

Official Acts – Bishop vonRosenberg - 2004

Addresses/Classes Taught	9
Baptisms	11
Blessing of Marriage	2
Burials	7
Confirmations	410
Consents	11
Consultations	905
<i>Aspirants</i>	24
<i>Clergy</i>	431
<i>Lay</i>	422
<i>Postulants/Candidates</i>	28
Godly Judgments	42
Holy Eucharist	71
Letters Dimissory Given.....	4
Letters Dimissory Received	4
Licenses	244
<i>Worship Eucharistic Ministers</i>	156
<i>Worship Eucharistic Visitors</i>	40
<i>Worship Readers</i>	48
Licenses to Officiate	6
Meetings	268
<i>Diocesan</i>	85
<i>Vestry</i>	9
<i>Parish</i>	34
<i>Provincial/National</i>	73
<i>Staff</i>	65
<i>Other</i>	2
Official Visits	48
<i>Bishop Sanders</i>	7
Ordinations	6
<i>Bishops</i>	0
<i>Deacons</i>	4
<i>Priests</i>	2
Other Services	39
Received (from ELCA, Roman Catholic, etc.)l.....	44
Sermons	42

Bishop's Discretionary Fund 2004

Receipts

Church Offerings	9,726.81
Gifts/Contributions	8,566.00
Total.....	\$18,292.81

Disbursements

Clergy Assistance	\$3,800.00
Contributions/Donations	10,665.22
Convention	96.95
Dues	100.00
General Convention	0
Meetings/Conferences	2,313.00
Publications/Subscriptions	799.29
Seminarian Assistance	
Total	\$17,774.46

Non Parochial Clergy Report

Name	Assignment	Morning Or Evening Prayer	Holy Eucharist	Sermons Preached	Baptisms	Presented for Confirmation	Marriages	Burials	Other
Charles E. Adams	Kingsport		12	6			1		25
Rowland A. Clarkson	Greeneville		14	14			2	2	15
David Crippen	Mentone, AL	6	62	41				2	11
Howard E. Haws	Maryville		6		2			1	
Wendie S. Jekabsons	Bristol		57	57					
W. David Leech	Knoxville		8	2				1	
James F. Marquis	Chattanooga	12	25	30	1		3	1	
Ellis O. Mayfield, Jr	Sewanee		17	20			1	1	
Albert Minor	Knoxville		18	4			1	1	33
H. King Oehmig	Trion, GA		48	44	6	4	3	3	
Louisa Parsons	Chattanooga		6	11				4	3
Michael Robinson	Chattanooga	175	10	7					
William E. Sanders	Nashville					11		5	
James L. Sharp	Morristown			3	1			2	2
Willard S. Squire, Jr.	Monteagle		23	28			1	4	
J. Walter R. Thomas	Hixson	Daily/ Private	62	39					25
Hallie D. Warren	Chattanooga		3	3				1	
Sandra L. Wooley	Chattanooga	Private	79	3	2			1	

Reports to Convention 2005

AIDS Ministry

The AIDS Task force has been very low key this year. There continue to be three retreats, in which East TN people with HIV/AIDS, participate.

The Strength For the Journey Retreats, in April and September, sponsored by Holston Conference of United Methodist Church, continue to be filled. They have expanded to a second location, near Nashville. Chattanooga Cares sent 10 people there in the spring. Province IV annual HIV/AIDS Retreat at Kanuga, was held June 10-12. As always it was wonderful. I had to miss this year, so several people couldn't attend, due to transportation problems.

I did have an interview with Geneen Hunter, from the News Sentinel, about churches and AIDS. She did numerous interviews as part of a big project.

Liz Johnson

Bishop & Council Report to Diocesan Convention for 2004

BISHOP AND COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2004

From approved minutes of the Jan. 30, 2004, meeting:

Approved motion to allow St. Matthew, Dayton, one calendar year in which they would not have to pay principal or interest on their Opportunity Fund loan and that the diocese pay their rector until her contract expired in August.

Approved statement for presentation at diocesan convention: We, the members of Bishop and Council of the Diocese of East Tennessee, support and affirm the position taken by Bishop vonRosenberg, namely, that we focus our energies as a church in positive ways. Along with the Bishop, we intend to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church, continue to support the Diocese of East Tennessee and the Episcopal Church, USA, and oppose any attempt at realignment in opposition to ECUSA.

From approved minutes of the May 28, 2004 meeting:

The Property Committee is working on selling several properties owned by the diocese. The sale of the Rugby property is almost complete - the funds will be dispersed as follows: \$60,000 will go to Christ Church, Rugby, to build a rectory - \$20,000 will repay a loan still outstanding to the Opportunity Fund - the remaining \$680,000 will be used to repay part of the loan for Grace Point.

From approved minutes of the Aug. 27, 2004, meeting:

Sale of the Rugby property has been completed, and funds have been received. Christ, Rugby, to receive \$60,000 designated toward construction of a rectory; Opportunity Fund to be repaid for \$20,000 Ruralia loan; balance from proceeds of \$760,000 to be applied toward Grace Point commercial loan.

Approved Budget and Finance Committee recommended changes in parish asking formula for 2005: parishes receiving up to \$150,000, 11 percent; \$150,000-\$500,000, 16 percent; and \$500,000+, 18.25percent. Parishes have the option of choosing the “least amount” option of “basis” (last year’s numbers), or “average” (over the past three years).

Approved Budget and Finance Committee recommended adjustment in fee standards for supply clergy: weekday simple service, no sermon: \$75; Sunday, one service with sermon: \$125; Sunday, two services with sermon: \$175; Sunday, three services with sermon: \$225.

Amount received towards construction of the first Grace Point “treehouse” is \$163,641; more funds have been promised but have not yet been received. Approved motion to authorize the Grace Point Board of Managers to proceed with construction provided cost will not exceed \$215,000. Further, if the “treehouse” can be built for \$164,000 or less, that the board be allowed to proceed immediately. If the cost is greater than \$164,000, the remainder of funds promised must be obtained before construction can begin.

From approved minutes of the Oct. 15, 2004, meeting:

Grace Point Advisory Board has been appointed. Its purpose is to continue capital improvements to the property that we were unable to complete due to the lack of funds from the Capital Campaign. The Grace Point Board of Managers also is involved. Albert Gooch, retiring executive director of Kanuga Conferences, is working with us to develop fund raising and development plans. On his recommendation, Robert Allen of Winston Salem, N.C., will do a planning and feasibility study, payment to be made from a Grace Point designated donation.

From minutes of the December 10, 2004, meeting:

Moved Grace Point loan from SunTrust to Opportunity Fund. Construction of first treehouse at Grace Point set to begin.

Bridge Refugee Services

Bridge Refugee and Sponsorship Services is the East Tennessee affiliate office of Episcopal Migration Ministries. Bridge is a non-profit organization which facilitates the resettlement of refugees in East Tennessee by cultivating, educating and empowering refugee sponsors. Bridge is based in Knoxville and has sub-offices in Chattanooga and Bristol. In 2004 Bridge resettled 146 refugees in 61 family units from 9 countries. 86% of the refugees Bridge resettled came from Liberia, the Sudan and the Ukraine.

Bridge works in partnership with volunteers and sponsoring churches to resettle refugees. In 2004 Bridge enlisted 15 sponsoring faith groups which is a significant increase over 2003. We rejoice with this growth in the number of sponsoring churches but the need for sponsors remains Bridge’s single greatest need. 46 refugee cases in 2004 *did not* have church sponsorship.

Other notable events in 2004 included:

- Welcoming a new Executive Director: The Reverend Richard Robinson took Mary Lieberman’s place in August. Mary moved to New York where her husband took a new teaching position.

- Hiring a new case manager: Ms. Hawa Ware Brooks is a former refugee from Liberia and was resettled by Bridge eleven years ago.

Criminal Justice Ministry

Ecumenism is a significant thrust for this ministry as we labor in this vineyard.

We are still working to establish a faith-based halfway house for ex-offenders in Knox County (pilot program). Freedom Place has some training programs, but no success in finding a residence. The search will continue.

Support for and services to advisory boards and committees have continued with TN Dept. of Children's Services, TN Dept. of Correction, and TN Board of Probation and Parole.

Involvement with the East TN Council on Children and Youth has lessened, with our emphasis being placed on Juvenile Justice.

The major activity this year has involved KAIROS (similar to Cursillo, in a criminal justice setting). We have continued the adult prison seminars and the juvenile facility workshops. We have added weekends for the female "families" of male inmates under the name of Kairos Outside. All of these programs are required to be ecumenical (a KAIROS standard). The mentoring programs and monthly follow-up visitations are a crucial part of the ministry. One of our members serves on the Kairos Advisory Council for a youth facility, another serves on the Council for Kairos Outside, and another serves on the Council for an adult prison.

The Lord has continued to bless this ministry. For those who would like to learn more or to share in the task force, please give us a call. Thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Muir

Daughters of the King

The East Tennessee Diocese of the Daughters of the King now is present in 14 churches. We added three new Chapters and disbanded two Chapters. There are over 200 Daughters now. We published two Trumpets with the intention to publish three in 2005.

Chaplain Anne Markle lead Quiet Day and The Rev. Claire Keene was speaker at Spring Assembly. Both events were held at St. Stephen's, Oak Ridge.

DOK donations include gifts to the Kanuga conference Center and other Daughter yearly funds. A new Jr. Chapter is in formation at Kingsport. This is the only one in the Diocese and we are very excited about this. Our goal is to serve our King.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Ann Halstead

Dialogue Task Force to Convention

This report is called for by The Diocesan Annual Convention of 2004 which adopted the following resolution.

RESOLVED that groups, as directed by the Bishop, facilitate airing, examination and reconciliation of differing opinions on human sexuality so that we can do God's work together, and that a report be made to the next annual convention.

The task force membership is Courtney Manrod of St. Stephen's (Oak Ridge), Randy Morgan of St. Paul's (Athens,) Mary Nelle Osborne of St. James', (Knoxville), and Gene Smitherman of Grace (Chattanooga).

The task force concluded that conversations on human sexuality would best be done at the congregational level in ways suited to each individual congregation. Thus, the task force came to believe that its task would not be to provide forums for conversation, but to encourage and provide resources for each congregations to do their work within their own congregations.

The diocese was invited by the task force to participate in a workshop at the Episcopal School of Knoxville on Saturday, October 30, 2004. At least 37 congregations were represented within the estimated 250 attending the workshop. The opening speaker was the Rev. Dr. Christopher Bryan, C.K. Benedict Professor of New Testament at the School of Theology of the University of the South. He spoke movingly from biblical, theological, and historical perspectives about the Church staying together in conversation, in sober-mindedness, seeking God's will together with all of our differences.

Five members of the diocese, holding different views on questions relating to human sexuality, some clergy and some lay, came together for a panel discussion, modeling respectful conversation and cares listening. They were courageous and open, and were a good model of those watching. The panelists were Bill Farnham, Tom Hale, Peter Keese, Steve Mapes, and Martha Sterne. Many of those who came, left with a willingness to go back to their congregations and "facilitate" airing, examination and reconciliation of differing opinions on human sexuality, as the resolution asks.

A more extensive report of the workshop is found in the December04/January05 edition of *The East Tennessee Episcopalian*. Copies of workshop material in booklet form can be obtained from Sharon Rasmussen, Diocesan Communications Officer.

The task force extends thanks to Bishop vonRosenberg and Canon Alice Clayton for guidance and encouragement; the staff of the diocesan office for assisting and taking seriously the work called for by Convention 2004; Dr. Bryan, and each of the workshop's panelists who so graciously and courageously stepped forward; along those attending from the diocese for their response.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Gene R. Smitherman, Chair, Dialogue Task Force

DuBose Conference Center

DuBose Conference Center is jointly owned by the three Episcopal Dioceses of Tennessee and is operated independently of any financial subsidy. A twenty member Board of Directors,

which meets quarterly, governs the center. It consists of the three Bishops of Tennessee (ex-officio members) who each appoint up to four members. The board may also elect nine additional at-large members. The mission of the Center is to provide hospitality for the religious and secular communities.

The Operations Director is Kim Agee. The Center was occupied over 241 days of the year, during which time it hosted over 127 conferences, welcomed over 6,193 people, generated 11,417 user nights and served 34,736 meals.

Camp Gailor-Maxon continues to be a positive, spiritual and fun camping experience for the Episcopal youth from across Tennessee. The staff welcomed over 168 campers during four camp sessions in the months of June and July.

Ecumenical Committee

There are three levels of ecumenical relations: (1) the official, (2) local cooperation, and (3) the personal relationships and conversations among friends of different faiths. At every level more is happening than can be described here.

A number of admiral organizations throughout the diocese promote ecumenical cooperation in addition to parish ministries, mostly having to do with bringing relief to the poor and homeless. Others work to foster ecumenical events such as choir festivals ecumenical services, youth services, and mutual social exposure, such as in building Habitat houses. It is far beyond the picture we saw ten or fifteen years ago.

On the level of official ecumenical dialogues, over a dozen conversations are in progress in all directions, including Episcopalians, Roman Catholics, ELCA Lutherans, United Church of Christ, Moravians, and recently Methodists and Pentecostals are all becoming more and more deeply engaged. The Anglicans and the Roman Catholics have recently produced an agreed statement on the roll of St. Mary in the Christian Faith, for instance. Our life and mutual ministries with the ELCA Lutherans have multiplied beyond expectations. And we have entered encouraging ecumenical conversations with the Methodists. Our diocese participates in the annual National Workshop for Christian Unity, a very important and encouraging convention.

The thorny issue of sexuality is also now gathering the attention it should have had for decades, and all churches are looking at what is happening within the Episcopal/Anglican family as their communions are also being brought to face the same problems.

We consistently have held to the conviction that the Holy Spirit is working to bring us to that oneness which is the will of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Albert N. Minor, Ecumenical Officer

Episcopal Churchmen of Tennessee

The 58th Annual Conference of the Churchmen of Tennessee on the mountain at DuBose was an outstanding event with more than 400 men in attendance. Sixty first-timers, and one attendee had been to 54 conferences, and many have attended at least 25.

Friday evening, Mickey Robinson figuratively set everyone on fire by recounting his death's-door experience following an airplane crash that broke many of his bones and burned much of his skin. Saturday morning, Baker Duncan, a retired school headmaster, talked about his walk with the Lord. He challenged attendees to ask the question: "What do we want to do with our lives?" Are we satisfied with what we have, or is our glass half-empty? The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Bishop of North Carolina, was the conference highlight. He spoke about how we are created to be in relationship with God and our neighbors, and when we do this, we then will feel the pleasure of doing the things God gives us the ability to do.

Bishop Charles vonRosenberg met with the East Tennesseans, stating that while not abandoning issues that drive the church, he wants more emphasis given to being a "gospel-driven" church. He named four areas of emphasis in the diocese: Grace Point development, lay ministry development, outreach with our companion Diocese of South Dakota and outreach in Appalachia. He stressed that we all are called to be ministers, and he said while we may not agree with everyone, we need to accept them.

Gary McGhee, of Nativity Church in Ft. Oglethorpe, was elected president of the Churchmen of Tennessee. President-elect is Clay Bethell of Calvary Church, Memphis. The vice president for East Tennessee will be Charles Craven of St. John Cathedral, Knoxville, and Sam Adams, also a cathedral member, was chosen vice president-elect for East Tennessee (middle). The bishops of the three dioceses installed the officers and parish keymen. John Nagy of St. John, Johnson City, continues as vice president-elect of East Tennessee (upper), and Marshall Wilson of Nativity, Fort Oglethorpe, continues as vice president-elect of East Tennessee (lower).

The 2005 conference will be held at DuBose August 12-14, and its theme will be "He walks with me and he talks with me." On the Web: www.episcopalchurchmen.org/ (The above is an excerpt from an article appearing in Sept./Oct./Nov. 2004 *The East Tennessee Episcopalian* entitled "A Positive Outlook is Key Point to Laymen" by Martin Skinner.)

Episcopal Church Women - President's Report

The active Episcopal Church Women (ECW) of East Tennessee, although small in numbers, is very large in promoting Christian Mission, United Thank Offering (UTO) and Scholarship activity. We consider ourselves the "lambs of His flock" and our Bishop "Charlie" the shepherd of His flock.

The UTO encourages all parishes to participate in the spring and fall ingathering of UTO. Sadly, of the forty-six parishes in our Diocese only fifteen encourage "thankful giving" to the work of UTO. Those fifteen parishes thankfully contributed \$8,457.95 toward the continuing work of UTO. For those who are not familiar with UTO, those little "Blue Boxes" (that are available through the UTO Chairman, Ellen Hartsfield, fatelmo@bellsouth.net) are your way of saying thank you for the blessing of each day. The contents of these "Blue Boxes" are collected each spring and fall, forwarded to the National Church and used to continue the outreach of the Episcopal Church worldwide. Image what we could do if ALL of our parishes participated!

The Molly Tucker Scholarship Fund was established in 1987 by the ECW in thanksgiving for Mollie Tucker's life and witness and for the many years of service to the ECW in East Tennessee. This scholarship, based primarily on need and merit, is awarded annually to deserving Episcopal women entering an accredited college or technical school to assist in their

continuing education. This scholarship is \$1,000.00 each year. Our parishes are asked to observe Molly Tucker Day the first Sunday in June. Contributions are encouraged at that time. More participation would result in more scholarships being awarded!

Our Christian Missions of ECW are manifested in an outreach that impacts lives both at home and abroad. Each parish is encouraged to promote and support our recommendations. Each time we renew our baptismal vows (BCP p. 292) we commit ourselves to mission work. The Catechism (BCP p. 855) reminds us that lay ministry is “to represent Christ and His Church”. This past year, in conjunction with the Appalachian Ministries Task Force, we supported the Grace Point Scholarship fund by asking our parishes to “observe a faithful Lent” and consider the use of “Missionary Offering Boxes”(i.e. Mite Boxes) during the Lenten Season. We got a late start this year and were able to give \$463.36 to the Grace Point Scholarship fund. This money is used to purchase clothing for the Appalachian children who attend Grace Point at summer camp, and it outfits them for the coming school year. (Approximately \$125.00 per student.) With your physical and emotional support, next Lent, we should be able to triple our efforts!

Your ECW labors long and hard to support the work of the church, and we invite EVERY PARISH to support the work of the women in all they do to promote the welfare of your faith!

Peace to all of “EWE”,

Cathy Varner, President, Episcopal Church Women of East Tennessee

Ministry Development – Rick Govan

Since our last Convention, your Shared Ministry Formation Committee has been developing suggested mechanisms and processes the parishes may choose to use to energize the lay ministry within the parish and beyond.

The diocese’s commitment to engage in strengthening the laity for ministry is embodied in a document consisting of The Shared Ministry Notebook and the Licensed Ministries Notebook. This notebook is available to all parishes. The Shared Ministry notebook empowers the ministry of all baptized by using ministry support teams. The Licensed Ministries Notebook focuses on identifying, calling and training the specific licensed ministries as described in our Church Canons. Eucharistic Visitors’ training and continuing education will be offered in the near future.

Our first ministry conference was held this spring with 130 participants – laity and clergy – from 75 percent of our parishes. The Sacred Order of Deacons will host our next conference in the spring.

Submitted by Rick Govan, Ministry Development Facilitator

Opportunity Fund

The Opportunity Fund of the Diocese of East Tennessee paid \$80,000 in Social Ministry and Church Expansion Grants in two distributions of April and September, 2004.

In the spring distribution, the Opportunity Fund made church expansion grants to Church of the Resurrection, Loudon and the Episcopal Metropolitan Ministry of ECSET. The fund also made grants to Of One Accord Ministries, sponsored by St. Matthias the Apostle, Rogersville; Second Harvest Food Bank, sponsored by St. Thomas, Elizabethton; VORP, Community Medication Center, Inc., sponsored by St. Raphael, Crossville; FISH Hospitality Pantries, sponsored by Church of the Ascension, Knoxville; Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Knoxville, sponsored by the Church of the Ascension, Knoxville.

Volunteer Ministry Center of Knoxville; Community Reconciliation VORP of Chattanooga; Good Faith Clinic, Athens; Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic, Sevierville, received grants in the fall distribution of the fund. St. Luke, Knoxville, and St. Timothy, Kingsport received church expansion grants.

Respectfully submitted,
William R. Pratt, Chairman of the Opportunity Fund

Property Committee – Peter Keese

The Property Committee gave permission to:

- St. Peter's, Chattanooga to encumber their property so as to renovate and expand its space and permission to buy a piece of property to expand its parking lot
- DuBose Conference Center to sell a piece of property
- Church of the Ascension, Knoxville, to sell a house and the property on which it stands
- Church of the Nativity, Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia, to grant an easement to the city that it may build a sidewalk.

The Property Committee approved:

- Sale of the Monday property at Kingston Pike and Northshore Drive, Knoxville.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Peter Keese

Retired Clergy & Surviving Spouses – Chaplain's Report

At this time the Diocese of East Tennessee has 59 households of the retired living within the diocese and 21 from this diocese living elsewhere in other dioceses. The chaplains to the retired in those other places have the responsibility of keeping in contact with them, as do I.

This program of chaplains was initiated by the Church Pension Group in 1997, as a way of enhancing the bishops' pastoral ministry to this growing population in our Church. Bishop Tharp asked me to enter this ministry in 1999 and bishop von Rosenberg has kindly kept me at it.

Contact is maintained by personal visits, visiting at gatherings, personal telephone calls, and annual luncheons with the bishop. The Church Pension Group encourages at least one contact per year with all of the retired. There is usually more than that.

In 2005 the Rev. Perry Scruggs accepted the appointment to this ministry for those in the Chattanooga / Sewanee area. This is an immensely helpful step, as the Church Pension Group asked me to become the coordinator for these ministries in the 21 dioceses of Province IV.

The University of the South, Sewanee

Enrollment for the 2004-2005 Academic Year from the Diocese of East Tennessee:

85 Students in the College of Arts and Sciences

26 Newly Enrolled Episcopal Students

School of Theology Students Studying for Master and Doctoral Degrees: 9

2003-2004 Financial Aid Awarded to Undergraduate Students from East Tennessee:

\$1,108,914.00

About Sewanee

The University of the South, or Sewanee as it is more popularly known, is home to one of the nation's top liberal arts colleges and a seminary of the Episcopal Church. Since its founding, the College of Arts and Sciences at the University has graduated 24 Rhodes Scholars, 34 Watson Fellows, and 24 NCAA Postgraduate Scholars, while the institution's School of Theology has added to its alumni ranks countless bishops, including three of the last four presiding bishops of the Episcopal Church.