

THE NEWSLETTER

OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF NORTHWEST TEXAS

Number 149

March 15, 2004

Vision Statement: The Diocese of Northwest Texas is a community of mission outposts which invite in and welcome people who are seeking Jesus, train them to be his disciples, and send them into the world to do the work God has called them to do. *Mission Statement:* The Diocese of Northwest Texas will provide the energy, resources and support necessary to help all our communities become mission outposts and, where needed, to help plant new ones.

Special Convention Adopts Redirected Funding Resolutions

The March 6 Special Convention of the Diocese of Northwest Texas, held at St. Paul's Church, Lubbock, was called to order with prayers and an opening address by Bishop Wallis Ohl. Bishop Ohl asked the Convention to keep in mind that the Convention is the Body of Christ in the Diocese of Northwest Texas gathered to do the work of Christ in the world, and he instructed the Convention to look for the face of Christ in each person during deliberations. The Convention adopted two resolutions proposed by the Budget Committee of the Executive Council as a result of the resolution adopted at the 2003 Annual Diocesan Convention which allowed for the redirection of funds by individuals from the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society in protest over the General Convention's consent to elect the Rev. Canon Gene Robinson as Bishop of New Hampshire. The first resolution proposed by the Budget Committee amended the 2004 budget of the diocese by reducing the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society Support line item from \$229,119 to \$156,511 and raising the Redirected Apportionment Funds item from \$0 to \$72,608. The second resolution proposed by the Budget Committee recommended ministries which would receive support from the redirected funds. At its meeting on February 26, the Budget Committee reviewed 32 areas of ministry which had been suggested for funding by individuals and churches across the diocese and made recommendations for use of the redirected funds based on those suggestions and the guidelines for funding adopted by the committee. The guidelines included no funding of already budgeted items, no bricks and mortar projects, and no salaries. The Budget Committee recommended funding ministries both within and outside the diocese as follows:

Outside the Diocese of Northwest Texas:

Breedlove Dehydrated Foods	\$10,000
The Rev. John Dixon (IERI)	4,000
Marc Nikkel School in Sudan	4,000
AIDS treatment in South Africa	2,652
Doctors without Borders	5,000
Our Little Roses (Honduras)	2,652
La Gran Familia Orphanage (Mexico)	8,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$36,304</i>

Within the Diocese of Northwest Texas:

Jubilee Ministry Centers	\$ 6,000
New Direction Ministry (Midland)	2,304
Seed money for Santa Maria, Midland	5,000
Seed money for St. Cyprian's, Amarillo	5,000
Literacy Training in the Diocese	4,000
HIV-AIDS Patient Support	4,000
Food Banks in the Diocese	10,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$36,304</i>

Two motions were made to amend the second or funding resolution: the Rev. Jon Stasney of St. Nicholas', Midland, moved to reduce the \$10,000 recommended funding to the Breedlove Dehydrated Foods ministry by \$4,000 and that \$4,000 be sent to Uganda. A motion was made by Christie Beavers of St. Thomas', Hereford, that no funds would be used within the diocese. Following courteous and thoughtful debate on each amendment, including funding ministries within and outside the diocese, how we define outreach and mission, various options for mission locally, throughout the diocese and the world, and the merits of various ministries, both amendments failed and the resolution was adopted as proposed by the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee members were commended for their work in dealing with the resolutions and funding requests. A summary of the redirected pledges, the requests submitted, a brief description of the ministries recommended and adopted, and names of the Budget Committee members may be seen at nwt.org or requested from the diocesan office.

Convention closed with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist followed by a box lunch. Bishop Ohl and his staff wish to thank the congregation of St. Paul's-on-the-Plains for their gracious hospitality in welcoming the Special Convention into their church home. Special thanks are due to Carl and Penny Tillerson for refreshments and hospitality (including 400 delicious home-baked muffins), Interim Rector Harry Allen, Senior Warden Jim Brown, and the staff of St. Paul's, the altar guild, and Byron Gonzalez, organist.

Where does your money go? The \$15 registration fee for the Special Convention covered the following items: Morning refreshment (muffins, fruit, juice, coffee, etc.), napkins, plates, lunch and drinks, and clean up: \$11 per person. Budget Committee expenses including meetings and materials, convention hospitality, tables, set up, printing, paper, envelopes, and postage: \$4 per person.

2004 Nominating Committee

The 2004 Nominating Committee met March 6 at St. Paul's Church, Lubbock, and received information packets to begin its work. The committee discussed developing a questionnaire for those wishing to seek nomination at the convention. Nomination forms and the questionnaire will be finalized at the committee's April 1 meeting and nominations will be finalized at the September 8 meeting. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Mrs. Pat Russell, St. Paul's, Lubbock, Chair, and the Rev. Jim Haney, St. Christopher's, Lubbock-Llano Estacado. Deacon Nikki Jones and Mr. Rod Wetsel, St. Stephen's, Sweetwater-Eagle Cove. Deacon Chris Wrampelmeier, St. Andrew's, Amarillo, and Mr. Ken Baxter, Shamrock-Panhandle. Deacon Tom Burns, Holy Trinity, Midland, and Mr. Bob Bledsoe, St. Nicholas', Midland-Permian Basin.

Prayers and Thanksgivings:

Please continue to keep the Rev. **Joan Rudolph**, Deacon **Phil Corbett**, and **Edna Chambers** in your prayers for healing. For safe travel and successful mission: **Sheila Ohl** and a group of about 50 bishops' spouses travel to the Dominican Republic Mar 16-22, and the Rev. **Keith Adams**, Good Shepherd, San Angelo, on duty as a Naval chaplain in Bahrain. Congratulations to the Rev. **Charles McIntyre** whose 80th birthday was celebrated at St. John's, Odessa, on March 7.

Happening #27 for High School Youth

Holy Trinity, Midland, March 26-28

Contact: Jenness Gilles, 432.684.7736, divness@aol.com

Easter Retreat at Pecos Benedictine Monastery

Pecos, NM - April 22-25

Contact 432.699.4322 or dana@marshall.com

Pathways to Ministry

National High School Conference - April 16-1, 2004:

Engaging young people to consider ordained ministry.
Martha Lang, 214.363.5471 x 269 or lang@saintmichael.org

New Intensive Hispanic Ministries Course

for Lay and Ordained

ETSS, Austin, June 21-25

Jaime Case, 512.477.2644 or Jaime_case@sbcglobal.net.

7th Annual Dallas Benedictine Experience

June 23-27, Dallas

Contact: 214.339.8483 or quetex1@yahoo.com

Thank you from the Editor/Bishop's Secretary

I have recently completed my 25th year as the bishop's executive secretary for the Diocese of Northwest Texas. My life in this position is intertwined with so many, many others: 3 bishops, 1 archdeacon and 3 canons, 4 business managers (by various titles), 3 treasurers, 4 chancellors, countless priests, deacons, wardens, delegates, and chairs and members of numerous committees and congregations over these 25 years. I take this opportunity to thank you for the privilege of serving you in His Name. I pray for you daily and try to remember to hold each of you in the light of Christ as I communicate with you on the phone, via e-mail and letters, and face-to-face. I ask your continued prayers for me as we work together in the part of Christ's vineyard known as the Diocese of Northwest Texas. And I thank you, dear friends in Christ, for the great kindnesses, assistance, encouragement, inspiration and support you give to me each day. Pax, Carolyn

CALENDAR

MARCH

- 18-25 *House of Bishops, Camp Allen
- 26-28 Happening, Holy Trinity, Midland
- 26 Commission on Ministry, HEC, 10 AM
- 27 *Fresh Start, St. Christopher's, Lubbock
- 28 *St. Stephen's, Lubbock

APRIL

- 1 *Compensation Committee, HEC, 10 AM
- 4 *St. Matthias', Andrews
- 7-10 *Denver
- 9 *Good Friday, HEC Closed
- 11 Easter
- 12 *Monday in Easter Week, HEC Closed
- 14 *Standing Committee
- 17 Cursillo Secretariat, St. Christopher's, Lubbock
- 18 *St. Mary's, Big Spring
- 21 *Heavenly Rest, Abilene, Confirmations
- 23-25 Spring Fling, BQCC
Clergy Spouses Conference
- 25 *St. Barnabas', Odessa
- 28 *St. Matthew's, Pampa, Confirmations

Send comments, suggestions, notices, and information to Carolyn Hearn, Editor, newsletter@nwt.org or
The Newsletter, 1802 Broadway, Lubbock TX 79401, 806.763.1370, fax 472.0641 - April 10.

The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Northwest Texas
The Newsletter
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED