Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of _____ Church.

Article 2. This congregation acknowledges, accedes to and adopts the Doctrines, Discipline, and Worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas.

Article 3. When any person uniting with this congregation shall disclaim or refuse conformity to the authorities mentioned in the preceding article, that person shall cease to be a member of this congregation.

Article 4. In the election of a Rector of _____ Church, the Vestry shall have due regard for the wishes of the Communicants of the Church, but no election is to be had until the name of the person selected or desired has been made known to the Bishop by the Wardens of the Church, and sufficient time been given the Bishop to communicate with the Wardens and Vestry.

Article 5. The annual rents, contributions, and other revenues raised by this congregation from time to time shall be applied by the Wardens and Vestry to the maintenance and support of the Rector or Minister and to such other objects as are connected with the well-being of the Church and to no other purposes whatever.

Article 6. In the case of the dissolution of this congregation for any cause whatever, the lands, tenements, and other estates, real or personal, if such there be, shall vest in the Corporation known in law as the 'Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas,' to be held in trust by said corporation for the benefit of any future congregation of the Protestant Episcopal Church which may be formed in this place or its vicinity, upon the same principles as the present congregation."

- (f) A certified copy of the Articles of Association shall be presented at the Annual Council next after said organization upon which the Council may act, giving or withholding its consent to the union of the said Parish with the Council as may seem best for the interests of the Church; and the Council may, if it be deemed expedient, define the boundaries of the Parish.

Section 81.2 Parochial Missions

Missions may be organized by any Parish, with the consent of the Bishop, by the Rector of the Parish or under the Rector's supervision, and such Mission shall be governed by such officers, and under such rules and regulations as may be satisfactory to the Rector of the Parish; but no such Mission shall be admitted into union with the Council, or be entitled to any allowance from the Executive Board of the Diocese without the consent of the Rector of the Parish and its Vestry.

Section 8.3 — (Removed by vote at Council 2015)

Section 81.3 Missions Petitioning to Become Parishes

Any Mission organized under the provisions of Canon 12 may petition the Council to be admitted as a Parish, at such time as it is capable of meeting all the financial obligations of a Parish, as well as its Assessments.

Section 81.4 Remitting Parishes to Missions

- (a) Whenever the Rector, Wardens, and Vestry, or if there be no Rector, the Wardens and Vestry of an existing Parish, shall unite in a petition to the Bishop, asking that such Parish shall be remitted to the position of an organized Mission, stating fully the grounds for such petition, the Bishop

may, in the Bishop's discretion, grant or refuse said petition and the Bishop's action thereon shall be recorded with said petition in the minutes of the said Parish, and by the Bishop reported at the next Annual Council.

- (b) If the Wardens and Vestry of any Parish shall fail for a period of six months without just cause to elect a Rector, such Parish shall be considered dormant, and the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, may remit such Parish to the position of an Organized Mission, and such action shall be reported by the Bishop to the next Annual Council.

Section 81.5 Suspending Parishes or Missions

- (a) Suspending Parishes or Missions from the right of representation in the Council of the Diocese shall be effected according to Article 6 of the Constitution. The suspension or dissolution of a Parish or Organized Mission must be in accordance with Article 6 of the Constitution.
- (b) Any Parish failing in three years out of the five years next preceding any Annual Council to elect a Vestry, to pay its assessments as assessed by the Council, to make the reports required by Canons, or to provide for the services of a Minister at least quarterly, shall lose voice and vote in the Council until the Council, by a two-thirds vote, after hearing the recommendation of the Executive Board, shall otherwise determine; and upon a like failure for five consecutive years, shall be dropped from the roll of Parishes and remitted to the missionary field, unless the Council by a two-thirds vote, after hearing the recommendation of the Executive Board, shall otherwise determine. Any Parish failing for one year to comply with the terms of its organization may, at the discretion of the Bishop, be declared by the Bishop to cease to exist as a Parish and to thereby become a Mission of the Diocese, and such action by the Bishop shall be reported by the Bishop to the next Annual Council for record.
- (c) Any Mission failing for two years to comply with the terms of its organization shall be suspended from union with the Council, subject to restoration by a two-thirds vote of the Council, and upon a like failure for three years it forfeits its organization.

Canon 22-

INCORPORATION AND MINISTRY EMPLOYEES OF A DIOCESAN ENTITY

Section 22-1-1.6 Incorporation and Ministry Employees of a Diocesan Entity

Any Diocesan entity, as defined herein, may incorporate or exist in any corporate form upon and subject to the terms and conditions of the Constitution and Canons.

For the purpose of this Canon, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below. The term "Diocesan entity" shall mean the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas (the "Diocese"), any Parish or Mission of the Diocese, any Episcopal school of the Diocese, as defined in the Canons, and any other entity expressly identified, singularly or by category, in the Constitution and Canons as an instrumentality or entity of the Diocese. The terms "Constitution" or "Canons" shall mean the existing Constitution or Canons, respectively, of the Diocese, and any amendment thereof. The term "Act" shall mean the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act and any amendment thereof.

Section 22-21.7 Consent of the Bishop

The Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of each incorporated Diocesan entity, and any amendment, modification, or restatement thereof, shall at all times require the prior written consent of the Bishop. The Bishop shall have the right to require the amendment, modification, or restatement of the Articles

of Incorporation, or By-Laws, or both, of each incorporated Diocesan entity at any time and from time to time as a condition to the Bishop's consent, or the continuation of such consent. If the office of Bishop is vacant, the rights and duties of the Bishop, as set forth in this Canon, shall be those of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

Section 22-31.8 Ministry Employees

All Youth Ministers, Directors of Christian Education, Directors of Lay Ministry, and Directors of any other ministry, whether compensated or otherwise, serving in any Diocesan Entity shall be adult confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Mission of the Diocese. The Bishop may make exception of the requirement set forth in the preceding sentence, within such limitations and conditions as the Bishop may prescribe. Every Diocesan Entity shall report annually with respect to all Lay Ministry Directors: (1) the names, offices, and addresses of each Lay Ministry Director; (2) the Parish or Mission of which each Lay Ministry Director is an adult confirmed communicant in good standing; and (3) such other information as the Bishop may require.

IF AMENDED:

TITLE III

Canon 1

PARISHES AND MISSIONS

Section 1.1 Organization – Name

A Parish, which has not been previously organized as a Mission, may be organized under any appropriate name by the adoption of Articles of Association and by duly choosing a Vestry and Wardens, at such time as it is capable of meeting all the financial obligations of a Parish, as well as its Quota and Assessment.

- (a) *By not less than twenty-five confirmed communicants residing in any place in the Diocese, where there is not an organized Parish, and not less than ten of whom shall be at least 18 years of age.*
- (b) *Notice shall be given to the Bishop, but if there be no Bishop, then to the President of the Standing Committee, of the intention thus to associate and organize. Said notice shall be in writing and shall contain such information as will enable the Bishop to pass upon the propriety of the act, and such notice shall be signed by the persons proposing to organize a Parish.*
- (c) *The notice shall be substantially as follows:*

“We, whose names are hereunto affixed, earnestly desiring to promote the holy influence of the Christian religion in our hearts, and those of our families and neighbors, do hereby associate ourselves under the name of _____ in communion with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America and the Diocese of Texas, the authority of whose Constitution and Canons we do hereby recognize and to whose Liturgy and mode of worship and discipline we promise conformity.

We further certify our ability to maintain the regular services of a Minister without assistance from the Diocese, or from any other Parish, and to this end we pledge ourselves to raise annually not less than the sum of _____ dollars for the salary of the Rector.”

- (d) *The Bishop, if the Bishop shall approve the notice, or in the Bishop's absence, the Standing Committee if they approve, shall give a certificate to that effect, which approval shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Diocese with the papers upon which the certificate of approval was granted. Such approval shall be a condition precedent to the admission of the Parish into union with the Council of the Diocese.*
- (e) *As soon as the Bishop or Standing Committee, if there be a vacancy in the Episcopate, gives approval, the parties signing the notice of intention to organize shall meet and enter into Articles of Association as follows:*

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

"We whose names are hereunto subscribed, desiring to enjoy the privileges of religious worship and instruction according to the forms and doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, have this _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, at _____, in the State of Texas, formed ourselves into a congregation and adopted the following Articles of Association:

Article 1. This congregation shall be known by the name of Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of _____ Church.

Article 2. This congregation acknowledges, accedes to and adopts the Doctrines, Discipline, and Worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas.

Article 3. When any person uniting with this congregation shall disclaim or refuse conformity to the authorities mentioned in the preceding article, that person shall cease to be a member of this congregation.

Article 4. In the election of a Rector of _____ Church, the Vestry shall have due regard for the wishes of the Communicants of the Church, but no election is to be had until the name of the person selected or desired has been made known to the Bishop by the Wardens of the Church, and sufficient time been given the Bishop to communicate with the Wardens and Vestry.

Article 5. The annual rents, contributions, and other revenues raised by this congregation from time to time shall be applied by the Wardens and Vestry to the maintenance and support of the Rector or Minister and to such other objects as are connected with the well-being of the Church and to no other purposes whatever.

Article 6. In the case of the dissolution of this congregation for any cause whatever, the lands, tenements, and other estates, real or personal, if such there be, shall vest in the Corporation known in law as the 'Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas,' to be held in trust by said corporation for the benefit of any future congregation of the Protestant Episcopal Church which may be formed in this place or its vicinity, upon the same principles as the present congregation."

- (f) *A certified copy of the Articles of Association shall be presented at the Annual Council next after said organization upon which the Council may act, giving or withholding its consent to the union of the said Parish with the Council as may seem best for the interests of the Church; and the*

Council may, if it be deemed expedient, define the boundaries of the Parish.

Section 1.2 Parochial Missions

Missions may be organized by any Parish, with the consent of the Bishop, by the Rector of the Parish or under the Rector's supervision, and such Mission shall be governed by such officers, and under such rules and regulations as may be satisfactory to the Rector of the Parish; but no such Mission shall be admitted into union with the Council, or be entitled to any allowance from the Executive Board of the Diocese without the consent of the Rector of the Parish and its Vestry.

Section 1.3 Missions Petitioning to Become Parishes

Any Mission organized under the provisions of Canon 12 may petition the Council to be admitted as a Parish, at such time as it is capable of meeting all the financial obligations of a Parish, as well as its Assessments.

Section 1.4 Remitting Parishes to Missions

- (a) Whenever the Rector, Wardens, and Vestry, or if there be no Rector, the Wardens and Vestry of an existing Parish, shall unite in a petition to the Bishop, asking that such Parish shall be remitted to the position of an organized Mission, stating fully the grounds for such petition, the Bishop may, in the Bishop's discretion, grant or refuse said petition and the Bishop's action thereon shall be recorded with said petition in the minutes of the said Parish, and by the Bishop reported at the next Annual Council.*
- (b) If the Wardens and Vestry of any Parish shall fail for a period of six months without just cause to elect a Rector, such Parish shall be considered dormant, and the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, may remit such Parish to the position of an Organized Mission, and such action shall be reported by the Bishop to the next Annual Council.*

Section 1.5 Suspending Parishes or Missions

- (a) Suspending Parishes or Missions from the right of representation in the Council of the Diocese shall be effected according to Article 6 of the Constitution. The suspension or dissolution of a Parish or Organized Mission must be in accordance with Article 6 of the Constitution.*
- (b) Any Parish failing in three years out of the five years next preceding any Annual Council to elect a Vestry, to pay its assessments as assessed by the Council, to make the reports required by Canons, or to provide for the services of a Minister at least quarterly, shall lose voice and vote in the Council until the Council, by a two-thirds vote, after hearing the recommendation of the Executive Board, shall otherwise determine; and upon a like failure for five consecutive years, shall be dropped from the roll of Parishes and remitted to the missionary field, unless the Council by a two-thirds vote, after hearing the recommendation of the Executive Board, shall otherwise determine. Any Parish failing for one year to comply with the terms of its organization may, at the discretion of the Bishop, be declared by the Bishop to cease to exist as a Parish and to thereby become a Mission of the Diocese, and such action by the Bishop shall be reported by the Bishop to the next Annual Council for record.*
- (c) Any Mission failing for two years to comply with the terms of its organization shall be suspended from union with the Council, subject to restoration by a two-thirds vote of the Council, and upon a like failure for three years it forfeits its organization.*

Section 1.6 Incorporation of a Diocesan Entity

Any Diocesan entity, as defined herein, may incorporate or exist in any corporate form upon and subject to the terms and conditions of the Constitution and Canons.

For the purpose of this Canon, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below. The term “Diocesan entity” shall mean the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Texas (the “Diocese”), any Parish or Mission of the Diocese, any Episcopal school of the Diocese, as defined in the Canons, and any other entity expressly identified, singularly or by category, in the Constitution and Canons as an instrumentality or entity of the Diocese. The terms “Constitution” or “Canons” shall mean the existing Constitution or Canons, respectively, of the Diocese, and any amendment thereof. The term “Act” shall mean the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act and any amendment thereof.

Section 1.7 Consent of the Bishop

The Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of each incorporated Diocesan entity, and any amendment, modification, or restatement thereof, shall at all times require the prior written consent of the Bishop. The Bishop shall have the right to require the amendment, modification, or restatement of the Articles of Incorporation, or By-Laws, or both, of each incorporated Diocesan entity at any time and from time to time as a condition to the Bishop’s consent, or the continuation of such consent. If the office of Bishop is vacant, the rights and duties of the Bishop, as set forth in this Canon, shall be those of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

Section 1.8 Ministry Employees

All Youth Ministers, Directors of Christian Education, Directors of Lay Ministry, and Directors of any other ministry, whether compensated or otherwise, serving in any Diocesan Entity shall be adult confirmed communicants in good standing of a Parish or Mission of the Diocese. The Bishop may make exception of the requirement set forth in the preceding sentence, within such limitations and conditions as the Bishop may prescribe. Every Diocesan Entity shall report annually with respect to all Lay Ministry Directors: (1) the names, offices, and addresses of each Lay Ministry Director; (2) the Parish or Mission of which each Lay Ministry Director is an adult confirmed communicant in good standing; and (3) such other information as the Bishop may require.

Canon 2	The Vestry	(Former Canon 9)
Canon 3	The Wardens	(Former Canon 10)
Canon 4	Parish Register and Parochial Reports	(Former Canon 11)
Canon 5	Diocesan Missions	(Former Canon 12)
Canon 6	Offerings	(Former Canon 14)
Canon 7	Pensions, Insurance and Other Benefits	(Former Canon 19)
Canon 8	Property	(Former Canon 21)
Canon 9	Incorporation of a Diocesan Entity	(Former Canon 22)
Canon 10	Unrelated Entities	(Former Canon 23)
Canon 11	Episcopal Schools	(Former Canon 38)

TITLE IV ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINE

Canon 1	Disciplinary Procedures	(Former Canon 44)
Canon 2	Renunciation of Ordained Ministry	(Former Canon 45)

EXISTING: **Canon 43**

MORAL DISCIPLINE

Section 43.1 *Obligation*

All members of the clergy, having subscribed to the Declaration required by Article VIII of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church, shall be under obligation to model in their own lives the received teaching of the Church that all of its members are to abstain from sexual relations outside Holy Matrimony.

Section 43.2 *Definitions*

As used in this Diocese, Holy Matrimony shall mean the physical and spiritual union of a man and a woman, entered into within the community of faith, by mutual consent of the heart, mind, and will, and with intent that it be lifelong; and the moral qualifications of a person, as that term is used in the Canons of the Episcopal Church, shall include conformity to the obligation set forth in Section 43.1 hereof.

PROPOSED:

~~Canon 43-~~

~~MORAL DISCIPLINE~~

~~Section 43.1—*Obligation*~~

~~*All members of the clergy, having subscribed to the Declaration required by Article VIII of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church, shall be under obligation to model in their own lives the received teaching of the Church that all of its members are to abstain from sexual relations outside Holy Matrimony.*~~

~~Section 43.2—*Definitions*~~

~~As used in this Diocese, Holy Matrimony shall mean the physical and spiritual union of a man and a woman, entered into within the community of faith, by mutual consent of the heart, mind, and will, and with intent that it be lifelong; and the moral qualifications of a person, as that term is used in the Canons of the Episcopal Church, shall include conformity to the obligation set forth in Section 43.1 hereof.~~

TITLE V

ENDOWMENTS, INSTITUTIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

Canon 1	The Episcopal Endowment Fund	(Former Canon 16)
Canon 2	The Bishop Quin Foundation	(Former Canon 17)
Canon 3	St. Stephen's School	(Former Canon 24)
Canon 4	The Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest	(Former Canon 25)
Canon 5	Episcopal Health Foundation	(Former Canon 27)
Canon 6	The Episcopal High School	(Former Canon 28)
Canon 7	Diocesan St. James Houses	(Former Canon 29)
Canon 8	Protestant Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Texas	(Former Canon 31)
Canon 9	Episcopal Foundation of Texas	(Former Canon 33)
Canon 10	Camp Allen	(Former Canon 34)
Canon 11	St. Vincent's House of Galveston	(Former Canon 35)
Canon 12	El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission	(Former Canon 36)
Canon 13	The Episcopal Housing Trust	(Former Canon 40)
Canon 14	The Clergy Housing Trust	(Former Canon 41)
Canon 15	The Great Commission Foundation	(Former Canon 49)
Canon 16	EDOT Financial Services Corporation	(Former Canon 50)

SUBMITTED BY: The Executive Board.

RATIONALE (by the Executive Board):

1. This organization adopts the style of The Episcopal Church Constitution and Canons. Therefore the various sections and subsections will be referred to by Title, Canon number, section and subsection. As an illustration, the duty of the Chancellor to advise the Bishop, et al., will be found in Title II.1.4(a).
2. This proposed restructuring and reordering is inclusive of all revisions and language approved by the Diocesan Council through 2015.
3. Canon 43 was removed from this proposed reordering of our Canons. The Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church govern the authority of the Bishop to determine the qualifications of the clergy who serve in the diocese. They also protect the right of a congregation working with the Bishop to choose their rector and clergy. Canon 43 infringes on this canonical authority of the Bishop and parishes. Furthermore, requirements for the conduct of clergy are set forth in the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church in the discipline canons and apply to all dioceses of the Church. The expectation that clergy who are married live lives of fidelity in marriage is clearly laid out in both The Episcopal Church canons and the policy of the Diocese.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS ADOPTION OF THIS PROPOSAL.

Notes

Notes
