

**House of Bishops  
Interim Meeting at the Courtyard Minneapolis Downtown  
September 20, 2019**

The business meeting was called to order at 2:45 pm by the Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry. The Presiding Bishop opened the meeting with prayer. It was MOVED and APPROVED that the registration list of the conference suffice for the roll call. The secretary announced that the original attendance consisted of 125 bishops and 4 bishops elect and the number still present more than constituted a quorum. It was announced that the Rt. Rev. Victor Scantlebury was recognized as the Senior Bishop present.

**Changes of Status of Bishops in the House**

**New consecrations/elections**

**Cristobal Leon Lozano**, Bishop of Ecuador Central, 3/30/2019  
**Mark D.W. Edington**, Bishop of Convocation of Europe, 4/6/2019  
**Phoebe Roof**, Bishop of West Tennessee, 5/4/2019  
**Kimberly Lucas**, Bishop of Colorado, 5/18/2019  
**Kathryn Ryan**, Bishop Suffragan of Texas, 6/1/2019  
**Susan Brown Snook**, Bishop of San Diego, 6/15/2019  
**Thomas James Brown**, Bishop of Maine, 6/22/2019  
**Megan Traquair**, Bishop of Northern California, 6/29/2019  
**Shannon MacVean-Brown**, Bishop of Vermont, consecration scheduled for 9/28/2019  
**Jonathan Folts**, Bishop of South Dakota, consecration scheduled for 11/2/2019  
**Martha E. Stebbins**, Bishop of Montana, consecration scheduled for 12/7/2019  
**Lucinda B. Ashby**, Bishop of El Camino Real, consecration scheduled for 1/11/2020  
**Bonnie A. Perry**, Bishop of Michigan, consecration scheduled for 2/8/2020  
**Lennon Yuan-Rung Chang**, Bishop of Taiwan, consecration scheduled for 2/22/2020

**Necrology since last meeting**

**Frank Allan**, resigned Bishop of Atlanta, May 24, 2019

**Resignations since last meeting**

**J. Zache Duracin**, resigned Bishop of Haiti, effective 3/1/2019  
**Kirk Smith**, resigned Bishop of Arizona, effective 3/9/2019  
**R. William Franklin**, resigned Bishop of Western New York, effective 4/3/2019  
**Michael Smith**, resigned Bishop of North Dakota, effective 5/1/2019  
**Don Johnson**, resigned Bishop of West Tennessee, effective 5/4/2019  
**Robert O'Neill**, resigned Bishop of Colorado, effective 5/18/2019  
**Stephen Lane**, resigned Bishop of Maine, effective 6/22/2019  
**Barry Beisner**, resigned Bishop of Northern California, effective 6/29/2019  
**Pierre Whalon**, resigned Bishop in Charge of Europe, effective 7/1/2019  
**John Tarrant**, resigned Bishop of South Dakota, effective 7/1/2019

**Changes in Status**

**Sean Rowe**, Bishop of Western New York, April 3, 2019  
**R. William Franklin**, Assisting Bishop of Long Island, May 1, 2019  
**Michael Smith**, Assistant Bishop of Dallas, May 14, 2019

## **Communications from the Presiding Bishop**

There were no communications from the Presiding Bishop.

## **Special Business of Meeting**

### **Status of response of the HOB to General Convention Resolution B003 (Appendix A).**

The Rt. Rev. John H. Taylor reported that self organizing groups are being conducted to listen to various voices during this meeting. The pastoral letter requested in B003 will be developed after this meeting and distributed to the House of Bishops before the next meeting in March 2020. The letter will be voted on at that meeting.

## **Reports from Committees**

### **HOUSE OF BISHOPS COMMITTEE ON RESIGNATIONS**

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick reported for the House of Bishops Committee on Resignations that the committee met during this meeting and reviewed this request for resignation: The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs effective January 1, 2020.

The Committee reviewed the matter and we recommend consent to his resignation with the note that he meets the requirements of the Canons and Rules of Order and will thus retain membership in the House and all privileges related thereto except those accorded only to members with jurisdiction. Bishop Kendrick on behalf of the committee MOVED that the House accept the resignation of Wendell Gibbs. The Motion was APPROVED.

## **Other Business**

### **Committees of the House of Bishops**

The Presiding Bishop called the House's attention to list of the Committees of the House of Bishops (Appendix B) for their information only.

### **Message from the Bishops and Spouses**

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher MOVED for approval *A Message of Love and Solidarity from Bishops and Spouses of the Episcopal Church* (Appendix C). The motion was SECONDED. Discussion ensued.

The Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan MOVED to strike the word *whole* in the final paragraph and to change the punctuation to a comma to to insert *and invites their siblings in the Episcopal Church to join in this solidarity*. The motion was SECONDED and APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Ann Hodges-Copple MOVED the title of the document be changed to *A Message of Love and Solidarity from Bishops and Spouses of the Episcopal Church*. The motion was SECONDED. Discussion ensued. The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller offered an amendment to change the title to *A Message of Love and Solidarity from the Bishops and Spouses to the Episcopal Church*. The amendment to the amendment was SECONDED and APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Wayne Smith MOVED to strike the word *tender* and *who is our common ground* from the second paragraph. It was SECONDED and APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Brian Thom MOVED to strike the first two sentences of the fourth paragraph so that the paragraph would begin *After faithful*. It was SECONDED. Discussion ensued. It was APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth MOVED to strike the first two words *As yet* in the third paragraph and insert, after *our hearts*, the word *however* with appropriate punctuation changing the first words of the paragraph to *Our hearts are, however, troubled*. The motion was SECONDED and APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan MOVED to strike *as a body of* from the second paragraph. The motion was SECONDED and APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Mark Van Koevering MOVED to strike *within the Anglican Communion* from the last paragraph. The motion was SECONDED and APPROVED.

The original MOTION as AMENDED was again before the House. A tally vote was requested and APPROVED.

The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller MOVED to table the motion indefinitely. The MOTION was SECONDED. Discussion ensued. The motion FAILED.

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Waldo MOVED to remove all text in the fourth paragraph through the end of that paragraph following "*respond in the name of Christ*." The motion was SECONDED. Discussion followed. The motion FAILED.

A vote was taken pursuant to HOB rules of order V.N.12 and passed with two thirds.

A Tally vote was taken of the original MOTION as AMENDED. 60 in Favor; 17 against. 3 Abstentions. The MOTION as Amended APPROVED.

### **Reading of the Minutes**

The Presiding Bishop noted that the minutes of the prior meeting are available on the College for Bishop's website. It was MOVED, SECONDED and APPROVED that the reading of the minutes of the last meeting be dispensed with.

### **Adjournment**

It was MOVED and APPROVED that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce  
Secretary

Attested,

The Rt. Rev. Allen Shin  
Assistant Secretary

## Appendix A



### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH THE GENERAL CONVENTION

August, 2018

The following is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the 79<sup>th</sup> General Convention at its meeting on July 5 – July 13, 2018 in Austin, Texas, at which a quorum was present and voting.

*Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention strongly reaffirm its long-established position calling for the holy city of Jerusalem to be the shared capital of both the State of Israel and of a potential Palestinian state; at the same time recognizing that this hoped-for two state solution is currently in serious jeopardy and may not become a reality; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this General Convention assert its conviction that Jerusalem is a holy city to the three Abrahamic faiths, where full respect must be accorded to the civil rights and religious interests of all persons; that all holy places in the city must be equally protected and accessible to all adherents; and that the city's status as a community for all Christians, Muslims, and Jews must be honored; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention concur with our Presiding Bishop, who said in his March 29, 2018, reflections on his trip to the Holy Land, "As we pray for the peace of Jerusalem, as the Bible teaches us, we must find ways to work for the peace of Jerusalem, which will be found where there is true equality for all, true justice for all and true freedom for everyone. Here it is clear that this is not simply an idealistic dream. It is the only hope, and we must not rest until it is realized;" and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention join with leaders of the Christian communities in Jerusalem in recognizing that the relocation of the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem at this time creates an additional obstacle to peace; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all dioceses be encouraged to engage earnestly in education, advocacy, and prayer for the renewal of a diplomatic and political process for peace in the region, and for the peace of Jerusalem; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention urge the House of Bishops to disseminate as soon as is practicable a Pastoral Letter supporting Jerusalem's prophetic identity as the Holy City of Peace.

The Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe  
Secretary of General Convention

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CENTER

615 SECOND AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10017-4503 USA • 212 716-6000 • 800 334-7626 • [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org)

## Appendix B

### Committees of the House of Bishops

*As per the Rules of Order – Section IV. Appointment of Committees*

A. *Committees of this House shall be appointed by the Presiding Bishop unless otherwise ordered. The Presiding Bishop, not later than the third day of the session, shall name the members of all the Committees to serve on an annual basis, and shall designate the Chair of each Committee. The following shall be the Committees of the House:*

1. *Standing Committees:*
  - a. *Dispatch of Business*
  - b. *Certification of Minutes*
  - c. *Rules of Order*
  - d. *Privilege and Courtesy*
  - e. *Resignation of Bishops*
  - f. *Pastoral Letter*
2. *Legislative Committees as needed*
3. *Other Committees as needed*

B. *The Chair of each Committee shall appoint a Vice-Chair and a Secretary.*

C. *The Presiding Bishop may at any time refer to any Committee of the House, for its consideration, matters which arise and which should receive consideration at the next meeting of the House.*

### **Current Committees and Membership:**

#### **(1.a) Dispatch of Business and (1.b) Certification of Minutes**

- W. Gibbs (Chair)
- C. Daniel
- D. Johnson
- B. Prior
- B. Seage
- T. White
- M. Traquair
- M. Hunn

#### **(1.c) Rules of Order**

- S. Rowe (Chair)
- G. Rehberg
- J. Brooke-Davidson

#### **(1.d) Privilege and Courtesy**

*Description of work: The writing of Courtesy Resolutions and thank you letters during General Convention, and assistance with ceremonial writing in between General Conventions.*

- P. Eaton (Chair)
- G. Harris

**(1.e) Resignation of Bishops (and Membership)**

*Description of work: Covers anything with respect to general membership in the HOB (bishops provisional, assistant bishops from other provinces, fraternal privileges, and membership matters related to discipline). Resignations: Chair informs the committee when a straightforward resignation that aligns appropriately with the canons and rules of order and consent is registered. In other matters, Chair calls a meeting, and might require the presence of some combination of the PB, Pastoral Development, PB's Canon, depending on the nature of the question.*

- N. Alexander (Chair)
- R. Kendrick
- K. Brown
- P. Roaf

**(1.f) Pastoral Letter**

*Description of work: Members chosen at HOB meeting if House decides to release a communication from the meeting.*

- J. Owensby (Chair)
- C. Hughes

**(3.a) Ecclesiology**

*Description of work: Work started following GC2012, charged with creating materials for studying the nature of the Church as Episcopalians understand it. A report entitled Re-membering and Re-imagining was published in July 2018 by the Sewanee Theological Review. Presently planning a conference with VTS and The Living Church Foundation, January 13 – 14, 2020, entitled “When Churches in Communion Disagree: A Consultation.”*

- P. Whalon (Chair)
- W. Franklin
- R. Fitzpatrick
- W. Gregg
- A. Shin
- G. Sumner
- C. Bascom

**(3.b) Planning**

- B. Prior (Chair)
- S. Barker
- M. Budde
- S. Goff
- S. Hayashi
- T. Ousley

- M. Quezada
- J. Smylie
- B. Cole
- K. Ryan
- Sandy Skirving (Spouses/Partners Rep)

(3.c) Religious Communities

*Description of work: This committee was created in the late 1970s/early 1980s, in part, to address concerns that the Church was not providing sufficient oversight to Religious Orders and Communities. Each January, the chair emails all officially recognized Religious Orders and Christian Communities, attaching an Annual Report Form, with instructions to return it by mid-March. Received information is collated and shared with the whole committee, and the Episcopal Church Annual is updated. When a new Order or Community requests recognition, the committee meets to review the application and decide on recognition (Title III Canon 14). Provides counsel and advice in the case of disputes regarding an Order or Community.*

- J. Lee (Chair)
- M. Garrison
- W. Love
- S. Miller
- N. Rivera
- A. Williams
- M. Gunter
- T. Ousley (HoB Contact)
- CAROA and NAECC reps

(3.d) Theology

- T. Breidenthal (Chair)
- L. Ahrens
- L. Benfield
- R. Fitzpatrick
- W. Franklin
- A. Shin
- P. Singh
- P. Taylor

(3.e) Pastoral Development

- G. Harris (Chair)
- J. Baskerville-Burrows
- O. Beauvoir
- C. Daniel
- S. Goff
- H. Hollerith
- W. Houglund

- T. Ousley
- J. Owensby
- L Provenzano
- D. Wolfe
- Betsy Fisher (Spouses/Partners Planning Group Representative)



## Appendix C

### ***A Message of Love and Solidarity from Bishops and Spouses to the Episcopal Church***

For many bishops and bishops' spouses of The Episcopal Church, next summer's Lambeth Conference has become the occasion for a mixture of joy and sorrow, hope and disappointment. We cherish the bonds of affection that we enjoy with our Anglican siblings around the world. Gathering in prayer, study, and fellowship with our spiritual family is a gift for which we are profoundly grateful.

We, bishops and spouses choose to remain in community with each other as we navigate this passage in our common journey. We choose to remain one in the love of Jesus.

Our hearts are, however, troubled. The Lambeth Conference 2020 intentionally recognizes and underscores the important role bishops' spouses play in the ministry of the episcopate. And yet, spouses of bishops in same-gender marriages have received no invitation to participate. Their exclusion wounds those who are excluded, their spouses, and their friends within and beyond the House of Bishops.

After faithful soul-searching, each bishop and spouse will arrive at a decision about how best to respond in the name of Christ. Some will attend and offer loving witness. Some will opt to stay at home as a different way to offer loving witness. Some will dedicate the resources not spent for Lambeth attendance to on-the-ground partnership projects as an alternative manifestation of our commitment to the Anglican Communion. Others will find different avenues to express the unwavering love of Jesus Christ.

The community of bishops and spouses supports and stands together in solidarity with each of our brothers and sisters in this Episcopal Church as they make these decisions according to their conscience and through prayerful discernment and invite the siblings of TEC to join us in that solidarity.

*A tally vote regarding the message was taken. The results of the vote were: Yeas 60, Nays 17, Abstentions 3*