

Minutes of the Synod of the Diocese of the Central States

Meeting at St Jude's Anglican Church

Richmond, Va

October 27 and 28, 2016

First Day - Morning Session

- Having celebrated Holy Communion, the Synod of the Diocese of the Central States was called to order Thursday October 27, 2016.
- The Very Rev W. Scott Thompson welcomed the Synod, reviewed administrative matters and gave the Registration Report. Attendance as synod included:
 - 3 Bishops
 - 21 Presbyters
 - 1 Deacon
 - 45 Lay members including 1 Deaconess.
 - Represented were 15 parishes and 1 mission.

A quorum was declared and the Synod was called to order.

- Guests and Corresponding members were recognized including the Rev Canon Fry of the ACNA.
- The Rev Paul Edgerton, Chairman of the Nominations Committee present the Committee's report (copy attached).
 - The report was accepted as a motion. With no additional nominations it was moved and seconded to elect the nominees by acclamation. Approved by voice vote.
- The Synod then elected Offices of the Diocese
 - The Rev Canon Ian MacGregor was nominated to be Secretary of the Synod. There was a motion to elect by acclamation, seconded and approved.
 - Bishop Morse indicated it was The Rev Franklin Sanders desire to retire as Treasurer. Deacon Ken Mills was nominated. It was moved and seconded to approve Dcn Mills by acclamation and approved.
- Reports of Officers:
 - A motion to approve the minutes for the 2015 Synod without being read was made, seconded and approved.
 - Bishop Morse turned the chair over to Bishop Manto for the reading of his report.
 - A copy of the Report, including recommendations by the Bishop, is attached.
 - Of special note, Bishop Morse reminded the Synod he turns 72 in November and recommended the Diocese elect a bishop Coadjutor.
 - Bishop Manto noted that The Rev Richard Palmer should be added to the list of Clergy Transfers.

- The Rev Scott Houser noted that Fr Steven Lanclos was omitted from the Bishop's Report and that there were three confirmations at St Johns.
 - Also attached is a report given by Fr Chris Herman on his ministry.
 - Treasurer's Report
 - The Rev Franklin Sanders had Mr. Mark Malson give the report (copy attached).
 - It was moved, seconded and approved to receive the report as submitted.
 - Fr Sanders thanked the Diocese for its cooperation in helping the Treasurer over the years he has held that office.
 - Trustees Report
 - The Rev Keith Boettner gave the Trustee's Report along with the Report on Minister's Salaries (copies attached).
 - Fr Boettner asked that delegates provide a copy of the Report to each parish's Senior Warden for presentation to each vestry.
 - It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Report.
 - Standing Committee Report
 - The Very Rev Scott Thompson delivered the Standing Committee's Report (copy attached).
 - Of special note:
 - Two parishes were received
 - The Owensboro parish changed its name
 - New postulants were approved.
 - The Standing Committee recommended the Diocese approve a request to hold an election for a Bishop Coadjutor. The Motion was seconded and approved.
 - Report of the Examining Chaplains
 - The Very Rev Scott Thompson delivered the report of the Examining Chaplains (copy attached).
 - The Rev James Basinger, Rector of Church of Our Savior Oatlands was accepted.
 - Deacon Bart Martin and Deacon Isaac Chaves were approved for ordination to the presbyterate.
 - A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Report.
 - Report of the Constitutions and Canons Committee
 - The Rev Canon Scout Houser gave the committee report.
 - The Church –State Committee requested volunteers to replace members who had left the committee
 - There were no other reports or recommendations from the Committee.

The synod adjourned for lunch

- Report on Women of the Church
 - Joan Workowski delivered the report (copy attached).

- Report from the REC Board of Foreign Missions
 - The Rev Canon Bill Jerdan delivered the report (copy attached). Included in the report was a report from the Colvins.
- With the approval of the Synod, a planned break was skipped so that Presiding Bishop Royal Grote could speak. Bishop Grote reported:
 - On the Upcoming General Council scheduled for June 2017. The focus would be on seminars with the minimal amount of business necessary.
 - On the state of the REC and the ACNA.
 - REC is a sub-jurisdiction of the REC (as is CANA).
 - The REC retains that special status due to its historic distinctiveness as well as certain requirements inherent in REC organizational and trust documents.
 - The Woman's Ordination study is expected to be presented to the ACNA House of Bishops in January 2017. The bishops will take time to read, study and reflect upon the study before meeting to discuss potential next steps or courses of action.
 - On a planned new elementary book and teaching plan for parish use.
 - On a planned new hymnal based on the 1940 with over 200 supplemental pieces.
 - On the REC Cuban mission status – the recent hurricane created great damage – especially to a farm that provided 1/3 of support for 34 parishes. There is a need to raise \$15,000 to help support these parishes and repair the damage.

The synod adjourned for the day

Second Day

Following Morning Prayer the synod reconvened for Day 2.

- Bishop Morse called the synod to order
- The synod covered certain Old Business Items:
 - Discussed the process for an election of a Bishop Coadjutor.
 - Approved holding the 2017 synod in Mason Ohio on October 26th and 27th.
 - Fr Straw offered to host the 2018 synod at Trinity Anglican Church in Evansville Indiana.
- Bishop Morse accepted a motion to adjourn, which was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the

Synod.

Following the close of the final business session of Synod Bishop Manto led the congregation in the closing Synod Eucharist.



Diocesan Synod
St. Jude's Anglican Church (REC)
Richmond, VA
October 26-28, 2016



Synod Theme: Our Anglican Divines
(2016 Focus – Lancelot Andrewes)

Agenda

Wednesday 10/26

- 3-5 PM Check-in to Embassy Suites. Registration & fee collection (Lobby)
- 5-7 PM Synod registration moves to Hospitality Room off lobby. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, sodas, wine & beer.
- 7 PM Dinner on own

Thursday 10/27

- 7:30 AM Late registration at St. Jude's
- 8:30 AM Opening Eucharist (Sermon & Celebrant - The Most Rev. Royal U. Grote Jr.)
- 9:45 AM Break
- 10:00 AM Business Session

Call to order by the Bishop Ordinary

Orientation & administrative remarks (Fr. Thompson)

Organization:

1. Report to the Ordinary of registered delegates and clergy (Fr. Thompson)
2. Declaration by the Secretary of a quorum (Fr. MacGregor)
3. Enabling motions regarding corresponding members
4. The Nominations Committee Report (Fr. Edgerton)
5. Election of Officers & Elected Committee Members
 - a. Secretary of Synod
 - b. Treasurer of Synod
 - c. Standing Committee Members
 - d. Trustee Members

Reports of Officers:

1. Minutes of the 2015 Synod of the Diocese of Central States (Fr. MacGregor)
2. Report from the Bishop Ordinary (Bp. Morse)
3. Treasurer's Report (Fr. Sanders)

12:00 PM Lunch –Kuba Kuba Dos Restaurant (walking distance)

1:00 PM Reports of Elected Committees:

1. Board of Trustees Report (Fr. Boettner)
2. Standing Committee Report & Motion for Coadjutor Election (Fr. Thompson)

Reports of Appointed Committees

1. Board of Examining Chaplains Report (Fr. Thompson)
2. Committee on Constitutions & Canons Report (Canon Houser)

Other Reports:

1. Board of Foreign Missions (Canon Jerdan)
2. Women of the Church

2:00 PM Break

2:15 PM Educational Session: The REC and the ACNA
The Most Rev. Royal U. Grote Jr.

3:15 PM Break

3:30 PM Educational Session: Lancelot Andrews – His Theology
The Rev. Canon J. Scott Houser

4:30 PM Evening Prayer (Said)

6:00 PM Reception & Banquet, Country Club of Virginia

Friday, 10/28

8:30 AM Morning Prayer (Said)

9:00 AM Business Session

1. Remaining old business
2. Affirmation of the date and location of 2017 Synod, per the Ordinary's report.
3. New business
3. Adjournment of the Synod

9:45 AM Break

10:00 AM Closing Eucharist. (Sermon & Celebrant - The Right Rev. Daniel R. Morse)



October 27, 2016

Synod of the Diocese of Central States of the Reformed Episcopal Church
Report of the Nominations Committee

Our Task

The Nominations Committee was tasked with vetting candidates and making selections for the consideration and vote of the Synod of four class-of-2019 diocesan positions: Lay Trustee, Clergy Trustee, Lay Member of the Standing Committee, and Clergy Member of the Standing Committee.

The 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. Keith Boettner and Mr. Mark Malson.

The remaining Trustees are The Rev. David Straw (2017), Mr. Perry Hayes (2017), The Rev. Dcn. Ken Mills (2018), and Mr. Brad Burke (2018).

The *ex officio* Trustees are The Rt. Rev. Dan Morse, The Rt. Rev. Peter Manto, The Rev. Franklin Sanders, The Rev. Canon Ian MacGregor, and Mr. Mark Malson.

Standing Committee – The members slated to leave office are The Rev. Wayne MacNamara and Mr. Ron Blount.

The remaining members are The Very Rev. W. Scott Thompson (2017), Dr. Sam Mansour (2017), The Rev. Dr. Paul Edgerton (2018), and Mr. Cullen Estes (2018).

The *ex officio* members are The Rt. Rev. Dan Morse, the Rt. Rev. Peter Manto, the Rev. Canon J. Scott Houser, The Rev. Franklin Sanders, and The Rev. Canon Ian MacGregor.

Our Method

The Committee endeavored to improve upon the procedures we used last year and open the process from the very beginning to recommendations from the diocese. Rectors were asked to forward to us the contact information for their parish's lay delegates. Some did so. All clergy and delegates for whom we had information were invited to offer recommendations to the Committee. Once these were collected, the Committee began discussions. We offer our sincere and hearty thanks to those clergy and laypersons who offered us names. Though only four persons could be chosen, we are keeping record of the recommendations we receive for help in future deliberations.

On September 27 the Committee Chair sent the slate of nominees and their qualifications to the clergy and delegates for their consideration ahead of Synod.

The Nominees

For Lay Trustee: Mrs. Patricia Smith

Mrs. Smith is an accountant who has much experience serving RE parishes. She is currently Treasurer of the Roanoke, VA parish. Her faithfulness to the Lord is well-attested.

For Clergy Trustee: The Reverend David Truax

Father Truax is a faithful presbyter of the diocese who serves the parish of Trinity, Mason, Ohio under Bishop Manto. He is humble, gracious, and hard-working. He was recommended to us by the outgoing clergy Trustee and was urged by the Chair to allow for his consideration. His nomination was unanimous.

For Lay Member of the Standing Committee: Mr. Jim Stubblefield

Mr. Stubblefield is a member of the Trinity parish in Mason, Ohio. He is faithful in service to his parish and has demonstrated godly character. His occupational background includes executive business experience including with Wendy's. We are assured of his wisdom and commitment to service.

For Clergy Member of the Standing Committee: The Reverend Josiah Jones

Father Jones was recommended by several presbyters for the Standing Committee position. He serves as rector of Holy Trinity, Fairfax after having served in a supportive role under their previous rector. He is known as a godly, sensitive, and wise man, and we expect the Standing Committee to benefit from his calm and patient insight.

We thank our Bishop Ordinary, the Right Reverend Dan Morse, for opportunity to serve the diocese in this capacity.

We thank all who thought and prayed for us and offered advice.

As we prayed at the beginning of our work, let us now pray:

Our God and Father, who dost order the affairs of thy Church after the council of thy will, grant us, we beseech thee, the wisdom to recognize from among thy flock those of thine own choosing to serve with us within the leadership of the Diocese of Central States, that with thine anointing and under thy watchful care they may lead with the mind of Christ, through the same our Savior, who with thee and thy consubstantial Spirit reigns for evermore. Amen.

The Nominations Committee

The Rev. Dr. Paul Edgerton, chair

The Rev. David Truax

Mrs. Jennifer McConnell

Mr. Jon Miller

**2016 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 Eighth 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 21 Episcopal visits to the Parishes and Missions of this Diocese, and 37 persons were presented to me for the laying on of hands in the ancient rite of confirmation since I reported to you in 2015. 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
March		
5—VA-NC clericus—Raleigh		
6—Lent 4—Preach and confirm at All Saints, Raleigh		5
13—Lent 5—preach at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Nashville, TN		
20—Palm Sunday—Trinity, Mason		
April		
3—Easter 1—Redeemer, Wilson, NC		4
14-16—Bishops, Katy, TX		
24—Easter 4—St. Jude's, Richmond		4
May		
1—Easter 5—Lynchburg & Appomattox, VA		1
15—Whitsunday—Christ Our Hope, Dayton, OH		
22—Trinity—Holy Trinity, Fairfax, VA		
June		
5—Trinity 2—Covenant, Roanoke		1
7-9—Christ Our Hope, Dayton, OH		
20-24—ACNA Charleston, SC		
July		
3—St. John's, Chelsea, AL		
17—Trinity 8—Christ Our Hope, Westpoint, TN		
31—Trinity 10—Christ the King, Dayton	Ordination of Isaac Chavez	7

August		
21—Church of Our Saviour, Oatlands		8
September		
4—Trinity 15—St. Paul's, Greenfields, IN		1
11—Trinity 16—Christ the Redeemer, Owensboro, KY		
October		
2—Trinity 19—St. James, Memphis, TN		2
9—Trinity 20—Christ Our Hope, Westpoint, TN	Commissioning of Lay Evangelist, Bill Adams	
14-16—Trinity 21—Christ Our Hope, Westpoint, TN	Susan Sanders' Funeral	
27, 28—Synod St. Jude's, Richmond		
30—St. Jude's, Richmond		
November		
5-6—Trinity 24—institution of Davidson Morse as Rector		
13—Trinity 25—Trinity, Mason, OH		

ENCOURAGEMENT

I call this the encouragement because the two most significant events that occurred to me in the past year are the passing into glory to the arms of Jesus my dear Marianne, and of Susan Sanders, two people who were great encouragers to godliness and superior living. I had the privilege of preaching at Susan's funeral on Oct. 15. My sermon is below, which I will read to you since most of you were not there. Bp. Grote's sermon is also included, but I won't read that since many of you were present, which was and is a great encouragement to me. Bp. Grote is here and certainly may preach it for you if you desire.

PRECIOUS DEATH

Psalm 116:15

There are many things in the Bible that are completely contrary to human thinking. Death is one of these—it brings sorrow and tears to us and everyone. We avoid it whenever possible, and even the Bible teaches us to use all lawful means to preserve our lives.

We love the people of God, they are precious to us, and we are apt to look at death as a grievous loss. We wouldn't let them die if we could help it; we would confer immortality on them. We would find it hard to relinquish our grasp because we are poorer because of their eternal enriching.

But while we sorrow Christ rejoices. He prays, "Father, I will that they also whom you have given me be with me where I am," and in the coming of every one of his own to heaven he sees the answer to that prayer and is glad. He sees in every perfected soul a portion of the reward for the travail of his own soul in death on the cross and he is satisfied.

May this help our grief. Tears and sorrow are proper and good, but may they also be tears of faith and hope. Jesus wept over the death of his friend, Lazarus, and we too may weep, but not as those who have no hope, nor yet as though forgetful that there is a greater cause for joy than for sorrow in the death of a Christian, one of Christ's saints.

I. These words imply a special kind of attitude toward death.

Death in itself is terrible. It can't be precious in the sight of God for the crown of his creation to be afflicted with the pain of death. Death in itself cannot be the theme of God's rejoicing.

But death in the case of a Christian is a different matter. For a Christian it isn't death to die, but rather the departure out of this world unto the Father, being unclothed of this mortal flesh that we may be clothed with immortality, and given entrance into the kingdom of glory. To the saint death is by no means such a thing as happens to an unbeliever.

This is because death for the believer is not the infliction of a penalty for sin. The good news of God's Word is that the sins of the believer were laid on Jesus and punished in him. Sin is removed from the believer, and therefore can't be punished in him. It was punished in his substitute, Jesus Christ. The righteous wrath of God has ceased toward believers. Death doesn't come to the Christian because he deserves it and must be punished by it. It does mean that for the unbeliever, the beginning of unending death and separation from God. To the Christian the sting of death is gone, the victory of the grave is removed. It is no more a penalty, but a privilege to die.

It is a covenant blessing. The Apostle Paul says, "All things are yours, things present or things to come, or life, or death, all are yours, and you are Christ's and Christ is God's," as if the believers death came to him among all the other good and precious gifts by way of his belonging to Christ. To die in Jesus is a blessing of the covenant to ask for. "Lord now let your servant depart in peace according to your word."

Jesus Christ our Head has gone through the valley of death. Let his members rejoice to follow. As our Savior slept, so let us sleep. We would not be divided from him in life or in death. We are so wedded to him that we say, "Where you go, I will go, where you die, I will die and with you I will be buried that with you in the resurrection morning I may be partaker of the resurrection."

This Psalm shows us that death is not ceasing to be. Death is not annihilation as many fear it to be. When God says, "Precious is the death of his saints," it is clear there is no annihilation, because how could ceasing to be be precious? Death is passing to a better existence—the soul is freed from sin while the body rests in the grave waiting for the perfection of the day of resurrection.

So death can't be a detriment to the believer; it can't be a serious loss for the saint. It is no loss, but a great gain—a lasting, perpetual, unlimited gain. A woman is at one moment weak, unable to lift a finger, and the next clothed with power. The body is aching, but in a moment wears a crown. She is sick beyond the doctor's power, but she shall be in the twinkling of the eye where there is no sickness.

II. This is a very broad statement

There is no limit as to whose death is precious to God, provided it be a Christian. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of every single one of his people. He may be the greatest in the church, or may be the least. He may be the boldest confessor, or may be a timid trembler. But if he is a Christian, his death is precious. Precious is the death of martyrs who die refusing to deny Jesus Christ. But just as precious is the death of a pa-

tient sufferer scarcely able to say a word—only able to serve God by submissively enduring the pains that make the night weary and the day intolerable.

There is no limit as to when. That is, it does not matter the age of the Christian who dies. It may be a child; of such is the kingdom of heaven. It may be a person in middle age, and we may wonder why one was taken in the fullness of life. But if we could lift the veil and see God's secrets we would be persuaded that no one dies an untimely death. It may be one who lives to old age, who has known the fullness of years in Christ, and who was still bearing fruit to the last. All of these are precious in the sight of God.

III. This is a very sober and truthful statement.

Their persons were and always will be precious to God—they are his saints! God set his love on them before the creation of the world, he bought them with the precious blood of Christ, their names are borne on Jesus' breast and engraved on the palms of his hands. They are his children, members of his body, his bride.

He looks with care on his child. The very hairs of her head are numbered, his angels bear her up lest she dash her foot against a stone. And because she is his precious child, like fine gold, therefore her death is precious to the Lord.

The death of a believer also shows the truth of grace in her heart. The precious faith of God's children is proved to be such when it can bear the last ordeal, when she can look death in the face and not be staggered by unbelief. Blessed is the woman who can hope in God when her heart and her flesh are failing and can love the Lord even though she smiles through many pains. God counts the trial of our faith more precious than that of gold.

The death of the believer shows the faithfulness of God. God promises, "I will never leave you nor forsake you. When you pass through the river of death I will be with you. As your days so shall your strength be. Yea though I pass through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me."

The death of the believer is precious because it glorifies the blood of Christ. How wonderful it is at the time of death to have in your heart, "The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin." The blood of Christ has given comfort to countless hosts in their bitter pains when death was near. The saints overcome their last great enemy through the blood of the Lamb, and say, "We praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest!"

Jesus looks upon the death of his saints as the last struggle of their life conflict. When that is over it shall be said on earth and sung in heaven, "Your warfare is accomplished, your sin is pardoned, you have received of the Lord's hand double for all your sins."

BISHOP GROTE'S SERMON AT MARIANNE'S FUNERAL

I don't know if this happens to you, but as a Bishop, I often find myself having to travel in clerical attire. Often there is a function to attend with no time between the arrival and the function.

A few weeks ago, I was on the airplane at 8 am on my way to visit a parish. It was a tiny regional jet. I was sitting in the first seat staring face to face with the attendant. After we took off, the attendant leaned forward and commented on my purple shirt. She said, "*I presume you must be a minister. I have a riddle for you*".

I didn't have the heart to tell her that I am absolutely horrible at riddles, so I politely listened.

Here is what she posed.

What is greater than God?
More evil than the Devil?
Poor people have it.
Rich people don't.
If you eat it you will die.

I was completely lost.
She sympathetically smiled as she shook her head and said "*Break it apart*".
And she walked me thru it.

What is greater than God? – Nothing
More evil than the Devil – Nothing
Poor people have it – Nothing
Rich people don't – Nothing
If you eat it you will die – Nothing.

Frankly I felt a bit foolish. I should have immediately seen it. And then I thought, now, if she only had asked me, "*What can separate us from the love of God in Christ, Jesus?*" I would have immediately got it, because the answer, of course, is – nothing!

St. Paul in Romans 8:38, said:

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor Angels, nor principalities, no power, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus, Our Lord."

That, of course is the great Christian hope. - That for the Christian, NOTHING in this world can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

When I heard that Marianne had finally been taken into hospice my mind raced back through all the many events we shared together with Bishop Dan and Marianne, over the last 25 years, including living together for a few months in the same house in Houston.

I know all of you have your own stories. I have mine. Yours are probably more powerful than mine. But here is one that always impressed me.

It was 1990 that I first met Dan and Marianne. I was invited to be guest in their home in Germantown, TN. After an afternoon and evening filled with meeting people

from their Church, I went to sleep in one of their bedrooms upstairs. It was decorated impeccably, (filled with all sorts of wonderful references to the Civil war.) The next morning, as I came downstairs, I heard beautiful humming coming from the kitchen where Marianne was busily preparing breakfast. That scenario, was repeated many times over the subsequent years. Whenever, I stayed with them, I came downstairs, there she was, peacefully and beautifully humming as she engaged in the task of hosting this crusty old Bishop.

It was clearly evident that the Joy of the Lord permeated her being.

Even in the midst of adversity and trial, (And there were many), she was a Christian woman full of quiet joy, who faced every event of life with quietness, poise, fortitude and grace. She was an example of the peace that is possible thru faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

She was the one of whom it could be said, along with the Apostle Paul, *"I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless, I live. Christ lives in me, and the outward life I lived, I lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."*

Undoubtedly,—That was her secret of quiet steadfast joy.

She also exhibited the wonderful virtues that are recorded in Proverbs 31.

Please allow me a slight personalization of these sacred words.

Marianne was a virtuous wife.

Her worth is far above rubies.

Her husband trusted her.

She did good and not evil.

She willingly worked with her hands,

And provided food for her household.

Strength and honor were her clothing;

She opened her mouth with wisdom,

And she spoke kindness.

She watched over the ways of her household;

She wasn't idle, but always busy.

Her Children do rise up and call her blessed;

Her husband did praise her; (I heard him do so many times with my own ears)

You were a woman who feared the Lord, and we praise and honor you.

You gave of yourself to others.

Marianne's faith gave her strength. Today her message to us would be strong and firm: *"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God who has prepared for me and has taken me to that place"*

Today we come to the Table of the Lord. The place of fellowship with God and all the saints who have gone before us.

Here our Lord reminds us. *"I have removed all the impediments that prevent us from fellowship with the Father"*.

Our sinful condition—Our falling short of the glory of God produced alienation from God.

Through His incarnation, heaven and earth were united.

Jesus came and by his death he destroyed death. Death belongs to the earth.

By his resurrection, he gives us a new spiritual life. Spiritual life belongs to heaven.

By his ascension, he prepares a place for us to be forever. Heaven and earth are united again.

His promise in John 14:3 has been fulfilled. *"I go to prepare a place for you, and If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself that where I am, there you may be also."*

These are words that the Great Bridegroom speaks to his bride.

That's where Marianne is today.—With the great Bridegroom, Christ, in the place He has prepared. She is a recipient of eternal life. She is living in the presence of God.

Being the Christian woman she was, the desire of Marianne's heart was reflected in the words of the Psalmist who said in Psalm 24:7

One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD,

That desire has now been granted. She is dwelling in the true House of the Lord.

For her, heaven and earth are one.

And, until Christ comes to receive us in Faith, He provides the opportunity for fellowship with Him and with those who have gone before us, at His Holy Feast.

It is here that Christ demonstrates in Word and Sacrament that heaven and earth become one.

It is here that we feast at God's heavenly table in the presence of all of the heavenly hosts.

If you love the Lord Jesus Christ, are a baptized member of His Church, in good standing, We invite you to share in this fellowship with Christ and all his saints, including Marianne, at his holy Table.

Amen.

BISHOP PETER MANTO

I want to give special thanks to my Suffragan, 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. He and Jan have been a great help and encouragement to Marianne and me during this time of uncertainty about her health and since her death.

COADJUTOR ELECTION

An important part of my job as your Bishop Ordinary is succession planning. While no one can predict a sudden accident, debilitating event, illness, or death, one can prudently provide for such events through the designation of a successor. Another reason for designation of a successor is my own retirement planning. While I am not specifically announcing retirement by this statement, I am informing you that I have reached the mandatory retirement age of 72, as specified in the canons. The Standing Committee must annually approve my serving beyond those years, which it has unanimously done through November 2017. Putting a successor in place is an essential prerequisite to my own retirement planning. The proper way to designate a successor to the Ordinary is to elect a Bishop Coadjutor.

Bishop Grote and I have communicated on this matter, and the process for such an election is as follows:

1. The Synod must pass a resolution to have an election, and request permission from ACNA to hold the election.
2. Such a resolution may then be presented for approval by Bishop Grote and me at the January 2017 meeting of the ACNA Bishops.
3. Subsequently, we will need to hold an election in the spring of 2017. The Standing Committee will receive nominations, meet with candidates as necessary, and present a slate with a nominee or nominees at the election Synod. Plus, there will be a call for nominations from the floor.
4. The results of the Coadjutor election will then be presented for approval to the House of Bishops at General Convention in Dallas, in June 2017.

Accordingly, I asked the president of the Standing Committee to prepare a resolution for vote by this Synod and submit it to the Standing Committee for approval. The motion has been prepared, reviewed and approved by me and Bishop Grote, and has been unanimously approved by the Standing Committee. The approved motion will be made by the president of the Standing Committee as part of his report to this Synod.

Report from the Rev. Chris Herman

Livingston Care Center: New Life

2016 has been a season of pruning followed by subsequent growth. By the end of March, in an unprecedented experience at Livingston Care Center, 18 people passed from death into life from a pneumonia epidemic. Such a loss is no small matter. We went from being a congregation whose average Sunday attendance for Communion of the Sick was 36 people before the outbreak. Together residents, volunteers, and staff (perhaps most of all) endured a season of community mourning.

Yet, it has been like springtime and the congregation has been steadily growing back to its former size. Today, half a year later, an average of 28 people receive Holy Communion in the afternoon, and an additional 10 people attend Morning Prayer. We credit our growth to our difficult circumstances. As we dealt with a prolonged period of resident quarantine, we began to emphasize ministry to our bedridden brethren as critical parts of the Body of Christ. This emphasis has enhanced our overall sense of calling to spread the Good News of Jesus and has added to our numbers.

Also, astonishingly, and only by the grace and power of God, the annual growth rate in this one facility, which we adjust statistically for the very high death rate in our 'closed system,' for the rolling 12 months September 2015 until the end of August 2016 has been tracking at 52%. This is consistent with our annual averages which have been at least 47% each year since 2011 when we began to keep track. The reason it is possible to grow at such a high rate year in and year out is because the population of the nursing home turns over in less than three years or so in this typical nursing home. This means a wel-

coming church established in one facility is able to reach out and minister to newly arriving residents with God's love.

In the case of the non-traditional parish in Livingston Care Center, the Holy Spirit has drawn many residents to Christ. The Activities Director told me in a June interview that was part of a Master's Degree research project, she knows personally of many people who entered the facility with no faith in God and who died professing love for Jesus. She attributes this to the presence of St. Lazarus Mission, saying, "You are part of the facility."

The Only Way to Reach More People is to Engage More Nursing Homes

Since the way to reach more people with the comfort and love of Christ in their last months of this life is to holistically adopt more nursing homes, we obeyed God's call to two additional nursing homes. One in Springfield, Ohio, about 30 miles from Dayton, has become a beachhead for a new effort. At Southbrook Care Center, we are making remarkable progress as we "seek for Christ's sheep that are dispersed abroad, and for His children who are in the midst of this sinful world, that they may be saved through Christ forever" (*REC Book of Common Prayer*, admonition of the Bishop to a man being ordained to the Presbyterate, p. 544).

Second, we began an effort, using a slightly different strategy at a third nursing home, Grafton Oaks. Joseph McNamara has been visiting people regularly for months and months already. Now, we have begun a monthly worship service that includes Communion of the Sick. Our goal is the same as at all nursing homes we adopt -- total transformation of the internal culture to that of the local church -- so that Christ's light shines brightly and cannot be mistaken or unseen. Grafton Oaks is near downtown Dayton, Ohio, close to Christ the King. Like the other two nursing homes, it is a 100 bed sized facility.

Southbrook Care Center: A Beachhead the enemy Wants Back

The Southbrook plant began in June and we have begun to forge a relationship with two godly men who had been visiting sporadically for several years, representing a local church with whom we are now working closely. Already we are seeing green sprouts coming up. Average attendance on Sunday is growing, and normally 22 people receive Holy Communion, with about half attending a Communion of the Sick service and the other half receiving Communion as we make rounds to the bedridden. We are encountering furious spiritual resistance to our presence, and our enemy wishes to 'push us back into the sea and off the beach.' However, God has sustained us. We ask you to continue to pray for us, especially for our key leader, Deacon Postulant Bradley Winsler, Tammie, his wife, and James Chasteen, all of whom attend Christ the King.

Grafton Oaks: The Door Opened Wide and We Entered

God also called us to begin to adopt a third nursing home. Our strategy at this third facility is somewhat different. The plant in Springfield (Southbrook) uses a Worship to Relationship strategy. There, we began with weekly worship and are meeting people and be-

coming part of the community from this point of entry. In our third plant, we are using a Relationship to Worship strategy. Joseph and Deepika McNamara (of Christ the King) spearhead an extended effort to visit residents and get to know them. After many months, they gained enough trust and social capital that the management became open to letting us begin a Sunday service once each month. The first service was a grand success, and the plan is to continue with this effort. For the first time in many years, quite a few residents were able to receive Holy Communion as Fr. Isaac Chavez celebrated the Eucharist on August 14th. On that Sunday, for the first time in St. Lazarus Mission's history, 101 people in the three facilities combined were able to receive Holy Communion. A fourth nursing home is already on the horizon. Please continue to pray for us as we listen for God's instructions.

Partnership with Dominion Academy of Dayton: The Spire Program

This year will be our third year partnering with Dominion Academy's Spire Program. Five times during the last school year, students in the Spire Program, which offers students enhanced learning experiences to include field trips and service opportunities, visited Livingston Care Center. They brought with them crafts made in school to give to residents, participated in making crafts or other activities with the residents, and some were able to visit bedridden residents with me, bringing with them good cheer and their craft projects as gifts to people who otherwise would be left out. This partnership has been a wonderful way to reveal to the children how there is a tremendous deposit of wisdom and godly character the Church desperately needs all around us, residing in nursing homes. The partnership, initiated by Dss. Michelle Caldwell, of Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church, and the Headmaster of Dominion Academy, has become a welcome part of life in the nursing home and is a key contribution to St. Lazarus Mission's reputation of being "part of the facility."

Growth in the St. Lazarus Mission Team

As God granted us open doors to two new facilities, He also enabled us to enter them without overstretching our human resources. The Volunteer Team grew, too. There are currently 38 people who are active in a substantial way. Of particular note is that Fr. Harry Mathis stepped into the fray and volunteered to help on Sunday afternoons at Livingston Care Center. This is a significant help because the two plants have services at the same time, meaning we have two concurrent services each week, except one time each month when we have three concurrent services, all at different locations. Also, Fr. Franklin Sanders has become a strong advocate. Most of the new volunteers would not have come aboard without the encouragement and support of Fr. Wayne McNamara and Fr. Harry Mathis. Bishop Peter has been a tremendous supporter and source of encouragement as well. So have you, Bishop Dan.

I bring out these connections to show you how important advocacy by the leaders of churches is to the success or failure of a ministry such as St. Lazarus Mission. Perhaps many clergy do not see a potential benefit to their churches from nursing home ministry. There is certainly no money in it, and it does not bring in members and it is quite a bit of work. However, the Rectors in Dayton have seen the benefit to their parishes as many of their key leaders have been involved in one way or another in the ministry and this con-

tribution of St. Lazarus Mission as a sort of seminary is not insignificant to them. The ministry team grows spiritually when they love those who are the least of these. It makes parishioners, I believe, more capable of compassion. It helps people become able to be more thankful, and it reveals the character of those who ought to be leaders in their home parishes. Two Deacon Postulants, One Deacon, and two Priests were very active at St. Lazarus Mission as laymen and as they discerned their callings to ordained ministry. This is evidence, I believe, of some of the hidden value of a ministry like St. Lazarus Mission to the Diocese. Perhaps, as you said, Bishop Dan, we have a practical seminary.

Resources are Available to Others

Carol Herman produced an upgraded service book and a significantly more sophisticated hymnal, all in one “battle-tested” publication developed over 25 years of trial and error. This is available, along with a number of other significant resources for people who want to get started themselves. Our major desire is to put flesh and bone on our plans to teach others how to do what we do. We believe nursing home ministry does not have to begin at a large scale to develop into something beautiful. We are willing to teach parishes and conduct local workshops to help them begin. Right now we are in the process of writing the workshop materials and upgrading our website so the materials will be available to everyone. We have a goal to make it possible for anyone to be able to use them to love the least, lonely, labeled, and lost in nursing homes.

Two MA programs culminated in practical work related to St. Lazarus Mission. Bradley Winsler’s Thesis related to the need to plant parishes inside nursing homes as well as outlined the general strategies to do so. I conducted my Capstone Project to study the perceptions various groups at Livingston Care Center affected by the existence of St. Lazarus Mission of what components of parish life are most important to them. It was an extensive project. These efforts were both meant to help advance our understanding of ministry in our environment. Part of the process included connecting with one of the preeminent researchers in the field of religious gerontology to be found anywhere in the world. We are planning to meet face to face in Ottawa at a conference in September.

Finances: Now They Really Matter

The Matthew 25 Initiative Grant from the ACNA has been a great help to us. Without it, we would not have been able to expand as we are now doing. Thank you for having the foresight to make sure we had a quality Treasurer well in advance of having any funds to steward. Also, thank you for asking the Diocese to help us this year so we can expand our work. We believe God will enable us to meet our goal of raising the matching \$8400 because of the generosity of people in our diocesan family.

Conclusion

Carol and I are as missionaries to little tiny islands that happen to be nursing home shaped. We are grateful for God’s grace shown through the love and faithfulness of our Board, volunteers, you and Bishop Peter, our fellow clergy and the laity who properly make up the backbone of any fruitful ministry. We are thankful to be part of the Diocese of the Central States.

ORDINATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

On July 31 I ordained Isaac Chavez to the presbyterate in Christ the King, Dayton, OH. On November 6 I will, the Lord willing, institute the Rev. Davidson Morse as Rector of All Saints, Lynchburg, VA. On October 9 I commissioned in the stead of Archbishop Foley Beach Mr. Bill Adams as Lay Evangelist in the worship at Christ Our Hope, Westpoint, TN. Below is a summary of his ministry.

This is the 16th year of my full-time work as an evangelist. Along the way the Lord introduced Thomas Cranmer, the 39 Articles and the 1662 BCP to me which was joyfully received and inspired me to want to become Anglican.

To that end I thought if I have to make a change to be recommissioned why not find a church that whole heartedly embraces the 39 Articles. Dr. Curtis Crenshaw and I met several years ago and over time I watched his teachings from Cranmer House and loved it. This is why I called him today and then you Bishop Morse.

Personally the Lord called me into the 'highways and hedges' full-time in November 2001. This means specifically he called me to be an evangelist at major events in Atlanta like concerts, sporting events and festivals to preach and witness to the people and He also sent me to major sporting events out of Atlanta like the Super Bowl, World Cup, Olympics, Final Four, etc.

In the last eight years I've been organizing 'mission trips' to these sports events and named the ministry Sports Fan Outreach. You can see the web site here: <http://sfoi.org/> this year there have been almost 200 participants at our events with the Super Bowl Outreach our largest at on average 100 Saints.

This year our ministry to raise up and support full-time evangelists called the George Whitefield Program was begun. Our goal is first to have 40 evangelists plead in key western cities. You can see the program details at <http://sfoi.org/georgewhitefieldprogram/>

I solicit our prayers for this evangelistic ministry.

CLERGY TRANSFER

On August 21 I received Church of Our Saviour Oatlands, Leesburg, VA. On September 14 I received the Rev. James A. Basinger, Rector of Church of Our Saviour Oatlands, into the diocese and the REC.

The Rev. Rob Sexton, Owensboro, KY, left the REC and joined the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI), Theology of the Liturgy, vol.11.

Ramie Targoff, *Common Prayer: The Language of Public Devotion in Early Modern England*.

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.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

I thank you for your prayers for Marianne and me, but especially for her as we battled her cancer together over the last few years. As you know, she died in Alive Hospice on December 13. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the Name of the Lord!

DATE FOR THE 2017 DIOCESE MEETING

We have received an invitation from Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church, Mason, OH for the 2017 Synod. The dates will be October 26-27, 2017.

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, 2016), 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, Suffragan

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
MATHIS, The Rev. Harry Mathis (on loan from CANA)
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
SPARKS, The Rev. Daniel
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

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

DEACONESSES

JACQUES, Ella Carol (Candy)
CALDWELL, Michelle

RETIRED CLERGY

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

POSTLUANTS

BUTLER, Mark
BROWN, Christopher H.
FITZPATRICK, Stuart
LANCLOS, Steven
MILLER, Bryan K.
MOORE, Tanner J.
VELEY, Edward D. Ph.D.
WINSLER, Bradley J.

PARISHES

ALABAMA

St. John's Anglican—Chelsea

INDIANA

Trinity—Evansville
St. Paul's—Greenfield

KENTUCKY

Christ the Redeemer Mission—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. Lazrus 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 Mission - 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)

Diocese of the Central States
Suffragan Bishop's Report 2016

- A. 5/4: Lagrange, KY-conducted inaugural service of Evening Prayer in home of the Atkins family attended by several families interested in starting an REC mission work.
- B. 5/14: Tipp City, OH: attended dinner at home of Fr. Harry Mathis; Bp. Morse, Fr. McNamara, Fr. Herman in attendance
- C. 5/24: Mason, OH-met with Rev. William Eavenson, ACNA Cincinnati church planter
- D. 5/24: Covington, KY-attended "Beers with Becket" hosted by St Barnabas Anglican (ACNA) with Fr. Colvin. Men's discussion and fellowship.
- E. 5/3: Middletown, OH-Regional Clergy study

VIII. June 2016

- A. 6/4: Lima, OH-Holy Nativity, met with parish to formally receive them to level one status in REC affiliation process.
- B. 6/7: Dayton, OH-Christ Our Hope-met with Bp. Morse and several parishioners
- C. 6/11-12: Mason, OH-hosted Canon Bill Jerdan
- D. 6/12: Mason, OH-Recommissioned Colvin family as REC missionaries (Indonesia) during Sunday Holy Communion. Cn. Bill Jerdan, Fr. David Truax assisting.
- E. 6/18-19: Mason, OH-Regional pulpit exchange; hosted Fr. David and Sabrina Straw, co-celebrated Holy Communion on Sunday

IX. July

- A. 7/29-30: Mason, OH-hosted Bp. Morse, diocesan issues
- B. 7/31: Dayton, OH-participated in ordination of Isaac Chavez to the presbyterate

X. August

- A. 8/9: Middletown, OH-continued clergy study with regional clergy members
- B. 8/27: Dayton, OH-participated in examination of Dcn. Mike Speith for presbyterate

XI. September

- A. 9/9-10: Pittsburgh, PA-participated in the consecration of Bishop-elect James Hobby as Bishop of Pittsburgh ACNA
- B. 9/16: Middletown, OH-Regional Clergy study.
- C. 9/20: Dayton, OH-met with Fr. Harry Mathis and Dss Candy Jacques of Christ Our Hope
- D. 9/22: Mason, OH-met with Rev. William Eavenson, ACNA Cincinnati church planter

In addition, I have: -regularly spoken with various diocesan clergy regarding their work
-organized and led regional clergy meetings (Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky)
-assembled and managed a schedule of bimonthly pulpit supply for Holy Nativity, Lima

Respectfully submitted,

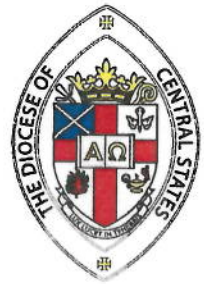
Rt. Rev. Peter Manto
Suffragan Bishop, Diocese of the Central States

Diocese of the Central States
Suffragan Bishop's Report 2016

- I. October 2015
 - A. 10/21-22: Birmingham, AL-DCS Synod, presided at meetings in Bp. Morse's absence (wife's illness)
 - B. 10/23-24: Mt. Laurel, AL-St. John's episcopal visit, HC, preaching; Stephen Lanclos ordination to diaconate; 1 confirmation; interview Christopher Brown and John _____ regarding application for postulancy (diaconate)
- II. November 2015
 - A. 10/31-11/1: Lynchburg, VA- All Saints-episcopal visit, HC, preaching, 1 Baptism, 11 Confirmations
 - B. 11/6-7: Nashville, TN- along with Janice, visited Bp. Dan and Marianne
 - C. 11/8: Dayton, OH-episcopal visit, HC, preaching. Interviewed Bradley Winsler regarding diaconate postulancy application
 - D. 11/15: Mason, OH- episcopal visit subbing for Bp. Morse, HC, preaching, 4 Confirmations, altar rail dedication
- III. December 2015
 - A. 12/18-19: Nashville, TN- Funeral Service HC, M. Morse
- III. January 2016
 - A. 1/13: Mason, OH- Rev. Canon Richard Palmer to discuss possibility of receiving Holy Nativity Parish, Lima, OH, APA
 - B. 1/24: Dayton, OH- Christ Our Hope, episcopal visit, HC, preaching, 10 confirmations, 2 receptions
- IV. February 2016
 - A. 2/19-2: Mason, OH-welcomed Canon Bill Jerdan to discuss the Colvin Mission, REC Board of Foreign Missions, Anglican Global Mission Partners and upcoming visit by Rev. Dr. T. Chong (Dean of Indonesia, Diocese of Singapore) to Trinity, Mason in April
 - B. 2/28: Lima, OH-visited Holy Nativity Anglican Church (APA) to discuss their potential transfer into the REC. Sunday sermon followed by Q/A meeting with parish members.
- V. March 2016
 - A. 3/15: Middletown, OH-began clergy study/lunch with regional REC clergy and guests. Eight in attendance including clergy from APA, TEC.
 - B. 3/18-20: Mason, OH-Bp.Morse visiting; Palm Sunday service included dedication of new Bishop's chair made by a parish member.
- VI. April 2016
 - A. 4/9-10: Asheville, NC- attended New Wineskins SE Asia Symposium. Met with Bp. Rennis Ponniah, Bp. Juan Kim Seng and Dean Timothy Chong from Diocese of Singapore to discuss Rev. Matt Colvin's missionary work in Indonesia. Attended the SE Asia Symposium
 - B. 4/11: Asheville, NC- participated in the Anglican Global Mission Partners meeting and as a member of the AGMP Gap Year task force
 - C. 4/13-15: Katy, TX- participated in REC bishops' meeting
 - D. 4/15: Mason, OH- DCS Regional Clergy Meeting
 - E. 4/15: Mason, OH-Dinner with Dean Timothy Chong and regional clergy followed by "An Evening with the Anglican Dean of Indonesia" at Trinity, Mason
 - F. 4/16: Mason, OH- Regional clergy breakfast with Dean Chong, Rev. Matt Colvin and regional clergy followed by regional clergy meeting and lunch. Ten clergymen representing six parishes were in attendance.
 - G. 4/28-29: Akron, OH-participated in consecration of Bishop-elect Ron Jackson as Bishop of Diocese of Great Lakes-ACNA
- VII. May 2016



Reformed Episcopal Church
Diocese of the Central States



Actuals vs. Budget
Calendar Year 2015

Income	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Over/ (Under)</i>
Parish Tithes	\$ 145,199	\$ 130,416	\$ 14,783
Other Contributions, Interest	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ 75
Savings/Investment Draws	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 145,274	\$ 130,416	\$ 14,858
Expenses			
Bishop's Salary	\$ 51,576	\$ 51,302	\$ 274
Bishop's Housing Allowance	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ -
Bishop's Office Allowance	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -
Medical	\$ 10,381	\$ 10,770	\$ (389)
Bishop's Retirement	\$ 10,596	\$ 9,715	\$ 881
Bishop Honorarium	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -
LTD/Life Insurance	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
Travel and Ministry Expenses	\$ 19,011	\$ 18,000	\$ 1,011
Tithe (to REC)	\$ 13,115	\$ 14,000	\$ (885)
Missions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Parish Planting Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bishop's Discretionary	\$ 200	\$ 500	\$ (300)
Dissolved Parish Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 148,379	\$ 147,787	\$ 592
Excess/(Deficit)	\$ (3,105)	\$ (17,371)	\$ 14,266



Reformed Episcopal Church Diocese of the Central States



Balance Sheet Entries Calendar Year 2015

Loans

Initial value of loans from DCS	\$ 3,688
Payments	\$ (4,216)
New loans from DCS	\$ 3,500
Initial value of loans to DCS	\$ -
Payments	\$ -
New loans to DCS	\$ (2,000)
Final Value	<u>\$ 972</u>

Clergy Relief

	Assets	Cash
Beginning Balance	\$ 8,138	\$ 287
Income		\$ 2,400
Disbursements		\$ -
Investment Gain/(Loss)	\$ (839)	
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 7,300</u>	<u>\$ 2,687</u>

Parish Planting

Beginning Balance	\$ 67,419
Income	\$ -
Disbursements	\$ -
Investment Gain/(Loss)	\$ (7,995)
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 59,424</u>

Account Balances

	12/31/14	12/31/15
Checking Account	\$ 18,247	\$ 22,235
Clergy Relief Earmarks	\$ (287)	\$ (2,687)
Loans	\$ 3,688	\$ 972
Clergy Relief	\$ 8,426	\$ 9,987
Parish Plants	\$ 67,419	\$ 59,424
Marianne Morse Memorial	\$ -	\$ 1,235
Total	<u>\$ 97,492</u>	<u>\$ 91,166</u>



Reformed Episcopal Church Diocese of the Central States



Year-over-year 2013-2015

Income	2013	2014	2015
Parish Tithes	\$ 135,630	\$ 132,590	\$ 145,199
Other Contributions, Interest	\$ 100	\$ 70	\$ 75
REC Sustentation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 135,730	\$ 132,660	\$ 145,274
Expenses			
Bishop's Salary	\$ 49,824	\$ 51,302	\$ 51,576
Bishop's Housing Allowance	\$ 30,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000
Office Expense	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Medical	\$ 7,766	\$ 3,132	\$ 10,381
Bishop's Retirement	\$ 9,419	\$ 9,715	\$ 10,596
Bishop Honorarium	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
LTD/Life Insurance	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500
Travel and Ministry Expenses	\$ 43,569	\$ 12,976	\$ 19,011
Tithe to REC (arrears)	\$ 14,027	\$ 13,688	\$ 13,115
Missions	\$ 3,007	\$ -	\$ -
Parish Planting	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -
Bishop's Discretionary	\$ (170)	\$ 2,200	\$ 200
Total Expenses	\$ 165,942	\$ 136,513	\$ 148,379
Excess/(Deficit)	\$ (30,212)	\$ (3,853)	\$ (3,105)

Balances

	12/31/13	12/31/14	12/31/15
Checking Account	\$ 20,268	\$ 18,247	\$ 22,235
Clergy Relief Earmarks	\$ -	\$ (287)	\$ (2,687)
Clergy Relief	\$ 8,690	\$ 8,426	\$ 9,987
Parish Planting	\$ 90,295	\$ 67,419	\$ 59,424
Loans	\$ 10,024	\$ 3,688	\$ 972
Marianne Morse Memorial	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,235
Total	\$ 129,277	\$ 97,492	\$ 91,166



Reformed Episcopal Church
Diocese of the Central States



**Parish Tithes
Calendar Year 2015**

All Saints' Anglican, Raliegh, NC	\$	10,129
All Saints' REC, Lynchburg, VA	\$	2,931
Christ our Hope AC, Dayton, OH	\$	22,647
Christ our Hope REC, Westpoint, TN	\$	5,385
Christ the King AC, Dayton, OH	\$	13,720
Church of the Redeemer, Wilson, NC	\$	3,717
Covenant REC, Roanoke, VA	\$	4,060
Holy Trinity REC, Fairfax, VA	\$	19,849
St. Andrew's, Appomatox, VA	\$	1,800
St. Andrew's AC, Asheboro, NC	\$	1,325
St. James REC, Memphis, TN	\$	19,660
St. John's AC, Birmingham, AL	\$	3,750
St. Jude's REC, Richmond, VA	\$	13,567
St. Lazarus, Dayton, OH	\$	844
St. Nicholas AC, Owensboro, KY	\$	809
St. Paul's REC, Greensburg, IN	\$	1,115
Trinity AC, Evansville, IN	\$	2,178
Trinity REC, Mason, OH	\$	17,013
Other	\$	700
Total	\$	145,199



Reformed Episcopal Church Diocese of the Central States



Actuals vs. Budget Jan-Jun 2016

	Actual	Budget	Over/ (Under)	Projected FY16	FY16 Budget	Over/ (Under)
Income						
Parish Tithes	\$ 79,093	\$ 66,603	\$ 12,490	\$ 158,186	\$ 133,206	\$ 24,980
Other Contributions, Interest	\$ 27	\$ -	\$ 27	\$ 54	\$ -	\$ 54
Savings/Investment Draws	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 79,120	\$ 66,603	\$ 12,517	\$ 158,240	\$ 133,206	\$ 25,034
Expenses						
Bishop's Salary	\$ 27,297	\$ 27,297	\$ -	\$ 54,594	\$ 54,594	\$ -
Bishop's Housing Allowance	\$ 15,500	\$ 15,500	\$ -	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ -
Bishop's Office Allowance	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -
Medical	\$ (746)	\$ 5,385	\$ (6,131)	\$ 1,947	\$ 10,770	\$ (8,824)
Bishop's Retirement	\$ 10,629	\$ 11,020	\$ (391)	\$ 10,629	\$ 11,020	\$ (391)
Bishop's Honorarium	\$ 3,120	\$ 3,120	\$ -	\$ 6,240	\$ 6,240	\$ -
LTD/Life Insurance	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
Travel and Ministry Expenses	\$ 8,542	\$ 8,000	\$ 542	\$ 17,084	\$ 16,000	\$ 1,084
Tithe (to REC)	\$ 14,493	\$ 13,321	\$ 1,172	\$ 14,493	\$ 13,321	\$ 1,172
Missions/Plants	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ (500)	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ (1,000)
Bishop's Discretionary	\$ (100)	\$ 250	\$ (350)	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 82,235	\$ 87,893	\$ (5,658)	\$ 142,987	\$ 150,945	\$ (7,959)
Excess/(Deficit)	\$ (3,115)	\$ (21,290)	\$ 18,175	\$ 15,254	\$ (17,739)	\$ 32,993



Reformed Episcopal Church
Diocese of the Central States



Balance Sheet Entries
June 30, 2016

Loans

Initial value of loans from DCS	\$	2,972
Payments	\$	(500)
New loans from DCS	\$	-
Initial value of loans to DCS	\$	(2,000)
Payments	\$	-
New loans to DCS	\$	-
Final Value	\$	<u>472</u>

Clergy Relief

	Assets	Cash
Beginning Balance	\$ 7,300	\$ 2,687
Income		\$ 1,100
Disbursements		\$ (600)
Investment Gain/(Loss)	\$ 1,855	
Ending Balance	\$ <u>9,155</u>	\$ <u>3,187</u>

Parish Planting

Beginning Balance	\$ 59,424
Income	\$ -
Disbursements	\$ -
Investment Gain/(Loss)	\$ 23,018
Ending Balance	\$ <u>82,442</u>

Account Balances

	12/31/15	
Checking Account	\$ 22,235	\$ 20,608
Clergy Relief Earmarks	\$ (2,687)	\$ (3,187)
Loans	\$ 972	\$ 472
Clergy Relief	\$ 9,987	\$ 12,342
Parish Planting	\$ 59,424	\$ 82,442
Marianne Morse Memorial	\$ 1,235	\$ 1,720
Total	\$ <u>91,166</u>	\$ <u>112,676</u>



Reformed Episcopal Church
Diocese of the Central States



**Parish Tithes
Jan-Jun 2016**

All Saints' Anglican, Raliegh, NC	\$ 6,859
All Saints' REC, Lynchburg, VA	\$ 2,011
Christ our Hope AC, Dayton, OH	\$ 10,562
Christ our Hope REC, Westpoint, TN	\$ 3,305
Christ the King AC, Dayton, OH	\$ 8,573
Church of the Redeemer, Wilson, NC	\$ 1,884
Covenant REC, Roanoke, VA	\$ 1,839
Holy Trinity REC, Fairfax, VA	\$ 10,728
St. Andrew's, Appomatox, VA	\$ 4,950
St. Andrew's AC, Asheboro, NC	\$ 586
St. James REC, Memphis, TN	\$ 8,820
St. John's AC, Birmingham, AL	\$ 1,445
St. Jude's REC, Richmond, VA	\$ 5,455
St. Lazarus, Dayton, OH	\$ 417
St. Nicholas AC, Owensboro, KY	\$ 470
St. Paul's REC, Greensburg, IN	\$ 645
Trinity AC, Evansville, IN	\$ 1,081
Trinity REC, Mason, OH	\$ 8,125
Other	\$ 1,337
Total	\$ 79,093



Reformed Episcopal Church
Diocese of the Central States



**Proposed Budget
Calendar Year 2017**

	Budget 2016	Budget 2017	Increase/ (Decrease)
Income			
Parish Tithes	\$ 133,206	\$ 161,406	\$ 28,200
Expenses			
Bishop's Salary	\$ 54,594	\$ 58,018	\$ 3,424
Bishop's Housing Allowance	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ -
Bishop's Office Allowance	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -
Medical	\$ 10,770	\$ 3,600	\$ (7,170)
Bishop's Retirement	\$ 11,020	\$ 11,883	\$ 863
Bishop's Honorarium	\$ 6,240	\$ 10,008	\$ 3,768
LTD/Life Insurance	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
Travel and Ministry Expenses	\$ 16,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 1,000
Tithe (to REC)	\$ 13,321	\$ 15,819	\$ 2,498
Missions	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Clergy Relief	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bishop's Discretionary	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 150,945	\$ 155,328	\$ 4,383
Excess/(Deficit)	\$ (17,739)	\$ 6,078	

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTERS' SALARIES

February 26, 2016

Dear Brethren:

This report is limited to providing a yearly guideline concerning Minister's Salaries. For others matters pertaining to Parish Administration and salary guidelines, please consult the Diocesan Customary or contact the Diocesan office. A copy of the Customary may be obtained through the Diocesan Office or online at www.recdma.org.

While recognizing that individual parish capabilities and budgets differ, we still believe it is important to set minimum standards for which our congregations should strive concerning the salaries paid to ministers. For the several years, this report has relied on the standards set by the standards and guidelines of the Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (ACNA). The chart below reflects the recommended compensation guidelines for 2016. **It is noted that these figures are the MINIMUM standards for the FIRST year of incumbency.** Consideration should be made for the number of years of previous experience and number of years of service to the parish. Adjustment should also be made for job complexity (size of staff, oversight of preschool or day school, educational level, etc). Further consideration should also be made for geographical location as this represents Pittsburgh, PA and cost of living may be different in different areas.

RECTOR (1ST YEAR OF INCUMBENCY)

	Budget under \$250,000	Budget over \$250,000 & under \$500,000	Budget over \$500,000 & under \$1,000,00	Budget over \$1,000,000
Metro/Suburban	\$61,800	\$68,500	\$81,275	\$84,900
Town/Rural	\$60,150	\$66,850	\$78,900	\$83,250

FULL-TIME ASSISTANT PRIEST (1ST YEAR OF INCUMBENCY)

	Budget under \$250,000	Budget over \$250,000 & under \$500,000	Budget over \$500,000 & under \$1,000,00	Budget over \$1,000,000
Metro/Suburban	\$54,975	\$61,450	\$65,700	\$68,250
Town/Rural	\$54,050	\$60,425	\$64,975	\$67,525

HALF TIME (25 HOUR PER WEEK) RECTOR, CHURCH PLANTER, ASSISTANT PRIEST (1ST YEAR OF INCUMBENCY)

	Budget under \$250,000	Budget over \$250,000 & under \$500,000	Budget over \$500,000 & under \$1,000,00	Budget over \$1,000,000
Metro/Suburban	\$20,350	\$20,650	\$23,350	\$23,750
Town/Rural	\$20,700	\$20,780	\$24,050	\$23,425

The cash compensation represented in the chart does include the value of the rectory, rectory allowances and utilities paid if a rectory is provided by the parish. These figures do not include fringe benefits, such as health insurance, disability, and life insurance. Nor does it include the Disability policy and defined Pension Contribution mandated by the General Council. In no circumstance should a pastor's cash compensation be reduced to cover the cost of the General Council mandated pension program (12%) as this violates the terms of the Pension Program.

We recommend that clergy be given a minimum of four weeks paid vacation (including 4 Sundays) and one week of study leave. It is also recommended that pastors be remembered at Christmas time. The Vestry of each parish should 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.

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 such a COLA is not provided then the pastor is, in essence, receiving a reduction in salary. In such cases when the pastor's compensation is below the above minimum guidelines, 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.

Parishes should also be mindful of other expenses associated with the ministry of the pastor. Regular reimbursements for hospital parking, mileage at the published IRS rate for employees (2016 rate = \$0.54/mile), meals with parishioners, and other expenses should be made with accompanying receipts.

Lastly, this committee does not provide any advice concerning the legalities of the Affordable Care Act. We do, however, advise you that a group health insurance policy is available to our parish employees through the ACNA Health Benefits office. If interested, you may visit their website and contact them directly: <http://www.anglicanchurch.net/?/main/page/benefits>

Most pastors will not initiate a conversation or direct the Vestry to consider their own compensation. It should be the regular and normal duty of the Senior Warden to direct the Vestry in these matters. To help with this, we ask that you please provide a copy of this report to your parish Vestry.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Very Rev. Jason R. Grote

2015-2016 Report of the Standing Committee
Diocese of Central States
2016 Synod, October 27, 2015

Matters Regarding Churches:

In May of 2016 the application for reception of Holy Nativity Anglican Church, Lima, OH, came before the Standing Committee. With the endorsement of +Bishop Manto, who will have oversight of this church, the Standing Committee advised the Bishop Ordinary to receive this church at Level One, per their application. Holy Nativity was subsequently received by the Ordinary into the REC at Level One.

In July 2016, Church of Our Savior Oatlands, Leesburg, VA, voted to apply for level two affiliation with the REC. The Standing Committee unanimously voted to receive Church of Our Savior Oatlands, and the Ordinary received that church as an Affiliate on July 22, 2016.

In September 2016, The Bishop Ordinary requested the Standing Committee approve the name of "Christ the Redeemer" for the mission in Owensboro, KY. The Standing Committee unanimously approved the name.

Clergy Matters:

Postulants:

During the reporting period from the 2015 Synod to present, the Standing Committee received the applications of approved postulant Tanner J. Moore for information.

The Standing Committee received and reviewed the applications for Postulancy of Mr. Brian K Miller, Dr. Duane E. Veley, and Mr. Bradley J. Winsler. The Standing Committee approved these applications, and recommendations for approval were forwarded to the Bishop Ordinary, subject to his interview and final approval.

Presbyters:

In July 2016 the Standing Committee voted to approve the ordination of The Rev. Dcn. Isaac Chavez to the Presbyterate, having been successfully examined orally and in writing by the Examining Chaplains of the Diocese on June 27, 2016.

The Rev. James A Basinger, Rector of Church of Our Savior Oatlands, Leesburg, VA, was orally examined by DCS Examining Chaplains on August 27, 2016. His successful examination was reported to the Standing Committee, which subsequently voted to recommend reception of his orders. The Bishop Ordinary was informed of this vote on September 14, 2016, and The Rev. Basinger was subsequently received.

On October 21, the Standing Committee voted to approve the call of the Rev. Davidson Morse to All Saints Reformed Episcopal Church, Lynchburg, VA.

Organizational Matters:

In compliance with the REC and Diocesan Canons, the Standing Committee is organized into classes by year, such that each year one clergy and one lay member may rotate off, and the Nominating Committee of the Diocese may nominate a replacement for each. The current classes are as follows:

Clergy Members:

Class of 2016 – The Rev. Wayne M. McNamara (rotating off)

Class of 2017 – The Very Rev. W. Scott Thompson (SC President)

Class of 2018 – The Rev. Dr. Paul Edgerton

Class of 2019 – To be elected

Lay Members:

Class of 2016 – Mr. Ron Mount (rolling off)

Class of 2017 – Dr. Sam Mansour

Class of 2018 – Mr. Cullen Estes

Class of 2019 – To be elected

Please join me in rendering heartfelt thanks to Fr. McNamara+ and Mr. Mount for their long and faithful service on this very busy committee.

Other Matters:

The Bishop Ordinary requested in May 2016 that the Standing Committee review and make recommendations regarding the educational requirements for the Presbyterate, in response to a request from Canon Mooock of the Diocese of the Southeast. The collective opinion of the Standing Committee provided to the Bishop Ordinary was:

1. The standard, normative requirement for the Presbyterate should be a three-year program equating to an M.Div. from an appropriately accredited seminary (regardless of the number of years it takes to obtain it).
2. That our Bishops should be free to accept an M.A. or M.A.R., provided that at least 60 hours have been completed in earning such a degree from an appropriately accredited seminary. This educational level should be the exception and not the norm, and should not be allowed to morph into the norm.

The Standing Committee unanimously approved the July 2016 request of the Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse to continue his service as Bishop Ordinary through November 2017, one year beyond the mandatory retirement age of 72.

The Bishop Ordinary requested in September 2016 that in view of his retirement age, the Standing Committee consider initiating the process for electing a Bishop Coadjutor, and presenting a motion for the same at the 2016 Diocesan Synod. The Standing Committee unanimously agreed to initiate the process of electing a Coadjutor, and unanimously agreed upon a motion to be presented to the 2016 Synod calling for such an election. The process for the election is:

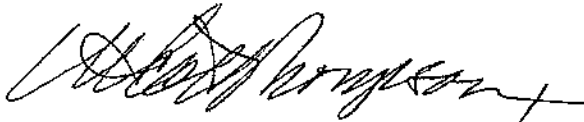
1. The DCS must pass a resolution at Synod calling for an election of a Coadjutor, and requesting ACNA permission to hold such election.
2. Bishops Grote and Morse will then present this request to the College of Bishops during the ACNA meeting in January, 2017, obtaining permission for the election.
3. The DCS will hold an election in the spring of 2017. There will be a special meeting of the Synod to conduct this election. The time and place is TBD at this point, but there will be a process for nominations to be submitted to the Standing Committee. That process will begin after the Synod, which gives us plenty of time (about five months) to develop a nominee/nominees for an election Synod. The Standing Committee will promulgate the process for receiving nominations and will present a recommended slate at the election Synod, which will include a call for nominations from the floor.
4. The results of the election can then be presented for approval to the REC College of Bishops at the General Convention in Dallas in June, 2017.

The resolution unanimously approved by the Standing Committee and Bishops is:

Resolved: That the 2016 Synod of the Diocese of the Central States, Reformed Episcopal Church, convened on October 27, 2016 with a quorum of lay delegates and clergy, calls for an election of a Bishop Coadjutor of this Diocese, to be conducted and completed before April 30, 2017, in view of the sitting Bishop Ordinary having reached Canonical retirement age. Be it further resolved that permission for such election is requested of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA), in accordance with the Constitutions and Canons of ACNA.

This concludes the report of the Standing Committee for the 2015-2016 reporting period.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Scott Thompson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Very Rev. W. Scott Thompson, President

2015-2016 Report of the Examining Chaplains
Diocese of Central States
2016 Synod, October 27, 2015

Receptions of Clergy from Other Churches:

The Rev. James A Basinger, Rector of Church of Our Saviour Oatlands, Leesburg, VA, was orally examined by DCS Examining Chaplains on August 27, 2016, the examiners having previously reviewed his written answers to the required questions in the application for REC reception. The following excerpt is from the report delivered in writing to the Bishop Ordinary on September 17, 2016:

“We find The Rev. Basinger compliant with the Sacramental theology and other theological aspects of the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion. We find him compliant with the authorized liturgies of this church, being the REC Book of Common Prayer and the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. We find him knowledgeable of Holy Scripture, and of the continuity of the Old and New Testaments. We find him familiar with and in compliance with the Constitution and Canons of the Reformed Episcopal Church, including the Church’s position on the ordination of women and sanctity of life.”

It was recommended to the Standing Committee and the Ordinary that The Rev. Basinger be received.

Examinations of Candidates for the Diaconate:

No candidates for the Diaconate were examined during the reporting period.

Examinations of Candidates for the Presbyterate:

On February 1, 2016, examining chaplains conducted both written and oral examination of The Rev. Dcn. Bartholomew P. Martin for ordination to the Presbyterate. The chaplains cleared Dcn. Bart for ordination, having in view the urgency of his application for the Chaplains Corps in the U.S. Army. However, the chaplains advised the Ordinary that further mentorship under a seasoned Presbyterian would be prudent should he become a candidate for Rector of an REC parish.

On July 27, 2016, designated examining chaplains conducted an oral examination of The Rev. Dcn. Isaac Chavez, candidate for the Presbyterate, having reviewed his written examination submissions. The examining chaplains unanimously cleared The Rev. Dcn. Chavez for ordination to the Presbyterate, and so informed the Standing Committee and the Bishop Ordinary in writing.

On August 27, 2016, The Rev. Dcn Michael Spieth was orally examined by The Rt. Rev. Peter Manto, designated examining chaplain The Rev. Wayne McNamara, and other Presbyters. The Rev. Dcn. Spieth was cleared for ordination to the Presbyterate.

Organizational Matters:

In compliance with the REC and Diocesan Canons, members of the Board of Examining Chaplains are appointed by the Bishop Ordinary, and serve at his pleasure. The currently designated Examining Chaplains are:

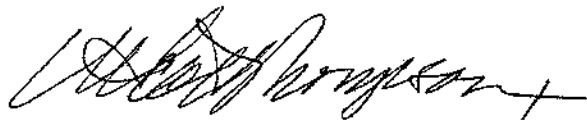
The Rev. Keith Boettner
The Rev. Dr. Paul Edgerton
The Rev. Canon J. Scott Houser
The Rev. Wayne McNamara
The Very Rev. W. Scott Thompson (Chairman)

Other Matters:

There has been considerable concern among the Examining Chaplains as to our geographical spread, which forces telephone oral examinations in most cases. Fr. McNamara proposed a process by which we discontinue this "on demand" oral examination process, and conduct orals once per year at Synod. This would mean that examiners and candidates would arrive a day early to conduct examinations. The increased travel demand is only one day per year, and the value of face-to-face interaction between examiners and candidates far overwhelms the added inconvenience and expense. The reaction to Fr. McNamara's suggestion has been very positive.

Going forward, it will be the preferred policy of the DCS Board of Examining Chaplains to conduct oral examinations in-person the day before the annual Synod. For 2016-2017, there will likely be exceptions as we migrate to this policy, and deal with emergent requirements arising from expectations under the prior process. It is the intent of the Board to improve our examination process, and to maintain the rigor of oral and written examination of candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese.

Respectfully submitted,



The Very Rev. W. Scott Thompson, Chairman

Greetings from The Committee on Women's Ministry of The Reformed Episcopal Church

The national committee continues to seek your support in encouraging the churches in the Diocese of the Central States in three things ----

1. Each year use the Bible Study Booklet printed for use in your women's circle groups.
2. Support of the project and attendance at Women's Day ---- held the 1st Friday in May.
3. Encourage attendance at the Spiritual Enrichment Conference ---- held the 1st (or second) weekend in October.

We understand distance is a major factor in keeping us apart on Women's Day and for the Spiritual Enrichment Conference, but what about arranging regional get togethers? It is imperative, as women of the church, we meet together for fellowship, encouragement, and Spiritual Enrichment.

A LOOK AT 2016

The theme for 2016 was Consolation and Good Hope Through Grace. Our devotional book was written by Deaconess Teresa R. Johnson. She attends one of our diocesan parishes; Saint James Anglican Church in Memphis, TN. The devotional book has been well received by the women in our churches. We had 6 orders from churches in The Central States.

Women's Day was held May 6th at Saint Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church, Oreland, PA. The luncheon speaker was Sora Colvin, missionary with the Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders (SAMS). The project was to raise \$7,500 to assist in repairing and renovating the recently acquired property to be used as Holy Trinity Anglican Church and a Retreat Center in Silver City, New Mexico. Our goal was nearly realized with the collection of \$6,756. We received an offering from 1 church in The Central States. A letter from the recipients was shared at our

2016 Spiritual Enrichment Conference. They are excited and anticipate that these funds will complete the project. We were invited to visit and enjoy some time at the retreat center.

Our 60th "Diamond Anniversary" Spiritual Enrichment Conference was held September 30th through October 2nd in Williamsburg, VA. Theresa R. Johnson, the author of our devotional book, was our keynote speaker. She did a wonderful job in addressing our conference theme. The conference concluded with morning worship where our very own Archbishop Royal U. Grote, Jr. delivered the closing message. Of the 78 who registered, there were 5 churches represented from the Diocese of the Central States.

WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2017

The theme for 2017 is Women of Faith and Influence.

The Devotional Book is being written by a team of ladies from the Diocese of the Southeast led by Brenda Anderson of New Bethel Reformed Episcopal Church.

Women's Day will be held May 5th at Saint Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church, Oreland, PA. The project is to raise \$10,000 to be used to explore methods of enhancing our Women's Day Project Luncheons to encourage greater program participation throughout the denomination and yield greater financial offerings to support our annual projects; and to develop cohesiveness in the work of the Committee on Women's Ministry across the denomination.

Spiritual Enrichment Conference will be held October 13th, 14th, and 15th in Williamsburg, VA. This will be the 61st Conference. Look for information to arrive at your church in early August. Plan to attend!

If your church is not receiving info on the activities of the Committee on Women's Ministry please notify our chairperson ----

Mrs. Gale G. Hill

Committee on Women's Ministry

Reformed Episcopal Church

Eight Dell Road

Charleston, SC 29407

Tel. 843-769-0379

gghmrsmoses@yahoo.com

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Workowski for Gale G. Hill

Reformed Episcopal Board of Foreign Missions

(Anglican Church in North America / Anglican Global Mission Partners)

Report to the Diocese of Central States – October 27, 2016

Your REC partners minister around the globe

- There are now ³⁴~~32~~ REC parishes and mission posts in Cuba
- Bishop Gerhard Meyer and his small team at Knull Camp are helping 50-60 refugees adapt to life in Germany. And they freely share their faith.
- English Camp 2017 will be July 15-23 focusing on Martin Luther and the Reformation
- The Chapel of the Cross (Dallas TX) is spearheading a project to develop the building and grounds of Good Shepherd Parish & Mihael Starin REC Seminary in Osijek, Croatia. This includes a Reformation Heritage Museum on Christian faith in South Central Europe (\$15,000 received toward \$40,000 goal)
http://www.recbfm.org/missions/Croatia_Serbia/ProjectCroatia.html
- 35 students and auditors follow courses at Mihael Starin Seminary
- Friday October 28, Christ the King REC in Karlovac will host the opening of the Croatian National Commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Following a solemn Eucharist, Bishop Jasmin Milić will give a conference on the history of the Reformation in Croatia.
- Fr Matt & Sora Colvin arrived in Bandung Indonesia in July and began language training. Fr Matt has already preached in Bahasa Indonesia using a written text. He visits the 3 Anglican parishes in the city of 8 million. He plans to begin English language services the first week of November.
- The Colvins appreciate mail from supporters. They welcome FaceTime/Skype visits with supporting parishes. They envisage short term missions for clergy and lay people in the future.
- Canon Bill Jerdan will serve as interim priest-in-charge of the International (English-speaking) Congregation (ASA: 160+ & 20+ nationalities) of the Anglican Church of Christ our Peace (Phnom Penh, Cambodia) Nov 4-Jan 3, participating with Diane in planned Christmas outreaches as well as training courses for national priests and lay evangelists. The Jerdans will also visit the Colvins in Indonesia in January.
- Presiding Bishop Royal Grote is invited to the October 2017 Mission Round-Table on Southeast Asia in October 2017. Bishop Peter Manto attended the last triennial Round-Table (Nov, 2014)

Prayer concerns:

- Pray for the year-long European commemoration of the Reformation: 10/30/2016-10/31/2017
- Pray for Fr James David Crofts (Germany) recovering from a serious heart attack, yet still organizing special services in REC missions.

Giving opportunities:

- Every REC parish should be able to contribute \$500 or more per year to REC Mission Projects.
- We specifically need \$3200 now to support Fr Crofts until his disability pension starts. Please consider a special offering for Reformation Sunday (Oct 30), Thanksgiving, Advent or Christmas
- Send gifts to <http://www.recbfm.org/donate/default.html>

Opportunities for Service

- The English-speaking All Saints Anglican Church in Jakarta, Indonesia seeks a vicar and an associate minister. Join the Colvins in this field
- With a spirit of adventure and cultural adaptation and as little as 2 weeks, you can participate in a ministry in Southeast Asia. Contact LynnBouterse@sams-usa.org
- Parish teams are welcome for various projects in all our overseas partnerships.



For more information, visit www.recbfm.org/news
or follow us on Twitter: @RECBFM and Facebook: RECBFM

Dear Bishop Morse, Bishop Manto, and my fathers and brothers of the Diocese of the Central States,

Greetings from Bandung, Indonesia. Our family is now past the "settling in" and "setting up house" phases and we are busy with ministry and learning the language. I (Matt) have been making the rounds of the three Anglican churches in this city of 8 million, getting to know their leaders and parishioners and assisting with preaching and sacramental ministry in this beautiful, but not yet very Christian country.

The congregations are thriving. St. Peter's Church has 2 services with about 100-150 people in each; St. Paul's has 3, albeit smaller. But my favorite is the little chapel on the campus of the military police barracks, St. John's. The smallest of the three congregations – 40 on a good Sunday – is easier to get to know, and they are in greater need of ordained help. (St. Paul's has one of Indonesia's 6 ordained Anglican priests; St. Peter's has an ordained deacon; but St. John's has two lay pastors.)

In the month of September, I baptized 5 people (1 baby, 5 pre-teens) at St. John's; celebrated the eucharist twice at St. John's and once at St. Paul's; and preached through a translator once and from a Bahasa Indonesia script once.

Plans for an English-speaking service at St. Paul's are in place. We hope to begin services at 10:00 AM the first week of November. It is my hope that this service can be an example to the Gereja Anglikan Indonesia of what traditional Anglican worship looks like.

The most fulfilling thing so far has been the pastors' meeting on Wednesdays, since it fits most closely with the reason I came to Bandung: to give more knowledge of the Scriptures to the men who are in a position to teach others.

We have had five weeks of language lessons, and Sora and I now have the vocabulary of a pair of witty toddlers. Being asked to explain the Scriptures with this level of language proficiency is daunting, but also necessary in order to make progress.

We are thankful to God for easing our transition. Within a few months, we have progressed to basic proficiency in negotiating the culture (paying bills, communicating for business transactions, using taxis around the city) and have begun ministry. Our kids are happily enrolled in their respective schools. Ezekiel is at Cahaya Bangsa Classical School, while the other three (Naomi, Isaiah, and Hosanna) are at a tiny cottage school that uses a homeschooling-esque approach. They have language lessons in Bahasa Indonesia for several hours each day, and are enjoying their teachers and classes.

We are extremely grateful to our supporters in the DCS, both for their prayers and for their encouragement and financial support. I had a great time talking via FaceTime with the Cincinnati and Dayton clergy for their N.T. Wright study and with the men of Trinity Church for their Bible study breakfast.

Yours in the Lord,

Matthew Colvin

Matthew Colvin
Bandung, Indonesia
Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist



Matt baptizing at St. John's Church in Cimahi.