

The Second Province
Also known as The International Atlantic Province
of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America
Minutes of Synod 2022
May 5, 2021

The Provincial Synod was convened via Zoom with preliminary video presentations by Canon Steven Welch of the Diocese of New Jersey on Zoom meeting protocols. The business session was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by the President, the Right Reverend Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe, Bishop of Central New York, with prayer.

Provincial Secretary Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe reported that a quorum of members was present as required by the Ordinances. Chancellor Martha Berry, Esq. on behalf of the Committee for Dispatch of Business moved the adoption of the Agenda previously distributed. The Agenda was duly approved via Zoom hand polling. Chancellor Berry moved the adoption of the Rules of Order as previously distributed, which were duly approved.

President Duncan-Probe announced the following reappointments, noting that some of the committees were previously constituted, effective through the next triennium unless otherwise noted:

Parliamentarian

Martha Berry, Esq. (Central New York)

Chancellor

Martha Berry, Esq. (Central New York)

Treasurer

Canon Phyllis Jones (New Jersey)

Assistant Treasurer

Ms. Elisabeth A. Jacobs (New York) (term coterminous with Treasurer)

Province II Court of Review

Charles Janoff, Esq. (Long Island), President

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Dietsche (New York)

The Rev. Marshall Shelly (New Jersey)

The Rev. Diana Wilcox (Newark)

Mr. Eric Sanders (New Jersey)

The Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin (Long Island) Alternate

The Rev. Mary Ann Brody (Rochester) Alternate

Nominating Committee

The Rt. Rev. DeDe Duncan-Probe (Central New York), Chair
The Ven. Walter Baer (Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe)
Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany)
Canon Noreen Duncan (New Jersey)
The Rev. Canon Johnnie Ross (Rochester)

Committee on Dispatch of Business

Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany), Chair
The Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe (Rochester)
Martha Berry, Esq. (Central New York)
The Rev. Lillian Davis-Wilson (Western New York)

Committee on Resolutions

Canon Paul Ambos, Esq. (New Jersey), Chair
Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany)
Martha Berry, Esq. (Central New York)
The Ven. Walter Baer (Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe)
Thomas Chu, Esq. (New York)
The Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe (Rochester)

Finance Committee

Canon Phyllis Jones, Chair (New Jersey)
Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany)
Ms. Neva Rae Fox (New Jersey)
Ms. Elisabeth Jacobs (New York)

Synod Planning Committee

Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany), Chair
The Rt. Rev. DeDe Duncan-Probe (Central New York)
Ms. Neva Rae Fox (New Jersey)
The Rev. Dcn. Lillian Davis-Wilson (Western New York)
The Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe (Rochester)
The Rev. Canon Johnnie Ross (Rochester)
Thomas Chu, Esq. (New York)
The Ven. Walter Baer (Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe)

Elections Committee

The Rt. Rev. DeDe Duncan-Probe (Central New York), Chair
Canon Paul Ambos, Esq. (New Jersey)

Tech Committee for Synod

Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany), Chair
The Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe (Rochester)
Mr. Bruce Dunn (Rochester)
Ms. Neva Rae Fox (New Jersey)
Mr. John King (Newark)
Ms. Nina Nicholson (Newark)
Ms. Jan Paxton (Newark)
Canon Steve Welch (New Jersey)

Advisory Committee to Provincial Council

Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany), Co-Chair
Martha L. Barry, Esq. (Central New York), Co-Chair
Ms. Neva Rae Fox (New Jersey)
Ms. Jan Paxton (Newark)
Ms. Grace-Ann Porpeggia (Albany)
The Rev. Yamily Bass-Choate (New York)

Translators Working Group

The Ven. Dr. Walter Baer (Europe), Chair
Canon Paul Ambos, Esq. (New Jersey)
The Rev. Dcn. Richard Cole (Europe)
Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly (Albany)
Canon Noreen Duncan (New Jersey)
The Rt. Rev. DeDe Duncan-Probe (Central New York)
The Rt. Rev. Mark D. W. Edington (Europe)
Ms. Neva Rae Fox (New Jersey)
Ms. Jan Paxton (Newark)
Ms. Monica Sharp (Europe)

Secretary Deppe moved adoption of the draft minutes of the September 9, 2021 Regular Synod as previously distributed, which was duly seconded.

Bishop Duncan-Probe then gave the President's Report to the Synod.

Treasurer Canon Phyllis Jones presented a report on financial operations for the triennium 2022 to 2024 budget. Questions were raised as to budgeting of in-person meetings with translation and interpreters. President Bishop Duncan-Probe and Treasurer Canon Phyllis Jones both spoke to hybrid option of Zoom + In-person meetings were interpreters and translations would be available, the Hybrid option allows us to be adaptive, inclusive, and the ability to gather without risk of Covid. A different question was raised as to where the National Church grant of \$10,000 was in the budget. Treasurer Canon Phyllis Jones shared that the grant will show as revenue. Rt. Rev. Glasspool thanked the Treasurer for their hard work. Treasurer Canon Phyllis Jones thanked the Dioceses for their support in assessments given and received.

She noted that the diocesan assessments were based on the previous triennium's rate of 0.22% of diocesan income as reported to The Episcopal Church averaged over the prior completed three years. There being no further discussion, the budget was approved as distributed, including the 0.22% assessment formula.

Bishop Duncan-Probe then gave an update regarding Puerto Rico to the Synod.

Bishop Duncan-Probe called on Canon Ambos as Chair of the Committee on Resolutions for a report. Mr. Ambos on behalf of the Committee moved Resolution 2022-1:

Be it resolved, That the International Atlantic Province — the Second Province of The Episcopal Church — submit the following resolution to the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting in 2022:

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That The Episcopal Church strengthen the connection and collaboration between The Episcopal Church and its Provinces and Dioceses by enhancing the mission, ministry, and networking of the Provinces, facilitating the partnership between The Episcopal Church and the Provinces, and supporting the Provinces in fulfilling canonical responsibilities; and be it further

Resolved, That this Provincial ministry be partially funded through the establishment of a budget line item for Provinces I – VIII, said allocation to be \$10,000 per Province per fiscal year and to be accounted for in the annual Provincial report submitted to Executive Council; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention urges the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to allocate \$160,000 for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 for the implementation of this resolution.

Explanation

Province IX already receives annual financial support in the current DFMS budget. In the 2021 Executive Council approved TEC budget, lines 542-545 cover expenses related to Provincial Coordination. The total for Provinces I – VIII is \$15,000 for the three years or \$5000 per year for these eight provinces together. This covers the translation expenses for the Provincial Leadership Conference and Provincial Coordinators online meetings. Line 544 is dedicated to “Support for Province IX”. The amount is \$50,000 for the three years or \$16,667 per year. This provides funding for the annual coordination expenses of Province IX.

Provinces are canonically recognized in the structure of The Episcopal Church (Canon I.9.), and they submit an annual report to Executive Council on their life and ministry. Canon I.9.2 states: "The primary purposes of the Provinces are to facilitate interdiocesan collaboration to achieve Diocesan and Episcopal Church goals, and to enable more effective communications and regional advocacy of significant programmatic efforts." Funding for this important ministry by our General Convention is needed and appropriate.

Provinces provide the opportunities to build coherence and connectedness between General Conventions. The Episcopal Church benefits organizationally, educationally, and financially from

this ministry; and Dioceses benefit from the networking that is carried out at the Provincial level. As TREC (Task Force on Reimagining the Episcopal Church) noted in 2015, some programs are best implemented at a regional level. Provinces currently have canonical responsibilities such as electing representatives from the Province to Executive Council, thereby insuring voices from all geographical areas of our church are heard and included in the decision-making process. Provinces also provide critical orientation for the Diocesan deputations to General Convention. Provinces build the networks that help connect those committed to the various issues across the Church. Dioceses and individuals working on various issues are more connected to The Episcopal Church through the networks nurtured by the Provinces.

Stronger Provincial ministries and sense of mission = stronger Provinces = stronger TEC.

The resolution was adopted as presented. Mr. Ambos on behalf of the Committee moved Resolution 2022-2:

Be it resolved, That The International Atlantic Province – the Second Province of The Episcopal Church – submit the following resolution to the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting in 2022:

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That this 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commends the Reverend Gay Clark Jennings upon the completion of her third term as President of the House of Deputies taking place at the adjournment of the 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention celebrates her gracious ministry of leadership during difficult times and the pressure of a pandemic, addressing what was needed for the church in spite of Covid-19, keeping the church community up to date through her written, verbal, and online communications, and in particular showing attention to all the Provinces of The Episcopal Church; and be it further

Resolved, That God bless her in her future endeavors, along with her spouse, Albert, and their family, knowing that they bear the best wishes of the members of the General Convention.

President Bishop Duncan-Probe presented to the Synod the stole to be given to Rev. Gay Clark Jennings. The resolution was adopted as presented. Mr. Ambos on behalf of the Committee moved Resolution 2022-3:

Be it resolved, That The International Atlantic Province – the Second Province of The Episcopal Church – submit the following resolution to the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting in 2022:

Be it resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That this 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church encourage members of Provinces, Dioceses, Congregations and all other institutions of The Episcopal Church to participate in the Thursdays In Black Campaign of the World Council of Churches, a global movement for a world without rape and violence; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church commit to work toward increasing awareness, accountability, and action across the church about the alarming degree of gender-based violence in church and society; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church commit to work toward education about and elimination of gender-based violence.

Explanation

Thursdays in Black grew out of the World Council of Churches (WCC) Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women (1988-1998), in which the stories of rape as a weapon of war, gender injustice, abuse, violence, and many tragedies that grow outward from such violence became all the more visible. But what also became visible was women's resilience, agency, and personal efforts to resist such violations.

The idea behind Thursdays in Black is to encourage people to wear black clothing on Thursdays as reminder of the need to act against sexual violence in all its forms. Wear a pin to declare you are part of the global movement resisting attitudes and practices that permit rape and violence. Show your respect for women who are resilient in the face of injustice and violence. Encourage others to join you.

Often black has been used with negative racial connotations. In this campaign, black is used as a color of resistance and resilience.

The Thursdays in Black movement is found throughout the Anglican Communion. Submitted with this Resolution as a Document is an article about the campaign from the Anglican Communion News Service.

During discussion, The Rt. Rev. Glasspool asked a question in regards to documents referenced within a resolution and having referenced documents available prior to voting. Mr. Ambos clarified and resolution required no changes. The resolution was adopted as presented. Mr. Ambos on behalf of the Committee moved Resolution 2022-5:

Be it resolved, That The International Atlantic Province – the Second Province of The Episcopal Church – submit the following resolution to the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting in 2022:

Be it resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That this 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church designate as Break The Silence Sunday the Sunday closest to November 25, which is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women; and be it further

Resolved, That the common objective is to halt the epidemic of violence against women and to affirm as Christians that violence has no place within our families, our Church, and our communities; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church encourage the education of its clergy and laity on how to support survivors of rape and sexual violence, including trauma-informed care, and advocate on behalf of those not yet ready to speak openly so that the voices of survivors do not speak alone; and be it further

Resolved, That we add our voices and prayers with those around the world seeking the elimination of gender-based violence.

Explanation

Churches throughout Anglican Communion, including The Episcopal Church, take part in the 16 Days Campaign against gender-based violence, which runs annually from November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) to December 10 (International Human Rights Day). The 16 Days period includes other significant dates, like International Human Rights Defenders Day (November 29), World Aids Day (December 1) and the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre (December 6). We think it appropriate to celebrate Break The Silence Sunday during this period.

Break The Silence Sunday began at the Diocese of Polynesia, in the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia with a Diocesan Synod resolution in 2013, "That within the Diocese of Polynesia there be zero tolerance on violence against women and children within our homes, our schools, our communities and the church." In 2019, the United Church of Christ passed its resolution to observe Break The Silence Sunday on the fourth Sunday in April, as April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Break The Silence Sunday is a resource for churches to actively support survivors of sexual violence, particularly in the context of worship. The goal is three-fold: to help congregations learn about the reality and scope of the problem of sexual violence; to create communities where survivors can share their stories and be received with hope and love; and for congregations to commit themselves to prayerfully consider ways in which they can support survivors, be advocates for change in their communities, and around the world.

Building on the work of 1994-A049 – Encouraging Ministries That Respond to Violence Against Women, and other resolutions, as well as the Liturgy of Listening at GC79, we can embrace Break The Silence Sunday, and join with other people of faith around the world to take action to end the incessant violence.

Statistics from RAINN ([Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network](#))

- Every 68 seconds another American is sexually assaulted.
- 1 out of every 6 American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime (14.8% completed, 2.8% attempted).
- About 3% of American men — or 1 in 33 — have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime.
- From 2009–2013, Child Protective Services agencies substantiated, or found strong evidence to indicate that, 63,000 children a year were victims of sexual abuse.
- A majority of child victims are 12–17. Of victims under the age of 18, 34% of victims of sexual assault and rape are under age 12, and 66% of victims of sexual assault and rape are age 12–17.
- 9 out of 10 victims of rape are female.
- The majority of sexual assaults occur at or near the victim's home.

- 48% of victims were sleeping or performing another activity at home when the crime occurred.
- 29% were traveling to and from work or school, or traveling to shop or run errands
- 12% were working
- 7% were attending school
- 5% were doing an unknown or other activity

During discussion, Deputy Mary Jones asked what is Trauma Informed Care, and Ms. Yvonne O' Neal drafter of the resolution responded. The resolution was adopted as presented. Mr. Ambos on behalf of the Committee moved Resolution 2022-4:

Be it resolved, That Subsection (a) of Section 7 of Ordinance III of the Ordinances of the Second Province be amended to read as follows (insertions shown by underline, deletions by strikethrough):

(a) All persons elected by the Provincial Synod, in the event of a contest, shall be elected by written or electronic ballot at the regular meeting of the Provincial Synod preceding the regular meeting of the General Convention. The episcopal representative to the Provincial Council shall be elected by a majority vote of the House of Bishops. The clerical and lay representatives to the Provincial Council shall be elected by a majority vote of the House of Deputies. The concurrent majority of both the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies, voting separately, is required for the election of the Executive Council members of the Provincial Council and of all other elected officers of ~~officers by~~ the Provincial Synod. ; and be it further

Resolved, That Section 1 of Ordinance X of such Province be amended by inserting a new Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) The concurrent majority of both the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies, voting separately, is required for the election of the Provincial members of the Executive Council.

; and be it further

Resolved, That Section 1 of Ordinance X of such Province be amended by renumbering Subsection (e) to (f); and be it further

Resolved, That the foregoing amendments take place immediately upon their adoption at the regular meeting of the Synod on May 5, 2022.

Explanation

Prior to the September 2020 revision of the Ordinances of the Province, Ordinance X governing the election of Provincial members of the Executive Council provided in Section 3, "Election shall be by a concurrent majority of all the votes cast in each House." This provision was inadvertently dropped in the 2020 revision. The proposed amendments to Ordinance X Sections 1(e)–(f) by this Resolution reinstate this requirement.

The votes needed for various elections are scattered in various places in the Ordinances. For example, in addition to Ordinance X, Ordinance VII, Section 2 provides for the episcopal member of the Provincial Council to be elected by the House of Bishops alone and the

clerical and lay members by the House of Deputies alone. The amendment to Ordinance III by this Resolution brings these scattered provisions into one place for clarity and convenience.

Ordinance XI provides that any amendment can specify its effective date.

The resolution was adopted as presented. That concluded the report of the Committee on Resolutions.

Video addresses and reports from the Presiding Bishop & PHOD were presented to Synod by video.

Video addresses and reports from CPG were presented to Synod by video.

Bishop Duncan-Probe invited Bishop Mark Edington to address the Synod. Bishop Mark Edington offered an update on the Ministry & Humanitarian Care of Ukrainian Refugees by the Episcopal Convocation of Europe. Many thanks of appreciation were given to Rt. Rev. Mark Edington for his presentation.

President Bishop Duncan-Probe expresses many thanksgivings for the running of Synod.

There begin no further business, the Synod was dismissed by Canon Pual Ambos of the Diocese of New Jersey and adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jimmie Sue Deppe, Secretary