

The Second Province
Also known as The International Atlantic Province
of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America
Minutes of Special Provisional Synod 2024
September 19, 2024

The Special Provincial Synod for Budget was convened at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom by the President, the Right Reverend Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe. The business session was then called to order by the President, the Right Reverend Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe, Bishop of Central New York.

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 digital polling. Chancellor Berry moved the adoption of the Rules of Order as previously distributed, which were duly approved via digital polling.

This Special Synod was called for one purpose and that is for the approval of a Province II Triennial Budget. The budget has been sent to you in advance. I call on Province II Treasurer Elisabeth Jacobs for a report.

Treasurer Elizabeth Jacobs gave her report and her review of the 2025-2027 Budget, as follows:

- The new budget was created with data from the previous budget.
- Cannot confirm the accuracy of prior budget nor the current budget being presented today.
- Checking account has approximately \$100,000.00 with two checks outstanding.
- Line 6 Diocesan Assessments was increased for the new budget by 0.3%, as well as, for Line 14 Audit & D&O Insurance, along with Line 34 Cuba/Haiti/V.I Expenses.
- The Line Items have pretty much not changed from prior budgets to this budget.
- Doesn't have enough information or historical information to give a detailed report.

Question was asked about what is in Line 47 Budget Support. Treasurer was unable to unpack that Line Item, because there is no clear historical information as to what all is entailed within "Budget Support." The Line Item is taken from the previous budget.

Concerns were raised in regard to being able to approve a budget with so little understanding of the actual numbers. And many offered their thanksgivings to Treasurer Jacobs for all her efforts to date to decipher prior budgets and finances in her attempt to create the 2025-2027 Budget.

Discussion was had requesting the following:

- A Finance Committee to be in place. President of Province II, Bishop Duncan-Probe, later would ask for volunteers who are interested in being a part of the new Finance Committee to email Neva Rea Fox.

- President of Province II, Bishop Duncan-Probe clarified the current situation in regards to budget and finances. We will continue to investigate, correct, and revise as we begin to understand more of the past work that was done.
- Question was brought up of what happens if we did not approve a budget? Chancellor Martha Berry shared that a budget did need to be passed; however, we could approve a budget as a provisional work in progress budget.

After discussion concluded, a motion was made by Rev. Emily Mellott, which was then seconded by Rev. Marshall Shelly, and then passed with 39 yes votes, and 0 opposed votes.

Motion for a Provisionally Approved 2025-2027 Budget:

Provisionally approve the Triennial Budget; appoint a Finance Committee to review the budget; reconvene Synod in September 2025 with the purpose of final approval of the Triennial Budget as revised by the Finance Committee.

President Bishop Duncan-Probe expressed many thanksgivings Treasurer Jacobs' hard work, the good discussion and the request to create a Finance Committee, everyone who assists in Synod, and for everyone's participation in the Special Provisional Synod Zoom meeting. Bishop Glasspool offered closing prayer and blessing.

There being no further business, the Synod was dismissed by Bishop Duncan-Probe and adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe, Secretary