

**Minutes to the Annual Synod
Diocese of the Central States (REC)
October 23, 2020**

*(In lieu of an in-person meeting a Zoom conference was scheduled
from 9 am to noon for this year's Diocesan Synod.)*

- 1) Bishop Peter Manto called the Zoom meeting to order with prayer at 9 am.

- 2) Bishop Manto welcomed REC Presiding Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Ray Sutton, to our meeting and gave him an extended time to speak to us. Referring to 2 Timothy 4:2, Bishop Sutton encouraged us to preach the Word in season and out of season, especially with 2020 being a rare “out of season” experience for us. God’s people have been through difficult times before and like those who have gone before we must remain patient and faithful keeping the Gospel central to all we do.

He reported that thankfully only a small number of REC parishes have reported cases of COVID-19. With precautions being observed our parishes have managed to continue meeting both in person and online, adapting procedures where necessary.

He also mentioned the success of REC 100 efforts with 15 new missions being planted. He will ask members of each parish to give \$100 during the Lenten Offering again this year to help the REC 100 program continue efforts to build and promote God’s Kingdom.

He reported that a Subcommittee for Unifying Theology (SCUT) has been established to unify and strengthen our theological educational programs and increase the sharing of resources and staff. We have approximately 80 students combined at our seminaries.

Finally, a newly published Visitation Handbook for the Sick has been sent to all clergy.

- 3) Archdeacon-elect Scott Thompson declared that we had a quorum with 49 participants, verified by Dss. Michelle Caldwell.

- 4) Nominations Committee Report and Election of Officers - The Rev. Paul Edgerton

- a) The Rev. David Truax will complete the remaining year of the Chavez term on Board of Trustees.
- b) Nominees for Standing Committee: John McGill (lay), The Rev. Keith Boettner (clergy)
- c) Nominees for Trustees: Marta Matthews (lay), The Rev. William Barto (clergy)
- d) Nominee for Secretary of the Synod: The Rev. Keith Boettner
- e) Nominee for Treasurer: The Rev. Ken Mills
- f) Motion made that the above slate of nominations be presented for all-inclusive vote. Seconded and approved by vote of the Synod.
<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/NominationsCommitteeReport2020.pdf>

5) Reports of Officers

- a) Minutes of the 2019 Synod. Motion made to dispense with reading of the minute orally before the synod assembled, seconded, minutes approved. (on file on Diocesan website) <https://rec-dcs.org/synods.php>
- b) Report from Bishop Ordinary (The Rt. Rev. Peter Manto) (on file-website). Motion made, seconded, report accepted as presented.
<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/OrdinaryReport2020.pdf>
<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/BishopOrdinaryActivities2020.pdf>
- c) Report from Treasurer (The Rev. Ken Mills) (on file-website). Motion made, seconded, reported accepted as presented. Proposed budget for 2021 presented. Motion made, seconded, budget approved by Synod. (detailed documents on file - website)
<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/FinancialReport2019.pdf>
<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/FinancialReport2020.pdf>
<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/ProposedDCSBudget2021.pdf>
- d) Report from Canon Missioner (The Very Rev. Scott Thompson) (on file-website) Plans are underway to officially install Fr. Scott as Archdeacon in 2021. Motion made, seconded, report accepted.
<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/CanonMissionerReport2020.pdf>

6) Reports of Elected Committees

- a) Trustees (The Rev. David Straw) (on file-website) (One clarification to filed report - diocese purchased a car for the bishop rather than leasing one to enable him to travel more frequently.) Motion made, seconded, report

approved.

<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/TrusteesReport2020.pdf>

- b) Standing Committee (The Rev. Paul Edgerton) (on file-website) Motion made, seconded, report approved.

<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/StandingCommitteeReport2020.pdf>

7) Reports of Appointed Committees

- a) Examining Chaplains (The Rev. Paul Edgerton) (on file-website) Motion made, seconded, and report approved.

<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/BoardExaminingChaplainsReport2020.pdf>

- b) Constitutions and Canons (The Rev. Paul Edgerton for The Rev. Scott Houser - recovering from knee surgery) (on file-website) Motion made, seconded, report accepted.

<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/ConstitutionCanonsCommitteeReportRev2020.pdf>

8) Other Reports

- a) Greetings from Bishop Emeritus, The Rt. Rev. Daniel Morse. He is glad to participate in the Zoom Synod, appreciates all our prayers, and is finding his way forward in retirement.

<https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2020/BishopEmeritusReport2020.pdf>

- b) Board of Foreign Missions (The Rev.. John Boonzaaijer) Encouraged participation in Circle of Three to make friendships, offering support to other parishes. Also encouraged us to become “sending parishes”, to support the general fund giving a suggested \$500 yearly and to consider adopting a missionary to support.

- c) Women of the Church (Mrs. Gale Hill) The WOC raised \$10,000 in the past year for clergy bikes in Cuba. This project was to help traveling clergy to reach preaching stations. In 2021 they want to raise funds for five additional bikes. They also hope to publish the annual devotional book and plan some electronic meetings.

9) No old or new business

10) Affirmation of 2021 Synod (October 20-22, 2021) to be held in Mason, OH.

Meeting adjourned and closed with prayer.

Submitted by Synod Secretary, The Rev. Keith Boettner