

Official Acts – Bishop vonRosenberg - 2005

Addresses/Classes Taught	20
Baptisms	18
Blessing of Marriage	2
Burials	2
Confirmations	268
Consents	7
Consultations	1788
<i>Aspirants</i>	23
<i>Clergy</i>	929
<i>Lay</i>	788
<i>Postulants/Candidates</i>	48
Godly Judgments	31
Holy Eucharist	60
Letters Dimissory Given	8
Letters Dimissory Received	1
Licenses	106
<i>Worship Eucharistic Ministers</i>	65
<i>Worship Eucharistic Visitors</i>	30
<i>Worship Readers</i>	11
Licenses to Officiate	3
Meetings	283
<i>Diocesan</i>	78
<i>Vestry</i>	15
<i>Parish</i>	30
<i>Provincial/National</i>	87
<i>Staff</i>	62
<i>Other</i>	11
Official Visits	40
<i>Bishop Sanders</i>	6
Ordinations	5
<i>Bishops</i>	0
<i>Deacons</i>	6
<i>Priests</i>	2
Other Services	53
Received (from ELCA, Roman Catholic, etc.).....	42
Sermons	38

Bishop's Discretionary Fund 2005

Receipts

Church Offerings	7,908.27
Gifts/Contributions	1,250.00
Total.....	\$9,158.27

Disbursements

Clergy Assistance	\$2,250.00
Contributions/Donations	4,380.00
Convention	125.00
Dues	0
General Convention	0
Meetings/Conferences	70.00
Publications/Subscriptions	710.99
Seminarian Assistance	
Total	\$7,535.99

Non-Parochial Clergy Report

Name	Morning &/or Evening Prayer	Holy Eucharist	Sermons Preached	Baptisms	Presented for Confirmation	Marriages	Burials	Other
Richard J. Brown, III		3	1				1	
David Crippen	5	71	52	1	3	2	1	2
Howard E. Haws		4					2	
Thomas M. Hutson		6				1		12
Wendie S. Jekabsons		105	105	1			4	
Patrick C. Larkin		5	3					
William David Leech	2	14	10					
James F. Marquis, Jr	24	42	40			3	4	
Margaret C. Marshall		10	5	2				52
Ellis Mayfield	3	25		1				5
Craig Morgan		97	83				3	1
H. King Oehmig		36	32	2	3	4	3	
Patricia Reuss, <i>Licensed to Officiate</i>		24	15					
Robert J. Reuss, <i>Licensed to Officiate</i>		22	8					1
A. Robert Rizner, <i>Licensed to Officiate</i>	135	42	1	1		1	1	16
W. Scott Root	74	77	70				1	
Bishop William E. Sanders			7		6	3	2	
Willard S. Squire, Jr.		41	40	2				
Jack Boyd Van Hooser <i>Licensed to Officiate</i>		1	2					3
Hallie D. Warren		1	1					

Ministry Development – Rick Govan

For the past 2 to 3 years, I have visited and worked with many of the parishes within our diocese. Also, I have also visited other dioceses and attended conferences within our larger church that focused on the development of the ministry of the laity.

Our church is truly in a state of significant transformation. Across our country, and certainly within our own diocese, we are faced with new challenges and opportunities. In the past, those challenges mostly affected our smaller congregations, but now are having a real impact on our mid-size and larger parishes as well.

Many of our parishes are dealing with the complexities of:

- Reduced operating budgets
- Facilities that are in need of repair
- Aging church membership & aging lay leadership
- Shrinking membership in some instances
- A noticeable void of young adult members in some parishes
- Imminent clergy retirements, etc.

Being faced with uncertainties at many levels, we are realizing that the concept of one priest, one parish is quickly becoming unrealistic for many of our worshipping communities.

Many of our mid to larger parishes, which have enjoyed two or three full-time clergy, are taking necessary steps to restructure.

As the Body of Christ, there is much work to be done. Our population is growing, demographics are changing, and there is opportunity and need for new Episcopal worshipping communities. This means our existing parishes will need to be positioned to respond to the human needs of a growing and aging population.

Because of these reasons, the ministry of our Church will fall increasingly to the shoulders of the laity in the 21st century. In the past, where change within our Church has often been seen as a problem to be resisted, it now very much needs to be embraced as an opportunity for a new form of mission and ministry.

There is a need for an increasing number of parishioners---like never before (except perhaps in the early church!)--- to become more active in delivering ministry within the parish, in the community, and beyond.

Yes, our church IS in transformation. And these are exciting times! We are beginning to better grasp that one role of the church will be as an “equipping center” for the ministry

of its members. We will need to approach our church, not as consumers, but as ministry participants. And we will need to begin to understand our ordained ministers not as priests-in-charge, but rather as priests-in-partnership.

The church is most effective when an ever-increasing number of its members understand themselves as ministering participants. We see clearer now that the church should be a relationship of mutuality---not of hierarchy, and not of consumerism.

If we are truly committed to becoming a more baptismally grounded church, a more empowering church, then we will need to look for new ways in which to intentionally engage and develop new leadership within our parishes..... new ways in which to better mobilize members for ministry, and to have mechanisms in place to support and affirm each other in our ministry efforts. There are a multitude of gifts among us!

I am delighted to report that a number of parishes within our diocese are working diligently on discovering new and exciting ways to engage the laity for ministry..... ways not just to identify the gifts and passions of our church members.....but, also, more effective ways to support and affirm the ministry efforts of the laity.

Your diocesan office of Ministry Development is available to help. I encourage you to contact us about Shared Ministry exploration, and also to discuss the various canonical licensed ministries that are now available to us---which include Licensed Preachers, Pastoral Leaders, Catechists, Parish Administration, Worship Leader—as well as Eucharistic Minister and Eucharistic Visitor. Information is also available on the Shared Ministry Homepage of our diocesan Website at www.etdiocese.net

We are all Partners in Ministry! The effectiveness of our Church depends on it. Our Baptismal Covenant leads the way!

Commission on Ministry Report – The Rev. Suzanne Smitherman

The work of the Commission on Ministry is to assist the Bishop with the development and affirmation of lay and ordained ministry — within our diocese and beyond. We have 13 members, clergy and laity, with geographical representation throughout our diocese.

First, on behalf of the Commission, I would like to recognize and thank The Rev. Alex Barron who retired this year from active parish ministry and consequently retired from the Commission on Ministry. Alex has served faithfully on the Commission for this entire century and during a portion of the last century. We will miss Alex and his faithful participation in our work.

Last year the Commission on Ministry met seven times. These meetings included our October BACAM (Bishop's Advisory Committee on Aspirants for Ordained Ministry). The diocese currently has four postulants for the priesthood and four senior seminarians who are candidates for ordination. We have five postulants for the vocational diaconate who are studying in our diocesan formation program.

In addition to our work of supporting the process of discernment of vocation to holy orders, this Commission on Ministry is dedicated to support the ministries of all the baptized. Rick Govan our diocesan director for lay ministry development is an ex-officio

member of the Commission on Ministry. We continue to support and work with Rick and others as the diocese develops and honors lay ministries. We support Rick in his continuing fine work.

Last April I attended the gathering of Commission on Ministries in Province IV. Commission members attended from 14 dioceses in the southeast and were joined by representatives of our seminaries and of several arms of the national Church. We heard presentations and held most interesting discussions about common concerns of our work as we shared ideas and resources. We did fun things together like spend a lot of time discussing the new requirements of Title III of our canons. It truly was a valuable time together.

Every year at this time, the Commission on Ministry asks parish priests and lay members who may be having serious conversations about the discernment process to be aware of the time frame set in preparation for the autumn BACAM conference. Any individual who is considering entering the discernment process and their priest should read the current manual and become especially familiar with the initial steps in the process.

Please be mindful that following the bishop's approval, local discernment committees for this year should be formed in February or March so that the aspirant, if recommended for continuation, will have plenty of time to complete the necessary steps by early summer. In other words, or in terms of the Church year, local discernment committees need to be formed and begin their work before Holy Week, or wait until another year. Should you have any questions about this or need assistance, please contact any member of the Commission. The most current discernment manuals are found on the diocesan website. There are new components of the manuals which were added this year. If you need a hard copy of a discernment manual, please ask for that from the diocesan office.

We appreciate all of the support and cooperation that each of you gives the Commission on Ministry. It is a privilege to serve on the Commission on Ministry where each member brings an enthusiastic dedication to the work we do. We are optimistic about the future of our diocese as we continue to see faithful committed people offer themselves to God's service in all of our ministries. And we thank you for raising up leaders in the ministries of the Church and for supporting them on their journeys.

Official Actions of the Standing Committee – The Rev. Peter Keese

(February 2005 through February 2, 2006)

The Standing Committee has several canonical responsibilities:

First, we are to consider whether to consent to the request of a Diocese to elect a Bishop, a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Bishop Suffragan. And we are to consider, once an election has occurred, whether to consent to the consecration of the person elected.

During this year, we gave consent to six Dioceses to hold an election. We gave consent to two Dioceses which had already elected a Bishop to proceed with the ordination and consecration of the same.

Second, we are to consider whether to consent to requests within our Diocese to alienate property.

We gave permission to the Diocese to sell the Catherrman property; we gave permission to the Episcopal School of Knoxville, to sell a little over 20 acres of its land; we gave permission to The Church of the Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain, to sell a rectory; we reaffirmed permission (given by the Standing Committee last year) to the Diocese and to St. James' Church, Knoxville, to sell property (located at Kingston Pike and Northshore Drive) which they jointly own (Diocese 2/3 and St. James 1/3); and we gave permission to St. Paul's Church, Kingsport, to sell a residential lot in Beech Mountain, NC.

Third, we are to consider requests of persons who wish to become Candidates for Ordination in our Diocese; then we consider them again as they ask to be approved for ordination to the Diaconate and, yet again, as they ask for approval to be ordained Priest.

We gave approval for Ordination to the "Transitional" Diaconate of Charles Fels, Audrey Miskelley, Taylor Dinsmore, Kenny Miller, and Harry Howard, and to the permanent Diaconate of Gary England. We gave approval for the ordination to the Priesthood of Carolyn Isley. Later in the year, we gave approval for ordaining Nina Pooley, Audrey Miskelley, Taylor Dinsmore, Kenny Miller, Charles Fels and Harry Howard to the Priesthood. Earlier this year we gave approval for accepting as Candidates for Holy Orders, the following four people: Chris Cairns, Bailey Norman, Joe Minarik and Michele Bolt; just prior to this meeting we recommended these four for ordination to the Diaconate.

Fourth, we are to offer consultation and advice on any other matters to the Bishop as and when appropriate.

We consulted with the Bishop, during the course of the year, about the work of the Standing Committee and about some pastoral concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Peter Keese
President

Stewardship Commission Report – The Rev. Joe Ballard & Mr. Herb Berl

2005 TENS Conference

Led by the Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg, over twenty members of diocesan clergy and laity attended the annual TENS Conference that was held in Charlotte, North Carolina. This is an international conference that provides training on all aspects of stewardship. The Diocese of East Tennessee was a co-sponsoring diocese for this event. Attendees from our diocese for this conference gave it high marks.

TENS Newsletter

The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS) has provided for our diocese, over the past several years, trainers for both diocesan and parish events. The Stewardship Commission recommended that during the coming year (2006) each parish should receive a copy of TENS' newsletter which is published six times a year. This publication will be sent to each rector or priest in charge. This resource should be shared with anyone who is involved with stewardship. This publication will be paid from the commission's allotted budget line item funding.

2006 Diocesan Stewardship Workshop and National Mentoring Training Program

Planning has begun for the 2006 Diocesan Stewardship Workshop. This event will be held at Saint Paul's in Chattanooga on August 12. Immediately preceding this workshop, Terry Parsons, Stewardship Officer for the National Episcopal Church, will be conducting a two-day training program for stewardship diocesan mentors at Saint Paul's. The participants will be coming from all over the United States. These newly trained "experts" will be presenters for our workshop and Ms. Parsons will be the keynote speaker.

Commission Membership

The commission's membership has increased during this past year and so has its area of responsibility. The commission will now be providing resources for planned giving and capital campaigns. The commission is well represented in Middle East Tennessee. Retirements may impact Lower East Tennessee in the coming year. Upper East Tennessee is currently under represented.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Joe Ballard, Co-Chair
Mr. Herb Berl, Co-Chair