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2020 CONVENTION

**Supplemental Reports to the 2020 Diocese Convention
of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, along with the Bishop's
Nominees and a Resolution concerning next year's Convention**

**Saturday, November 14th, 2020
held via Zoom**

Report of the Board of Examining Chaplains to the 2020 Diocesan Convention

Submitted by: Edward Waggoner

Submitted: October 23, 2020

The Board of Examining Chaplains convenes only at the request of the bishop. The Board was not activated during the last year. Should there be need to convene in the coming year, members of the Board will be ready to serve.

Edward Waggoner

Convener, Board of Examining Chaplains, Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

Assistant Professor of Theology

The Rt. Rev. Sam B. Hulsey Chair in Episcopal Studies

Director, Episcopal Church Studies Program

Brite Divinity School

Report of the Episcopal Church Studies Program at Brite Divinity School, to the 2020 Diocesan Convention

Submitted by: Edward Waggoner

Submitted: October 23, 2020

We are very pleased to report the accomplishments of Episcopal students at Brite Divinity School during the 2019-2020 school year.

Jonathan Cabrera received the Bishops Ted Gulick and Wallace Ohl Award for Pastoral Leadership from the Episcopal Church Studies Program in April, 2020. Jonathan is continuing his M.Div. studies at Brite Divinity School.

Allen Junek received a book award from the Episcopal Church Studies Program in April, 2020. Allen is an M.Div. student at Brite Divinity School.

We would like to thank all the clergy who have contributed to our weekly Eucharist service during the last year in the Robert Carr Chapel at Texas Christian University and in our online format during the COVID-19 pandemic. Times of prayer and worship continue to be important to the group of students, faculty, and administrators from Brite Divinity School and TCU who have made participation in this service a regular part of their spiritual lives. Special thanks go to Rev. Amy Haynie, who organized the rota and also celebrated and preached on several occasions.

With thanks and joy for what we have accomplished during the 2019-2020 school year, we look forward to the next.

Edward Waggoner

Assistant Professor of Theology

The Rt. Rev. Sam B. Hulsey Chair in Episcopal Studies

Director, Episcopal Church Studies Program

Brite Divinity School

Report of the Chancellor to the 2020 Diocesan Convention

Submitted by: Sandy Liser

Submitted: November 11th, 2020

Assistance to Diocesan Entities:

The chancellors assisted the Bishop, staff, and diocesan entities, e.g., attended regular and special meetings; reviewed, drafted, and negotiated contracts, leases, canons, and policies; researched and advised church officials on canonical, legal questions; and conducted training:

- Standing Committee
- Corporation Board
- Executive Council
- Finance Committee
- Management Committee
- Risk Management Committee
- Constitution and Canons Committee
- Ecclesiastical Discipline
- Served as Convention parliamentarian (Assistant Chancellor Greenhill)

Assistance to Congregations:

The chancellors continued to work directly with congregations on general legal and canonical matters, e.g., charitable and tax exempt status generally, relocation, elections, vestry requirements, bylaws, incorporation of related entities, school issues, leases, and title to property.

Assistance in Litigation:

- Counsel of record in Tarrant County/Texas Supreme Court/U.S. Supreme Court; Hood County (Brants Trust); Wichita County (Burns Trust) litigation.
- Assisted, coordinated with outside counsel for the Diocesan parties, counsel for Episcopal Church, counsel for congregations in litigation.
- Monitored Diocese compliance with supersedeas order, including maintenance of property and expense reporting.

Other Activities:

- Coordinated with Bishop and Canon plans for forming effective plan for future of Diocese after the property litigation is concluded.
- Actively participated in Standing Committee, Executive Council, and the Corporation.

Pending litigation:

- No. 141-237105-09; *The Episcopal Church, et al v. Salazar, et al* (141st District Court, Tarrant County, Texas). No. 02-15-00220-CV; *The Episcopal Church, et al v. Salazar et al* Court of Appeals, Second District of Texas Fort Worth. No. 18-0438; *Franklin Salazar, et al v. The Episcopal Church, et al*, Supreme Court of Texas. Received the opinion from the Supreme Court of Texas on May 22, 2020 in which the Supreme Court reversed the favorable decision issued by the Fort Worth Court of Appeals and reinstated the decision of the 141st District Court in Tarrant County, Texas. The Diocese, joined by The Episcopal Church, filed its Petition for Writ of Certiorari with the Supreme Court of the United States on October 19, 2020. All Saints' Episcopal Church – Fort Worth, filed a separate Petition for Writ of Certiorari with the Supreme Court of the United States on the same day. The Supreme Court of the United States has thus far taken no further action on the two petitions and no response has been filed.

- No. C2009233; *Ronald D. Wenner, Trustee of the Cynthia Brants Charitable Remainder Unitrust v. The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, et al*; 355th District Court, Hood County, Texas (abated)
- No. 4:10-CV-00700-Y; *Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth v. Iker*; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division (administratively closed, pending resolution of Tarrant County diocesan case)
- No. 4:10-CV-00783-Y; *All Saints Episcopal Church v. Iker*; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division (administratively closed, pending resolution of Tarrant County diocesan case)
- No. 177,121-C; *In Re Lillian M. Burns Trust*; 89th District Court, Wichita Falls, Texas (trust terminated, trustee severed out, remaining claims (abated)

Ongoing Education

- Due to the health crisis and travel limitations, no in person continuing education for Episcopal Chancellors has taken place since September 2019. However, Chancellor Liser and Assistant Chancellor Greenhill continue to remain active in the Episcopal Chancellor's Network to obtain information on ongoing issues and litigation.

Goals for 2020:

- Continue to assist in the appeal before the Supreme Court of the United States
- Formulate plans for the continuation of the Diocese no matter the ultimate decision of the Supreme Court of the United States
- Form effective attorney groups in various legal specialties to assist on an as needed basis as specific, specialized issues facing the Dioceses and parishes arise.
- Continue work to secure favorable determinations in pending diocesan litigation
- Assist congregations in locating and selecting their own chancellors to assist with their individual needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Liser, Chancellor
Bill Greenhill, Assistant Chancellor

Report on Persons in the Ordination Process and Clergy Transitions

Submitted by: The Rev. Canon Janet Waggoner

Submitted: November 13th, 2020

CLERGY DEATHS

The Right Rev. Sam B. Hulsey - Died August 6, 2020

The Rev Deacon Henry Penner, Deacon - Died December 20, 2019

The Rev. Marvin (Johnson) Shannon - Died April 20, 2020

CLERGY TRANSITIONS

The Rev. Melanie Barbarito resigned from All Saints' Episcopal Church, Fort Worth; accepted a call to serve as Interim Priest-in-Charge, Calvary Church, Summit, New Jersey

The Rev. Teresa Davis, Lutheran pastor, accepted a call to serve as regular supply clergy at St. Mary's, Hamilton

The Rev. Doug Travis accepted a call to serve as regular supply clergy at St. Mary's, Hillsboro

The Rev. Robert Pace accepted a call as Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Fort Worth

The Rev. Noy Sparks resigned from All Saints' Episcopal Church, Fort Worth; released and removed January 2020

The Rev. Christopher Thomas resigned from St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, Keller; accepted a call to serve as Rector of St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, Dallas

The Rev. Edward Thornley resigned from All Saints' Episcopal School; accepted a call to serve as Associate Rector and Chaplain at St. Patrick's Church, Washington D.C.

The Rev. Jill Walters accepted a call to serve as Chaplain at All Saints Episcopal School, Fort Worth

ORDINATIONS

The Rev. Lainie Allen ordained to the Priesthood in June 2020; accepted a call to serve as hospital chaplain at UT Southwestern, Dallas and Assisting Clergy at St. Elisabeth/Christ the King, Fort Worth

The Rev. Corrie Cabes ordained to the Priesthood in June 2020; accepted a call to serve as Assistant Rector at Church of the Heavenly Rest, Abilene

The Rev. Leslie Guinn ordained to the Priesthood in June 2020; accepted a call to serve as Assistant Rector at Good Shepherd, Granbury

The Rev. Maddie Hill ordained to the Priesthood in June 2020; accepted a call to serve as Assisting Priest at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Fort Worth.

The Rev. Paula Jefferson ordained to the Transitional Diaconate in June 2020; accepted a call to serve as Curate at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Keller; to be ordained to the Priesthood on December 15, 2020

POSTULANTS and CANDIDATES for HOLY ORDERS

Mike Farnell, sponsored by All Saints', Fort Worth; Postulant for Holy Orders

Bryant Taylor, sponsored by St. Christopher, Fort Worth; Postulant for Holy Orders

Ted Clarkson, sponsored by All Saints', Fort Worth; Candidate for Holy Orders, to be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate in December 2020 or January 2021

Report of the Trustees of the The University of the South, Sewanee

Submitted by: Suzanne Meyers

Submitted: November 11th, 2020

On February 28, 2020 at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees, Ambassador Reuben E. Brigety II was elected as the 17th Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of the South. Fast forward to October 8 for the Annual Meeting held via Zoom with a record number in attendance. Reports were received from administrators, a report of the Fall Operational Group regarding COVID planning, a report from student trustees, a resolution acknowledging the 55 years of Black alumni, an affirmation of the Regents' statement on Slavery, Race, and the "Lost Cause", and finally a resolution honoring Jerry Smith as Secretary of the Board of Trustees for more than 40 years was given.

Vice-Chancellor Brigety discussed the recent US News and World Report rankings and the implications of that report. The University's ranking in the upper 40's is troubling especially in the light of the demographics cliff arriving in 2026. A determined focus on student success (selectivity, graduation rate, and retention) could dramatically and positively impact the rankings and improve overall student success.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent in discussion on the "Year of Discernment (YOD)" in a workshop led by consultant Celeste Krueger of CK Associates. Ms. Krueger explained that she hopes to help discernment by considering processes that help us look inside and shape our reflection. Vice-Chancellor Brigety restated his Five Pillars for the YOD:

- Academic Preeminence
- Dialogue Across Diversity and Difference
- Sewanee Global
- Economic Development
- Wellness and Success

The Annual meeting of the Board of Trustees concluded its meeting following the discussion.

Bishop's Nominations and Appointments - 2020

Nominees

Secretary: The Rev. Bradley Dyche for a one-year term

Treasurer: Mr. David Lowder for a one-year term

Chancellor: Ms. Sandy Liser for a one-year term

Registrar: Ms. Michele King for a one-year term

Historiographer: Ms. Karen Shepherd for a one-year term

Trustee for The Corporation: The Rev. John Stanley for a five-year term

Trustees for The Fund for the Endowment of the Episcopate:

(5-9 total, made up of lay and clergy, with maximum of 2 clergy, for one-year terms)

The Rev. Bruce Coggin

The Rev. Paula Jefferson

Mr. David Skelton

Mr. Robert Hicks

Mr. Shannon Shipp

Mr. Whit Sm

Appointees

Assistant Secretary – Mr. Steve Grenzow

Assistant Treasurer – Mrs. Adriana Cline

Assistant Chancellor – Mr. Bill Greenhill

Ecumenical Officer – The Rev. Bill Stanford

Board of Examining Chaplains – The Rev. Sandi Michels

Appointed to terms ending 2021: Dr. David Brockman^{*1}, The Rev. Dr. Bruce Coggin, The Rev. David Madison, The Rev. Sandy Michels, Dr. Ed Waggoner

Schools Commission – The Rev. Bill Stanford, Chair

Appointed to terms ending 2022: Mrs. Melissa Pannell*, Ms. Valerie Perkins*
Terms continuing: The Rev. Bill Stanford; Mrs. Mary Tracy (2021)

Mission & Outreach Committee – The Rev. Allison Sandlin Liles

Appointed to terms ending 2021: The Rev. Karen Calafat, Dr. Jane Dennis, Mrs. Pam Hardaway*, Mr. Keen Haynes, Mrs. Gretchen Smith

Commission on Ministry - The Rev. Bill Stanford, Chair

Appointed to terms ending 2023: Ms. Amy St. Clair, Mrs. Marti Fagley

¹ *If willing and able to serve

Commission on Ministry, continued

Terms continuing: The Rev. Bradley Dyche, The Rev. Amy Haynie, Mrs. Linda LaMarca, Mrs. Sidia Miranda, The Rev. Courtland Moore, The Rev. Bill Stanford (2021); Mr. Ken Journey, Mrs. Barbara Evans-Chowning, and Deacon Dana Wilson (2022)

Disciplinary Board Intake Officer – The Rev. David Madison

Church Attorney – Mr. Bill Greenhill

Constitution & Canons Committee - No chairperson yet appointed

Appointed to terms ending 2023: Mr. Bill Greenhill, Mr. Tony Hiatt*

Terms continuing: Mrs. Jennifer (Tuck) Rodgers and The Rev. Lynne Waltman (2021); Stephen Baker, MaryBeth Butler (2022)

NB: As per the 2015 revision to the diocesan canons, the members of the **Finance Committee** are now appointed after Convention, and the appointments are confirmed by Executive Council.

Proposed Resolution: R1

38th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

Resolution proposed by the Convention Planning Committee

Resolution R1 - Approve the Location of the 2021 Diocesan Convention

Resolved, That the 39th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth in The Episcopal Church be held on Friday and/or Saturday, November 12-13, 2021, at the ACH Event Venue in Fort Worth OR virtually online, if/as necessary.