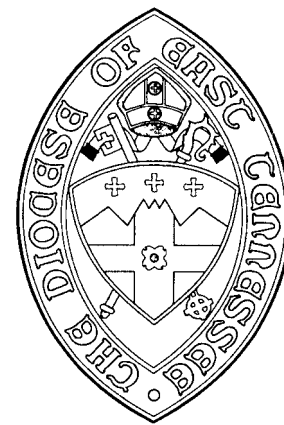


THE EAST TENNESSEE EPISCOPALIAN



The Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee ♦ Volume 22, Special Issue: 2007 Convention



This special issue is filled with information about the 2007 Diocesan Convention that will be held Feb. 9-10 at the Park Vista in Gatlinburg. This issue examines how the Diocese of East Tennessee operates and how it fits into the larger church, and it shares information from the area pre-convention meetings, including the budget, resolutions and nominees to diocesan posts.

— The Editor

**SPECIAL
ISSUE**

Area meetings present proposed diocesan budget, convention issues

♦ **By Sharon Rasmussen and Emily McDonald**

As this special pre-convention issue is being prepared, two of the three Pre-Convention Orientation Meetings have been held. Each year, clergy, delegates and interested others are invited to attend the meeting scheduled in their area.

The Rev. Stephen Askew, canon to the ordinary, serves as secretary to the convention. At the pre-convention meetings, he offers an overview of the “flow” of the convention and answers questions about the process.

The Order of Convention includes:

Friday, Feb. 9

- ♦ Registration: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- ♦ Budget and Resolutions hearings: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- ♦ Opening of the convention: 1 p.m. (Bishop’s address is in this segment, approximately 1:30 p.m.)
- ♦ Resolutions may be proposed until 3:45 p.m.
- ♦ Nominations may be made until 4 p.m.
- ♦ Health Fair and Exhibits: 4 – 7 p.m.

- ♦ Reception: 6 p.m.
- ♦ Dinner: 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10

- ♦ Registration: 7:30 a.m.
- ♦ Budget and resolutions hearings: 7:30 a.m.
- ♦ Convention continues: 8:30 a.m. (Presiding bishop’s presentation is in this segment, at approximately 9:30 a.m.)
- ♦ Break for Park Vista Hotel checkout: 11 a.m.
- ♦ Seated lunch: 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Grace Point celebration: 12:30 p.m.
- ♦ Election results, final business, Liturgy of the Table: 1:30 p.m.
- ♦ Adjournment at approximately 3 p.m.

Bishop Charles vonRosenberg takes some time at pre-convention meetings to address any questions. This year, a number of people have asked about logistical arrangements — parking, meals and such. Because the presiding bishop will be with us, the Convention Planning Committee expects more visitors than in past years, and its members and the diocesan staff have worked to anticipate

and address in advance any potential problems. Please see page 7 for more on visitor arrangements.

Also on the pre-convention meeting agenda, Don Sproles, treasurer of the diocese, and Mary Berl, diocesan administrator, present and review the diocesan budget that has been hammered out by the Budget and Finance Committee.

At the convention, the committee will hold hearings — one Friday, Feb. 9, at 11:30 a.m. and one Saturday, Feb. 10, at 7:30 a.m. — for delegate input on the budget.

To prepare each year’s budget, the committee considers parishes’ response to the diocesan asking. The asking is a formula that takes into account a parish’s normal operating income as reported on the parochial report. Each parish is asked for 11 percent of its first \$150,000, 16 percent of the next \$350,000, 17 3/4 percent of the next 500,000 and 18 1/2 percent of any amount over \$1 million.

MEETING continues on page 6

What’s a diocese, and why does it hold a convention each year?

♦ **By Sharon Rasmussen**
Diocesan Communication Director

The central body of organization in the Episcopal Church is the diocese, which is defined as all the Episcopal parishes in a geographic area that are under the pastoral leadership of a bishop.

This diocese, the Diocese of East Tennessee, comprises 34 counties in East Tennessee and three counties in North Georgia, with the Cumberland Plateau as the western border. Within this area are 45 congregations and five worshipping communities. The diocese maintains a Web site at etdiocese.net, and links to parish Web sites are posted there.

The diocesan bishop, sometimes called the ordinary, consecrates other bish-

ops-elect, ordains deacons and priests to the ministry, administers confirmation of members, consecrates buildings, administers ecclesiastical discipline and presides over the annual convention of the diocese. The Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg is the third bishop of East Tennessee.

The population of the diocese is concentrated in the major metro areas: Chattanooga, Knoxville and the Tri-Cities area. Congregations range in attendance from 10 to nearly 400 faithful worshippers.

According to the most recent data made available by the Episcopal Church, in 2005 the diocese’s church members numbered approximately 16,000, with average Sunday service attendance of nearly 6,000 — numbers that have remained fairly consistent for the past 10

years. Total reported plate and pledge income in all parishes was up slightly over the previous year, to about \$12 million.

The governing body of the diocese is the convention, which meets annually according to the canons and comprises the resident clergy and the lay delegates who are elected by parish vestries. Clergy number approximately 150, which includes those serving parishes, non-parochial and retired priests and deacons.

The annual convention’s proceedings are contained in each year’s Convention Journal. The latest Journal is posted to the Web at etdiocese.net/cj2006/. In between conventions, the Bishop and Council serves as the executive board of the diocese, and the bishop is its chairperson. A

Standing Committee of three lay and three clergy members advises the bishop. The diocesan leadership and links to ministry Web pages may be found at etdiocese.net/pages/dioleaders.php.

Among the numerous and diverse ministries in the diocese:

- ♦ A shared ministry approach in many of our parishes values the contributions of all the baptized.

- ♦ The diocese supports the Millennium Development Goals by designating 0.7 percent of its budget specifically to world mission, in addition to ministries that are part of the ongoing work of the diocese, its parishes and people.

- ♦ East Tennessee is linked in a “com-

DIocese continues on page 4



The Diocese of East Tennessee

Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg
cgvonr@etdiocese.net

Diocesan House
814 Episcopal School Way
Knoxville, Tenn. 37932
865-966-2110
Web site: etdiocese.net

Vision Statement

The Diocese of East Tennessee is One Church. We are called to love in the name of Christ and to grow in people and in resources for ministry and for mission. We anticipate miracles as God works through us.

The diocese is in communion with:

The Episcopal Church
Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori
The Anglican Communion
Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Rev. Dr. Rowan Williams

THE EAST TENNESSEE
EPISCOPALIAN

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Candidates nominated for election

Diocesan mission and ministry depend on individuals who step forward and take on leadership roles. A number of these roles are filled by election at the diocesan convention; this year's vacancies are described below, along with information about the individuals who have been nominated.

Nominations also may be made from the convention floor. Candidates are asked to follow the instructions on the nomination form – available for down-

load at on the diocesan Web site, etdiocese.net – and submit it along with a brief biography (100 words or less) and a photo to the Secretary of the Convention on Feb. 9 in Gatlinburg. New candidates are asked to bring 300 copies of this information for distribution.

The names and contact information of those who are serving the diocese are listed at etdiocese.net/pages/dioleaders.php, along with links to mission and ministry Web pages.

Bishop and Council

The Bishop and Council comprises the bishop plus eight lay and eight clerical members who represent each of the three geographical areas of the diocese – three of each from the populous South East and Middle East areas and two of each from the Upper East Area.

Each term is three years. Clergy and lay members may not be from the same parish, and members must be 18 years old or more. Bishop and Council members may not serve simultaneously on the Standing Committee or the Ecclesiastical Trial Court. Members gather four to six times a year for meetings at the Diocesan House in Knoxville, and an overnight retreat is conducted annually.

“B&C” carries out the work of the Diocesan Convention between its annual meetings and oversees the program of the diocese.

Among its responsibilities, B&C prepares the diocesan budget to be approved by Diocesan Convention and approves grants and loans recommended by the Opportunity Fund Committee. Members serve on the Opportunity Fund and other council committees: Anti-racism, Appalachian Ministries, Bio-Ethics, Budget and Finance, Christian Formation, Companion Diocese, Health Insurance, Peace and Justice Ministries, Property, Stewardship and the Youth Action Council.

Six positions are open on Bishop and Council this year. The Rev. Matilda Dunn and Mr. Henry Lodge (South East Area); the Rev. Harry Howard and Ms. Linda Dietrich (Middle East Area); and the Rev. Wendie Jakobsons (Upper East Area) complete their terms, and we thank them heartily for their service.

The Rev. Harry Howard was completing an unexpired term and is running this year for a full term.

In addition, we will miss Mr. Thomas Young of the Upper East Area, who died recently. His unexpired term (through 2008) will be filled by election of the convention.

No nominations have been received for the South East Area clergy or lay seats or for the Middle East Area lay seat. Individuals who have been nominated for election to the Bishop and Council are:



The Rev. Harry L. Howard

Bishop and Council, Middle East Area for three-year clergy term

The Rev. Harry L. Howard – Priest Associate, St. Andrew, Maryville; Nominated by the vestry of St. Andrew, Maryville

Committed to deepening the ministry links among local parishes and between parishes and the diocese in order to grow common ministry. Is completing an unexpired one-year term as member of Bishop and Council.

Lay delegate to diocesan conventions (2001-2005). B.A., M.Th., M.A., and Ph.D. Faculty member at Maryville College for 31 years. Ordained deacon June 18, 2005, and priest, January 21, 2006, in Diocese of East Tennessee.



The Rev. Edward J. "Jay" Mills

Bishop and Council, Upper East Area for three-year clergy term

The Rev. Edward J. "Jay" Mills III – Rector, St. Paul, Kingsport; Nominated by the Rev. Dr. Lee Schaefer

I have been married to Karen Boyd Mills for 30 years, and we have a son, Jamie, 24, and a daughter, Sarah, 18.

I have been active in civic activities such as Cub and Boy Scouts, coaching Little League baseball, chaplain to the Huntington (W.V.) Cubs Rookie League Baseball affiliate, and I currently volunteer as a high school wrestling coach.

I have been ordained since 1980, priest since 1981. I have served churches in the dioceses of West Virginia, East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia as vicar, interim and rector, primarily of small, struggling churches. I have been Rector of St. Paul's Church in Kingsport for two years now.

I served on Diocesan Council (the equivalent to East Tennessee's Bishop and Council) in the Diocese of West Virginia. I also served there on the Peterkin Advisory Board (Peterkin is the Diocese of West Virginia's Camp and Conference Center).

I am happily an Episcopalian and would be honored to serve in this capacity if it be God's will.

To nominate a candidate at the convention

The last call for nominations from the floor of the convention for all positions is Friday, Feb. 9, at 4 p.m. The only exception is clergy nominees to Bishop and Council, who may be nominated until Saturday morning.

To nominate an individual at the convention, please download the nomination form (etdiocese.net/dioconv2007/nominationsform.pdf), complete it according to the instructions and bring 300 copies for distribution to clergy and delegates at the convention.

Ecclesiastical Trial Court

Three clergy and two lay persons serve on the Ecclesiastical Trial Court, each for a five-year term. Members are eligible for re-election when their terms expire.

Members of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court may not serve simultaneously on the Bishop and Council or the Standing Committee.

The court is responsible for conducting an ecclesiastical trial when a formal allegation of canonical offense (a presentment) has been submitted by the diocesan Standing Committee.

We note with sadness the passing of lay member Mr. Tommy Scott. The convention will elect a candidate to fill his unexpired seat, which continues until 2010.



Ms. Arline Caliger

Ecclesiastical Trial Court, for unexpired lay term to 2010

Ms. Arline Caliger – St. Francis of Assisi, Ooltewah; Nominated by the Rev. Buckley Robbins and the vestry of St. Francis of Assisi, Ooltewah

Arline Caliger received her B.S. degree from Towson State University and a masters degree from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

NOMINATIONS continued from page 2

A 25-year Navy veteran hospital corpsman and medical photographer, she retired from the Veterans' Administration where she held chief of medical media positions in V.A. medical centers in Washington D.C. and in Maryland.

Arline has been a member of her parish vestry, holding both junior and senior warden positions from 2004 to 2006.

She has served as an alternate at diocesan conventions and also served on the Convention Planning Committee in 2006 as co-chair for logistics.

She serves as president of the East Tennessee Episcopal Church Women through 2007. She is an active member of her parish ECW and of Daughters of the King, and she is entering her fourth year of Education for Ministry.

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee serves as a council of advice to the bishop. Among its responsibilities, it gives consent for all bishops elected in the Episcopal Church, recommends individuals for ordination, and advises on the purchase, sale or encumbrance of any diocesan property or property held by a congregation or ministry of the diocese.

All complaints involving sexual misconduct by lay employees, volunteers or clergy are referred to the Standing Committee.

Finally, in the event the diocese is without a bishop, the Standing Committee serves as the ecclesiastical authority until the diocese elects a new bishop.

The Standing Committee schedules monthly meetings, but sometimes it conducts business via e-mail or conference call.

The Standing Committee has six members, three clergy and three lay. One clergy and one lay member rotate off each year. Each member's term is three years, and they may be re-elected for one successive term.

Members of the Standing Committee may not serve simultaneously on the Bishop and Council, Commission on Ministry or Ecclesiastical Trial Court.

The Rev. George Choyce cycles off the Standing Committee this year, and we express thanks for his service. Mr. Jim Shearouse's term also ends, and he will stand for re-election.

Nominees for Standing Committee are:



The Rev. J.W. "Cal" Calhoun

Standing Committee, for clergy three-year term
The Rev. J. W. "Cal" Calhoun – Rector, Good Samaritan, Knoxville; Nominated by the Rev. Peter Keese

The Rev. J. W. "Cal" Calhoun Jr. serves the Diocese of East Tennessee on the Commission on Ministry and on the Shared Ministry Committee.

Prior to coming to East Tennessee, he was assistant rector of the Church of the

Nativity in Greenwood, Miss.

In the Diocese of Mississippi, Cal was on the committee for the planning and organization of the Honduras Medical Mission and was director at the diocesan camp for Special Session II, a camp for mentally and physically handicapped children and adults.

Cal received his M. Div. at the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas, and his B.S. in Polymer Chemistry from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Cal and his wife Anna, have two children, Bryce, 13, and Molly, 8.



Mr. Bill Farnham

Standing Committee, for lay three-year term

Mr. Bill Farnham – St. Andrew, Harriman; Nominated by the Rev. Joseph Pinner

Bill Farnham has served at St. Andrew's in various capacities, including junior and senior wardens multiple times, vestry multiple times, reader, eucharistic visitor, pastoral associate and as a member of the parish Long-Range Planning Committee.

He assists the rector with training of lectors and readers, acolytes and pastoral associates.

He has been delegate to diocesan convention for most of the years the diocese has been in existence.

Bill serves the diocese as a member of the Bio-Ethics Commission and has served as ecumenical officer; as a member of a committee supporting victims of crime and law enforcement officers and their families; as chair and member of the Convention Committee on General Resolutions; and as a member of the Standing Committee.

Bill understands the work of the Standing Committee and takes it very seriously, missing only one meeting for a medical procedure during his previous three-year term. He has a working relationship with most current members of the Standing Committee and is willing to commit to this three-year term.



Mr. John Nagy

Standing Committee, for lay three-year term

Mr. John Nagy – St. John, Johnson City; Nominated by the vestry of St. John, Johnson City
A "cradle"

Episcopalian active in the church since childhood, John Nagy has served on the Worship Task Force, two terms on the vestry, children's and adults' choir, and delegate for St. John's at Diocesan Convention on two occasions.

John is co-founder of St. John's Young Families' Fellowship and serves as adult faith formation leader, eucharistic minister, reader, usher and Sunday school teacher.

John is employed as senior manager of an exclusive nuclear facility as senior licensing and regulatory compliance officer and corporate radiation safety officer. He is

Other diocesan posts

The elections for Bishop and Council, Ecclesiastical Trial Court, Standing Committee and University of the South Trustee are not the only elections the Convention will conduct.

In the first business session, the Convention typically elects by acclamation the secretary and assistant secretaries to the Convention; the diocesan treasurer and assistant treasurers; the chancellor and the vice chancellors; and the diocesan registrar.

Each year, the bishop also nominates a slate of candidates to fill the shoes of the Camp and Retreat Center Board of Managers members who rotate off. And in those years that the following committees, commissions and boards have vacancies, nominees are named: Commission on Ministry, Committee on the Church Pension Fund, Committee on the Constitution and Canons and Episcopal Endowment Corp.

At the 2008 convention, candidates will be considered for election as deputies to the 2009 General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

responsible for liaison with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, all routine regulatory affairs – and the legal matters that accompany them – and for promotion of a strong safety culture.

John lives in Johnson City with his wife, Joy, and their children, Emily, 9, and Joseph, 6.



Mr. Jim Shearouse

Standing Committee, for lay three-year term

Mr. Jim Shearouse – St. Alban, Hixson; Nominated by the Rev. Hugh Jones

Married with six children and nine grandchildren, Jim is the owner of a manufacturers' rep agency and has been an Episcopalian since 1973.

Jim has served on vestry, been clerk, junior warden and senior warden (5 times). He has been a delegate to diocesan convention 26 times, been a lay reader, Sunday school teacher, choir member, chalice bearer and search committee chairman twice. He is an EFM graduate and former mentor and has worked with ECSET, serving as delegate, board member and president. He is an active Cursillista.

Jim has served the diocese as a member of Bishop and Council twice (1983-1986 and 1995-1997), as well as general arrangements chairman for diocesan convention in 1980.

He was first alternate in 1991 and deputy in 1997, 2000, 2003, and 2006 to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, and at the last two General Conventions he served as legislative secretary for the House of Deputies.

He has been a DuBose Conference

Center Board of Managers member and its president. He is diocesan coordinator for Faith Alive and has served on its board of directors. He is running for re-election to the Standing Committee.

Trustee, University of the South

Two lay people and one member of the clergy serve on the board of trustees of the University of the South. The term of office is three years, and trustees can be re-elected for one successive term. One trustee rotates off each year.

Trustees are expected to attend the annual board meeting each May and any special meetings that may occur throughout the year.

Trustees should be personally committed to the basic aims of the university. They are responsible for informing their dioceses about the university and should be willing to contribute to its financial well-being.

Ms. Prestine Huckabay ends her term this year, and thanks are given for her service. Nominees are:



Mr. Chris Cone

Trustee, University of the South, lay three-year term

Mr. Chris Cone – St. Andrew, Maryville; Nominated by the vestry of St. Andrew, Maryville

Chris Cone is committed to Sewanee and its philosophy as an institution of the Episcopal Church.

As trustee, he will use his skills and experience to faithfully represent the diocese.

A lifelong Episcopalian, Chris is the senior warden at St. Andrew, Maryville, and he served as a campaign co-chairman that raised money for a new Parish House.

At Sewanee, Chris played soccer and received the Red Lancaster Scholarship. After attending Oxford University, he graduated from Sewanee in 1988, cum laude.

Chris Cone is a litigation attorney in Knoxville, and he has served on the board of a nonprofit home for people who have cerebral palsy.



Ms. Lee Phillips

Trustee, University of the South, lay three-year term

Ms. Lee Phillips – St. John, Johnson City; Nominated by the vestry of St. John, Johnson City

Lee Phillips received her B.A. degree from Sewanee in 1991 and her master's (1993) and doctorate (1998) from Vanderbilt University in English Literature.

She has served as a freelance writer and editor in the Tri-Cities, Tennessee/Virginia areas and as an editorial assistant for the Encyclopedia of Appalachia.

A member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Johnson City since 1997, Lee Phillips resides in Johnson City with husband, Will, and children, Catherine, 7, and Wyatt, 3. ■

DIocese continued from page 1

panion diocese” partnership with the Diocese of South Dakota for the mutual exchange of resources and support.

- ♦ The entire diocese is in the area known as Appalachia, and our Appalachian Ministries Resource Team spearheads assistance and interaction activities.

- ♦ The diocese has more than 10 Jubilee Centers, which focus on outreach within their communities.

In addition, eight parish day schools have nearly 100 teachers and an enrollment totaling nearly 700 students; campus ministries have homes at the University of Tennessee campuses in Knoxville and Chattanooga and at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City; a fulltime diocesan youth coordinator works with the Youth Action Council and parish youth ministries; and the diocesan “living room” is its 269-acre camp and retreat center, Grace Point, on Watts Bar Lake near Kingston.

History

In January 1826, James Hervey Otey, an Episcopal deacon, came to Tennessee to begin a teaching career. He was ordained a priest June 17, 1827. The first convention of the Diocese of Tennessee was held June 1-2, 1829, and Otey was elected its first bishop on June 30, 1833. St. Paul Episcopal Church in Franklin was the statewide diocese’s first congregation.

The Diocese of Tennessee grew, and conversations about dividing it became serious during the episcopate of William Evan Sanders, its eighth bishop. The Diocese of West Tennessee separated in 1982 along the line of the Tennessee River west of Nashville. The Diocese of East Tennessee was born Jan. 1, 1985, when the eastern portion separated from the continuing Diocese of Tennessee along the line of the Cumberland Plateau. Sanders chose to go with the new eastern diocese and became its first bishop.

In October 1984, the Diocese of East Tennessee in convention adopted a seal.

Three crosses on the blue background of a shield symbolize the three dioceses now present in Tennessee. The jagged line below the three crosses symbolizes the mountains, and a dogwood blossom is a symbol both of Christianity and of the East Tennessee region. The blossom is centered within a gold cross on a red field at the base of the shield, reminiscent of the seal of the original Diocese of Tennessee. The crossed key and crozier behind the shield are topped by a mitre, all of which represent the bishop.

St. John Cathedral in downtown Knoxville is the oldest Episcopal congregation in East Tennessee. It was organized as a mission in 1829 and attained parish status in

1844. It became the cathedral of the diocese on Dec. 4, 1986.

St. Paul, Seymour, was recognized at the 2006 diocesan convention as the newest worshipping community. The youngest parishes are St. Francis of Assisi in Ooltewah and St. Clare in LaFollette, both of which were formed in 1993.

Robert Tharp was elected bishop coadjutor in 1990. In 1991, he became the second bishop of the diocese upon Bishop Sanders’ retirement. Bishop Tharp retired in 1999, and he died in May 2003. Charles vonRosenberg was elected and consecrated third bishop of the diocese in 1999. Bishop vonRosenberg’s sermons and annual addresses to the diocese are available online, and a biography is posted on the bishop’s page at etdiocese.net/pages/bishop.

In February 1999, the annual convention approved this vision statement:

The Diocese of East Tennessee is one church. We are called to love in the name of Jesus Christ and to grow in people and in resources for ministry and mission. We anticipate miracles, as God works through us.

Ground was broken adjacent to St. John Cathedral on Oct. 9, 1987, for a diocesan center, which was completed along with the cathedral’s Great Hall in 1988. When the cathedral leadership indicated interest in purchasing the diocesan center to ease its space constraints, the diocese sold the building to the cathedral in March 2002.

Ground was broken for new offices on two acres of land the diocese purchased from the Episcopal School of Knoxville. The new Diocesan House opened July 7, 2003. In addition to the offices of the bishop and his staff, it houses Chapter & Verse Episcopal Bookshop, conference and work rooms, the archives and a chapel.

The Episcopal Church

The diocese is responsible both to its local congregations and to the larger church, the Episcopal Church. Like all Anglican churches, the Episcopal Church is distinguished by its standing in both Protestant and Catholic traditions, its insistence that people be able to worship in their first language, its members’ use of a Book of Common Prayer and their reliance on scripture, tradition and reason in interpreting God’s Word.

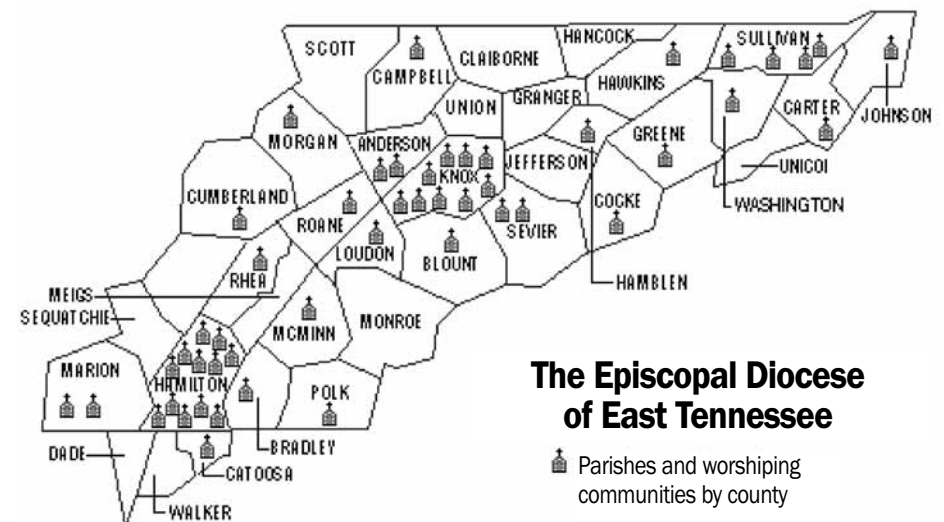
The Episcopal Church has about 2.32 million members in the United States and the Caribbean, Central America, the Philippines, Taiwan and Europe. Because its geography spreads beyond the United States, the Episcopal Church is not a “national” church, and the only accurate shorthand expression is the acronym, TEC.

The Episcopal Church is under the leadership of a presiding bishop. The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori was elected at



ETE file photo

The Diocesan House in West Knoxville



The Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee

Parishes and worshipping communities by county

the 2006 General Convention to a nine-year term as presiding bishop, and she was installed Nov. 4, 2006, at the Washington National Cathedral.

The Episcopal Church is governed by a bicameral General Convention, which meets every three years. Legislation may originate in either the House of Bishops or the House of Deputies, which has four clerical and four lay deputies from each of the 110 dioceses. Concurrence of the other house is required for passage of legislation. Between conventions, leadership comes from the 39-member elected Executive Council, which meets quarterly.

A regional group of dioceses is called a province. Bishops, clergy and elected lay deputies of each province meet annually as a synod. An elected province president chairs the synod. The Diocese of East Tennessee and 19 other southeastern dioceses make up Province IV, called the Province of Sewanee. The Episcopal Church has nine provinces.

For more about the Episcopal Church, visit its Web site: www.episcopalchurch.org.

The Anglican Communion

The Episcopal Church is a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion, the churches around the world that trace their roots to the Church of England and maintain a “communion” with it. The Anglican

Communion has 38 member provinces, with 77 million members in 164 countries.

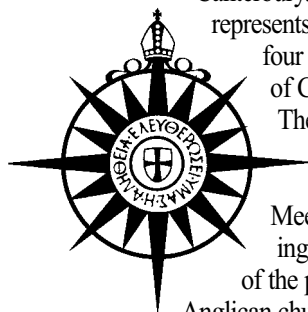
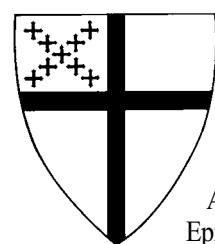
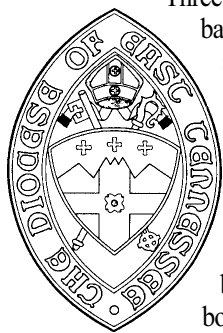
The Communion’s spiritual leader is the Archbishop of Canterbury. On Feb. 27, 2003, the church enthroned the Most Rev. Rowan Williams as 104th Archbishop of Canterbury. This office represents one of the

four “Instruments of Communion.” The other three are the Primates’ Meeting, a gathering of top officials of the provincial Anglican churches; the Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops; and the Anglican Consultative Council, which includes representation of the laity.

The Communion is a diverse body, and periodic disagreements are inevitable. Major clashes have occurred over many issues, including changes to the prayer book; inclusion regardless of race; the ordination of women and then women’s elevation to the episcopate; and most recently, issues of human sexuality.

For more information about the Anglican Communion, visit its Web portal at www.anglicancommunion.org.

This article is posted on the Web at etdiocese.net/pages/history-stats.htm.



PROPOSED RESOLUTION
for the Diocese of East Tennessee Annual Convention, Feb. 9-10, 2007

TITLE: **Renewing Our Commitment to Nuclear Disarmament by Opposing the Planned New Nuclear Weapons Plant in Our Diocese**

PROPOSED BY: Episcopal Peace Fellowship; St James Knoxville Chapter, St Joseph the Carpenter Sevierville Chapter; Ida Mae Patteson; Nancy Mott; The Rev. Jocelyn Bell

REPRESENTATIVE AT CONVENTION: Ida Mae Patteson

REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT INFO: Ida Mae Patteson, P.O. Box 65, New Market, TN 37820; (865) 475-9505

RESOLVED, that the 23rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee voices its opposition to Complex 2030, a new nuclear weapons facility proposed by the U. S. Department of Energy for construction in Oak Ridge; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the convention opposes the construction by the United States of such facilities here or anywhere else; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the convention requests the Bishop to convey to our elected representatives and to appropriate officials of the Department of Energy our opposition to Complex 2030.

EXPLANATION OF THE RESOLUTION: The Complex 2030 proposed by the Department of Energy will, if constructed, inaugurate production of a new generation of nuclear weapons by the United States. Its construction will violate both U.S. treaty commitments and the teachings of Christ and the Church. General conventions of Episcopal Church (1976, 1985, 1991, 1994, and 1997), as well as the 1998 Lambeth Conference, have stated strong opposition to the design, testing and manufacture of nuclear weapons. Proceeding with the construction of Complex 2030 will undermine any claim by our nation to be a leader in the control and elimination of weapons of mass destruction. Our voice on this matter is urgently required, particularly since the proposed new nuclear weapons plant is to be built within our diocese.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION
for the Diocese of East Tennessee Annual Convention, Feb. 9-10, 2007

TITLE: **Water Quality**

PROPOSED BY: The Rev. Carter N. Paden, rector of St. Peter's Church and School, Chattanooga, Tennessee

REPRESENTATIVE AT CONVENTION: The Rev. Carter Paden

REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT INFO: The Rev. Carter Paden, St. Peter's Episcopal Church and School, 848 Ashland Terrace, Chattanooga, TN 37415, (423) 877-2428, carterpaden@stpeters.org

RESOLVED, that this Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee urge every parish to envision itself not only within its parish boundaries, but take steps to see itself within the watershed in which it is placed (resolution accompanied by map generated for St. Peter's Parish in Chattanooga)

RESOLVED, that all congregations be urged to distribute the good practices brochures on water quality to its parishioners and raise awareness on this issue (see www.tennesseewaterworks.com), and furthermore, be it

RESOLVED, that all future construction by the Diocese would examine the environmental and water quality impact of impervious surfaces and surfacing and would examine and weigh alternatives.

EXPLANATION OF THE RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, God created everything that is and without God was not anything created that was created, and

WHEREAS, God has charged us with the stewardship of this good creation, and

WHEREAS, our environment has been damaged by pollution and the quality of our water resources are in danger from run-off and other sources of pollution, and

WHEREAS, water quality and water rights will be a major issue in the years immediately ahead for us here in Tennessee, we seek the above resolution as a first step.

Proposed for action

Convention will
consider resolutions

By the time the early deadline passed, the secretary to the convention had received two proposed resolutions to be considered by the convention. They are reproduced at left.

Any delegate, vestry, area commission, the Bishop and Council, the chancellor, the chair of the Committee on Constitution and Canons, and the registrar of the diocese will have a second, final, opportunity to submit resolutions at the 2007 Convention until 3:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9.

Issue-oriented proposed resolutions are considered by the Convention Committee on General Resolutions before they are brought to the convention floor. The committee will hold hearings at the convention, and although anyone may attend, only clergy and delegates may speak to proposed resolutions.

One hearing is scheduled at 11:30 a.m., Friday, Feb. 9, and a second hearing is scheduled for 7:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 10.

After hearings the committee will discuss privately how it wishes to proceed. A resolution may be presented as proposed; it may be revised; or the committee may propose a substitute resolution. In presenting resolutions, the committee may recommend that the convention approve, reject or table a proposed resolution.

Other resolutions may be proposed to ratify actions during the previous year by diocesan bodies such as the Bishop and Council and/or the Standing Committee.

Resolutions of Courtesy or Appreciation also may be submitted; these are reviewed and assembled by the Convention Committee on Memorials, Greetings and Resolutions of Appreciation. They are read aloud near the close of the convention, and they are printed in the Convention Journal.

Instructions on how to submit a resolution are posted to the diocesan Web site at etdiocese.net/dioconv2007/resolutionsinfoform.pdf.

MEETING continued from page 1

This year's budget was formulated to reflect projected voluntary commitment receipts from churches at 82 percent of asking. The 2006 budget was at 81 1/2 percent. Diocesan treasurer Don Sproles has said he would like to see the percentage increase at least to the 2001 level of 93 percent.

As of press time late in January, only 24 of the diocese's 45 churches had responded to the asking. The budget process is complicated by timing factors; many parishes do not finalize their own budgets until later in the first quarter of the year. However, the diocese is required by canon to present a balanced budget to its annual convention.

The 2007 budget is \$10,000 less than the 2006 budget, Sproles said at the South East Area pre-convention meeting held Jan. 21 at Christ Church in Chattanooga. "If the trend continues, we will be in trouble conducting the ministry of our diocese."

At that meeting he highlighted selected budget items:

- ♦ The diocese will continue its 0.7 percent commitment to the Millennium Development Goals.

- ♦ For the first time the budget includes a line item for the ECW Triennium. "They never asked [before]," Sproles said.

- ♦ Also included is an allocation for the bishop to attend the 2008 Lambeth Conference.

- ♦ Chaper & Verse Bookshop is not doing as well as it has in the past, and its diocesan subsidy is increasing to allow it to break even.

- ♦ Grace Point also received an increase because its vicar, the Rev. "Bo" Lewis, is retiring — again. As a previously retired priest, Lewis' earnings were restricted by pension requirements, but the search for the next executive director of Grace Point is not limited to retired clergy.

- ♦ A "significant decrease" for campus ministries are one result of the departure of the Rev. Canon Chris Chase, diocesan canon for higher education, who coordinated ministries on the campuses of East Tennessee State University in Johnson City and the University of Tennessee campuses in Knoxville and Chattanooga.

- ♦ Support for clergy sabbaticals is down because there hasn't been as much demand as was anticipated.

- ♦ And in the next year, Sproles said, "we don't have new seminarians going to seminary — but we've got good ones in the pipeline coming down. The 82 percent [asking response] needs to go up so we can support the ones coming along." ■

DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE 2007 PROPOSED BUDGET

	2006	2007		
1	Voluntary Commitments	1,486,412		1,537,245
2	E.E.C. Support (Episcopate)	108,000		114,000
3	Miscellaneous	35,000		35,000
4	Trust Fund Income (Seminarians)	10,000		10,000
5	Prior Year Commitment	12,523		0
6	Prior Year Surplus	54,801		0
7	Total REVENUES		1,706,736	1,696,245
8				
9	DIOCESAN MINISTRY			
10	Bishop & Council	2,500		2,500
11	Book Shop	4,000		14,000
12	Outreach Ministries	11,000		11,000
13	Congregational Development	5,800		5,800
14	Christian Spiritual Formation	9,880		9,880
15	Grace Point Camp & Retreat Center	30,000		46,500
16	Episcopal Institutions	3,000		3,000
17	Liturgical Commission	500		500
18	Office of Communications	25,500		17,780
19	Staff Support for Dio. Ministry	53,875		55,482
20	Standing Committee	2,975		2,975
21	Total DIOCESAN MINISTRY		149,030	169,417
22	MISSION WITHIN THE DIOCESE			
23	Support for Mission and Ministry Development	10,500		10,500
24	Staff to Support Mission	76,332		78,244
25	Support for camps	6,375		6,375
26	Support for Congregations	119,000		107,902
27	Support for Campus	136,967		88,319
28	Support for Youth	50,385		54,045
29	Total MISSION WITHIN THE DIOCESE		399,559	345,385
30	MISSION BEYOND THE DIOCESE			
31	Global Mission & Millennium Goals	11,947		11,874
32	Companion Diocese	4,250		4,250
33	General Church Objective	274,157		307,657
34	General Convention Deputies	12,000		11,000
35	ECW Triennium			800
36	General Convention Bishop	3,000		3,000
37	Lambeth Conference			1,000
38	Synod Assessment	4,087		4,374
39	Synod Deputies	2,000		2,000
40	Total MISSION BEYOND THE DIOCESE		311,441	345,955
41	CLERGY SUPPORT			
42	Clergy Deployment	7,650		7,650
43	Clergy Professional Development	7,650		7,650
44	Commission on Ministry	159,340		140,831
45	Medical Insurance - Retired	79,000		76,217
46	Sabbatical Scholarship	8,000		2,000
47	Support of Clergy & Family	7,225		7,225
48	Support for Retired Clergy	2,000		2,000
49	Total CLERGY SUPPORT		270,865	243,573
50	SUPPORT FOR THE EPISCOPATE			
51	Bishop's Ministry	187,183		192,050
52	Episcopal Assistance	2,500		2,500
53	Office Salaries	275,873		287,080
54	Staff Continuing Education	3,000		3,000
55	Total SUPPORT FOR THE EPISCOPATE		468,556	484,630
56	FIXED COSTS FOR MINISTRY			
57	Accounting & Audit	4,800		4,800
58	Convention & Journal	11,000		11,000
59	Diocesan House Expenses	60,000		60,000
60	General Insurance	20,000		20,000
61	Property & Taxes	6,000		6,000
62	Total FIXED COSTS FOR MINISTRY		101,800	101,800
63	CONTINGENCIES	5,485	5,485	5,485
64				
65			1,706,736	1,696,245

More details offered to convention visitors

Many guests are planning to attend some or all of this year's diocesan convention celebrations Feb. 9-10 at the Park Vista in Gatlinburg.

Please note: Visitor reservations are necessary so that meeting rooms may be set up to accommodate additional guests. If you have not yet called Diocesan House to reserve your seat, please call the Rev. Canon Stephen Askew or Rosemary Davenport at 865-966-2110 and add your name to the list.

Directions to convention facility

Travel to Gatlinburg and the Park Vista Hotel is most direct via Interstate 40:

- ♦ From Knoxville and points south, travel east on I-40.
- ♦ Take exit 407 to highway 66. Turn right.
- ♦ Follow the signs to Gatlinburg. Once in Gatlinburg, look for traffic light No. 8.
- ♦ Turn left onto Airport Road.
- ♦ Go approximately 0.6 miles to Park Vista.

Visitor check-in

As visitors enter the Park Vista lobby, they will check in at a convention visitors' table, where they will receive a badge that will admit them to the convention event

they plan to attend.

Efforts will be made to accommodate all visitors, but those who reserved seats in advance by calling the Diocesan House will be admitted before any visitors who did not make advance reservations.

Convention celebrations

For highlights of specific celebrations, ask parish delegates or clergy, or visit the Web at etdiocese.net/dioconv2007/celebrationsinfo.pdf.

Friday, Feb. 9, celebrations include the bishop's address, the free health fair and the convention banquet.

On Saturday, Feb. 10, the presiding bishop will speak at 9:30 a.m., and visitors may lunch with the convention delegates, clergy and officials.

Please note: The deadline for meal reservations is Thursday, Jan. 25; thank you for your early response.

Lodging near Park Vista

The Park Vista convention facility filled rapidly, but two nearby hotels have discounted rates for callers who say they are with the "Episcopal Diocese":

♦ **The Holiday Inn** is \$91.99 per night for Friday, Feb. 9, and/or Saturday, Feb. 10.

It accepts bookings for one or multiple nights. Call toll-free, 1-888-562-2946 or 1-800-435-9201.

♦ **The Glenstone** has a two-night minimum, at \$89 per night. Call 1-800-362-9522.

Local transport to Park Vista

Friday night: The Gatlinburg public trolley runs until 10 p.m. on approximately half-hour intervals. The trip up the hill may take about 15 minutes, depending on traffic and the few interim stops.

Atrolley pick-up point is just across the street from Trinity Episcopal Church, and the trolley charges 50 cents per rider.

Later, a private Rocky Top bus will shuttle people down the hill to Trinity beginning at 9 p.m. until midnight.

Saturday morning: A private Rocky Top bus will shuttle to the Park Vista from Trinity Episcopal Church beginning at 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. It accommodates 32 passengers at a time.

The Gatlinburg trolley, which serves the public, also will be available to return visitors to Trinity Church at a rate of 50 cents per rider.

For more information on convention celebrations, go to etdiocese.net/dioconv2007/celebrationsinfo.pdf

Free Health Fair for all those attending the convention

The Episcopal Church Medical Trust will stage a Free Health Fair for all convention participants and visitors beginning at 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9, and ending at 7 p.m.

Free screenings for glucose, blood pressure and skin cancer will be available.

Health-care providers will be present to discuss the benefits of acupressure, hypnotherapy, biofeedback, stress management, yoga, Ayurveda, Reiki, meditation and aromatherapy.

Learn about skin care, body mass index and the best personal exercise options.

Talk with our diocese's parish nurses about their ministries.

Get the latest information on nutrition.

Plan to collect the giveaways, and don't miss out on a free massage!

Note: This is the only Convention Celebration for which advance registration is not required — just stop in!

First fruits — or leftovers?

One Episcopalian's view of the diocesan budgetary process

♦ **By Linda Dietrich**

Each February at the diocesan convention, the 300 or so delegates vote to approve a diocesan budget for the coming year. Developed by the diocesan administrator and treasurer, and adopted by the Bishop and Council, this budget has been discussed at three area meetings and in two hearings at the convention before it comes to the floor for a final vote by the delegates.

At my first diocesan convention about 12 years ago, I was astonished to see a list of the parishes in our diocese with the amounts of their contributions to the diocese. My astonishment was over the number of parishes which did not meet their voluntary asking. I was astonished because it had been seen as a huge accomplishment at All Saints, Morristown, years ago, when we had made that "plunge" and committed fully our share to the work of the diocese. I couldn't imagine



Linda Dietrich

why any parish wouldn't want to do the same.

Over the years I have read and studied and learned much about budgets and stewardship and commitments. I have been involved with the process at a parish, diocesan and national level. And I want you to know that we're going about this all wrong.

It comes down to this: Do we give back to God our first fruits or do we give our leftovers? Do we live out our Christian mission with faith that God will give us the resources we need to do the job? Or do we limit ourselves and God's mission here on Earth by keeping as much for ourselves as we "need" and giving God the leftovers?

If we as individuals determine our contribution to our local church by what we have left over

after all the other bills are paid, then that mindset carries over into our vestries, who determine the extent of contribution to the diocese. And if that mindset carries over to the Bishop and Council, it can affect the contribution of the diocese to the Episcopal Church.

Sometimes I fanaticize about what my church might be able to accomplish if everyone took God's expectation of receiving our first fruits to heart. All Saints would be able to hire the staff we need to conduct all the programs we dream of for our children and families and adults. We could give away even more money to be put to good use in our community. We might even see some places where All Saints could provide leadership in doing justice.

And what if every parish answered God's call to return their first fruits to the mission of the diocese? Instead of designating 0.7 percent of our budget to world mission, maybe we would decide to fund a missionary. Or we might

be able to hire a diocesan program director who could coordinate and connect parishes in their education and outreach activities. We wouldn't worry about supporting the staff of the bookstore or Grace Point or the youth program, because we would claim them as necessary parts of God's mission in this diocese. We could support our seminarians with more than prayers. We could take an active role in reducing poverty and hunger at home and abroad. We could plant new churches and build more schools and bring more people to Christ.

Because when it's all said and done, that's our mission, isn't it? And isn't that a mission that deserves our first fruits?

My challenge to you is simple. Start your budget process by deciding on how your parish and your diocese will do the mission of the church, instead of how much you have to spend. Trust God. What you need will be provided to you even as to the lilies

of the field.

If you are a member of a vestry that has decided to contribute less than 100 percent of the diocesan asking, I pray that God will change your heart so that you can let go of your first fruits to do God's work in our diocese. No, it's not practical or sensible. It's acting out your faith and answering God's call. And it's not too late; budgets can be revised! ■

Linda Dietrich is a member of All Saints, Morristown, where she has served as clerk and treasurer of the vestry, stewardship chair and delegate to the diocesan convention. She is completing a term on the diocesan Bishop and Council, and she serves as chair of the diocesan Peace and Justice Committee and on the diocesan Stewardship Committee. She has served as deputy or alternate to the past three General Conventions of the Episcopal Church.

'Family reunions'

East Tennessee gathers in convention



1996



1985



2006



1995



2003



2005



2004