

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

September 25, 2019

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met in the conference room, Bishop Kemper School for Ministry, Grace Cathedral, Topeka, Kansas, on September 25, 2019. The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Chittenden Bascom, Bishop and Chair, convened the meeting at 10:05 a.m., requested prayer concerns from members of the Council of Trustees and staff, followed by a time of silent prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Bascom
Mthr. Rohleder
Mr. Todd Allison
The Rev. Sharon Billman
Deacon Suzi Drury
Mr. Jack Dutra
Mr. Tim Flynn
Mr. Stephen Mann
Deacon Rex Matney
The Rev. Andrew O'Connor

Council of Trustees members absent were:

Mrs. Elizabeth Doll
Mr. Scott Howard
The Rev. David Jenkins
The Very Rev. Laurie Lewis
Mrs. Myrline Winkler

Also present as an advisor to the Council of Trustees was Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk.

Also present were:

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

Bp. Bascom presented the Minutes of August 21, 2019. Corrections were noted and Mr. Dutra moved, seconded by Deacon Drury, to approve the Minutes as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

Bp. Bascom called on Mr. Currie for the Treasurer's report. He presented the budgeted financial statement for August 2019. He noted that he is monitoring apportionment

payments for the same parishes identified in recent meetings St. Paul's, Leavenworth, St. John's, Wichita, and St. Paul's, Kansas City. In addition, St. Matthew's, Newton, remains a little behind. He drew \$240,000.00 from endowment income in August. Discrepancies continue in budget line items, primarily due to timing because some line items are front loaded, and some are spent later in the year. He remains optimistic that financial statements should be close to balancing by year end.

Bp. Bascom presented a request for consent to an episcopal election:

- Mr. Dutra moved, seconded by Deacon Drury, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Lennon Yuan-Rung Chang as Bishop Diocesan for the Diocese of Taiwan. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Currie reported that the Finance Committee met a couple of weeks ago, adding the Rev. Doreen Rice and Adrienne Edwards of St. James, Wichita, as members. The Committee discussed procedures for parishes with delinquent apportionment for 2018 that will be making presentations to the Council of Trustees later in the meeting. The Committee also discussed available Diocesan health insurance options. During the discussion, the Very Rev. Laurie Lewis joined the meeting by Zoom at 10:32 a.m. After further discussion, Fr. O'Connor moved, seconded by Mthr. Lewis, that the Council of Trustees approve the addition of Church Insurance Company's PPO70 Plan and the corresponding Medicare secondary plan and that Diocesan policy be amended simply to require each congregation to offer an approved Church Insurance Company plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Woerman asked about the insurance options that will be available to her as an employee turning 65 this calendar year. After brief discussion, it was agreed that this issue should be deferred to the October Council of Trustees agenda.

Mthr. Rohleder explained the procedure for hearings scheduled for parishes with delinquent 2018 apportionment scheduled from 11:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 to 1:40 in the meeting. Mr. Taylor left the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and Assistant Clerk Billman assumed recording duties.

Mrs. Myrline Winkler joined the meeting via Zoom at 11:05 am.

The Rev. Steve Lipscomb, St. Paul's, Leavenworth, joined the meeting to ask that their lay delegates be given seat, voice, and vote at the 160th Diocesan Convention, October 18-19, 2019. He also asked for forgiveness of their 2018 apportionment in the amount of \$25,528.00. Fr. Lipscomb provided information on loan in the amount of \$259,000.00. This loan payment has an effect on the annual stewardship pledging. However, they are on target to pay 80% of their 2019 apportionment. They hope to be able to pay 100% of their apportionment in 2020. Fr. Lipscomb was thanked for his presence and information and left the meeting.

The Rev. Rob Baldwin, Senior Warden Steven King, and Treasurer Elizabeth Miller, Trinity, Lawrence, joined the meeting to ask that their lay delegates be given seat, voice, and vote at the 160th Diocesan Convention, October 18-19, 2019. They also asked for forgiveness of their 2018 apportionment in the amount of \$44,625.00. The parish's 2018 Income Statement and 2019 Mission Plan was provided. The 2018 Income Statement showed they began the year with a

deficit budget, and an outstanding bank debt balance of approximately \$46,000.00. The bank debt was paid off in September of 2018, through a \$20,000.00 challenge grant, and successful fundraising campaign. The deficit budget remained throughout 2018 by reducing some expenses and not paying their apportionment. In 2019 a Mission Plan achieved a balanced budget. However, staffing reductions were unpalatable to the congregation. A revised 2019 budget restored some of the budget cuts, while still achieving a balanced budget. Trinity is on track for complete fulfillment of its 2019 apportionment and is fully committed to full participation in their 2020 apportionment obligations as they develop their 2020 Mission Plan. They were thanked for the information provided and left the meeting.

The Rev. Mike Loyd, and Senior Warden Carol Daney from St. Andrew's, Derby joined the meeting. They asked that their lay delegates be given seat, voice, and vote at the 160th Diocesan Convention to be held October 18-19, 2019, and for forgiveness of their 2018 apportionment in the amount of \$5,507.00. Not having a Priest for approximately 2 years created a shortfall, resulting in not being able to pay their full 2018 apportionment. They have paid all of their 2019 apportionment and feel they will also be able to pay all of their 2020 apportionment.

Bishop Bascom offered a prayer for blessing of the noon meal. Meeting adjourned until 1:00 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with the Rev. Ellie Montes, Senior Warden Shirley Orr, Consultant Peter Casparian, and Treasurer Scott Orr, from St. John's, Wichita joining the meeting via Zoom. They asked that their lay delegates be given seat, voice, and vote at the 160th Diocesan to be held October 18-19, 2019, and for forgiveness of their 2018 apportionment in the amount of \$52,478.00. There has been a decrease in attendance and pledging since the former Rector left. Since Mother Ellie has been the Rector significant progress has been made in reducing expenditures to better reflect their current income, but it will be a slow climb to get back to where they were. Two families currently donate 55% of their pledged income. They have had one conversation with St. Bartholomew's, who are losing their church building lease, about the possibility of merging the two congregations. Two new partnerships have been established in 2019 as part of St. John's Urban Ministries. These partnerships are providing health care to the homeless and assistance with stable housing. In 2019 they are on pace to pay approximately \$24,000.00 of their apportionment, in 2018 they paid approximately \$17,000.00. St. John's will be starting their 2020 stewardship campaign soon. They were thanked for the information and left the call.

The Rev. Dixie Junk and Senior Warden Joy Spearman, St. Paul's, Kansas City, joined the meeting via Zoom. They asked that their lay delegates be given seat, voice, and vote, and that their 2018 apportionment in the amount of \$21, 568.00 be forgiven. They have a plan in 2019 to set aside money each week designated for apportionment and are encouraging parishioners to made additional donations to be set aside for apportionment. Their plans for fulfillment of apportionment for 2019 are threatened by two major factors. Nourish KC was managing the food pantry, and in January 2019 returned the management back to St. Paul's, where some unpaid bills were left without funding or resources. Then in February of 2019 a pipe bust that flooded the basement, including the food pantry. While waiting on the insurance settlement, they are providing to their pantry neighbors with their own resources. Their past pantry supporters are withholding support and pledges pending the renovation of the "old pantry." They continue to believe that their vision of a Center

for Mission and Ministry can result in a thriving ministry model. They feel the NE Minister will create the positive framework and establishes diocesan support needed to continue their efforts to establish a financial stable ministry model. They were thanked for their information and left the call.

After discussion on each request:

- Jack Dutra moved and Deacon Rex Matney seconded, that the lay delegates from St. Paul's, Leavenworth, be given seat, voice and vote in the 160th Convention. Motion carried. Fr. Andrew O'Connor moved, and Mthr. Casey Rohleder seconded, St. Paul's, Leavenworth, be forgiven their 2018 apportionment. Motion carried.
- Mthr. Casey Rohleder moved, and Fr. Andrew O'Connor seconded that the lay delegates from Trinity, Lawrence, be given seat, voice, and vote in the 160th Convention. Motion carried. Mr. Todd Allison moved, and Mr. Jack Dutra seconded, Trinity, Lawrence, be forgiven their 2018 apportionment. Motion carried.
- Deacon Rex Matney moved, and Fr. Andrew O'Connor seconded, that the lay delegates from, St. Andrew's, Derby, be given seat, voice, and vote in the 160th Convention. Motion carried. Mthr. Sharon Billman moved, and Deacon Rex Matney seconded, St. Andrew's, Derby, be forgiven their 2018 apportionment. Motion carried.
- Fr. Andrew O'Connor moved, and Mr. Jack Dutra seconded, that the lay delegates from St. John's, Wichita, be given seat, voice, and vote in the 160th Convention. Motion carried. Mr. Todd Allison moved and Mthr. Casey Rohleder seconded, that St. John's, Wichita, be forgiven their 2018 apportionment. Motion carried.
- Deacon Rex Matney moved and Mthr. Casey Rohleder seconded, that the lay delegates from St. Paul's, Kansas City, be given seat, voice, and vote in the 160th Convention. Motion carried. Mr. Tim Flynn moved, and Mr. Jack Dutra seconded, that St. Paul's, Kansas City, be forgiven their 2018 apportionment. Before the vote was taken, Mthr. Laurie Lewis asked for prayer. After prayer, the motion carried.

Mthr. Casey Rohleder moved, and Deacon Rex Matney seconded, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the Standing Committee of the Diocese, petition the bishop to initiate an inquiry into whether that the continued health of St. Paul's, Kansas City, as a parish appears to be in jeopardy such that Episcopal intervention or oversight is needed as a means of restoring the health of the Congregation. The motion carried unanimously, with the members voting affirmatively constituting more than two-thirds of all of the members of the Council of Trustees.

The meeting recessed for fifteen minutes.

Mthr. Casey Rohleder provided a Bethany Place update. Both potential partners are eager to move forward and would like to move in by November 1, 2019. Deacon Suzi Drury and Mrs. Myrline Winkler are tasked to create a facility sharing agreement.

Canon Pastor George Wiley reported he had visited with Mother Susan Terry since her relocation to Georgia. She has purchased a house in Atlanta and is the Chaplain to Retired Clergy. Has visited with the Rev. Shawn Streepy and Rev. Mary Sigmund who are providing health care for family members; Visited with Jim Mitchell who now resides in a retirement

community in Wichita; Had lunch with the Rev. Marco Serrano, the new Rector at St. Margaret's in Lawrence. Canon Wiley is also doing some supply work.

Ms. Karen Schlabach reported on the Senior High Retreat held at St. James in Wichita on September 21-22, 2019. She attended a conference in Denver and will be attending an EYE meeting next week.

Transition Ministry report was given by The Rev. Canon Torey Lightcap:

Grace Cathedral, Topeka (Dean) currently interviewing 11 candidates.

Epiphany, Sedan-(Rector) The Rev. Mary Schrom Breeze has accepted call to be Rector.

St. Luke's, Shawnee-(Rector) has produced church portfolios and is receiving names.

St. Aidan's, Olathe-(Rector) working with Debbie Kremers to refine a set of draft search documents. The Rev. John Bullock and Canon Torey Lightcap are supplying on most

Sundays.

Other:

A Celebration of New Ministry will be held tonight at 6:30 p.m. for The Rev. John Hullinger as he moves from Priest in Charge of Trinity, Atchison, to be its new Rector.

Gathering of Clergy will be held next week, October 1-3, at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita.

Canon Lightcap will attend the Leadership Coaching Intensive course offered by the Kansas Leadership Center in November.

The third iteration of Clergy Conversation Groups will begin in October with an almost completely new group due to the high amount of recent turnover in clergy positions. There will be an equivalent focus on both defining challenges and marking progress against those challenges.

Council of Trustees retreat November 19, 2019 beginning with dinner, conversation, and social time, prior to the November 20, 2019 COT meeting.

Bishop's Reports:

Charles Durland ordained Deacon at St. Paul's, Coffeyville on September 12, 2019.

Retired Bishop of Western Kansas, Michael Milliken will be assisting at St. Stephen's in Wichita while The Rev. Dr. Mary Korte is on sabbatical.

Good conversations during the SE Convocation Walkabout. Bishop Bascom received positive feedback on the Minister Project. Epiphany, Independence and Ascension, Neodesha want more of a Priestly presence and will begin conversations with The Rev. Sid Breeze.

The Rev. Sharon Billman has been appointed the new Dean of the SE Convocation.

Bishop Bascom presented the Kansas Minister Project Pilot locations:

NE Convocation: St. Luke's, Shawnee; St. Paul's, Kansas City; St. Michael's, Mission; St. Martin's, Edwardsville. Minister Shepherd: The Very Rev. Don Compier-\$5,000 (also supporting St. Paul's at \$10,000 as an urban Minister hub, a \$10,000 decrease from 2019).

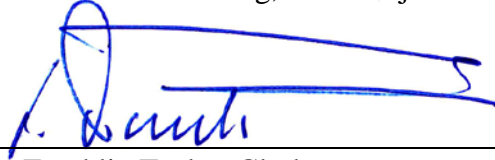
SW Convocation: St. John's, Wichita; Good Shepherd, Wichita; St. Bartholomew's, Wichita; St. James', Wichita (college work with WSU). Minister Shepherd: The Rev. Andrew O'Connor-\$5,000. (also St. John's consultant toward restoring congregational health-\$6,000)

SE Convocation: St. John's, Parsons; St. Mary's, Galena; St. Peter's, Pittsburg; (college work at Pitt State). Minister Shepherd: Postulant/Bishop's Intern Caroline Howard Day--\$3,500.

NW Convocation: St. Paul's, Marysville; St. Mark's, Blue Rapids; St. Paul's, Clay Center; Covenant, Junction City; St. John's, Abilene. Minister Shepherd tbd-\$3,500.

Mthr. Casey Rohleder moved, and Mr. Jack Dutra seconded to support the The Way of Love & Minister Project. Motion Carried.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned.



L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk

The Rev. Sharon Billman, Assistant Clerk