

Journal of the 227th Annual Diocesan Convention

The Episcopal Church in South Carolina

"The Wisdom of the Body"

All Saints' Episcopal Church, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina November 10-11, 2017

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Institutions of the Diocese

Bishop Gadsden Canterbury House Episcopal Home at Still Hopes Kanuga Conferences, Inc. Porter-Gaud School York Place University of the South

Voorhees College

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

The Bishop The Rt. Rev. Gladstone B. Adams, III

> Archdeacon The Ven. Calhoun Walpole

Chancellor Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale

Treasurer The Rev. Dr. James Taylor

Communications Director Mrs. Holly Votaw

Diocesan Ministry Developer Mrs. Andrea McKellar

Executive Assistant to the Bishop & Diocesan Administrator
Mrs. Lauren S. Kinard

227th Annual Convention Committee Appointments

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. Dr. Jennie Olbrych

The Ven. Calhoun Walpole

The Rev. Roy Tripp

Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale

<u>Credentials - Clergy</u>

The Rev. Dr. George Moyser, Chair

The Rev. Adam Shoemaker

<u>Credentials - Lay</u>

Ms. Leslie Gilbert, Chair

Ms. Arenilla Bush

Elections

The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey, Chair

Mr. Kerry Grant

Mr. Jack Case

Necrology

The Rev. Phil Emanuel, Chair

Finance

Mr. Bart Carson

Ms. Lynn Hopkins

Mr. Mike Jefferson

Ms. Barbara Mann

Mr. Bubba Foy

Ms. Susan Schady

Mr. Bill Beak

The Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor

New Parishes and Missions

Mr. Rick Stall, Chair

Mrs. Susie Goss

The Rev. Jack Nietert

Mr. Thomas S. Tisdale, ex-officio

Resolutions

Ms. Rebecca Lovelace, Chair

The Rev. Al Votaw

The Rev. Pam Fahrner

Mr. Thomas Tisdale, ex-officio

Nominations

The Very Rev. Chris Huff, Chair

Ms. Betsy Luke

The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey

Ms. Pamela Guess

The Very Rev. John Zahl

Ms. Elsa McDowell

The Very Rev. Wil Keith

Mr. Doug Billings

Appointment of Diocesan Committees

Nominations of Commission on Ministry

The Rev. Dow Sanderson, Chair

Ms. Mary Ann Foy

Mrs. Monica Hammonds

Mr. Chris Hayes

The Rev. Jean McGraw

Ms. Jane Hart Lewis

The Very Rev. Rick Lindsey

Dr. Amy Webb

Appointment to Title IV Disclipinary Board

Dr. George Geer
Ms. Barbara Gilchrist
The Rev. Jean McGraw

Mr. Peter Hearn The Rev. Cn. Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II

The Rev. Cn. Caleb Lee

The Rev. Dr. David Williams
The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey

Ms. Carrington S. Wingard

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

The Rev. J. Michael Wright (2017)

The Rev. Rick Lindsey (2017)

Ms. Pam Guess (2018)

Ms. Virginia Weaver (2017)

The Very Rev. Chris Huff (2019)

Ms. Sue Cavanaugh (2017)

The Rev. Jean McGraw (2019)

The Rev. Pam Fahrner (2018)

Ms. Pat Neumann (2019)

The Rev. Cn. Caleb Lee (2018)

Mr. Woody Rutter (2019)

Standing Committee

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

The Rev. Dow Sanderson (2017)

The Rev. Cn. John Zahl (2017)

Mr. Timothy Armstrong (2018)

Ms. Barbara Mann (2018)

Mr. Doug Billings (2017)

The Very Rev. Wil Keith (2019)

Ms. Ginga Wilder (2017)

The Rev. Jeff Richardson (2019)

The Rev. Mark Brinkmann (2018)

Ms. Carol Grish (2019)

The Rev. Dr. James Yarsiah (2018) Ms. Rebacca Lovelace (2019)

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

Mr. Bob Pinkerton

The Rev. James Taylor

Mr. Robert Moffit

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

York Place

(Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina currently oversees the property at York Place)

Kanuga Conferences, Inc.

PO Drawer 250, Hendersonville, NC The Rev. Michael O'Sullivan, 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
Mrs. Ann Stirling
Mrs. Jane Hart Lewis
The Very Rev. Wil Keith

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, Lower School Chaplain

Voorhees College

Denmark, SC 29042 Ms. Mary Moule, Esq., Chairman of Board of Trustees

Dr. Franklin Evans, President Trustees for the Diocese of South Carolina: The Rev. James Yarsiah, Chaplain

Former Bishops of The Diocese

First Bishop The Rt. Rev. Robert Smith, D.D. Consecrated September 13, 1795, Died October 28, 1801 The Rt. Rev. Theodore Dehon, D.D. Second Bishop Consecrated October 15, 1812, Died August 6, 1817 The Rt. Rev. Nathaniel Bowen, D.D. Third Bishop 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 The Rt. Rev. Thomas Frederick Davis, D.D. Fifth Bishop Consecrated October 17, 1853, Died December 2, 1871 The Rt. Rev. William Bell White Howe, D.D. Sixth Bishop Consecrated October 9, 1871, Died November 25, 1894 The Rt. Rev. Ellison Capers, D. D. Seventh Bishop Consecrated July 20, 1893, Died April 22, 1908 The Rt. Rev. William Alexander Guerry, D.D. Eighth Bishop 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 The Rt. Rev. Thomas N. Carruthers, D.D., T.D Tenth Bishop Consecrated May 4, 1944, Died June 12, 1960 The Rt. Rev. Gray Temple, D.D. **Eleventh Bishop** Consecrated January 11, 1961, Died October 28, 1999 The Rt. Rev. C. FitzSimons Allison, D. Phil (Oxon.) Twelfth Bishop Consecrated September 25, 1980, Resigned February 24, 1990 The Rt. Rev. Edward L. Salmon, Jr. Thirteenth Bishop Consecrated February 24, 1990, Resigned February 1, 2006 Fourteenth Bishop The Rt. Rev. Mark Joseph Lawrence Consecrated January 26, 2008-Removed October 2012 Provisional Bishop The Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg January 26, 2013 – Retired August 31, 2016

List of Clergy in Order of Canonical Residence

RESIGNED BISHOPS

Allison, C. FitzSimons Skilton, Willam J.

September 25, 1980 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 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 Powell, Marilyn October 10, 1993 Burton, J. Michael January 11, 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, 2005 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 Smith. Michael W. October 12, 2006 Russ, Frank D., Jr. December 19, 2005 Zahl, John. June 16, 2007

November 18, 2017

Brinkmann. Mark R. August 20, 2007 Smith, Gregory August 14, 2008 Mills, III, Ladson April 6, 2010 Rathman, William July 16, 2012 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 Thompson, Fred E. January 17, 2016 Donehue, Roberson C. May 14, 2016 Wilson, Thomas January 15, 2017 March 9, 2017 Tripp, Roy Williams, Jill October 9, 2017 Shoemaker, Adam October 18, 2017

Deaneries and Deans

Roberson, Jason

Charleston Peninsula The Very Rev. John Zahl West Charleston The Very Rev. Chris Huff

Southern The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey

The Very Rev. Wil Keith Pee Dee-Waccamaw

Parishes in Union with Convention and Delegates Attending

All Saint's Episcopal Church

3001 Meeting Street Hilton Head Island, SC 29926 (843) 681-8333 Michael Binford, Carol Grish, Michael L.M. Jordan, Leslie Gilbert

Calvary Episcopal Church

104 Line Street Charleston, SC 29403 (843) 723-3878 Arie Bush, Jennie Cooper, Virginia Weaver, Lonnie Hamilton III

Grace Episcopal Church

98 Wentworth Street Charleston, SC 29401 Robert Behre, Susie Carter, Elsa McDowell, Cece Stricklin

St. George's Episcopal Church

9110 Dorchester Road Summerville, SC 29485 (843) 873-0772 Evelyn LeGrand, Doug Raisley, Michael Singletary, Diane Wilson

Church of the Holy Communion

218 Ashley Avenue Charleston, SC 29403 (843) 722-2024 Dawn Balsam, Sue Cavanaugh, Francie Geer, Steve Johnston

Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church

85 Baskerville Drive Pawleys Island, SC 29585 (843) 237-3459 Barbara Belt, Sheila Freeze, Debra Harris, Elizabeth Marlow

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

18 Thomas Street Charleston, SC 29403 (843) 722-0267 George Bresnihan, Hillery Douglas, Anita Jefferson, Michael Jefferson

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

PO Box 761 Port Royal, SC 29935 Jane Frederick, Laura Nehf, Nicole Passeggio, Woody Rutter

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

67 Anson Street Charleston, SC 29401 (843) 723-8818 Vicki Ravenel, Sherry Remillard, Susan Roehrich, Zeh Wellington

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

801 11th Avenue N North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582 (843) 249-1169 Becky Baker, Peter Fellows, Judy Kumerfield, Lin Roderick

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

1150 E Montague Ave North Charleston, SC 29405 (843) 747-0479 Reggie Fuller, Kim Horton, Cheryl Leech, Robert Moffitt

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,

Church of the Holy Communion

401 Main Street N Allendale, SC 29810 (843) 584-2346 Rebecca Brabham, George Brabham

Church of the Heavenly Rest

152 Collie Road Estill SC 29918 (803) 584-2346 Donald Cook, Sue Cook

Christ Episcopal Church

5266 Carolina Hwy Bamberg SC 29003 (803) 793-4837. Scott Bester, Ray Sabalis

Church of the Epiphany

212 Central Ave Summerville SC 29483 (843) 873-8915 Patricia Sobol, Wally Sobol

Church of the Good Shepherd

PO Box 7 Summerville, SC 29484 Betsy Luke, John 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 David Hardin, Richard Stall

East Cooper Episcopal Church

C/o 2621 Crooked Stick Lane Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 Bonny Collins, Hannah Heyward,

Episcopal Church on Edisto

PO Box 239 Edisto Island, SC 29438 James Gettys, Pat Neumann

The Episcopal Church on Okatie

231 Hazzard Creek Drive, Ste 1 Ridgeland, SC 29936 Zina Harter, Brenda Reiser

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

305 Hampton Avenue Kingstree, SC 29556 (843) 355-7575 Earleen Green, Kathy McCullough

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

PO Box 752 Conway, SC 29578 Barry Dennis, Pete Hearn

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 Joe Waters, Pattie White

St. Francis Episcopal Church

c/o 2341 Wofford Rd Charleston, SC 29414 Ellen Hardin, Dee Dee Tileston

St. James-Santee Episcopal Church

144 Oak Street McClellanville, SC 29458 (843) 887-4386 Macy Frampton, Patty Fulcher

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 Lugenia Rochelle, Gerald Wright

Proceedings of the 227th Annual Convention Friday, November 10 and Saturday, November 11 All Saints', Hilton Head

Friday, November 10, 2017 First Business Session

The Annual Convention was called to order at 5:30 pm by the Rt. Rev. Gladstone B. Adams III at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Hilton Head Island, SC.

Bishop Adams offered thanks to all at All Saints who have done great work in preparation for this gathering, especially those fine people cooking dinner outside in the parking lot. He asked those present to raise their hands in voting when asked, and noted that if an individual offers a second to a motion to please state their name for the record of the minutes.

Bishop Adams presented the Agenda to the Convention for a adoption. There were no changes, and the Convention adopted the agenda as presented.

Bishop Adams then called upon The Rev. Dr. George Moyser of the Clergy Credentials Committee. He reported that 23 clergy delegates and 61 lay delegates had seat, voice, and vote.

Bishop Adams recognized the Secretary of Convention, the archdeacon, The Ven. Callie Walpole, who certified that a quorum was present in both orders.

The Bishop declared that the Convention was duly organized and ready for business.

Bishop Adams recognized The Rev. Dow Sanderson, President of the Standing Committee, who nominated The Ven. Calhoun Walpole as Secretary. A second was offered by The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey, All Saints', Hilton Head. Bishop Adams 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.

Rev. Sanderson nominated Mr. Thomas Tisdale to the position of Chancellor. A second was offered by Mr. James Gettys, TEC on Edisto. There were no additional nominations, a motion was made to elect Mr. Tisdale.

Rev. Sanderson nominated The Rev. Dr. James Taylor to the position of Treasurer. A second was offered by The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey, All Saints, Hilton Head. The Bishop asked for additional nominations, and hearing none, a motion was made to close nominations and elect Fr. Taylor. There was a second and he was elected by acclamation.

Bishop Adams recognized the Ven. Callie Walpole, as Secretary, for announcements. She pointed out the nearest exits and restroom locations, alerted all that the bishop's staff are wearing diocesan nametags, and volunteers of All Saints' and the Southern Deanery are wearing yellow shirts and

'Ask Me' nametags. Instructions were given as to the WiFi in the church, and how to address the convention. She lastly asked for all in attendance to silence their cell phones.

Bishop Adams introduced and welcomed the Rev. Bill Redfield. Bishop Adams shared he has known Bill for 23 years, and was his Bishop for 23. Currently residing in New Hampshire, he recently retired as the rector of Trinity Church in Fayetteville, NY. Bill will be our guest speaker and presenter tomorrow morning.

Bishop Adams announced those individuals he has nominated to the Commission on Ministry for the next year. These individuals are: The Rev. Dow Sanderson, Chair, The Very Rev. Wil Keith, The Very Rev. Rick Lindsey, The Rev. Jean McGraw, The Ven. Calhoun Walpole, Ms. Mary Ann Foy, Ms. Monica Hammonds, Mr. Chris Hayes, Ms. Jane Hart Lewis, and Dr. Amy Webb. The Rev. Cn. Caleb Lee, Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston, offered a second. The vote passed.

The Bishop nominated Mr. Thomas Tisdale as Parliamentarian of the Convention and thanked him for serving in that role.

Bishop Adams called attention to Committee Appointments for the Convention, found as a green-colored handout in the delegate packets, and shared those individuals had been appointed.

He then appointed members to the Title IV Disciplinary Board. These individuals will serve for a term of three years, as the initial term of this group expires with his convention. The appointees are: The Rev. Cn. Caleb Lee, The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey, The Rev. Jean McGraw, The Rev. Dr. Wilmot Merchant II, The Rev. Dr. David Williams, Dr. George Geer, Ms. Barbara Gilchrist, Mr. Peter Hearn, and Ms. Carrington Wingard.

The Bishop offered his thanks to the members of Standing Committee and Diocesan Council who are rotating off as of this convention and ending their terms, as well as one of the lay Trustees of University of the South. The Rev. Dow Sanderson, The Very Rev. John Zahl, Mr. Doug Billings and Ms. Ginga Wilder have served on Standing Committee, while The Very Rev. Richard Lindsey, The Very Rev. Michael Wright, Ms. Sue Cavanaugh and Ms. Virginia Weaver have served on Diocesan Council. Ms. Ann Stirling has completed her term as Lay Trustee for University of the South.

The Bishop appointed the deans to serve in the four deaneries for the coming year: The Very Rev. Rick Lindsey, Southern, The Very Rev. Wil Keith, PeeDee/Waccamaw, The Very Rev. John Zahl, Peninsula, The Very Rev. Chris Huff, West Charleston.

Archdeacon Walpole issued a last call for resolutions or additional nominations from the floor. There being none, she declared the nominations and resolutions to be closed.

Ven. Walpole reminded the Convention to submit names for the Necrology report by this evening. It was announced that there is a dinner reception in Gordon Mann Hall and on the lawn following the Eucharist and all are welcome. She reminded delegates to officially sign in and register in the library. She called attention to the agenda and the meeting times and locations for the various committees meeting tomorrow. Bishop Adams announced that the Convention will be in recess until 9:00 am the next day, following Eucharist.

Saturday, November 11, 2017 Second Business Session

At 9:05 am. Bishop Adams called upon the The Rev. George Moyser for Morning Prayer/Devotion.

The Bishop introduced The Rev. Bill Redfield, retired rector of Trinity Church, Fayetteville, NY, as the guest speaker to lead the morning formation session. Fr. Redfield brought his experience as an Episcopal priest, licensed clinical social worker, and student of Centering Prayer under Cynthia Bourgeault, leading a session that included times of quiet reflection, one-on-one conversations and deep sharing and listening.

At the conclusion of the formation session, Bishop Adams announced a 10 minute break.

Bishop Adams recognized Ms. Leslie Gilbert, Chair of the Lay Credentials Committee for the second report of that committee. Ms. Gilbert reported that there were 26 clergy and 71 lay delegates present with seat, voice, and vote, and moved acceptance of the report. The convention approved the motion to accept.

Bishop Adams called for a report from the Diocesan Treasurer, The Rev. Dr. James Taylor.

The Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor addressed the convention. (See Appendix II) He expressed gratitude for the individuals and parishes pledging and supporting the diocese. He gave his thanks and appreciation to the Finance Committee and Diocesan bookkeeper, Ms. Sue Schady, for their work and efforts this past year. He reported that the diocese had an official audit completed by McGregor and Co. from Columbia, and the report from the auditors was clear.

Bishop Adams asked Ms. Sue Cavanaugh, member of Diocesan Council, to move that the 2018 proposed budget be presented to the floor. Ms. Cavanaugh made such a motion. (See Appendix III) The Bishop called for discussion, there was none, and he called for the vote. The motion carried and the budget was approved.

Bishop Adams thanked Fr. Taylor and the Finance committee for their work and their report.

The Bishop called upon Mr. Michael L. Jordan, Chair of the Constitution and Canons committee, for their report. Mr. Jordan asked the delegates to look at the gray-colored handout in their packet, for the report of the committee. (See Appendix IV) Mr. Jordan announced that only one proposed change to the canons had been received. The Chancellor, Mr. Tisdale, proposed a revision to Canon 12, regarding the Trustees, to improve the structure of the Trustees. The main component is to provide for staggered terms of office for the Trustees, and to provide for election of officers. The Bishop noted that this report comes from committee and needs no second. He asked for discussion, and there was none, and the convention voted to approve the proposed changes to Canon 12.

Bishop Adams called upon Mr. Richard Stall, chair of the Committee of New Parishes and Missions. He reported that there is no new business for this Convention, but he wished to recognize the worshipping community that has existed since late 2016, but were unable to attend Annual

Convention last year and be recognized. Rick invited the Convention to welcome The Episcopal Church in Cheraw and those clergy who are regularly supplying there.

The Bishop recognized those priests who had been ordained or began new calls since the last convention. The Rev. Rob Donehue was ordained a priest, and the Rev. Jason Roberson was ordained a deacon. He noted that Jason is to be ordained a priest the following Saturday, November 18, 2017 at Holy Cross Faith Memorial.

Bishop Adams welcomed clergy, new or returned to the diocese since our last Convention:

- The Rev. Tom Wilson, Chaplain of Bishop Gadsden
- The Rev. Roy Tripp, Rector of St. Mark's, Port Royal
- The Rev. Jill Williams, Lower School Chaplain at Porter Gaud
- The Rev. Adam Shoemaker, Rector of St. Stephen's, Charleston

The Bishop announced clergy who have assumed new positions in the past year:

- The Rev. Jason Roberson Assistant Rector, Holy Cross Faith Memorial
- The Rev. Chris Thompson- Interim Rector, Church of the Holy Communion, Charleston
- The Rev. Adam Shoemaker- Rector, St Stephen's, Charleston
- The Rev. Bill Coyne- Priest-In-Charge, East Cooper Episcopal Church
- The Rev. Dow Sanderson Church of the Good Shepherd, Summerville

Bishop Adams announced clergy who are new to the diocese, who received licenses to officiate:

- The Rev. Deacon Dumont Henderson, Diocese of Maine
- The Rev. Caroline Goodkind, Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina
- The Rev. Donald Fishburne, Diocese of East Tennesee
- The Rev. Philip Linder, Diocese of Lexington
- The Rev. Robert Schwarz, Diocese of Long Island
- The Rev. Chris Thompson, Diocese of W. Virginia
- The Rev. L. Joye Cantrell, Diocese of Georgia

Bishop recognized Lauren Kay, who is in her middler year at Seminary of the Southwest. He also recognized Mac Magee and Robin Bugbee, who are current postulants of the diocese.

Lastly, the Bishop recognized the Tellers for this Convention, headed up by Mr. Kerry Grant, who will oversee the volunteers, and thanked them in advance for their efforts.

Bishop Adams called upon The Very Rev. Chris Huff, Chair of the Nominating Committee. Fr. Huff called attention to the report of the Nominating Committee, the thicker packet on white paper in the delegate handouts, and read the names presented to the committee for election to the positions of Diocesan Council and Standing Committee, with two lay and two clergy positions elected for each, as well as one lay Trustee for the University of the South (Sewanee). Fr. Huff moved the acceptance of the Nominating Report and a vote on the first ballot. As the report came from committee and needed no second, Bishop Adams asked for discussion about the ballot. There was none, the ballots were distributed and then collected.

Bishop Adams recognized the deputation for the 79th General Convention. The deputies were called forward and participated in a commissioning service. This group of individuals was elected at the 2016 Annual Diocesan Convention and will proudly represent The Episcopal Church in South Carolina in Austin next July. Deputies are Ms. Andrea McKellar, Mr. Mark Szen, Mr. Lonnie Hamilton, Ms. Carrington Wingard, Ms. Pam Guess, The Very Rev. Rick Lindsey, the Very Rev. Wil Keith, The Rev. Dr. James Taylor, The Rev. Jean McGraw, and The Rev. Dr. Wilmot Merchant.

Bishop Adams called upon the Secretary of Convention for announcements prior to lunch. The Ven. Calhoun Walpole shared the lunch instructions and invited all in attendance to walk through Gordon Mann Hall and visit with our exhibitors.

Bishop Adams offered the blessing for lunch and announced lunch break until 1:30 pm.

Bishop Adams reconvened the meeting after the lunch break. He introduced Buck Blanchard, Officer for Global Mission Development for The Episcopal Church.

Mr. Blanchard addressed the convention. He spoke of this new role in the Presiding Bishop's Office, visiting parishes and missions to encourage individuals to answer their call to be involved in international mission work.

"Anglicans around the world in 165 countries want the same things for their children we do, and they want to know us and make connections," he said. "Say yes to the call. Don't let fear keep you from doing it."

Bishop Adams thanked Mr. Blanchard for being present and sharing his message with the Convention.

He then recognized Ms. Rebecca Lovelace for the first report of the Committee on Resolutions.

Ms. Lovelace noted that there had been one proposed resolution through the Resolution committee, but the proposer has since withdrawn said resolution. It was determined by the committee, the Chancellor and the individual that the object of the proposed resolution could be achieved through other means that were better suited to do so. (See Appendix V)

The Bishop thanked Ms. Lovelace and her committee for their work.

Bishop Adams recognized The Very Rev. Rick Lindsey to give the Election Committee report. Fr. Lindsey gave his report, noting that a second ballot would not be needed in any election, and shared the election results (See Appendix VI)

> For the Standing Committee, in the lay order, Ms. Emily Guess and Mr. Rick Stall were elected, and in the Clergy order, The Rev. George Moyser and The Rev. Fred Thompson were elected to three year terms.

For Diocesan Council, in the lay order, Ms. Ray Sabalis and Ms. Carrington Wingard were elected, and The Rev. Rob Donehue and The Rev. Dr. Wilmot T Merchant II were elected in the clergy order.

Mr. Thomas Miller was elected to serve a three year term as a lay trustee of The University of the South.

Bishop Adams called upon the Chancellor, Mr. Thomas Tisdale, for his report. The Chancellor reported that the diocese continued to be in great shape canonically. We are gradually making continual improvements in what we need to serve God and his church. (See Appendix VII)

Bishop Adams thanked the Chancellor for his work on behalf of the diocese.

Bishop Adams called upon The Rev. Cn. Caleb Lee, The Rev. Rob Donehue and The Rev. James Yarsiah. The Bishop called upon The Rev. Caleb Lee and The Rev. James Yarsiah to share a report on Campus Ministries. (See Appendix X) Fr. Lee updated the Convention on the campus ministries taking place at the College of Charleston and the Citadel, Fr, Donehue reported on Coastal Carolina University, and Fr. Yarsiah shared an update from Voorhees College. (See Appendix IX)

Bishop Adams recognized Ms. Andrea McKellar for the Report on Youth Ministries. Ms. McKellar showed the video from EYE 2017 in Oklahoma.

The Bishop recognized the Institutions of the diocese, and welcomed those in attendance from those groups. He called the attention of the Convention to the reports of the institutions that were included in the delegate packet, and are also found online.

Bishop Adams called upon Mr. Danny Sanford, Executive Director of Still Hopes Retirement Community in Columbia, to share an update of exciting things happening through Still Hopes at York Place, another of our institutions as they look to grow and do things just a bit differently.

Bishop Adams called upon the Committee on Bishop's Address, chaired by Ms. Dolores Miller. Ms. Miller shared their report with the Convention.

Bishop Adams recognized The Rev. Phil Emanuel to share the Necrology Report. Fr. Emanuel offered a prayer of remembrance of those members of our diocese who had passed away since the last diocesan convention. (See Appendix VIII)

Bishop Adams recognized The Rev. Al Votaw, of the Resolutions Committee, who presented the Courtesy Resolutions. (See Appendix XI)

The Bishop called upon The Rev. Chris Thompson, Interim Rector of Church of the Holy Communion, Charleston, for the invitation to the 2018 Annual Diocesan Convention Bishop Adams, on behalf of the convention, accepted the invitation.

Bishop Adams called for any other business to be brought to the floor. There was none.

Bishop Adams gave the blessing for lunch and adjourned the meeting at 11:55.

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The Rt. Rev. Gladstone B. Adams III Provisional Bishop of the Episcopal Church in S.C. The Ven. Calhoun Walpole Convention Secretary

Appendix I

Bishop's Address to the Annual Convention of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina November 10, 2017

Isaiah 11:1-9; I Corinthians 12:12-27; Matthew 26:26-30

We know the Wisdom of the Body when we see it. In Montana a Jewish family placed a menorah in their window only to come home and find its exterior and their yard vandalized and trashed. The next morning word got out, and by that evening all the people in that community, most of whom were not Jewish, had put a menorah in their own windows. The violence of that neighborhood ended because of a connective unification that stopped it. It arises on behalf of a larger purpose and is not based entirely on the knowledge of one person. This makes wisdom collective even as individuals act within its expression.

This is my body (point to self). This is my body (point to the altar). This is my body (gesture to the assembled people). The Wisdom of the Body comes from and leads to all of these locations of the individual and of the assembly, even from outside of ourselves as we take into our bodies sacramental outward and visible signs of the Christ among us and in us all. We ingest whom we already are and are created to be individually and corporately, the Body of Christ.

I have been among you one year and three months, present in every worshiping community at least once and some now twice or more. In this relatively short time I have discovered that the wisdom of this body is broad and it is deep. I remain grateful to God to be ministering with such a blessed group of faithful people. It brings me joy.

As I survey the lay of the land of our diocese, I note that the Visioning Committee is close to the conclusion of its work. It will report before long to Diocesan Council and then decisions will need to be made as to how it is shared more widely for consideration as well as next steps to engage strategic initiatives in support of the vision and its implementation.

The Diocesan Council and other leadership will be engaging in a strategic communication plan in order to more broadly and effectively tell our story as a diocese of the Episcopal Church, who we want to be and become, using all the best tools at our disposal technologically, in the press and in social media, as instruments of the Good News.

As you know, we also are in the midst of mediation conversations with the disassociated diocese regarding diocesan and parish property, even as we wait for the State Supreme Court to respond to the motions of rehearing and recusal brought by the other side. Stay tuned. In all the above much is happening, much is unfinished and yet to be known. It is, at the same time, very rich and full of possibility. So what do we do along the way?

When Jesus shared a Passover supper with his friends and said, "this is my body," what did he create? A community! A cosmological moment came to fruition during that Last Meal before his death where all time, past and future, was made present. God's desire for us to enter into a new relationship with one another and the created order was again being revealed. We call it the Kingdom, or Reign, of God. Not only is it present now in glimpses, it is also an anticipation of a continually unfolding reality. As with all Body Wisdom, new perspectives are invited and it evokes higher aspirations. Often its emergence is grounded in a different way of listening and brings attention to the immediacy of the moment.

We, as in all of humankind, have been rescued by Jesus from all that destroys God's creation. No longer constrained by death, we are now being made into a new creation as we are defined as Christ's own forever. Jesus' life has been "poured out" in the hope of reconciliation, thereby creating a community with new possibilities for life. It is this new community for which we have been created, a community that brings life to the world and one another. It has not been created primarily to gather in incessant meetings to repair roofs and replace boilers. We repeat the covenantal meal of relationship on a regular basis in order that we will always remember who we are, to whom we belong, and who God calls us to be.

Then notice what happens in the Gospel. It is really quite stunning. After being identified with Jesus' broken and wounded body, yes, for God's Wisdom has become a body of real flesh and blood, before going out from the meal they sing a hymn, probably the Hallel Psalms 115-118. Do you get it? Vocalizing from those amazing folds within the larynx, they sing a new relationship into being and it takes every voice to make it so. The purpose is the praise of God as they sing themselves into unity! Then they go out, for from now on, their and our sole job is bringing about on earth the Kingdom of Heaven in its fullness - God's vision of perfect justice and peace, and it starts in here (pointing to my heart).

So what of this new community we have been created to be? St. Paul gives us a compelling image familiar to most of us by naming parts of the body - feet, hands, ears and eyes, as an organic image of the Body of Christ. Where might he have gotten such a picture? All preaching, including that of St. Paul, is done in a context. In Corinth, where St. Paul was ministering to a newly founded church, there was a building called the Asclepion. People went there to find healing and left images and renditions of body parts, "ex-votos" as we call them now, to indicate a votive offering of devotion and gratitude for healing (show **slide of parts at the Asclepion).** Such a practice is still done today all over the world in places of worship and at shrines although more often now with paintings, photographs and hand-written notes. St. Paul very likely borrowed from this cultural reality that he would have known well, prompting him to develop his image of the Body of Christ by naming body parts.

His point of course is that we are an organic unity, not derived from ideology or agreement on issues, but out of a relationship with a person, Jesus of Nazareth. Naming various parts of the body as examples of various responsibilities in the faith community, he says that no one part can say to another, "I have no need of you." Or to say it more positively, we need

each other and must find a way to function that way. St. Paul is clear: the Body is one and so it is with Christ. We might call this "The Wisdom of the Body." It means the end of power plays, manipulation, the running of personal agendas and "my way or the highway" reactivity that takes our marbles and goes home. All are watered of one Spirit. We come from the same source or faucet if you will, for "You are the Body of Christ and individually members of it."

Let me offer you another image. Have you ever seen a "murmuration?" Hundreds, even thousands of starlings flying together in a whirling, ever-changing pattern is a phenomenon of nature that amazes and delights. Take a look (show video). How do they do that? As they fly they seem connected as they twist and turn at a micro-second's notice.

Scientists have been surprised to learn that the flying pattern of murmurations have more in common with physics than biology. It is now believed that murmurations are similar to other systems, such as crystals forming, avalanches, metals becoming magnetized and liquids turning to gases. These systems exist on the edge, which means they are ready to be completely transformed in an instant. Like the elements in these other systems, each starling in a murmuration is connected to every other starling. The Wisdom of the Body! When one turns a *phase transition* occurs. In St. Paul's words, "If one suffers, all suffer. If one is honored, all rejoice," because we have been made, through Jesus, into a new community for God - "This is my body."

The implicit model of American Christendom we have received and too often absorbed is that our main job is to break down people's resistance to going to church – just work harder to get them to come. What is being called forth, however, is vastly different. It is a community able to turn in an instant, to live on an edge that is focused on being the Reign of God present in your community. This is not for the sake of those on the inside of the Church, but for the sake of those of our neighborhoods, whether one block away or halfway around the world.

It was John Chrysostom in the 4th century who said, "This is the rule of the most perfect Christianity, its most exact definition, its highest point, namely, the seeking of the common good...For nothing can so make a person an imitator of Christ as caring for their neighbor." Brian McLaren would help us see that "In a pluralistic world, a religion is judged by the benefits it brings to its nonmembers." And why not call upon our own blessed Bishop Guerry one more time who clearly understood the Wisdom of the Body when he said, "We are called upon to preach...a social righteousness; a corporate salvation of each individual member of the community. It is not enough that the individual, viewed apart from society. should repent and be saved. He must be saved—can only be saved—as he is a member of a family, of a Church, of a regenerated and redeemed social order...A less comprehensive Gospel we cannot preach."

This must be our focus. To do so in the world we have inherited in 2017, recall what Julia Stetcher said on Twitter through a Lutheran pastor, "We are at serious risk of being a Blockbuster Church in a Netflix world." When it comes to communicating God's Good News, we must be smarter than our so-called smartphones and smart TV's. We need to know for

example that millenials don't buy into traditional hierarchies. If we are going to reach them we must be aware that they relate through networks, causes and story-telling. What does that mean for the kind of Church we are going to be? We cannot be about protecting self and our own interests. Christianity is a call to a relationship that changes all other relationships. It is our *phase transition*, like the starlings.

When we dare to live on the edge and take risks, even to fail, the results we get are like when about 43 years ago a group of brave women stood together in a church in Philadelphia to be ordained. We in The Episcopal Church in South Carolina are reaping the benefits of that Wisdom of the Body even as it occurred at great cost for some. The Wisdom of the Body continues to be manifest as now it is permissible to ordain women to the episcopate in the Church of England. I give thanks to God that my daughter does not know of a Church that does not ordain women. The holy work of inclusion must continue to be our work among "all tribes, languages, people and nations" as long as there are people pushed to the margins, their dignity diminished, and the image of God in them unrecognized.

Some of you are aware that one of the main foci of the Fellowship of South Carolina Bishops is our concern for public education in South Carolina. It is a matter of justice as it involves issues of racial equality, violence, poverty, fair distribution of resources and class. I am aware of a public school in the South Bronx brought about there by the leadership of an Episcopal Church, where the percentage of students going to college is 98% when the other schools in the area are sending 16% to college. The reason? Some believe that even beyond good educational models, it is the system of love, support and accountability shared in the surrounding community and encouraged by the Church, that leads to such positive outcomes. The Wisdom of the Body!

It was Martin Luther King, Jr., who observed that, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." We need to participate with God in the bending. It is the hope as shown forth in Christ that urges us forward to live into the great vision of Isaiah. "A shoot will come forth from the stump of Jesse." Rooted in history, connected to the Wisdom of the ages, we discover once again that true religion brings peace where the created order is reconfigured. Once again we are given a call – to delight in the awesomeness of God as we seek to make it so, which is, in the Wisdom tradition, the favorite quality of human beings.

This Diocese, gosh, the whole Church, no, the world, needs your wisdom. It is why we cannot say "I have no need of you." We need, together, to be offering our best to re-imagine our structure in the local parish and diocese along with the entire Episcopal Church, to reimagine the language we use to communicate eternal truths, to seize the moment God is giving us to assure that the main thing really is the main thing – the Reign of God. I have a hope that our parishes will learn to share resources with one another and find ways to come together to do this work, to participate in the Wisdom of the Body. We are reminded in the book The Wisdom of Crowds that, "when more are involved it is more likely we will get it right." Collective Wisdom tells us it "is about how we come to make sound judgments with others, touched by what is common and decent in all of us."

I wonder if you would be willing to do a self-assessment in your vestries and parish committees. If you are not doing something like this from time to time, perhaps at your next gathering you could ask yourselves something like:

- What do you need to undertake in order to strengthen the life of your congregation and participate in the Wisdom of the Body?
- What will it take for you to move out beyond self-care and mere survival to be a transformative Kingdom presence in your neighborhood and beyond?

The way to start is "to be so developed in a prayerful, contemplative consciousness that it allows illusions and judgments to fall away," so Rose Marie Berger would tell us. The purpose of leadership is "not to make the present bearable, but to make the future possible." It is born in community. If we do this from a deeply centered place rooted in the wisdom way of Jesus, it will lead to action that is life-changing for all. Being a Christian is supposed to be a radical statement. Mature spiritual leadership is rooted in the collective of the Wisdom of the Body.

Yes it can all be scary. Yes we are sometimes filled with anxiety and fear, especially when it can appear that so much of what we have known is falling away. Yet our longing for God's dream needs to exceed our dread of loss. We are followers of Jesus. "If we knew where we were going, we would not have to follow anyone" (Francis Wade). Again our call: Follow Christ into the unknown and do not do it alone, "for you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

For now—pray without ceasing, listen deeply, act boldly. Trust the gift of God's Spirit among you. You are a blessed and beloved people. I am a witness to it! For you are the Wisdom of the Body, as Christ has made you to be.

Bishop Skip

Appendix II Report of the Treasurer

In one of our most beloved hymns, "King of Glory, King of Peace," we sing these words taken from George Herbert's poem: "King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee; the cream of all my heart I will bring thee..." These words "the cream of all my heart I will bring thee" express what stewardship is about. We take the very best we have to offer in time, talent, treasure, gratitude and offer ourselves to God, just as God offers redeeming love and mercy to us.

Over the years, The Episcopal Church in South Carolina has been blessed by the generosity of many people. Parishes, missions, worshiping communities and individuals have demonstrated their faith and desire for the diocese to prosper and grow. As Christians, we are called not only to receive the grace of God, but through our witness and ministries to bring our very best.

The Finance Committee and Diocesan Council has worked very hard to create an accurate and expanding budget that will meet the needs of the diocese. All committee members are pleased with the budget for 2018, as we grow and prosper.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Taylor+

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

Finance Committee:

Mr. Bart Carson, W. Charleston

Ms. Lynn Hopkins, Charleston

Mr. Mike Jefferson, Charleston

Ms. Barbara Mann, Charleston

Mr. Bubba Foy, Edisto Island

Mr. Bill Beak, Charleston

Ms. Susan Schady

The Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor

Appendix III Proposed 2018 Budget

Accounts	Budget 2017	Budget 2018
Revenues		
410000 - Parishes & Missions	\$559,289.25	\$602,547.61
481500 - Interest Income	\$50.00	\$50.00
Total Revenues	\$559,339.25	\$602,597.61
Expenses		
Compensation		
510000 - Bishop Salary	\$61,254.00	\$62,479.08
511000 - Bishop Executive Assistant Salary	\$35,424.00	\$49,248.00
512000 - Stipend for Archdeacon	\$49,095.00	\$50,076.90
512500 - Diocesan Ministry Developer Salary	\$34,650.00	\$48,081.60
513000 - Director of Communications Salary	\$13,495.00	\$32,000.00
Total Compensation	\$193,918.00	\$241,885.58
Social Security & Medicare		
520000 - Bishop Executive Asst. SS & Medicare	\$2,834.00	\$3,939.84
521000 - Dio. Ministry Developer SS & Medicare	\$2,772.00	\$3,846.53
521500 - Bishop SS & Medicare	\$0.00	\$0.00
522000 - Director of Comm. SS & Medicare	\$1,080.00	\$2,560.00
Total Social Security & Medicare	\$6,686.00	\$10,346.37
Lay Pension		
524000 - Bishop Executive Asst. Lay Pension	\$3,189.00	\$4,432.32
524500 - Ministry Developer Lay Pension	\$3,119.00	\$4,327.34
Total Lay Pension	\$6,308.00	\$8,759.66
2.01		
Mileage	h	
530000 - Bishop Mileage (Diocesan)	\$7,500.00	\$8,000.00
531000 - Archdeacon Mileage	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
532000 - Bishop Executive Assistant Mileage	\$0.00	\$750.00
533000 - Director of Communications Mileage	\$500.00	\$500.00
532500 - Ministry Developer Mileage		\$500.00
Total Mileage	\$9,000.00	\$10,750.00

Accounts	Budget 2017	Budget 2018
534000 - Bishop Exec Asst. Conf. & Training	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
535000 - Director of Commun Conf. & Training	\$1,600.00	\$2,000.00
535500 - Diocesan Ministry Dev. Conf & Training	\$4,500.00	\$4,000.00
Total Conferences & Training	\$8,600.00	\$8,500.00
Reimbursements		
537000 - Archdeacon Reimbursement	\$500.00 \$500.00	
Total Reimbursements	\$500.00	\$500.00
	•	
Episcopate		
538100 - Bishop Office	\$500.00	\$500.00
538150 - Bishop Travel (Outside of Diocese)	\$6,000.00	\$8,000.00
538200 - Conferences & Meetings Episcopate	\$6,200.00	\$6,200.00
538500 - Diocesan Guest House	\$30,000.00	\$27,500.00
Total Episcopate	\$42,700.00	\$42,200.00
•		
Support for Personnel		
540000 - Conferences & Education Fees	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
541000 - Mileage Reimbursement	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total Support for Personnel	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Administrative		
550000 - Annual Audit & Bookkeeping	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
551000 - Bank Service & Vanco Charges	\$3,500.00	\$2,000.00
551100 - Chancellor Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
551200 - Church Insurance & Surety Bond	\$4,500.00	\$6,500.00
551400 - Computer & Internet Expenses	\$4,000.00	\$4,500.00
551500 - Equipment & Software	\$0.00	\$500.00
551600 - Equipment Usage	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
551700 - Laity Conference Travel	\$500.00	\$0.00
551900 - Life/Health Insurance	\$17,880.00	\$18,000.00
552100 - Meetings & Meals	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
552200 - Office Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
552300 - Payroll Processing Fee	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
552400 - Postage & Delivery	\$600.00	\$700.00
552500 - Publications	\$500.00	\$500.00
552600 - Rent Expense	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
552700 - Safeguarding God's Children	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Accounts	Budget 2017	Budget 2018

552800 - Telecommunications	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
552900 - Treasurer Support	\$500.00	\$500.00
553000 - Workers Compensation	\$500.00	\$500.00
Total Administrative	\$68,180.00	\$68,400.00
Diocesan Programs & Support		
560000 - Advertising & Promotion	\$500.00	\$500.00
561000 - Annual Diocesan Convention	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00
561200 - Background Checks	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
561300 - Clergy Conference	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
561400 - College Ministry Program	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
561500 - Deanery Meetings	\$500.00	\$500.00
561600 - Diocesan Publication	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
561800 - Renewal of Vows	\$800.00	\$800.00
561900 - Voorhees College	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
562000 - Youth Programming	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00
562100 - Forma Conference		\$2,500.00
562200 - Porter-Gaud		\$2,000.00
Total Diocesan Programs & Support	\$29,800.00	\$30,800.00
Parishes & Missions Support		
570000 - Department of Missions	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Total Parishes & Missions Support	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Work Outside the Diocese		
571000 - Childrens Home (York Place)	\$2,100.00	\$500.00
571100 - Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
571150 - Lowcountry Community Chaplaincy		\$1,200.00
571200 - Ecumenical Ministry	\$250.00	\$250.00
571400 - Kanuga	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
571500 - Sustainable Development Goals ERD	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00
571550 - Synod Meeting	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
571600 - Province IV Assessment	\$1,200.00	\$1,816.00
571700 - Seminarian Support	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00
571800 - The Episcopal Church	\$65,447.25	\$54,040.00
571900 - University of the South	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Total Work Outside the Diocese	\$91,097.25	\$77,906.00
Total Expenses	¢550 200 25	¢(02 5 47 (1
Total Expenses	\$559,289.25	\$602,547.61

Temporary Restricted	Budget 2017	Budget 2018
Bishop Search	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
General Convention	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Lambeth Conference 2020	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Total	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00

Appendix IV Report of Constitution and Canons Committee

Report of Committee for 2017

The Committee on Constitution and Canons has only received one proposed change to the Canons. The Chancellor of the Diocese, Thomas Tisdale, proposes a revision of the Canon regarding the Trustees to improve the structure of the Trustees. The main component is to provide the staggered terms of office, and to provide for the election of officers in a proper way. As revised, Canon 12 would read in its entirety as is listed below this report.

The Committee recommends that the Convention adopt the revised version of "Canon 12" of "Title I", as listed below.

The Committee understands that it may receive suggestions for other changes to the Constitution and Canons during the upcoming meeting of the Committee to be held before the start of the annual Convention. The Committee will address any such issues prior to the Convention. Any matters that come before the Committee at that time will be considered. If the Committee deems it appropriate a revised report may be presented to the Convention.

Michael L.M. Jordan, Committee Chairman

Title I **CANON XII**

OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE DIOCESE

Section 1. There shall be a Board of Trustees duly elected by the Convention of the Diocese comprising six members, three shall be clergy who are canonically resident in the diocese and three who are all communicants in good standing of a parish or mission of the Diocese in addition to the Bishop who shall serve ex officio and with a vote as President of the Trustees, and the Chancellor of the Diocese who shall serve ex officio but without a vote.

At the first annual Convention of the Diocese after the adoption of this Canon, six Trustees shall be elected as follows: one member of the clergy and one lay person for a term of two years, one member of the clergy and one lay person for a term of four years, and one member of the clergy and one lay person for a term of six years so that thereafter the terms of two Trustees shall expire each year. A trustee shall be eligible for reelection to one additional six year term after the initial term and shall not be eligible to serve thereafter for two years following the expiration of the previous term served.

Section 2. The Trustees shall elect a Vice president, Secretary, and Treasurer at its first meeting in each calendar year who shall serve, with the Bishop as President, until their successors are duly elected.

Section 3. The Trustees shall meet quarterly in each calendar year and at other times as necessary upon due notice of any special meetings to the Trustees.

Section 4 The Trustees shall be responsible for the management of all the assets of the Diocese that are entrusted to its care and ownership.

The Trustees shall hold the legal title to all of the real property of the diocese, and all real property acquired hereafter by the Diocese shall be conveyed to it at the time of its acquisition; and the Trustees shall be responsible for the management of all property of the Diocese including investment accounts, trusts, and other assets that are bequeathed to it or otherwise by the Trustees.

The Trustees shall, in accordance with all generally accepted investment standards, manage all the funds entrusted to it in accordance with any and all particular restrictions required by any and all restrictions and other terms and conditions impressed on such funds.

Section 5. The net income and other cash assets from investments and other assets of the Trustees shall be available annually or at other times as requested by the Diocesan Council, in consultation with the Finance Committee of the Diocese, to support the various operations and special projects of the Diocese that are approved by the Council, and disburse funds to it as appropriate.

Section 6. The Trustees shall present a report of all its activities during the preceding year at each annual Convention of the Diocese.

	Adopted by the Convention on
 , 2017.	
Secretary of the Conv	ention

Appendix V **Resolutions Proposed**

RESOLUTION to General Convention on the Examination and Strengthening of the Dennis Canon

RESOLVED,

Resolved that the Convention ask the General Convention Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons to conduct a thorough examination of the use of the Dennis Canon in the church, and bring to the next General Convention a report with recommendations for strengthening and clarifying this canon.

Explanation: As a diocese which has had direct experience with the application of the Dennis Canon, and experience with the lack of clarity and uniformity in its application, we recommend that the General Convention examine ways to strengthen the Dennis Canon.

Submitted by Randy Ferebee and Rick Stall, Church of the Messiah, Myrtle Beach

Mover: Mrs. Rebecca Lovelace

Note: This Resolution was proposed and was withdrawn from consideration by the mover.

Appendix VI **Election Results**

Standing Committee:

Ms. Emily Guess & Mr. Rick Stall

Clergy: The Rev. Dr. George Moyser & The Rev. Fred

Thompson

Diocesan Council:

Lay: Ms. Carrington Wingard & Ms. Ray Sabalis

Clergy: The Rev. Rob Donehue & The Rev. Dr. Wilmot

Merchant II

University of The South Trustee:

Lay: Mr. Tom Miller

Appendix VII Chancellor's Report

The structure of our diocese, both canonically and institutionally, is strong and in good order and has worked well for us since our reorganization now almost four years ago. We are gradually making continual improvements in what we need to serve God and his church and we will continue to do so. We are blessed with strong and dedicated lay and clerical leadership at every level. And, we give particular thanks to our Bishop who provides strong and visionary spiritual and temporal guidance to us in all that we do. His leadership is the keystone of our success, a principle reason for our strength and good health.

While it is still accurate to say that the elephant in the room is, of course, the litigation we have endured ever since our reorganization, but there are clear signs now on the horizon that the elephant may be soon replaced by the lamb. The litigation in which we have engaged was not sought by us, and our involvement in it as been for the sole purpose of protecting the Church from an invasion by our adversaries.

At each Convention since our reorganization in 2013, I have reported that we were approaching a fork in the road and that our direction, when that fork was reached, would be determined by our State Supreme Court. So, we reached the fork, when, on August 2, 2017, our Supreme Court put us on the road we are now travelling when it rendered its decision substantially in our favor. Our struggle is not yet over, but our direction is set, and the path is much smoother than any we have yet travelled. As our Bishop has inspired us, our first goal is one of constantly seeking reconciliation with those now separated from us. Our goal is certainly not to our detriment but it is to engender the strength of a united common life together which most certainly be God's will. And, all of what we do to achieve our goals must be for insuring and improving the spread the good news of The Gospel in this diocese, a task which has been entrusted to us by our forebears. Together and united, we will succeed!

Thank you.

Thomas S. Tisdale Chancellor

Appendix VIII Report of Necrology Committee

Here now the names of those clergy, clergy spouses, and laity, who, having served faithfully in their diverse ministries, died in faith since las we met in convention, wo now rest from their labors in the paradise of God.

Remembering:

- The Rev. Joseph DiRaddo, who served a number of churches in our diocese including founding rector of All Saints, Florence.
- The Rev. Albert "Bert" Hatch, longtime supporter of The Episcopal Church on Edisto and former rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Charleston
- Dr. Thomas T. Carr, III, of Calvary, Charleston
- Ms. Elsie Martin, a long-time member of the diocese
- Ms. Theresa "Terry" Ritchen, of Grace Cathedral, Charleston
- Mr. Walter Smalls, of Calvary, Charleston
- Mr. Bachman S. Smith, III, of Grace Cathedral, Charleston
- Ms. Mildred Wise, of Calvary, Charleston

Please join me in praying the prayer listed in your agenda or on page 493 of the Book of Common Prayer.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant N., being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Appendix IX Report of Campus Ministries

St Anne's: St. Anne's campus ministry at Coastal Carolina University is mostly a ministry of presence and personal relationship. We do not have an official Canterbury club, but there are several students who regularly attend services on Sundays. Fr. Rob Donehue meets regularly with the college students who have become associated with St. Anne's, and he tries to spend as much time on campus during the week as he can. Fr. Rob is involved with the CCU Chaplains' Council, a group of campus ministers from many faith traditions who meet regularly to plan events and discuss ways to make it easier for students to get involved with faith communities on campus and in the wider community. Through his involvement with the Chaplains' Council Fr. Rob was involved in a gathering of students on campus to pray for peach, he was asked to deliver the Invocation and Benediction at the December commencement ceremonies, he was brought in to speak with students after a crisis situation happened on campus, and he helped arrange for the CCU Inspirational Ambassadors gospel Choir to sing at the 2017 MLK Weekend event in Myrtle Beach. The CCU Chaplains' Council also has an "Ask the Chaplains" table set up in the Lib Jackson Student Center at fixed times during the course of the week. Students are free to come visit with any of the chaplains on hand and to have a conversation.

St. Anne's had a table at the Community Organizations Fair in September, at which we made several connections with students and other people associated with CCU. A few of the students have been connected with service opportunities as a result of their initial contact with the people representing St. Anne's.

St. Anne's campus ministry should not be just understood as a ministry to students, however, as there are many faculty members at CCU who are active members of St. Anne's. There is much still to do to establish a better Episcopal presence on campus at CCU, and our hope at St. Anne's is that we will be able to make some more inroads with CCU in 2018.

Voorhees College:

Before I present my brief report, I wish to extend greetings to this Convention on behalf of our dynamic 9th President of Voorhees College, Dr. W. Franklin Evans. Dr. Evans succeeded Dr. Cleveland L. Sellers in August 2016 and was inaugurated on April 7, 2017. Both bishops, Gladstone B. 'Skip' Adams, III and W. Andrew Waldo of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, participated in the inauguration ceremonies of Dr. Evans. President Evans could not attend this convention because Voorhees College has its Homecoming this weekend.

 At Voorhees, we were actively involved with the kick-off of the 2017 Fall Semester, beginning with the New Student Orientation. During the week of orientation, we participated in the following: Voorhees College Legacy Dinner – Aug. 9, Candle Light Matriculation service – Aug. 13 and Opening Fall Convocation – Sept. 7.

- For the fifth consecutive year, the HIV/AIDS Awareness Event /free HIV testing (Cupcakes and Condoms) was held on campus. This event is a collaborative project implemented by the Chaplain/Vicar's office, the Center for Excellence in Rural and Minority Health, the HIV/AIDS Ministry of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Columbia, The Episcopal Church in South Carolina and Hope Health of Orangeburg, SC. Thanks to all churches in the Southern Deanery and individuals that sent us donations to purchase cupcakes. We screened and tested a total of 61 students.
- We have continued our regular All College Tuesday Chapel services. At these services, our students participate and serve as worship leaders, lectors, acolytes, ushers, etc.
- During this academic semester, we have trained new acolytes to serve at our Tuesday and Sunday worship services.
- Student attendance at our Sunday Eucharist has increased. We have had up to 15 students in attendance at some of our Eucharist Sundays. Many of them participate in Communion and others usually come up for prayers and blessing.
- On November 21st, St. Philip's Chapel/Voorhees College along with our Greek organizations, clubs, students, faculty, administration, and staff members will conduct our Pre-Thanksgiving service and donated food boxes/baskets will be shared with the less fortunate in our community. This is done as a part of our ministries to the community.

To conclude, I wish to thank our Dean, Fr. Rick Lindsey and members of the Southern Deanery for your prayers and support to our Annual Absalom Jones Feast Day celebration at Voorhees College. We thank Bishop Adams and the Diocesan Council for participating in our 2017 Annual Absalom Jones Feast Day celebration. Please save the date for next year: February 6, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Philip's Chapel. Our Celebrant is the Rt. Rev. W. Andrew Waldo of the Upper Diocese and our Preacher is our own Rt. Rev. Gladstone B. 'Skip' Adams. We extend sincere gratitude to all churches and individuals that continue to support Voorhees College. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to invite the VC Concert/Gospel Choir to visit you church. May God continue to bless our ministries and prosper the work of our hands.

Respectfully submitted: James T Yarsiah, Chaplain/Vicar

Peninsula Ministry- The Citadel and College of Charleston

Peninsula Ministry- The Citadel and College of Charleston

Our ministry at the College of Charleston is one of presence and pastoral care. Christian Basel has faithfully taken on the ministry with students at the C of C, with them on Wednesday nights for Eucharist at 5:30 and then followed by conversation and fellowship at a designated table at Grace's Community Supper. The community Supper is a new effort to be good neighbors. Our neighbors from Canterbury House, the Memminger School District and the College of Charleston join us for a meal at no cost. This has been met with much success from each community and college students are becoming increasingly aware that the cathedral lives up to its name, GRACE. We also remain active in the Religious Life Council on campus, which meets at the President's House next door. There are several college students who are involved in the ministries of Grace. One of our new students was confirmed this year.

The Citadel Ministry has grown and more than doubled. Lester Pittman has led a very steadfast and faithful effort on the ground, growing this ministry from an average of 4 students last year, to an average of 12 this year. We meet in the Skardon's home on campus, and parishioners from Grace and beyond prepare food for each meeting. I meet him there most Monday nights as we build relationship and share in fellowship, bible study, and worship. The former diocese still has control of historic St. Albans chapel and they hold services there on the night designated for religious services. The relationship between the chaplaincies is better than it ever has been since the split. Two of our cadets were confirmed on All Saints Day this year, and more are involved in cathecism.

There are resources built into the diocesan budget that allow for creative opportunities to minister to college campuses. There are churches around this diocese that have college campuses nearby that have not been spoken about today. That fund is available to you as well. It may be a way for you to be the church outside the walls.

Overall, we are moving forward step by step, in our Campus Ministry efforts.

Appendix X Reports from Diocesan Leadership

Report of the Standing Committee

For much of the year, the workload of the Standing Committee was relatively light and routine. We had the usual round of requests for consents from dioceses for the election or consecration of new bishops. We met with Postulants and Seminarians, those preparing to be priests, as well as those preparing to be Vocational deacons, in order to assist the Commission on Ministry and the Bishop in the discernment process. We received the usual requests for loans, refinancing of mortgages etc. from congregations seeking to expand their ministries.

In late 2017, our focus turned more towards legal matters, as we received the majority opinion in favor of the Episcopal Church from the South Carolina Supreme Court. Within days of that decision, the Bishop and entire legal team held a briefing for the Archdeacon, the Communications Officer, and the President of the Standing Committee, followed quickly by a meeting (with legal presentation from the Chancellor) for the entire Standing Committee.

Like the rest of the diocese, we now await the results of both the mediation efforts, and the outcome of the break-away diocese's request for a rehearing. We continue to be grateful for the charity, fairness, and Christ-centered focus of our bishop, and we stand prepared to assist him in the weeks and months ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

(The Reverend) M. Dow Sanderson, President

Report of the Diocesan Council

The Diocesan Council is scheduled to meet 7 times a year. The minutes for all meetings are on record in the Diocesan Office, but below lists the significant actions taken at each meeting from December 20176 through October 2017

February

The Diocesan Council met at Voorhees College, following the annual Celebration of Absalom Jones at St. Philip's Chapel. President Franklin Evans welcomed the Council to the Voorhees library and shared his appreciation for the support of our diocese and TEC given to Voorhees.

- The Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor presented the final numbers from 2016, and also noted that the Declaration of Intents for 2017 were trending a bit higher than 2016.
- The Council approved the declaration of Bishop Adams's housing allowance for 2017, as required by
- The Chancellor offered an update on legal matters.
- The Bishop presented to Council an updated on the formation of the Visioning Committee and led a discussion on Adaptive Change with the Council.
- The Council approved a motion that the Council affirm the Church Insurance Group's Minimum Insurance Recommendations as minimum coverage requirements for the congregations of The Episcopal Church in South Carolina. All property and comprehensive policies must include these minimum requirements, and congregations must petition the Bishop and Diocesan Council for approval of any insurance policies that are not held with CIG to confirm adequate coverage.

March

- Bishop Adams reported that the Visioning committee had been formed and met on March 22.
- The Bishop shared a video: Friedman's 'A Differentiated Leader' and let a discussion with the Council members.
- Bishop Adams reported on ongoing conversations with staff about job descriptions, his time at the House of Bishops meeting.
- The Chancellor offered a legal update.
- It was reported that Mark Lawrence and the Dio of SC have aligned with ACNA.

April

- The Council approved a funding request from HCFM to assist in funding the position for Jason Roberson, who completed studies at VTS in May 2017. A total of \$23,000 over two years was requested. The Council also approved a request from Holy Communion (CHS) for funding the compensation for their interim rector for \$16,408.00.
- Bishop Adams led a discussion of the Council as to expectation and norms of functioning as Diocesan Council and what that means.
- It was announced that June 25th would be a day in celebration and remembrance of Bishop Alexander Guerry.

May

- Bishop Adams reported on Clergy Conference, held at Santee State Park on May 7-9.
- The Chancellor offered a legal update.
- The Insurance Committee reported on the CPG luncheon and presentation on revisions to the Clergy Pension Plan that was held in April.

June

The Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor offered update on request Council granted in April to Holy Communion. Such funding was never issued, as the individual did not accept the call. There is another candidate for that position, and Holy Communion requested a grant for \$6900 to help with funding that position.

- The Very Rev. Michael Wright offered information on Bishop Guerry Sunday later in the month.
- Mr. Woody Rutter brought to the attention of the Council challenges and issues at Voorhees College.

<u>September</u>

- Auditors from McGregor and Co. attended the meeting to share Audit results. A clean audit report was issued, with suggestions on improving financial operations.
- The Draft 2018 Budget was presented and discussed at length. Edits were suggested and the draft budget was approved to be shared at Pre-convention deanery meetings.
- St. Thomas requested \$25,000 from the diocese in support, as they continue to evolve post-split. The Council agreed to \$25,000.

<u>October</u>

- The Draft 2018 Budget was discussed, after the pre-convention meetings around the diocese. The Council approved a few edits and passed the 2018 Proposed Budget to be sent to Convention for approval.
- Discussion was held on structure to help critical information on finances, etc., be relayed back to vestries.
- Bishop Adams brought forward the idea of having Diocesan Council more actively involved in the preparation for 2018 Convention – both in participation at the pre-convention deanery meetings, preparation of the budget, etc. All agreed this was a positive move forward and would work to implement for 2018.

December

- Newly elected members to Council were welcomed.
- Bruce Murdy, of Rawle Murdy, discussed with Council the idea of a more detailed, focused, communications plan that utilized the expertise and efficiency of Rawle Murdy. How do we get the truths and reality in front of those who have yet to receive it? What we are attempting to accomplish is above what our current staffing allows. This work would build on the efforts of Holly Votaw. Together, Holly and diocesan leadership will meet with Rawle Murdy on the plan. Diocesan Council discussed in detail, including questions of funding.
- The Rev. Dr. Jim Taylor, on behalf of the Finance Committee, requested the Council to consider funding the cost of family health insurance for Fr. James Yarsiah for the 2018 year, given that Voorhees has removed that benefit from his position and St. Philip's is not in a place to meet that expense. The Council agreed.
- The Council approved the Vision Statement as presented by the Vision Committee.

Report of the Commission on Ministry - 2017

It was my pleasure to serve as Chairman of the Commission on Ministry for 2017.

During this year:

Rob Donehue was ordained to the priesthood on November 19, 2016, just after the 2016 Convention.

- Jason Roberson was ordained to diaconate on May 6 2017, and ordained a priest in November 2017 (right after the 2017 convention)
- The COM continued working with Lauren Kay as she pursued her her studies toward an MDiv at Seminary of the Southwest.
- The Committee began meeting with Christian Basil who is now a seminarian at VTS.
- The Committee continued working to develop a more detailed discernment process, working with Dr Amy Webb to finalize psych evaluation requirements for those discerning a call to the priesthood or the diaconate.
- The COM met with Bryce Wandrey, chaplain at Porter Gaud, who is an Anglican priest from England, desiring to become an Episcopal priest.
- The Committee discussed the cost of psychological assessment and looked at the possibility of having the discerner pay a third, the diocese pay a third and the discerner's parish pay a third.
- Diane Wilson met with the committee as part of her discernment about being ordained to the diaconate.
- The committee met with Lester Pittman to get an update on the excellent diaconate training program he leads.

It was a busy but fruitful year thanks to the hard work of the dedicated members of this committee.

Respectfully submitted, The Rev. Jean McGraw

Appendix XI Courtesy Resolutions Adopted

Offered by the Resolutions Committee, the Rev. Alastair Votaw, Chair

Be it resolved:

That we, the members of the 226th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina, on this 12th day of November, 2016, express our thanks and appreciation to

- R-1: The Rev. Winnie Varghese, our Convention Preacher and Workshop Keynote Speaker, 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: The Very Rev. Michael Wright and the clergy, staff and lay leadership of Grace Church Cathedral for their gracious hospitality, and especially to the convention coordinator, Mrs. Susie Carter, and _____(Sue Cromwell, Sydney Arlingon) and the Grace staff, and to
- The Diocesan staff, Lauren Kinard, Holly Behre and Andrea McKellar, for their R-3: dedicated, excellent and tireless efforts and to their dedicated volunteers, Mrs. Marcia Frasier of Calvary Church, Charleston, and Susan Schady, and to
- R-4: The Rt. Rev. Gladstone B. "Skip" Adams III, 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, Bonnie, who encourages him and us together, and to
- R-5: The Most Reverend Michael Bruce Curry, 27th Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church, for his encouragement of our diocese and in particular for his visit here in April 2016, and to
- R-6: The Honorable John Tecklenburg, Mayor of the City of Charleston, and Mr. Lonnie Hamilton III of Calvary Episcopal Church, for their gift of music in the beautiful piano and saxophone rendition of "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" at our Convention Eucharist on November 11

Appendix XII Reports by Institutions of the Diocese



York Place was merged with Thompson in late 2015.

www.thompsoncff.org

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

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 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 Leading AGE. 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
- Owning Diocesan Bishop Elected to be 27th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; June 27,
- 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 longrange 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 rganizations 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,

Yames 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.



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