

A photograph of a highly ornate, multi-tiered brass chandelier hanging in a cathedral. The chandelier features numerous long, thin brass tubes radiating from a central point, creating a starburst effect. The base is decorated with intricate, scrolled brasswork. The background shows the interior of a church with dark wood paneling and colorful stained glass windows.

40th Annual convention

of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida
OCT. 17-18, 2008, Bradenton, Florida



The Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, Bishop

Dear friends in Christ,

Welcome to this 40th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Southwest Florida. It is a pleasure to work together in this portion of the Lord's vineyard with you.

This 40th convention is a landmark for us as we prepare to enter into the year 2009 which will, indeed, be the 40th year of activity as a diocese. There is much in our past worthy of celebration. As I write this I have just returned from the Lambeth Conference which is the decennial gathering of Anglican bishops. I believe the first bishop to attend Lambeth was William Crane Gray in 1908 when we were still the Missionary Diocese of South Florida. His pioneering work is still reflected in the ongoing life of many of our congregations.

In the past 40 years since the Diocese of South Florida was divided into the dioceses of Central Florida, Southeast Florida and Southwest Florida, we have started new congregations, sent people into ordained ministry, struggled together over issues, and faced a new century together. I am pleased to journey into the future we face together with you.

It is my privilege to have the Rt. Rev. Rogers Harris, the third bishop of Southwest Florida, preach at our convention Eucharist. He personifies a special link to our shared ministry in years past and we are honored with his presence. Please join me in welcoming both Bishop Rogers and Anne Harris into our midst.

Forty years is an important milestone. In human terms, it represents an achievement of maturation. What follows is a deepening of spiritual health and purpose. I pray that our years together may be defined by a deepening of spiritual maturity, health and purpose. I pray that we face the future in Our Lord's presence together with joyful hearts. I ask your prayers and commitment for our diocese, for our shared ministry and for the celebration of our future.

Love in Our Lord,

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith

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Where's the budget? You may notice the proposed 2009 budget and diocesan audit report do not appear in this year's convention book. Diocesan Council, which must approve the budget before it is presented to convention, was unable to do so before this publication's deadline. The 2009 budget, along with the yearly audit report, will be distributed separately to clergy and voting delegates, and posted on the diocesan web site, www.episcopalswfl.org.

2008 convention schedule

All events take place at Christ Episcopal Church, 4030 Manatee Ave. West, in Bradenton.

Thursday, Oct. 16:

Standing Committee meeting: 1–2:30 p.m.

Diocesan Council meeting: 2:30–4:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 17:

8 a.m.: Ministry Fair setups begin; fair will be open throughout the convention.

8:30 a.m.: Registration opens

9 a.m.: Morning Prayer

9:45 a.m. to noon: **Workshops:**

- Greening Our Congregations
- Human Trafficking
- Altar Guild: Best Practices
- What's New About Growing Old

Noon to 1 p.m.: Box lunches available

1-5 p.m.: **Workshops:**

- Safeguarding All God's Children
- Anti-Racism Training

2-4 p.m.: **Stewardship in Tough Times:** How to run your pledge drive when the economy is tanking

4-5:45 p.m.: **Sidewalk Cafe.** Lemonade and cookies to refresh you after a busy afternoon, or to greet you if you're just arriving.

Meet the Candidates: All candidates for diocesan office will be invited to be present. This is your chance to meet them one-on-one, ask your questions, hear what they have to say.

6 p.m.: **Opening Eucharist.**

7:30-9:30 p.m.: **Fabulous and Forty!** A festive evening of food, fun and fellowship. We'll have dinner, lots of time for table-hopping, meeting and greeting, socializing and entertainment. Get up and dance! Come celebrate our 40th convention!

Saturday, Oct. 18:

8 a.m.: Registration, coffee and donuts

9 a.m.: Morning Prayer

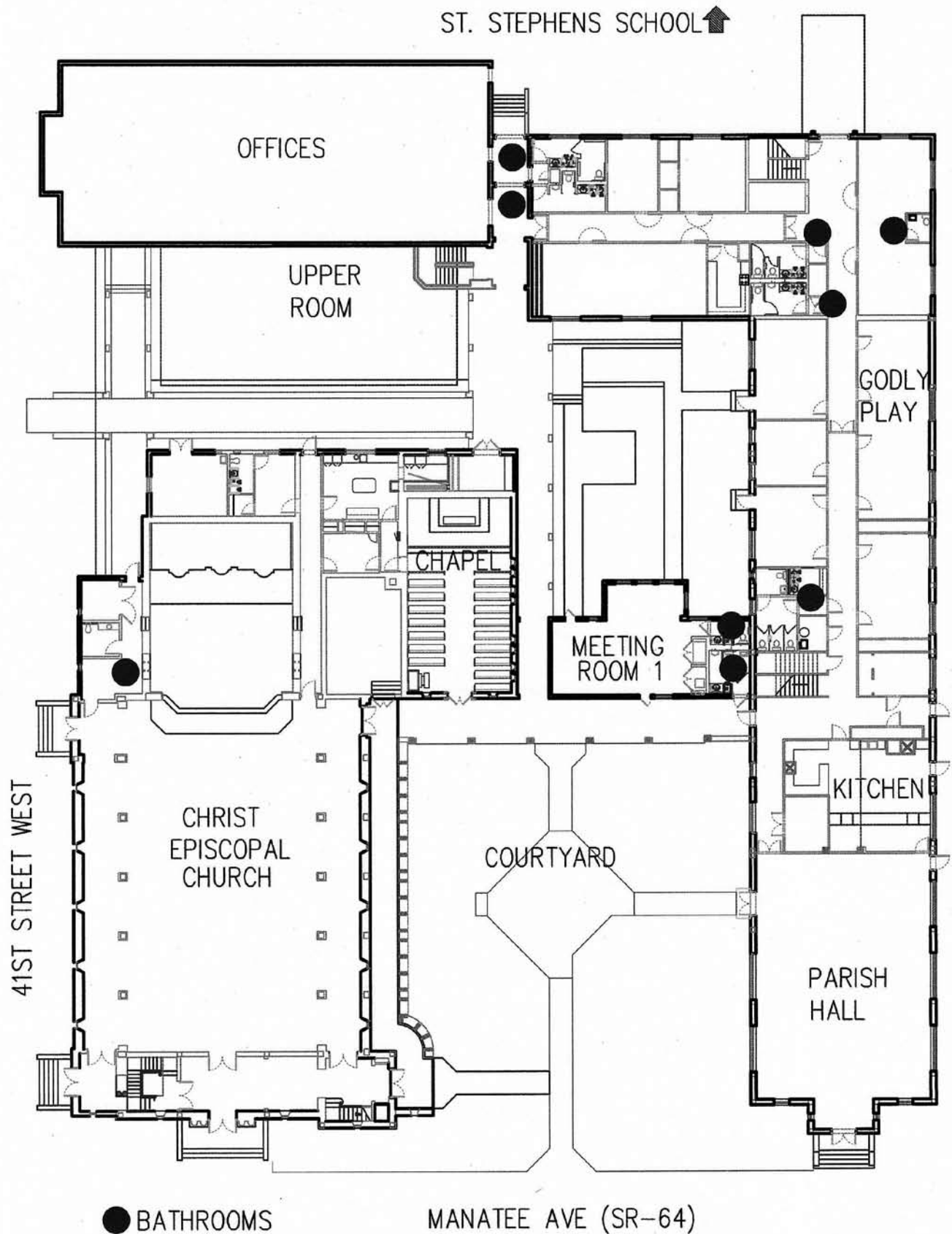
9:45 a.m. to noon: First business session

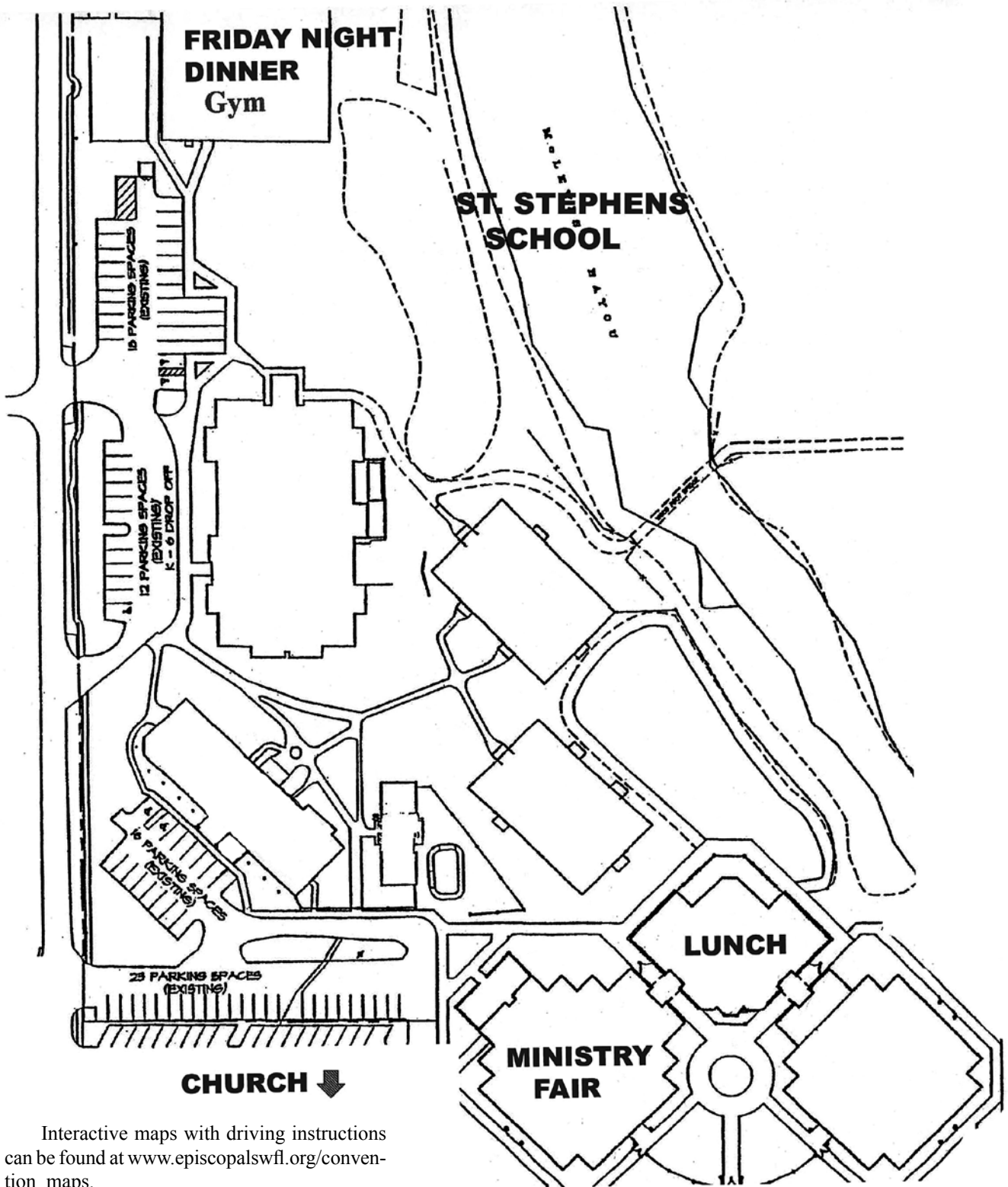
Noon to 1:30 p.m.: Lunch

1:45–3 p.m.: Convention session resumes

3–3:30 p.m.: Adjournment. Stop in the courtyard for a lemonade or a bottle of cold water to take on the road as you head home.

Convention venues





Interactive maps with driving instructions can be found at www.episcopalswfl.org/convention_maps.

Christ Episcopal Church
 4030 Manatee Ave. W
 Bradenton, FL 34205-1789
 (941) 747-3709
 Fax: (941) 746-8131
www.christchurchswfla.org

Diocesan House
 7313 Merchant Court
 Sarasota, FL, 34240
 (941) 556-0315
 Fax: (941) 556-0321
www.episcopalswfl.org

Reports to convention

Dominican Development Group

The Dominican Development Group is a multi-diocese 501(c)(3) corporation/ministry with its office located at DaySpring Conference Center and is on the cutting edge of mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church.

It has a significant financial multiplier effect in the support of the rapidly growing diocese of the Dominican Republic. The DDG's purpose is to assist in the development and self-sufficiency of the Dominican Episcopal Church. Although several dioceses support the DDG, Southwest Florida is one of its principal supporters and through the DDG, this diocese is and has been deeply involved in mission with the Dominican Episcopal Church.

2007, the last full calendar year, was by far the best year financially the DDG has had. In support of the Church we transferred over \$970,000 to the Dominican Episcopal Church over the course of the year. This puts the administrative costs for the DDG at under the almost mythical goal of 10 percent of overall funds transferred. Outside resources are generated for office support so that 100 percent of all funds received for mission in the Dominican Republic go directly to mission in the Dominican Republic.

This year, 2008, is shaping up to be an even more productive year — financially and in terms of mission teams — working towards the development and self-sufficiency of the Dominican Episcopal Church. The Clearwater, Naples, Venice and Fort Myers deaneries continued their productive ministries with the La Redención Church, the El Buen Samaritano Shelter, and the San Marcos Church respectively. The Tampa Deanery began a two-year project building a new school for Centro Buen Pastor. Church of the Ascension, St. Peter's Cathedral, Christ Church and Church of the Redeemer all sent teams during 2008. More than 120 persons traveled to the D.R. on mission teams.

The Dominican Development Group's newest program is the sponsoring of the D.R. Endowment. Given current happenings in the Episcopal Church, it is almost inevitable that the Church's support of its overseas dioceses will diminish, including the D.R. This would be disastrous to its continued dynamic growth. To counteract such an eventuality and to move the Dominican Episcopal Church toward self-sufficiency, Bishop Julio Holguín for several years has asked the DDG to launch an endowment effort. This year it has come together and for 2008, a donor has come forward who will match any contribution to the D.R. Endowment on a one-to-one basis.

As part of this effort, the Rt. Rev. William Skilton, assistant bishop of the Dominican Episcopal Church and founding member of the DDG Board of Directors, is planning to attend this convention and will be available to talk about the work on the DDG. Bishop Skilton is the retired Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina, and in earlier years, served twice as a missionary priest in the D.R.

Episcopal Men's Ministries

Episcopal Men's Ministries 2007–2017: A Journey in Disciple Making.

More than 140 men gathered from throughout Southwest Florida for the formal launch of our 10-year initiative to men, "A Journey in Disciple Making," at the Sept. 7–8, 2007 conference for men at DaySpring. A Journey in Disciple Making is a culmination of 10 years of men's ministry experience in Southwest Florida (1996-2006). The initiative offers a variety of programming opportunities, prayer groups, bible and small group studies, and other events for spiritual growth and personal development, in order to draw men and their families into the life of a church, and provide a proven path to an authentic and fulfilling Christian manhood.

We seek to promote the development of intentional congregational ministries to men in our 77 Episcopal congregations and other Christian churches and fellowships in Southwest Florida, with the vision of preparing our Christian men to disciple 100,000 new men of faith who will be raised up over the next ten years.

With this goal in mind, top ministry priorities for 2008 include the continuation of our drive to initiate and establish effective ministries to men in our local churches, using the "No Man Left Behind" (Patrick Morley) model, and "Reaching Every Man" workshops to give men the opportunity to come together and construct a plan suitable to their individual congregation's needs and goals.

Another 2008 goal was accomplished with the first full-weekend equipping seminar – Equipping The 70 Seminars Conference — held May 16–18 at DaySpring. Approximately 70 men representing 30 churches participated in the weekend conference. These included previous The 70 graduates, lots of "new" men, A Journey in Disciple Making team members, our faculty and a few guests. (This year's faculty included Bishop Dabney Smith, the Rev. Greg Davidson and Dr. Dan Erickson.)

At the close of the conference on Sunday afternoon, 34 men, representing 20 churches, were sent out two-by-two with new bibles, texts and other materials to disciple men in their communities. They are the newest members of "The 70 Team," joining the 70+ men (including 50 Episcopalians) who completed their commitments and training in 2005 and 2006. "The 70" Seminars equip Christian men to live into The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19). They are designed to equip men in three specific disciplines: sharing your faith, defending your faith, and discipling. These vital ministry tools prepare men to go out into the mission field with confidence and competence to disciple new men of faith.

Our third major goal for 2008 is a reunion and equipping conference to take place at DaySpring Nov. 7–8. Participants from the September 2007 A Journey in Disciple Making Conference, the May 2008 Equipping The 70 group, men's ministry leaders and other laymen from throughout Southwest Florida will gather to share stories from the mission field and be further equipped and renewed in their commitment to go into the mission field of Southwest Florida to disciple new men of faith.

Please contact Jay Crouse, director of Episcopal Men's Ministries, at jaycrouse@aol.com, or call (941) 957-1271, for more information about men's ministry in the diocese, and A Journey in Disciple Making.

Nominees for elected offices

Diocesan Council

(Elect one presbyter to fill a two-year “at large” seat)

The Rev. Frank C. Creamer, <i>All Saints, Tarpon Springs</i>	9
The Rev. Glad McCurtain, <i>St. John’s, Clearwater</i>	9

Standing Committee

(Elect two presbyters and one layperson for three-year terms)

Lay candidates:

Henry Power, <i>All Saints, Tarpon Springs</i>	10
Maisie L. Reddy, <i>St. James House of Prayer, Tampa</i>	10
Charles H. Scruggs III, <i>St. Mary’s, Tampa</i>	11

Clerical candidates:

The Rev. Michael P. Basden, <i>Trinity-by-the-Cove, Naples</i>	11
The Rev. Frank C. Creamer, <i>All Saints, Tarpon Springs</i>	12
The Very Rev. Richard Doscher, <i>St. Aftred’s Palm Harbor</i>	12
The Rev. Sharon L. Lewis, <i>Holy Spirit, Osprey</i>	12
The Very Rev. Ann McLemore, <i>St. John’s, Pine Island</i>	13
The Rev. Cesar Olivero, <i>St. James’, Port Charlotte</i>	13
The Rev. Kathryn M. Schillreff, <i>St. Monica’s, Naples</i>	13

Ecclesiastical Court

(Elect two clergy and one layperson for three-year terms)

Clerical candidates:

The Rev. Arthur Lee III, <i>St. David’s, Englewood</i>	14
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Lay candidates:

Roger Schwenke, <i>Church of the Ascension, Clearwater</i>	14
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Diocesan Review Committee

(Elect one presbyter and two laypersons for three-year terms)

The Rev. Hayden G. Crawford, <i>St. Bartholomew’s, St. Petersburg</i>	15
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Trustee, University of the South

(Elect one person for a three-year term)

David McCallister, <i>Grace Church, Tampa</i>	16
Heather M. Whelan, <i>Christ Church, Bradenton</i>	16

Trustee, Bishop Gray Inns Foundation

(Elect one person, lay or clergy)

Dr. C. Thomas Gooding, <i>Good Shepherd, Venice</i>	17
James Mullen, <i>St. Paul’s, Naples</i>	17

Diocesan Council

The Diocesan Council is the board of directors for the corporation of the diocese and serves as an “interim body” between conventions. It is responsible for the oversight of the work of the diocese including finance, property issues, diocesan policy, DaySpring, and other matters concerning the “fabric” of the diocesan community. Council usually meets on Saturdays at DaySpring, the third Saturday of the month, six to eight times a year.

Currently, Council is being convened for a mandatory leadership retreat weekend meeting along with business sessions in January, March, May and August. There is an October meeting that precedes convention. The bishop, who is the president of the corporation, chairs the meetings. Council representatives are elected at the fall deanery convocations, where each deanery elects either one clergy or one lay representative.

Because of the need for members to communicate between meetings, Council members must have frequent access to the Internet and are expected to be able to have their own e-mail address. MS Word, MS Excel and Adobe Acrobat are formats frequently used as members communicate with staff and each other.

Council representatives serve two-year terms and may not serve longer than six consecutive years. An election to fill an unexpired term is counted as a full term.

Each deanery elects positions at fall convocation for a two-year term to be ratified at convention. “At large” positions are elected at the diocesan convention. On the even-numbered years, convention elects one presbyter “at-large” member. On the odd-numbered years of convention two lay “at-large” members are elected — one must be male, one must be female.

Elect one presbyter to fill a two-year “at large” seat.



The Rev. Frank C. Creamer

Rector, All Saints Episcopal Church, Tarpon Springs.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Deanery clericus; formation of Grace Chapel, a day shelter program for the homeless in upper Pinellas County; Habitat for Humanity, Tarpon Springs. Served as rector of All Saints Church, on the Board of Examining Chaplains; Chaplain of the Daughters of the King, Cursillo weekend spiritual director.

Nominee’s statement: I am honored to have my name placed in nomination by the vestry of All Saints, Tarpon Springs, for a position on the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Southwest Florida. I have served the Episcopal Church as an ordained person for more than 27 years, more than 15 years in this diocese. I am familiar with the workings and responsibilities of the Diocesan Council in the Diocese of Southeast Florida. As a “cradle” Episcopalian, I am willing to humbly serve our diocese in this capacity.



The Rev. Glad McCurtain

Rector, St. John’s Episcopal Church, Clearwater.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Clericus; convocations; officer in countywide interfaith justice network; current Diocesan Council member, Cursillo Secretariat Spiritual Director; Diocesan Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Officer; Multicultural Committee; Multicultural Committee

Nominee’s statement: As a native Floridian and lifelong Episcopalian, I have served our diocese for more than 25 years in various lay and clergy leadership positions. They include: senior warden, vocational deacon (seven years), and now rector of a mid-size congregation. Outside our church I have been a county planner, member of community boards, and a hospice program developer. I offer my analytical, managerial and leadership experience as support for the ministries of our diocese.

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee acts as a confidential council of advice to the bishop. It acts either at the bishop's call or on its own initiative.

The committee is required, by canon, to consider and approve requests for the ordination of bishops in other dioceses, and of clergy within the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

It becomes the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese in case of the death, incapacity or prolonged absence of the bishop.

Membership consists of five presbyters and four laypersons, each of whom serve a three-year term. No member can serve more than two consecutive terms.

The Standing Committee meets monthly, by tradition on the third Tuesday of the month.

NOTE: A member of the Standing Committee cannot simultaneously serve on either the Ecclesiastical Court or the Diocesan Review Committee.

Elect two presbyters and one layperson for three-year terms.

Lay nominees:



Henry Power

Parish: All Saints Episcopal Church, Tarpon Springs.

Occupation: Retired

Diocesan/deanery activities: None

Nominee's statement: Retired in 2001 and moved from Lagrange, Ill., to Trinity, Fla. I am 72 years old and currently active on the vestry, as a lector and lay reader, a member of the All Saints Men's Club and member of the Thursday

morning men's Bible study. I am a member of the Fox Hollow Golf Club and am chairman of the men's club. Married to Eleanor, we celebrated our 49th wedding anniversary on April 4.



Maisie L. Reddy

Parish: St. James House of Prayer, Tampa.

Occupation: Retired medical office manager.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Tampa Deanery mission trips to Dominican Republic, 2006–2008; Tampa Deanery convocations; currently serving first term on Commission on Ministry; rectora for Cursillo #113; member of bishop co-adjutor nominating committee 2005–2007; Cursillo secretariat, 2003–2006; alternate delegate to

2008 diocesan convention.

Nominee's statement: I have been an active member of this diocese for more than 25 years. My parish activities have included serving on the vestry and Altar Guild. I'm a choir member, a lay reader and the current chair of our priest search committee. Through prayer, I have been led by the Holy Spirit to offer my dedicated service, organizational skills and enthusiasm to this council. I would be honored to be a working member of the Standing Committee.

Standing Committee (continued)



Charles H. Scruggs III

Parish: St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Tampa.

Occupation: Attorney.

Diocesan/deanery activities: DaySpring board of directors, 1990–1995; president of DaySpring board, 1996; DaySpring recording secretary, 1997; Standing Committee, 1998-2003; lay leader (rector) men's Cursillo #25; associate justice of Ecclesiastical Trial Court, 2003-2007; Gulf Coast Kairos (prison ministry) board of directors

(three terms); president of Kairos board, 1994; served on numerous Kairos prison weekend teams, including lay leader (rector) ZCI #16; two terms on St. Andrew's vestry (former secretary); two terms on St. John's vestry (former senior warden); St. Mary's Angel Tree committee; Tuesday morning men's Bible Study; co-lay leader of St. John's Discovery Weekend #2.

Nominee's Statement: I have been blessed to serve our Lord in numerous and varied ways in the past. At this moment of my life I feel again called to serve as a member of the Standing Committee for the Diocese of Southwest Florida. Professionally, I have been a member of the Florida Bar Association for almost 40 years, 12 of those as a trial judge. I presided over traffic, criminal misdemeanors, juvenile delinquency and dependency and termination of parental rights, felony (including capital murder) and all manner of civil litigation. I believe my six-year tenure on the Standing Committee and the Ecclesiastical Court, 44 years practicing law and 12 years as a trial judge uniquely qualify me to serve for another term as a member of the Standing Committee.

Clerical nominees:



The Rev. Michael P. Basden

Rector, Trinity-by-the-Cove Episcopal Church, Naples.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Member of Constitution and Canons Committee; former co-chair of bishop coadjutor nominating committee.

Nominee's statement: In my former diocese (Northern Indiana) I served on numerous diocesan commissions, including two terms on the Standing Committee and president of the committee for four years. I was also elected as a deputy to General

Convention for three consecutive conventions, beginning in 1994. I believe I offer our bishop and diocesan community a full understanding of the canonical responsibilities of the Standing Committee and a willingness to faithfully pursue God's call for the future ministry of our diocese.

Standing Committee (continued)



The Rev. Frank C. Creamer

Rector, All Saints Episcopal Church, Tarpon Springs.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Deanery clericus; formation of Grace Chapel, a day shelter program for the homeless in upper Pinellas County; Habitat for Humanity, Tarpon Springs. Served as rector of All Saints Church, on the Board of Examining Chaplains; Chaplain of the Daughters of the King, Cursillo weekend spiritual director.

Nominee's statement: I am honored to have my name placed in nomination by the vestry of All Saints, Tarpon Springs, for a position on the Standing Committee. I have served the Episcopal Church as an ordained person for more than 27 years, more than 15 years in this diocese. I am familiar with the workings and responsibilities of the Standing Committee in the Diocese of Southeast Florida. As a "cradle" Episcopalian, I am willing to humbly serve our diocese in this capacity.



The Very Rev. Richard Doscher

Rector, St. Alfred's, Palm Harbor.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Dean of the Clearwater Deanery; member of the diocesan Liturgy Committee.

Nominee's statement: No statement received.



The Rev. Sharon L. Lewis

Rector, Church of the Holy Spirit, Osprey.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Standing Committee, 2004–2006; 1997–2000; Deputy, General Convention, 2006; 2003; 2000; 1997 (alternate); Social Urban National Committee, 2006; 2003; Reconciliation and Conversation Commission: 2003–2006; ECW spiritual advisor, 2005 to present; Cursillo secretariat, 2001–2004; Cursillo spiritual director; Happening spiritual director; Mission trips for Reconciliation Conferences to Uganda and

Rwanda 2004 and Costa Rica 2001; Women's Conference speaker, Christian retreat, Bradenton 2002–2008; teacher, diocesan deacon school, 1994–1999, diocesan response team: 1994–1998; examining chaplain, 1997; deanery clericus meetings; ministerial association.

Nominee's statement: Our diocese, by God's grace and guidance, has continued on together in worship of God and mission for God in the midst of challenging doctrinal and relational times in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. We need to continue on together the good work of healing and reconciliation through Jesus Christ in this diocese as we do God's mission. I commit to that work if re-elected to Standing Committee.

Standing Committee (continued)



The Very Rev. Ann McLemore

Vicar, St. John's Episcopal Church, Pine Island.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Dean of the Fort Myers Deanery; currently serving first term on Standing Committee; member of Congregational Development Committee; Hispanic Ministry Committee; assistant spiritual director of Cursillo 111 and 113; host of Short-Term Internship program interns; hosted MissionServe weeks in 2007 and 2008; chaplain, 2007 diocesan elementary summer camp.

Nominee's statement: Right now, the diocese is on a new springboard for God's mission and ministry. As my first term on the Standing Committee ends, I am both willing and eager to serve a second term. During these past three years of diocesan transition, there is "work in progress" than can benefit from such continuity. May the Lord, who has given me the will to do these things, give me the grace and power to perform them.



The Rev. Cesar Olivero

Rector, St. James' Episcopal Church, Port Charlotte.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Vice president, Standing Committee; liaison to the Commission on Ministry; member of Hispanic Committee. I have served on mission trips and supported our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic.

Nominee's statement: Serving on the Standing Committee for me has been a great honor, challenge and pleasure. I served as vice president for two years and have learned many things about the workings of our diocese and the national church. If re-elected for another term I promise to continue to serve this diocese and our bishop with total dedication to the spreading of the Gospel and the work God has called all of us to do.



The Rev. Kathryn M. Schillreff

Rector, St. Monica's Episcopal Church, Naples.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Former dean of the Naples Deanery, 2002–2007; member of Naples Deanery; Dominican Republic Committee; Commission on Ministry member; Diocesan Council member; visioning process.

Nominee's statement: I have been with St. Monica's, Naples, for eight and a half years. I look forward to serving our diocese as a member of the Standing Committee, offering my experience as pastor of a growing congregation and my leadership in many areas of church life to that ministry. I am excited about Bishop Smith's leadership and clear vision of mission and ministry, and about the great possibilities before us as we seek to make God's Kingdom a reality in Southwest Florida.

Ecclesiastical Court

The Ecclesiastical Court is the Episcopal judicial body that conducts formal proceedings involving actions of the clergy. The court meets as necessary.

NOTE: Service on the Ecclesiastical Court disqualifies you from simultaneous service from both the Standing Committee and the Diocesan Review Committee.

Elect two clergy and one layperson for three-year terms:

Clerical nominees:



The Rev. Arthur Lee

Rector, St. David's, Englewood.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Served as Venice Deanery representative on Diocesan Council, 2000-2006; served four previous three-year terms on the Ecclesiastical Court; Fresh Start presenter, 2007–present.

Nominee's Statement: Having served four terms on the Ecclesiastical Court, I have good experience on the workings of the court, including one trial, and an understanding of the current state of canon law. I

would bring to the court a passion for truth and a conviction that the court must not act in the heat of the moment, but instead must advise the bishop with wisdom and a sense of what God's Kingdom demands: a deep regard for the ultimate good of everyone involved — the accused, the victims and the Church.

Lay nominees:



Roger D. Schwenke

Parish: Church of the Ascension, Clearwater.

Occupation: Attorney/Senior Partner, Carlton Fields, P.A., Tampa.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Previous deanery lay representative for both the Tampa and Clearwater deaneries to the Diocesan Council; presiding judge, Ecclesiastical Court (1997 to present); Member Commission on Young Adult/Higher Education; past member of Standing Committee (1989–92);

Diocesan Council (1979–85); lay deputy to 2003 and 2006 General Conventions and elected lay deputy to the 2009 General Convention; alternate lay deputy to General Convention (1985, 1988, 1994 and 1997 attended and seated at all but one of these); team member of several Cursillo weekends; former delegate to diocesan conventions; past member of numerous diocesan committees, including Youth Committee, Companion Diocese Committee, Committee on Counseling Centers and Special Committee on Diocesan Assessments.

Nominee's Statement: I have been honored to serve as a member of the diocesan Ecclesiastical Court for the past 12 years, serving as presiding judge for 11 of these. Based on my experience as a member of the Canons Committee at the last General Convention, and a desire to provide some continuity to the court, after prayerful reflection, and especially in light of possible changes to the Canons that govern ecclesiastical discipline, I have decided to run again. If elected, I will bring to the court the same commitment to compassionate understanding, yet adherence to canonical requirements, that I believe I have brought to the court in the time I have served. I had the experience of serving as presiding judge during the only full trial ever demanded in our diocese under the current Title IV provisions. My prayer is that all who are elected to the court never have to go through that process again.

Diocesan Review Committee

The Diocesan Review Committee receives and reviews disciplinary matters under Canon IV of the national canons. The Committee:

- determines the canonical sufficiency of any charge;
- receives an investigative report from the Church Attorney concerning disciplinary charges;
- reviews the temporary inhibition of clergy, upon their request;
- determines whether a factual basis exists to present charges to the Ecclesiastical Trial Court.

Membership consists of two priests, one deacon and two lay persons, who serve for a three-year term. One may not serve on the Diocesan Review Committee and the Ecclesiastical Court at the same time.

Elect one presbyter and two laypersons for three-year terms.



The Rev. Hayden G. Crawford

St. Bartholomew's, St. Petersburg.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Deputy to General Convention: 2000, 2003 and 2006; Standing Committee: 1999–2005; National Advisory Committee to the Executive Council for Jubilee Ministries: 2003–2009; Union of Black Episcopalians.

Nominee's Statement: In my 27th year of ordained ministry and having spent the last 12 years in this diocese — rector, interim associates and supply — it would be an honor to serve in this capacity as I

have observed the legislative development of Title IV as a member of Standing Committee as well as that of Deputy to General Convention's Legislative Committee.

Trustee, University of the South

The University of the South, located in Sewanee, Tennessee, is the only university in our country owned entirely by the Episcopal Church. Each of the owning dioceses, located in the Southeast is represented by its bishop(s) and three additional delegates to the Board of Trustees, one of whom is to be a priest. Continuity and longevity in tenure of the office is desirable as influence tends to increase with experience and familiarity with the University's various offices.

The Trustees meet annually and have a great deal of ultimate authority regarding the life of the University. The Board meets once every May on a Thursday and Friday.

Elect one layperson for a three-year term.

David McCallister

Parish: Grace Episcopal Church, Tampa.

Occupation: Lawyer.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Ecclesiastical Trial Court, University of South Florida Chaplaincy–Board of Directors.

Nominee's Statement: Sewanee is important to the Episcopal Church as one of our leading seminaries. Its board of directors should reflect each diocese's spectrum of opinion. With my background dealing with other denominations and student issues on our board at USF, I feel I am prepared to help represent our diocese at Sewanee. I have been involved in religious and Episcopal education most of my life. A lifelong Episcopalian born in Miami, I attended St. Mark's School in Massachusetts, Winchester College in England, Emory College and Stetson Law School. I have been a member of St. John's, Tampa, vestry member and Senior Warden of St. Luke's, Land O'Lakes, and now am a member of Grace Church, New Tampa. I have a daughter at UF, a daughter in the IB program in Pasco County, and a son in parochial middle school. I have served on boards for CARES (elderly services) and the Monastery of the Holy Name in St. Leo. I have visited Sewanee several times, and I feel I have a special affinity for the school and its traditions. I would be honored to serve the church, the diocese and the school in this position.



Heather M. Whelan

Parish: Christ Episcopal Church, Bradenton.

Occupation: Manage nonprofit grants in Manatee County for the Community Services Department.

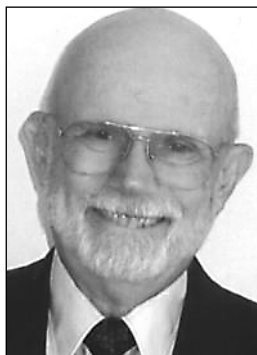
Diocesan/deanery activities: Altar Guild (Christ Church); Music Committee (Christ Church).

Nominee's Statement: My participation at Sewanee during my first term was rewarding. I have worked on the Admissions Committee and enjoy this thriving group. Personally, my husband is the chair of the history department of St. Stephen's School, and both my children attend St. Stephen's. This background has made me value Christian education and understand the stresses and blessings that accompany it. As a parent of a teenager (Kyle is 15) and a younger son (John is 7 now), I come to the position from the perspective of a mother. I feel that Sewanee is a place where both spiritual maturity and intellectual curiosity are encouraged. The University of the South needs the participation of its churches to make sure that this heritage continues at Sewanee, University of the South.

Bishop Gray Inns Foundation:

The Bishop Gray Inns are two facilities for the elderly formerly owned by three dioceses: the Diocese of Southwest Florida, the Diocese of Southeast Florida and the Diocese of Central Florida. Each diocese elects four representatives to the Board, who serve along with the Bishop of each diocese. Members elected to the board should be able to attend the board meetings, which are held in a regular rotating basis in Davenport, Fla., Lake Worth, Fla., and by conference call (with members gathered at central locations). The term of service is three years and each board member is eligible for re-election for an additional three-year term. The position can be filled by either clergy or laity.

Elect one person, lay or clergy, for a three-year term.



Dr. C. Thomas Gooding

Parish: Church of the Good Shepherd, Venice.

Occupation: Emeritus professor of psychology, academic administrator, retired.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Trustee, University of the South, 2002-2005; Diocesan convention delegate.

Nominee's statement: Dr. Gooding has more than 40 years experience as an educator. He served from 1964 as professor of psychology at the State

University of New York, Oswego. In 1989 he was appointed dean of graduate studies and research. He served as university provost from 1995 until his retirement in 1998. He also has held faculty appointments at the University of Florida and at the University of Liverpool, UK. Dr. Gooding has more than 10 years experience on university and foundation boards. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the South, Sewanee, from 2002 to 2005. He is currently serving as a member of the board of directors of the SUNY Oswego Foundation, and he will be pleased to bring his experience to the important work of the Bishop Gray Inns Foundation trustees.



James Mullen

Parish: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Naples.

Occupation: Legislative assistant, Florida House of Representatives.

Diocesan/deanery activities: Comptroller, St. Paul's Church; Vestry, St. Paul's Church; member of bishop's committee for Church of the Resurrection; accountant for Church of the Resurrection; healing ministries at St. Mary's, Bonita Springs; lay Eucharistic minister at St. Mary's.

Nominee's statement: I believe my experiences in assisted living facilities as a controller and an administrator will give great support as a trustee for the Foundation. Along with my work experience, my own company, the Business Development Corp., has done extensive studies on different assisted living facilities and their operations. These experiences, combined with the work I have done for the Episcopal Church, make me an excellent candidate for this position.

For the record

Why have a convention?

From the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Southwest Florida:

III. CANONICAL AUTHORITY

ARTICLE III

Of the Annual Diocesan Convention

The members of the Diocese shall be all congregations in union with the Episcopal Church in the above-described area and shall be represented solely by the delegates to the Annual Convention of the Diocese.

The Convention of the Church of this Diocese shall assemble annually at such time and place as shall have been appointed by the preceding Annual Convention; but, for sufficient cause, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese shall have power to change the time or place, or both, as emergency may require; provided, however, that at least ten days' notice of such change shall be given to every Vestry and Bishop's Committee, and to the Minister in charge of every Congregation, and to every member of the Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese.

ARTICLE V

Of the Members of the Convention

Section 1. The Convention shall be composed of the Bishops, together with the other members of the Clergy, and Lay Persons of the Diocese, as provided for in the following sections of this Article.

Section 2. All members of the Clergy in regular standing in this Diocese, shall be entitled to a seat and vote in the Convention; provided, that they shall have been admitted, and at the time of the Convention shall be actually settled as Rector, or Assistant Minister of some Congregation in union with the Convention of this Diocese, or shall be a Canon, Archdeacon, Vicar, Missionary, Chaplain or Church Army Officer in charge of a congregation under the direction of the Bishop, or shall be engaged as an instructor of youth in some institution of learning under the control of the Church, within the Diocese, or shall be a Chaplain on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. All other members of the Clergy canonically resident in this Diocese shall be entitled to a seat and voice but without a vote.

Section 3. Every Parish in union with the Convention of this Diocese shall be entitled as provided by Canon to be represented by three Lay Delegates.

Section 4. Every canonically organized Mission of the Diocese shall be entitled as provided by Canon to be represented by two Lay Delegates.

Section 5. Lay Delegates shall be chosen by the Vestry or Bishop's Committee of each Congregation in the Diocese. If

the respective Vestry or Bishop's Committee fails to act, then election shall be by such Congregation duly convened. Delegates shall be canonical electors of the Congregation which they severally represent; but no candidate for Holy Orders shall be elected as a Lay Delegate to any Convention.

ARTICLE VII

Of Divine Service at Meetings of the Convention

The direction of Divine Service during the sessions of the Convention shall rest with the Bishop alone. In the absence of the Bishops, all such services shall be in the charge of the President of the Standing Committee.

ARTICLE VIII

Of the President of the Convention

Section 1. The Bishop of the Diocese shall be Presiding Officer of the Convention, with full ecclesiastical authority. In case of the absence of the Bishop of the Diocese and in the absence of a Bishop Coadjutor and Suffragan Bishop, the President or Senior Clerical Member of the Standing Committee shall call the Convention to order, and, if a quorum be present, a presiding officer shall be chosen pro tempore, from among the Presbyters in attendance. The Bishop may appoint a Presbyter to preside any time the chair is vacant.

Section 2. The Presiding Officer shall be entitled to vote only in case of a tie.

ARTICLE IX

Of Quorum and Methods of Voting in the Convention

Section 1. One-half of the Clergy entitled to vote in the Convention and Lay Delegates from one-half of the Congregations entitled to representation, when duly assembled, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may adjourn from time to time.

Section 2. The Clergy and Laity shall deliberate in one body. Every member shall be entitled to one vote, and, except when herein otherwise expressly provided, a majority of all the votes cast shall determine any question submitted to the Convention.

Section 3. If any ten members of the Convention, representing no fewer than six Congregations, or any ten Clerical Members shall call for a vote by yeas and nays, the Secretary shall call the roll of the Convention, and the members shall thereupon announce their votes as their names are called by the Secretary. The votes so cast shall be recorded in the Journal, and no member shall be excused from voting, unless by unanimous consent.

Section 4. If any ten members of the Convention, representing no fewer than six Congregations, or any ten Clerical

Members, shall demand a vote by Orders prior to the call for a vote, the vote of the Clergy and Lay Delegates shall be taken separately, and a majority of the votes of each Order shall be necessary for an affirmative decision.

ARTICLE X

Of the Secretary of the Convention

Section 1. For each Annual Convention the Bishop shall appoint a Secretary of the Convention, whose duties shall be defined by Canon.

Section 2. At any time in the interval between Annual Conventions the Diocesan Council may, for sufficient cause, of which its members shall be the judges, remove the Secretary and appoint an interim Secretary to act until the next Annual Convention.

CANON I

Of the Diocesan Convention

Section 1. At or immediately prior to the opening of each Convention a list of the Clergy entitled to seats therein, prepared by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, shall be delivered to the Committee on Credentials, which Committee shall ascertain the number present and report to the Convention. No member of the Clergy shall take a seat until all Canonical Reports required shall have been made on or before the time specified by Canon, unless sufficient reason be given for the failure, acceptable to the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Section 2. It is declared to be the duty of every member of the Clergy and Lay Person entitled to a seat in the Convention to attend every meeting thereof, and any member of the Clergy failing to attend the Convention shall be required to give reasons for the absence to the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Section 3. Canonically resident non-parochial Clergy, not in active service, are not required to be present at the meetings of the Convention.

Section 4. With respect to any election authorized upon these Canons or the Constitution of this Diocese, the Clergy and Lay Persons entitled to vote at the Convention shall cast one vote for each vacancy to be filled by such election.

a. Election shall be by the highest majority of the ballot votes cast for each office.

The delegates shall have one vote on each ballot for each position to be filled.

b. When there is one position to be filled, the nominee receiving the majority of votes shall be deemed elected.

c. When more than one position is to be filled, those nominees receiving the highest number of votes in excess of fifty percent (50%) shall be deemed elected.

d. If after the second ballot the election is not complete, the number of nominees shall be reduced to the number of positions remaining to be filled times 2. The nominees on such ballot shall be the nominees receiving the highest number of votes cast on the preceding ballot, not to exceed twice the number of the positions to be filled; except in the case of

a tie vote and the last remaining position on the next ballot, in which case all candidates receiving the tie vote shall be included on the next ballot.

e. Voting shall continue as set forth above until all of the offices/positions are filled.

f. When elections are for different terms of office, the nominee first elected shall be the one elected for the longest term; or if two or more are elected on the same ballot, the candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes shall be the one(s) elected for the longest term(s).

g. This procedure shall not apply to the election of a Bishop.

h. The Convention may proceed to the conduct of other business during the counting of votes; however, balloting may interrupt any other business until all offices/positions are filled.

I. At or immediately prior to the opening of each Convention, the Presiding Officer shall present a Resolution or Resolutions to assist in the orderly functioning and dispatch of business during the Convention. Unless otherwise provided by appropriate Resolution or by the Constitution or Canons, the functioning and dispatch of business at any Convention shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order (most current and revised edition) and the vote on any Resolution shall be by simple majority of all of the valid votes cast.

Section 5. Any congregation in arrears on any prior year's apportionment shall, in all events, be granted seat and voice at Convention.

CANON II

Of Evidence of Lay Membership in the Convention

Section 1. The election of Lay Delegates and Lay Alternates to the Convention, if by the Vestry or Bishop's Committee, shall be made at a regular meeting, or at one called especially to elect Lay Delegates and Alternates. If such election be made by the Congregation, the Electors must have the same qualifications, and the election be conducted in like manner, as is or shall be described by Canon for the election of Vestry Members. Any vacancies that occur in Lay Delegations may be filled by the Rector or Priest-in-Charge of a Mission or, if there be no Rector or Priest-in-Charge, by the Wardens. A Lay Delegate shall have the same qualifications as an Elector in a Congregation.

Section 2. No later than March 1st of each year, the following Certificate shall be filed with the Bishop's office:

"This is to certify that at a meeting of the Rector, Wardens, and Vestry, (or Vicar, Wardens, and Bishop's Committee) of the Congregation of _____, held on the _____ day of _____, the following events have taken place in the manner required by these Canons:

a. The following persons were elected to represent this Congregation as Lay Delegates and Lay Alternates at the Convention of the Diocese to be held on the _____ day of _____, and that the named Delegates are qualified electors of this Congregation: [the Delegates names shall follow];

b. The premiums for the preceding fiscal year to the

Church Pension Fund on account of the Clergy of the congregation have been fully paid;

c. The Annual Parochial Report has been filed in the manner provided by the Bishop's Office; and

d. The Diocesan Apportionment(s) for the preceding calendar year have been fully paid.

The above Certificate shall be signed by the Rector, Vicar, and by the Senior Warden or Secretary of the Vestry or Bishop's Committee of the Congregation. In the event the

congregation fails to affirmatively provide in the Certificate that the Treasurer's portion of the Parochial Report, premiums for the Church Pension Fund and Diocesan Apportionment have been completed or paid as of March 1, the Congregation if wishing to vote at Convention shall apply to the Committee for Congregational Development on or before May 1 for vote at Convention. The Committee shall recommend to Convention whether the Congregation shall be granted vote at Convention. Regardless of the failure to file the Certificate, Congregations shall be entitled to vote for election of a Bishop.

Section 3. The Committee on Credentials shall determine the number of Clergy and Lay Delegates attending the Convention and report the totals at the opening session of the Convention.

Section 4. The Delegates elected to the preceding Diocesan Convention shall be Delegates at Special Meetings of Diocesan Convention, except when other Delegates shall have been chosen in the meantime by any Congregation.

CANON III

Of the Secretary of the Convention

Section 1. The duties of the Secretary shall be to take minutes of the proceedings of the Convention; prepare and have printed and distributed the Annual Journal of the Convention; to preserve its Journals and records; to attest the public acts of the body; and faithfully deliver into the hands of a successor all property, monies, books and papers relative or belonging to the Diocese, which may be in the Secretary's possession. It shall also be the Secretary's duty to give thirty days' notice to each Congregation of the time

and place appointed for the meeting of the succeeding or any special Convention. The Secretary shall prepare the roll of the Lay Delegates entitled to seats in the Convention, before the opening of the Convention. The Secretary shall transmit to each officer and to each member of the Clergy of the Diocese, and to each Congregation of the Diocese, and others, upon advance request, a copy of the Journal of the Convention.

Section 2. The Secretary shall also transmit to the proper officers a certificate of the election of Deputies to the General Convention, and to the Provincial Synod.

Section 3. Immediately upon the close of each Convention, the Secretary shall transmit to every officer or Committee of the Convention a certified copy of all the acts of the Convention bearing upon the duties of such officer or Committee as may have been enacted.

Section 4. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be incumbent on the office or as may be provided for by the Convention and shall receive such compensation for services as the Diocesan Council may determine.

Section 5. The Secretary shall have power, with the approval of the Ecclesiastical Authority, to appoint and employ an Assistant Secretary.

CANON XVIII

Of Amendments

Proposed amendments or additions to the Canons shall be submitted in writing to the Diocesan Council and to the Committee on Constitution and Canons not less than sixty days before any meeting of the Convention and a copy thereof shall be sent to the Clergy and Delegates at least thirty days before the Convention. Provided, however; that any Convention, by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting, may consider any Canon not submitted in the time required by this Canon.

CANON XIX

Of Resolutions

Any resolution duly adopted by a Deanery Convocation for presentation to the Convention, together with any resolution duly proposed and passed by appropriate committees of the Diocese and Convention in the discharge of their responsibilities shall be considered by the Convention at the appropriate time on the agenda as determined by the Bishop. All other resolutions shall be submitted to the Bishop at least sixty days prior to the Convention; and a copy thereof shall be sent to the clergy and delegates at least thirty days before Convention.



The Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida

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