

From: Bill Carroll [mailto:frbillcarroll@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2013 11:04 PM
To: Meyers, Ruth
Subject: Re: sclm survey re: same gender blessings, Oklahoma response

Thanks, Ruth. Here are the versions as published by the bishop on the diocesan webpage.

Grace and peace,

Bill+

On Fri, Oct 18, 2013 at 4:18 AM, Meyers, Ruth <RMeyers@cdsp.edu> wrote:

Dear Bill,

I've checked my files, and what I have from Oklahoma are the draft materials you sent me in mid March. The Archives of the Episcopal Church has been building an online archive of materials from dioceses, and they've uploaded several documents from Oklahoma, all labeled "draft." You can see the materials here: <http://www.episcopalarchives.org/SCLM/2012-A049/dioceses/n-w.html>. If you have final copies of the docs, please send them to me, and I'll make sure they get to the Archives for posting.

Thanks for circulating the survey for responses. As I said in my response earlier this week, I'm also happy to receive comments directly, particularly suggestions for improvement that will enable us to refine materials for our report to the next General Convention.

Grace and peace

Ruth

Ruth Meyers

Dean of Academic Affairs and
Hodges-Haynes Professor of Liturgics
Church Divinity School of the Pacific
2451 Ridge Road
Berkeley, CA 94709

rmeyers@cdsp.edu

[510-204-0720](tel:510-204-0720)

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From: Bill Carroll [mailto:fbillcarroll@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 1:44 AM
To: Meyers, Ruth
Subject: sclm survey re: same gender blessings, Oklahoma response

Dear Ruth,

Bishop Konieczny has asked me to coordinate our diocesan response to the SCLM survey. We've directed a number of folks to the survey instrument provided through survey monkey. In many ways it doesn't provide a place for us to articulate our response to the resolution, because we produced our own materials, liturgy, policies, and consultation process. I believe I have already given you some links to the materials the committee produced and the bishop approved for distribution. Please let me know if that is not the case.

The SCLM materials, including the liturgy, were among the resources our diocesan committee used in crafting Oklahoma materials. Additional materials came from Southern Ohio, Texas, and elsewhere. In crafting the policies in particular, we tried to create a structure analogous to the marriage canons with regard to pre-union counseling, how to handle dissolution of a union, acting to protect the safety of partners, etc.. Although we studiously avoid the use of the word "marriage," the analogy is unavoidable and the guidance of the canons proved invaluable in ascertaining some of the chief pastoral issues. In addition, we did provide some guidance about particular pastoral issues that may arise with same gender couples.

To date, as the bishop told our clergy conference this week, four congregations have gone through our consultation process to petition for permission to bless same gender couples. Of these, he plans to grant permission to two and require additional information from two more. I am personally aware of two additional congregations, mine and one other, who are concluding our process and applying for permission. At this stage, no one has yet conducted a blessing authorized under our local process responding to A049. I suspect that that that will happen in the not too distant future.

I will keep you up to date about any significant feedback that we receive that could be helpful for SCLM's work. This comes with prayers for you and those you serve.

Grace and peace,

Bill+

Fr. Bill Carroll, SCP
Rector
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
501 N. Broadway
Shawnee, OK 74801
[\(405\)273-1374](tel:(405)273-1374) (church); [\(405\)777-9954](tel:(405)777-9954) (cell)
<http://emmanuel.epiok.org/>
emmanuelshawnee.blogspot.com

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Fr. Bill Carroll, SCP
Rector
Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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501 N. Broadway
Shawnee, OK 74801
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