REPORTS

For the

Eighteenth Synod

of the

Diocese of the Central States

of the

Reformed Episcopal Church

Meeting in Council
Trinity Church
Mason, OH

October 15-17, 2025

REFORMED EPISCOPAL VALUES

TRADITIONAL ANGLICANISM

- Ancient & Historic Model of the Church as expressed through the Formularies of the English Reformation regarding Faith & Order
- Doctrinal Standards of the Reformed Episcopal Church:
  - The Holy Scripture as God's inerrant, infallible & unchangeable Word
  - Book of Common Prayer (REC2003)
  - 39 Articles of Religion
  - Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral
  - Declaration of Principles
  - Jerusalem Declaration

A BIBLICAL WORLD & LIFE VIEW

- Testing all things by Scripture
- Biblical & Traditional views on:
  - Marriage & Family
  - Gender & Sexuality
  - Sanctity of Human Life
  - Morality based on the 10 Commandments and teachings of Jesus

REVERENT & LITURGICAL WORSHIP WITH COMPREHENSIVE CHURCHMANSHIP

- Historic Book of Common Prayer in Elizabethan or Contemporary Language as approved by the Reformed Episcopal Church
- Sacramental Worship with Biblical Preaching
- Customs reflective of varying cultures (African American, Anglo, Latino, etc)
- Comprehensive Churchmanship (low, high, etc)
- Music expressing the beauty and character of God, and the hymnody of the historic church – most especially as contained in the 1940 Hymnal and REC Book of Common Praise 2017

BEING AN ALWAYS MISSION-AL COMMUNITY

- Seeking to provide ways for unbelievers to 'belong' before they 'believe'
- Willing to care for the least, the last, the lost, and the lonely
- Committed to the support of both domestic and foreign mission
- Raising up and equipping Missionaries and Church planters

DISCIPLESHIP & PERSONAL COMMITMENTS OF ALL MEMBERS

- Ministry that equips laity to be active in all aspects of the work of the Church
- Ministry that develops future leadership both lay & clergy
- Establishing Christian schools and Christian education at all levels
- Providing Biblical and faithful seminaries
- Encourages the Tithe (10%) as the normative model of giving

Synod Planning Committee

Bishop Manto, Bishop Grote, Fr. Hubbard, and the staff of Trinity Church - Mason, OH are excited to invite you to the 18th Synod of the Diocese of the Central States this October!

Wednesday – October 15th

Wednesday is a travel day. Opportunity for fellowship and Synod check-in will be available on Wednesday evening with a time of informal gathering and an hors d'oeuvres reception at the hotel from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. Dinner will be on your own. There are several restaurants nearby and within walking distance of the hotel.

Please note: Those individuals not staying at the hotel do not have to come to the hotel for check-in (unless desiring to do so). They may check-in at the Church on Thursday morning.

Thursday – October 16th

We will officially begin our Synod with Holy Communion at 9:00am on Thursday at Trinity Church in Mason, OH. Our REC Presiding Bishop, Ray Sutton, will be our guest preacher as we observe Oxford Martyr Day.

The Church will open at 8:00am for coffee/tea and continued Synod check-in. Those participating in the service should arrive no later than 8:15am to review logistics with Fr. Jeff Hubbard and to vest. Only those participating in the service will be vesting. A group photo will be taken after the service on the front steps of the church.

Following the Communion service, we will have organizational business and hear Bishop Peter's report. We will then return to the AC hotel for lunch. A box lunch from Izzy's Deli will be provided. Sandwich selections will be made during the registration process. The cost of lunch is included in your full registration cost.

We will remain at the AC Hotel for our afternoon sessions following lunch. Immediately following lunch, we will have an open Q&A with Bishop Sutton and Bishop Manto. We will then hear Mission and Ministry presentations/reports and complete another business session. We will end our Thursday session with said Evening Prayer at 4:45. You will have time to rest and freshen up before our banquet dinner.

The banquet dinner will be at the AC Hotel at 6:30pm. Dress is clericals and Sunday attire. The cost of the banquet is included with your full registration price.

Friday – October 17th

We will begin our Friday sessions at Trinity Church at 9:00am. We will complete any remaining business and adjourn. We will then have a closing Communion Service with Bishop Manto as the preacher. You will then be free to travel home. We plan to finish by noon. **Note: Lunch will NOT be provided on Friday**.

Clergy Vesting

Only participating clergy will vest at this Synod. Fr. Jeff Hubbard will contact you if you are participating and need to bring vestments. Other clergy do NOT need to bring any vestments.

Welcome Reception & Registration Check-in

We have arranged a welcome reception from 5pm to 7pm on Wednesday evening in the AC Hotel bar area from 5pm to 7pm. Small hors 'd'oeuvres will be provided. Additionally, each registrant will receive two free drink tickets which can be used during the welcome reception or during the dinner on Thursday evening.

Check-in will be available during this reception time. If you cannot join us for the welcome reception, there will be an additional check-in time at Trinity Church on Thursday morning from 8:00a until 9:00a.

Note: The welcome reception is small hors 'd'oeuvres. You should plan on your own dinner arrangements before are after the reception.

Address Information

Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church

5920 Butler Warren Rd.
Mason, OH 45040
(513) 573-0509
https://www.trinityrec.org/

Synod Hotel

AC Hotel Cincinnati at Liberty Center
7505 Gibson Street
Liberty Township, OH 45069
(513) 759-6500
https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/cvgci-ac-hotel-cincinnati-at-liberty-center/overview/

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bishop Grote (J2Grote@rechurch.org).

Blessings,

The Synod Planning Committee
Bishop Grote
Bishop Manto
Fr. Jeff Hubbard
Dss. Michelle Caldwell
Mrs. Jodi Hubbard

SYNOD SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 15TH

5:00-7:00p Check-in & Welcome Reception – AC Hotel
Dinner on your own

THURSDAY – OCTOBER 16TH

8:00a Check-in @ Trinity Church (if not checked in night before)
9:00a Holy Communion service - *Group Photo to follow the worship service*
Bishop Sutton - Preacher
10:45a Organizational Business & Bishop Ordinary Report

All Thursday activities from lunch until dinner will be at the AC Hotel

Noon Lunch – AC Hotel
1:15p Presiding Bishop Welcome, Q&A Discussion with Bishops
2:30p Mission & Ministry: Board of Foreign Missions, REC100, Women of the Church
4:00p Business Session
4:45p Evening Prayer *(at hotel)*
6:30p Dinner *(Dress is clericals and Sunday attire)*

FRIDAY – OCTOBER 17TH

9:00a Bishop Coadjutor Report & Business Session at Trinity Church
10:45a Closing Holy Communion service
Bishop Manto - Preacher
12:00p Adjourn & Depart

Lunch is NOT provided on Friday

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organizational Business *(Thu)*
    a. Credentials Committee — *Bishop Grote*
    b. Declaration of Quorum — *Fr. Keith Boettner*
    c. Corresponding Membership — *Bishop Grote*
    d. Election of Officers
        Canonically, the Bishop Ordinary (Bishop Manto) will serve as President.
        i. Vice-President
        ii. Secretary
        iii. Treasurer
    e. Minutes of the 17th Synod — *Fr. Keith Boettner*
    f. Nominations Committee — *Fr. Christopher Beckham*
2. Bishops' Reports *(Thu)*
    a. Bishop Ordinary - Statistical & Official Acts — *Bishop Manto*
    b. Bishop Ordinary – Report & Exhortation — *Bishop Manto*
    c. Bishop Coadjutor *(will be delivered on Friday)* — *Bishop Grote*
3. Mission & Ministry Reports *(Thu)*
    a. Board of Foreign Missions — *Canon Bob Gresser*
    b. REC100 Canon Missioner — *Bishop Grote*
    c. DCS Women of the Church — *Mary Kozel*
4. Business Reports *(Thu & Fri)*
    a. Summary of the Standing Committee — *Fr. Josiah Jones*
    b. Trustees & Treasurer of the Diocese — *Fr. David Goodwin & Fr. Ken Mills*
    c. Clergy Wellness Fund/Grant — *Fr. Ken Mills*
    d. Examining Chaplains — *Fr. Paul Edgerton*
    e. Constitution & Canons — *Fr. Bill Barto*
    f. Minister's Salaries — *Bishop Grote*
    g. State of the Diocese — *Bishop Grote*
5. Old Business
6. New Business
7. Announcements
    a. General Council 2026 Preliminary Update
    b. 19th DCS Synod 2026
8. Committee Appointments to serve until next Synod *(may be distributed after Synod)*
9. Episcopal Visit schedule *(may be distributed after Synod)*

The Chair may alter the Order of Business at his discretion.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

This report may change based on late registrations and/or actual attendance. An updated report will be presented orally at Synod and will be given to the Secretary for inclusion in the Journal.

October 7, 2025

The Certifications of duly elected representatives and statistics is based on the parish certification forms submitted online. I am happy to say that every parish completed the form. All certifications are in order with the following exceptions:

- **Christ the Redeemer – Owensboro, KY** – Ralph Barany was registered as an Observer but was certified as the parish alternate. *Action taken: Changed role to Alternate.*
- **Church of the Holy Cross – Amelia, VA** – Judy Kelly was registered as an Observer but was certified as the parish alternate. *Action taken: Changed role to Alternate*.

There are a total of 77 individuals registered to attend all or a portion of Synod. The following totals of clergy and representatives of the Diocese of the Central States are registered and certified for the purposes of voting at this Synod.

- 2 - Bishops
- 30 – Presbyters
- 17 – duly elected parish delegates
- 0 – Diocesan Officer/Trustee/Standing Committee *(not otherwise elected as a lay delegate)*
- 5 – duly elected parish alternates *(who vote only when their parish delegate is absent)*

In addition to the above voting members of the Synod, there are 23 other individuals registered for at least one portion of the Synod but are not entitled to a vote.

All 23 of our Diocesan parishes/missions are represented at this Synod by at least one Presbyter and/or one lay member.

The Committee recommends that the list of clergy and lay representatives be given to the Secretary for inclusion in the minutes and that all representatives be seated.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rt. Rev. Jason R. Grote

ROSTER OF CERTIFIED VOTERS – DIOCESE OF THE CENTRAL STATES

BISHOPS (2)

1.	Grote, Jason	Bishop Coadjutor
2.	Manto, Peter	Bishop Ordinary

PRESBYTERS (30)

1.	Barto, William	Holy Trinity - Chantilly, VA
2.	Beckham, Christopher	St. Luke's - Maysville, KY
3.	Boettner, Keith	St. James - Memphis, TN
4.	Costa, Andrew	Darke County Anglican - Ansonia, OH
5.	Edgerton, Paul	Church of the Redeemer - Wilson, NC
6.	Gingerich, Barton	St. Jude's - Richmond, VA
7.	Goodwin, David	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
8.	Grout, Damien	St. Paul's - Lexington, VA
9.	Heaton, John	All Saints - Lynchburg, VA
10.	Herman, Christopher	St. Lazarus Mission - Dayton, OH
11.	Hubbard, Jeffrey	Trinity - Mason, OH
12.	Jones, Josiah	Holy Trinity - Chantilly, VA
13.	Kell, Jonathan	Church of our Savior Oatlands - Leesburg, VA
14.	Kline, Tim	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
15.	Lewis, Michael	Christ our Hope - Fairborn, OH
16.	Longcamp, John	Christ Church - Florence, KY
17.	Lowery, Jameson	Church of the Redeemer - Wilson, NC
18.	Marlowe, Alex	Johnson City Fellowship
19.	McNamara, Wayne	Christ the King - Dayton, OH
20.	Mills, Kenneth	Church of the Holy Cross - Amelia, VA
21.	Morse, Davidson	All Saints - Lynchburg, VA
22.	Overton, Jameson	Christ our Hope – Westpoint, TN
23.	Palmer, Richard	Christ the King - Dayton, OH
24.	Parker, Eric	Church of our Savior Oatlands - Leesburg, VA
25.	Rowley, Aaron	All Saints - Raleigh, NC
26.	Sanders, Franklin	Christ our Hope - Westpoint, TN
27.	Spieth, Mike	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
28.	Straw, David	Trinity – Evansville, IN
29.	Tarsitano, Richard	Trinity – Connersville, IN
30.	Veley, Duane	Covenant REC - Roanoke, VA

LAY DELEGATES (17)

1.	Baker, Alan	Trinity – Connersville, IN
2.	Boettner, Melanie	St. James - Memphis, TN
3.	Caldwell, Dss. Michelle	Trinity – Mason, OH
4.	Crocker, Tyler	Church of the Redeemer - Wilson, NC
5.	Crockett, Logan	Church of our Savior Oatlands - Leesburg, VA
6.	Culbreteh, Cecil	St. Jude's - Richmond, VA
7.	Davis, Daniel	St. John's - Birmingham, AL
8.	Fleming, Shelley	Holy Trinity - Chantilly, VA
9.	Grothaus, Heather	Christ Church - Florence, KY
10.	Harris, Kyle	Christ the King – Dayton, OH
11.	Herman, Carol	St. Lazarus Mission - Dayton, OH

12.	Kelley, Mike	Church of the Holy Cross - Amelia, VA
13.	Levine, Aaron	Covenant REC - Roanoke, VA
14.	Moose, James	St. Luke's - Maysville, KY
15.	Sawyer, Mason	All Saints – Raleigh, NC
16.	Wells, Brian	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
17.	Woodcock, Carol	St. Paul's - Lexington, VA

ALTERNATES (5)

1.	Barany, Ralph	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
2.	Gottlieb, Kevin	Holy Trinity – Chantilly, VA
3.	Jackson, Bridget	Christ Church - Florence, KY
4.	Johnson, Dss. Teresa	St. James - Memphis, TN
5.	Kelley, Judy	Church of the Holy Cross - Amelia, VA

ROSTER OF NON-VOTING MEMBERS & GUESTS

1.	Sutton, Ray	Bishop	Presiding Bishop, Reformed Episcopal Church
2.	Gresser, Robert	Presbyter	Board of Foreign Missions
3.	Foos, Brian	Presbyter	St. Andrew's School – Almanor, CA
4.	Zigiranyirazo, Justin	Presbyter	Anglican Church of Rwanda
5.	Heng, Dave	Deacon	Trinity – Evansville, IN
6.	Harris, Jacob	Postulant	Christ the King – Dayton, OH
7.	Barany, Debra	Observer	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
8.	Camerer, Alex	Observer	Synod Musician
9.	Foos, Emma	Observer	St. Andrew's School – Lake Almanor, CA
10.	Goodwin, Joyce	Observer	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
11.	Hubacher, Andrew	Observer	Trinity Church – Mason, OH
12.	Hubbard, Jodie	Observer	Trinity Church – Mason, OH
13.	Manto, Janice	Observer	Trinity - Mason, OH
14.	Marlowe, Olivia	Observer	Johnson City Fellowship
15.	McNamara, Sandra	Observer	Christ the King - Dayton, OH
16.	Merhout, Michaux	Observer	Diocese of the Central States
17.	Mills, Gigi	Observer	Church of the Holy Cross - Amelia, VA
18.	Spieth, Mary Lou	Observer	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
19.	Stubblefield, Francine	Observer	Trinity Church – Mason, OH
20.	Tarsitano, John	Observer	Trinity Church – Connersville, IN
21.	Wells, Wendy	Observer	Christ the Redeemer - Owensboro, KY
22.	White, John	Observer	
23.	Zigiranyirazo, Filomine	Observer	Anglican Church of Rwanda

CORRESPONDING MEMBERSHIP

The following individual(s) are recommended to this Synod to be granted corresponding membership, if they be present for these business proceedings. Corresponding membership includes voice but no vote.

- **The Most Rev. Ray R. Sutton** – Bishop Sutton is the Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of Mid-America(REC), and the Dean of the College of Bishops (ACNA). Bishop Sutton preached the sermon at the opening Communion service of Synod.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rt. Rev. Jason R. Grote

Synod 2024 Minutes - The Diocese of the Central States
Trinity REC, Mason, OH
October 15-17, 2024

Thursday, October 16

1. After an opening Service of Holy Communion and short break, the Synod was called to order by our Bishop Ordinary, The Rt. Rev. Peter Manto.

2. Based on confirmation from the Registration Desk of those registrants in attendance, a quorum was declared by the secretary, Fr. Keith Boettner.

3. Warm welcomes were extended to all attendees by Bishop Manto and also Fr. Jeff Hubbard, Rector of Trinity Church, Mason. Special welcomes were also extended to all the candidates for the position of Bishop Co-adjutor and their spouses.

4. Greetings were read from our Bishop Emeritus, the Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse, who was unable to attend because of health issues. All were encouraged to pray for our dear Bishop Emeritus.

5. Minutes from the 2023 Synod held via Zoom conference had been posted on the Diocesan Website to be read prior to the 2024 Synod. A motion was made by Archdeacon Thompson to approve the minutes without oral reading, seconded, and approved.

6. Committee reports began with Fr. Paul Edgerton, chair of the Nominations Committee. Nominations presented for consideration and vote of the Synod for diocesan positions include: Lay Trustee, Clergy Trustee, Lay Member of the Standing Committee, and Clergy Member of the Standing Committee. A motion was made to accept the entire slate of nominees by group acclamation. The motion was seconded and approved by clergy and delegates present.
   Report on file: https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/NominationsCommittee.pdf

7. Bishop Ordinary Report. Archdeacon Thompson was given the chair for the meeting while Bp. Peter Manto gave his report. Bishop Manto repeated his welcome to all Clergy, Delegates, Spouses, Observers, and Candidates and extended a special welcome and expressed what an honor it is to have had our Presiding Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Ray R. Sutton present at our Synod. He remarked that Bishop Sutton has served faithfully in Episcopal office for twenty-five years now. Bp Manto reminded us that he himself was completing his fifth year as our Bishop Ordinary and expressed thanks for all the prayers and encouragement he and wife Janice have received from the Diocese throughout those years. He reminded us that he was, Lord willing, planning to retire sometime after his seventy-fifth birthday.

Complete reports on file: https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/OrdinaryReport2024.pdf

https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/OrdinaryActivitiesTo93024.pdf
https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/OrdinaryStatisticalTo93024b.pdf
https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/DCS_Clergy_List202410.pdf

8. The extensive Trustees/Treasurer's Report was given by Diocesan Treasurer, Fr. Ken Mills of his own and also the Trustees work to maintain the financial well being of our Diocese. The reports were gratefully received from Fr. Mills by all. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the report. Later, in the meeting on behalf of the Trustees Fr. Ken detailed the Trustees work through the year, presented the proposed budget for the new fiscal year and asked for the Synod's approval of the Budget for 2025. A motion was made, seconded, and the budget approved.
   Reports on file:
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/1DCS2023YRendDASHBOARD.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/2DCS2023GIVINGSbyPARISH.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/3DCS2023YEARendSOA.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/4DCS2023YEARendSOP.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/5DCS2023DIVofRESERVE.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/6DCS2024SOA2024thru63024.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/7DCS2024SOPasof63024.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/8DCS2024RESERVEasof63024.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/8DCS2024RESERVEasof63024.pdf
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/MinisterSalaries2024.pdf

9. The Canon Missioner's Report was given by Archdeacon Scott Thompson. Motion was made to accept, seconded, and approved. Following his report, a rising expression of appreciation for Archdeacon Thompson's faithful service to the Lord and our Diocese was given by the assembly.
   Report on file:
   https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/CanonMissioner.pdf

10. The Standing Committee report was given by its President, Fr. Josiah Jones. Motion was made, second, and approved to accept. Report on file:
    https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/StandingCommitteeReport.pdf

11. The Examining Chaplains report was given by Fr. Paul Edgerton. Motion was made to accept, seconded, and approved. Report on file:
    https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/BoardOfExaminingChaplains.pdf

12. The report from Constitution and Canons Committee was given by the chair, Fr. Bill Barto. Fr. Barto has also agreed to serve as our Diocesan Chancellor. Fr. Tim Kline, also an attorney, will serve as Assistant Chancellor. Appreciation was also expressed for retiring Chancellor Dan Bell and his fine term of service. During his report, Fr. Barto reminded us of the importance of the Diocesan Protection Policy. Everyone should be familiar with it, and reminded that it should be implemented in every parish, mission, and extension work. Fr. Barto is happy to assist any parish with training or a refresher on the policy. Another reminder was given that the C&C require each parish to have books reviewed/verified yearly. A guide/list of best practices for the financial well being of a parish is being developed by Fr. Ken Mills and others will be made available in the future. Motion made to accept the report, seconded, and approved.
    Document on file from the committee:
    https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/ConstitutionCanonsCommittee.pdf

13. New Business
    - Fr. Josiah Jones, president of the Standing Committee and Chair of the Episcopal Search Committee made a presentation outlining the process and standards for Election of a Bishop.
      https://rec-dcs.org/documents/synod/synod2024/StandingCommitteeLetter.pdf

    - Affirmation of the 2025 Synod (October 15-17, 2025) to be held at Trinity Church, Mason, OH.

After a lunch break, the three candidates for Bishop Co-adjutor, Canon Jason Grote, Fr. Greg Miller, and Fr. Gregory Peters had the opportunity to introduce themselves, address the assembly, and to answer questions.
After a short break, Bishop Manto gave his official consent for the election and the election was held according to the stated canonical and constitutional standards. After deliberation, Canon Jason Grote was duly elected to the position of Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Central States.

A said service of Evening Prayer followed the election.

Later that evening a delicious, joyful Synod Banquet was served and afterward our Presiding Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Ray R Sutton gave an inspiring talk on the life and health of the REC and ACNA, encouraging us all.

Friday, October 18 (am)

Concluding Business

- Board of Foreign Missions Report given by Bishop John Boonzaaijer
- Women of the Church Report given by Janice Manto

Synod business was then adjourned

9:45 am - Concluding Service of Holy Communion (Preacher and Celebrant The Right Rev. Peter F. Manto)

Respectfully submitted,
Fr. Keith Boettner, Secretary

Synod of the Diocese of the Central States

of the Reformed Episcopal Church

16 October 2025

Held at Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church, Mason, Ohio

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Nominations Committee is a body that serves by appointment of the Bishop Ordinary and is tasked with vetting recommended candidates and making nominations for the consideration and vote of the Synod of four class-of-2028 diocesan positions: Lay Trustee, Clergy Trustee, Lay Member of the Standing Committee, and Clergy Member of the Standing Committee.

The Nominations Committee includes

The Rev. Christopher Beckham, Ph.D., Chair
Mrs. Melanie Boettner
The Rev. Barton Gingerich
Dr. Sam Mansour

The current compositions of the Board of Trustees and the Standing Committee are as follows:

Board of Trustees – The Trustees slated to leave office are The Rev. Duane Veley (2025) and Mrs. Jennifer McConnell (2025). The remaining elected Trustees are The Rev. Richard Tarsitano, Mr. Jordan Rafferty, The Rev. David Goodwin, and Mr. Wesley Mullins.

The ex officio Trustees are The Bishop Ordinary, the Archdeacon, the Treasurer, and the Secretary.

Standing Committee - The members slated to leave office are The Rev. Josiah Jones (2025) and Mr. Tom McConnell (2025). The remaining elected members are The Rev. Davidson Morse, Mr. Steve Mouton, the Rev. Dr. Paul Edgerton and Mr. Paul Harris.

The ex officio members are The Bishop Ordinary, the Archdeacon, the Treasurer, and the Secretary.

Actions

The Committee solicited recommendations through two diocesan-wide emails for the available positions. Once these recommendations were collected, the Committee considered them along with their own recommendations and determined a slate of potential nominees, all of whom consented to serve if elected.

We were grateful for the recommendations we received.

On 20 September 2025, the Committee Chair sent the slate of nominees and to the Bishop Coadjutor to be posted on the diocesan website for consideration ahead of Synod.

Nominees With Terms to End 2028

For Lay Trustee: Mr. James S. Moose, Ph.D.

Dr. Moose is a parishioner at St. Luke's (Maysville, KY). He has served that parish as usher, clerk of the vestry, and junior warden. Dr. Moose has extensive experience in finance. He comes highly commended by his parish.

For Clergy Trustee: The Rev. Damian Grout

Father Grout is the vicar of St. Paul's (Lexington, VA). In addition to his ministry work, Fr. Grout has extensive construction experience.

For Lay Member of the Standing Committee: Deaconness Shelley Fleming.

Mrs. Fleming is a parishioner of Holy Trinity (Fairfax, VA), where she faithfully serves our Lord. Mrs. Fleming was set apart for the lay order of deaconess in May, 2024.

For Clergy Member of the Standing Committee: The Rev. Wayne McNamara.

Father McNamara is rector of Christ the King (Dayton, OH) and has previously served as an examining chaplain for the diocese and member of the trustees of our diocese. He has extensive experience in education as well as ministry.

We thank our Bishop Ordinary, The Rt. Rev. Peter Manto for opportunity to serve in this capacity. We thank all who thought and prayed for us and offered advice. We will keep this year's additional recommendations in mind for future classes.

We pray God's blessings on each nominee, the committees through which they will serve, and all the parishes of the Diocese of the Central States as we seek to honor and serve our Triune Lord.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Beckham
Chair, Nominating Committee
Vicar, St. Luke's Anglican Church

CONFIRMATIONS

All Saints, Lynchburg, VA 11/7/24

1. Christian Reid
2. Jacob Pottinger
3. Gail Kowalski
4. Deborah Pociluyko
5. David Pociluyko
6. Sam Howell

Church of Redeemer, Wilson, NC 11/24/24

7. Mason Hinnant
8. Elizabeth Edgerton
9. Justin Everett

All Saints, Raleigh, NC 12/8/24

10. Ryan McKimmon
11. Debra Byrd
12. Gwen Shapiro
13. William Billings
14. Anthony Heredia
15. Max Afflerbach

St. Luke's, Maysville, KY 4/6/25

16. Alex Eagle
17. Gianna Eagle
18. Ronald Erskine
19. Dustin Erskine
20. Amanda Grooms

Our Saviour, Leesburg, VA 4/27/25

21. Lauren Dalton
22. Marcos Dalton
23. Joshua Revoir
24. Seth Mitchell
25. Daniel Kulju
26. Cana Goldbranson
27. Allison Satterfield
28. Ryan Slemmer
29. Benjamin Spivey
30. Ainsley Stellman
31. Carole Dudley
32. Lisa Garden
33. Roganvald Garden
34. Jonathan Creel
35. Cooper Cobbs
36. Nehemiah Bradley
37. Chris Bullock
38. Kristina Bullock
39. Elle Adkins

Confirmations Continued

Holy Cross, Amelia, VA 5/18/25

40. Kevin Bryant
41. Carole Dudley

Christ Our Hope, Fairborn, OH 7/20/25

42. Eden Taylor
43. Rowan Taylor

Covenant, Roanoke, VA 8/24/25 +JG

44. Rosalind Hall
45. Carlton Powell

Christ Redeemer, Owensboro 9/14/25

46. Theo Hearne
47. Andrea Schmitt
48. Bonnie Mae Conn
49. Jana Reeves
50. Eden Dietz
51. Noah Schmitt

Holy Trinity, Chantilly, VA 9/28/25

52. Ethan Coit
53. Michael Clawes

RECEPTION NEW MEMBERS

Church of Redeemer, Wilson, NC 11/24/24

1. Patricia Savage
2. Paul Savage
3. Sandra Sims

All Saints, Raleigh, NC 12/8/24

4. Lisa Kelly
5. Malcom Huguenin
6. Edwin Andrews

St. Luke's, Maysville, KY 4/6/25

7. Joy Moran

Our Saviour, Leesburg, VA 4/27/25

8. Raleigh Martin

Holy Cross, Amelia, VA 5/18/25

9. Eddie Ashman
10. Julie Ashman
11. Karen Wyatt
12. Darrell Wyatt
13. Hannah Palmer

St. Jude's, Richmond, VA 7/13/25

14. Dale Wheary
15. Helen Tait
16. Emily McCarthy

17. Tyler McDowell
18. Grace McDowell

Christ Our Hope, Fairborn, OH 7/20/25

19. Tom Oliver
20. Ann Oliver
21. Mary Oliver

St. Paul's, Lexington, VA 7/27/25

22. Amy Dowty
23. Steve Dowty
24. Lucy Wallace

Covenant, Roanoke, VA 8/23/25 +JG

25. Myra Jean Marvart
26. Mary Russell
27. Christopher Brumfield
28. Michele Brumfield
29. Lucinda Jewell

Christ Redeemer, Owensboro 9/14/25

30. Caitlin Hardman
31. Sam Meacham
32. Dwight Ottman
33. Elizabeth Ottman
34. Mark Schmitt
35. MaryLou Spieth

ORDINATIONS

1. Jameson Lowery-presbyterate, Church of Redeemer, Wilson, NC 11/24/24
2. Lukas Stock-diaconate, All Saints, Richmond, VA 3/16/25

TRANSFERS

Clergy Transfers In

1. Alex Marlowe, Johnson City Mission
2. Robert Hudson St. Luke's, Maysville, KY 4/6/25
3. Gerald McDermott-St. Jude's Richmond, VA 6/29/25, Adn Thompson preside

Clergy Transfers Out

1. Dominic Taranto-ACNA

SETTING APART DEACONESS

NEW POSTULANTS

1. Jacob Harris
2. Mason Sawyer

CONSECRATIONS/*INSTITUTIONS*

(*preside/assist)

1. *+Bill Jenkins, Ordinary NEMA, Cummins Memorial, Catonsville, MD 6/28/25
2. *+Jason Grote, Bishop Coadjutor DCS, Holy Communion, Dallas, TX 6/4/25

RECEPTION PARISH

1. Christ Church, Florence, KY 10/12/25

CONSECRATION BUILDINGS

WEDDINGS

FUNERALS (*preside/assist)

1. +Leonard Riches, 1/11/25, Pipersville, PA
2. +Al Gadsden, 1/23/25, Pineville, SC
3. *Jeremy Houser, 3/19/25, Chelsea, AL
4. *Jim Pickup, 5/8/25, Hamilton, OH

Respectfully submitted,

+Peter Manto

September 30, 2025

Bishop Ordinary Activities
October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025

I. October-December 2024

A. 10/3-4, Dallas, TX: DMA synod, 25th anniversary +Sutton consecration
B. 10/8, Mason, OH: Trinity REC, vestry plans for synod
C. 10/15-16, Cincinnati, OH, host Adn Scott and Mary Jane Thompson synod prep
D. 10/16-18, West Chester/Mason, OH, Trinity REC, Synod DCS, coadjutor election
E. 10/21, Zoom, Liturgical Commission
F. 10/22-23, Zoom, REC Bishops' biannual meeting
G. 10/25, Zoom, REC General Committee
H. 10/30-31, Charleston, SC: Investiture Abp. Steve Wood
I. 10/31, Charleston, SC: Lunch with +Gadsden, +White, wives
J. 11/1, Charleston SC: breakfast with +Hill and wife
K. 11/1-3, Lynchburg, VA, All Saints Evisit, 6 confirmations
L. 11/19, Dayton, OH: Christ the King vestry financial meeting
M. 11/22-24, Wilson, NC: Christ Redeemer, Ordination J. Lowery presbyterate
N. 11/24, Wilson, NC: Christ Redeemer, Evisit, 3 confirmations, 3 receptions
O. 11/24-25, Johnson City, TN: visit church plant launch team
P. 11/27, Mason, OH: Trinity, lead Evening Prayer
Q. 12/7-9, Raleigh, NC: All Saints, Evisit, 6 confirmation 3 receptions
R. 12/10-11, Cincinnati, OH: visit with T. Kline+ family here for daughter's surgery
S. 12/13-14, St. Meinrad, IN: St. M's. Monastery, Christ Redeemer men's retreat
T. 12/24-25, Mason, OH: Trinity REC, Lessons/Carols; celebrant HC Christmas

II. January-March 2025

A. 1/5, Dayton, OH: Christ the King, HC, meet Dcn Pelot and family on break from studies in Scotland
B. 1/10-11, Pipersville, PA: Emmanuel REC, attend +Riches funeral
C. 1/13-17, Melbourne, FL: ACNA Bishops' meeting; Grote examination
D. 1/19, Dayton, OH: Christ the King Anglican, Holy Communion, lunch Fr. and Mrs. W. McNamara
E. 1/23-24, Pineville, SC: Redeemer REC, +Gadsden funeral
F. 1/25-26, Memphis, TN: St. James Evisit
G. 2/2, Mason, OH: Trinity, Q/A with Christ Church, Florence , KY (APA) re. REC
H. 2/4, Zoom DCS Trustees
I. 2/10, Dayton, OH: McNamara home to discuss/explore Troy, OH church plant
J. 2/11-13, Cincinnati, OH: Manto's host David+ and Patricia Ayers in our home
K. 2/12, Mason, OH: Trinity Church, Evening Prayer-presentation by Ayers+
L. 3/2, Ansonia, OH: Darke Co. Mission, worship/visit
M. 3/3, Zoom DCS Standing Committee
N. 3/14-3/17, Lynchburg, VA,\: All Saints, Stock ordination diaconate
O. 3/18-21, Birmingham, AL: St. John's, preside at J. Houser funeral
P. 3/2122, Mason, OH: Trinity Mason, Ohio Valley Clericus
Q. 3/23, Dayton, OH: Christ the King, Bp-elect Grote preaching
R. 3/28-30, Bowling Green, OH: BG Covenant Church and Christian Academy, 40th anniversary celebration, attended and spoke as founding administrator.

III. April-June 2025

A. 4/5-6, Maysville, KY: St. Luke Evisit, 5 confirm, 1 reception, transfer R. Hudson+
B. 4/7, Zoom Board of Foreign Missions

C. 4/8, Zoom Grote consecration committee
D. 4/10, Zoom Clergy Relief Fund
E. 4/11, West Chester, OH: meet/update David Truax+
F. 4/12, Dayton, OH: Light of the Nations Church, attend funeral of Marc Clausen+
G. 4/13, Mason, OH: Trinity REC, preacher Palm Sunday
H. 4/14-16: Mason, OH: Trinity REC, Holy Week services
I. 4/17, Fairborn, OH: Christ Our Hope, Maundy Thursday Evening Prayer
J. 4/18, Connersville, IN: Trinity, Good Friday, Morning Prayer, Litany, Communion
K. 4/19, Mason, OH: Trinity, Evening Prayer and Lamb Dinner (prepared lamb)
L. 4/20, Mason, OH: Trinity, Easter Holy Communion, co-celebrant
M. 4/25-27, Leesburg, VA: Our Saviour, Evisit, 19 confirmations, 1 reception, Saturday lunch with college age members.
N. 4/29-5/2, Dallas, TX: Church of Holy Communion, REC Bishops meeting,
O. 5/1-2, DallasTX, International Bishops and General Committee via zoom
P. 5/8, Hamilton, OH: Community Christian Church, part in funeral of Jim Pickup.
Q. 5/13, Zoom DCS Trustees
R. 5/16-17, Richmond, VA: St. Jude's, DCS Piedmont Clericus
S. 5/17-19, Moseley, VA: Holy Cross Evisit, 2 confirmations, 4 receptions
T. 5/18, Midlothian, VA: Chesterfield Heights Mission, Evisit
U. 5/29, Mason, OH: Trinity REC, celebrant for Ohio/Indiana/Kentucky parishes joint Ascension Day service
V. 6/1, Fairborn, OH: St. Lazarus, Wright Rehab, Nursing Care, Evisit
W. 6/1, Dayton, OH: St. Lazarus/Widow's Home, Evisit
X. 6/3, Dallas, TX: Holy Communion Cathedral, DCS clergy/wives dinner
Y. 6/4, Dallas, TX: Holy Communion Cathedral, Co-consecrator for Consecration Service of Very Rev. Jason Grote
Z. 6/16-18, Ambridge, PA: ACNA Bishops meetings
AA. 6/18-20, Ambridge, PA: ACNA Provincial Council
BB. 6/22, Florence, KY: Christ's Church HC service (APA), considering move to REC
CC. 6/27-28, Baltimore, MD: Bp. Cummin's Mem. Church, preacher, +Jenkins Service of Institution

IV. July-September 2025

A. 7/6, Mason, OH: Trinity Church Sunday celebrant and preacher
B. 7/10-14, Richmond, VA: St. Jude's, Friday Men's meeting, Evisit
C. 7/20, Fairborn, OH: Christ Our Hope, Evisit, 2 confirmations, 3 receptions
D. 7/22, Zoom REC Bishops
E. 7/25-27, Lexington, VA: St. Paul, Institution Vicar D. Grout+, Evisit, 3 receptions
F. 8/14, Zoom REC Constitution/Canons
G. 8/15, Zoom REC Board Foreign Missions
H. 8/17-9/2, Vacation
I. 9/4, 18, 25 Zoom St. Lazarus planning session, task force meetings
J. 9/8, Dyton, OH: Revs. Steven and Matthew Shepard, Missionaries
K. 9/14, Owensboro, KY: Christ Redeemer Evisit, 6 confirmations, 6 receptions
L. 9/23, Mason, OH: Trinity, meet Rev Justin from Rwanda seeking affiliation
M. 9/28, Chantilly, VA: Holy Trinity Evisit, 2 confirmations

CANON MISSIONER

Beloved,

I continue to serve as the National Canon Missioner for the Reformed Episcopal Church. This year I have been asked to be the acting Canon Missioner for the Diocese as Archdeacon Scott Thompson retired at the end of last year. I thank Archdeacon Scott for his work in this role in the past. Serving in this role for the Diocese is intended to be a temporary and transitional one. It is my hope that by Synod 2027, God will have identified and revealed the person He would like to be appointed as the Canon Missioner for this Diocese.

Since this is my first report to you, I may end up overkilling this. But the truth is, I am unaware of how much you may or may not know regarding the various ministries of the national church, including REC100. So I beg your forgiveness because I want to make sure I communicate with you even if it means I risk overcommunicating.

Hopefully you know the name REC100. REC100 is the church planting and revitalization ministry of the Reformed Episcopal Church. It was birthed out of what was originally called "Anglican 1000". That was the vision of Archbishop Robert Duncan when he called upon the Anglican Church in North America to plant 1000 new missions. Bishop Royal Grote and Bishop Ray Sutton embraced that vision and desired that the Reformed Episcopal Church, as a sub jurisdiction of the ACNA, plant its 'tithe' of Anglican1000 – meaning 100 new missions.

Furthermore, the means by which such could be accomplished was through a model of giving that Bishop Royal Grote learned from his involvement with foreign jurisdictions. I believe it was the Diocese of Singapore, but I could be mistaken. In essence, each adult member is asked to donate $100 to REC100 as a part of their Lenten almsgiving. If each adult were to do this, we would raise over $550,000 per year based on the 2023 statistical reports. We would raise nearly $100,000 per year in the Diocese of the Central States alone based on the membership information provided for this Synod. Such levels of support, in DCS, would allow us to plant 2-3 parishes every year between REC100 grants, personal fundraising, and plant offerings.

But the vision, of course, is not simply about numbers or finances. Benchmarks and goals are useful tools but they are not our main objective. It is about the underlying principle of it all which is – 'go and make disciples of Jesus Christ'. It is about having a mission-al mindset that is ever looking for the opportunities God gives to us to pour ourselves - our souls & bodies, our talents & gifts - into the growth of Christ's Kingdom through church planting and discipleship. You see, discipleship is not simply about growing and strengthening our own individual relationship with God. True discipleship leads us to the command that we 'go out' into the world to order it and establish it – to take of our own self and to share it with the world just as God did when He created all things. That has ever been the call of God from the time He commanded it in Eden, extending to the Upper Room and Olivet when Christ commanded it, and continuing even until the great throne room of Revelation - where we see its accomplishment when all nations and all tribes are brought with one voice and one heart to praise our glorious God! We are ever about Mission.

Now obviously, the implementation of vision takes time. It also takes time for people to embrace the purpose of what we are seeking to do. As of now, we do not have full participation in the offering. Nor

do we have 100 new missions in the Reformed Episcopal Church. However, we continue to move in this direction. Overall, the REC has planted (from scratch) 19 different parishes, three of which were not fruitful (which is perfectly acceptable!). We have also helped to replant four different missions and to provide ministry and/or financial support to four different revitalization efforts. I am also aware of at least seven different parishes, perhaps more, that have transferred into the Reformed Episcopal Church. In total, since its inception in 2017, REC100 has provided over $400,000 in financial grants. When you think about it - a meager offering of $100 may not seem like a lot, but it's amazing how far it can go when we all participate together.

Lenten Offering

I can report that the Diocese of the Central States raised its highest annual offering yet! We have received just over $31,000 so far this year and I'm sure there are a few more parishes who have not submitted their offering yet. Now it's not by chance, but by Providence, that this year's offering is the exact amount for which we are committed in 2025. If you didn't know, we were committed to providing 3 grants totaling $31,000 during 2025. When we approved these grants, we thought we would have to dip into the reserves of the DCS REC100 fund to cover a portion of them. Yet the 2025 offering has met the entire need! Praise God and may it continue to increase.

I also want to provide offerings by year just so you can see the progression. What I notice right away is that the most dramatic increase started in 2023, 2024, 2025. I whole-heartedly believe that a major contributing factor to this is that it coincides with when the DCS actually started providing grants towards church planting and growth. In 2022, the first grant was provided in the DCS and the offering increased in 2023. In 2023, an additional grant was added and the offering increased again in 2024. In 2024, we had two grants and provided some initial funding for the development of a new planter, and now 2025 sees the largest offering yet. I'm excited for 2026 because we are now providing three grants! In total over these past four years, we have provided nearly $130,000 in grants and support to DCS plants & missions! Without a doubt, as we have used these offerings towards the growth and care of His kingdom, God has touched the hearts of all our parishioners and increased the resources to meet the need.

2018 - $22,205.00
2019 – $16,361.50
2020 – $10,662.85
2021 – $19,515.00
2022 – $17,354.58
2023 – $24,695.10
2024 – $27,856.51
2025 - $31,168.89 (so far)

Perhaps, if someone has a graphics sort of mind, they could get with me and we could produce a bulletin insert flyer that we could share this kind of information with all our parishes! I would like all our parishioners to know the impact their offering is having on the Kingdom of God.

REC100 Retreat

Just one month ago, REC100 was able to sponsor a week-long retreat for our current and active church planters and their families at a camp conference center in Trinity, TX. Not all families or planters were able to attend, but we still had 19 people from across the country gather for a wonderful time of rest, fellowship, prayer, and learning with each other. Three of our own DCS planters were able to join us (Fr. Andrew Costa, Fr. Alex Marlowe, and Fr. Richard Tarsitano). Our time together was led by Canon Tony Melton, Canon Michael Vinson, and myself. This kind of time being spent with one another in

sharing and heartfelt openness is absolutely vital. It is the hope of REC100 to provide more opportunities like this for our planters.

REC100 Cohorts
REC100 provides an opportunity for planters and revitalizers to join together on a fairly regular basis over Zoom. We call these our REC100 cohorts. Canons Tony Melton and Michael Vinson lead the church planting cohorts. Their wisdom is helpful, both having planted parishes from scratch. And both of those plants are currently in the midst of planting new parishes. Additionally, Canon Tony Welty leads a church revitalization cohort. Canon Tony recently went through a church revitalization process in Shreveport, Louisiana and that parish has flourished. It, too, is currently seeking to plant a new mission locally as well as helping to sponsor a mission 'from afar', as some of their members moved to another state.

Always Forward
I mentioned Anglican1000 minutes ago. That name changed when Archbishop Beach became Archbishop. The name it became was "Always Forward". The inception of Always Forward came at the same time as we were establishing the structures of REC100. As such, the leadership of Always Forward worked together with the leaders of REC100 towards the same goals. Obviously, we have our distinctives, but the wisdom of working together with other church planters and leaders has proven very fruitful. The worry that is often expressed is, "if we work with them, then we'll become like them and we don't want that." That can be true, and great caution should be taken. However, I can say that by working with them they are becoming more like us.

We (meaning myself and Canons Tony & Michael) participate in the Always Forward Canons for Church Planting gathering every year. We did so again this past Spring at the home church of the new Archbishop. This is an opportunity for us to discuss and tackle the challenges that we all face as Canons for Church Planting. We even discuss the problems we face with our Bishops and the Province when it comes to planting. This is to say, that we all have a heart for church planting and trying to find the best ways to support it.

Furthermore, Canon Tony (more than all of us) has been heavily involved with shaping the ministry of Always Forward. He not only helps the leadership of Always Forward, but he also serves as a coach to planters. This means our 'REC guy' is helping to shape new ACNA planters. It's actually because of Canon Tony's involvement that the DCS has our Johnson City plant with Fr. Alex Marlowe and Fr. Mike DuCharme. Likewise, another ACNA planter just recently transferred from his ACNA Diocese into our DSE diocese to plant a new parish. Don't undervalue the impact the REC is having.

Church Planting Course
This year we took a very pointed step in emphasizing church planting, especially as we seek to increase the number of church planters. This past December, Cranmer Theological House launched a new Church Planting course. As Canon Michael said in his report to the Synod of Mid-America last week, "by introducing this much-needed course, Cranmer House is addressing a gap in Episcopal and Anglican seminaries and instilling a missional DNA in our seminarians. The course also provides introductory training in church planting methodology for existing clergy, rectors, and laypersons." The course will be offered again at Cranmer this upcoming February. I encourage anyone interested in church planting to audit this class. It will be available in person in Dallas and by Zoom.

Planting Residencies
Lastly, I wish to mention planting residencies or curacies in established parishes. The desire is to have multiple parishes where a church planter can have a planting curacy for a period of 6-12 months

while actively gathering a group of individuals for a future plant. The initial group may be a cell group of a particular church (or group of churches in an area), or even an interested group from outside a current parish. Additionally, other parishes who may not be ready for a curate, whether for size or financial abilities, will be able to participate as well through other means of support.

This training is not only invaluable for the planter, but it becomes the heartbeat of a parish's mission. One of the questions that often gets asked about growing a parish is, 'what is the best way to grow a parish?'. The desired answer is always for a silver bullet. We all know, however, there is no silver bullet. But I can say that the closest thing you'll get to it is – plant a mission. The testimonies of so many have proven that seeking to plant another mission contributes more to the overall health and growth of the sending parish than most anything else. It's not a magic trick – it's just a matter of culture. When the parish has a culture which is focused on mission – others are naturally brought in.

So I encourage all of you – if you have someone who is contemplating church planting, or if you have a home group or concentration of a couple families in a particular area away from your parish, then please reach out to us. Perhaps REC100 can help partner with you to offer a planting residency.

Closing
Again – I know I spoke for long – but I didn't want to just leave you with the TLDR (too long didn't read) summary of our work together in the Kingdom. I encourage you to share verbal announcements of this information with your congregations, perhaps include snippets in your e-news, or set up a time for me to share this information with your congregation when I start visiting. I know Bishop Manto has done some of that on his visits and I would be happy to do the same when I come around. The more we share together, the more we will be able to accomplish together.

God bless,
The Rt. Rev. Jason R. Grote
National Canon Missioner
Acting DCS Canon Missioner

Synod of the Diocese of the Central States of the Reformed Episcopal Church
October 16-17, 2025

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION

2024-2025 Composition
Clergy Members - The Rev. Josiah Jones (2025), The Rev. Davidson Morse (2026), The Rev. Paul Edgerton (2027)
Lay Members - Mr. Tom McConnell (2025), Mr. Steve Mouton (2026), Mr. Paul Harris (2027)
Ex Officio Members –Bishop Peter Manto, Bishop Jason Grote, *Treasurer* The Rev. Ken Mills, *Secretary* The Rev. Keith Boettner

ACTIONS

Meetings:
Most Standing Committee business is conducted via email. In the past year, we met via Zoom on:

1. December 4, 2024—Discussion of consecration and location.
2. December 11, 2024—Discussion of consecration and location.
3. March 3, 2025—Discussion of Bp. Grote's transition to our Diocese.
4. April 9, 2025—Discussion of Bp. Grote's transition to our Diocese.
5. September 4, 2025—Discussion of plans regarding St. Lazarus Mission.

Postulancy:

1. On December 5 2025, Mr. Tegan Truitt from Holy Trinity, Chantilly VA was approved as a Postulant.
2. On December 5, 2024, Mr. Tucker Holmes from Church of Our Saviour, Oatlands, VA was approved as a Postulant.
3. On February 15, 2025, Mr. Mason Sawyer from All Saints', Raleigh, NC was approved as a Postulant.
4. On March 12 2025, Mr. Jacob Harris from Christ the King, Dayton, OH was approved as a Postulant.
5. In April of 2025, Mr. Noah Elkins from Christ the Redeemer, Owensboro, KY withdrew from the Postulancy to pursue membership in another Communion.
6. On September 3, 2025, Bishop Manto released Mr. Tegan Truitt from the Postulancy at his request. Tegan has moved out of the Diocese to take a job teaching at Grove City College in PA, and may pursue Postulancy in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Holy Orders:

1. On November 4th 2024, the Rev. Dcn. Jameson Lowery at Church of the Redeemer in Wilson, NC was approved for ordination to the presbyterate.
2. On January 23, 2025, the Rev. Robert Hudson was received as a retired Presbyter. He transferred from the now defunct Internation Diocese of the ACNA, and serves at St. Luke's in Maysville, KY.
3. On February 15, 2025, the Rev. Alex Marlowe was received as a Presbyter into our Diocese to serve as the church planter at the Extension Work in Johnson City, TN (Johnson City Mission). He transferred from the APA.
4. On May 20, 2025, the Rev. Dr. Gerald McDermott was approved to transfer his Orders from the Diocese of Christ our Hope (ACNA) to our Diocese. Dr. McDermott will continue to worship at an ACNA parish in Crozet, VA.
5. On July 21, 2025, the Committee was informed that a letter dimissory was issued by Bishop Manto to the Rev. Dominic Taranto from NC, transferring him to the UECNA.
6. On July 25, 2025, the Committee was informed by Bishop Manto that he had licensed the Rev. Michael DuCharme to serve as Assistant Clergy at the Extension Work in Johnson City, TN (Johnson City Mission). The Rev. DuCharme is an ACNA priest resident in the Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy.

Parish Matters:

1. On July 25, 2025, Christ Church in Florence, KY was received into our Diocese as a Mission Parish from the APA.

Calls of Rectors and Vicars:

1. On July 25, 2025, the Committee affirmed Bishop Manto's appointment of the Rev. Damien Grote as vicar of St. Paul's in Lexington, VA.

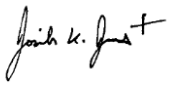
Matters related to Episcopal Election:

1. As required by Canon 11, the Standing Committee obtained the required consents from the Standing Committees of the Dioceses of the REC after the election of the Rev. Canon Jason Grote as our Bishop Coadjutor. These consents were obtained after providing the required testimonials of the election, and were sent to the Presiding Bishop and Secretary of the General Council on November 20, 2024.
2. On July 25, 2025, in keeping with Canon 16 Section 1 of the REC's Canons, the Committee voted to approve Bishop Grote's absence from the Diocese until he moves here in July 2026. This was a condition discussed before the election last fall, but the Canon makes clear that the SC has to take action to approve the absence of any Bishop from his Diocese that is longer than 3 months.

Duties as Assigned, and Advice for the Bishop:

1. On October 24, 2024, I was elected as President of the Standing Committee, by said Committee.
2. In early December 2025, the Committee had a couple of meetings with Bishop Manto to discuss the location and plans for the Consecration of Bishop Grote, which was held June 4, 2025 in Dallas, TX.
3. On February 25th, 2025, the Committee approved the Diocesan Clergy Wellness Handbook.
4. In its meeting on April 9th, the Committee agreed to the plan to have Bishop Manto appoint the Delegates to the ACNA's Provincial Council.
5. On April 22, 2025, I submitted to the national Constitution and Canons Committee five proposals related to Canon 11 of the REC's Canons. This was submitted on behalf of the Standing Committee. These proposed edits reflect the experience of our Diocese in the election of Bishop Grote, and contain recommendations regarding the number of candidates required by the Canon, moving and deleting sentences which are out of place or no longer relevant, clarifying the Standing Committee's duties after the Search Committee has passed on its recommended candidates, revising the voting process, and deleting or moving other material.
6. On July 25, 2025, the Committee affirmatively rejected Bishop Manto's canonically required resignation. Canon 19 Section 5 (a) and (b) says that upon attaining the age of seventy-five, a Minister is considered to have tendered his resignation on his birthday, unless "affirmatively rejected by a majority of the Vestry, Standing Committee, or General Committee to which the resignation must be offered." By God's Grace, Bishop Manto will serve as Bishop Ordinary until Bishop Grote is installed as Bishop Ordinary at General Council 2026.

Respectfully submitted,



Fr. Josiah Jones, President of the Standing Committee, The Diocese of the Central States

Gifts by Parish 2024

The Diocese of the Central States
PO Box 8 Moseley, VA 23120
Deposit Date Jan 1 2024 to Dec 31 2024

	Parish	YTD
1	AL BHM St John's	11,300.00
2	IN CEV Trinity	821.00
3	IN EVV Trinity	2,616.16
4	KY FGX St Lukes	2,588.00
5	KY OWB Christ the Redeemer	10,925.15
6	NC HBI St Andrew's	214.10
7	NC RDU All Saints	21,847.23
8	NC W03 Ch Redeemer	5,993.60
9	OH DAY1 Christ the King	21,655.14
10	OH DAY2 Christ Our Hope	4,160.89
11	OH DAY3 St Lazarus	3,042.74
12	OH VES Darke Co	4,100.00
13	OH CVG Trinity	7,736.35
14	TN MEM St James	22,523.00
15	TN MSL Christ Our Hope	3,993.00
16	VA IAD1 Holy Trinity	21,992.12
17	VA IAD2 Ch Our Savior	48,383.48
18	VA LEX St Paul's	2,576.84
19	VA LYH All Saints	26,874.33
20	VA RIC2 Holy Cross	7,039.75
21	VA RIC1 St Jude's	23,369.00
22	VA ROA Covenant Church	1,052.20
	Annual Total	**254,804.08**

Produced on Jan 15 2024 at 4:56 PM by Ken Mills

STATEMENT OF POSITION (CASH & SILVER)

The Diocese of the Central States PO Box 8 Moseley, VA 23120

As of December 31, 2024

ACCOUNTS			AVAILABLE BAL	TOTAL
OPERATING				**$ 80,635.96**
XXXXXX8279 DDA			$ 37,610.30	
XXXXXX3828 CD 4.67% 3/31/25	OPS3		16,127.80	
XXXXXX3827 CD 4.10% 6/20/25	OPS1		26,897.86	
Bishop's Fund				**5,731.46**
XXXXXX2251 .05%			5,731.46	
Clergy Wellness Funds				**10,818.15**
XXXXXX2794 .05%			2,726.97	
XXXXXX3830 CD 4.04% 6/30/25	CR1		8,091.18	
Marianne Morse Church Planting Funds				**2,196.62**
XXXXXX2795 .05%			2,196.62	
SAVINGS (Scholarship, Pension, Emergency)				**300,797.71**
XXXXX2250 SAV .05%			67,018.44	
XXXXX9012 CD 4.43% 3/5/25	SAV8		6,373.35	
XXXXX0911 CD 4.67% 3/22/25	SAV9		15,176.56	
XXXXX3829 CD 4.67% 3/31/25	SAV2		80,638.94	
XXXXX6030 CD 4.67% 3/22/25	SAV3		74,192.09	
XXXXX8612 CD 4.18% 5/6/25	SAV4		20,695.77	
XXXXX8613 CD 4.18% 5/6/25	SAV5		20,695.77	
XXXXX8859 CD 4.04% 6/27/25	SAV6		10,383.99	
XXXXXX9010 CD 4.04% 7/5/25	SAV7		5,622.80	
TOTAL CASH				**$ 400,179.90**
SILVER (physical)	*Estimated Values*			126,798.67
Clergy Wellness Fund	586.989 oz	28.84 oz	16,928.76	
Rainy Day Fund	3809.636 oz	28.84 oz	109,869.90	
TOTAL CASH & SILVER				$ 526,978.57

2024 DCS SOP 250105

DIVISION OF THE RESERVE
The Diocese of the Central States PO Box 8 Moseley, VA 23120
As of December 31, 2024

Scholarship Fund	33.43%	100,555.89
Pension Fund	5.15%	15,491.00
Emergency Fund	61.42%	184,750.82
	100.00%	**300,797.71**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

The Diocese of the Central States PO Box 8 Moseley, VA 23120

Transaction Date Jan 1 2024 to Dec 31 2024

		YTD 2024				
SUPPORT						
Givings by Parishes, Missions, & Works	**$ 254,804.08**					
Gifts from Others	2,533.62					
Credit from AMEX	1,284.00					
Unrestricted Support Total			**258,621.70**			
Trnsfer from Clergy Relief to GF	3,475.42					
Trnsfer from Bishop's Fund to GF	2,413.12					
Payments for Synod from Parishes	11,530.00					
Restricted Support Total			**17,418.54**			
TOTAL SUPPORT			**$276,040.24**			
EXPENDITURES				*Budget '24*	*% of Budget*	
Tithe to REC Total			**23,969.87**	*20,502.00*	*117%*	*
Salary - Bishop Ordinary Total		116,197.68		*116,197.63*	*100%*	
Medical Insurance - Bishop Ordinary Total		7,903.34		*8,325.00*	*95%*	
Office Expense - Bishop Ordinary Total		6,000.00		*6,000.00*	*100%*	
Pension & Life - Bishop Ordinary Total		13,279.76		*14,504.00*	*92%*	
Travel Expenses - Bishop Ordinary Total		23,421.74		*16,105.33*	*145%*	^
Bishop Ordinary Expenses Total			**166,802.52**	*161,131.96*	*104%*	
Bishop Emeritus Expenses Total			**3,475.04**	*3,636.00*	*96%*	v
Archdeacon Total			**2,013.28**	*5,800.00*	*35%*	v
Conferences & Workshop Total			**6,200.00**	*5,000.00*	*124%*	^
Liability Insurance	3,361.00					
Office Supplies	434.41					
Office Equipment	242.70	*				
Telephone	480.00					
Internet/Zoom	242.43					
Copies	771.73	*				
Subscriptions	146.10					
Bookkeeping	600.00					
Bank & Svc Fee	36.00					
Safety Deposit Box	105.00					
Postage	138.23					
Risk Management	5,490.00	*				
Treasurer Honorarium	6,000.00					
Admin Assistance	958.25	*				
Other Admin Expense	295.20					
Administrative Expenses Total			**19,301.05**	*11,000.00*	*175%*	^
Auto Expenses Total			**3,592.81**	*4,500.00*	*80%*	v
Synod-Registration	15,584.72					
Synod-Candidates Trans & Lodging	4,725.45					
Synod Total			**20,310.17**		*Unbudgetted item*	^
Ministry Total			**6,433.39**			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			**252,098.13**	*211,569.96*	*119%*	^
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)			**$23,942.11**			

DCS SOA 2024 QTR 1&2&3&4.xlsx

STATEMENT OF POSITION (CASH & SILVER)

The Diocese of the Central States PO Box 8 Moseley, VA 23120

As of August 31, 2025

Accounts			Available Balance	Total
OPERATING				**$ 127,032.39**
XXXXXX8279 DDA			**$ 67,464.10**	
XXXXXX3827 CD 3.795% 1/31/26	OPS1		27,442.44	
XXXXXX0911 CD 3.795% 10/22/25	OPS4		15,656.29	
XXXXXX3828 CD 3.795% 10/31/25	OPS3		16,469.56	
BISHOP'S FUND				**4,932.72**
XXXXXX2251 .05%			4,932.72	
CLERGY WELLNESS FUND				**21,552.64**
XXXXXX2794 .05%			13,297.65	
XXXXXX3830 CD 3.795% 1/31/26	CR1		8,254.99	
SAVINGS (Scholarship, Pension, Emergency)				**305,419.63**
XXXXX**2250** SAV .05%		MIX	16,253.00	
XXXXX**9846** INVESTOR 3.06% 1/30/26		MIX	65,555.44	
XXXXX8613 CD 3.70% 12/6/25	SAV5	ER	22,121.32	
XXXXX8859 CD 3.795% 1/27/26	SAV6	ER	10,594.22	
XXXXX6030 CD 3.795% 10/22/25	SAV3	ER	75,188.29	
XXXXX8612 CD 3.795% 12/6/25	SAV4	ER	21,123.01	
XXXXXX9010 CD 3.795% 2/5/26	SAV10	ER	5,736.01	
XXXXXX0912 CD 3.795% 10/05/25	SAV7	ER	6,500.61	
XXXXX3829 CD 3.795% 10/31/25	SAV2	SCH	82,347.73	
TOTAL CASH				**$ 458,937.38**
SILVER (physical)	*Estimated Values*			178,775.57
Clergy Wellness	586.989 oz	40.662 oz	23,868.15	
Rainy Day Funds	3809.636 oz	40.662 oz	154,907.42	
TOTAL CASH & SILVER				$ 637,712.95

2025 DCS SOP 250904

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY (General Fund) (ESTIMATED)

The Diocese of the Central States PO Box 8 Moseley, VA 23120

Transaction Date Jan 1 2025 to Aug 31 2025

	Jan - Aug 2025		2025 Budget	% of Budget	
SUPPORT				No. of Months	
Unrestricted Support				8	
40011 **Givings by Parishes, Missions, & Works**	**$ 216,896.50**			Avg Month Giving	
40012 Gifts from Others	1,738.00			$ 27,112.06	
40013 Reimbursement	5,370.50				
40061 Credit from AMEX	-				
Unrestricted Support Total		224,005.00			
Restricted Support					
Restricted Support Total		15,393.72			
TOTAL SUPPORT		**239,398.72**			
EXPENDITURES					
Tithe to REC					
50023 Tithe to REC 2025					
Tithe to REC Total	**21,178.83**		*22,853.36*	*93%*	*
Bishop Ordinary Expenses					
Salary - Bishop Ordinary					
50201 Bishop's Salary			*77,683.61*		
50203 Bishop's Housing Allowance			*42,000.00*		
Salary - Bishop Ordinary Total	**79,789.04**		*119,683.61*	*67%*	
Benefits - Bishop Ordinary					
50206 Life Insur Term Benefit			*963.90*		
50207 Family Medical Benefit			*7,378.49*		
Benefits - Bishop Ordinary Total	**5,861.46**		*8,342.39*	*70%*	
Office Expense - Bishop Ordinary					
50204 Bishop's Office Space			*6,000.00*		
Office Expense - Bishop Ordinary Total	**4,000.00**	-	*6,000.00*	*67%*	
Pension & Life - Bishop Ordinary					
50420 Pension & Relief Payment	8,241.98		*14,362.03*		
50460 LTD & Life Insurance Annual Pymt			*561.00*		
Pension & Life - Bishop Ordinary Total	**8,801.98**	8,241.98	*14,923.03*	*59%*	
Travel Expenses - Bshp Ordinary					
50501 Airfare			*11,419.19*		
50502 Lodging			*7,650.24*		
50503 Ground Transportation			*919.92*		
50505 Meals & Incidentals			*1,625.10*		
Travel Expenses - Bshp Ordinary Total	**10,126.23**	-	*21,614.45*	*47%*	
Bishop Ordinary Expenses Total	**108,578.71**		***170,563.48***	*64%*	
Bishop Co-adjutor Expenses					
Co-Adjutor Honorium					
60206 Coadjutor's Honorarium	4,500.00				
Coadjutor's Honorium	4,500.00		*12,000.00*	*38%*	
Travel Expenses - Co-adjutor					
60501 Airfare	2,799.42		*5,709.60*		
60502 Lodging	1,483.53		*3,825.12*		
60503 Ground Transportation	1,232.29		*459.96*		
60504 Mileage Reimbursement	59.02				
60605 Meals & Incidentals	26.00		*812.55*		
Travel Expenses - Coadjutor Total	5,600.26				
Coadjutor Expenses Total	**10,100.26**		***22,807.23***	*44%*	
Bishop Emeritus Expenses					
60320 Samaritan Ministries - Bishop Emeritus					
Bishop Emeritus Expenses Total	**2,238.17**		***3,636.00***	*62%*	
Conferences & Workshop Fees					
70001 REC Conf/Wkshop Fee			*340.00*		
70002 ACNA Conf/Wkshop Fee			*10,000.00*		
Conferences & Workshop Fees Total	**847.66**		***10,340.00***	*8%*	
Administrative					
Administrative Total	**31,481.35**		***14,265.00***	*221%*	^
Auto Expenses					
Auto Expenses Total	**3,588.05**		***3,421.93***	*105%*	^
Synod 2025					
80080 Synod-Registration (Bishop, Coadjutor, etc)	-		*550.00*		
80081 Synod-DCS Expenditures (Guests, etc)	-		*550.00*		
Synod Total	**-**		***1,100.00***		
Ministry					
90003 Bishop's Fund	2,587.09				
90004 Clergy Wellness Distibution	750.00				
Ministry Total	**3,337.09**				
Savings					
90006 Transfer to Savings	18,590.52				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		**199,940.64**	***251,387.00***	*80%*	
SURPLUS		**39,458.08**			

DCS SOA 2025 Summary Jan-Aug

PROPOSED BUDGET 2026
The Diocese of the Central States

EXPENDITURES 2026	Type		Amount	Percentage
Total Tithe to the REC	**Expense**	**$**	**25,200**	10%
Bishop Ordinary (Comp Pkg & Travel Exp)			114,479	
Bishop Coadjutor (Comp Pkg & Travel Exp)			77,951	
Bishop Emeritus			4,356	
Total People	**Expense**		**196,786**	75%
Total Conferences & Workshops	**Expense**		**11,190**	4%
Liability Insurance			3,600	
Office Supplies			2,400	
Office Equipment			4,000	
Telephone			720	
Copies			600	
Subscriptions			500	
Bookkeeping			600	
Banking Fees			600	
Safe Deposit Box			105	
Postage			1,140	
Risk Management (Bkgd Cks)			500	
Treasurer Honorarium			6,000	
Administrative Assistant			3,500	
Auto Expenses			2,326	
Other Admin Expenses			3,600	
Total Administrative Expenses	**Expense**		**30,191**	11%

TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENDITURES & TITHE	**$**	**263,367**
Monthly Support from Parishes	***$***	***21,947***

DCS 2026 Proposed Budget
Produced Sep 16, 2025

DCS Contributions to Clergy Wellness Fund Since March 2025				
Date		Deposit	Amount	Acct Bal
2-Sep-25		Deposit	$ 20.00	$ 13,317.65
22-Aug-25		Deposit	1,370.00	13,297.65
22-Aug-25		Deposit	700.00	11,927.65
19-Aug-25		Deposit	3,100.00	11,227.65
12-Aug-25		Deposit	500.00	8,127.65
11-Aug-25		Deposit	1,000.00	7,627.65
7-Aug-25		Deposit	100.00	6,627.65
5-Aug-25	LILLY MATCH		3,000.00	6,527.65
15-Jul-25		Deposit	400.00	3,527.65
30-Jun-25	Interest		0.36	3,127.65
20-Jun-25		Deposit	100.00	3,127.29
13-Jun-25		Deposit	100.00	3,027.29
9-May-25		Deposit	100.00	2,927.29
5-May-25		Deposit	100.00	2,827.29
15-Apr-25		Deposit	200.00	2,727.29
31-Mar-25	Interest		0.32	2,527.29

Summer '25 Campaign thru 9/2/25	**7,790.00**	*21,107.65*

Filename: DCS Activity Clergy Wellness Fund Since 3/31/25

Owner: The Rev. Ken Mills

Date: 9/16/2025

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINING CHAPLAINS

In compliance with the national and diocesan canons, members of the Board of Examining Chaplains are appointed by the Bishop Ordinary and serve at his pleasure. The Board is tasked with examining by written and oral means candidates for the diaconate, presbyterate, and the Order of Deaconesses. The Board as well examines ministers in the process of reception from other churches and selects the annual recipient of the Holy Nativity Seminary Scholarship.

The Board conducts in-person oral examinations the day before each annual Synod. Interim in-person oral examinations and examinations via Zoom may be considered in situations of unusual urgency as requested by the Ordinary.

The curricula and examinations used by the Board are found in the Appendix to the Diocesan Customary.

The Board of Examining Chaplains comprises:

The Rev. Dr. Paul Edgerton, Chair
The Rev. Canon Scott Houser
The Rev. Tim Kline
The Rev. Wayne McNamara
The Rev. Davidson Morse
The Rev. Dr. Eric Parker

Examinations of Ministers of Other Churches for Reception

None to report for this period.

Examinations of Candidates for the Diaconate:

On 17 October 2024, we approved the diaconal ordination of Mr. Lukas Stock of All Saints (Lynchburg, VA) and offered our recommendations regarding further formation.

Examination of Candidates for the Presbyterate:

On 17 October 2024, we approved the presbyteral ordination of the Rev. Dcn. Jameson Lowery of The Church of the Redeemer (Wilson, NC) and offered our recommendations regarding further formation.

Examination of Candidates for the Order of Deaconesses:

None to report for this period.

Review of Candidates for the Holy Nativity Seminary Scholarship:

On August 11, 2025 we voted to award the scholarship to Mr. Tyler MacDowell, a postulant at St. Jude's (Richmond, VA), who is studying at Nashotah House.

Other Matters:

On March 27, Bishop Manto announced new committee appointments for the Diocese. We welcome Frs. Kline, Parker, and Morse to our (now all the more formidable) ranks. And we thank Frs. Keith Boettner and Josiah Jones for their good service to the Board and to the Diocese. These are wise, godly, and discerning men whose counsel has been of great value to us.

There are several men in the "pipeline" who we expect to examine soon. The prayers of the Diocese are coveted, that we will be guided by the Word and the Spirit in our examinations to the building up of God's kingdom.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Dr. Paul C. Edgerton, Chair

Resolutions to Amend the Canons of the Diocese of the Central States forwarded to Synod by the Constitution and Canons Committee

Resolution One: To codify the process of receiving clergy from jurisdictions in communion with the Reformed Episcopal Church by adding Section 5 to Title I, Canon I, as follows:

Section 5. When a Minister ordained in a Church in communion with the Reformed Episcopal Church desires to be a Deacon or Presbyter in this Church and minister in the Diocese of the Central States, he must apply in writing and present to the Ecclesiastical Authority of this diocese a testimonial letter from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Church in which he is presently canonically resident, which testimonial fully sets forth his true standing and character. The Ecclesiastical Authority of this diocese may, in its complete discretion, require such additional documentation and examination as necessary to determine whether the applicant should be received. The process of reception should be generally administered in a manner consistent with the canons of the Reformed Episcopal Church applicable to the reception of Ministers ordained in foreign jurisdictions by bishops in communion with this Church. Before a Minister may be received under this canon, his application must be approved by the Bishop Ordinary and Standing Committee.

Resolution Two: To codify the position and duties of Chancellor of the Diocese by adding Canon IX to Title I as follows:

Canon IX - *Chancellors and Canon Lawyers*

Section 1. The Bishop Ordinary may, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, appoint a person learned in canon and civil law to serve as diocesan Chancellor. If the person to be appointed is a Presbyter or Deacon, the Bishop may, in his complete discretion, designate him as Canon Lawyer to the Ordinary of the Diocese of the Central States. At the request of the Chancellor or upon his own initiative, the Bishop Ordinary may appoint such Vice or Assistant Chancellors as may be necessary to assist the Bishop or the Chancellor in a specific practice area, jurisdiction, or geographical region.

Section 2. The Chancellor will provide such legal advice as permitted by civil law on such matters as shall be referred to him by the Bishop Ordinary, diocesan Synod, Standing Committee, Board of Trustees, Constitution and Canons Committee (if one be appointed), or, with the permission of the Ecclesiastical Authority, any other duly established subdivision, agency, activity, mission, work, or other affiliated entity of the Diocese of the Central States.

Section 3. The Chancellor will serve with voice but no vote as a member *ex-officio* of the Standing Committee and the Committee on Constitution and Canons (if one be appointed).

Section 4. Any Chancellor appointed under this canon serves at the pleasure of the Bishop Ordinary. Upon the resignation, death, or retirement of the Ordinary, any and all Chancellors shall be deemed to have tendered their resignations to the Standing Committee, subject to the acceptance or rejection of said resignations by the incoming Bishop Ordinary, who shall have the right and discretion to designate such officers.

Resolution Three: To codify the duty of confidentiality in ministry by adding Section 5 to Title IV, Canon 1, as follows:

Section 5. Duty of Confidentiality

(A) *Duty*. Except as otherwise provided by this canon, it shall be the duty of every bishop, presbyter, deacon, and deaconess canonically resident in the diocese to maintain the confidentiality of any communication made to that person while acting in a professional capacity as confessor, counselor, or spiritual adviser.

(B) *Limits*. This duty extends only to statements made privately and not intended for further disclosure except to other persons present in furtherance of the purpose of the communication. A threat of violence to a person subject to this duty or a third party is not a "communication" for the purposes of this canon. An otherwise confidential communication may be disclosed at the express request of the person making the communication. In the event a statement made privately would otherwise give rise to a duty to disclose or report under applicable civil law, the recipient of such statement should confer with the Chancellor (if one be appointed) and local counsel to determine his or her obligations under applicable law.

(C) *Extent*. This duty also extends to all persons subject to these canons who have, whether by lawful or unlawful means, acquired knowledge or come to a knowledge of any matter, directly or indirectly, advertently or inadvertently, or in any other way, of that which falls under this canon. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the privilege law of any applicable jurisdiction. This duty does not terminate upon or with the death of the person making the confidential communication.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTER'S SALARIES

There is no official table of suggested salary data provided in this year's report. However, the following information is still provided as general information regarding clergy salaries. For other matters pertaining to Parish Administration and salary guidelines, please consult the Diocesan Customary, the Diocesan Forms of Call, and/or contact the Diocesan office.

I recommend that parish treasurers consult IRS publication 517 regarding the unique situation of clergy taxation (dual taxpayer status) and the filing of proper tax documents. Clergy on staff should be receiving a W-2 for their salaries and not a 1099, especially if they are receiving a housing allowance. Parishes should not be withholding or reporting any FICA/Medicare wages or FICA/Medicare taxes on clergy.

If you have questions about how to handle a clergyman's tax status and filings, please contact me at J2Grote@rechurch.org

Clergy may receive cash compensation which can include a portion that is designated as Housing Allowance. This designation creates a tax benefit for the clergyman. The Housing Allowance must be approved by the Vestry of the parish prior to the allowances being paid. A review of the annual housing allowance designation should be done each November/December during the budgeting process.

Parishes must participate and provide the cost of the Reformed Episcopal Disability policy and defined Pension plan, mandated by the General Council. The current premium for the Disability policy is $560 per year. This is paid by the Church to the Board of Pensions & Relief on behalf of the clergyman. The plan also provides a life insurance policy. The clergyman does not pay for this premium from his compensation.

Additionally, parishes must contribute 12% of the clergyman's combined salary & housing into the REC national pension plan. Please visit the pensions webpage for contact information, enrollment paperwork, and plan summary information - https://rechurch.org/bpr.html

We recommend that rectors be given four weeks paid vacation (including 4 Sundays) annually. An extended paid sabbatical leave should also be considered. The length of sabbatical leave is usually calculated as one week for each year of service since the last sabbatical leave and is taken every four to six years. These items should be determined and enumerated as a part of the minister's contract. Vestries should proactively plan on how to provide coverage while their rector is on sabbatical.

It is also recommended that the Vestry of each parish determine to present a Christmas gift to the pastor. A special appeal should be made to the parishioners and a special offering taken. This gift should be over and above any approved salary/housing.

The parish vestry should provide **an annual review of the pastor's compensation package.** At the very least, a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) commensurate with the rate of inflation should be provided. If a COLA is not provided, the pastor is, in effect, receiving a reduction in salary.

While the year-over-year level of inflation has continued to decrease, it is still higher than normal. The historic rate of inflations has been as follows:

2021 - 7%.
2022 - 6.5%.
2023 - 3.4%,
2024 – 2.9%.
2025 – 2.9% (as of Sept 23)
For full report and source: https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/

It may be impossible for some parishes to provide a COLA adjustment commensurate with these inflation levels, but if parishes do not seek to provide some level of adjustment during these times, they will discover that their current salaries are well below where they should be in a few years.

In such cases when the pastor's compensation is below the guidelines or an increase could not be given at the beginning of the year, it would be most appropriate for the parish vestry to review the financial position of the parish more frequently and determine if increases can be provided to the pastor throughout the year. In some cases, a lump-sum addition can be provided at the end of the year if the parish realizes a year-end surplus.

Parishes should also be mindful of other expenses associated with the ministry of the pastor. Regular reimbursements for hospital parking, personal vehicle mileage (the 2025 IRS rate is now $0.70/mile), meals with parishioners, and other expenses should be made with accompanying receipts. Please note that mileage cannot be reimbursed on a per mile basis if the actual gas charges are submitted for reimbursement.

In closing, please know that **most pastors will not initiate a conversation or direct the Vestry to consider their own compensation.** If anything, pastors will simply live with 'whatever the parish can do for them', including taking decreases in pay if it helps to balance the church budget. This is often done despite the impact on their own personal and family financial well-being. It should be the regular and normal duty of the Senior Warden to direct the Vestry in these matters and to help care for the pastor and his family. To help with this, we ask that you please provide a copy of this report to your parish Vestry.

Pulpit Supply – It should be assumed that a visiting pastor who is asked to cover a worship service and to provide pulpit supply will spend an average of 10-15 hours doing so. They should be compensated for that time along with consideration for how far they are driving. An honorarium should be a minimum of $200 for their time plus additional for their travel costs if driving any distance. If possible, a parish should strive for a minimum of $250.00.

A reminder that if a visiting clergyman receives pulpit supply compensation greater than $599 TOTAL in a given calendar year, then the parish must issue a 1099-NEC to that clergyman.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rt. Rev. Jason R. Grote

Membership Statistics					
Parish Name:	**City, State**	**Baptized Membership**	**Communicant Membership**	**Adult Active Communicants**	**Average Sunday Attendance**
All Saints	Lynchburg, VA	138	138	110	90
All Saints	Raleigh, NC	80	65	59	65
Christ Church	Florence, KY	13	13	11	11
Christ Our Hope	Westpoint, TN	31	31	17	12
Christ Our Hope	Fairborn OH	45	40	35	30
Christ the King	Dayton, OH	128	72	72	100
Christ the Redeemer	Owensboro, KY	43	31	25	43
Church of Our Saviour	Leesburg, VA	190	148	140	127
Church of the Holy Cross	Amelia, VA	45	37	33	50
Church of the Redeemer	Wilson, NC	25	16	14	23
Covenant Church	Roanoke, VA	9	9	8	14
Holy Trinity	Chantilly, VA	101	69	65	56
St. James	Memphis, TN	150	129	128	53
St. John's	Chelsea, AL	66	58	48	47
St. Jude's	Richmond, VA	89	79	75	65
St. Lazarus Mission	Fairborn, OH	180	4	4	85
St. Luke's	Maysville, KY	15	15	15	16
St. Paul's	Lexington, VA	19	19	19	26
Trinity	Connersville, IN	32	22	22	30
Trinity	Evansville, IN	61	61	55	25
Trinity	Mason, OH	37	34	32	39
Grand Total		**1497**	**1090**	**987**	**1007**

Official Acts					
Parish Name:	**City, State**	**Baptisms**	**Confirmations**	**Marriages**	**Burials/Deaths**
All Saints	Lynchburg, VA	2	5	0	1
All Saints	Raleigh, NC	5	6	0	2
Christ Church	Florence, KY	0	0	0	0
Christ Our Hope	Westpoint, TN	1	0	1	0
Christ Our Hope	Fairborn, OH	2	0	1	5
Christ the King	Dayton, OH	5	13	0	0
Christ the Redeemer	Owensboro, KY	8	12	1	0
Church of Our Saviour	Leesburg, VA	8	22	3	2
Church of the Holy Cross	Amelia, VA	1	0	1	3
Church of the Redeemer	Wilson, NC	1	3	0	0
Covenant Church	Roanoke, VA	0	0	0	2
Holy Trinity	Chantilly, VA	4	6	1	1
St. James	Memphis, TN	1	0	0	1
St. John's	Chelsea, AL	0	6	0	0
St. Jude's	Richmond, VA	2	5	1	0
St. Lazarus Mission	Fairborn, OH	5	0	0	36
St. Luke's	Maysville, KY	0	0	0	0
St. Paul's	Lexington, VA	1	0	0	2
Trinity	Connersville, IN	1	11	1	1
Trinity	Evansville, IN	0	1	0	0
Trinity	Mason, OH	1	5	1	0
Grand Total		**48**	**95**	**11**	**56**