# From: The Council of Bishops To: The General Committee of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

The Diocese of Mid-America is now in its 16<sup>th</sup> year of existence. It has advanced to the point of where there are 49 parishes and missions in that Diocese covering 27 states in the USA. We are grateful to God for the way in which he has allowed this portion of our church to grow and develop.

We all agree that the size of Dioceses should be determined by the distance in which fellowship and pastoral care can be effectively delivered. The Diocese of the Southeast is an example of the ideal with most of its parishes within a 2 hour distance from the Ordinary. We also are convinced that when opportunities emerge, larger Diocese should be reorganized into areas where the presence of the Ordinary is felt by all those under his oversight.

It is our unanimous opinion that the time has come for the first reorganization of our three dioceses in the USA. An opportunity exists for the creation of new missionary diocese. The Missionary Diocese of the Central States (hereafter called the MDCS).

This new Missionary Diocese to be composed of the outer boundaries of the following 9 States:

### From the Diocese of Mid-America

Indiana0 ParishesOhio2 ParishesKentucky0 ParishesTennessee3 Parishes

Alabama 2 Parishes From the Diocese of the North East

#### From the Diocese of the North East

West Virginia 0 Parishes

Virginia 4 Parishes (1 Parish currently under DMA)

## From the Diocese of the South East

Eastern Tennessee 1 Parish North Carolina 0 Parishes

The above Chart indicates that 7 parishes would come from the DMA, 4 parishes from DNEMA, and 1 parish from DSE.

Christ our Hope Reformed Episcopal	Westpoint	TN
Christ the King Reformed Episcopal	Dayton	OH
St. John's of Mt. Laurel	Mt. Laurel	AL
St. James Reformed Episcopal	Memphis	TN
Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church	Mason,	OH
Christ Covenant Reformed Episcopal	Sevierville	TN

Holy Trinity Ref. Episcopal Church	Fairfax,	VA
Christ Church Reformed Episcopal	Abingdon	VA
New Covenant Reformed Episcopal	Lynchburg	VA
Covenant Reformed Episcopal	Roanoke	VA
St. Andrew's Reformed Episcopal	Signal Mnt.	TN
St. Simon's Reformed Episcopal	Fairhope	AL

## The Bishops therefore unanimously present the following motions:

- 1. The General Committee designates the specified States in this report as the Missionary Diocese of the Central States.
- 2. That the General Committee gives consent to the appointment by the Presiding Bishop of the Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse as the Missionary Bishop of the MDCS.
- 3. The General Committee appropriates the supplemental income for the Missionary Diocese for the first four years.
- 4. That the General Committee consents to the appointment of The Rev. Douglas Mills of Christ Covenant Church, Sevierville, TN as Arch-Deacon of the MDCS.