

**House of Bishops Interim Meeting  
Camp Allen  
March 15, 2016**

*As per House of Bishops Rules of Order  
Daily Orders II – Special Meeting of the House*

The Business Meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm by the Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry. The Presiding Bishop opened the meeting with prayer.

The Secretary asked if it was the desire of the House to have the roll called, or if the registration list could suffice to determine a quorum. Bishop Jon Bruno MOVED, and it was SECONDED and APPROVED that the registration list of this House of Bishops Meeting suffice for the roll call. The Secretary announced that the original attendance consisted of 137 bishops and the number still present more than constituted a quorum. The Secretary then announced that Bishop Peter Lee was the most Senior Bishop present.

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

**New consecrations/elections**

J. Russell Kendrick, Bishop of Central Gulf Coast, 07/25/2015  
Audrey C. Scanlan, Bishop of Central Pennsylvania, 09/12/2015  
George R. Sumner, Jr., Bishop of Dallas, 11/14/2015  
P. Moises Quezada-Mota, Coadjutor, Dominican Republic 2/13/2016  
Patrick W. Bell, Bishop of Eastern Oregon, consecration scheduled for 4/16/2016  
Douglas E. Sparks, Bishop of Northern Indiana, consecration scheduled for 6/25/2016

**Necrology since last meeting**

David C. Bowman, resigned Bishop of Western New York, 7/10/2015  
Milton L. Wood, resigned Bishop Suffragan of Atlanta, 7/16/2015  
Onell A. Soto, resigned Bishop of Venezuela, 8/5/2015  
Donald J. Parsons, resigned Bishop of Quincy, 1/4/2015

**Resignations since last meeting**

Phillip Duncan, Bishop of Central Gulf Coast, effective 07/25/2015  
Leo Frade, Bishop of Southeast Florida, effective 01/2016  
Paul Lambert, Bishop Suffragan of Dallas, effective 8/1/2016

**Changes in Status**

Peter Eaton, to Bishop Diocesan of Southeast Florida, effective January 2016  
Geraldyn Wolf, as Assistant Bishop of Long Island, effective February 1, 2016  
Mary Glasspool, as Assistant Bishop of New York, effective April 1, 2016

## **Communications from the Presiding Bishop**

The Presiding Bishop announced that Bishop Sean Rowe (Parliamentarian) and Bishop Wayne Wright (Chair of the Dispatch of Business) will oversee the election of the Bishop Suffragan for the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries at the September meeting of the House of Bishops.

The Presiding Bishop noted that a survey regarding this year's House of Bishops meeting was distributed electronically to all Bishops at the beginning of this Business Meeting. The Presiding Bishop encouraged the Bishops to complete the survey as soon as possible, noting that the feedback is important for the planning of upcoming meetings of the House..

The Presiding Bishop noted the following appointments:

**HOB Theology Committee**, Bishop Tom Breidenthal, Chair.

### **HOB Planning Team**

The Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley, Convenor

The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff

The Rt. Rev. Marianne Budde

The Rt. Rev. Scott Barker

The Rt. Rev. Scott Hayashi

The Rt. Rev. Moises Quezada Mota

The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior

The Rt. Rev. Clay Matthews

The Presiding Bishop added that the Planning Group will be comprised of the members appointed by the Presiding Bishop plus additional members with particular expertise who will serve from time-to-time. The work of the Planning Team will be supported by the staff of the Office of Presiding Bishop. The Presiding Bishop also announced that an appointment of a member from the Spouses/Partners Group is in process with consultation with their planning committee. The Presiding Bishop went on to share that, when appointed, the Chaplains or a representative of the Chaplains will serve as an integral part of the Planning Group

## **Special Business of Meeting**

**Election to the College for Bishops Board** – Bishop Neil Alexander presented and MOVED the slate for election to a three year term on the Board:

*The Rt. Rev. Dean Wolfe*

*The Rt. Rev. Nick Knisely*

*The Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas.*

The motion was APPROVED.

**Consent of the appointment of the Rt. Rev. Mark Van Koevering as Assistant Bishop of West Virginia.**

Bishop Neil Alexander reported on behalf of the Committee on Resignations that the committee has reviewed the petition offered by the Bishop and Diocese of West Virginia with respect to the admission of The Right Reverend Mark Van Koevering as a member of this House to serve as Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of West Virginia per the letter from Bishop Klusmeyer dated February 26, 2016 (Appendix A).

Bishop Alexander indicated that the committee does certify that all of the requirements of the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church and the Rules of Order of the House of Bishop are fully complied with, and copies duly provided to the Secretary.

Bishop Alexander MOVED the following Resolution:

*Resolved, that the House of Bishops pursuant to Canon III.12.5(b)(4) hereby consents to the appointment of the Rt. Rev. Mark Van Koevering as the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of West Virginia, having completed all the canonical requirements, including but not limited to Canon III.12.5(b)(3).*

Bishop Klusmeyer addressed the House regarding this resolution.

The motion was APPROVED.

The Secretary noted that the Rt. Rev. Mark Van Koevering's number in the succession is 1092a.

**Disciplinary Board**

Bishop Cate Waynick provided a report by the Disciplinary Board, placing in nomination the name of *Bishop Michael Smith* who has agreed to serve a one year term that is vacant. As no other Bishops were nominated from the floor, the election of Bishop Michael Smith was MOVED and APPROVED.

**Resolution regarding the Vice Chairs**

The Presiding Bishop relinquished the Chair to Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves.

Bishop Sean Rowe MOVED the following resolution:

*Resolved, that for purposes of the House of Bishops Rules of Order and relevant canons, the Rt. Rev. Dean Wolfe, is designated as the Vice-Chair.*

The resolution was SECONDED.

The Presiding Bishop then spoke to the resolution. The motion was APPROVED>

## **Option to Withhold Consent**

The Rt. Rev. Wayne Smith presented the following resolution for consideration by the House:

*Be it resolved that Bishops with Jurisdiction in The Episcopal Church reserve the option to withhold consent after any Episcopal election without at least two qualified persons of color among the nominees.*

*And be it further reserved that Bishops with jurisdiction in The Episcopal Church reserve the option to withhold consent after any Episcopal Election without at least two qualified women among the nominees.*

Bishop Wayne Smith MOVED the resolution and it was SECONDED.

The motion was put forward for discussion after a vote was taken of the House, with two thirds of the House agreeing to deal with the resolution per Rule XIX of the House of Bishops Rules of Order.

Bishop Smith spoke to the resolution. A discussion ensued.

Bishop Ed Koenicky MOVED to POSTPONE TO A TIME CERTAIN (SEPTEMBER 2016 BUSINESS MEETING). The Motion was SECONDED. Discussion ensued. The motion was APPROVED.

## **Report from the work of the House during this meeting (Appendix B)**

The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray Reeves offered the synthesis of the work the House completed over the last few days. The overriding theme was leadership. The focus for the next three years will be: 2016 -- Committed Leadership, 2017 -- Courageous Leadership, 2018 -- Contagious Leadership -- ending with the

Bishop Gray Reeves spoke about the upcoming work of the House based on the input from the House which is captured in the Appendix. The Planning Committee will keep the words of the wordels in mind as they plan for the House's future meetings.

A discussion ensued. The Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley took notes for the Planning Committee's use based on the discussion.

The HOUSE indicated that this is a direction that they wish to continue during this triennial.

## **Federal Ministries Election**

Tom Ely presented a resolution relating to the upcoming September election.

*Resolved: The House of Bishops affirms the faithful work of the Nominating Committee for the election of a Bishop Suffragan for the Armed Services and Federal Ministries and Chaplaincies.*

*Further, we express appreciation to the Nominating Committee for their extension of the nominating process to April 30, 2016.*

*Further, we express our commitment to accept no nominations from the floor, but only those persons fully vetted and presented through the Nominating Committee process, including any petition process presented by the Nominating Committee.*

Bishop Ely MOVED the resolution, which was SECONDED.

The motion was put forward for discussion after a vote was taken of the House, with two thirds of the House agreeing to deal with the resolution per Rule XIX of the House of Bishops Rules of Order.

Bishop Ely spoke to the resolution. Bishop Todd Ousley noted that he has spoken with the Vice Chair of the Nominating committee regarding this situation. Further discussion ensued. The motion was APPROVED.

### **Class of 2013 letter (Appendix C)**

Bishop Doug Fisher presented the letter from the class of 2013 (Appendix C).

Bishop Steve Lane moved to consider the letter from the Class of 2013 letter as a Mind of the House document, which was SECONDED.

The motion was put forward for discussion after a vote was taken of the House, with two thirds of the House agreeing to deal with the resolution per Rule XIX of the House of Bishops Rules of Order.

A discussion ensued.

Bishop Dan Martins offered an amendment, removing COERCIVE in the second paragraph, and the sentence THE CURRENT RHETORIC IS LEADING US TO CONSTRUCT A MODERN FALSE IDOL OUT OF OUR POWER AND PRIVILEGE in the third paragraph, which was seconded. Martins spoke to the amendment.

Bishop Ian Douglas made a motion to amend the amendment to simply strike the word OUR from the sentence in the third paragraph Bishop Martins was requesting be amended.. The amendment as amended was SECONDED and APPROVED.

Bishop Ted Gulick MOVED an additional amendment -- second line of the first paragraph -- from EMERGED FROM THE TOMB to WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD. This amendment was SECONDED and APPROVED.

Further discussion ensued.

The motion as amended was then APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY by the House.

## Reports from Committees

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

The Rt. Rev. Neil Alexander reported for the **House of Bishops Committee on Resignations** that the committee met during this meeting and reviewed the requests for resignations from Bishop Porter Taylor, Ordinary of the Diocese of Western North Carolina, Bishop Ed Little, Ordinary of the Diocese of Northern Indiana, and Bishop Mary Glasspool, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Los Angeles (the committee was aware that Bishop Glasspool will continue full-time ministry as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of New York). The committee found all matters with respect to their resignations from the present positions to be in order (Appendix D).

The Committee has determined, further, that in each case, one or more qualifications as set forth in the Constitution of The Episcopal Church and the Rules of Order of the House of Bishops have been met and these members are eligible to retain their seat and voice in this House upon the acceptance of their resignation by this House.

Bishop Alexander on behalf of the committee MOVED that the House accept the resignations of Bishops Porter Taylor, Ed Little, and Mary Glasspool. The Motion was APPROVED.

## Other Business

### **Point of Personal Privilege**

Bishop Julio Holguin asked for a moment of personal privilege, which was granted. Bishop Holguin expressed his gratitude to Bishop Ian Douglas of Connecticut -- for the first time in the history of the church a Latin American, a Caribbean woman of color was elected dean of the Cathedral in Connecticut. Bishop Holguin noted that the Dean was educated in the seminary in the Dominican Republic. Bishop Holguin thanked the Presiding Bishop for his presence at their diocesan convention and as primary consecrator at the consecration of the new Diocesan Bishop in the Dominican Republic.

### **Location of the September HOB meeting**

The Presiding Bishop then noted that the location of the September meeting is in process. The venues are being reviewed at the moment. A three year calendar of locations

**Reading of the Minutes**

It was **MOVED** and **APPROVED** that the reading of the minutes of the last meeting be dispensed with.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Attested,

The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce

The Rt. Rev. Allen Shin

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

## APPENDIX A



### Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michie Klumpp  
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Charleston, West Virginia 25311  
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26 February 2016

The Most Reverend Michael B Curry  
Presiding Bishop  
815 Second Ave  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Presiding Bishop:

At Lambeth Conference 2008, I was assigned to a Bible Study with several African bishops, which included the Bishop of Niassa (Northern Mozambique). In talking with Bishop Mark Van Koevering, I discovered that he was actually born outside of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and served in the Peace Corps in various areas of the world.

He eventually found his way to the Church of Wales, and was ordained to both the diaconate and the presbyterate by the Archbishop of Wales, Rowan Douglas Williams (June 26, 1999, and June 24, 2000, respectively).

He was consecrated Bishop of Niassa on September 14, 2003, by Winston Hugh Njongonkulu Ndugane, Archbishop of Capetown and Metropolitan of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa. Assisting at the consecration were: Geoffrey Davies, Bishop of Umzimvubu and Fungikosi Mbhele, Bishop Suffragan of Natal.

Having served faithfully in Niassa since that time, and having watched the Diocese double in size, Bishop Mark and his family decided to try to come to the United States. He and I have been in conversation for more than a year about the possibility of coming to work in West Virginia, as the Assistant Bishop. As you know, when things start to move, they usually move swiftly.

Bishop Mark resigned his Episcopal Office, effective October 31, 2015, and has moved to West Virginia.

In the hopes of asking the House of Bishops to receive Mark as the Assistant Bishop of West Virginia, I have asked the Standing Committee of West Virginia for permission to approach the Diocesan Convention. They gave their unanimous consent. So, at the Diocesan Convention, held in Pipestem State Park from October 23 - 25, 2015, a Resolution was offered and passed by ballot to create the position of Assistant Bishop. I then returned to the Standing Committee and asked their consent to appoint The Rt. Rev. Mark Van Koevering to be the Assistant Bishop of West Virginia. This request was approved unanimously.

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I also asked Mark to come to General Convention where he could meet some of the Bishops of The Episcopal Church. He was well received and has gotten to know many of our Bishops.

While I was at the consecration of the Old Catholic Bishop of Austria a couple of weeks ago, several bishops mentioned that they had heard that Mark was moving to West Virginia. Many of them had come to know him through various mission programs.

Pursuant to Canon III.12.5, I am asking This House for their Consent for Mark to become a Member of This House, and to join us in The Episcopal Church and to serve his ministry as the Assistant Bishop of West Virginia.

I do certify that:

- He has resigned his former responsibilities
- The Archbishop of The Province of Southern Africa has certified his ordinations
- He has exhibited satisfactory evidence of moral and godly character, and that he has passed a local canonical theological examination
- He has signed the Oath of Conformity for This Church
- He has passed his medical examination, and the results of his psychiatric and psychological tests have been submitted to the Presiding Bishop's Office.

While he has been in West Virginia, and serving here in West Virginia, we are aware that the Title of Assistant Bishop, and his membership in the House, does not take effect until and unless the House of Bishops consents and approves such action.

I am asking that this matter be brought to the business session of the House of Bishops in March.

If there is anything else I need to do, or if there are any questions, I am happy to discuss this more.

I pray you have a blessed and Holy Lent.

Faithfully,



The Rt. Rev. W. Michael Krummeyer  
Bishop of West Virginia

cc: Bishops Exercising Jurisdiction

## APPENDIX B

### ***Disarming Love: Following the Way of Jesus and Claiming the Faith of Prophets, Apostles and Martyrs***

Three annual themes:

2016 Committed Leadership

“Serving before you day and night in the ministry of reconciliation”

2017 Courageous Leadership

“Enlightening the minds and stirring up the conscience of your people”

2018 Contagious Leadership

Embracing the joy of following Jesus who came, not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many

Arc of each gathering:

Friday and Saturday – Reflection – scriptural/theologically based learning

Sunday – Sabbath or activity

Monday – Praxis – what do we take home and how has our learning offered us an opportunity for change in the HOB?

Tuesday – Business

Creating the community we long for:

Check-in – always a crafted, substantive question designed for faith conversation/sharing and relationship building as the body of Christ.

Worship – to include focused prayer for revival, reconciliation and renewal for creative evangelism in our world today.

The “Wordles” produced from the work of the House (found on the next page) will be kept before the planning committee as planning team does their work.

*CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE.*



## **APPENDIX C**

A Word to the Church:  
Holy Week 2016

*"We reject the idolatrous notion that we can ensure the safety of some by sacrificing the hopes of others."*

On Good Friday the ruling political forces of the day tortured and executed an innocent man. They sacrificed the weak and the blameless to protect their own status and power. On the third day Jesus was raised from the dead, revealing not only their injustice but also unmasking the lie that might makes right.

In a country still living under the shadow of the lynching tree, we are troubled by the violent, forces being released by this season's political rhetoric. Americans are turning against their neighbors, particularly those on the margins of society. They seek to secure their own safety and security at the expense of others. There is legitimate reason to fear where this rhetoric and the actions arising from it might take us.

In this moment, we resemble God's children wandering in the wilderness. We, like they, are struggling to find our way. They turned from following God and worshiped a golden calf constructed from their own wealth. The current rhetoric is leading us to construct a modern false idol out of power and privilege. We reject the idolatrous notion that we can ensure the safety of some by sacrificing the hopes of others. No matter where we fall on the political spectrum, we must respect the dignity of every human being and we must seek the common good above all else.

We call for prayer for our country that a spirit of reconciliation will prevail and we will not betray our true selves.

## **APPENDIX D**

Bishop Porter Taylor: (1) Fulfills a minimum of ten years as a Bishop Diocesan (Western North Carolina); (2) resigns at a minimum of 62 years of age.

Bishop Ed Little: (1) Fulfills a minimum of ten years as a Bishop Diocesan (Northern Indiana); (2) resigns at a minimum of 62 years of age.

Bishop Mary Glasspool: (1) resigns at a minimum of 62 years of age.