

The Second Province
Also known as The International Atlantic Province
of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America
Minutes of Synod 2018
April 12–13, 2018

The Provincial Synod was convened at the Desmond Hotel, Albany, New York on April 12, 2018. The business session was called to order at 12:45 pm by the President, the Right Reverend Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island, and an opening prayer offered by the Right Reverend Doctor DeDe Duncan-Probe, Bishop of Central New York.

Ms. Dorothy-Jane Connolly, Chair of the Synod Planning Committee, welcomed those present and reviewed the contents of the documents folders distributed at registration to make sure everyone had all necessary documents. She introduced the members of the Provincial Executive Committee on the dais.

The agenda was accepted as distributed (annexed to these minutes as Exhibit 1), followed by certification of the presence of a quorum by the Secretary of the Province, Canon Paul Ambos, Esq. (New Jersey) The list of bishops and deputies in attendance are attached as Exhibit 2 to these minutes.

President Provenzano announced the following appointments:

Committee on Dispatch of Business: Ms. Diane Pollard (New York), chair, and Ms Laura Russell (Newark)

Committee on Resolutions: The Rt. Rev. William Franklin (Western New York) and The Rev. Dahn Gandell (Rochester)

The minutes of the Synod of April 15–16, 2015, held at the Desmond Hotel, Albany, were on motion made, seconded, and duly carried, approved as distributed.

The nominations committee was Bishop William Franklin (Western New York), Ms. Diane Pollard (New York); and Ms. Connolly. The nominees of the Nominations Committee for the various positions to be elected were presented by Ms. Connolly:

a. President: The Reverend Dahn Gandell (Rochester).

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Mother Gandell as President.

b. Vice President: The Right Reverend Doctor DeDe Duncan-Probe (Central New York)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Bishop Duncan-Probe as Vice President.

c. Secretary: Canon Paul Ambos, Esq. (New Jersey)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Canon Ambos as Secretary.

d. Treasurer: Canon Phyllis Jones (New Jersey)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Canon Jones as Treasurer.

e. Episcopal Representative to Provincial Council: The Right Reverend William H. ("Chip") Stokes (New Jersey)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Bishop Stokes as Episcopal Representative to Provincial Council.

f. Clerical Representative to Provincial Council: The Reverend Joell Szachara (Central New York)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Dean Szachara as Clerical Representative to Provincial Council.

g. Lay Representative to Provincial Council: Ms. Yvonne O'Neal (New York)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Ms. O'Neal as Lay Representative to Provincial Council.

h. Clerical Representative to the Executive Council: The Reverend Lillian Davis-Wilson (Western New York)

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and carried to close nominations for this office. It was then moved, seconded, and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Deacon Davis-Wilson as Clerical Representative to the Executive Council.

The Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Richard J. "Jerry" Carroll (Albany): The Asking table for the next for the next triennium was presented (attached as Exhibit 3). The Right Reverend Jean Zache Duracin (Haiti) objected that the data for Haiti was incorrect for 2015 and asked that the Treasurer check for an update with the Treasurer of the General Convention. Treasurer Carroll undertook to do so. He next presented the results of budget performance for the years 2015 through 2017 (Exhibit 4) and moved the proposed 2019-2021 budget (Exhibit 5). Discussion followed. The Reverend John V. ("Jack") Zamboni (New Jersey) moved to change the budget lines for "Provincial Executive" under "Co-ordination Expense" and "Networks & Other Programs" under "Program Expenses" to zero and to insert \$40,000 for each year as a new expense item for "Ministry of the Province" under "Program Expenses", adjusting totals correspondingly. This was seconded and, after discussion, carried. Subsequently the budget as so amended was adopted unanimously.

The Resolution Committee received draft resolutions for submission to General Convention. President Provenzano set a 5:00 deadline for further submissions, with consideration at tomorrow's business session.

Following prayers and intercessions, the meeting was recessed for Workshops at 2:27, to be followed by Eucharist and the Synod Dinner.

During the dinner, President Provenzano reconvened the Synod, whereupon the following resolution was moved by the Provincial Council and passed by acclamation:

Whereas Canon Charles H. ("Chuck") Perfater, a faithful member of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of New Jersey, has faithfully served his parish, his diocese, and his province in numerous official capacities;

Whereas he has used his skills in communication and organization to keep the Province active and vital in the work of the church;

Whereas Canon Perfater has worked with the Provincial Leadership Council to elevate the goals and status of all the provinces;

Whereas he has successfully encouraged others in the province, his diocese, his parish and other provinces also to be active in leadership roles;

Whereas he has led the province to work with emerging technology;

Whereas Canon Perfater has enabled conferences on Stewardship, Youth Ministry, and other topics within the province;

Whereas Canon Perfater has enabled and supported emerging ministries;

Whereas he has coordinated all the activities of Province II for these many years;

Whereas Canon Perfater has served Province II for at least three years after he requested permission to retire from his official position;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Province II of the Episcopal Church is grateful to Canon Charles H. Perfater for his service and publicly recognizes the outstanding leadership he has provided as the Executive Coordinator. His leadership distinguishes him, honors the Province, and marks a deep commitment to the Episcopal Church; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be made part of the minutes of the Province II Synod 2018 and that a formal copy be presented to Canon Perfater.

An inscribed certificate of this resolution was presented to Canon Perfater. President Provenzano stated that the Provincial Council had authorized a sum of \$1,200 — \$100 for each year of Canon Perfater's service to the Province — to be given to a ministry of his choice. Canon Perfater stated that it should go to fight human trafficking. The President without objection announced an agenda change for Friday:

9 a.m. – 11 a.m. — General Convention orientation

11:15 — Plenary session: Resolutions and Blue Book open discussion

12:30 — Noonday prayer & lunch

1:15 p.m. — listening session on The Beloved Community

The meeting was duly recessed at 8:22.

On April 13, following Morning Prayer and presentations on the upcoming General Convention by the Reverend Gay Jennings, President of the House of Deputies, the Reverend Canon Michael Barlowe, Secretary of Convention, and representatives of the General Convention Office and the Church Pension Group, the meeting reconvened at 11:15. The Resolution Committee reported two resolutions for submission to the General Convention by the Synod and moved their adoption:

Against Human Trafficking

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That consistent with Resolution 2009-A167 of the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church, which "calls for the protection of all victims of human trafficking," the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church support the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism ("The Code") adopted by ECPAT (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking); and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church encourage programs and ministries of The Episcopal Church to give preference to tourism companies and businesses, including but not limited to hotels, airlines, and travel agents, that have signed The Code when making arrangements for meetings and travel to meetings; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church encourage programs and ministries of The Episcopal Church to make available opportunities for advocacy and education with tourism companies and businesses, including but not limited to hotels, airlines, and travel agents, that have not signed The Code when they are used for arrangement for meetings and travel to meetings; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church urge all dioceses, parishes within the dioceses, and members of The Episcopal Church to give preference to tourism companies and businesses, including but not limited to hotels, airlines, and travel agents, that have signed The Code when traveling and to engage in advocacy with tourism companies and businesses that have not; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church website make available current information on the status of companies that have signed The Code, which can be found at <http://www.thecode.org/who-have-signed/members/>.

Explanation

The travel and tourism industry is uniquely positioned to address child sex trafficking. For example, 45% of children trafficked for sex in New York City are exploited in hotels (Ric Curtis et al., "The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in New York City," The Center for Court Innovation, NYC, 2008). Members of this industry that endorse The Code agree to: 1. Establish a policy and procedures against child sexual exploitation. 2. Train employees in children's rights, the prevention of sexual exploitation and how to report suspected cases. 3. Include a clause in contracts throughout the value chain stating a common repudiation and zero tolerance policy of child sexual exploitation. 4. Provide information to travelers on children's rights, the prevention of child sexual exploitation and how to report suspected cases. 5. Support, collaborate, and engage stakeholders in the prevention of child sexual exploitation. 6. Report annually on their implementation of Code related activities. Nearly 1,300 companies have signed The Code, including Delta Airlines, Hilton Worldwide, and Uber Technologies Inc.

Supporting The Code when arranging meetings and travel to meetings would allow The

Episcopal Church to continue its tradition of using its economic power to stand for justice and supporting the human rights of children.

The proposed resolution was passed by acclamation.

Respecting the Dignity of Immigrants

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church reject and deplore racist and unjust treatment of immigrants of any residential status; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church affirm the following propositions regarding immigrants in our country: 1. Just reception and hospitable treatment of the stranger in our midst is a faith-based component of baptismal living. 2. Undocumented immigrants should have reasonable opportunity to pursue permanent residency. 3. Close family members should be allowed to reunite without undue delay with individuals lawfully present in the United States. 4. Fundamental U.S. principles of legal due process should be granted all persons; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church call upon the Government of the United States to implement humane means of enforcing reasonable border control; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church support the goals of expanded immigration relief for youth as outlined in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church advocate through education, communication, and representation before legislative authorities the continuation of Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for all persons fleeing to or currently resident in the US seeking refuge from violence, environmental disaster, economic devastation, or cultural abuse or other forms of abuse; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church advocate for congressional consideration and implementation of comprehensive immigration reform which will allow millions of undocumented immigrants who have established roots in the United States and are often parents and spouses of U.S. Citizens to have a pathway to citizenship and to full social and economic integration into the United States.

This proposed resolution was passed by acclamation, and the Secretary was authorized to present these proposals to the General Convention office.

There followed open discussion on the Blue Book Reports for the 2018 General Convention.

With no further business to come before the Synod, Vice President Rosalie Simmonds Ballentine, Esq., was invited to lead the Synod in a closing prayer, following which the Synod was adjourned on consent at 11:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Ambos
Secretary

