

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE  
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KANSAS, INC.**

**March 20, 2019**

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met at Upton Hall, Bethany Place, Topeka, Kansas, on March 20, 2019. The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Chittenden Bascom, Bishop and Chair, convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. with prayer, after requesting prayer concerns to be expressed during the opening prayer.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Bascom  
The Very Rev. Foster Mays, President  
Mr. Todd Allison  
The Rev. Sharon Billman  
Mrs. Elizabeth Doll  
Deacon Suzi Drury  
Mr. Jack Dutra  
Mr. Tim Flynn  
Mr. Scott Howard  
The Very Rev. Laurie Lewis  
Mr. Stephen Mann  
Deacon Rex Matney  
The Rev. Andrew O'Connor  
The Rev. Casey Rohleder  
Mrs. Myrline Winkler

Also present as advisors to the Council of Trustees:

Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk  
Mr. Brian Geary, Treasurer

Also present were:

The Rev. Canon Torey Lightcap, Canon to the Ordinary  
Mrs. Jeanne Atha, Executive Assistant to the Bishop  
Mr. Jay Currie, Comptroller  
Ms. Karen Schlabach, Youth Missioner and Interim Campus Missioner  
Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Director of Communication

Bp. Bascom presented the Minutes of February 20, 2019. A minor correction was suggested. Mr. Mann moved, seconded by Mr. Dutra, to approve the Minutes as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

Bp. Bascom called on Mr. Currie for the Treasurer's report. Mr. Currie reported on the budgeted financial statement for the period ending February 28, 2019. He noted improvement in apportionment payments for several parishes: Trinity, Lawrence, is current; St. Paul's

Leavenworth, and St. John's, Wichita have each made some payment; and a parishioner of St. Paul's, Kansas City, has made a \$1,000 payment to be applied to the parish's apportionment. He has not yet drawn from the endowment this year. He explained variances in some line items that are over budget, primarily due to timing. He expects that expenditures on those line items will even out as the year progresses. Canon Lightcap reported that he and Jay Currie met with Dean Don Compier and a board representative of Bishop Kemper School for Ministry to discuss expenses for the newly occupied space in the Cathedral and is optimistic about an increase in their commitment for their share of these expenses.

Bp. Bascom presented requests for consent to several episcopal elections:

- Fr. Mays moved, seconded by Mthr. Rohleder, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Canon Kathryn McRossen Ryan as Bishop Suffragan for the Diocese of Texas. The motion carried unanimously.
- Deacon Drury moved, seconded by Mthr. Lewis, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Canon Susan Brown Snook as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of San Diego. The motion carried unanimously.
- Fr. O'Connor moved, seconded by Deacon Matney, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Canon Megan Traquair as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Northern California. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Dutra moved, seconded by Mr. Allison, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Thomas James Brown as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Maine. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Geary reported for the Finance Committee:

- The Committee continues its work on formalizing the parish audit process.
- He is working with Mr. Currie on quarterly reporting of balance sheet information to the Council of Trustees.
- The Committee is working on cataloging Mr. Currie's responsibilities as Comptroller.

In response to Bp. Bascom's inquiry, Mr. Geary and Mr. Currie outlined the budget planning process for 2020:

- Budget hearings will be held on the last Saturday in April for input from Diocesan organizations and agencies.
- The Finance Committee will review parochial reports and endowment performance, from which they will project available resources.
- The Council of Trustees will review and approve a preliminary budget
- The preliminary budget will be presented to Convocation Boards for input and feedback in September prior to Convention.

Mthr. Lewis proposed that an opportunity be provided for interested parishioners to provide input to the Finance Committee before preparation of the preliminary budget. At Bp. Bascom's request, she agreed to work with Mrs. Woerman, Mr. Currie and Mr. Geary to publicize this opportunity. Fr. Mays suggested that Convocation Deans could invite written

submissions prior to budget hearings. He agreed to participate with the informal committee listed above.

Fr. O'Connor presented several candidates for approval for ordination:

- Mthr. Rohleder moved, seconded by Mrs. Winkler, that the Council of Trustees, acting as standing committee of the Diocese, approve Mr. John Thomas Bullock of Trinity, Lawrence, for ordination to the transitional diaconate. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mthr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Flynn, that the Council of Trustees, acting as standing committee of the Diocese, approve Ms. Ashley Lauren Mather of St. James, Wichita, and Virginia Theological Seminary, for ordination to the transitional diaconate. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Mather will be assigned as a Curate at Grace Cathedral.
- Mthr. Billman moved, seconded by Mrs. Doll, that the Council of Trustees, acting as standing committee of the Diocese, approve Mr. Charles Merritt Durland of St. Paul's, Coffeyville, for ordination to the vocational diaconate. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mrs. Doll moved, seconded by Mr. Dutra, that the Council of Trustees, acting as standing committee of the Diocese, approve Ms. Carolyn Sue Garwood of St. Paul's, Clay Center, for ordination to the vocational diaconate. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chancellor noted that the Bishop's approval for ordination is also required for each of these candidates and that this is a separate and independent step now that the Bishop and not the Council of Trustees is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

The Council of Trustees recessed at 11:05 a.m. and reconvened at 1:20 a.m. Mr. Geary did not rejoin the meeting.

Ms. Schlabach reported on Youth Ministry:

- Music Weekend Feb. 22-24 @ St. Paul's Manhattan, 13 youth signed up, 2 canceled.
- Youth Ministry Internship Applications due Feb. 28, 5 applicants, did interviews March 7; hoping to hire 3.
- New Beginnings, currently only have 5 middle schoolers signed up, so might need to cancel.
- Camp Update
  - Have all leaders/directors/nurses for camp;
  - Need 4 female counselors and 2 male counselors and musicians;
  - 54 campers signed up, on track with where we normally are at this point, expect a lot more in the next 2 weeks.

Ms. Schlabach reported on Campus Ministry:

- WSU Campus Ministry has been suspended for Spring 2019.
- Alternative Spring Break, March 9-12 in St. Louis; 4 participants + 2 Program assistants.
- KU Canterbury House did the "Creation Care Pledge" at program last night.
- K-State programs this semester: Episcopalian 101, Bible FAQ, Creation Care w/ Bishop Bascom, Evangelism (resulted in 2 new church attendees).

- Open House at both KU and K-State on April 6; tours, snacks, etc. (send postcards to HS seniors to let them know)
  - K-State, 9 am - 4 pm
  - KU 2-5 pm
- Three living in K-State house next year (plus at least one out-of-house peer minister); two living in KU house next year (plus at least three out-of-house peer ministers).
- KU house getting painted, new roof, new air conditioner this spring...hoping to look at some long-term, larger fundraising for the Campus ministry fund.
- Working on calendar and locations for 2019-2020

Ms. Schlabach reported on the Formation Team:

- Michael Funston was at St. Margaret's last week; Ms. Schlabach at St. James this Sunday;
- next weekend, Ms. Schlabach is doing presentation on Growing Young for SE convocation; Ms. Funston is doing Growing Young presentation at NW convocation in June.
- Advertising for new Program Assistant at K-State.
- Dillon Green returning at K-State for Summer.
- Ms. Schlabach will be coming back from an EYE planning team meeting during the Budget Hearings and requests another time she could meet with the Finance Committee.

Mthr. Rohleder reported on the 2019 Women's Summit scheduled for May 3-4 at Grace Cathedral with Kay Lindahl as keynote speaker on Friday evening and individual breakout sessions on Saturday.

Mr. Dutra presented a draft report from the Task Force on St. Paul's, Kansas City, Kansas. After some discussion, he noted that he and Bp. Bascom will be meeting with the Priest-in-Charge and Senior Warden of St. Paul's on April 4 and with the Vestry on May 25 to discuss this draft.

At 12:00 noon, Fr. Mays led the Council of Trustees in an Order of Service for Noonday, after which the Council of Trustees recessed for lunch. The Council of Trustees reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

Bp. Bascom provided a written report on her activities, categorized in accordance with the "Expectations" section of her letter of agreement. There followed a discussion of her attendance at the recent House of Bishops meeting. She commented specifically on the failure to include same gender spouses in the invitation to the Lambeth Conference in 2020 and shared the Bishops' Mind of the House Resolution:

Bishops gathered at the Spring 2019 meeting of the House of Bishops are aggrieved and distressed by the Archbishop of Canterbury's decision to exclude same sex spouses of bishops from participating in the Lambeth Conference, 2020. We appreciate that all of our bishops diocesan, suffragan, and assistant

have been invited, and are concerned by the use of exclusion as a means of building communion.

At this time, the majority of bishops invited plan to attend the conference. Through our presence we will participate fully in the program of the conference, as well as seek to further the conversation around the various cultural expressions of marriage. We intend to build relationships and missional partnerships that will be inclusive vehicles for building communion across the Anglican world in all its beautiful diversity. We will seek to reflect our varied understandings of marriage, as well as our profound commitment to the dignity of all human beings, including the human rights of LGBTQ+ persons.

and a statement from the Bishops' Spouses Planning Group:

We join our voices with those in The Episcopal Church who have expressed their disappointment and dismay at the exclusion of same gender spouses from the invitation to Lambeth Conference. We especially stand with our fellow spouse, Becki Sander, spouse of Bishop Mary Glasspool, who is one of the spouses being excluded.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has stated that the theme of this Lambeth Conference is "God's Church for God's World: Walking, Listening, and Witnessing Together". The spouse community understands that the Anglican Communion is not of one mind with regard to marriage, and that, in the life of the Communion, this is a complex issue. Exclusion of same gender spouses, however, seems like a simplistic reaction to this complex issue. It saddens us that all are not welcome to walk, listen, and witness with us, and that all voices will not be heard at this gathering.

As Christians, we strive to live out our Baptismal Covenant and respect the dignity of every human being. A faithful expression of that Baptismal Covenant would be including same gender spouses to walk, listen, and witness with us at Lambeth.

A discussion followed.

Bp. Bascom presented thoughts on new and old parish models in service of "The Way of Love" and Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry's invitation to practice "the Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life" as a Rule for the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement. There followed discussion among the Council of Trustees of parish models to fit the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Fr. Mays noted that clergy in the Southeast convocation have done some work to create a model and framework to address lack of clergy in their region and volunteered to bring the framework to the next meeting. Bp. Bascom noted that these topics will continue to appear on Council of Trustees agendas.

Canon Lightcap reported on Clergy Transition Ministry:

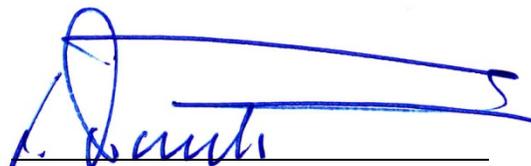
- Church of the Covenant, Junction City – Actively searching for a Priest-In-Charge. (Deadline for materials was March 1.) The Diocese is currently looking at two

- candidates and Bp. Bascom will conduct Zoom interviews with those candidates before sending application information to the congregations themselves.
- Saint Michael and All Angels, Mission – Actively searching for a Rector. Eight names have been given to the Search Committee so far, and they are starting to schedule initial phone interviews.
  - Grace Cathedral, Topeka – Searching for next Dean. Working with consultant David Seifert. He and Diocesan Transition Minister Debbie Kremers will work directly with Bishop Bascom.
  - Grace, Chanute – Rev. Helen Hoch continues to offer supply first Sunday of the month, with Nancy Shank now supplying on the third Sunday of the month. Vestry of Grace would like to wait until after Easter to pursue having Nancy come on, but they are headed in the direction of Nancy serving there. Nancy will be at Grace Palm Sunday through Easter.
  - St. Margaret's, Lawrence – Searching for a Rector. Four applications have been received. Zoom interviews with Bishop Bascom are the next step for this parish.
  - St. Paul's, Leavenworth – Continues in development but has pulled back on search function and will likely be asking the Diocese for a Priest-In-Charge. Developmentally, attendance and budget are up; there is a Lenten program; and Vestry has directed 80% of apportionment be paid.

Canon Lightcap noted that mediation at St. Stephen's, Wichita, continues. He and a potential consultant will be in Wichita tonight for a meeting with Vestry.

Mr. Howard inquired about the use of a liturgy from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer in response to the recent tragedy in Christchurch. The Bishop indicated that, upon application, permission for this could be granted.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mr. Howard moved, seconded by Mr. Dutra, to adjourn. The motion carried, and Bp. Bascom asked Deacon Matney to dismiss the meeting at 2:52 p.m.



L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk