

Journal of the 225th Annual Diocesan Convention

The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

“A Call to All”

Holy Cross Faith Memorial Church, Pawleys Island
November 13-14, 2015

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Institutions of the Diocese

Bishop Gadsden

Canterbury House

Episcopal Home at Still Hopes

Kanuga Conferences, Inc.

Porter-Gaud School

Thompson Family Focus (formerly The Episcopal Church Home for Children, York Place)

University of the South

Voorhees College

Other Reports

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The Diocesan Office
PO Box 20485 Charleston, SC 29413
Phone (843) 259-2016

The Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg

Archdeacon
The Ven. Calhoun Walpole

Chancellor
Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale

Treasurer
The Rev. Dr. James Taylor

Communications Director
Ms. Holly Behre

Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mrs. Lauren S. Kinard

Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Andrea McKellar

225th Annual Convention Committees

Bishop's Address

Ms. Dolores Miller, Chair
Dr. Frances Elmore
The Rev. Jeff Richardson

Constitution and Canons

Mr. Michael Jordan, Chair
Ms. Melinda Lucka Kelley
The Rev. Colton Smith
The Ven. Calhoun Walpole
The Rev. Sandra Moyle
Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale

Credentials – Clergy

The Rev. Sandra Moyle, Chair
The Rev. Melissa Timmerman

Credentials – Lay

Mr. Mike Thomas, Chair
Mrs. Betty Rivers

Dispatch of Business

The Rev. Colton Smith, Chair

Elections

The Rev. Wil Keith, Chair
Ms. Kathy Besse
Ms. Martha Propps
Ms. Candace Boyd
Ms. Margaret Dunlap

Necrology

The Rev. Roy Hills, Chair

Appointment to Title IV Disciplinary Board

The Rev. Caleb Lee
The Rev. William Coyne

New Parishes and Missions

Mr. Rick Stall, chair
The Rev. Jim Dannals
The Rev. John Fisher
Mrs. Susie Goss
The Rev. Jack Nietert
Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale, ex-officio

Finance

Mr. Bart Carson
Ms. Lynn Hopkins
Mr. Mike Jefferson
Ms. Barbara Mann
Mr. Bubba Foy
Mr. Bill Beak

Resolutions

The Rev. Chris Huff, Chair
Ms. Rebecca Lovelace
The Rev. Al Votaw
Mr. Thomas Tisdale, ex-officio

Nominations

The Rev. Rick Lindsey
Mrs. Pamela Guess
The Rev. John Zahl
Mrs. Elsa McDowell
The Rev. Wil Keith
Mr. Mike Thomas
The Rev. Chris Huff
Ms. Evelyn LeGrand

Nominations of Commission on Ministry

The Rev. Dow Sanderson, Chair

Ms. Mary Ann Foy

Mr. Chris Hayes

The Rev. Wil Keith

The Rev. Rick Lindsey

The Ven. Calhoun Walpole

Mrs. Margriet Wright

The Rev. Jean McGraw

Diocesan Council

Ex-Officio Members:

The Bishop, The Archdeacon, the Chancellor, the Treasurer, The President of the Standing Committee, The President of Episcopal Churchwomen of the Diocese, A representative of the E.Y.C.

Elected by Convention

Ms. Nancy Bailey (2015)

The Rev. Mark R. Brinkman (2015)

Ms. Barbara Mann (2015)

The Rev. Jeffrey R. Richardson (2015)

The Rev. Al Votaw (2016)

The Rev. David Williams (2016)

Mr. Jim Gettys (2016)

Ms. Carol Grish (2016)

The Rev. J. Michael Wright (2017)

The Rev. Rick Lindsey (2017)

Ms. Virginia Weaver (2017)

Ms. Sue Cavanaugh (2017)

Standing Committee

Ex-Officio: Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale, Chancellor

Ms. Erin Bailey (2015)

Mr. Lonnie Hamilton (2015)

The Rev. Wilmot Merchant (2015)

The Ven. Calhoun Walpole (2015)

The Rev. Chris Huff (2016)

The Rev. Jean McGraw (2016)

Dr. Frances Elmore (2016)

Dr. Scott Shaffer (2016)

Mr. Doug Billings (2017)

The Rev. John Zahl (2017)

Ms. Ginga Wilder (2017)

The Rev. Jim Dannals (2017)

Trustees of the Diocese

The Bishop of the Diocese, President, ex-officio
Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale, Chancellor, ex officio

Dr. Charles Carpenter
Mrs. Jan Gibert
The Rev. Donald McPhail
Mr. Robert Moffit

The Rev. Jack Neitert
Mr. Bob Pinkerton
The Rev. James Taylor
Ms. Betsy Walker

Diocesan Institutions

Episcopal Diocesan Housing, Inc.
Elderly Housing, Inc.
(The Canterbury House)
175 Market Street, Box 5 Charleston, SC 29401
Mrs. Sally Lorbach, Executive Director

Episcopal Church Home
(Bishop Gadsden Episcopal Retirement Community)
One Gadsden Way, Charleston, SC 29412
C. William Trawick, Executive Director

South Carolina Episcopal Home at Still Hopes
One Still Hopes Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169-7151
Mr. Danny Sanford, Executive Director

Thomas Family Services
(Episcopal Church Home for Children, York Place)
234 Kings Mountain Street, York, SC 29745
Ms. Mary Jo Powers, President & CEO

Kanuga Conferences, Inc.
PO Drawer 250, Hendersonville, NC
Mr. Stan Hubbard, Director

University of the South

Sewanee, Tennessee The Rt. Rev. Johnson Howard, Chancellor
Mr. John M. McCardell, Jr., Vice-Chancellor and President
The Rt. Rev. Neil Alexander, Dean of the School of Theology

Trustees from The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

The Rev. Cn. J. Michael A. Wright

Mrs. Ann Stirling

Mr. Robert Black

Porter-Gaud School,

300 Albermarle Road, Charleston, SC 29407

Mr. Robert Y. Scott, Chairman of the Board

Mr. Dubose Egleston, Headmaster

The Rev. Jennie Olbrych, Chaplain

Voorhees College

Denmark, SC 29042

Ms. Mary Moule, Esq., Chairman of Board of Trustees

Dr. Cleveland Sellers, President

Trustees for the Diocese of South Carolina:

The Rev. James Yarsiah

Commission on Ministry

Ms. Margreit Wright

Ms. Mary Ann Foy

Dr. Amy Webb

Mr. Chris Hayes

Mrs. Cathy Battle

The Rev. Rick Luoni

The Rev. Rick Lindsey

The Rev. Dow Sanderson

The Rev. Wil Keith

Examining Chaplains

Former Bishops of The Diocese

First Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Robert Smith, D.D. Consecrated September 13, 1795, Died October 28, 1801
Second Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Theodore Dehon, D.D. Consecrated October 15, 1812, Died August 6, 1817
Third Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Nathaniel Bowen, D.D. Consecrated October 15, 1812, Died August 25, 1839
Fourth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Christopher E. Gadsden, D.D. Consecrated June 21, 1840, Died June 24, 1852
Fifth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Thomas Frederick Davis, D.D. Consecrated October 17, 1853, Died December 2, 1871
Sixth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. William Bell White Howe, D.D. Consecrated October 9, 1871, Died November 25, 1894
Seventh Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Ellison Capers, D. D. Consecrated July 20, 1893, Died April 22, 1908
Eighth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. William Alexander Guerry, D.D. Consecrated September 15, 1907, Died June 9, 1928
Ninth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Albert S. Thomas, D.D., LL.D., S.T.D. Consecrated November 30, 1928, Died October 8, 1967
Tenth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Thomas N. Carruthers, D.D., T.D Consecrated May 4, 1944, Died June 12, 1960
Eleventh Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Gray Temple, D.D. Consecrated January 11, 1961, Died October 28, 1999
Twelfth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. C. FitzSimons Allison, D. Phil (Oxon.) Consecrated September 25, 1980, Resigned February 24, 1990
Thirteenth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Edward L. Salmon, Jr. Consecrated February 24, 1990, Resigned February 1, 2006
Fourteenth Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Mark Joseph Lawrence Consecrated January 26, 2008-Removed October 2012

List of Clergy in Order of Canonical Residence

RESIGNED BISHOPS

Allison, C. FitzSimons	September 25, 1980
Salmon, Edward L. Jr	February 24, 1990
Skilton, Willam J.	August 1, 1988

PRIESTS AND DEACONS

Baird, Robert	January 4, 1949
Sosnowski, Fredrick S.	June 6, 1968
Lent, Morris J., Jr.	March 1, 1979
Tindall, Byron C.	October 18, 1983
Smith, Roger W.	April 13, 1984
Tompkins, George J., III	February 10, 1987
Finch, Floyd W., Jr.	February 8, 1988
Huff, Christopher M.	June 23, 1988
Olbrych, Jennie C.	June 23, 1988
Dover, John R. III	November 29, 1988
Dewey, E. Robinson, Jr.	September 5, 1989
Hills, William L Jr.	June 30, 1990
Rose, William H.	August 1, 1990
Smith, Colton M., III	December 15, 1991
McPhail, Donald S.	December 18, 1991
Lewis, Theodore R., Jr.	December 31, 1991
Powell, Marilyn	October 10, 1993
Burton, J. Michael	January 11, 1995
Lantz, John	November 21, 1995
Putnam, Sally	October 4, 1991
Johnson. Emmanuel W.	May 18, 1998
Nietert, Jack F.	October 6, 1998
Cockrell, J. Grafton	February 25, 1999
Clarke. Daniell., Jr.	June 17, 1999
Cole. Michael G.	November 1, 1999
Merchant II, Wilmot T.	October 16, 2000
Cheves, Henry	February 22, 2001
Lindsey, Richard C.	February 14, 2003
Taylor, James E.	September 1, 2003
Wiseley, Jerry L.	September 1, 2001
Williams. David A	March 1, 2004
Morgan, Randall	May 1, 2005
Richardson, Jeff	June 11, 2006
Walpole, Calhoun	June 25, 2005
Grant, Sandra M.	September 10, 2005
Dubose, Jerry	April 25, 2006
Ewing, Judith	June 22, 2006
Wright, Jonathan Michael	July 27, 2006
Yarsiah, James	August 21, 2006
Evenson, Bruce J.	September 26, 2006

Oswald Todd	July 1, 2006
Smith, Michael W.	October 12, 2006
Russ, Frank D., Jr.	December 19, 2005
Zahl, John.	June 16, 2007
Brinkmann, Mark R.	August 20, 2007
Devaty, Jean	August 5, 2008
Smith, Gregory	August 14, 2008
Mills, III, Ladson	April 6, 2010
Rathman, William	July 16, 2012
Thompson, Henry	December 15, 2009
Keith, Wil	January 25, 2013
Barron, Alex	February 25, 2013
McGraw, Jean	March 6, 2013
Fisher, John C.	March 21, 2013
Sanderson, M. Dow	March 22, 2013
Fahrner, Pamela Dee	April 3, 2013
Moyser, George	April 3, 2013
Timmerman, Melissa R.	June 4, 2013
Jett, Charles	June 18, 2013
Votaw, Alastair	October 13, 2013
Porcher, Philip	November 18, 2013
Dannals, James	June 28, 2014
Lee, Caleb	March 31, 2015
McSwain, David	June 9, 2015
Coyne, William H.	August 12, 2015

Parishes in Union with Convention and Delegates Attending

All Saint's Episcopal Church

3001 Meeting Street Hilton Head Island, SC 29926 (843) 681-8333
Carol Grish, Col. James Moore, Lesley Gilbert, Michael Jordan

Calvary Episcopal Church

104 Line Street Charleston, SC 29403 (843) 723-3878
Brenda Armstrong, Timothy Armstrong, Jennie Cooper, Lonnie Hamilton III

Grace Episcopal Church

98 Wentworth Street Charleston, SC 29401
Virginia Donehue, Cornelia Pelzer, Lester Pittman, Cece Stricklin

St. George's Episcopal Church

9110 Dorchester Road

Summerville, SC 29485 (843) 873-0772

William Lomax, Nadine Lomax, Ben Wham, Diane Wilson

Church of the Holy Communion

218 Ashley Avenue Charleston, SC 29403 (843) 722-2024

Sue Cavanaugh, Stephen Johnston, Joe Villeponteaux, Terry Williams

Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church

85 Baskerville Drive Pawleys Island, SC 29585 (843) 237-3459

Lucille Grate, Michael Pulliam, John Shaw, Mike Thomas

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

18 Thomas Street Charleston, SC 29403 (843) 722-0267

Leila Campbell, Hillery Douglas, Anita Jefferson, Michael O'Connell

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

67 Anson Street Charleston, SC 29401 (843) 723-8818

Joey Froneberger, Dusty Parker, William Ravenel, Nicole Watts

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

801 11th Avenue N North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582 (843) 249-1169

Mary Ann Berthrong, Eileen Carzon, Bud Nelson, Art Perry

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

1150 E Montague Ave North Charleston, SC 29405 (843) 747-0479

Robert Moffitt, Willa Moffitt, Mick Potter, Nancy Potter,

Missions in Union with Convention and Delegates Attending

All Saint's Episcopal Church

511 Jackson Ave E Hampton, SC 29924 (803) 943-2300

LaClaire Laffitte, Terry Meehan

Church of the Holy Communion

401 Main Street N Allendale, SC 29810 (843) 584-2346
No delegates attended

Church of the Heavenly Rest

152 Collie Road Estill SC 29918 (803) 584-2346
No delegates attended

Christ Episcopal Church

5266 Carolina Hwy Bamberg SC 29003 (803) 793-4837
Emily Guess, Ray Sabalis

Church of the Epiphany

212 Central Ave Summerville SC 29483 (843) 873-8915
Isaac Hutchinson, Stephen Jackson

Church of the Good Shepherd

PO Box 7 Summerville, SC 29484
George Tupper, Ginga Wilder

Church of the Good Shepherd

403 Dingle Street Sumter, SC 29150
No delegates attended

Church of the Messiah

PO Box 70367 Myrtle Beach, SC 29572
John Manley, Richard Stall

East Cooper Episcopal Church

C/o 2621 Crooked Stick Lane Mt .Pleasant, SC 29466
Kevin Crothers, Susie Goss

Episcopal Church on Edisto

PO Box 239 Edisto Island, SC 29438
Pat Neumann, Nancy Skardon

The Episcopal Church on Okatie

231 Hazzard Creek Drive, Ste 1 Ridgeland, SC 29936
Carol Carter, Brenda Reiser

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

305 Hampton Avenue Kingstree, SC 29556 (843) 355-7575
Gordon Jenkinson, Peggy Jenkinson

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

PO Box 752 Conway, SC 29578
Barry Dennis, Rebecca Lovelace

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

5450 Milford Plantation Rd. Pinewood SC 29125 (Near Wedgefield, SC) (803) 425-9424
John Spann

St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

c/o 425 Byrnes Blvd Florence, SC 29506
Charles Harper, Robert Mason

St. Francis Episcopal Church

c/o 2341 Wofford Rd Charleston, SC 29414
Barbara Gilchrist, Ellen Hardin

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

PO Box 761 Port Royal, SC 29935
Buster Davis, Anne-Marie Irwin

St. James-Santee Episcopal Church

144 Oak Street McClellanville, SC 29458 (843) 887-4386
George Geer, Alice Jordan

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

196 Brick Church Road St. Stephen's SC 29479 (843) 567-3419
Leslie Clark, Margaret Sauls

St. Philip's Chapel @ Voorhees College

386 Porter Road Denmark, SC 29042 (866) 685-9904
Rochelle Lugenia Shirley Robinson,

Proceedings of the 225th Annual Convention
Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14
Holy Cross Faith Memorial, Pawleys Island

Friday, November 13, 2015
First Business Session

The Annual Convention was called to order at 5:10 pm by the Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg at Holy Cross Faith Memorial Church, in Pawleys Island, SC. Bishop vonRosenberg then recognized The Rt. Rev. Robert Gillies, Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, as the preacher for the Choral Eucharist service that would follow. The Bishop announced that following the Eucharist, the convention would be in recess until 9:00 am, the following day, November 14, 2015.

Bishop vonRosenberg then called upon The Rev. Sandra Moyle of the Clergy Credentials Committee. She reported that 26 clergy delegates and 63 lay delegates had seat, voice, and vote. Bishop vonRosenberg certified that a quorum was present and presented the proposed agenda. It was adopted as presented.

The Bishop reported that the convention needed to elect a Secretary and a Treasurer, and he proposed The Ven. Calhoun Walpole as a nominee for Secretary. He asked if there were additional nominations. Seeing none, a motion was made to close nominations and elect Archdeacon Walpole. There was a second and she was elected by acclamation.

The Bishop then put forward The Rev. Dr. James Taylor as a nominee for Treasurer and asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were none and a motion was made to close nominations and elect Fr. Taylor. There was a second and he was elected by acclamation.

The Bishop then appointed Mr. Thomas Tisdale, Chancellor, as the convention's parliamentarian.

The Bishop called attention to Committee Nominations for the convention, found as a handout in the delegate packets. The Bishop nominated the following individuals to serve on the Commission on Ministry for the coming year, and they were elected by acclamation: The Rev. Dow Sanderson-Chair, Ms. Mary Ann Foy, Mr. Chris Hayes, The Rev. Wil Keith, The Rev. Rick Lindsey, The Ven. Calhoun Walpole. Mrs. Margriet Wright, The Rev. Jean McGraw, Mr. Chris Hayes, and Mrs. Jane Hart Lewis. The Bishop then appointed the deans to serve in the four deaneries for the coming year: The Rev. Rick Lindsey, Southern, The Rev. Wil Keith, PeeDee/Waccamaw, The Rev. John Zahl, Peninsula, The Rev. Chris Huff, West Charleston. He then appointed The Rev. Caleb Lee and The Rev. Bill Coyne to serve on the Title IV Disciplinary Board, replacing clergy who have passed away and moved out of the diocese.

Bishop vonRosenberg issued a last call for resolutions or additional nominations from the floor. There being none, he declared the nominations and resolutions to be closed.

The convention recessed at 5:30 pm until the following day.

*Saturday, November 14, 2016
Second Business Session*

The convention reconvened on November 15 at 9:26 am. Bishop vonRosenberg called upon the Archdeacon, The Ven. Calhoun Walpole, to lead Morning Prayer.

The Bishop called for a second report from the Credentials Committee, and The Rev. Wil Keith reported that the convention has 33 clergy delegates and 70 lay delegates registered.

The Rev. Dr. Colton Smith made a motion to approve the proposed agenda and it was passed unanimously.

Bishop vonRosenberg called for a report from the Committee on Admission of Parishes and Missions. Mr. Rick Stall reported that the committee was asked by the Bishop to examine applications of one mission, St. Mark's Chapel, Port Royal, to be granted parish status. The Chancellor reported that they met all the obligations required by the canons and constitution.

Mr. Stall moved that St. Mark's, Port Royal be granted parish status. The motion came from committee and needed no second. The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote. Bishop vonRosenberg invited the attendees from the newest parish of the diocese, and their additional delegates to come forward. They did so to a standing ovation.

Bishop vonRosenberg recognized special guests in attendance, including Bishop Gillies, Mr. Paul Nix from The Episcopal Church, the Diocesan Partner for The Episcopal Church in South Carolina as part of the General Church's Diocesan Partnership Program, and Mrs. Lynn Hendrix, who serves as the President of the National Altar Guild Association. He also welcomed Mr. Danny Sanford, CEO of Still Hopes and Mary Jo Powers, CEO of Thompson Family. A special welcome and thanks was offered to those who served as workshop presenters on Friday: The Rev. Jemonde Taylor from St. Ambrose Episcopal Church in Raleigh, NC; The Rev. Dr. Tom Long, currently teaching at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta; Katie Mears, the director for US Disaster Preparedness and Response with Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD); and The Rev. Kyle Oliver who is the digital missionary in the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary. The Bishop also welcomed back The Rev. Lucia Lloyd, a visiting clergy from Virginia who has been supportive of this diocese for some time.

The Bishop recognized the seminarians of the diocese. Rob Donehue is a senior at Sewanee. Jason Roberson is in his middler year at Virginia Theological Seminary. The Bishop recognized The Rev. Bill Coyne, The Rev. Caleb Lee, and The Rev. David McSwain, who are now canonically resident in our diocese. He also recognized clergy who are in new positions since our gathering last November in Charleston. The Rev. David McSwain, Rector of St. Mark's, Charleston; The Rev. Bill Coyne, Interim Rector of St. Stephen's, Charleston; The Rev. Colton Smith, Interim Priest in Charge, The Episcopal Church on Edisto; The Rev. Judith Ewing, Interim Deacon in Charge, East Cooper Episcopal Church; The Rev. Chris Huff,

Priest-in-charge of St. George's, Summerville; The Rev. Rick Lindsey, Priest-in-charge of All Saints', Hampton

The Bishop also announced that the Rev Jeff Wallace had been restored as a priest in The Episcopal Church, having gone through a carefully constructed process. The Bishop was pleased to share that Fr. Wallace had received a call to Calvary Episcopal Church in Americus, Georgia.

The Bishop called upon Mr. Michael Jordan, Chair, for the Report of the Committee on Constitution and Canons. Mr. Jordan made three motions on behalf of the Committee on Constitution and Canons. The first motion was to amend the Constitution to change the term from Assistant Chancellor to Vice Chancellor, in order to conform to common usage within the broader church. The second motion was to amend the Canons to change the term from Assistant Chancellor to Vice Chancellor, with the same rationale. These motions came from committee and needed no second, and both were passed unanimously. The third motion was to revise the canons to designate Grace Church, Charleston, as the cathedral for the diocese. As it came from committee, it needed no second, and the motion passed with a significant majority. The proposed change to the Constitution will require a second reading at the next Annual Diocesan Convention. The approved changes to the canons were effective immediately.

Bishop vonRosenberg thanked the chair, Mr. Jordan, and his committee for all their work over the year and commended them for future work they will continue to do.

The Bishop called for the report of the Nominating Committee, chaired by The Rev. Rick Lindsey. Fr. Lindsey thanked the committee for its work and thanked those who sent in nominations. He called attention to the nomination report that was included in the delegate packet. Diocesan Council and Standing Committee are electing two clergy and two lay positions for terms of three years. For the Trustee of University of the South, there is to be an election of one lay person, for a three-year term.

Ballots were distributed to those delegates with voting privileges, and the Bishop asked delegates to mark their ballots, which were then collected by the tellers.

Bishop vonRosenberg gave his Convention address. (A copy of the address can be found in *Appendix I*)

The Bishop then called upon the Treasurer for his report.

The Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor addressed the convention. (*See Appendix III*)

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Fr. Taylor moved the adoption of the 2016 budget as presented, but with an amendment that staff salary increases will be made at 5%, rather than the 2% that was originally proposed. (*See Appendix IV*)

The Bishop noted that the budget is before the convention on the cream-colored sheets in the packet of handouts. He asked for any questions, comments, or discussion. There were no

questions or comments, and the budget was approved unanimously on a voice vote. The Bishop thanked Fr. Taylor for his work and his report.

The Bishop then called on the Chancellor for his report.

Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale, Jr. reported that the legal aspects of our diocesan reorganization has been achieved and is in good order as the necessary and desirable revisions to our Constitution and Canons are now accomplished. He reported on the status of the litigation in which the diocese is presently engaged. He said he hopes the state court litigation will soon be ended with a decision from the South Carolina Supreme Court. A federal Lanham Act claim by the diocese against Bp. Lawrence which challenges his right to use the name and other indicia claimed by us is still pending in the United States Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit awaiting a hearing on our appeal from a recent order of the lower court staying the action pending a resolution of the state court action. Mr Tisdale concluded by saying that although we hoped for a successful resolution of the pending matters in litigation, the healthy condition of our diocese is, he believed, assured regardless of the outcome of the litigation

The Bishop thanked the Chancellor for his work and his report.

Bishop vonRosenberg then called upon the Rev. Chris Huff, chair of the committee on Resolutions. Fr. Huff thanked the Resolution Committee for their work and for streamlining the process with updated guidelines for submitting resolutions. He called attention to the handout of resolutions that was distributed in the delegate packet. On behalf of the committee, Fr. Huff moved the adoption of the five resolutions, as distributed. The motion came from committee and needed no second, and all resolutions were adopted unanimously. A clarification was offered on Resolution 5, the Diocesan Alcohol Policy, that a 'certified server' is one who has taken and passed the online training course on alcohol service that is recommended by the diocese.

The Bishop called for the report of the Standing Committee from the President, The Rev. Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II. (*See Appendix V*)

The Bishop asked The Rev. Dow Sanderson for the report for the Commission on Ministry. (*See Appendix VI*)

The Bishop called upon The Rev. Wil Keith, Chair of the Election Committee, for a report on the ballot.

Fr. Keith announced that Timothy Armstrong and Barbara Mann were elected as lay members of the Standing Committee, and The Rev. James Yarsiah and The Rev. Mark Brinkmann were elected as clergy members of Standing Committee. For Diocesan Council, Hillery Douglas and Pam Guess were elected as lay members and The Rev. Pam Fahrner and the Rev. Caleb Lee were elected as clergy members of the Diocesan Council. The Rev. Wil Keith was elected to be the clergy trustee to University of the South. (*See Appendix VII*)

The Bishop recognized Dr. JoAnn Ewalt, who is serving as the chair for the Committee on the Future of the Diocese, and asked her to share a few words.

Ms. Ewalt reported on the forming of the Futures Committee, and discussed the task that has been put forth to the committee. She explained how committee members were selected, who the members were, and gave a tentative timeline of when they hoped to complete their work.

The Bishop called upon The Rev. Caleb Lee, of Grace Church, Charleston, who was asked to share a report on Campus Ministries. He reported on Episcopal Campus Ministry. An active college ministry is ongoing at the College of Charleston, with weekly worship and pastoral contacts for local students. Both clergy and laypeople are working to build the campus ministries at The Citadel and the Medical University of South Carolina. The diocese is also coordinating with the Diocese of Upper South Carolina to share information and resources for students at colleges across South Carolina such as the University of South Carolina and Clemson. Fr. Lee reminded the Convention that receiving a call to ministry often happens to someone as a young person. “We need to be on the frontline of faith formation on campuses, and I think we are off to a good start,” he said. “But I think we need to aim high. Dream big.”

The Bishop then called on the Secretary of Convention, the Ven. Callie Walpole, for announcements and a blessing before lunch. Archdeacon Walpole also reminded the Standing Committee and the Commission on Ministry that they will eat lunch together in the Parish Hall, with the seminarians. She also called attention to the report from General Convention that is included in the delegate packets.

The blessing was offered for lunch and the Bishop announced that the convention would reconvene shortly after 12:30 pm.

Bishop brought the convention back to order at 12:32 pm, and then recognized representatives from diocesan institutions who were present at convention: University of the South, Kanuga Camp and Conference Center, Porter Gaud School, Bishop Gadsden Retirement Community, Thompson (formerly York Place) and Voorhees College. The Bishop noted that the reports of these groups and others can be found in the delegate packet, and will be included in the journal.

The Bishop also called attention to other exhibitors whose efforts expand the mission and ministry of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina. He welcomed Episcopal Relief and Development, Education for Ministry, The Episcopal Forum of South Carolina, Order of St. Helena, Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross, Episcopal Church Women (ECW), Daughters of the King, The Episcopal Preaching Foundation, Gravatt Camp and Conference Center, Gun Sense SC. He noted that we are grateful for all who have been present representing these institutions and all these other ministries.

The Bishop invited Ms. Mary Jo Powers, CEO of Thompson, to address the convention. He reminded those in attendance that each year, he has asked one or two institution to speak to those present at the Convention, allowing each institution a larger amount of time, every few years, to share their vision, success, and work with our diocese.

Ms. Powers addressed the Convention.

The Bishop thanked Ms. Powers for her report and her presence, and invited Mr. Danny Sanford, CEO of Still Hopes Retirement Community to address the convention. Mr. Sanford addressed the convention. His report can be found in *Appendix VIII*.

The Bishop thanked Mr. Sanford for his report and invited the Chaplain to the Retired to share his report with the convention.

The Rev. Al Votaw addressed the Convention. This report can be found in the

The Bishop invited Ms. Dolores Miller to give the report from the Committee on Bishop's address.

Ms. Miller shared her report with the convention.

The Rev. Roy Hills, chair of the committee on Necrology, reported to the Convention. We remember the following individuals of our diocese who have died since our last Annual Convention: The Rev. Charles Sturm - retired clergy from St. George's, Summerville; The Rev. Dan Eckman - East Cooper Episcopal Church (priest in charge, member of various diocesan committees) ; The Rev. Walter Thomas- former rector of St. Paul's, Bennetsville; Mrs. Rhoda Votaw - wife of The Rev. Al Votaw, served with Al as Chaplains to the Retired in our diocese, and former General Convention deputy and diocesan officer in diocese of Connecticut; Mr. Herbert Fielding - was a former state senator and member of Calvary, who held a variety of leadership roles in our diocese; The Rev. Capers Limehouse, deacon at St. Stephen's, Charleston, was involved with the chaplain ministry at Roper St. Francis; Ben Hutto, a longtime musician and friend of the diocese, and The Ven. Jack Beckwith, who serves as former archdeacon of our diocese. He ended his report with a standing prayer.

The Bishop called upon the Committee on Resolutions for the Courtesy Resolutions, chaired by The Rev. Chris Huff. (*Courtesy Resolutions may be found in Appendix XI*)

The Bishop called upon The Rev. Cn. Michael Wright, rector of Grace Church, Charleston, for the invitation to the 2016 Annual Diocesan Convention. He invited the convention to Charleston November 11-12, 2016 for the 226th Annual Diocesan Convention. Bishop vonRosenberg replied, 'On behalf of our diocese, we are delighted to accept your invitation.'

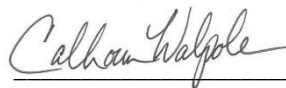
The Rev. Colton Smith, Chairman of the Dispatch of Business, was asked for his report. He found that the business of this 225th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina, as adopted in our agenda, has been completed.

In closing, the Bishop recognized all delegates, clergy and lay, who traveled to this place and gave of their time to be the church. His remarks were met with a standing ovation.

A motion was made to adjourn, there was a second. The Bishop asked all those who supported the motion to rise and he concluded the convention with a prayer at 1:18 pm.



The Rt. Rev. Charles Glenn vonRosenberg
Provisional Bishop of the Episcopal Church in S.C.



The Ven. Calhoun Walpole
Convention Secretary

Appendix I Bishop's Address

The 225th Annual Convention
of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina
November 14, 2015 at Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church, Pawleys Island

Words of thanks

I want to begin my remarks this morning with several words of thanks. As I do so, I acknowledge that such words are inadequate in expressing our sincere gratitude. And, I also acknowledge that there are many other people who deserve our thanks as well.

First, thanks to our host church for this convention – Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church. We are so very grateful for your many efforts in preparing for this time together and in exercising the gift of hospitality on our behalf. Therefore, on behalf of everyone here, thank you to the clergy, the staff, the vestry, and all the people of Holy Cross Faith Memorial!

Also, thanks to the staff of our diocese and to the diocesan officers for your efforts all year long. Your work on our behalf is as tireless as it is impressive. That work also is not appropriately recognized. Thus, at this time, I do want to thank our staff and officers for all that you do for all of us.

In addition, thanks to our visitors who enrich the experience of this convention. During the business session earlier, we recognized each of our visitors. However, at this time, I want to mention in particular our guests from Aberdeen, Scotland. Welcome, again, to the Rt. Rev. Robert Gillies and his wife Liz, who are close friends and colleagues to Annie and me. The Gillieses and all our visitors honor us by your presence, and we are grateful to each one of you for being here.

Speaking of being honored, I am grateful and give thanks to God for Annie, my wife of forty-two years. Annie has been a source of encouragement and counsel all through these times. Together we have found ourselves in some unlikely and unexpected circumstances – including the one we discovered in retirement. Thanks, Annie, for your support and your love, on which I depend.

Finally, thanks to all of you – in advance – for listening to these thoughts and reflections today. I hope that you will discover something of value in what I offer here.

Introduction

Our Prayer Book Catechism affirms that “The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons” (p.855). If you remember nothing else that I say this morning, please do remember that ministry is not exclusive to the clergy. Our church is a more full and more accurate personification of who it is called to be when all the people of God understand ourselves to be ministers.

As a way to frame the ideas to follow, I want to read a lovely Prayer Book collect, “For all Christians in their vocation”:

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (p.256)

For the remainder of this Address, I want to reflect a bit on the subject of ministry and to offer several different perspectives on that subject. As I do so, please realize that I am speaking to and about all of us – every single one of us. Please also realize that I believe this subject to be extremely relevant to the life of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina. In fact, I have been humbled, over and over again, by the exercise of effective ministry in this diocese – ministry accomplished by laity and clergy alike. During my lifetime – before ordination and since – I have not witnessed ministry as effective and as faithful I have seen here in the past three years.

Again, then, I want to be clear that I am addressing all the people of God who are part of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina, for all of us are “ministers of the Church.” Thus, it is that the theme of this convention is “The Call to All.”

The Call to Ministry includes gifts

We all are called to ministry. Along with those calls comes the empowerment to respond. Thus, calls to ministry come with gifts attached.

Especially since early 2013 – and even before then – many of you have exercised gifts in ministry that you may not have expected to use. Particularly in our former worshipping communities – now, missions – I often have heard an observation expressed in terms like these: “Bishop, I never thought I would be doing these kinds of things in the church at this point in my life. I’ve never worked harder before. And, I’ve never had more fun.”

St. Paul often wrote of gifts for ministry in his letters. To the church in Ephesus, he made this observation: “Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift...The gifts he gave

were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ” (4:7,11-13).

Responding to a call to ministry necessarily includes the discovery of gifts. Such gifts come from God, and those gifts enable our response to God’s call.

The Stewardship of Ministry means that we have responsibility for our gifts

As you surely know, stewardship involves far more than only money. Indeed, we are stewards of all that God has given us.

Some of you have heard my personal stewardship story before. However, I retell it here, in this context, with the hope that it will inform our understanding of the stewardship of all God’s gifts.

When our younger son John was two and a half years old, Annie and I were told by a doctor that John required kidney surgery. That news certainly is something that no parent wants to hear.

On the night before we travelled to Duke Hospital, I spent a good deal of time in our son’s room. As I looked at that small, innocent, sleeping child, the unfairness of the situation was hard for me to accept. I was upset at the circumstances in general. I was upset at God. And, I was even upset at myself, as the father who was supposed to protect this child.

In the wee hours of the morning, though, an awareness came to me like a voice. “This is my child. You have responsibility for my child, for a while. However, whatever happens tomorrow or the next day – even the worst – even that will not change the fact that this is my child.”

Now, thanks be to God, John came through surgery just fine, with no further complications. But I was changed by that night-time encounter.

The gifts that I have been given – people, time, money, abilities – these, I know, are God’s gifts. I am a steward of those gifts for a while, and therefore, I have a certain responsibility for them. But the gifts themselves are God’s possessions. I therefore treat them with responsibility and with respect – at least, on my good days – but I do not claim them as owner.

We are stewards – caretakers – of gifts from God. As we use those gifts in ministry, therefore, we do so as God’s stewards and for God’s sake – not for our own.

The Exercise of Ministry in its fullness requires us to function in two roles

As we use our gifts in the exercise of ministry, we fulfill two functions, and we act in two different roles as well. There may be other functions and roles involved, by the way, but there are at least these two. In the exercise of ministry, we act both as manager and as artist. My point here is that we use God's gifts, as stewards, in the practical exercise of ministry. And we do so both as manager and as artist, if we do so in a full way.

It seems to me that we who are called to ministry – clergy and lay – face the temptation from time to time to focus on one role and to neglect the other. It surely can be difficult to live into both these roles of manager and artist, but such a commitment is as essential for full ministry as it is difficult.

The fact is that we can function as manager alone for a while. However, without attention to the artist within us, we may lose the soul and spirit of ministry. In this case, we run the risk of wearing ourselves out, as we try to do ministry.

Further, we can function as artist alone for a while. However, without attention to the responsibility of manager, we may lose the ministry altogether. Here, we run the risk of becoming irrelevant to the world around us.

Do you remember Jesus' parable of the Sower (Mark 4)? Remember that the sower tossed seeds indiscriminately, on all kinds of soil. According to Jesus, some "seed fell on rocky ground where it did not have much soil" (4:5). Then, said Jesus, "it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away" (4:5b-6).

The ministry of manager or artist alone is like that seed on rocky ground. It may spring up quickly, but in the long run, it will wither away.

We are called, though, to the full exercise of ministry – both as manager and as artist. That ministry is like seed falling on good soil. Like seeds sown in good soil, the exercise of ministry in its fullness will "(bring) forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundred-fold" (4:8).

Finally, there is real joy in ministry

The sources of joy in ministry differ from vocations and professions which have tangible outcomes and visible results. We may have some of those, but such is not always the case in our ministries. Finding joy in ministry, therefore, often requires searching elsewhere than only for tangible results. This reality names a prominent cause of disillusionment among ministers – lay and clergy. The effects of good ministry often cannot be observed or measured after days or weeks or, even, after years. Thus, we must seek our joy elsewhere than only in immediate results.

The fact is that joy in ministry comes from a variety of sources. However, one profound source of joy involves the conviction that we are partners with God in the flow of history – history which is, after all, in God’s hands.

Jesus, of course, is the best indication and example that God finds human partners to seek and serve God’s will in God’s world. God came into history as a human being, in order to show the rest of us the trajectory of God’s will for the world. And we are invited to come along, as partners with Christ, for the sake of God’s will.

Deep joy in ministry, therefore, involves more than a transitory sense of happiness and satisfaction, although there is nothing wrong with that. Deep joy, though, involves an intention and an awareness of partnership with the One who created all things. Such joy includes our grounding and being in union with Christ, as baptized brothers and sisters of Jesus. That awareness defines our ministry as people of God, and it touches joy at the depths of our soul. Such conviction also names the hope for our eternal glory.

Conclusion

Therefore, I remember those of you who have told me that you’ve never worked this hard in church ... and that you’ve also never had this much fun. I really do hope that continues.

However, I hope and pray also that we continue to grow in awareness of the call to all of us, which comes from God. That call offers us gifts for ministry, of which we are stewards. By the grace of God, we live into our ministries both as manager and as artist. As we live and serve as partners with Christ, we find a joy which is as wide as God’s mercy and as deep as God’s love.

Thank you for all that you are and all that you do, as ministers in The Episcopal Church in South Carolina!

The Right Reverend Charles G. vonRosenberg

Appendix II

Bishop's Journal 2015

Church Visitations - 27

Holy Eucharists - 40

Sermons - 28

Confirmations - 78

Receptions - 46

Baptisms - 3

Marriages - 2

Funerals - 8

Other services - 13

Vestry meetings / workshops - 15

Parish / Mission meetings - 49

Diocesan meetings - 142

Provincial / TEC meetings - 45

As Bishop vonRosenberg is canonically resident in East Tennessee, this report has been submitted to the Diocese of East Tennessee as a non-parochial report, but should also be recorded as part of the record for The Episcopal Church in South Carolina.

Appendix III
Report of the Treasurer

November 14, 2015

The Rev. Dr. John Westerhoff in his book *Grateful and Generous Hearts* defines stewardship as this: “Stewardship is about giving up the love of **possessing and practicing a life of simplicity**; of developing the habit of giving things away; of buying only what is absolutely necessary; of rejecting anything to which we are becoming **addicted**; of learning to enjoy things **without owning them**; of developing a greater appreciation of and respect for the natural world; of rejecting anything that will result in an **injustice for others**.”

Since 2013, I have witnessed first-hand The Episcopal Church in South Carolina living out their faith by being wise stewards. **WE**, as members of the body of Christ have been blessed by the generosity of many people. Parishes, missions, and individuals by the giving of their time, talent and treasure, have demonstrated they are a “**Holy people with a Heavenly call**”. As Christians, we are called not only to receive the gospel through Word and Deed, but to assure God’s message is “**A Call To All**.”

The budget presented to the 225th Annual Diocesan Convention is a good faith effort to perform quality ministry with known assets and resources. Bishop, on behalf of the Finance Committee and Diocesan Council, I present to you the 2016 budget for approval, with one amendment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Taylor+

The Rev. Dr. James E. Taylor, Treasurer
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
North Charleston, SC

Finance Committee:
Bill Beak, Charleston
Bart Carson, North Charleston
Bubba Foy, Edisto Island
Lynn Hopkins, Charleston
Mike Jefferson, Charleston
Barbara Mann, Charleston
Susan Schady, Bookkeeper

Appendix IV Proposed 2016 Budget

	Proposed Budget
	2016
Receipts	
Parishes, Missions And Ind.	\$467,532
Interest Income	\$50
Total Receipts	\$467,582

The Episcopate - vonRosenberg		
Bishop's Compensation	\$36,500	Salary 2016
Bishop's Deferred Compensation	\$24,033	Salary & Social Security Deferred
Bishop's Reimb. Social Security		
Bishop's Insurance	\$9,000	Insurance 2016
Bishop's Mileage	\$7,500	Increase
Bishop's Office	\$500	
Harbour Club	\$2,000	Increase
Meetings and Conf. Fees	\$5,000	Decrease
Lambeth Conference	\$0	Escrowed
Reserve For Bishop Search	\$5,000	Escrowed
Total Episcopate	\$89,533	

Archdeacon - Walpole		
Archdeacon Stipend	\$46,757	COLA 2%
Mileage	\$1,000	
Reimbursements/ Diocesan Ministry	\$500	
Total Archdeacon	\$48,257	

Executive Assistant - Kinard		
Assistant Salary	\$32,773	COLA 2%
Lay Pension	\$2,950	
SS & Medicare	\$2,622	
Reimbursement	\$500	
Conference Fees	\$500	
Total Administrator	\$39,345	

Diocesan Support - McKellar		
Assistant Salary	\$16,830	
SS & Medicare	\$1,346	
Total For Assistant	\$18,176	
Communications - Behre		
Communication Director	\$12,485	COLA 2%
SS & Medicare	\$999	
Mileage Reimbursement	\$1,000	
Conferences & Training	\$1,600	
Total Communication	\$16,084	
Support For Personnel		
Conference and Education Fees	\$3,000	
Mileage Reimbursement	\$2,000	
Total For Personnel Support	\$5,000	

Administrative Expenses		
Annual Audit & Bookkeeping	\$18,000	Increase
Bank Charges	\$250	
Chancellor Expenses	\$1,000	

Church Insurance and Surety Bond	\$4,000	
Computer & Internet	\$2,000	Increase
Publications	\$1,000	
Equipment Usage	\$950	
Meeting Expenses - Diocesan	\$3,000	
New Equipment & Software	\$200	
Office Supplies	\$1,000	Reduced
Payroll Processing	\$1,700	Increase
Postage	\$500	Decrease
Rent To Grace Episcopal	\$3,000	Increase
Telecommunications	\$1,400	
Treasurer Support/Conf. Fees	\$500	Decrease
Safeguarding God's Children	\$500	
Workers Compensation	\$600	Decrease
Laity Travel	\$600	
Total Admin. Expenses	\$40,200	

Diocesan Programs & Support		
Advertising	\$500	
Background Checks	\$628	
Clergy Conference	\$5,000	
Carolina Grace/Dio. Publication	\$2,000	New Item
Deanery Meetings	\$1,500	Reduced
College Ministry Program	\$10,000	New Item
Diocesan Convention	\$3,000	
Voorhees College	\$1,600	
Youth Programming/Scholarships	\$1,000	Reduced
Total For Edu. & Support	\$25,228	
Parish and Mission Support		

Dept. of Missions	\$100,000	Support For Parishes and Missions
Total Dept of Diocesan Coun	\$100,000	

Work Outside The Diocese		
The Episcopal Church(TEC)	\$58,479	Based On New Formula From 78th GC
Millennium Development Goals	\$3,080	
Children's Home (York Place)	\$2,100	
Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy	\$2,000	
Deputies to General Convention	\$10,000	Escrowed
Kanuga Support	\$1,650	
Province IV Assessment	\$1,200	
Seminarian Support	\$5,000	
Synod Meeting - Kanuga	\$0	No Synod Meeting In 2016
University of the South	\$2,000	
Ecumenical Ministry	\$250	
Total Work Outside the Diocese	\$85,759	
Diocesan Revenue	\$467,582	
Expenses	\$467,582	
Difference	0	

Assets Available As Of November 1, 2015

Banking Accounts	\$1,599,480.36
Brokerage Account	\$15,369.55
Trust Account	\$5,097,365.45
Total	\$6,712,215.36

Appendix V Report of the Standing Committee

The minutes of the Standing Committee are filed for our records; however, the following report is a summary of the minutes of our regular Meetings, giving you an idea of some of the issues that the Standing Committee dealt with during 2015. As you are aware, this is our second convention since we changed our Diocesan Convention from February to November.

First of all, on behalf of the Standing Committee and the entire Diocese, I want to extend our thanks and appreciation to Bishop VonRosenberg for his leadership as we continue our journey in this part of God's Kingdom. Our thanks also goes to Annie, for her continued support of our Bishop; as we continue to keep her in our prayers as she recovers from knee replacement surgery. We also extend our thanks and appreciation to Thomas S. Tisdale for his work as our chancellor; as he continues to lead the effort with our many legal cases. To the diocesan staff, Callie Walpole our Archdeacon, Lauren Kinard, Holly Behre, and Andrea McKellar I want to extend our thanks and appreciation for the hard work that you have done and continue to do. I want to also express thanks and appreciation to our Treasurer, the Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor for the work that he has done since we began this journey.

Serving as the members of the Standing Committee for 2014 to 2015 were: Dr. Frances Elmore who was re-elected secretary and I was re-elected President; other members were The Rev. Jim Dannals, The Rev. Jean McGraw, The Rev. Chris Huff, Dr. Scott Shaffer, The Rev. John Zahl, Mrs. Ginga Wilder; Mr. Doug Billings, Mr. Lonnie Hamilton, Mrs. Erin Bailey and the Ven. Calhoun Walpole. The members whose term expires 2015 are: Mr. Lonnie Hamilton, the Ven. Calhoun Walpole and me; we want to thank them for their service to the Diocese.

The regular meeting of the Committee were: February 12th, April 23rd, June 11th, September 10th and November 5th. Our November 5th meeting was a teleconference. We had a Special Called Meeting in March for the consideration of the restoration of the Rev. H. Jeff Wallace. Another Special Called Meeting in conjunction with the Diocesan Council and the Trustee was held on September 10th, at which time Bishop John Buchanan, who served as Bishop Provincial for the Diocese of Quincy shared with us the process that was used in Quincy for the way forward.

We consented to Episcopal elections in Diocese of West Texas, David M. Reed; Diocese of Central Gulf Coast, James R. Kendrick; Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, Audrey C. Scanlan; Diocese of Southeast Florida, Peter Eaton; Diocese of Dallas, George R. Sumner; and the Diocese of the Dominican Republic, Moises Quezada-Mota.

We voted to approve the recommendation for Grace Episcopal Church to become the cathedral of our Diocese (The Episcopal Church in South Carolina). We also give approval to Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Summerville to lease a property for their future worship space.

We voted to recommend Rob Donehue for candidacy for holy orders; and we also voted to recommend Fred Thompson for the advancement to the Priesthood.

We voted to consent to the Bishop appointment of Mr. Huston S. “Buster” Davis, Jr. as Church Attorney; and we also voted to consent to the Bishop appointment of the Rev. Caleb Lee and the Rev. Bill Coyne to fill vacancies on the Disciplinary Board.

Thanks to the Diocesan staff, the Committee did not devote much time to the preparation for the 225th Annual Diocesan Convention.

Once again, our thanks and appreciation to the entire Standing Committee for a job well done, but especially to those who have come off and have been elected to other offices as we continue to serve this Diocese.

To God be the Glory for all that has been done in this part of his Kingdom, the Episcopal Church in South Carolina.

-The Rev. Wilmot T. Merchant II, President

Appendix VI

Report of the Commission on Ministry

2015

One of the things that is so gratifying about the work of the Commission on Ministry is serving with people who have the inclination and flexibility to change and respond to needs as they arise.

In previous reports, I have shared with you about the normal steps that were necessary simply to have a functioning commission. The ministry mandate in 2013 and 2014 was to put together protocols that would enable two very talented aspirants to pursue God's call on their lives to the ordained ministry of the Episcopal Church. The fruit of those initial efforts is that Rob Donehue is a Senior at the School of Theology of the University of the South, and Jason Roberson is a Middler at Virginia Theological Seminary. We are very proud of these two fine men, and are excited about their future ministries.

In 2015, two new needs have prompted change and growth in our Commission and the ministries we have been called to equip and enable. Fred Thompson was ordained vocational deacon several years ago by Bishop Salmon. He had gone through the two year training program of the former diocese, and previous to that, he had done nearly all the necessary course work for a Masters in Divinity as a residential student at Lutheran Southern Theological Seminary in Columbia. After many years of rewarding ministry as a Vocational Deacon and Episcopal Chaplain at the Medical University of South Carolina, Fred began to sense more and more that his call was to priesthood, and in fact, the ministry he was being increasingly asked to offer to both patients and staff members was priestly in nature (performing baptisms, celebrating the eucharist, and presiding at marriages). After an initial meeting with the Bishop and the COM, we were inclined to agree. The issue at hand was that the canons require a mechanism to determine academic competence in seven disciplines, and we did not have the means by which these metrics could be determined. And so, as has often been the case in our "re-birthed: Diocese, the need gave rise to a ministry. We have a brand new Board of Examining Chaplains. The members include The Rev. Patricia Turk, The Rev. Chris Huff, the Rev. Randy Ferebee, Dr. Lester Pittman, Mrs. Mary Ann Foy, and me. Fred was given the opportunity to take an older version of the General Ordination Exam and his written work was read by this new Board of Chaplains. We also conducted an oral examination as follow-up, and we are happy to report that we found Deacon Thompson competent to continue his Call to priesthood. This matter is now in the hands of the Standing Committee, with our positive recommendation.

The second need that came before us was a mechanism to train and prepare future Vocational Deacons for ministry in this Diocese. Mac Magee has completed his Discernment process at Grace Church, and Robin Bugbee has completed his work at St. Stephen's Charleston. There are other candidates from other parishes who are at the earlier stages of discernment. Once again, a

need mandated a new initiative. I am grateful to report that a School of Training for Vocational Deacons is being formed under the most capable direction of Dr. Lester Pittman of Grace Church, and we expect that it will be up and running within the next calendar year, and that women and men will thereby be prepared for this ordained ministry as well.

These are exciting times for our Diocese. These are exciting times for all the baptized, as the Lord calls each of us in new and ever-rewarding ways to minister and to serve!

Respectfully submitted,

(The Reverend) Dow Sanderson,
Chair

Appendix VII

Elections

Standing Committee

Lay: Mr. Timothy Armstrong
Ms. Barbara Mann

Clergy: The Rev. Mark Brinkmann
The Rev. James Yarsiah

Diocesan Council

Lay: Mr. Hillery Douglas
Ms. Pam Guess

Clergy: The Rev. Pam Fahrner
The Rev. Caleb Lee

Trustees – The University of the South

Clergy: The Rev. Wil Keith

Appendix VIII

Still Hopes Episcopal Retirement Community Diocesan Convention Report – The Episcopal Church in South Carolina November 14, 2015

Still Hopes is your Episcopal Retirement Community located in Columbia, SC. The ministry of Still Hopes as a Home for seniors, began in 1977 after many years of work to raise the funds and funds needed to move the dream to reality. Still Hopes' original gift was comprised of 38 acres of West Columbia land, along with the Guignard Family Mansion, given by Dr. Jane Bruce Guignard, the first female physician in SC.

Since 1977, Still Hopes has undertaken a number of program and service initiatives as it has honored the goal of its founder to always be the best solution for aging issues. Those issues have obviously matured and changed over the last 39 years, and in keeping with the goal, Still Hopes has likewise matured and changed. Today we serve about 350 residents who live on the campus, and another 75 who continue to live in their own homes but have joined us via our Solutions for Living at Home Program. We also have more than 150 additional members of our nationally awarded Wellness Programs. We operate a Short-term Rehabilitation Suite to care for folk who are mending for a return to their home. Including the immediate family members of our residents, Still Hopes impacts well over 1,000 families in the Greater Columbia area at any one time, and because of the short-term, high turnover aspect of the Rehabilitation Suite, along with the portion of Solutions for Living at Home clients who have short-term needs, Still Hopes provides direct service to more than 800 individuals each year.

Today Still Hopes provides wonderful living options for people over 55. These options include both apartment homes and cottages. The sizes range from 700 square foot one bedroom apartments, up to 2,000 square foot two bedroom homes with two car garages. We also provide an array of options for living that includes concierge suites, (these are smaller apartment homes for folk who want all three meals and some hands on services included in their monthly fee), assisted living for people with dementia related disorders, day care for dementia related illness, long term skilled nursing care and the post-hospital rehabilitation services, home care options and wellness/fitness programming that I mentioned earlier.

We have an on-site 150 seat chapel and a full-time Chaplain, The Rev. Johnnie Davis. We offer programming space to our residents and their families, as well as to the local churches and other non-profit organizations. We can accommodate an educational conference for up to 300 people with as many as 5 break-out sessions. We operate four separate dining venues for our apartment and cottage residents, their friends and Still Hopes guests. Additionally, each living area for

skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and assisted living offers unique dining venues within that living area, as well as the other dining venues being open to their families.

We operate a library, a gift shop and convenience store, an art studio, two beauty salons and two pubs. We provide frequent educational, theatrical, and music programs for our residents and families. In fact, our residents operate their own theatrical and musical groups and perform regularly as well. Our wellness venue includes an aerobics studio, a cardio studio with state of the art strength training equipment designed specifically for mature bodies, a water aerobics as well as swim venue, massage therapy, and any number of exercise classes from yoga to tai chi.

In short, Still Hopes is a wonderful lifestyle community where seniors come to live a life of vitality and purpose. Most of them live healthier AFTER their move to Still Hopes than they did before.

At Still Hopes we have just completed an 18 month long re-invention style renovation program, creating a Main Street concept through the heart of our campus. This re-invention is designed to allow residents better and high quality ways to spend time together in social settings. The paint is barely dry on the project, but the Residents have embraced the concept and are the happiest they have ever been at Still Hopes. A nationally recognized, and third party administered, satisfaction survey was recently completed. In it, Still Hopes scored at an extremely high competitive advantage in nearly every category. It might be easy for a Board of Trustees to take the approach that Still Hopes has arrived and can rest easy for a while now, but not our Board. This Board, made up of professionals, mostly still working at their careers, is drawn from throughout South Carolina and I am proud to say that one of your own, Mrs. Jean Bender, serves as a Trustee.

Even as we finished up the 38,000 square foot re-invention that we now call Main Street, our Board has embarked on a robust plan for renewal and expansion.

Renewal First:

We will now begin to replace the Jane Bruce Guignard Healthcare Neighborhood, our 40 bed long term skilled nursing home, with new, state of the art “Small Houses.” The Small House name is professional jargon for the next generation of skilled nursing. In this design, we will construct three separate “Houses” which will be centered around a great-room with fireplace and a large open style kitchen, and be home to not more than 16 residents. This new environment recognizes that these elders will be the long-term occupants of the house and that it needs to look and feel like a home where any one of us would want to live for the long-term. The architecture of the Small House serves to allow residents to gain autonomy and independence in ways that cannot be achieved in the traditional architecture of a double loaded corridor nursing home with a command center for the nurses located in the center of the house. This bold plan will create a living situation for elders that does not exist in Columbia and we look forward to getting these new houses in place for our residents.

Expansion Second:

As soon as we have the Small Houses in place, we will raze the old skilled nursing neighborhood building, and erect a final apartment building which will offer the chance for about 80 additional families to call Still Hopes home. The apartments will offer 9 foot ceilings as a standard and will provide all structured parking- out of the weather. Sizes will range from about 1400 square feet up to about 1800 square feet. This will mark the final large push to expand our size on the 38 acre campus, and we will become an ever friendly community of about 500 total residents.

I anticipate that the new projects of renewal and expansion will take 5 years to complete, though we are committed to work quickly to try to complete the projects in 4 years.

I would like now to provide you an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have of me.

Thank you for your time, for your attention, and for your continued support of our mission.

Appendix IX Report of the Chaplains to the Retired

We continue to find ourselves in an unusual situation here in The Episcopal Church in South Carolina – there are more retired clergy that live in our part of the state than there are active clergy. A great number of our new missions, and many of our other mission congregations, are served by retired clergy- either as interim priest in charge positions, or as regular supply. With all of these great persons participating in the life of our diocese, I can affirm to this convention that we are most blessed. I feel fortunate to be the circuit rider of the diocese, tasked with creating the opportunities to gather and meet, sharing pastoral care, and engaging them in the life of our diocese and TEC to the extent that they wish to be.

A large part of my role extends past the clergy themselves and to their families and their surviving spouses. There are a lot of surviving spouses in our diocese. We work to find connections among the clergy and the spouses. We make an effort to hold regional meetings, and we intently work to involve these surviving spouses, particularly the widows. Our church continues to reach out to retired clergy and keep them informed and engaged, and it is my role to try to do the same for the spouses who outlive their clergy husbands or wives.

On this note, I ask for your help. We want to be in touch with our retired clergy and surviving spouses, we want to include them in our events, pray for them, and be there if they should have needs. I ask all clergy to keep an eye out for these individuals. The clergy may have served right here in South Carolina, or they may have simply retired to our part of the state – but all are included in our ministry. I ask you to “Come Labor On”, from a popular hymn, to share our ministry and our mission with these wonderful folks.

Thank you again for your opportunity to serve in this ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Al Votaw, Chaplain to the Retired

Appendix X

Resolutions Adopted

RESOLUTION #1: FOLLOWING MOTHER EMANUEL'S EXAMPLE OF LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

RESOLVED, that The Episcopal Church of South Carolina, meeting in convention on November 14, 2015,

1. urges all member congregations within The Episcopal Church in South Carolina to continue to pray for the families of Mother Emanuel who have lost their family members in this tragic event;
2. urges all member congregations to provide all possible logistical and spiritual support to Mother Emanuel as it heals;
3. urges all member congregations to work within their communities to seek opportunities for ending the scourge of racism that affects our culture; and
4. urges all member congregations to follow the example of Christ and of Mother Emanuel through lives of love and forgiveness.

Explanation:

The Episcopal Church in South Carolina, with the rest of the nation, was shaken by the tragic deaths of nine members of the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Charleston on June 17, 2015. It has been credibly asserted that the murder of the church members, all of whom were African Americans, was perpetrated by a person desiring to instigate conflict based on race.

The family members of those murdered on that day of sadness openly and lovingly forgave the person who confessed to the crime. Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, known lovingly as "Mother Emanuel," by opening its doors and its hearts to all people, has been a living guide to the trust in God that all Christians who wish to walk in Jesus' footsteps would follow. Through this tragedy, we are learning of the brotherhood and sisterhood of all peoples, regardless of race, faith or other human condition.

Mover: The Rev. Rick Lindsey, convener, Southern Deanery of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

RESOLUTION #2: IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPING A PLAN FOR RACIAL RECONCILIATION

RESOLVED, that The Episcopal Church in South Carolina commit itself to ongoing training, community dialogue, internal examination, and seek to establish partnerships with other churches and institutions to strive for racial justice and reconciliation by reforming patterns of racial prejudice and injustice wherever they are found; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the planning for this work be entrusted to the Diocesan Council to develop and promote plans and programs for achieving racial justice and reconciliation for this diocese and all communities in it; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Diocesan Council regularly report to this Convention and other elected governing bodies of this diocese on the plans it has developed and implemented to achieve and enhance racial justice and reconciliation, and to make recommendations for future plans and programs for these purposes.

Explanation:

Many recent events in our country, including the tragic murders at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, have exposed our nation's need to continue to struggle to achieve racial justice and reconciliation.

It has become apparent that the social tension between races has highlighted the ongoing need for immediate and enhanced self-examination, reflection, and action by all Christian bodies to promote reconciliation by and between all people.

The 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, at its meeting in 2015 at Salt Lake City, adopted Resolution A182 that urges all dioceses of our Church to employ education, community dialogue, internal examination, and partnerships with other churches and institutions to respond to all forms of racial injustice, and to implement programs to achieve these goals. And, our Presiding Bishop has called us to engage in a fight for racial reconciliation. This resolution is for the purpose of establishing a way for our Diocese to respond to this call.

Mover: Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale, Chancellor, The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

RESOLUTION #3: FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE MOST. REV. KATHERINE JEFFERTS SCHORI

RESOLVED, Upon the occasion of her retirement as the 26th Presiding Bishop of The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, also known as The Episcopal Church,

The Episcopal Church in South Carolina wishes to express its profound gratitude for the exemplary ministry of The Most Reverend Katherine Jefferts Schori.

Explanation:

During her administration she has traveled to our diocese no less than 3 times, leading us by her skill and grace as we continue to be the Episcopal Church in this part of South Carolina.

Her unfailing love and unending support of us will continue to be a source of strength and renewal.

As she transitions to her next part of her journey in Christ, we wish her to know we are exceedingly grateful for her time of service. She does not lead from behind, but as a most faithful example of Christ's mission to us all.

We ask that the Secretary of the Convention to send her and the Executive Counsel a copy of this resolution.

Movers:

Rev. William J. Keith, Rector, Holy Cross Faith Memorial

Michael G. Thomas, Holy Cross Faith Memorial

RESOLUTION #4: RESOLUTION UPON THE RETIREMENT OF DR. CLEVELAND SELLERS, PRESIDENT OF VOORHEES COLLEGE

RESOLVED, that The Episcopal Church of South Carolina, meeting in convention on November 14, 2015,

wishes to express its profound gratitude to Dr. Cleveland Sellers for the example his life has been for all of us, and to express thanksgiving for a life lived with courage, integrity and grace.

And we ask that the Secretary of the Convention send him and the Executive Council a copy of this resolution.

Explanation:

Cleveland Sellers worked as an advocate for justice and human rights, risking his life by marching across Mississippi, enduring the tension of segregation and the fury of oppression, being wounded and serving seven months in jail as a result of leading protests against segregation in Orangeburg, for which he received a full pardon twenty-five years later.

These experiences were the catalyst for a life-changing decision to complete his education by earning his bachelor's degree from Howard University, a master's degree in education from Harvard University, and a doctorate in education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Dr. Sellers then moved his civil rights battle to the classroom by educating young people, serving at the University of South Carolina both as director of the African-American Studies Program and as a teacher in the Department of History, before becoming President of Voorhees College in 2008.

He has faithfully served The Episcopal Church as warden of St. Phillip's Episcopal Church in Denmark, South Carolina, as a board member of the Episcopal Church Foundation, and as President of Voorhees College for more than seven years.

He will retire as President of Voorhees College at the end of the 2015-2016 academic year.

Movers:

Resolution Committee

RESOLUTION #5: FOR ALCOHOL USE FOR THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA

RESOLVED, that the following "Alcohol and Drug Policy for the Episcopal Church in South Carolina" be adopted by each parish church and worshipping community of the Diocese:

1. The Church must provide a safe and welcoming environment for all people, including people in recovery.
2. All applicable federal, state and local laws should be obeyed, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors, as well as any chemical usages other than alcohol that are also clearly controlled under the same laws.
3. Some congregations may decide not to serve alcohol at events or gatherings. Others may decide to permit a limited use of alcoholic beverages at church-sponsored events. Both can be appropriate if approached mindfully.
4. Whenever alcohol is served, the Rector, Vicar, or Priest-in-Charge must appoint an adult who must not drink any alcoholic beverages during the time that they are overseeing the event that includes the serving of alcohol. During the event, that person must monitor all those showing signs of intoxication. Should someone become even mildly intoxicated it is the responsibility of the person designated to oversee the event to arrange responsible transportation home for that person. In addition, if hard liquor is served, a “certified” server* is required.
Whether consumed in glass or in bottles, alcoholic beverages should be served rather than left on tables for self-pour.
5. When serving alcoholic beverages at congregational events, (whether on or off church property) the presence of minors is strongly discouraged. Should minors be present, alcohol must be served at a separate station that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking.
6. Alcoholic beverages and food containing alcohol must be clearly labeled as such.
7. Whenever alcohol is served, appealing non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal prominence and accessibility.
8. The serving of alcoholic beverages at church events (meaning ministries inside or outside the church proper) should not be publicized as an attraction of the event, e.g. “Wine and Cheese Reception,” “Cocktail Party,” and “Wine and Beer Tasting.”
9. Food must always be served when alcohol is present, and when the event is concluded all alcoholic beverages are to be removed from the church premises as soon as possible afterwards.
10. Outside groups or organizations sponsoring an activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the Clergy and/or the Vestry. Such groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those persons who might

become intoxicated and must provide alternative transportation for anyone whose capacity to drive may be impaired. Consulting with liability insurance carriers is advised.

11. Recognizing the effects of alcohol as a mood-altering drug, alcoholic beverages shall not be served when the business of the Church is being conducted, including Vestry meetings, and the meetings of authorized committees or sub-committees of the church.

12. Clergy shall consecrate an appropriate amount of wine when celebrating the Eucharist and perform ablutions in a way that does not foster or model misuse.

13. We encourage clergy to acknowledge the efficacy of receiving the sacrament in one kind.

14. This policy should be visibly posted in all church kitchens.

Explanation:

Explanation: The House of Bishops concurring, the 78th General Convention recognized that the field of substance use disorders and addiction has advanced substantially since 1985 when the 68th General Convention passed the current policy, acknowledging that alcohol use, addiction and recovery all involve biological, psychological, social and spiritual dimensions. Recent developments within the body of the Diocese of Maryland caused that diocese and all dioceses to re-examine their policies regarding the use of alcoholic beverages as well as the use of any and all substances that impair the normal functioning of human beings and, in doing so, the House of Bishops concurring, passed Resolution A159 under the title "The Role of the Church in the Culture of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse."

The Episcopal Church in South Carolina assumes equal concern for those suffering from alcohol and substance abuse and seeks to ameliorate those concerns on a diocesan-wide basis for all parishes and congregations of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina by its creation of an Alcohol and Drug Abuse Sub-Committee of the Diocesan Council.

Movers: Sub-Committee of Diocesan Council: The Rev. Dr. David Williams, Chair; the Rev. Faith Bledsoe, the Rev. Rick Lindsay, Mrs. Barbara Mann, the Rev. John Zahl

Appendix XI

Courtesy Resolutions Adopted

Courtesy Resolutions for the 225th Convention of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina, offered on November 14, 2015 at Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church in Pawley's Island by the Resolutions Committee, the Rev. Chris Huff, Chair:

Be it resolved:

That we, the members of the 225th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina, on this 14th day of November, 2015 express our thanks and appreciation to

R-1: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Robert Gillis, Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, who encouraged us to remember and embrace that all of us, clergy and lay, are called with a unique calling by God, and are gifted and equipped by the Holy Spirit for the carrying out of our resultant ministries in the service of Jesus Christ and His one, holy catholic and apostolic church, and to

R-2: our workshop leaders:

Kyle Oliver, digital missionary in the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary, who led two sessions: [Digital Media and Christian Formation](#), and "[Finding Your Niche, Telling Your Story](#)."

Katie Mears of Episcopal Relief and Development who led a workshop on Disaster Planning for churches.

The Rev. Jemonde Taylor, Rector of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church in Raleigh, NC, who led a workshop to help people identify their spiritual gifts.

The Rev. Dr. Tom Long, the Bandy Professor of Preaching at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, who led an all-day preaching workshop for clergy, focusing on the Gospel of St. Luke.

And to Diane Pike of the Episcopal Preaching Foundation which made Dr. Long's visit with us possible, and to

R-3: The Rev. Wil Keith, his clergy, staff and lay leadership of HCFM Episcopal Church for their gracious hospitality, and especially to the convention coordinator, Mrs. Kris Southard and her co-chair, Mrs. Audrey Radcliff and their many servant ministers, Cathy Thompson, Mary Boyd Brown and the HCFM staff, and to

R-4: the Diocesan staff, Lauren Kinard, Holly Behre and Andrea McKellar for their dedicated, excellent and tireless efforts and to their dedicated volunteers, Mrs. Martha Frasier of Calvary Church, Charleston, the Rev. d'Rue Hazel, Mr. Frank and Mrs. Alisha Hudson, who are on the Diocesan staff of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, and to

R-5 the Parish of St. Mark's, Port Royal, for their persistence and faith, lo these past thirteen years, leading to full parish status in union with this diocese, and to

R-6 the Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg, bishop of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina whose wise and discerning leadership has helped to bring us to greater health and vigor as a diocesan body in the service of Christ within the larger Episcopal Church and the even wider Anglican Communion, and who gives of himself sacrificially as a servant of God on our behalf, along with his wife, Annie who encourages him and us together, and to

R-7 the Most Reverend Michael Bruce Curry, installed as the 27th Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church on November 1, 2015, for offering himself in service to the Church.

--Passed by acclamation at the 225th Convention of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina on November 14, 2015

Appendix XII

Reports by Institutions of the Diocese



www.thompsoncff.org

York Place was merged with Thompson in late 2015.

You helped Tim believe in himself again!

"In only a short time I have seen so much improvement," Jenn says of her son Tim who has been seeing a Thompson therapist for a few weeks now. "I know that does not mean we are where we need to be, but I am so happy to see that he is already making such progress!" Jenn was beginning to feel that her precious 9-year-old boy was slipping away from her. She could tell that he was down on himself a lot of the time. He withdrew from his friends and began spending hours on end shut away in his bedroom. Jenn said that she felt Tim had "lost his confidence." Feeling just as lost as her son, she did not know where to turn for help. Then Jenn reached out to Thompson's Community Counseling Center to see if they could help get her boy back to himself again. In less than a month, Jenn has seen Tim smiling more often and he even asked to join the basketball team with his friends! When she asked Tim what he felt was different, he said he "believes in himself again". Jenn is so grateful to Tim's therapist for helping him to see what an awesome kid he is!

Thompson is the most comprehensive provider of clinical and prevention services for children and families across the Carolinas. Our mission is to serve children and families through healing, teaching, worship and play.

We are blessed to have had a relationship with the Episcopal Churches of both North and South Carolina since our very beginnings as Thompson Orphanage (Charlotte, NC) and the Episcopal Church Home for Children (York, SC). Our legacy is deeply rooted in humble beginnings by the Episcopal Church and fortified by continued partnerships from parishes giving of their time, talent and means.

Last year, your support enabled Thompson to provide outpatient therapy services, psychiatric assessments and medication management to almost 900 children, adults and families in South Carolina.

We continue to be grateful for the loving outreach of so many who support the Thompson mission in so many caring ways by:

- Participating in the historic annual Thanksgiving church offering.
- Visiting our website (www.thompsoncff.org) to get involved by volunteering your time or linking your shopping reward cards to benefit our work.
- Collecting school supplies, hygiene items and clothing for our children.
- Supporting us with your prayers, financial offerings and service.

For more information on how your caring support is making a difference, please contact Shannon Hinson, Chief Development Officer, at 704-644-4392 or shinson@thompsoncff.org.

Thank you for joining Thompson and helping change a child's life forever!

BISHOP GADSDEN



Bishop Gadsden Episcopal Retirement Community is located on James Island, across the Ashley River from the peninsula of Charleston. It is a Continuing Care Retirement Community, serving residents in independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, and memory care. We trace our beginning to Bishop Christopher Gadsden, who, in 1850 during a service of Evening

Prayer in St. Stephen's Church, Charleston, announced the creation of a home for widows and orphans. Bishop Gadsden is in a lineage of homes for children and the elderly, and in 1987 established and built an assisting living facility at its new location on James Island. Since its inception at its present location, the community has expanded to provide skilled nursing in 1992, and independent living apartments and cottages in 1999. In 2013 the residents, staff and trustees celebrated the 25th year anniversary of ministry on James Island with its 450 residents.

Bishop Gadsden is now the tenth largest employer in the City of Charleston. Our staff, particularly those serve in healthcare areas, view their duties as more than a job; they see their contributions as a ministry.

At present, construction of three new buildings, consisting of 45 additional independent living flats, is being completed, creating a new neighborhood known as the Quay (pronounced "key"). This project will increase our resident population to 520. Our campus now encompasses 110 acres. Strategic planning is now underway focusing on a variety of future developments, including an expansion of our healthcare facilities.

In keeping with its historic foundation, Bishop Gadsden maintains its loyal connection to the Episcopal Church of the United States and to the Episcopal Church in South Carolina. Our chaplain is an Episcopal priest, who is assisted by a team of retired Episcopal priests. Together, they provide spiritual support and occasions of worship and prayer for our residents and staff.

Upon approaching our campus, one encounters the Chapel, giving the appearance that the entire community grew from this spiritual center of Bishop Gadsden. The Georgian building is fashioned after chapels-of-ease, which were prevalent in the colonial Low Country. The Chapel is the recipient of the Design for Aging Award from the American Institute of Architects and LeadingAGE. It is also a venue for music concerts and other cultural events. During services of public worship, the clergy are assisted by a dedicated team of residents, without whom our worship services would not be possible. In addition, worship opportunities are provided for Roman Catholic and Jewish residents.

An important aspect of community life is the support of area charitable organizations. However, at the heart of our mission is our Resident Assistance Fund which was created to provide financial support to residents whose finances have been depleted, or to individuals who have made significant contributions to the larger community who otherwise would be unable to live at Bishop Gadsden.

The Bishop Gadsden Community is the home of vibrant and active residents, served by a devoted staff of employees. In fact, in a recent resident satisfaction survey, the vast majority of our residents responded that the presence of a caring and friendly staff is one of the greatest strengths of our community. Our purpose and ministry is appropriately expressed in the following mission statement: "Bishop Gadsden, a life care retirement community embraces God's call to ministry. We affirm positive living for all who live and work here. We serve with integrity. We exercise wise stewardship. We reach out with a generous spirit."

Faithfully submitted,

Frank D. Russ, Jr.

The Reverend Frank D. Russ, Jr.
Chaplain



Annual Report:
The Diocese of South Carolina
The Episcopal Church in South Carolina Porter-Gaud
Board of Trustees November, 2015

LEADERSHIP

Hank Cheves '87 is the currently elected Chair of the Board of Trustees. He began a 3-year term this July. Luther Cochrane is chair of the Porter-Gaud Foundation which oversees the philanthropic efforts for the school. There are three clergy representatives on the board in addition to 18 other members. Rev. John Zahl began his term in 2012. The other clergy positions are held by Rt. Rev. Mark Lawrence and Rev. Haden McCormick. Dr. John McCardell, Vice Chancellor of Sewanee is also serving on the Board of Trustees. DuBose Egleston is in his 7th year as Head of School.

HISTORY

Porter-Gaud has a long history of living out its spiritual identity as an independent Episcopal school rooted in the rich heritage of Anglicanism. For much of its history, Porter-Gaud had one chaplain who taught all the religion classes, conducted chapel services, and provided pastoral care for the school community. As the School has grown and the needs for ministry have increased, the Board of Trustees has bolstered the chaplaincy so that there are now three full-time chaplains on campus: the Rev. Brian McGreevy serves as Head Chaplain, Mr. N. Hutson Dodds is Associate Chaplain for the Middle School, and the Rev. Dr. Jennie Olbrych is Associate Chaplain for the Lower School. The School has a Board Chair (Hank Cheves '87), Head of School (DuBose Egleston '93), and Chaplain (Brian McGreevy '74) who are Porter-Gaud alumni and have long experience with the School's mission and values. Mr. Egleston serves on the Governing Board of the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES).

WORSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP

In addition to the traditional celebration of Holy Communion each Thursday morning in St. Timothy's Chapel and special services offered on major Holy Days, there is weekly chapel on a divisional basis for the Lower, Middle, and Upper School students and faculty. The School also has a divisional Christmas Eucharist for the Middle and Upper School, as well as divisional services on Ash Wednesday and divisional Eucharist during Holy Week. The School's service of Lessons and Carols, held at the Church of the Holy Communion, is a tradition that dates back over 30 years and is a highlight of the Christmas season for the school community.

Voluntary lunchtime Bible studies offered for Middle and Upper School students continue to attract 70-120 students respectively each week. The Upper School Vestry, selected by a nomination and interview process, serve as spiritual and moral leaders on the campus; some 120 Upper School students serve on Vestry and participate in weekly discipleship groups as well as two retreats each year. In addition, 60 freshmen serve on the Chaplains' Advisory Council (CAC), a discipleship group for 9th graders who work with the chaplains. Vestry members assist with chapel programs at all levels of the School and help the chaplains coordinate various service and fellowship opportunities. Vestry and CAC are the largest voluntary student organizations in the Upper School.

ACADEMICS

Porter-Gaud offers a religion and character education curriculum in the Lower School that focuses on the major stories of the Bible in tandem with selected virtues each month. In Middle School there is a required course on the Old Testament, and in Upper School a required course on New Testament, along with an elective on C.S. Lewis. In Middle and Upper School, the character education thread is woven through Advisory, Chapel, and other programming for students that follows the virtues framework established in the Lower School.

This year, the School is also offering a study tour/pilgrimage to England focused around the works of C.S.

Lewis where students will have the opportunity to meet with renowned Lewis scholars.

SERVICE

Porter-Gaud has an active community service program through which students volunteer thousands of hours annually to assisting various agencies throughout the Lowcountry. Porter-Gaud has entered a strategic partnership with Water Missions International, and regularly offers mission trip opportunities abroad, some in conjunction with Water Missions.

The Upper School will also offer a service trip to Ghana this year. The Rev. Dr. Olbrych will serve this year as the keynote speaker at the 2016 Leadership Conference of the LAMB Institute to be held at San Buenaventura, Honduras. Porter-Gaud may explore the opportunity to partner with an Episcopal school in Honduras in the next few years under the leadership of Steve Robinson, former President of SAIS, who is now overseeing schools there.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Egleston will Chair the visiting team this year for Holy Innocents Episcopal School in Atlanta as they complete their 5-year accreditation self-study under the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and Southern Association of Independent Schools. Holy Innocents' is the largest parish day school in the United States.

Mr. Egleston visited Breck School in Minneapolis, MN this fall for a meeting of the NAES board. The board had a chance to participate in chapel with the upper school and meet with the local diocese. The board will meet in New York in January and in New Orleans in the Spring to plan for the 2016 Fall Biennial Conference.

As part of the School's co-curricular programming on diversity issues, the Traces of the Trade program developed by Gaud School alumnus Dain Perry was presented on campus in September.

Porter-Gaud celebrated the life and work of Ben Hutto at its annual Founders Day concert. Ben began the choral and fine arts program at Porter-Gaud in 1969 and is a Gaud School alum. After leaving Porter-Gaud in the 1980's, he continued his ministry at St. Albans and the National Cathedral School in Washington DC. Ben died in September and is missed by the thousands of alumni who he blessed with his passion for music.

Porter-Gaud is launching the public phase of its RENEWAL campaign this week. The campaign will raise funds for a new upper school academic building, a performing arts center, and a dedicated chapel that will seat a full division of the school. The chapel design is based on the original St. Timothy's chapel on the Porter Military Campus. Built by Dr. Porter from the old U.S. Armory, it remains as St. Luke's chapel on the MUSC campus.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
2014-2015 REPORT TO THE DIOCESE OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN SOUTH CAROLINA

College of Arts & Sciences

Enrollment from the The Episcopal Church in South Carolina: 51 students total (23 report Episcopal heritage)

Financial aid awarded to all college students from the diocese: \$972,132.00

The School of Theology

Seminary

Enrollment from the Diocese of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina: 1 student total (1 in the summer Advanced Degrees Program)

The Beecken Center

Education for Ministry (EfM) Groups: 4

EfM Diocesan Coordinator: No Coordinator

Support Received from the Diocese of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina: \$2,000**Support Received from the Diocesan churches:** \$500**About Sewanee**

The University of the South is home to an outstanding liberal arts college, a School of Letters, and a School of Theology. Located atop the Cumberland Plateau between Nashville and Chattanooga, Tenn., Sewanee's 13,000-acre campus, the second largest campus in the United States, provides vast opportunities for research, recreation, and reflection. Within the traditionally strong curriculum of humanities, sciences, and graduate theological studies, Sewanee faculty members promote intellectual growth, critical thinking, and hands-on research.

The University's Board of Trustees is composed of the bishops of the 28 owning dioceses, together with clerical and lay representatives elected by each diocese and representatives of other University constituencies. The Board of Regents, to which the Board of Trustees delegates some of its responsibilities for governance, is composed of Episcopal bishops, priests, and lay people, and may include a limited number of members of other Christian bodies. The chancellor of the University, elected by the Board of Trustees, is a bishop from one of the 28 owning dioceses.

An Episcopal Center of Learning

The University of the South is an institution of the Episcopal Church dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom in close community and in full freedom of inquiry, and enlightened by Christian faith in the Anglican tradition, welcoming individuals from all backgrounds, to the end that students be prepared to search for truth, seek justice, preserve liberty under law, and serve God and humanity.

The University was founded by church leaders from the southeastern United States in 1857 and is the only university in the nation that is owned and governed by dioceses of The Episcopal Church, specifically the 28 dioceses that are successors to the original founding dioceses. The historic ownership and governance of the University by these Episcopal dioceses has produced a living synergy of leadership, resource, and mutual support, enriching the Church and advancing the University's role in American higher education.

2014–2015 Statistics for the University of the South

College of Arts and Sciences total students: 1631 (full-time and part-time)

Class of 2018: 466

SAT combined: 1740-2020 ACT: 26-30

High School GPA: 3.69/4.0

Female: 56.9 % Male: 43.1 %

Percentage of all college students declaring Episcopal heritage: 25.1%

College tuition and fees: \$ 37100

College faculty: 148 (Full-Time) and 72 (Part-Time)

Student/faculty ratio: 10.2 to 1

School of Theology students: 157 (includes summer students)

School of Theology full-time tuition and fees: \$ 16748

School of Theology faculty: Full-Time: 12 Part-Time: 9

Student/faculty ratio: 7/1

University Fiscal Year July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015 (unaudited)

Unrestricted operating revenue: \$66 million

Endowment: \$350 million

2014–2015 Highlights from the University of the South

Details may be found at <http://news.sewanee.edu/> and theology.sewanee.edu/news.

- Heyboer Receives the Woods Leadership Award; October 27, 2014
- Stephens Receives Freeman Award; October 8, 2014
- MacSwain Contributes to Discussion on Art and Theological Education; November 13, 2014
- The School of Theology Makes Fourth Trip to Cuba; January 21, 2015
- Vice Chancellor McCardell Appointed Chair of the Board of Directors of NAICU; February 4, 2015
- CRE Adds New Position; February 12, 2015
- School of Theology Named to Seminaries that Change the World; February 24, 2015
- New Sewanee Inn Ranks #1 in Tennessee (Trip Advisor); March 11, 2015
- Tree Ring Data Sheds Light on History of Rebel’s Rest and Local Forest; April 1, 2015
- The School of Theology Confers Degrees; May 11, 2015
- Gift to University Supports School of Theology’s Vision; June 8, 2015
- Board of Regents Approves School of Theology Move Back to Central Campus; June 18, 2015
- Owing Diocesan Bishop Elected to be 27th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; June 27, 2015
- Education for Ministry Celebrates 40th Anniversary; June 30, 2015

**2015 Report to the Episcopal Church in South Carolina**

Serving the Episcopal Church since 1928, Kanuga is located six miles from Hendersonville, NC on 1,400 mountain acres with scenic Kanuga Lake at its center. We welcome more than 25,000 guests annually to our year-round conference & retreat center, Camp Kanuga, Camp Bob and the Mountain Trail Outdoor School. Kanuga is embracing the future and its boards and staff are exploring ways to speed accomplishment of long-range plans, completed in 2010. The long-range plan provides a clear roadmap for phased enhancements of Kanuga’s campus, facilities, programs, funding basis and overall capacity for ministry from now until Kanuga’s centennial in 2028.

Kanuga recently underwent a campus-wide conversion from propane to natural gas to provide efficient heat for buildings and a consistent supply of hot water. The project was completed in the spring of 2014 and incorporated all three campuses, including both camps, Historic Cottages, Guest Houses, program buildings, kitchens and staff housing. The Kanuga Lake Inn and 10 other buildings will continue to utilize solar-thermal heating for hot water. Seventy locations will received brand new, high-efficiency furnaces and ninety will received “on-demand” water heaters, meaning fewer repairs needed and reliable heat and hot water across the campus.

This project aligns with Kanuga’s long-range plan and goals of continued environmental stewardship, fiscal responsibility and an improved guest experience. Kanuga will save thousands annually on heating costs through purchasing natural gas rather than propane; an estimated \$7.5 million over the next 20 years. Dozens

of large propane tanks around the campus have been removed (submarines with blue lids). A wireless energy management system installed has allowed staff to remotely monitor and control the climate in most buildings.

Under the leadership of Kanuga President Stan Hubbard, Kanuga is set to commence a historic renovation of the Kanuga Lake Inn on December 1. The Inn is scheduled to reopen at the end of May 2016. Kanuga will not close during this time, but will remain open with full use of the dining rooms and utilizing the lodging of the historic cottages and guest houses.

The \$6.5 million renovations will include the installation of a new covered entry with easy access to the Inn, an elevator connected to the new entrance, and extensive renovation of rooms to provide accessible accommodations. In addition, rooms will be equipped with air conditioning and a more efficient heating system. Most rooms will be unfitted with covered porches, and all rooms will receive a complete overhaul with new furniture, queen beds, lighting, and bathroom fixtures. A critical improvement will be the replacement of electrical and plumbing systems. If you have questions about the renovation or wish to make a contribution to the capital campaign, contact Gary Giniat at 828.233.2816 or gary.giniat@kanuga.org. More information can also be found online at www.kanuga.org/restoreandrenew.

Historic Cottage preservation is an ongoing project and its guidelines are to improve consistency as we renovate, use longer-term solutions, preserve historical elements and feel, and meet the needs of more constituents. Generous support in 2014 enabled the total remodel of Cottages 27, 28, & 14 with over 12 other cottages receiving improvements to roofs, floors, steps and paint.

Kanuga continues to be a change agent for the environment, providing leadership in environmental stewardship among institutional peers through consultations with sister nonprofits regarding programs in environmental stewardship education. The Mountain Trail Outdoor School staff worked with the Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife, NC Natural Heritage Program, and various other state and federal agencies to remove invasive species from the bog and other management efforts to protect the bog and its endangered inhabitants. The program was also one of 18 organizations nationwide to be awarded the BEETLES grant through the Lawrence School of Science at UC Berkley that provided staff training to help build on our outdoor science curriculum.

Camp Kanuga and the Kanuga Trailblazers welcomed and embraced 650 campers during the summer of 2014, increasing to 670 this past summer. With the support of grants and increased scholarship funds, these programs hope to increase the number of children served and ministered to in 2016. Kanuga's youth programs department continues to serve both Episcopal youth groups and other youth organizations through hosting retreats at both of Kanuga's youth campuses throughout the year.

Partnering once again with the National Military Family Association, based in Arlington, VA, Kanuga's outreach camp, Camp Bob, hosted two sessions of Operation Purple Camp in July. The session provided to 200 children a comprehensive camping experience staffed by Camp Bob counselors and offered at no cost to children with parents serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. A unique group, Kids4Peace, gathered at Camp Bob in July of 2015. Kids4Peace is a community of Jewish, Christian and Muslim children, age 12 or in the sixth grade, from the United States, Palestine and Israel. The organizations two-week camp is part of a six-year, year-round program of interfaith dialogue, leadership development and nonviolent action.

Outreach is a common theme at Kanuga. For instance, none of the chapel offerings gathered here stay here. They are divided and sent out 1/3 globally to Episcopal Relief & Development, 1/3 nationally to the Armed Services and Federal Chaplains of The Episcopal Church, and 1/3 locally to Henderson County outreach.

The Outreach Camp at Saint Columba's Conference & Retreat Center in Memphis, TN was named this year's recipient of the Patricia Minkler Howell Endowment for Children's Outreach grant, a sub fund of Kanuga Endowment, Inc.

The grant assists community-based efforts by parishes, dioceses and nonprofits that focus on children's ministry and emphasize children serving other children. The fund enabled 45 children to attend the weeklong overnight camp this past summer. Applications for the grant are reviewed each year between November 1 and April 15. If your group would like to apply for next year's grant, visit giving.kanuga.org.

In 2014 and into 2015 Kanuga was the site chosen by many Episcopal groups from the national, provincial, diocesan and parish levels, confirming the important role it plays in the many ministries of the Church. Nationally we hosted the spring meeting of the House of Bishops, CPG Benefits Partner Conference, Federal Chaplains for both TEC, the General Board of Examining Chaplains, Integrity, New Community Lay & Clergy Retreat and Nuevo Amanecer.

From Province IV were the Altar Guild, Daughters of the King, HIV/AIDS Ministry, Synod and Women's Conferences. On the diocesan level we hosted clergy retreats, executive councils, standing committees, youth retreats and the Convention of the Diocese of Western North Carolina. At the parish level there were over 35 parish retreats, 25 vestries, several choirs and retreats for men, women and youth.

Kanuga welcomes all types of associations, churches and organizations for events such as training, education, retreats, workshops, conferences, and more. With its quiet setting and accessible location, Kanuga offers a unique venue with a variety of spaces and services to accommodate many groups' needs. Over 70 organizations such as the Diocese of Charleston (RC) Priests Retreat, the Haden Institute, Medicine & Ministry Conference and the SC/NC Planned Giving Conference enable Kanuga to succeed as a viable business and further its own programming and mission.

In 2014 and into 2015 Kanuga had a terrific lineup of its own conferences. Subjects sounded comfortably familiar but the speakers and formats were fresh and innovative. For example, the Lansing Lee Conference experienced eternity with keynoter Dr. Eben Alexander. Nuevo Amanecer, a bi-annual conference to better equip for ministry those working within the Latino/Hispanic community, was co-sponsored by TEC & ELCA. The Christian Formation Conference, the largest event of its kind in the Church, learned about "Hope in the Midst of Crisis" with keynote speaker Lyndon Harris. Kanuga's youth conferences served 300 participants over the year at Winterlight and the summer Youth Week conferences.

We look forward to seeing you soon. All of us at Kanuga continue to be grateful to friends, supporters, conference and Guest Period participants, campers and partners in ministry from the Episcopal Church in South Carolina. Please join us with your wonderful presence and your amazing Kanuga Spirit as we head onward through the year!

Faithfully,



James L. Haden
Vice President of Hospitality & Sales



More than just a great place to live, Still Hopes is a place to thrive...

2015 Annual Report

Danny Sanford, Executive Director

As I reflect on 2014 the words that reverberate in my mind include victory, triumph, and success. The long awaited Main Street re-invention began construction in January and is now nearly completed. With it came the realization of the final piece of a plan laid by Still Hopes' Board of Trustees of 2001. That plan was to achieve a community where residents lived a rich full life with opportunities to live better, healthier, happier lives than they could have lived by staying home. As I write this, I can see that vision being accomplished in grand style.

If you visit our campus, you will find a newly created main entrance with a newly created space for meeting with prospective residents; A place that is welcoming and speaks to the vibrancy of life at Still Hopes. You would be able to walk into the gateway to the Main Street Venue that is so warm and inviting that residents are now spending lots of time in social gathering with one another. You could order your favorite espresso, café latte, or cappuccino made by Still Hopes' own Barista, along with some hand dipped ice cream or a wonderful hand-made pastry. You would find a brand new space for the library with an amazing assortment of books, music and movies and you would notice that the light and the airiness of the room is wonderful and alive. You would discover two new dining venues, along with a totally revitalized main dining venue and you would discover many other social elements of Main Street that would beckon you to slow down and spend some time with friends. In short you would find a life worth living.

All the new spaces and places you would discover build on the foundation to create a wellness focused campus begun in 2001. What the Shearouse Center for Wellness did to rocket Still Hopes physical fitness program for residents into the new century, Main Street does for the social and mental aspects of wellness. Just like the bringing forth of our Sanders Guignard Rehabilitation Suites to provide state-of-the-art short term rehabilitation, Main Street brings forth a quality to those who choose to live at Still Hopes for the long term.

I would be remiss to forego the opportunity to reflect on how wonderful the residents of Still Hopes have been during this extended time of re-invention and corresponding renovation work. We have totally transformed in excess of 35,000 square feet of existing living space, all while we continue to live and work here every day. Each resident has taken this in stride and even taken opportunities to bring fun into the misery of construction renewal.

So, finally, please know that Still Hopes will not rest on its laurels. The Board of Trustees recognizes that Still Hopes is the premier community in the Midlands of SC and knows that in order to continue to be that for a second 38 year time span, we will continue to renew and improve the campus to provide the kinds of services and amenities that the next several generations of people will want to enjoy. Still Hopes is on a continuing voyage into a future for services for high quality aging and lifelong growth and the journey will never end; the destination will never be absolutely reached.

 A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danny Sanford".

Danny Sanford



VOORHEES COLLEGE is pleased to submit this report to the Annual Convention of the The Episcopal Church in South Carolina. We continue to be blessed by our partnership with the diocese as we are truly “Partners in Mission.” Dr. Cleveland L. Sellers, Jr. began his administrative role as President in June of 2008. For the past seven years, The College has encountered some struggles but at the same time, achieved some significant accomplishments.

Voorhees College like all other Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the nation have been impacted by external pressures including a decline in federal funding along with the Sequestration of federal grant dollars and changes in the policy of Parent Plus Loans which our students and parents were impacted. Additionally, the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy has impacted student’s eligibility to receive financial aid and impacted our enrollment of returning students. These and a number of other external pressures from the federal government have and will have an adverse impact on the viability of Voorhees College now and in the future..

The College remains proactive, vigilant and resilient in managing its resources efficiently and effectively and are poised to continue the legacy of our founder, Ms. Elizabeth Evelyn Wright Menafee. We are proud to report the following accomplishments:

- We met our budgeted enrollment for Fall 2015 and proudly state that our numbers reflect a positive stance over last year’s enrollment. The Admissions Staff is staffed with new and energetic recruiters that are working hard to ensure our Enrollment projections are met in the future.
- Work has already begun to construct a new Living and Learning Center on the campus and is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2016.
- We were successful in the refinancing of a 15 million bond which has improved our cash position and management of debt.
- We have recently launched a new website which will improve our marketing and communications as well as user interface and design.
- In May, 2015 we graduated the first Emergency Management graduate in the State of South Carolina and the program is growing as it begins to attract first responders and law enforcement personnel.
- Our consortium with the U. S. Department of Energy continues to prepare our students for careers in Cyber Security with our students conducting internships at DOE sites especially Lawrence Livermore in California. The College has also continued summer and Saturday academies for cyber education with middle and high school students.
- Finally, the College was recently nationally ranked in the Best Bang for Your Buck category by Washington Monthly magazine.

The major emphasis for the college’s strategic planning is the successful completion of the Fifth Year Review by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The Leadership Team has begun work on the Compliance Certification and the Quality Enhancement Program steering committee is preparing the QEP Impact Report. Our submission is due in September, 2017.

We want to invite the Diocese to join us in our 5th annual President’s Scholarship Gala in Charleston, South Carolina on Saturday, April 9, 2016 and also to join us for our annual Absalom Jones Feast Celebration in February 2016. Additional details and invitations will come from our

College Chaplain, Fr. James Yarsiah, who continues to lead our spiritual development program on campus.

While the College continues to shine and deal with external pressures, it is with deep regret that I notify the Diocese of my decision to step down as president and retire effective at the end of the 2015-2016 academic year. Serious health challenges make this decision necessary at this time. I want to thank the Bishop and Clergy in the Diocese in South Carolina for your unwavering support of the College during my tenure. We have created a community of scholars who lives have been changed as a result of the quality education and nurturing environment provided by the administrators, faculty, and staff. The merging of Faith and Intellect on our campus makes our work as an HBCU relevant..

- Dr Cleveland L. Sellers, President

Appendix XIII

Address of The Rt. Rev. Bishop Gillies Guest Preacher at Convention Eucharist November 14, 2015

In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Amen

My Dear Brothers and Sisters what an amazing privilege and blessing has been bestowed upon me to be your preacher for your Convention. This is my second visit to your State; Liz and I previously having been the beneficiaries of the wonderful kindness and generosity of Grace Episcopal Church in Charleston. And now here we are once more experiencing the warmth and goodness of the southern United States in this visit to Pawley's Island.

As its representative I bring you the greetings of my own Scottish Episcopal Church as well as of my own Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney. Unashamedly we call ourselves the Episcopal Church!

We are the most northerly of all Anglican Dioceses in the United Kingdom with the greater part of the Shetland Islands stretching a hundred miles or so north of latitude 60o. Although that puts us well and truly on the same line as southern Greenland it is the Gulf Stream that you cook up for us very nicely in your hot summers which keeps our island winters relatively mild, even that far north. So just think, as you swelter in humid summers, of the gift your heat brings us over the winter months that follow!

But I recognize also that nature has its destructive side. I saw with deep concern the floods that came your way and as I watched CNN I voiced a prayer for you. On television I saw scenes, familiar from our visit to Charleston, under water and I heard of the Georgetown area being amongst one of the most affected places. When the water subsides the damage remains as do my prayers for God's strength to be with you in your ongoing recovery.

Preparing this address has been an excitement. Your convention theme, 'The Call to All' emphasizes the ministries that we all have. This theme is dear to my heart and has been the subject of much of my own developmental and missional theology for thirty years and more. And yet, and yet, even though I cannot see any alternative missional theology appropriate for our time, both in Britain and I suspect here as well, still I find clergy puzzled and at times skeptical, and laity somewhat nervous on the one hand, or uncritically in denial on the other. So let me lay out the broad terms of what I fundamentally believe is God's call to all of us whether clergy or lay.

First of all, your Convention theme, 'The Call to All', could also be titled '*God's* Call to All'. The explicit reference to God is crucial. What's more it isn't new. God has called people to Him and to His service since time began. Not everyone has been willing. There was Moses who was one of the reluctant ones. Likewise Jonah.

There were also enthusiasts, not least Peter and James amongst the Disciples.

And today, there's you and me. You may be a reluctant; you may be an enthusiast. Or a slightly apprehensive combination of the two.

Deep in my heart I can come to no other conclusion that whoever we are, wherever we are, and whatever our personal disposition, God is calling to us personally, through the voice of the Holy Spirit, to live the life of Jesus Christ today.

This calling requires us to *step up* to the mark and then *step out* in faithful response to grow into that discipleship for which God is calling us today. What's more, God *doesn't only* take people who are already trained for the job, but significantly takes and targets those who are *open to Him*, and then changes them as He did those first disciples of Jesus.

It is just over eight years ago that I came into the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney as the newly consecrated bishop and during that time I have come to value and treasure the many occasions when I have been privileged to walk alongside those who are seeking how to express God's call in their lives. In other words to accompany those who are explicitly and intentionally seeking to follow God's call to be disciples of Jesus now, as well as creating the conditions for others similarly to do so.

There can be no room for complacency in this task for I've discovered that the message needs to be repeated over and over again so that sooner, rather than too late, everyone will discern God calling each one of us to deploy gifts he has given us for those tasks he expects of us as his disciples.

How does God's Call to us show itself in our lives, personally? It is through the gifts that God gives us.

In the New Testament Letters there are five locations where gifts are listed which God, through his Holy Spirit, gives to His people. Some are more general in tone – most famously Faith, Hope and Love in 1 Corinthians 13. Some are more specific. Here's an example.

For about twelve years a man in my former congregation sought every which way to undermine and destroy the ministry I had as rector. I won't bother you with the details but I cannot praise highly enough the support that came to me from the church vestry members, the ministry team and from the wider congregation who knew what was going on. In many ways all these people recognized they had a call in ministry to support me in mine. But there was one occasion when, at a conference on prayer for healing, I went forward and shared with two people what was happening to me. This was at a church in another diocese.

They followed up what I said with a few questions for clarification and then began praying for me and over me with laying on of hands. Prayer was their gift from God and it was to prayer for others that God was calling them. They were exercising that gift with me. They began in English and in due course moved into praying in tongues.

Now I don't have and never have had a call from God to pray in tongues. Nor do I have a gift for the translation of tongues. Therefore I didn't, and still don't, have a clue as to what they said in that prayer. But after they'd finished I had a colossal smile across my face. I felt everyone was looking at me. Very disarming indeed, because I am British after all! However what came to me, as I walked back to my seat, were the words of scripture: 'perfect love casts out fear'.

That was the outcome of their call from God to prayer, and of their specific prayer for me that day. From that moment in every dealing with that man, and his raging didn't stop, I ran the mantra through my head over and over again: 'perfect love casts out fear'. Since then, in every other situation of conflict I run that carousel in my mind, 'perfect love casts out fear'.

It came from God and is now part of the call I live. I simply offer it to you as you face very different, but equally draining, conflict. 'Perfect love casts out fear.'

So then, with God's call to each of us come gifts from God so that we can work out the consequences of that call under His authority.

This isn't automatic and no person will ever be able put the gifts God gives them to work, in building his kingdom around where their feet are, unless they know they are released for this and given permission for this to happen.

What are the conditions for this?

1. First, a genuine acceptance that God is calling each and every one of us in his service for the expansion of his kingdom. If we don't believe this then nothing else will follow. Your church will become clergy dominated and that's no good for anyone!
2. Next, a genuine acceptance that God's call to us is in proportion to the gifts that God gives us and according to the capacity we have to respond. God will only give you gifts that are right for you.
3. Clergy, and others amongst you who are theologically gifted, need to encourage this teaching and this release of gifts. This is a vital missional and catechetical imperative for our times.
4. And lay people if I may speak to you for just a moment, you need to accept that God has an individual and personal call to each one of you to serve Him and to serve His people. Yes, in worship. Yes, in wider church service. And yes, in the community beyond. This may not work out in quite the way you expect it to or think it should. An example to illustrate what I mean.

Quite some time ago I considered that I had the gift of song from God, of making music with my voice. Thankfully that period of my life didn't last long. For there were others around me who, though putting me through three years of personal singing lessons aiming to correct my musical deficiencies, eventually came to me and said, "Look, God is giving you many gifts and to each of these you must respond, but we are saying to you quite explicitly that you do not have the gift of song and this you must accept." I took their advice. I had never sung a correct note before that day and haven't since, except by accident.

You each will have a personal call from God, but you will need the honesty of others around you to help you discern which gifts you have at your disposal and how they can be put to the building of God's kingdom in those places where He has called you to serve Him, His people and His Church. And you'll need to be robust enough to take correction from others and, when occasion demands, also to give it.

And this leads me into my final point. Take risks. Another story. A longish one I'm afraid.

Julie once rang me up. Many years ago. It was a Friday morning and I was quietly minding my own business. In that phone call she told me that she had just got a Masters degree in Chaplaincy Studies and she wanted to work for the church in a nursing home as a chaplain.

To say that I nearly fell off my chair would be not far from the truth. Julie was a Californian (no problem about that) with a wonderful free and easy air about her. But I thought to myself, 'How dare she almost say she wants a position when she hadn't even told me beforehand she was doing

a degree in Chaplaincy Studies. Her degree had been mostly by distance learning and had had no practical component.

By a wonderful piece of God's providence I didn't stand on my high horse, if you see what I mean, but I continued talking to her, finding out more, and gradually getting my head around and into her situation.

I commended chaplaincy look-see visits at a local hospital, likewise local care homes. All came to naught. And then there was what became a long vacancy in a neighbouring parish. Its Friday morning communions became my responsibility. One was a more formal communion in a residential home and the other something more informal in a day-care centre. Here's where I could take Julie.

She was remarkable. Over the two years of that vacancy she accompanied me week-in, week-out. She taught me how to give the bread and wine of communion to people with dementia and who didn't know what to do with the bread. She could do this not because she'd learned it in her chaplaincy degree but because God had given her a calling for pastoral care and an insight into pastoral and sacramental need. And in response to God's call to her she, a lay person, passed on to me – a priest of, at that time, twenty five years' experience – the gifts that came from God's call to her.

More than that, I saw her talk to people. Not get trapped in conversations, where there was no ending to the person's flow of words, without being able to re-divert the flow of conversation to a good ending. And she reflected back to me her views on what I was doing.

Julie followed God's call. Her sense of God's will for her met with my acceptance (and yes, I admit, my initially skeptical acceptance). This, in turn, led to an opening up and working out of God's call in real practical time. It was indeed a real discovery of how God seeks each one of us and provides gifts sufficient to release the call at the point of need: Julie's need, my need, and the needs of those wonderful people we encountered in those situations.

The initial lesson for me, as a priest, was not to assume there was some prescriptive protocol into which a person needed to fit before God's call to them was acknowledged.

The next lesson for me was to be obviously open for what God was doing through Julie, and of His call to her and of how this would then evolve and grow in ways that were beyond my capacity to predict at the start.

Beyond that, there was the call to me so to shape the way I did things as a priest that this person, Julie – though it could have been anybody, could then be freed to work out the call that God had given her.

Julie grew in discipleship. She was stretched. So was I. And, without any shadow of doubt, God's will was done.

As you'll have by now realized, I could talk for hours on your theme for this weekend and I could give you story after story to demonstrate with empirical examples my absolute commitment that explicit acknowledgement of God's Call to each of us is shown by our willing acceptance of the Gifts which He gives us to live out that call. I could develop theology upon theology to support what I've just been saying to you. And if you want textual analysis and scriptural hermeneutic to take it further there's bucket loads of that as well.

But, no. None of that for now. Let me close by saying that God's Call to All will sometimes be found outworked in licensed lay ministry. For a few of us it is through holy orders. Most times however it will be in more informal and unstructured ways for all the people of God's church. Of one thing I am absolutely certain: God has a Calling for everyone here today and when that is accepted and lived then we will indeed see His Kingdom taking shape around us wherever we are. Whoever we are.

Amen.

†Robert Gillies
Seabury Day 2015
Pawley's Island, South Carolina

Appendix XIV

In Memoriam

Report to the Convention of individuals of our diocese who have died since our last Annual Convention, given by The Rev. Roy Hills:

The Ven. Jack Becwkith, retired clergy who served the diocese as archdeacon.

The Rev. Dan Eckman, retired clergy of East Cooper Episcopal Church and member of various diocesan committees

Mr. Herbert Fielding, member of Calvary Church and former state senator, who was involved with committees of the diocese.

Mr. Ben Hutto, a longtime musician, music director, and friend of the diocese.

The Rev. Capers Limehouse, deacon at St. Stephen's, Charleston, who was involved with the chaplaincy program at Roper St. Francis Hospital, as well as other diocesan ministries with her husband, Walter Limehouse.

The Rev. Charles Sturm, retired clergy from St. George's, Summerville

The Rev. Walter Thomas, former rector of St. Paul's, Bennetsville

Mrs. Rhoda Votaw, wife of the Rev. Al Votaw, who served with Al as Chaplains to the Retired of our diocese, as well as a former General Convention deputy and diocesan officer in the Diocese of Connecticut.