

# THE NEWSLETTER

OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF NORTHWEST TEXAS

Number 157

November 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.

## **46<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention** *Growing into the Full Stature of Christ*

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Northwest Texas met in Midland, Texas on October 29-30 beginning with a most enjoyable musical prelude to Evensong at Holy Trinity Church under the direction of Darryl P. Knapp, Organist and Choirmaster. The selections included traditional and Celtic music, violin, recorder, bass guitar and flute, the Adult Choristers and the Adult Handbell choir. Ms Claire Cowden was named Canon for Ministry Development by Bishop Ohl. The Rev. Linda Grenz preached at Evensong, and a reception followed in the parish hall.

Convention convened Saturday morning at 8:30 A.M. at the Midland Center. The business of Convention included the bishop's address, elections of diocesan officers and 2006 General Convention deputies and alternates, an address by the Rev. Linda Grenz and break-out sessions on Christian formation, adoption of two resolutions, approval of the 2005 budget and apportionments, and reports on the work of the commissions and committees of the diocese. A new experience at Convention was balloting by using scanned ballots which worked very well and sped up the balloting process significantly. The convention dinner and dance was held at the Midland Petroleum Club at which the food was delicious and the band, the dancing and socializing were obviously enjoyed by one and all.

Bishop Ohl presided and preached at the Convention Eucharist at the Midland Center following brunch and the business session Sunday morning. Mary Collier of Holy Trinity Church was ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Ohl. Music for the service included the Holy Trinity Adult Handbells and the Lone Star Brass.

A more complete report and photographs of the convention will be available in *The Adventure* which will be on line and in churches near December 1.

### **Guidelines for Standards for Clergy Salaries Adopted**

A resolution submitted by the Compensation Committee of the Executive Council for the adoption of Standards for Clergy Salaries was approved after some discussion and as amended by the Convention to be "guidelines" rather than "standards" and elimination of "...the approval of the bishop for exceptions to the standards recommended." A complete copy of the resolution is available from the diocesan office at [diocese@nwt.org](mailto:diocese@nwt.org) or 806.763.1370 x 204.

## **Convention Election Results**

**Secretary of the Diocese:** Deacon Melissa Wafer-Cross, St. Christopher's, Lubbock (07)

**Treasurer:** Mr. Carrol Holley, St. Stephen's, Lubbock (07)

**Standing Committee Clergy:** The Rev. Margaret Austin, St. Stephen's Lubbock (07)

**Standing Committee Lay:** Mrs. Linda Scarborough, Heavenly Rest, Abilene (07)

**Trustee:** Mr. Gaylon Simmons, St. Stephen's, Lubbock (09)

**Trustee:** Mr. Neal Allen, Holy Trinity, Midland (06)

### **General Convention Clergy Deputies:**

1. The Rev. Canon Mike Ehmer, Diocesan Staff
2. The Rev. Laura Deaderick, St. John's, Odessa
3. The Rev. Jim Liggett, St. Mary's, Big Spring
4. The Rev. Dr. Steven Sellers, St. Paul's, Lubbock

### **Clergy Alternates:**

1. The Rev. Scott Mayer, Heavenly Rest, Abilene
2. The Rev. Mark Cannaday, Holy Trinity, Midland
3. The Rev. David Krause, Canterbury, Lubbock
4. Deacon Melissa Wafer-Cross, St. Christopher's, Lubbock

### **General Convention Lay Deputies:**

1. Mrs. Jackie Batjer, Heavenly Rest, Abilene
2. Mr. Jack Link, St. Stephen's, Lubbock
3. Mrs. Pat Russell, St. Paul's, Lubbock
4. Mr. Cliff Craig, St. Andrew's, Amarillo

### **Lay Alternates:**

1. Ms Kelsey Kemp, St. Stephen's, Lubbock
2. Mr. Dick Davis, St. Peter's, Amarillo
3. Mr. Fred Newman, Holy Trinity, Midland
4. Mrs. Anna Marie Wanasek, St. Paul's, Lubbock

### **Deanery Elections to Executive Council:**

#### *Eagle Cove Deanery:*

The Rev. Keith Adams, Good Shepherd, San Angelo (08)

#### *Llano Estacado Deanery:*

The Rev. Steve Sellers, St. Paul's, Lubbock (07)

Deacon Les Jackson, St. Christopher's, Lubbock (08)

#### *Panhandle Deanery:*

Deacon Jessie Vaughn, Grace, Vernon (05)

Lay person to be elected (08)

#### *Permian Basin Deanery:*

Dona Josie Rose, Holy Trinity and Santa Maria, Midland (08)

### **Task Force for the Protection of Children and Youth**

Bishop Ohl has appointed a task force to recommend diocesan policies and procedures for the protection of children and youth, guidelines for child sexual abuse prevention training, and a process for responding to concerns related to abuse of children and youth. The first meeting of the task force is December 15 at the HEC. Contact Canon Claire Cowden, [ministry@nwt.org](mailto:ministry@nwt.org).

## Diocesan Apportionment Resolution Adopted

The Diocesan Apportionment Resolution submitted by members of Holy Trinity, Midland, was adopted as amended by dropping "within the diocese" from the end of the second paragraph and adding the third paragraph as printed below.

**Resolved**, That for the calendar year 2005 any member of a Parish, Mission or Congregation may elect in writing not to have any portion of his or her pledge paid from the Diocese for the benefit of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society ("DFMS"). Notice of such election shall be made in writing on or before January 15, 2005 to the Parish, Mission or Congregation. On or before January 30, 2005, the Parish, Mission or Congregation shall notify the Diocese of the total amount of such elections.

The apportionment payable to the Diocese shall not change; however, the amount payable by the Diocese to the DFMS shall be reduced by the total amount of such elections reported (the "redirected funds") by a Parish, Mission or Congregation. The redirected funds shall be placed in the Surplus and Deferred Expenditure account to be allocated by the Executive Council to areas of mission or outreach.

**Be it Further Resolved** that the Diocese of Northwest Texas *seek ways of reconciliation to heal our divisions*. That with all generosity and charity toward those with whom we disagree, we again proclaim our *common commitment to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to a broken and needy world*. This common commitment includes full participation in the life of the Episcopal Church at all levels, undertaken in the firm hope and conviction that the temporary divisions which exist among us will soon be overcome by the healing touch of our Lord. To that end, we ask the Bishop, Wardens, Clergy, and People of our diocese to study and review the Windsor Report, in its full and complete statements, convinced that the way forward for us now lies in the spirit and hopefulness of this report.

(Italicized Quotations are from the Windsor Report)

### Windsor Report, Bishop's Address Available On Line

The 100 page Lambeth Commission Report, also known as the Windsor report, is available on line at [www.anglicancommunion.org/index.cfm](http://www.anglicancommunion.org/index.cfm). Bishop Ohl's address to the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention is available on line at [nwt.org](http://nwt.org).

Send comments, suggestions, notices, and information to Carolyn Hearn, Editor, [newsletter@nwt.org](mailto:newsletter@nwt.org) or The Newsletter, 1802 Broadway, Lubbock TX 79401, 806.763.1370, fax 472.0641 - deadline is DECEMBER 10.

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

## Prayers and Thanksgivings:

**The Rev. Allan Conkling** has accepted the call of Emmanuel, San Angelo to become their new rector. He is currently Associate Rector at St. Thomas, San Antonio. His wife **Kelly (Schneider)** is a former Rector of St. Mark's and Youth Minister at Heavenly Rest in Abilene. A welcome reception will be held after the 10:30 service on December 5 in the Great Room at Emmanuel. Welcome Allan and Kelly.

**Upcoming ordinations:** **Jim Smart** to the (local) priesthood at St. Mark's, Abilene on November 20 at 11 AM. **Rich Nelson** to the priesthood at St. Stephen's, Lubbock on December 11, 10 AM. **Jonathan Hartzler** to the priesthood at St. Nicholas', Midland on December 17 at 7 PM. **Celia Ellery** to the transitional diaconate at Good Shepherd, San Angelo on December 18 at 11 AM.

**In Memoriam:** **The Rev. Ted Harris** who served at St. John's, Odessa and as Vicar of the Sandhills churches from 1994-1998, died Nov. 7. His wife Emma's address is PO Box 367, Hebronville Tx 78361. *May light perpetual shine upon him.*

**Please continue to keep in your prayers for healing: the Rev. Marshall Mason, the Rev. Roz Thomas, and the Rev. Donald Hungerford.**

## Calendar

### NOVEMBER

- 20 \*Jim Smart Ordination and Commissioning of Lay Ministers, St. Mark's, Abilene
- 21 \*St. Mark's, Coleman, Visitation, 11 AM
- 22 \*Retired Clergy and Spouses Luncheon, Abilene
- 25-26 HEC Closed for Thanksgiving
- 29-30 \*Houston, Meeting of Bishops

### DECEMBER

- 3 \*Retired Clergy and Spouses Luncheon, Amarillo
- 3-4 \*Executive Council Retreat, BQCC
- 3-4 Deacon Formation, Lubbock
- 6-9 \*Bishops of Tiny Dioceses, Memphis
- 10 \*Retired Clergy and Spouses Luncheon, Lubbock
- 11 \*Rich Nelson Ordination, St. Stephen's, Lubbock
- 12 \*Heavenly Rest, Abilene, Visitation
- 15 \*Task Force for the Protection of Children & Youth, HEC, 11 AM
- 17 \*Jonathan Hartzler Ordination, St. Nicholas', Midland 7 PM
- 18 \*Celia Ellery Ordination, Good Shepherd, San Angelo, 11 AM
- 19 \*St. Peter's, Borger, Visitation
- 23-31 \*HEC Closed for Christmas

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