

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Membership

Officers

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, DFMS President, and *Chair*
The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, President, House of Deputies, DFMS Vice President, and *Vice Chair*
The Rt. Rev. Stacy Sauls, DFMS Vice President
The Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe, *Secretary*
Mr. N. Kurt Barnes, *Treasurer*

Elected by General Convention until General Convention 2015

Ms. Elizabeth Anderson
Ms. Sarah Dylan Breuer
Ms. Stephanie T. Cheney
The Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr.
The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.
Mr. Stephen F. Hutchinson
The Rev. Brandon Maui, *elected 4/2014*, replacing The Rev. Terry Star, *deceased*
Mr. Francisco Quiñones
The Rev. Silvestre E. Romero, Jr.
Ms. Katie Sherrod

Elected by Province until General Convention 2015

I. Ms. Anne Watkins (Connecticut)
II. Ms. Martha Gardner (Newark)
III. Ms. Jane Cosby (Pennsylvania)
IV. The Rev. Brian Cole (Lexington)
V. Ms. Deborah J. Stokes (Southern Ohio)
VI. Ms. Lelanda S. Lee (Colorado)
VII. Ms. Vycke McEwen (Oklahoma), *resigned 9/2014*
VIII. Mr. Bryan Krislock (Olympia)
IX. The Rev. Cristóbal León Lozano (Ecuador Litoral)

Elected by General Convention until General Convention 2018

The Rt. Rev. David Bailey
The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel III
Mr. Joseph Ferrell
Dr. Anita George
Dr. Fredrica Harris Thompsett
Mr. John Johnson
Ms. Nancy Koonce
Ms. Karen Ann Longenecker
The Rev. Dr. James B. Simons
The Rev. Susan Brown Snook

Elected by Province until General Convention 2018

- I. The Rev. Canon Tanya Wallace (Western Massachusetts, I),
elected 8/2014, replacing The Rev. Canon Charles LaFond, resigned
- II. The Rev. Dahn Gandell (Rochester)
- III. The Rev. Nathaniel Pierce (Easton), *elected 12/2013,*
replacing The Very Rev. Christopher Cunningham, resigned
- IV. Ms. Tess Judge (East Carolina)
- V. The Rev. Marion Luckey (Northern Michigan)
- VI. The Rev. Canon John Floberg (North Dakota)
- VII. The Rev. Dr. R. Stan Runnels (West Missouri)
- VIII. The Very Rev. Dr. Brian Baker (Northern California),
elected 1/2014, replacing The Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe, resigned
- IX. Sra. Pragedes Coromoto Jiménez de Salazar (Venezuela)

By Invitation

The Rev. Stephen Herr, Liaison, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 The Very Rev. Peter Wall, Liaison, Anglican Church of Canada,
elected July 2013, replacing The Rt. Rev. James A. J. Cowan, resigned

Summary of Work

Mandate: To carry out the program and policies adopted by the General Convention. The Executive Council shall have charge of the coordination, development, and implementation of the ministry and mission of the Church.

Meetings

- New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 15-18, 2012
- Linthicum Heights, Maryland, February 25-27, 2013
- Linthicum Heights, Maryland, June 8-10, 2013
- Chicago, Illinois, October 15-17, 2013
- Linthicum Heights, Maryland, February 5-7, 2014
- Phoenix, Arizona, June 10-12, 2014
- Linthicum Heights, Maryland, October 24-27, 2014
- Linthicum Heights, Maryland, January 9-11, 2015
- Salt Lake City, Utah, March 19-21, 2015

The Executive Council began the triennium with a new President of the House of Deputies, The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, who also serves as DFMS Vice President and Vice Chair of Council. The bylaws of Council, adopted June 17, 2011 and revised April 20, 2012, give seat and voice at Council meetings to the Vice President of the House of Deputies, the Honorable Byron Rushing; and to representatives appointed by the Anglican Church of Canada, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and the Moravian Church's Northern or Southern Provinces.

Brother Robert Sevensky, OHC, was appointed Council's chaplain and liturgist. In early 2013, after the retirement of The Rev. Canon Dr. Gregory S. Straub, The Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe was appointed as Executive Officer and Secretary of the House of Deputies and was asked to take on the duties of Secretary to General Convention and Executive Council on an *ad hoc* basis, since the Canons require an election to those positions at the 78th General Convention.

Council, per its bylaws, elects an Executive Committee composed of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and six members, two of whom are from those serving in their first triennium. In this triennium, the five Joint Standing Committees (JSCs) from the prior triennium were continued: two administrative JSCs — Finances for Mission (FFM) and Governance and Administration (GAM) — and programmatic JSCs Advocacy and Networking for Mission (A&N), Local Ministry and Mission (LMM), and World Mission (WM). Other committees of Council included: the Episcopal News Service Resource Council; the Executive Council Committees on Anti-Racism; Corporate Social Responsibility; Indigenous Ministries; Science, Technology and Faith; Status of Women; Economic Justice Loan Committee; Investment; and the Joint Audit Committee.

Council began its work with a spirit of reform and looked at its organization and ways of doing business and being in relationship with fresh eyes, guided by the Five Marks of Mission and a desire to work collaboratively with voices from all parts of the Church. Reform influences included: (1) the Task Force for Reimagining The Episcopal Church (TREC), established by the 77th General Convention Resolution C095 charging TREC to create a plan for reforming the Church's structures, governance, and administration; (2) a new budget process organized around the Five Marks of Mission and a budget visioning process that invited church members to share their priorities via an online survey and for all committees, commissions, agencies, and boards (CCABs) to give input to the Joint Standing Committees of the DFMS and Council to whom they report; and (3) a desire by Council to work collaboratively across JSC lines and with DFMS staff liaisons and to engage in more dialog on important topics in both plenary and committee settings. Council also took advantage of increased technological capabilities that supported numerous webconference and teleconference meetings, especially of committees and subcommittees, which facilitated Council work being done between the nine regularly scheduled Council meetings in the triennium.

Council's first meeting in October, 2012, in New Brunswick, NJ, afforded members the opportunity to visit the DFMS offices in New York City and to meet with staff members face-to-face. That visit proved to be a good orientation for all Council members and formed a good basis for building collaborative relationships with staff liaisons to the JSCs.

Council engaged the Five Marks of Mission project initiatives in its first and second meetings, which were assigned to the three programmatic JSCs. (1) Local Ministry and Mission took responsibility for Mark 1, "Proclaim the good news," by starting new congregations and a Mission Enterprise Fund; (2) World Mission took responsibility for Mark 2, "Teach, baptize, and nurture new believers," by strengthening Province IX for sustainable mission; and for Mark 3, "Respond to human need in loving service," by making missionary service available for all Episcopal young people; and (3) Advocacy and Networking for Mission took responsibility for Mark 4, "Seek to change unjust structures, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation" by engaging Episcopalians in eradication of domestic poverty through Jubilee Ministries; and for Mark 5, "Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth."

As the actual work progressed in the triennium, the JSCs have continued to monitor the work in consultation with DFMS staff. The Five Marks of Mission have provided an organic organizing framework for discussing and assessing the allocation of church resources to the Church's work.

At its February 2013 meeting, Council received an overview and experience of The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter, which was co-led by The Rev. Tom Brackett, Missioner for Church Planting and Ministry Redevelopment and The Rev. Canon Charles LaFond. The Art of Hosting is a leadership approach that uses personal practice, dialog, facilitation, and the co-creation of innovation to address complex challenges; and has evolved to support the work called for by General Convention Resolution 2012-A073, Establish Diocesan Mission Enterprise Zones.

At that same meeting, Council sunsetted the Council Committee on HIV/AIDS and transferred its work to the Standing Commission on Health through the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition; and sunsetted the Council Committees on Archives Strategy, Jubilee Advisory, and Strategic Planning in accordance with Article VIII of the bylaws. Council also extended the Council Committees on Corporate Social Responsibility; Indigenous Ministries; Economic Justice Loans; Science, Technology and Faith; and Status of Women until December 31, 2015.

At its June 2013 meeting, Council elected the Canon Rosalie Simmonds Ballentine from the Diocese of the Virgin Islands to serve as the Church's lay representative to the Anglican Consultative Council.

An innovation in this triennium has been the appointment of three coordinating committees to address topics that impact the work of several CCABs. Members were appointed from relevant CCABs, which worked in collaboration with DFMS staff from different departments. Coordinating committees created were B019 on a Just Peace for Israelis and Palestinians; A135 on Domestic Poverty; and D042 on Human Trafficking. The B019 and D042 coordinating committees have submitted their own Blue Book reports as part of Council's report.

The work of the A135 Coordinating Committee has been primarily within the portfolio of the Missioner for Domestic Poverty, newly appointed in September 2013. The JSCs on Advocacy and Networking for Mission and on World Mission jointly issued a memorandum on Human Trafficking to describe the work done thus far, legislative history, and work yet to be done on the subject.

In late 2013 and early 2014, Council, through the JSC on Governance and Administration, engaged in listening, dialog, and partnership with the Board of the United Thank Offering (UTO) to arrive at a Memorandum of Understanding, to revise UTO board bylaws, and to revise grant focus and criteria to support UTO and its ministry of encouraging grassroots expressions of thankfulness. As a by-product of the work with the UTO, the JSC on Governance and Administration undertook a study, which is still in process, of boards and their relationship to DFMS and Council. Chairs of the Boards of Archives, Transition Ministry, and Examining Chaplains were invited to make presentations to Council and to the JSC in the course of its study.

At its October 2013 meeting, Council met in the ELCA Church Council space at their headquarters near O'Hare Airport in Chicago. ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson greeted Council, introduced key staff, and expressed deep gratitude for Bishop Jefferts Schori and the work of full communion. Council also received a briefing from TREC representatives, Dr. Catherine (Katy) George and The Rev. Dr. Dwight J. Zscheile, and shared observations that Council thought are important to the work of reimagining the Church.

Council, through the work of the JSCs on Finances for Mission and on Governance and Administration, continue to support and monitor the finances and health of several dioceses that have been in stages of distress and recovery from varying causes, such as division over human sexuality and natural disasters.

Responding to General Convention Resolution D016, Church Center Location, DFMS staff and Council have been engaged in an ongoing study of staffing, real estate, and other factors affecting the Church Center location. Out of necessity, due to potential issues affecting personnel and the volatile nature of real estate transactions, Council has conducted its study efforts with deference to the need for confidentiality until official announcements of decisions can be made.

At the close of the June 2014 Council meeting held in Phoenix, AZ, almost half of Council's members, at their own expense, traveled to attend the Navajoland Area Mission's annual convocation in Fort Defiance, AZ. This was a pilgrimage of grace, which led to increased awareness and understanding among Council members about the needs of Navajoland, and which built and deepened relationships.

Budget

Throughout the triennium, a subcommittee of the JSC on Finances for Mission has led an effort to provide a new visionary budgeting process. Input from the CCABs, staff, and church members at large was invited through facilitated conversations led by Council liaisons to specific committees and groups (such as the ethnic ministry cohorts) and through an online survey mechanism. Frequent communications explaining the process were posted to a dedicated website. Representatives of the JSC on Program, Budget and Finance (PB&F) were invited to attend the meetings of the subcommittee and of Finances for Mission so that PB&F was fully involved in, and knowledgeable about, the step-by-step development of the budget.

The reports that follow from the Joint Standing Committees of DFMS and Council, the Council's Committees, and the Coordinating Committees will provide further details of the work done in collaboration with Council in this triennium.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING FOR MISSION

Membership

Ms. Lelanda Lee, *Chair*, 2015
 Mr. John Johnson, *Vice Chair*, 2018
 Ms. Stephanie Cheney, *Secretary*, 2015
 The Rt. Rev. David Bailey, 2018
 Ms. Sarah Dylan Breuer, 2015
 Dr. Anita George, 2018
 Sra. Pragedes Coromoto Jiménez de Salazar, 2018
 Ms. Deborah J. Stokes, 2015
 The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, *Ex Officio*
 The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, *Ex Officio*
 Mr. Alex Baumgarten, *Staff Liaison*

The members of Advocacy and Networking include members from the junior and senior classes of Executive Council, with terms expiring at General Convention 2015 and 2018, respectively. In this triennium, a Spanish-language interpreter was present at all meetings to facilitate interpretation on behalf of Spanish speaker, Sra. Coromoto Jiménez.

Mr. Alex Baumgarten, Director of the Office of Public Engagement and Mission Communication, Director of the Office of Government Relations, and Team Lead of Justice and Advocacy Ministries, serves as DFMS staff liaison to the Committee for the purpose of providing legislative, diocesan, ecumenical, and interreligious background information on social justice and public policy issues under discussion in the Church and by the Committee and reporting on the status of the ongoing work of the DFMS staff on such issues, especially as they pertain to Anglican Marks of Mission IV and V.

Mission Mark IV states: To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation. Mission Mark V states: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth.

Also, DFMS staff members — namely, The Rev. Canon Mark Stevenson, Missioner for Domestic Poverty; Ms. Katie Conway, Immigration and Refugee Policy Analyst; and Ms. Jayce Hafner, Domestic Policy Analyst — have provided ongoing support to Advocacy and Networking's work. The Committee has also begun to work closely with the Missioner for Racial Reconciliation, Ms. Heidi Kim; and with the Missioner for Social Justice and Advocacy Engagement, Mr. Chuck Wynder, as they engage their roles during the second half of 2014.

Summary of Work

Mandate: To "focus on advocacy on the church-wide level," which includes "public policy, justice and peacemaking, anti-racism, poverty, health care, public education, prisons, [and] care for the Earth." Our Committee interacts with 10 different CCABs to achieve our mandate.

The work of Advocacy and Networking is informed by reading the news, which also is a barometer of how the social justice and public policy issues of concern to the Church have progressed in the wider world. As The Episcopal Church deepens its ecumenical and interreligious partnerships with other faith traditions and with local, regional, and global communities, increasingly the networking part of Advocacy and Networking's portfolio has expanded, enhancing our Church's voice and reach in acting justly, loving mercy, and walking

humbly with our Lord. What we can do alone as one faith tradition can be done more productively when we partner with other faith traditions, from the local partnerships of our Public Policy Network chapters to our church-wide, interreligious consultations on justice and policy issues that affect everyone, such as climate change.

The work of Advocacy and Networking in this triennium has been primarily shaped by Mission Marks IV and V and their respective block grants in the church-wide budget of \$1,000,000 with a goal of “Engaging Episcopalians in the Eradication of Domestic Poverty through Jubilee Ministries” and \$500,000 with a goal of “Creating and Strengthening Local Networks to Care for Creation.”

As Advocacy and Networking’s working relationships have matured through the completion of more than two-thirds of this triennium, there has been an increasing collaboration with the other two programmatic Joint Standing Committees — World Mission; and Local Ministry and Mission. Joint meetings were held to listen to briefings from staff and to discuss approaches to doing work in the areas of domestic poverty alleviation; Jubilee Ministry; Asset-Based Community Development; comprehensive immigration reform; detention and deportation policies; migration and refugee issues; human trafficking; Middle East peace and support for the Diocese of Jerusalem; and race, racism, and racial justice.

In addition to doing the typical work of a Joint Standing Committee, due to the nature of its mandate to focus on justice and peacemaking topics, Advocacy and Networking also exercises a prophetic role to call the Church to being and staying awake to the inhumane treatment suffered by the beloved people of our Creator.

Meetings

In the Committee’s first seven in-person meetings held at Executive Council meetings, from October 2012 through October 2014, Advocacy and Networking heard reports from the following individuals on their areas of responsibility:

- *October 2012, New Brunswick, NJ* – Mr. Kim Byham, Chair of the Executive Council Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility; Ms. Sarah Eagle Heart, Missioner for Indigenous/Native American Ministries; Ms. Deb Stein, Director of Episcopal Migration Ministries
- *February 2013, Baltimore, MD* – Mr. Harry Van Buren, (then) Consultant to the Church Pension Fund, the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, and the Executive Council Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility, via conference call
- *June 2013, Baltimore, MD* – Ms. Katie Conway, Immigration and Refugee Policy Analyst
- *October 2013, Chicago, IL* – The Rev. Canon Mark Stevenson, Missioner for Domestic Poverty; and (because we were meeting at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America headquarters offices in Chicago) Ms. Judith Roberts, ELCA Anti-Racism and Racial Justice Officer; Dr. Mary Streufert, ELCA Director for Women’s Ministries; and Pastor Roger Willer, Director of Theological Ethics
- *February 2014, Baltimore, MD* – Ms. Jayce Hafner, Domestic Policy Analyst; Ms. Lynnaia Main, Global Relations Officer; Ms. Allison Duvall, Co-Sponsorship and Church Relations Manager of Episcopal Migration Ministries
- *June 2014, Phoenix, AZ* – The Rev. Canon Mark Stevenson, Missioner for Domestic Poverty
- *October 2014, Baltimore, MD* – Dr. Navita Cummings James, Chair of the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism; Ms. Heidi Kim, Missioner for Racial Reconciliation; Mr. Chuck Wynder, Missioner for Social Justice and Advocacy Engagement

Advocacy and Networking also convened six meetings via teleconference on December 3, 2012; January 9, 2013; January 23, 2013; February 7, 2013; February 12, 2013; and January 22, 2014.

In recognition of the importance of her participation, Sra. Coromoto Jiménez, a Province IX Council member from Venezuela who has faced the extra challenge of our English-language-centric meetings, was asked to prepare a report of her participation on Advocacy and Networking in her own words, which follow and are translated into English:

"First I want to thank God for the opportunity to serve in The Episcopal Church. My experience since March 2012, when I was elected as a lay member to serve on the Executive Council to represent Province IX, has been very uplifting. I have had the wonderful opportunity to share experiences and actively participate in various committees and assignments. I am honored to be part of the Advocacy and Networking Committee. Due to limitations caused by the exclusive use of the English language, members of Province IX have had to rely on excellent simultaneous translation equipment, specialized technicians, and staff hired by the Church Center for the translation of documents. I thank Dinorah Pedro, Rosa Burkhardt, and Gabriela DeCastro for their great help. I should add that this has not limited the development of my work. The Episcopal Church is made up of multi-ethnic, pluralistic, and multilingual communities. For this reason I believe that each of its members is affected by this, but we are so creative that we seek the best way to evangelize through our gifts and talents for more effective and close communication. One of the blessings that the Lord has given us is the gift of communication. One way or another, we are able to get the message into our communities and into any area in which we are developing. Still, we have some way to go, and I am willing to be part of the development, growth, and history of The Episcopal Church."

"En primer lugar quiero agradecer a Dios por la oportunidad de Servir en la Iglesia Episcopal, mi experiencia desde marzo 2012 cuando fui elegida como Miembro Laico para servir en el Consejo Ejecutivo, para representar a la IX Provincia, ha sido muy edificante, he tenido la maravillosa oportunidad de compartir experiencias y participar activamente en diferentes asignaciones y comités. Tengo el honor de formar parte del Comité Abogacía y Redes. Por limitaciones al idioma inglés los miembros de la IX Provincia hasta ahora hemos tenido que depender de un excelente equipo de traducción simultánea, de técnicos especializados y de personal del Centro de la Iglesia para la traducción de documentos. En lo personal agradezco a Dinorah, Rosa y Gabriela, por su gran ayuda, debo agregar que esto no ha sido limitante para desarrollar mi labor. La Iglesia Episcopal está integrada por comunidades multiétnicas, plurales y multilingüísticas y por esta razón considero que todos y cada uno de sus miembros son afectados, pero somos tan creativos que buscamos la mejor manera de evangelizar, a través de nuestros dones y talentos para que la comunicación sea más efectiva y cercana. Una de las bendiciones que Nuestro Señor nos ha regalado es el don de la comunicación, de una u otra manera somos capaces de hacer llegar el mensaje en nuestras comunidades, y en todo ámbito en el cual nos estemos desarrollando. Todavía queda camino por recorrer, y estoy dispuesta a ser parte del desarrollo, crecimiento y de la historia de La Iglesia Episcopal."

Advocacy and Networking's resolutions, which were passed by Executive Council, included the following actions:

- Accepted the narrative report of the Executive Council Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility, outlining its triennial strategy
- Gave direction to the Treasurer of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society as to voting instructions on various Corporate Social Responsibility shareholder proxies
- Affirmed a comprehensive policy responding to gun violence
- Affirmed the Church's support of pay equity and non-discrimination in employment of women
- Established the B019 Coordinating Committee and affirmed the Church's stance "Toward a Just Peace for Israelis and Palestinians"
- Affirmed the Church's stance on worker safety and health domestically and globally

- Addressed issues of access to, and affordability of, higher education
- Commended the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's 25th anniversary
- Affirmed support for the Voting Rights Act
- Commended the work of the Latin American communities on their work in support of women's reproductive rights
- Condemned the revocation of citizenship for certain Dominican Republic residents, who are primarily of Haitian descent
- Condemned the use of racially stereotypical and harmful Indian/Native American mascot names by sports teams
- Affirmed support and called for prayer for peace in South Sudan and Sudan
- Established a task force to address the Episcopal Archives location and building issues
- Established the D042 Human Trafficking Coordinating Committee
- Expressed solidarity with persecuted LGBTI individuals worldwide
- Opposed discrimination against women's access to health care, especially for contraception, pregnancy, and childbirth
- Supported "Net Neutrality," also known as "Open Internet"; and opposed a two-tiered internet system of "fast" and "slow" lanes
- Grieved the loss of life and livelihood suffered by both Palestinians and Israelis as a result of the 2014 Gaza War, and supported working toward conditions in the Gaza Strip that will make peaceful and sustainable rebuilding possible
- Adopted an investment screen against for-profit prisons
- Reaffirmed support for the Church's work on the repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery
- Stated that #BlackLivesMatter, Too; and lifted up the teachings of the House of Bishops' Pastoral Letters on the 1994 "the Sin of Racism" and the 2006 "A Call to Covenant"

Action on Specific Resolutions of General Convention

With regard to 2012-A076 (Strengthen Small Congregations), Advocacy and Networking remained mindful of the limited resources and special needs of small congregations when considering its resolutions that called for efforts on the part of all congregations.

With regard to 2012-A167 (HIV Welcoming Parish Initiative), after the Executive Council Committee on HIV/AIDS was sunsetted in February 2013 (GAM-003), the work rolled over to the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition (NEAC). NEAC board members diligently attempted to implement the Welcoming Parishes approach, which invited parishes to become designated as Welcoming Parishes that welcome people with HIV and AIDS. They met with considerable resistance by vestries to adopt this designation, primarily out misinformation and fear about HIV and AIDS. After considerable work, NEAC members have determined that without a funded mandate to do more to support the Welcoming Parish Initiative, their capacity and commitment is to educate the Church about issues of stigma associated with, and to advocate for those affected by, HIV and AIDS.

With regard to 2012-B019 (Israeli-Palestinian Peace and Support for the Diocese of Jerusalem), Advocacy and Networking advanced AN-008, which established the B019 Coordinating Committee. That Coordinating Committee has written its own Blue Book report as part of the Executive Council's report.

In closing, as The Episcopal Church, Executive Council, and Advocacy and Networking prepare for General Convention in summer 2015, there remain some urgent social justice and public policy issues that still require prayer, study, dialogue, advocacy, and action on the parts of the church-wide body and each Episcopalian. In summer 2014, the United Nations called out the United States of America on three occasions regarding domestic human rights violations against those living in poverty and those directly affected by racism and violence. Advocacy and Networking believes that the overarching issues of the day are the seeking of

sustained peace and cessation of violence and human rights violations in global hot spots; comprehensive immigration reform and humane solutions to refugee and migration issues and to systemic, institutionalized racism and its attendant violation of human rights; eradication of domestic poverty, including public-education reform; establishment of a living wage; the addressing of growing wealth disparity; and criminal-justice reform, which involves both race and poverty aspects.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCES FOR MISSION

Membership

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., *Chair*, 2015
Dr. Fredrica Harris Thompsett, *Vice Chair*, 2018
The Rev. Canon John Floberg, 2018
Ms. Tess Judge, 2018
Ms. Nancy Wonderlich Koonce, 2018
Sr. Ing. Francisco Quiñones, 2015
The Rev. Susan Brown Snook, 2018
The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, *Ex Officio*
The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, *Ex Officio*
Mr. N. Kurt Barnes, *Staff Liaison*

Summary of Work

Mandate: To focus on finance and development for mission, including resource development and oversight: budget oversight, development and mission funding, stewardship and giving, investments, and audit.

The Committee's goal is to facilitate the ministry of The Episcopal Church in partnership with other Executive Council Standing Committees; to oversee the operations of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society; to maintain close relationships with the General Convention through regular contact with the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance and the Joint Audit Committee of Executive Council and DFMS; and to support the work of the Office of the Treasurer.

Meetings: Finances for Mission (FFM) met at every regular Executive Council meeting, as well as by conference call as needed. The Chair and other members of Program, Budget and Finance (PB&F) were invited to attend all FFM meetings.

It is Executive Council's responsibility to propose a budget for the 2016-18 triennium to the 2015 General Convention. The Program, Budget and Finance committee (PB&F) works with Executive Council's budget proposal and other information received via General Convention resolutions to create a budget resolution at Convention.

The Joint Standing Committee on Finances for Mission has spent significant time during the 2013-15 triennium both creating a new process for proposing a budget and working with financial estimates to create the actual budget proposal. This triennium has seen a completely new approach to the budget process. A subcommittee of Finances for Mission — chaired by The Rev. Susan Brown Snook and including members of FFM, PB&F, the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church, and others — determined that it was essential to ask members of the Church from a wide variety of ministries to help create our budget priorities.

Therefore, beginning in 2013, we asked all Committees, Commissions, Agencies, and Boards (CCABs) overseeing ministry areas that receive funding from the General Convention budget to undergo a visioning process that helped determine their top budget priorities. Since the CCABs include membership from all orders of ministry, all geographic areas of the Church, and a diversity of ages and ethnicities, we felt that CCAB input would provide an excellent overview of the Church's priorities. We also asked officers of the

DFMS (the Presiding Bishop, the President of the House of Deputies, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Executive Officer of General Convention) to provide us with their budget priorities.

We then asked the other Joint Standing Committees of Executive Council to review the budget priorities of all the CCABs that report to them, and to provide FFM with a ranked list of priorities for the ministry areas they oversee. We worked with that ranked list to determine the top priority expenditures for the coming triennium.

At the same time that we worked on the expenditure side of the budget, we also worked carefully to determine an appropriate level of revenue. This work included estimating investment, rental, and other revenue for the coming triennium; and determining an appropriate draw from the endowment. Most importantly, it involved deciding on an appropriate level of revenue from the diocesan asking.

We created a survey for deputies and bishops regarding the diocesan asking and have listened carefully to their responses, including a strong majority that has asked for a lower level of asking in the 2016-18 triennium. Additionally, at FFM's request, conversations have been held in the House of Bishops and Executive Council on the amount of the diocesan asking and the consequences to mission and relationships resulting from those dioceses that do not contribute the full asking. Our budget proposal takes these responses into account and strives to balance the hopes for a lower diocesan asking with the many inspiring visions we received from the CCABs and others who submitted budget priorities. We hope that the resulting budget proposal demonstrates our priority for the Five Marks of Mission, balances mission and administration expenses, provides incentives for important strategic initiatives, and leaves more funds available at the diocesan level for local mission.

Some FFM members also participated on the Joint Subcommittee of Finances for Mission and on Governance and Administration for Mission on the Location of the Episcopal Church Center.

In other areas, on behalf of the Executive Council, the work done by FFM included:

- Reviewing periodic financial statements, Audit committee reports, and statements of operation for DFMS;
- Monitoring and recommending adjustments to the 2013-2015 triennial budget adopted by the General Convention;
- Recommending establishment of custodial trust funds for various parishes and dioceses;
- Recommending term loan refinancing to remove collateral and reduce interest rates;
- Recommending expansion and refinancing of the line of credit to provide necessary funds for reorganizing dioceses and to reduce annual costs; and
- Recommending approval of loans to reorganizing dioceses and dioceses in Province IX.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION FOR MISSION

Mr. Stephen Hutchinson, Esq., *Chair*, 2015

Mr. Bryan Krislock, Esq., *Vice Chair*, 2015

The Very Rev. Dr. Brian Baker, 2015

The Very Rev. Chris Cunningham, 2015

Mr. Joseph Ferrell, 2015

The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs, 2015

Ms. Vycke McEwen

Ms. Katie Sherrod, 2015

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, *Ex Officio*

The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, *Ex Officio*

The Rt. Rev. Stacy Sauls, *Staff*

Changes in Membership

The Very Rev. Chris Cunningham, elected to the Council by Province III, resigned in early 2014 as a consequence of having moved out of the Province. The Very Rev. Dr. Brian Baker was appointed to fill a vacancy in Executive Council and was assigned to the Joint Standing Committee on Governance and Administration. Vycke McEwen resigned in September 2014.

Summary of Work

Mandate: To facilitate the mission of The Episcopal Church by focusing on governance and administration including, but not limited to, Board (Executive Council) governance and function, Episcopal Church Center operations, communications, human resources policies, strategic planning; and relationships with the Archives of The Episcopal Church, the General Convention Office, and reorganized and renewing dioceses.

At the beginning of the 2009-2012 triennium, the Standing Committees of Council were realigned with a focus on mission. This resulted in five Joint Standing Committees of Council. This was more than an exercise in renaming — it was an attempt to remind us every time we utter the name of our Committee that we are to focus on how best to enable mission within the parameters of our area of responsibility. This focus has continued in this triennium.

Meetings: Also during this triennium, GAM, like much of the rest of the world, discovered itself doing more networking. We frequently worked horizontally across committee lines as various committees of Executive Council collaborated on items encompassing areas of responsibility of more than one committee. Several of these items were related to personnel, real estate, or litigation, necessitating our meeting in executive session. This was not in any effort to avoid transparency, but rather to respect boundaries, especially around areas of personnel, real estate, and litigation. For example, GAM met jointly with the Joint Standing Committee on Finances for Mission (FFM) to receive the reports of the Church Center relocation committees.

United Thank Offering

GAM authorized its chair, Mr. Stephen Hutchison, to convene a working group to study canonical and operational considerations related to governance bodies that are denominated boards and agencies with a view toward clarifying their relationships to the General Convention and Executive Council. Mr. Hutchinson said that one of the big needs was to address issues of ambiguity of authority and fiduciary responsibilities.

As part of this work, Mr. Hutchison took part in the United Thank Offering (UTO)/GAM working group, along with Mr. Paul Nix, Esq. and Bishop Stacy Sauls, working with the board of the UTO. At the October 2012 meeting, GAM met with the leadership of the UTO in executive session, including The Rev. Sarah Carver, The Rev. John Tampa, Ms. Barbara Schafer, and Dr. Margaret (Peg) Cooper, who represented the UTO; and The Rev. Heather Melton, UTO Coordinator. Executive Council member The Rev. Marion Luckey also attended as the Council's liaison to the UTO Board.

This meeting was in the wake of very visible resignations of some UTO Board officers and members in protest over perceived efforts by Church Center staff and Council members to “take over” UTO. Following the executive session, GAM proposed, and Council adopted, a resolution that “acknowledges with deep regret the breakdown of communication and relationship between the board of the United Thank Offering and leadership of the DFMS” and states that the Council “is committed to a season of reconciliation and renewal of all involved in a thoughtful and faithful engagement and conversation to resolve matters of governance and administration, while honoring the UTO’s historic promotion of a theology of thankfulness, so that the mission of the UTO can be strengthened.”

The Council also committed itself to “continuing support of the UTO by offering gifts of thankfulness on a regular basis through the ‘little blue box’ or by directing gifts to the spring and fall ingatherings, and inviting the whole Episcopal Church to join us.” The Council also gave thanks “for the years of inspirational and prophetic service to the wider Church that the United Thank Offering and generations of women leaders have made, and look forward to celebrating the 125th anniversary of this important work as we seek renewal of this mission for generations to come.”

Mr. Hutchinson and Ms. Schafer, respectively, appointed members of the Council and the UTO Board to serve as a "UTO/GAM Working Group." This group met for a week in January 2014 and collaboratively developed new "Restated Bylaws of the United Thank Offering," a new Memorandum of Understanding for the United Thank Offering and the DFMS, and an extensive draft of new policies and procedures for the UTO. These documents were subsequently approved unanimously by the UTO Board in late January and were brought to Council for final approval in February.

GAM met jointly with the Joint Standing Committee on Finances for Mission (FFM) to act on the report from the UTO/GAM working group, following which GAM offered GAM 013 calling for the approval of restated bylaws. The resolution passed. This was followed by GAM 012, which put forward a new Memorandum of Understanding between the UTO and the DFMS. Mr. Hutchison noted that many aspects of the memorandum were already bearing fruit, resulting in a new level of collaboration between the UTO and staff. He did note that, in authority, the bylaws trump the Memorandum of Understanding. The question of to whom staff were accountable still needs to be addressed, as it has not been carefully articulated.

Budget-Development and Church-Relocation Committees

GAM also met jointly with FFM to receive the reports of the budget-development and Church-Center-relocation committees. The relocation committee conducted a survey of church members and leaders about their wishes and needs for a church center. At the June 2014 meeting, Council directed the GAM and FFM Joint Subcommittee on the Location of the Church Center to continue to evaluate the location of The Episcopal Church headquarters based upon on a wide range of factors, including: (1) cost and financial affordability; (2) travel and geographic accessibility; (3) employment and justice concerns; and (4) partnership opportunities. The Subcommittee is charged with continuing to gather all available data to complete the evaluation and retaining of necessary professionals and consultants to complete this task. The Executive Council has authorized the Subcommittee to spend up to \$100,000 to accomplish this work in response to General Convention Resolution D016.

Episcopal Church Center Operations and Human Resources Policies

GAM spent many hours working with Church Center staff, particularly Mr. John Colón and Mr. Paul Nix, to update the conflict of interest, nepotism, and whistleblower policies to bring them in line with New York state laws; and to make updates, corrections, and editorial changes to the Employee Handbook. GAM members Ms. Katie Sherrod and Mr. Bryan Krislock met regularly with members of the Joint Standing Committee on Advocacy and Networking for Mission about board development in regard to anti-racism training. Along with Ms. Anita George and Ms. Deborah Stokes, they made a proposal to the Council for a day-long, anti-racism training by a person from outside the Council. The proposal was referred to the Executive Committee of Council.

Communications

After hearing from Ms. Anne Rudig, Communications Director for the DFMS; and from members of the Episcopal News Advisory Council, GAM 007 proposed that the Episcopal News Advisory Council be renamed the Episcopal News Service Resource Council. Its mandate is as follows: “This Council shall engage with Episcopal News Service staff members about their newsgathering, distribution, creative, and publishing work. Council members shall lend their experience, expertise, and perspectives to the ENS staff, with the goal of helping Episcopal News Service in its efforts to serve effectively the needs of the Church at all levels (international, church-wide, diocesan, congregational) while keeping the voice of the whole church in a prominent place in the operation of the news service.” The resolution provided that the Presiding Officers shall appoint members of this renamed Council who shall:

- Have a proven track record of evolving their church communications efforts;
- Have a relationship of support, trust, and candor with ENS;
- Demonstrate forward-thinking use of current and evolving communications technologies in the service of communications evangelism; and
- Include leading communications professionals outside of Episcopal Church circles who have an interest in lending us their expertise.

The Archives of the Episcopal Church — A162

Reaffirm the Goal of an Archives Center was referred to GAM. The resolution remains under consideration by GAM. It is noted, however, that at the February 5-7 2014, meeting, Executive Council adopted A&N 025 on recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Advocacy and Networking for Mission, which calls on the presiding officers to consider alternatives for an Archives Center including, but not limited to, partnerships with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) or other ecumenical partners; and to bring recommendations to Executive Council at its October 2014 meeting with a goal of identifying a long-term solution by the end of 2014.

The General Convention Office

GAM heard from The Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe that the Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements recommended that the 79th General Convention be held in the City of Austin, Diocese of Texas. Canon Barlowe pointed out that Canon I.1.14 requires that the Executive Council consent to the site selection. He reported that the Committee had considered several other potential sites (Knoxville, Atlanta, Charlotte, and Kansas City) but that Austin offered the most economical package, especially as to the cost of use of the convention center. He noted that one of the factors considered by the Committee was the extent to which the host diocese has accepted its asking for the Church’s budget. He reported that, in conversations with the Bishop of Texas, the Committee learned that the Diocese of Texas is doubling its financial commitment to the church-wide budget, on its way to paying more or all of its full asking.

Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop

At the June 2013 meeting, GAM heard from members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop about the process so far. The mandate of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop covers a very limited scope related to the transition of the Presiding Bishop. The Joint Nominating Committee is not responsible for the installation of the Presiding Bishop. GAM realized that there were significant planning, budget, and implementation issues that are not clearly the responsibility of any other CCAB or staff office, and that Executive Council bore the responsibility to ensure that such functions are properly planned, budgeted, and implemented.

GAM Resolution 006 provided that the presiding officers of Executive Council shall appoint a committee to work with the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop and with DFMS Staff to be responsible for the planning, budgeting, and oversight of: (1) the transition tasks not otherwise assigned by Canon to the Joint Nominating Committee; and (2) the installation of the Presiding Bishop to be elected at the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church; and that the Committee report regularly to GAM.

Reorganized and Renewing Dioceses

Working jointly with FFM, GAM presented resolutions that provided grants or loans to the Dioceses of San Joaquin and Quincy. GAM heard reports from representatives of the Dioceses of Fort Worth, Pittsburgh, Quincy, and San Joaquin; and was heartened by the courage and steadfast devotion to The Episcopal Church demonstrated by the people of these dioceses. GAM also worked with FFM to set up a Covenant Committee to work with The Episcopal Church in South Carolina and to report two times annually to Council's Joint Standing Committee on Local Ministry and Mission.

Resolutions

The following resolutions of the 77th General Convention were referred to GAM: A076, A106, A159, and A162 (dealt with in Archives section above):

- *A076 — Strengthen Small Congregations.* This resolution remains under consideration.
- *A106 — Amend Canon 1.9 [to require annual report to Executive Council by each Province].* At the June 8-10, 2013 meeting of the Executive Council, GAM recommended adoption of GAM 008, which prescribes a format for these reports. The resolution was adopted by Council. It is noted that Provincial Reports were duly submitted to the February 5-7, 2014 meeting of Council.
- *A159 — Amend Canon 1.4.3(h) [to sunset any committee of Executive Council, other than standing committees that are not explicitly extended].* At the February 25-27, 2013 meeting, GAM submitted two resolutions to Council pursuant to 2012 Resolution A159. GAM 003 recommended that the Executive Council Committee on HIV/AIDS be disbanded and that any remaining work be transferred to the Standing Commission on Health. The resolution further recommended that the following Executive Council committees be disbanded: Executive Council Archives Strategy Committee; Executive Council Jubilee Advisory Committee; and Executive Council Committee on Strategic Planning. The Committee also submitted GAM 004, which recommended that the following Executive Council Committees be extended through December 31, 2015: Executive Council Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility; Executive Council Committee on Indigenous Ministries; Executive Council/Economic Justice Loan Committee; Executive Council Committee on Science, Technology, and Faith; and the Executive Council Committee on the Status of Women. Both GAM 003 and GAM 004 were adopted by the Council.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL MINISTRY AND MISSION

Membership

Ms. Anne Watkins, *Chair*, 2015
 The Rev. Marion Luckey, *Vice Chair*, 2015
 Ms. Liza Anderson, *Secretary*, 2015
 Ms. Jane Cosby, 2015
 The Rev. Charles LaFond, 2015
 The Rev. Deacon Brandon Mauai, 2015
 The Rev. Silvestre Romero, 2015
 The Rev. Dr. James Simons, 2015
 The Rev. Deacon Terry Starr, 2015
 The Rev. Tanya Wallace, 2015
 The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, *Ex Officio*
 The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, *Ex Officio*
 Ms. Bronwyn Clark Skov, *Staff Liaison*

Changes in Membership

The Rev. Charles LaFond resigned in 2013 as a result of moving out of Province I, and The Rev. Tanya Wallace was elected by Province I in his place. The Rev. Deacon Brandon Mauai was elected by the Executive Council in 2014 after the sudden death of our colleague, The Rev. Deacon Terry Starr.

The Committee benefited from strong collaborative relationships with ecumenical colleagues and with several members of staff. Our staff liaison was Ms. Bronwyn Clark Skov, the Officer for Youth Ministries and Team Leader for Formation and Vocation Ministries. We were also regularly joined by The Rev. Tom Brackett, Missioner for Church Planting and Ministry Redevelopment; by Ms. Sarah Eagle Heart, Missioner for Indigenous Ministries; and by Pastor Stephen Herr, Liaison from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Summary of Work

Mandate: To focus on congregations and leadership on the local level, including work with individuals, congregations, and dioceses: congregational development, education and formation, ministry of the baptized, clergy, multiculturalism.

The work of the Committee focuses on congregations and leadership at the local level, including work with individuals, congregations, and dioceses: congregational development, education and formation, the ministry of the baptized, clergy, and multiculturalism. The scope of the Committee's work includes awarding Mission Enterprise Zone and New Church Start grants, recognizing Jubilee Centers, and awarding Constable grants. Together with the Joint Standing Committee on Advocacy and Networking, we emphasize the importance of racial and ethnic ministries in the Church, and anti-racism formation is central to our own work. In addition, several Standing Commissions report through our Committee: Lifelong Christian Education and Formation, Liturgy and Music, Ministry Development, Mission and Evangelism, and Small Congregations.

Meetings: Due to the volume of applications received, and to our desire to spend time in careful discernment around each of them, we quickly discovered that our face-to-face meetings would not be sufficient to complete all of the necessary work. We therefore met monthly via Adobe Connect to review applications, with wonderful support from our colleagues in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and from various staff members, particularly our ethnic missioners and The Rev. Tom Brackett. While we all

found this to be a greater challenge than meeting in person, we grew increasingly able to work through this medium during the course of the triennium, and were thus able to use our in-person gatherings for attending to other business.

This was a very productive triennium for our Committee, with exciting new initiatives and new ways of doing business that place a greater emphasis on networking and collaboration.

In general, our Committee places less emphasis on legislation than do other Joint Standing Committees, because our primary focus is the life and work of local congregations, and much of what happens on the local level should not be legislated at the church-wide level. Our focus is instead on networking, partnership, and facilitating the building of relationships. As part of this commitment, we covenanted together as a committee to engage in continued formation around anti-racism at each of our meetings. We also placed a strong emphasis on listening to and learning from our staff liaisons, the other committees of the Executive Council, and our ecumenical partners.

The members of the Committee benefited from strong collaborative relationships with the other committees of the Executive Council as well as with staff. During the triennium, we held joint meetings on areas of common concern with the Joint Standing Committees on World Mission and Advocacy and Networking for Mission, and also with the Standing Commission on Mission and Evangelism. We worked closely with the Joint Standing Committee on Finances for Mission on the new budget visioning process and on support for the Episcopal Church in Navajoland.

Mission Enterprise Zones and New Church Starts

Much of our work this triennium involved reading applications and entering into discernment with those who had applied for financial support through the new program of matching funds for new church starts and “mission enterprise zones” — new and often experimental ministries with groups that tend to be underrepresented in our current institutional structures. This new initiative, authorized by General Convention 2012 in Resolution A073, was a great privilege to work on, as at every meeting we were able to see concrete examples of the visionary work that so many members of The Episcopal Church are engaging in at the local level. As the discernment process surrounding these applications continued, we realized that we wanted to move away from thinking of these simply as grants, and to instead view them as opportunities for ongoing partnership, relationship, and mutual learning.

In all, we were able to partner with 38 new ministries, which substantially increased the number of new worshipping communities that The Episcopal Church has supported this triennium in comparison with recent triennia. It is our hope that the General Convention will decide to continue funding for this new initiative over the course of the next triennium, as it seems to us that the momentum around this is still building, and there are so many interesting new ministries that are worthy of our Church’s support.

Constable Grants

Constable Grants are also awarded through our Committee. The Constable Fund provides grants to fund mission initiatives that were not provided for within the budget of the General Convention/Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS).

This triennium, we continued the widening of the eligibility requirements for Constable Grants from 2009-2012. Those eligible to apply for Constable funding include programmatic offices of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, one of the Standing Committees, Commissions, Agencies, or Boards (CCABs) of the General Convention, and Provinces of the Episcopal Church.

At the June 2013 meeting, we awarded 7 grants, out of a total of 22 applications received — more applications than had ever previously been received. At our February 2014 meeting, we were able to award 8

grants, out of 19 applications. At the time this report was submitted, the review of 15 applications for the 2015 grants was beginning.

Jubilee Centers

A further way in which we are able to uphold the ministry of local congregations is through the recognition and affirmation of new Jubilee Centers, which we do at every meeting of the Executive Council. Jubilee Centers are ministries that empower the poor and oppressed in their communities by providing direct services such as food, shelter, and health care; and also by advocating for human rights. As part of our work with recognizing Jubilee Centers, we had a productive meeting with the new Domestic Poverty Missioner, The Rev. Canon Mark Stevenson, about ways in which staff, local congregations, and the Executive Council can appropriately partner together for this work.

2016-2018 Budget Process

We also spent considerable effort on the new budget visioning process this triennium, with excellent leadership from the Joint Standing Committee on Finances for Mission. In comparison with past trienniums, we began the budgeting process much earlier in the triennium. Our committee spent time looking carefully at the budget line items that corresponded to our work; and made recommendations about what areas should be adjusted, what might be cut, and what new initiatives might be worth trying. We discussed proposals such as funding for clergy and lay leaders to increase their fluency in foreign languages, and new initiatives to forgive educational debt for seminarians willing to serve for a period of time in low-paying ministries deemed high priority by The Episcopal Church.

Other Business

In addition to A073, three other resolutions were referred to our Committee by General Convention 2012.

- **Resolution A144**, to monitor the ratio of women and other underrepresented groups that are nominated and elected to the episcopate, was passed but unfunded. The Office of Pastoral Development has worked to address the issues raised in the resolution this triennium.
- **Resolution A076**, on strengthening small congregations, was referred to each of the five Joint Standing Committees of Executive Council. We tried to keep the needs and concerns of small congregations in mind throughout our work together, and we were able to support a gathering on ministry in small congregations through a Constable Grant.
- **Resolution 161**, to amend the mandate and membership of the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism, was re-referred to the Joint Standing Committee for Advocacy and Networking for Mission, through which the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism reports.

As the triennium drew to a close, we considered the reports of those standing commissions that report to us, and we began to brainstorm resolutions in areas that other committees and standing commissions do not seem to be addressing, including possible reforms to the ordination process and the General Board of Examining Chaplains.

We are thankful for having been entrusted with the opportunity to serve the Church through this ministry, and for the spirit of openness, collaboration, flexibility, and trust that has characterized our work together this triennium.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON WORLD MISSION

Membership

Ms. Martha Gardner, *Chair*
Ms. Karen Longenecker, *Vice Chair*
The Rev. Dr. Stan Runnels, *Secretary*
The Rev. Brian Cole
The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel
The Rev. Dahn Gandell
The Rev. Stephen Herr, *Evangelical Lutheran Church of America*
The Rev. Canon Cristóbal León Lozano
The Rev. Nathaniel Pierce
The Very Rev. Peter Wall, *Anglican Church of Canada*
The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, *Ex Officio*
The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, *Ex Officio*

The members of World Mission include members from the junior and senior classes of Executive Council, with terms expiring in both 2015 and 2018. During this triennium, Spanish interpretation was present at all meetings to facilitate interpretation on behalf of The Rev. Cristóbal León Lozano, who is a Canon from the Diocese of Ecuador Litoral.

The Rev. David Copley, the Officer for Mission Personnel in the office of Global Partnerships, serves as the staff liaison to the Committee for the purposes of providing information and background to inform the Committee's work in the area of global partnerships and global mission work. The Rev. Margaret Rose, Deputy for Ecumenical and Interfaith Collaboration, also provided regular reports to the Committee on developments pertaining to the Church's growing work of interfaith collaboration.

The Rev. Canon C. K. (Chuck) Robertson, PhD, also provided ongoing reports to the Committee on issues relating to the Church's relationship within the Anglican Communion. Ms. Elizabeth Lowell, Program Director for the Development Office of The Episcopal Church, also joined the Committee to provide reports and discuss the progress of the rebuilding efforts in the Diocese of Haiti. Dr. Rob Radtke, President of Episcopal Relief and Development, also joined the Committee to report on the critical work of Episcopal Relief and Development in developing areas of the world.

Summary of Work

Mandate: To help Executive Council highlight issues beyond the United States (including in Provinces II and IX) that call for the Church's discipleship and mission. Special concerns include inter-Anglican relations, sending and receiving missionaries, the Millennium Development Goals, the Church's overseas dioceses, educational opportunities in the Caribbean and Latin America, the Anglican Covenant, rebuilding Haiti, and the United Thank Offering.

Meetings: This triennium brought a new spirit of collaboration, cross-fertilization, and networking to the work of World Mission — work that included joint sessions with other committees of Executive Council at every meeting to collaborate on overarching issues to create a more comprehensive and cohesive board response. Collaborative work brought forth a thoughtful, deliberate, and intentional approach of partnership to work spanning the global reach of The Episcopal Church.

The Committee spent considerable time at each meeting discussing the budget process, budget changes and forecasts, and best ways to allocate resources. We are thankful for the courageous leadership of the Budget Committee from the Executive Council Joint Standing Committee on Finances for Mission. Following a continuous and broad-reaching budget process throughout the triennium has kept significant and crucial attention on the fiduciary responsibilities of the Board.

The budget of World Mission falls under Marks I, II, and III of the Five Marks of Mission. Mark I is to “Proclaim the Good News.” Mark II states, “To teach, baptize and nurture new believers”; and Mark III states, “To respond to human need by loving service.”

The Five Marks of Mission were developed by the Anglican Consultative Council between 1984 and 1990 and updated in 2012, and have been utilized within the Anglican Communion and among parishes and dioceses in The Episcopal Church since General Convention adopted them in 2009. They form a framework for mission activities. Using the framework of the Five Marks of Mission, World Mission focused this triennium on eight major areas of work:

1. Global Missions and Missionaries, specifically Young Adult Service Corps & Episcopal Volunteers for Mission
2. Covenant Committees and Bilateral Relationships
3. The Episcopal Church in Haiti
4. Sustainability in Province IX
5. Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations
6. Anglican Communion Relations
7. The Episcopal Church and the United Nations
8. The United Thank Offering

1. Global Missions and Missionaries, Young Adult Service Corps (YASC), and Episcopal Volunteers for Mission
World Mission dedicated significant time this triennium to hearing and developing the crucial work of Global Missions in The Episcopal Church. This includes supporting programs like YASC for young adults representing The Episcopal Church throughout the globe; and a similar program, Episcopal Volunteers for Mission, for older adults.

Germane to the work of the Board is hearing how these programs improve global relationships in and outside The Episcopal Church, as well as providing financial oversight and support for ongoing resources.

2. Covenant Committees

World Mission also spent considerable time discussing the Covenant Committees within The Episcopal Church — IARCA (Anglican Church of the Region of Central America, composed of the Dioceses of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama), Liberia, and Mexico, as well as the bilateral relationships with Brazil and the Philippines. Specific to the work of the Committee was ongoing discussion regarding the need for continued relationship and network building; best practices for faithful relationship models; and responsibilities and accountability for Covenant Committee members, including extensive conversation regarding continued financial resources. A corresponding resolution regarding reporting structure is attached.

3. The Episcopal Church in Haiti

World Mission was heavily involved in the work of rebuilding following the earthquake in 2010 in Haiti — work that will most likely continue for several triennia. We are pleased to be involved in the rebuilding of one of the largest Episcopal dioceses in the world during its persistent and dedicated work to recover from the devastation. Five years later, there is still much work to be done at a church-wide level and at individual and parish levels.

4. Sustainability in Province IX

World Mission, in collaboration with the Mission Department and the Global Partnership staff, implemented a comprehensive plan this triennium to support sustainability in Province IX. The comprehensive plan includes working with individual dioceses to support existing financial resources, addressing challenges, and planning for future financial self-sustainability. With approval from a committee of leaders in Province IX, this plan was implemented and is already showing signs of progress. This plan will be pertinent to the work of World Mission at least through 2018. A corresponding resolution supporting the ongoing work in this regard is attached.

5. Ecumenical and Interreligious

World Mission has also supported the work of ecumenical relations and interreligious relationship throughout our work this triennium. In addition, Interreligious Relations has highlighted exciting new areas of work such as Muslim-Christian partnership efforts and the Interfaith Middle East Pilgrimage as directed by General Convention. Two corresponding resolutions are attached, highlighting significant movement and progress in dialogue with our ecumenical partners as well as with our interfaith partners.

6. Anglican Communion Relations

Specifically pertinent to this triennium was our relationship within the Anglican Communion with the enthronement of the new Archbishop of Canterbury. The Committee specifically wishes to recognize intentional efforts on the part of this Church in strengthening relationships throughout the Communion. A corresponding resolution supporting the ongoing work of the Inter-Anglican Secretariat is attached.

7. The Episcopal Church and The United Nations

Ecumenical relations also allow us to celebrate the achievement of obtaining official status on the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. Continued collaboration on issues in front of the United Nations is an important aspect of work of The Episcopal Church as well as for World Mission. A resolution in affirmation of this work, and to support continued work of the Church at the United Nations, is attached.

8. United Thank Offering

The United Thank Offering reflects the spirit of global mission in The Episcopal Church, our continued dedication to mission work, and the generosity of Episcopalians with blue boxes everywhere. World Mission is especially thankful for the United Thank Offering Board, for its time and dedication to this work, and for the church-wide staff for their help in collaboration. As the United Thank Offering has undergone many significant changes during the past triennium, World Mission is grateful for the continued collaboration regarding the use of our deep resources and the broad reach of the UTO. An ongoing partnership between World Mission and the UTO will be a significant priority in the next triennium.

In recognition of his important participation, The Rev. Canon Cristóbal León Lozano — a Province IX Council member from the Diocese of Ecuador Litoral who has faced the extra language challenge of our English-centric meetings — was asked to prepare a report of his participation on World Mission in his own words, which follow and are translated into English:

Como representante clerical de la IX Provincia, estoy terminando mi periodo en el Consejo Ejecutivo y tengo que dar gracias a Dios por la oportunidad de servir a la Iglesia desde esta función, la cual ha sido muy enriquecedora en la visión Pastoral de la Iglesia.

El Consejo Ejecutivo ha sido un medio a través del cual el Gobierno de la Iglesia se ha manifestado sobre muchos asuntos muy importantes para el desarrollo pastoral de la Misión, respondiendo así a la Característica de la Iglesia Episcopal, “una Iglesia inclusiva.”

El trabajo desarrollado hasta ahora ha sido muy fuerte, queriendo cumplir con los mandatos de la Convención general.

En este segundo trienio he sido parte del Comité de Misión Mundial y una de las acciones que hemos desarrollado es el acompañamiento a la IX Provincia para poder hacer un Plan de autosostenibilidad. Por ser un paso muy importante ha sido necesario programar varias reuniones y esperamos que la Iglesia Episcopal y sus comités, agencias y redes puedan ser un buen soporte para culminar con metas claras este proceso.

Gracias a todos y todas quienes hicieron posible que mi participación fuera lo más objetiva.

Fielmente en Cristo.

**Rev. Canon Cristóbal León Lozano,
Representante clerical IX Provincia**

As a clergy representative from Province IX, I am finishing my time on Executive Council and I have to give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve the Church in this function, which has been very enriching in the pastoral vision of the Church.

Executive Council has been a means through which the government of the Church has manifested itself on many very important issues for the pastoral development of the Mission of the Church, responding to the characteristic of the Episcopal Church as “an inclusive church.”

The work developed to this point has been very strong, desiring to carry out the mandates of The General Convention.

During the second triennium I have been a member of the Executive Council Joint Standing Committee on World Mission. One of the issues we have been developing is the elements for a plan for Province IX to work toward self-sustainability. With this being a very important step, it has been necessary to plan several meetings, and we hope that The Episcopal Church and its committees, agencies, boards, and networks will be able to continue to be a positive support in order to reach the goals we have clearly outlined in this process.

Thank you to everyone who has made my participation possible.

Faithfully in Christ,

**Reverend Canon Cristóbal León Lozano
Clergy Representative from Province IX**

As The Episcopal Church, Executive Council, and World Mission prepare for General Convention in the summer of 2015, several important lessons from this triennium could inform our work together. We have learned that collaboration, partnership, patience, and networking make us a healthier body as a Board and, more importantly, as a *global* church.

We have learned that indeed, there is no such thing as a “national church”; we are all members of a very global body of Christ. We have learned that the work of World Mission is work that has no ending; it involves lifelong relationships all over the world that are allowed to be expressed in new and different models. To this point, how can we aim toward being a church that uses *relationship* as our most powerful resource?

REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO DIOCESES

Of 109 reporting jurisdictions, 31 dioceses responded to resolutions referred for action or consideration after the 77th General Convention, as recorded below:

Resolutions Referred for Action or Consideration		Action	No Action
A025	Challenge Congregations to Have a Website	15	16
A035	Reaffirm Commitment to Interreligious Engagement	12	19
A037	Commend Guidelines for Ecumenical Shared Ministries	8	23
A049	Authorize Liturgical Resources for Blessing Same-Sex Relationships	14	17
A073	Establish Diocesan Mission Enterprise Zones	11	20
A096	Reduce Financial Barriers to Member Participation	12	19
A125	Recommit to Anti-Racism Work	14	17
A127	Recommit to Anti-Racism Work	15	16
A128	Examine Impact of Doctrine of Discovery	7	24
A131	Express Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples	10	21
A139	Endorse Efforts Against Gender Violence	11	20
A140	Advocate for Maternal and Infant Health	10	21
D003	Declare Church Sites as Gun-Free Zones	11	20
D022	Respond to Bullying	11	20
D050	Encourage Clergy Response to Poverty and Justice	11	20
D067	Support the DREAM Act	9	22
D069	Engage in Social Media	14	17

Resolutions Referred for Consideration or Information		Action	No Action
A012	Urge Governments to Follow Principles in Adopting Trade Policies	10	21
A016	Affirm the Moral Responsibility to Protect Populations from Atrocities	6	24
A019	Continue Advocacy and Efforts for Peace in Sudan	12	19
A046	Commend the Ministry of Lifelong Christian Formation	15	16
A051	Continue Trial Use of Holy Women, Holy Men	14	17
A054	Authorize Rites for Care of Animals	9	22
A057	Authorize Enriching Our Worship	13	18
A079	Urge Defense of Human Rights and Communities Unduly Affected	10	21
A088	Set Expectations for Steward Leaders	11	20
A113	Commend Work of Missionaries	11	20
A132	Protect Indigenous Peoples' Sacred Sites	10	21
A136	Affirm the Compatibility of Science and Christian Faith	13	18
A161	Amend the Anti-Racism Committee's Mandate and Appointments	7	24
A165	Affirm HIV and AIDS Ministry and Health Education	11	20
A166	Participate in Prayer Week for AIDS Healing	10	21
B009	Authorize Use of 1979 Lectionary	13	18
B017	Support for Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza	8	23
B019	Support Israeli-Palestinian Peace	11	20
B023	Seek Environmental Justice	12	19
C033	Support Voting Rights and Representation for the District of Columbia	6	25
C075	Commit to Welcoming the Sudanese	10	21
C077	Condemn Wage Theft and Affirm Ethics in Convention Site Selection	9	22
C083	Invite Members and Other People to Read the Bible	12	19

Resolutions Referred for Consideration or Information		Action	No Action
C119	Support Legislation to Improve Port Conditions and Workers' Rights	8	23
Do08	Reaffirm Commitment to and Participation in the Anglican Communion	12	19
Do11	Urge Equal Application of Immigration Law to Same-Sex Partners	14	17
Do28	Support the Labor Movement	9	22
Do55	Advocate for Reducing Climate-Changing Emissions	12	19

78TH GENERAL CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A011: RECOMMIT TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM STUDY AND ADVOCACY

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention reaffirm and renew the Church's longstanding commitment to the evaluation and reform of the federal, state, and local criminal and juvenile justice systems in the United States, as previously called for by General Convention resolutions 1985-C043 (Create a Task Force on Reform of the Criminal Justice System), 2000-B055 (Reaffirm Criminal Justice System Reform), 2003-B026 (Establish the Joint Committee on Criminal Justice), 2006-A111 (Investigate Criminal Justice Issues), and 2012-D026 (Urge Support for Bipartisan U.S. Commission on Criminal Justice); and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention declare support and advocate for the expansion of funding for treatment, alternatives to incarceration, and reintegration services to people leaving prison; and call on Episcopalians to support and participate in mentoring and accompaniment programs for those leaving prison; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention declare opposition to mass incarceration, which perpetuates a cycle of systemic poverty in the United States through its impact on defendants, inmates, parolees, and their families; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention reaffirm and renew the call of The Episcopal Church for a moratorium on the use of for-profit private prisons, including immigration detention centers, which often set occupancy or "bed" quotas, capitalizing on the criminal, civil, and immigration incarceration of individuals; are a leading factor in the "New Jim Crow," the disproportionate mass incarceration of youth and men and women who are black and brown; and feed the "School to Prison Pipeline," which depends on the use of school policing and mandatory sentencing for non-violent crimes; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention reaffirm and renew support for the repeal of mandatory-minimum sentences for nonviolent offenses; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention call for the abolition of the sentencing disparity between crack-cocaine and powder-cocaine offenses; and, as an intermediate step, urge the U.S. Congress, in accordance with the recommendation of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, to make retroactive the 2010 Fair Sentencing Act, which reduces the disparity in sentencing from previous levels; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge states with monetary bail bond systems to reform those systems, which rely upon often-unlicensed and unregulated bail bond agents and on conditioning release from pre-trial incarceration solely on the ability to pay, discriminating against defendants who are poor; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention, acknowledging the importance of employment for reintegration into society by formerly incarcerated persons, urge policymakers to pursue legal reforms to enhance the employability of people leaving prisons; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention condemn offender-funded law enforcement practices, such as requiring newly released inmates to pay for their own court-required drug testing when they often are unemployed or underemployed, and urge policymakers to create equitable post-sentencing parole systems that remove undue financial burden on the parolee as a condition for maintaining parole; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention condemn the practice by many states of felon disenfranchisement, which removes the right of formerly incarcerated (or "returning citizens") to regain the right to vote once they complete their sentence and leave prison; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention call for exploration and creation of restorative justice programs to transform juvenile justice systems; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention direct the Executive Council to convene a Criminal Justice Reform Coordinating Committee, comprised of church members, ecumenical partners, and outside experts, for the purpose of developing educational information, advocacy tools, and church policy to assist the dioceses and church members in their ministry to prisoners, people returning home from prisons, and their families; and in their advocacy for comprehensive criminal justice reform at all levels of government; and to direct the Coordinating Committee to report to the 79th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget to support the work of such Criminal Justice Reform Coordinating Committee.

EXPLANATION

This resolution calls the Church to renew its commitment to Criminal Justice Reform and to form a Criminal Justice Reform Coordinating Committee, organized by and reporting to the Executive Council, to develop an educational toolkit and advocacy measures for church members and church policy.

Comprehensive criminal justice reform is a complex subject with many components at the federal, state, and local levels of government that intersect with the ministry and advocacy of The Episcopal Church in its focus on the Marks of Mission, especially Marks 3 and 4 (To respond to human need by loving service; and To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation). The General Convention has long committed the Church to work on criminal justice reform, and it is timely to do this work in concert with our partners.

Many of the reforms specified in this resolution have been addressed in prior General Convention and Executive Council resolutions. A few of the items bear more explication below.

Legal scholar Michelle Alexander's book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in an Age of Colorblindness*, published in 2010, "presents the disturbing realities of mass incarceration in the United States and its damaging effects on both the families of the incarcerated and on society as a whole. The United States currently has approximately 2.3 million individuals in prison, up from fewer than 350,000 in 1972, more than half of whom are in jail for non-violent crimes. Proportionately, the United States has the most jailed

individuals in the world. With less than 5 percent of the global population, the United States holds almost 25 percent of the world's prisoners." [*Religion & Politics* article, "The New Jim Crow: Churches Respond to Mass Incarceration," by Alfredo Garcia, August 13, 2013]

Congress passed the Fair Sentencing Act (FSA) in 2010, reducing the sentencing inequality for crack, used mostly by poor defendants, and for powder cocaine, used mostly by affluent defendants, from 100:1 to 18:1. Because the majority arrested for crack offenses are African American, the 100:1 ratio resulted in vast racial inequality in sentences for comparable offenses. The FSA represents a decade-long, bipartisan effort to reduce the racial disparities caused by crack cocaine sentencing laws. In 2011, the U.S. Sentencing Commission voted to apply the new sentencing guidelines to individuals sentenced before the law's enactment, and the U.S. Supreme Court will decide whether or not to accept the retroactive application, which could mean that more than 12,000 people, 85 percent of them African-Americans, have their sentences for crack cocaine offenses possibly reduced by a federal judge.

The New Jersey State Commission on Investigation in a May 2014 report found that many bail bond agencies are operated without licenses by individuals with extensive criminal records. Because vast sums of money are involved, the Commission also discovered frequent cases of illegal and unethical practices leading to the release of dangerous individuals for fractions of their court-mandated bail amounts, unbeknownst to the courts. The imposition of bail also discriminates against those who are poor and without resources, such as equity in real estate, with which to post bail — leaving the poor, largely defendants of color to languish in pre-trial incarceration disproportionately.

Parolees frequently encounter barriers to finding employment and housing upon release from incarceration and are often required by court order to obtain drug testing at specified facilities for which they must pay out of their own funds. Many parole revocations that land formerly incarcerated persons back in incarceration are due to their inability to meet the financial terms of their parole, such as paying for drug testing, when they have also been unable to find employment. Some recidivism is due to being poor, rather than to repeating the offenses that caused the parolee's original incarceration.

Two sociology professors — Christopher Uggen of the University of Minnesota and Jeff Manza of New York University — published the book, *Locked Out: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy* in 2006, in which the authors found that approximately 1 of 40 voting-age Americans can't vote due to a felony conviction. The numbers in states vary, because each state has different voting prohibition rules. For example, their most recent updated figures, as of December 2010, show 5.85 million disenfranchised nationally.

A012: CONTINUE FUNDING OF MISSION ENTERPRISE ZONES

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the Church celebrate and further the good work initiated by GC2012-A073 Establish Diocesan Mission Enterprise Zones, defined as a geographic area, as a group of congregations or as an entire diocese committed to mission and evangelism that engages underrepresented groups, including youth and young adults, people of color, poor and working-class people, people with a high-school diploma or less, and/or people with little or no church background or involvement"; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church honors the holy experiments emerging throughout the Church — experiments that are building partnerships, expanding the language of ministry; creating new ways to engage the people of God; harvesting and sharing learnings; and lending courage to those leading new ministries and lowering the cost of failure; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention continue to fund the startup of Mission Enterprise Zones and New Church Starts with a significantly increased budget allocation over the 2012-2015 budget; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church continue to develop the Mission-Centered Episcopalians web-based sharing platform and to bring together mission developers for a face-to-face gathering where they can share best practices, upholding ministry leader wellness; mutual guidance and support; and sharing of stories, resources, and prayer; and be it further

Resolved, That diocesan leaders be encouraged to share what they learn from these Mission Enterprise Zones specifically in the disciplines of a) financing and sustaining these experiments, b) adapting liturgical practices for increased missional impact, c) exploring new processes for mentoring and training emerging leaders *in situ*, and d) blessing our diocesan families by more readily incorporating these non-traditional faith communities with voice and vote as discerned by the leadership of that Mission Enterprise Zone or New Church Start; and be it further

Resolved, That applications for partnership and funding from these new ministries will be discerned, supported and called to accountability by a First Mark of Mission task force appointed by the Missionary Society and the Episcopal Church's Executive Council, with the seed money administered by the Church's Missioner for New Church Starts and Missional Initiatives, for the 2016-2018 triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance allocate not less than \$3M designated in the EC draft budget for 2016-18 to continue funding the startup of Mission Enterprise Zones and New Church Starts to implement this resolution during the 2016-2018 triennium.

EXPLANATION

The URL for the Mission-Centered web-based sharing platform is <http://www.mission-centered.org>.

A013: CONTINUE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS, YOUNG ADULT SERVICE CORPS, AND EPISCOPAL VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention affirm the growing success of the work of Global Missions, especially the global networks, relationships, and spiritual developments seen in programs like the Young Adult Service Corps and the Episcopal Volunteers in Mission; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention, in showing our continued support to be a mission-based church firmly grounded in the work of global mission, call upon Executive Council to work to increase the opportunities for global mission through such programs as Young Adult Service Corps and Episcopal Volunteers in Mission, through budgetary means as available so that opportunities for global mission are increased, diversified, and prioritized by the 79th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention call upon every diocese to explore the opportunities for global mission work and encourage as many people as possible to apply for, attend, and complete a mission assignment as made available by these programs.

A014: CELEBRATE EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT’S 75 YEARS OF HEALING A HURTING WORLD

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commend Episcopal Relief & Development for strengthening the bonds of Anglican unity by partnering with The Episcopal Church's Anglican and Episcopal counterparts in nearly 40 countries worldwide, and for utilizing local assets to best steward resources and encourage long-term and holistic change; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church encourages dioceses, congregations, and individuals to celebrate and support the life-saving work of Episcopal Relief & Development during this, their 75th year, and in years to come.

A015: CONTINUE TO SUPPORT PROVINCE IX SUSTAINABILITY

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention affirm the Church’s dedication for the ongoing work of Mark of Mission II — “To Teach, Baptize, and Nurture New Believers,” especially as it pertains to the agreed-upon plan for Province IX Sustainability; and be it further

Resolved, That plan adopted by the Project Team for the Second Mark of Mission, meeting in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic from July 8-11, 2013 be continued and supported by the representation of the General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church, working through the Joint Standing Committee on World Mission, or through a similarly tasked representative body or committee of the Executive Council assigned to exert fiduciary responsibility for this crucial component of the ongoing mission of the Church in Province IX, continue to support the work of Province IX Sustainability in the 2016-2018 triennium as detailed in the plan adopted by Executive Council; and be it further

Resolved, That the Executive Council, Church management, and key leaders of bishops, clergy, and lay representatives from throughout Province IX continue to work together to implement this plan through such time as all dioceses in Province IX reach self-sustainability.

A016: PROVIDE STRUCTURAL SUPPORT FOR COVENANT COMMITTEES

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention instruct the Covenant Committee and Bilateral Committee serving each of our global partners (Brazil, Philippines, Central America, Mexico, and Liberia) to submit to the Standing Commission on World Mission and the Executive Council Joint Standing Committee on World Mission, on an annual basis, a report reflecting the current status of work of the Covenant/Bilateral Committee, including actions and programs planned; implemented; or plans for future actions or programs, developments with regard to partnership priorities, financial challenges, and strategies for self-sustainability; and be it further

Resolved, That such reports be submitted no later than October 1 of each calendar year.

EXPLANATION

From its inception, The Episcopal Church has been a missionary church. Ever since we gained autonomy from the Church of England, Episcopalians have responded to Christ’s call, sharing the Gospel with people in North America, throughout Latin America and the Caribbean islands, and even reaching to Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Rim.

This missionary endeavor resulted in new churches, dioceses, and even provinces of the Anglican Communion. These provinces continue to be our key partners today, long after their independence from The Episcopal Church. Foundations in Liberia, the Philippines, Mexico, Brazil, and throughout Central America remain close to their roots in the Church.

To honor these partnerships, global covenants with financial provisions were created and signed together. These covenants provide support to help propel the new provinces into the future. Even though some of these agreements have fulfilled their financial commitments, our relationships of affection continue as we journey as equal partners.

The intent of this resolution is to ensure that those bodies of the Church charged with oversight and responsibility for these relations are annually informed of the activities and plans of each Covenant or Bilateral Committee.

A017: AFFIRM ONGOING WORK AND DIALOGUE WITH ECUMENICAL BODIES

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention affirms the continuation of the ecumenical dialogues currently sponsored by The Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Episcopal Dialogue, and noting particularly the renewed round of Anglican-Roman Catholic Theological Consultation in the U.S.A. (ARCUSA) dialogue and the work toward full communion with the United Methodist Church. The Committee also affirms the continued coordinating committee work with our full communion partners, The Evangelical Lutheran Church and The Moravian Church. The Committee also notes with joy and gratitude the deepening relationship between the Primates and Presiding Bishops of The Episcopal Church, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, The Anglican Church of Canada, and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; and commends, to members of all four churches, the work they have done together and the statements and study documents they have jointly issued.

A018: ENCOURAGE INTERFAITH ENGAGEMENT

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention affirms the work being done on behalf of interfaith engagement by The Episcopal Church at all levels in the life of the Church, and encourages a sustained commitment to the furthering of such work. Recognizing the increasingly pluralistic nature of our world, we particularly cite the deepening of the Christian Jewish and Christian Muslim engagement as well as the broadening engagement with other religious traditions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, and others.

A019: AFFIRM THE INTER-ANGLICAN SECRETARIAT

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That through our funding and active participation, this Church continues to bear witness to this Church’s ongoing commitment to the Anglican Communion and the work of the Inter-Anglican Secretariat.

A020: AFFIRM THE WORK OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the USA rejoice together in being granted Economic and Social Council consultative status at the United Nations; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church encourages all Episcopalians to educate themselves about the work of the United Nations and the many ways in which our collective call as Christians to “seek and serve Christ in all persons” links with the work undertaken at the United Nations, and to partner with the United Nations and its agencies to achieve these goals; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention encourages all Episcopalians to avail themselves of the resources and opportunities presented by this status, in particular partnering with the Global Partnerships team and the Church's official representatives to the United Nations.

A021: CONTINUE OUR COMMITMENT OF 0.7% OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That The Episcopal Church continues its commitment, especially as reflected in the church-wide budget, of the 0.7% dedicated to the Millennium Development Goals, or other such title as adopted by the United Nations (i.e., Post-2015 Development Agenda, or Sustainable Development Goals, as mentioned by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations), throughout the 2016-2018 triennium and beyond; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention, recognizing that funding for nutrition, education, health care, and development programs is essential to achieve not only the Millennium Development Goals, but also to recognize the dignity of all human beings, invites all dioceses and congregations to contribute 0.7% of their annual budgets to fund international development programs.