

**2017 Report of the Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse
Bishop Ordinary, The Diocese of the Central States**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In accordance with the Canons of this Church, I hereby present you with a list of all active clergy in the Diocese of the Central States. Attached to the end of this report is the current list. All Deacons and Presbyters on that list are current.

On this occasion of my Ninth report as Bishop of this Diocese, I submit this summary of my activities during this past year in the work of the episcopate. Due to the great distances that most REC bishops have to cover, some of our work is done on the telephone, and I certainly have had my share of very long telephone conversations. Those are much less expensive than car or plane travel, but I hope you know for sure that if you need me to visit you I will drop everything and come, so do not hesitate to ask.

I made 19 Episcopal visits to the Parishes and Missions of this Diocese, and 19 persons were presented to me for the laying on of hands in the ancient rite of confirmation since I reported to you in 2016. In addition to those Episcopal visits, I had preaching engagements and meetings with clergy as enumerated below.

EPISCOPAL MEETINGS

Date and Location	Special Purpose	Confirmations
January		
9-13—ACNA College of Bishops, Melbourne, FL		
February		
14—Bishops conference call		
16—Board of Foreign Missions conference call		
26—Quinquagesima—Institution of Davidson Morse in Appomattox and preach in Lynchburg		
March		
24-26—Lent 4—Trinity, Mason, Houser preaching		
April		
Mar 31-Apr. 2—Lent 5—Kirt Gerber at St. James, Memphis on Women’s Ordination		
26-29—Bishops, Summerville, SC		
May		
7—Easter 3—All Saints, Raleigh, and St. Andrew’s, Asheboro		3
8—Meet with the Rev. Dr. Chris King, Kannapolis, NC		
14—Easter 4—St. Jude’s, Richmond and Holy Cross		
27, 28—Sunday after Ascension—Christ Our Hope, Dayton, OH		
30—Trustees, 6:30 pm		
June		
4—Pentecost—Roanoke		3
13-16—General Council—Dallas		
24, 25—Trinity 2—St. Lazarus, Dayton		13
26-30—ACNA Provincial Council, Wheaton, IL		

July

2—Trinity 3—Christ Our Hope, Westpoint

August

23—Consecration of Walter Banek, Dallas

September

5-8—ACNA conclave, Church of Our Lord, Victoria

9, 10—Trinity 16—St. James, Memphis

16, 17—Trinity 17—Covenant, Roanoke

October

1-4—REC 100—Dallas

8—Trinity 20—Trinity, Evansville

26-27—Synod, Mason, OH

29—Trinity 23—Trinity, Mason

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November

5—All Saints—All Saints, Lynchburg

12—Trinity 24—Church of Our Saviour, Leesburg, VA

26—Sunday Next Before Advent—Christ the King, Dayton

December

3—First Sunday in Advent—St. Andrew’s, Appomattox

BISHOP ROYAL U. GROTE

As you know Bishop Grote died in his sleep sometime after midnight on the morning of Thanksgiving Day, 2016. His funeral was at Church of the Holy Communion, Dallas where his ashes were interred. Please remember his wife, Ellen, and their children and grandchildren in your prayers.

BISHOP PETER MANTO

I want to give special thanks to my Coadjutor, Bishop Peter, for his assistance this past year, and also to all of you for your warm welcome to him when he has visited you in my place.

ORDINATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

I instituted the Rev. Davidson Morse as Rector of St. Andrew’s, Appomattox, VA.

CLERGY TRANSFER

The Rev. Isaac Chavez accepted the invitation of Christ Our Hope parish in Dayton, OH to be the interim rector after the departure of the Rev. Harry Mathis.

The Rev. Deacon Johnny Bain resigned his orders due to his divorce.

ATTENDANCE AT THE COUNCILS OF THE CHURCH

The General Council of the REC only occurs every three years and the diocesan synod only once a year. For the Church to function properly we need full participation by all our clergy and lay representatives. In response to email reminders I have sent out in the last 2 years I have gotten responses indicating that some of you don't plan your schedules with these things in mind. Included in your responsibilities as churchmen when you took your ordination or membership vows is your participation in the councils of the church, and that requires a measure of planning on your part by putting those dates on your calendar and not planning vacations or other activities that would prevent your attendance. It also means that vestries need to include in the parish budget the expense of sending clergy and lay representatives to those council meetings.

DATE FOR THE 2018 DIOCESE MEETING

We have received an invitation from St. James Reformed Episcopal Church, Memphis, TN for the 2018 Synod. The dates will be October 25, 26, 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That until the heinous practice of Abortion on demand is abolished in this country that the Third Sunday in January, or the Sunday closest to Holy Innocents (Dec. 28, 2017), be designated Sanctity of Life Sunday and observed in all our Parishes. Furthermore, that our Clergy prepare and deliver a sermon on that theme at the Worship services on that day. Liturgical resources are available from the Diocesan Headquarters of the Diocese of Mid-America for use on that Sunday.
2. That this Council commend the support of Cranmer Theological House, Cummins Theological Seminary, and Reformed Episcopal Seminary to the parishes of our Diocese and that every effort be made to support these essential ministries both in terms of finances and personnel.
3. That the parishes of the Diocese support the work of the Women in the Church.
4. That the parishes of the Diocese support the REC mission in Cuba.
5. That Dss. Teresa Johnson be thanked for her work in producing a newsletter for the diocese and that all parishes be encouraged to cooperate fully and communicate with her (trjohnsn@gmail.com) any news items about their parishes so that we can improve communications in the diocese.
6. That this Council commend the ministry of Matt and Sora Colvin to the support of all REC parishes.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse
Bishop Ordinary

BISHOPS

MORSE, The Rt. Rev. Daniel R. (Dan)
MANTO, The Rt. Rev. Peter, Coadjutor

PRESBYTERS

BASINGER, The Rev. James A.
BECKHAM, The Rev. Dr. Christopher
BOETTNER, The Rev. Roy K. (Keith)
CHAVEZ, The Rev. Isaac
CLAUSON, The Rev. Dr. Marc A.
COLVIN, The Rev. Dr. Matthew
EDGERTON, The Rev. Dr. Paul
HARNER, The Rev. Chris
HEATON, The Rev. John
HERMAN, The Rev. Christopher (Chris)
HOUSER, The Rev. Canon Jon S. (Scott), Canon to the Ordinary
JONES, The Rev. Josiah
LONGMIRE, Jr., The Rev. Rodney H.
MACGREGOR, The Rev. Canon Ian H., Canon Missioner
MCNAMARA, The Rev. Wayne M.
MORSE, The Rev. Davidson R.
PALMER, The Rev. Canon Richard T.
SANDERS, The Rev. Franklin
SMITH, The Rev. William H. Smith
STEERE III, The Rev. Samuel A. (Sam)
STRAW, The Rev. David
THOMPSON, The Very Rev. W. Scott
TRUAX, The Rev. David
USELTON, The Rev. Randy

DEACONS

GINGERICH, The Rev. Barton
LITTLEJOHN, The Rev. Dr. Robert, Ph.D.,
MILLS, The Rev. Ken
SPIETH, The Rev. Michael

DEACONESSES

JACQUES, Ella Carol (Candy)
JOHNSON, Teresa
CALDWELL, Michelle

RETIRED CLERGY

COZZINI, The Rev. Dorino
JOSEPHSEN, Jr. The Rev. Dr. Hans E.
KUMP, The Rev. William T.
SMITH, The Rev. William H.
WORKOWSKI, The Rev. Richard

POSTLUANTS

BUTLER, Mark
BROWN, Christopher H. Brown
CHASTEEN, James
FITZPATRICK, Stuart
LANCLOS, Steven
MOORE, Tanner J.
VELEY, Edward D., Ph.D.
WINSLER, Bradley J.

PARISHES

ALABAMA

St. John's Anglican—Chelsea

INDIANA

Trinity—Evansville

KENTUCKY

Christ the Redeemer—Owensboro

NORTH CAROLINA

Church of The Redeemer—Wilson
All Saints—Raleigh
St. Andrew's—Asheboro

OHIO

Christ Our Hope—Dayton
Christ The King—Dayton
St. Lazarus Mission—Dayton
Trinity—Mason

TENNESSEE

St. James—Memphis
Christ Our Hope—Westpoint

VIRGINIA

St. Andrew's—Appomattox
Covenant—Roanoke
Holy Trinity—Fairfax
All Saints—Lynchburg
St. Jude's—Richmond
Holy Cross—Richmond

**RULES OF ORDER
FOR GENERAL COUNCILS AND DIOCESAN SYNODS
OF THE
REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The business of every meeting shall be introduced with prayer.

The Minutes of the sessions of the preceding day shall be read every morning at the opening of business unless the house shall otherwise determine.

The President shall appoint the several committees, unless the canons of the church shall otherwise specify.

When the President takes the chair, no member of the house shall continue standing, or shall afterward stand up, except to address the Chair.

No member shall absent himself from the sessions of the house unless he have leave, or be unable to attend.

When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall with due respect address himself to the President, confining himself strictly to the point in debate.

No member shall speak more than twice in the same debate without specific leave, by vote of the house.

A question being once determined shall stand as the judgment of the house, and shall not again be drawn into debate during the same session, unless with the consent of two-thirds of the house.

While the President is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse.

No motion shall be considered as before the house unless it be seconded.

Reports made by the various Boards and Committees to any Council (or Synod) of the church are officially received upon presentation to the house, and are the subject of its action only insofar as they embody recommendations which require specific authorization or approval under the canons of this church.

When any question is before the house, it shall be decided upon before any new subject is introduced, except for the question of adjournment.

All questions of order shall be decided in the first instance by the Chair, without debate.

An appeal, however, may be made from the decision of the Chair by any member of the house; said appeal requiring a two-thirds majority vote to be sustained.

The question on motion of adjournment shall be taken before any other, and without debate.

When the house is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat, until the President shall leave the Chair.

A call to prayer shall always be in order, when made by a member entitled to the floor; and in such case the Chair shall designate the person(s) whom he desires to lead in that service.

These Rules of Order shall remain in force until altered or suspended by the Council, two-thirds of the members present voting for such alteration or suspension.

(Adapted from the Journal of the Twenty-sixth General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church and adopted by the General Committee of the General Council, April 18, 1998)