



## **Diocesan Convention Minutes November 6-7, 2020**

**Held Virtually by Inferno AR**

### **Friday, November 6, 2020**

The 110<sup>th</sup> Convention of The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Northern California opened with prayer, followed with greetings from retired Bishop Barry Beisner and his wife, the Rev. Dr. Ann Hallisey.

#### **Formation of Convention**

Bishop Traquair called for the Report of the Secretary regarding quorum. The Rev. Matt Warren, Secretary, reported a quorum consisting of 95 clergy and 64 congregations; whereupon Bishop Traquair as President called to order at 3:26pm the 110<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Northern California.

Bishop Traquair called on the Rev. Matt Warren to give instructions and training on voting. He did so.

Bishop Traquair called for the Report of the Committee on Admission of New Parishes and Missions. The Rev. Brian Rebholtz reported no new or disbanding missions or territories within the Diocese.

#### **Agenda and House Rules**

Bishop Traquair called upon Mr. Jim Sargent, Dispatch of Business, to present the agenda and house rules for Convention. Mr. Jim Sargent moved the adoption of the Agenda and adoption of the House Rules as stated in the convention packet, which shall operate both within and outside of the Convention, and for ratification of actions already taken in accordance with the Rules. The motion was adopted unanimously.

#### **Nomination and Election of Officers of Convention**

Bishop Traquair nominated the following persons for election to the following offices:

### **Secretary and Assistant Secretary**

The Rev. Matthew (Matt) Warren, Secretary  
Ms. Jacqi Seppi, Assistant Secretary

### **Chancellor and Vice Chancellors**

Ms. Barbara Jewell, Chancellor  
Canon L. Miles Snyder, Chancellor Emeritus and Vice Chancellor  
Canon Charles Mack, Chancellor Emeritus and Vice Chancellor  
Mr. Malcolm Mackenzie, Vice Chancellor  
Mr. Kevin Davis, Vice Chancellor

### **Treasurer**

Mr. John Nykamp, Treasurer

Bishop Traquair recognized Canon Charles Mack as Historiographer.

### **Appointment of Committees of Convention**

Bishop Traquair made the following appointments to Committees of Convention:

Ms. Barbara Jewell, Parliamentarian  
Mr. Jim Sargent, Dispatch of Business  
The Rev. Brian Rebholtz, Admission of New Parishes and Missions  
The Rev. Rodney Davis, Constitution and Canons  
Ms. Leta Parks, Resolutions  
Mr. John Miller, Nominations  
Mr. Jim Sargent, Sergeant-at-Arms  
The Rev. Matthew (Matt) Warren, Judge of Elections  
The Rev. Matthew (Matt) Warren, Ms. Leta Parks, Ms. Barbara Jewell, Minutes Committee  
Ms. Jacqi Seppi, Minutes  
The Rev. Matthew (Matt) Warren, Credentials  
Mr. Alan Rellaford, Ms. Michelle Karimi, Convention Managers

### **Bishop's Appointments and Appointments for Confirmation**

Bishop Traquair announced her appointments and appointments for confirmation as follows:

#### **Archdeacons**

The Ven. Pam Gossard  
The Ven. Margaret Grayden

#### **Disciplinary Board**

The Rev. Rod McAulay

#### **Ecumenical Religious Officer**

The Rev. William Rontani

**Indigenous Missioner**

The Rev. Canon Tina Campbell

**ERD Coordinator**

The Rev. Jane Snibbe

**Commission on Ministry**

Ms. Leta Parks, Co-Chair

The Rev. Kate Sefton, Co-Chair

Ms. Rosemary Braxton

Ms. Susan Calkin

The Rev. David Englund

The Rev. Babette Haggengjos

The Rev. Daniel London

Mr. Malcolm Mackenzie

Ms. Linda Maxwell

The Rev. Betsey Monnot

The Rev. Brian Rebholtz

Dr. Scott Stockburger

**Episcopal Community Services**

The Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair, Ex-Officio

The Rev. Canon Beatryce "Cookie" Clark, President

Ms. Betty Harrison-Smith, Vice President for Grants

The Rev. Patricia (Patty) Park, Secretary

Mr. Jim Schaal, Vice President for Administration & Communication

Ms. Maria Acuna-Feldman

Ms. Stacey Duval

Ms. Rebecca Freie

Mr. Paul Mallett

Ms. Barbara Shreve

Ms. Marcia Traner

Ms. Susan Wahlstrom

**The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California**

The Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair, Ex-Officio

Ms. Barbara Jewell, Ex Officio, Chancellor

Mr. Gregg Wickham, President

The Rev. Perry W. Polk, Vice President

Ms. Kathe Charters, Secretary/Treasurer

The Bishop called for a motion to elect. All persons listed were elected by a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried. Bishop Traquair declared those listed to be appointed or elected.

Bishop Traquair made the following appointments.

**Regional Deans of Convocations**

The Very Rev. Richard Yale, Alta California Deanery  
The Very Rev. Mary Claugus, Capital Deanery  
The Very Rev. Sarah Quinney, Central Deanery  
The Very Rev. Daniel Green, Russian River Deanery  
The Very Rev. Sara Potter, Semper Virens Deanery  
The Very Rev. Canon Mary Hauck, Sierra Deanery

The Dean of the Wingfield Deanery will be announced at a later time. The Rev. Mack Olson was thanked for his many years as the Dean of the Wingfield Deanery.

Bishop Traquair offered seat and voice to the following people:

The Rev. Bryon Hansen  
Ms. Roberta Hancock  
Dr. Cynthia Thiede  
The Society of St. Francis  
Vice Chancellors  
Canonically non-resident clergy  
Licensed Clergy  
Postulants and candidates for Holy Orders  
Lay officers of Commissions, Committees, Boards and Task Forces  
Diocesan Officers  
Lay leaders of daily prayers  
Laity appointed to give reports  
Laity presenting workshops  
Volunteers and Staff of The Belfry and LEVN  
Office of the Bishop Staff

Bishop Traquair read the Necrology, and the list of those newly canonically resident in the diocese.

Losses by death: Rev. Linda Moore, Rev. William McClain, Mr. Jack Cummings

Ordained to the Diaconate: Grace Flint, Portia Hopkins, Marcia Hansen, Karen Lawler, Laurie Warren, Libby Vincent

Transferred by Letters Dimissory: Erika Jackson-Essiem, Matthew Woodward

Consent agenda – There was nothing to report for the consent agenda.

### **File by Title Reports**

Bishop Traquair called for the following reports to be filed by title:

Report of the Standing Committee – Mr. Jim Sargent  
Report of the Board of Trustees - The Rev. Michael Monnot  
Treasurer's Report and Review of Budget for 2021 - Mr. John Nykamp  
Archdeacons Report – The Ven. Pam Gossard

### Deanery Reports

The Very Rev. Richard Yale, Alta California Deanery  
The Very Rev. Mary Claugus, Capital Deanery  
The Very Rev. Sarah Quinney, Central Deanery  
The Very Rev. Daniel Green, Russian River Deanery  
The Very Rev. Sara Potter, Semper Virens Deanery  
The Very Rev. Canon Mary Hauck, Sierra Deanery  
The Very Rev. Thomas (Mack) Olson, Wingfield Deanery

The reports were entered into the convention record. The members of the various Boards, Committees, and Deaneries were thanked.

### **Nominations**

Bishop Traquair called on Mr. John Miller, Elections, for the report of the nominations committee. Mr. John Miller moved that those presented in the nominations packet be placed in nomination for their respective office as follows:

#### **Board of Trustees**

Barbara Phillips Barrett, Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan, John Miller

Bishop Traquair called for substitute floor nominations. The nominees were:

Dan Phillips, Rev. Jim Richardson, Bob Wohlsen

Bishop Traquair declared the nominations to be closed, there being no further nominations nor objections.

#### **Standing Committee**

Lay: Mr. Gerard (Jerry) Paré, Mr. Chris Sanft, Sandra Takagi

Clergy: The Rev. Kathy Hopner, The Rev. Cindy Long

Bishop Traquair called for substitute floor nominations. The nominees were:

Rev. Tim McDonald

Bishop Traquair declared the nominations to be closed, there being no further nominations nor objections.

**FIRST BALLOT** Bishop Traquair called for the First Ballot. The first ballot took place.

#### **Bishop's Address to Convention**

Bishop Traquair delivered her Address to Convention

### **Keynote Speakers**

Bishop Traquair called upon Rev. Lewis Powell, who gave a presentation on Becoming Beloved Community.

Bishop Traquair called upon Ven. Pam Gossard, who gave a presentation on Creation Care.

### **Petition: Ordering Dissolution of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Ferndale**

Bishop Traquair called upon The Rev. Nancy Streufert and The Rev. Eric Duff, who presented the petition by the Wardens, Vestry and Congregation of St. Mary's Mission, in Humboldt County, California, for dissolving St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Upon a motion by Rev. Eric Duff, and duly seconded, the following petition was accepted and voted on by the majority.

We, the undersigned, being the Senior Warden and Secretary/Treasurer of the Mission Committee, make the following petition based on the unanimous consent of the Mission Committee, which consists of four members:

#### **PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION**

This Petition of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Ferndale, California, is addressed to the Convention of The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Northern California, and represents the following:

1. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Ferndale, was established as a mission congregation of this Diocese on October 26, 1897 and has retained mission status to the present day.

2. After the death of our last Vicar, the Rev. Kenneth Allen (circa 2000), the church has been served by supply clergy in celebrating Holy Eucharist once per month, primarily the Rev. Eric Duff and in recent years, alternating with the Rev. Nancy Streufert. Other supply clergy over this period included the Rev. David Shewmaker and the Rev. Dr. Susan Armstrong. Morning Prayer services have been held on the other Sundays led by lay members of the church.

3. When Father Duff began serving St. Mary's in 2007, the average Sunday attendance was seven. Several members have died or moved away since then, and membership now stands at four women ranging in age from 75 to 85. Because of our age and personal and family health issues, we no longer have the energy or the will to prepare for and lead Sunday services, manage the finances, maintain the property, and respond to the reporting requirements of the Diocese.

4. Ferndale is a small, rural community that reflects the current nationwide trend of declining church membership in rural areas. The other churches in Ferndale are generally in decline as well.

Under the circumstances, we see no way forward for St. Mary's to continue as an organized mission of the Diocese. THEREFORE, we pray that the Diocesan Convention act by acclamation to order dissolution of the organized mission pursuant to Canon 30.12.

An Order for Evening worship was held at 6:25pm. Bishop Traquair called Convention into recess at 7:00pm.

**Saturday, November 7, 2020**

Bishop Traquair called the second business session to order at 8:40am.

Bishop Traquair called upon Ms. Shelby Larkey and Ms. Elizabeth Potts who gave a presentation on the 2020 Pathways.

At 9:15am, Convention broke into workshops. Four workshops were offered at the 2020 Convention:

A Perfect Storm: Mental Health in the Collision of Pandemics  
Becoming Beloved Community in the Diocese of Northern California  
Best Skills: Best Churches Nonprofit Management for Churches  
Living into our Baptism: Ancient/Future Formation for Baptismal Living

At 11:30am Bishop Traquair called the third business session to order.

Bishop gave her thanks to those who assisted in Convention and gave the Convention a Mission Charge.

**Results of the ballot**

Bishop Traquair called upon Rev. Matt Warren to give the results of the ballot. He did so and the following were elected:

Board of Trustees: Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan, Ms. Daphne Vernon

Standing Committee Lay: Ms. Sandra Takagi

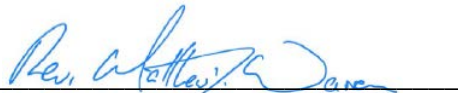
Standing Committee Clergy: The Rev. Cindy Long

The newly elected Board of Trustees, Standing Committee, and General Convention Deputies were commissioned.

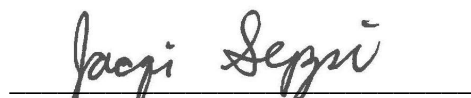
**Blessing from the Bishop and Dismissal by the Archdeacons**

Following the Closing Prayer upon motion duly made, seconded and passed unanimously, Bishop Traquair adjourned the Convention at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by:



The Rev. Matt Warren  
Secretary of Convention



Ms. Jacqi Seppi  
assistant secretary of Convention

Reviewed by:



Ms. Barbara Jewell  
Parliamentarian



Ms. Leta Parks  
Chair of Resolutions