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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

www.EpiscopalChurch.org/gc/ec/default.html

OFFICERS

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, DFMS President and Chair
Ms. Bonnie Anderson, D.D., President, House of Deputies, DFMS Vice President and Vice Chair
Mrs. Patricia C. Mordecai, DFMS Vice President, *until 12/2006 replaced by* The Hon. Linda E. Watt, 1/2007
The Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Straub, Secretary
Mr. N. Kurt Barnes, Treasurer

ELECTED BY GENERAL CONVENTION UNTIL GENERAL CONVENTION 2009

Mr. R.P.M. Bowden, Sr. (Atlanta, IV)
Ms. Dorothy J. Fuller (El Camino Real, VIII)
Mr. Thomas R. Gossen (Kansas, VII)
Josephine H. Hicks, Esq. (North Carolina, IV)
Sandra F. McPhee, Esq. (Chicago, V)
Mr. Albert T. Mollegen, Jr. (Connecticut, I)
The Rev. Titus L. Presler (Texas, VII) *resigned 11/2006*
The Rev. Miguelina Espinal (Dominican Republic, IX) *elected 11/2006, resigned 7/2007*
The Rev. Canon Emily Morales (Puerto Rico, IX) *elected 10/2007*
The Rt. Rev. Wilfrido Ramos-Orench (Ecuador Central, IX)
The Rev. Canon Edward W. Rodman (Massachusetts, I)
The Rt. Rev. Stacy F. Sauls (Lexington, IV)

ELECTED BY PROVINCE UNTIL GENERAL CONVENTION 2009

I. Mr. Dennis Stark (Rhode Island)
II. Edgar K. Byham, Esq. (Newark)
III. John Vanderstar, Esq. (Washington)
IV. The Rev. Timothy E. Kimbrough (North Carolina)
V. Canon Victoria L. Garvey (Chicago)
VI. Ms. Terry Roberts (Minnesota)
VII. Ms. Sharon F. Denton (Western Kansas)
VIII. Mr. Ted Yumoto (San Joaquin) *resigned 3/2008*
VIII. Mr. Bryan Krislock (Spokane) *appointed 4/2008*
IX. The Rt. Rev. Julio Cesar Holguín (Dominican Republic)

ELECTED BY GENERAL CONVENTION UNTIL GENERAL CONVENTION 2012

The Rt. Rev. David Alvarez (Puerto Rico, IX)
Rosalie S. Ballentine, Esq. (Virgin Islands, II)
Ms. Hisako M. Beasley (Olympia, VIII)
The Rt. Rev. J. Jon Bruno (Los Angeles, VIII)
The Rev. Dr. Ian T. Douglas (Massachusetts, I)
Mr. E. Bruce Garner (Atlanta, IV)
Dr. Delbert C. Glover (Western Massachusetts, I)
Canon Bettye Jo Harris (Hawaii, VIII)
Ms. Angela Helt (Oklahoma, VII)
The Rev. Winnie S. Varghese (New York, II)

ELECTED BY PROVINCE UNTIL GENERAL CONVENTION 2012

I. The Rev. Dr. Lee Alison Crawford (Vermont)
II. The Rev. Cn. Petero A. N. Sabune (New York)
III. The Rev. Cn. Mark Harris (Delaware)
IV. Belton T. Zeigler, Esq. (Upper South Carolina)
V. The Rev. Gay C. Jennings (Ohio)
VI. The Rev. Cn. Tim Anderson (Nebraska)
VII. The Ven. Joyce Hardy (Arkansas)
VIII. The Rev. Floyd Gamarra (Los Angeles)
IX. Dr. George A. Frazer Stain (Honduras)

BY INVITATION

Anglican Church of Canada Partner: The Rt. Rev. Michael Ingham (*resigned 1/2009*)
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA): *vacant*

MEETING DATES AND SITES

Chicago, Illinois	November 12-15, 2006
Portland, Oregon	March 2-4, 2007
Parsippany, New Jersey	June 11-14, 2007
Dearborn, Michigan	October 26-28, 2007
Quito, Ecuador	February 11-14, 2008
Albuquerque, New Mexico	June 13-15, 2008
Helena, Montana	October 20-23, 2008
Stockton, California	January 29-31, 2009
Portland, Maine	April 20-22, 2009

INTRODUCTION

The Executive Council (Council), with the Presiding Bishop, works between Conventions implementing and monitoring the policies and programs authorized by the General Convention, including budget oversight.¹ Council was established by the Canons of The Episcopal Church in 1919 serving as the Board of Directors for the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS), and is charged with making a full published report to General Convention each triennium.² The Executive Council may initiate and develop new work, as necessary, between General Conventions.³

The Executive Council consists of forty voting members, including 20 members elected by General Convention and 18 members elected by the nine provinces, who serve six-year terms. Half of these members rotate off Council each triennium. The Presiding Bishop serves as Chair, and the President of the House of Deputies serves as Vice Chair. There are three additional non-voting positions: the Secretary of General Convention, who serves as Secretary of the Council; the Treasurer of DFMS; and the Chief Operating Officer, who serves as a DFMS Vice-President. The life of Council is enriched by the presence of representatives from two partner churches, the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

During each year of the triennium the Executive Council meets three times. Daily worship and Bible study provide the framework for each meeting's deliberations and decision making. Although most of Council's legislation is processed through its standing committees, Council does consider issues before it through plenary presentations by invited guests, the opening remarks of the Chair and Vice Chair, and scheduled "private conversations."

The Standing Committees of Executive Council are Administration and Finance (A&F), International Concerns (INC), National Concerns (NAC) and Congregations in Ministry (CIM). Each committee studies matters brought before it and reports to the Council, which acts by Resolution as appropriate. Reports of these committees and those from the other entities that report to the General Convention through the Executive Council follow this summary of Council's function and work.

¹ Canon 1.4.1(a) and 2(e)

² Canon 1.4.1 (b)

³ Canon 1.4.2 (e)

SUMMARY OF WORK

In this triennium the Executive Council's work addressed the mission priorities adopted by the 2006 General Convention. Among major actions:

1. JUSTICE AND PEACE: Promoting justice and peace for all of God's creation and continuing and accelerating the leadership role and programs of The Episcopal Church, which support the eight (8) Millennium Development Goals. (The Millennium Development Goals eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; and combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and develop a global partnership for development in the dioceses of The Episcopal Church and in the world.)

- Designated the MDG line item in the budget of TEC for the support of the partnership with Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) and Jubilee Ministries to create a \$3 million dollar "MDG Inspiration Fund" to encourage grass roots support for achieving the MDGs by Episcopalians, and to fight malaria and other diseases.
- Urged participation of TEC with the Refugee Council USA and other refugee organizations to address the "material support bar" provisions of the US Patriot Act.
- Supported human rights for homosexual persons and asylum for persecuted Gay, Bi-sexual, Lesbian, and Transgendered persons.
- Supported the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast in a manner which provides racial and economic justice and which is environmentally sustainable.
- Urged Episcopal ordained and lay persons to assist those seeking protection from detention and deportation by providing sanctuary.
- Dedicated money budgeted for Appalachian Initiatives for Direct Grants for Appalachian Initiatives.

2. YOUNG ADULTS, YOUTH AND CHILDREN: Reaching out to young adults, youth and children through intentional inclusion and full incorporation in the thinking, work, worship and structure of the church.

- Approved Constable Fund grants for Christian Education.
- Gave \$4,360 to the Diocese of Ecuador Central as a special offering for the Diocesan School and Seminary.
- Approved a Constable Fund grant for \$50,000 to enable the attendance of youth from Province IX, Haiti, and Virgin Islands to attend the Episcopal Youth Event.

3. RECONCILIATION AND EVANGELISM: Reconciling and engaging those who do not know Christ by participating in God's mission of reconciling all things to Christ and proclaiming the Gospel to those who are not yet members of the church.

- Reviewed Jubilee Centers throughout The Episcopal Church.
- Reaffirmed the commitment of TEC to funding the seminaries of the church with 1% of net disposable budgeted income from each congregation of The Episcopal Church.
- Allocated trust fund monies to support the education and training of ordained persons.
- Approved a Constable Fund grant for training bishops and deputies in the art of Public Narrative for Mission

4. CONGREGATIONAL TRANSFORMATION: Revitalizing and transforming congregations through commitment to leadership development, spiritual growth, lifelong learning, dynamic and inclusive worship, greater diversity, and mission.

- Directed that Refugee Program Liaisons be appointed in each diocese where a refugee resettlement office of the Episcopal Migration Ministries is located, to promote engagement of refugees by diocesan congregations.
- Awarded a Constable Grant for a gathering of persons of color who are members of the Committees, Commissions, Agencies and Boards of The Episcopal Church.
- Awarded a Constable grant for *Cancionero: A New Songbook for Latino-Hispanic Episcopal Congregations*

5. PARTNERSHIPS: Reaffirming the importance of our partnerships with provinces of the Anglican Communion and beyond and our relationships with ecumenical and interfaith partners.

- Recognized the service of numerous missionaries sent by the DFMS and by other mission-sending organizations.
- Approved the formation and continuation of Companion Diocese relationships between dioceses of TEC and dioceses throughout the Anglican Communion.
- Approved a Covenant Relationship with the Province of Brazil and a renewal of the Covenant with the Province of The Philippines.
- Appointed a representative to the governing board of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America.
- Prepared a study guide for the draft Anglican Covenant, solicited responses and forwarded them to the drafting group.
- Awarded a Constable Grant for a 12-week online course introducing ecumenical and interfaith relations to the broader Episcopal Church.
- Wrote a letter to Episcopal Church Bishops attending the Lambeth Conference committing to pray for them and praying that their voices may be heard speaking the truth about The Episcopal Church and hearing the truth of others.

NARRATIVE

A NEW ADMINISTRATION AND A NEW VISION

The work of the Executive Council in this triennium has taken place in the context of new leadership for the whole church and for the two Houses that form the General Convention. The Executive Council has been both challenged and supported by their leadership in a time of restructuring, reinvigorating our call to mission and recalling this church to its vocation among churches in the Anglican Communion and in the larger Ecumenical and Interfaith communities.

AREAS OF MAJOR CONCERN

Following the 2006 General Convention, the Executive Council was faced with a variety of issues growing from its missionary, stewardship and fiduciary responsibilities. These included the reorganization of the Church Center and the appointment of a new COO, the approval of budgets for each year reflective of the costs related to reorganization and extraordinary legal costs related to actions of parishes and dioceses in contention with The Episcopal Church, the ongoing needs of ministries that are supported by The Episcopal Church, and the extraordinary levels of response required by Executive Council to the various challenges we face in the Anglican Communion.

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE CHURCH

A number of individuals in parishes voted to leave The Episcopal Church just prior to and during this triennium and at the same time several Primates of other Anglican Provinces determined to ordain bishops specifically for work within the jurisdiction of The Episcopal Church.

The pastoral response by The Episcopal Church as a whole to churches and people in distress as a result of the decisions by some to leave The Episcopal Church has rested primarily on the Chief Pastor of the church, our Presiding Bishop, the Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, and on the members of the House of Bishops in their pastoral role and in their dioceses, the church and the Communion.

The Executive Council has been the primary means by which the governance of The Episcopal Church has spoken on these matters. The President, Bishop Katharine, and the Vice President, Bonnie Anderson, have been unstinting in their efforts to engage faithful members of this church in places of conflict and have reported to us on their work.

In addition, the Executive Council has attempted—as planning allows—to meet in places where its witness to the continued care and responsiveness of the whole church to its members would be evident. We met in the Diocese of Ecuador Central, undergoing a difficult rebuilding of trust and mission following the removal from office of its former bishop. We met in the Diocese of the Rio Grande as that diocese searches for its next bishop, its previous bishop having resigned in order to be received as a Roman Catholic. We met in the Diocese of San Joaquin, where the diocese has been reorganized following the decision by its former bishop, many of the clergy and lay people to leave The Episcopal Church and align with another province. In each case we are thankful for the continued witness of faithful Episcopalians, the particular role of our presiding officers and the opportunity afforded all of us to worship and witness to our common faith in these settings.

The Executive Council responded to the needs of dioceses confronting the issues raised by members leaving this church by appropriating funds for the work of the task force on property disputes and additional mission funds for help in reconstituting diocesan leadership where members of a diocese have left The Episcopal Church. We reaffirmed before the whole Communion The Episcopal Church's desire to be a church welcoming to all people. We examined the role, responsibilities and response of the Executive Council to issues raised by the Primates. We put in place a task force to monitor the Anglican Covenant process. We reaffirmed the requirement that Dioceses accede to the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church. We reaffirmed our commitment to representation on the Anglican Consultative Council by electing new members to take their place in the deliberations of that body.

REORGANIZATION

The reorganization of the work of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and the work of the Executive Council was undertaken in the context of several objectives. The priorities established at the 2003 General Convention were reaffirmed for this triennium, with some change in order. These priorities were then subject to further examination through the lens provided by the Millennium Development Goals. Staff responsibilities were examined in light of the priorities and goals.

Advances in information technology and a growing consciousness of The Episcopal Church as a national and international church, both contributed to a need to revisit the old model of a single center of operations. The result has been a reconfiguration of staff responsibilities that reflects function and allows for multiple office locations. This work has been the effort of the management team but the various committees of Executive Council have spent considerable time and energy in determining that ongoing concerns of the Council are addressed in the new configuration of staff responsibilities and work. The work of reorganization has been of major concern to the Executive Council in this triennium.

PARTNERSHIPS IN GLOBAL MISSION

Council met in the Diocese of Ecuador Central as that diocese began the process of reinvigorating its missionary life and prepared to elect a new bishop. This visit and our meeting there with the people and bishop of the diocese reconfirmed the strong missionary history of The Episcopal Church that has led both to the establishment of new Anglican Churches in Brazil, Central America, Mexico, and the Philippines and to a renewed sense of The Episcopal Church as an international Church. At the Dearborn, Michigan meeting we were blessed by time with the Primates and other officers of provinces formed from The Episcopal Church and who continue in familial partnership with us.

ANGLICAN COMMUNION AFFAIRS

In this triennium the Executive Council has on several occasions spoken on behalf of The Episcopal Church regarding matters pertaining to the Anglican Communion. In particular it provided a response to the communication from the 2006 Primates Meeting and the call for responses to the various forms of the Draft Anglican Covenant. Stressing the governance of this church by all orders of ministry, the Executive Council and its officers have encouraged at every turn the widest participation of members of this church in responding to churches and organizations of the Communion.

MISSION AS ONE

In this triennium Executive Council has been particularly conscious of the mandate of ‘Mission as One.’ The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society in 1835 stated, “for the guidance of the Committee it is declared that the missionary field is always to be regarded as one, THE WORLD – the terms domestic and foreign being understood as terms of locality adopted for convenience.” (Article X, Constitution of the DFMS, 1835). The convenience of the “domestic and foreign” distinction has been of greater or lesser value at various times in our history. The work of this triennium, particularly with its concerns for the poor, the marginalized and Millennium Development Goals, relations within the Anglican Communion and the continued vitality of our own church that is international in character have all pointed to issues and concerns for interdependence and continuing concerns for justice in our own practice as a church.

DOMESTIC POVERTY

In May 2008, the Presiding Bishop called a Summit on Domestic Poverty. Nearly 100 participants from all parts of The Episcopal Church met to identify matters essential to justice regarding domestic poverty. They identified the following: affordable food; employment; affordable quality childcare; education; healthcare; a healthy environment; housing; economic opportunity; a just immigration policy; cultural affirmation; and equal protection under the law. Guided by those 11 Essentials to Justice, the Jubilee Advisory Committee has challenged the Executive Council to work towards the alleviation of domestic poverty during the next triennium through the development and implementation of a program targeting the poorest counties in the United States, with particular emphasis on those issues affecting Native American Reservations on a range of measures of economic security, quality of life, and health care. American Indians/Alaska Natives routinely find themselves mired in a cycle of long-standing poverty and social and economic challenges.

The Executive Council has received the report of this Summit and worked to fashion Resolutions addressing the need for The Episcopal Church to engage the concerns to alleviate domestic poverty among the poorest in the United States.

GENDER EQUALITY AND ANTI-RACISM WORK

In this past triennium the Executive Council has continued in the pledge made by General Convention to continue anti-racism work both by receiving such training itself and by continuing to support that work throughout the church. Every member of a Commission, Committee, Agency or Board of The Episcopal Church is expected to engage in such training on a continuing basis.

The Committee on the Status of Women has voiced a concern that gender equality in the church still remains a goal, not a fact. To this end it has analyzed the make-up of various bodies in The Episcopal Church’s governance and concluded that, “It is clear that, overall, gender equity is making strides in The Episcopal Church, but areas remain in which equity must still be pursued.” The Executive Council is apprised of the need to continue this work as it appoints or elects persons to positions in the governance of the church.

REGIONAL EXPLORATIONS OF MUTUALITY AND INTERDEPENDENCE.

A new initiative in exploring regional mutuality and interdependence is being organized as part of the focus by the Executive Council on life within the Anglican Communion. The “Anglican Churches in the Americas” conference, held in February 2009, provided a concrete way in which to further affirm the commitment of this church to the mission to the world. This initiative, which grew from a challenge raised by the President of the House of Deputies, is part of the Executive Council’s efforts to work together with other Anglicans in all areas of its work.

BUDGET PROCESSES

As the Executive Council works towards the development of program and budget for the 2009 General Convention in Anaheim, California, it has proposed a new set of priorities that reflect the integration of concerns for the life and health of The Episcopal Church, the demands of justice in the nation and the world, and a renewed engagement in mission to the whole world. The new process of developing a budget for the next

triennium has also been put in place, one that it is hoped will be both responsive to the emerging mission priorities of the church and supportive of the new mission center configuration of staff reorganization.