

THE ANGLICAN VOICE Pre-convention Issue 2006: 5 days before GC 2006

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RESOLUTIONS TO WATCH (Less than 25% of the proposed legislation.)

Resolution A159 Commitment to Interdependence in the Anglican Communion: reaffirm the commitment of the Episcopal Church to the Anglican Communion, and seek to live into the highest degree of communion possible:

Resolution A160 Expression of Regret: we offer our sincerest apology and repentance for having breached the bonds of affection in the Anglican Communion by any failure to consult with our Anglican partners before taking these actions." [*We are sorry you were upset with our actions. No real repentance or amendment of life.*]

Resolution A161 Election of Bishops: we will exercise "extreme caution" before we elect another practicing, non-celibate homosexual person to episcopacy. [*Falls short of the moratorium requested by Windsor Report.*]

Resolution A162 Public Rites of Blessing for Same-Sex Unions: Church affirms the need to maintain a breadth of private responses to situations of individual pastoral care for gay and lesbian Christians in this Church... but not proceeding to authorize public Rites of Blessing for same-sex unions, until some broader consensus in the Anglican Communion emerges; [*Falls short of the mora-*

torium requested by Windsor on gay marriages; only promises that this Convention will not adopt or instruct the Committee on Liturgy to present Rites in 2009.]

Resolution A163 Pastoral Care and Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight: this Church affirms the centrality of effective and appropriate pastoral care for all members of this church and all who come seeking the aid of this church; Convention recognizes the agonizing position of those who do not feel able to receive appropriate pastoral care from their own bishops, and urges the members of the House of Bishops to seek the highest degree of communion and reconciliation within their own dioceses, using when necessary the Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight (DEPO)...

Resolution A165 Commitment to Windsor and Listening Processes: ...the 75th General Convention commends the funding by the Anglican Communion Office for a formal "Listening Process" [*listening to the stories of gay and lesbian persons*] across the Communion...

Resolution A166 Anglican Covenant Development Proc-

ess: ...Executive Council to follow the development processes of an Anglican Covenant in the Communion and report regularly to the Executive Council as well as to the 76th General Convention;

Resolution A167 "Full and Equal Claim" for All the Baptized: the 75th General Convention reiterates its apology "on behalf of the Episcopal Church to its members who are gay or lesbian, and to lesbians and gay men outside the Church, for years of rejection and maltreatment by the Church."
Resolution A168 Human Rights for "Homosexual Persons": ...homosexual persons are entitled to equal protection of the laws with all other citizens, and calls upon state, local and national governments to see that such protection is provided.

Resolution A095: Gay and Lesbian Affirmation: full civil rights, calling upon state, municipal and the US Congress to give legal protection for inheritance, pension, family leave policies and mutual support enjoyed by married couples; opposes

any state or federal constitutional amendment that prohibits same-sex civil marriage or civil unions.

Resolution A169 Amend Canon III.1: Quadrilateral and Exercise of Ministry: ... That Canon III.1 be hereby amended by adding the following section: *Sec. 3. No person shall be denied access to any discernment process under these canons or to the exercise of any ministry in this Church on account of theological opinions...*

Resolution A020 Amend Article I.2 House of Bishops, second reading: all bishops shall have a seat and a voice in the House of Bishops; a majority constitutes a quorum; Retired bishops shall not have a vote.

Resolution A024 Amend Canon I.9.1 to include Venezuela as a constituent member of ECUSA
Resolution A153 Proposed Title IV Revisions: Fitness for Ministry, Accountability and Ecclesiastical Discipline ... Title IV, would also be amended to include lay persons for the first time. "The canons would apply to everyone in leadership," said Bishop Catherine Waynick of Indianapolis, chair of the task force. Should resolution A153 be defeated, there are three other resolutions to be considered: two deal with presentment of and

(Continued on page 2)

Seven Stand for Presiding Bishop

The Seven candidates for Presiding Bishop will be introduced at a joint meeting of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies on Saturday, June 17. The House of Bishops will meet on Sunday, June 18 at 10:30 am at Trinity Church in Columbus to elect the next Presiding Bishop. Over the past month, many have interviewed the candidates for Presiding Bishop. The following is a quote from each person, taken from *The Living Church*, which I believe best illustrates where they see the role of Presiding Bishop.

J. Neil Alexander, Bishop of Atlanta, "Acknowledging that the Presiding Bishop has little canonical power, Alexander notes that being effective in the office rests on one's ability to articulate a vision clearly enough that others will trust and follow it. He believes the Church is much stronger than people believe".
Henry Nutt Parsley, Bishop of Alabama "We need to be passionate Episcopalians, bold in our vision, communicating compellingly the message of the gospel and the Episcopal Church in our society...I would hope to help us find ways to live with differ-

RESOLUTIONS TO WATCH, continued from Pg. 1

trials for bishops; the third with the Court of Review for the trial of a bishop.

Resolution A116: Short-Term Mission

Pilgrimages: increased resources and programmatic support for short-term mission trips and allocate \$120,000. for implementation.

Resolution A119: Covenant with Brazil:

endorse the "Commitment to be Companions in Christ" between the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil and the Episcopal Church. [Ed. Note: Last October, the Presiding Bishop of Brazil deposed the only bishop in the country that refused to allow homosexual marriage and ordination, the Rt. Rev. Robinson Cavalcante. The deposition was stayed by Archbishop Gregory Venables. Now, ECUSA is proposing partnership with the very apostate Episcopal Church in Brazil.]

Resolution A055 UMC Interim Eucharist

Sharing: to recommend the sharing of Eucharist with the United Methodist Church; this follows a 40-year study and approaching Concordat similar to the one with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Resolution A123: Slavery and Racial Reconciliation:

opposes slavery in the US and anywhere in the world and declares it a sin; expresses regret that (a) the Episcopal Church lent the institution of slavery its support and justification based on Scripture, (b) after slavery was formally abolished, the Episcopal Church continued for at least a century to support de jure; (c) ask the Presiding Bishop to call for a "Day of Repentance and Reconciliation"

and to organize a Day of Repentance and Reconciliation service to be held at the National Cathedral

Resolution A129: Affirm Creation and

Evolution: affirm that God is Creator, in accordance with the witness of Scripture and the ancient Creeds of the Church; but also endorses Evolution as a credible scientific fact; and strongly encourages state legislatures and state and local boards of education to establish standards for science education based on the best available scientific knowledge as accepted by a consensus of the scientific community;

Resolution A136: Enriching Our Worship

Support: strongly encourage regular use of the liturgical resources in *Enriching Our Worship I* for Sunday worship. [These resources use alternate references to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and include feminist terms for the divine feminine.]

Resolution A139: Celebration of Women's

Ministries: for the gift of all women in ministry, and especially those enabled by previous General Convention actions; That dioceses that still do not ordain women to the priesthood continue to be encouraged to provide for the ordination and exercise of priestly ministry by women in their dioceses.

Resolution A122: Francophone Network:

officially recognize the already existing Francophone Network; provide necessary resources to work with the growing numbers of French-speakers within the Episcopal Church. [This is

for the benefit of the Diocese of Haiti, one of the largest dioceses of the Episcopal Church with membership exceeding 100,000 French-speaking persons.]

Resolution A093: Reconciliation Task Force:

appoint a National Reconciliation Task Force reflecting diverse classes, genders, ages, races, and cultures, to work with the Anti-Racism Committee; to identify the inequalities and imbalances that negatively affect groups in the church; solicit personal stories of oppression and repentance, and report on same in 2009.

Resolution A077: Revised Common Lectionary:

direct that the Revised Common Lectionary shall be the Lectionary of this Church, effective the First Sunday of Advent, 2007.

Resolution A009 Millennium Development

Goals: establish the work toward the achievement of these goals as a mission priority for the coming triennium...

Resolution A010 Affirm "Call to Partner-

ship": ...in working across confessional lines and in partnership with many governments and international organizations to address the Millennium Development Goals...

Resolution A016 US Policy towards Cuba:

...asks dioceses to consider the establishment of companion relationships with the Episcopal Church of Cuba - known locally as Iglesia Episcopal de Cubato (IEB); opposes boycott.

Resolution A017 Fundamental Immigration

Principles: delineates the Episcopal Church's policy towards immigration; urges adoption of position paper *The Alien Among You*.

SEVEN STAND FOR PRESIDING BISHOP, cont. from Pg. 1

ences with generosity of spirit and without polarization."

Katharine Jefferts Schori, Bishop of Nevada "The Anglican Communion is a gift to be cherished and a gift that needs to be increasingly valued and appropriated through our own sacrifice, albeit not at the cost of what this church believes to be faithful response to the gospel."

Francisco Duque-Gómez, Bishop of Columbia "...referring to his Hispanic heritage, 'We are not prepared psychologically to approach that theme (homosexuality). We know that human sexuality is there, but we're not prepared to approach it. We don't know how to discuss it... In the US it is seen as something normal, but not for us...'"

Charles E. Jenkins III, Bishop of Louisiana "I have prayed for years for the transformation of the diocese of Louisiana from maintenance to mission. I see that happening. The largest natural disaster in the history of this nation is, by God's grace, transformed into an opportunity for humble service, prophetic concern and the changing of lives and society. We need to find a common focus in transforming lives [of those not affected by Katrina]."

Edwin F. Gulick, Bishop of Kentucky "I am passionate about every verb in the baptismal covenant including believing in the

trine God, continuing, persevering, proclaiming, seeking and striving. I love this Church because I am convinced that the women and men who make it up live these verbs in their daily places and are helping extend the reign of God."

Stacey Sauls, Bishop of Lexington, KY "The truth is that, even if we were to do that (recant and rescind Gene Robinson's consecration) the only thing we have to offer the Communion is who we really are, including what we believe and anything less leaves the relationship broken already. The unity can only be found by holding onto the importance of our relationships, our own sense of what God is calling us to do and who God is calling us to be. The avoidance of conflict does not equal peace."

WE'LL BE IN TOUCH DURING GENERAL CONVENTION:

With daily phone messages at **1-800-553-3645**.

Listen to a condensed version of the Convention Daily Email .

With daily postings at our website: **www.anglicansunited.com**

Convention Email: Send me an email and request Convention Daily Email: **anglicansunited@sbcglobal.net**

We are leaving for Convention on June 11.

Our office will be closed until June 27.

NETWORK BISHOPS ISSUE PRESS RELEASE May 23, 2006

At the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in 2003, just moments after consent was given to the consecration of V. Gene Robinson to be bishop of New Hampshire, over twenty bishops stood in the House of Bishops and made this declaration:

"The bishops who stand before you are filled with sorrow. This body, in willfully confirming the election of a person sexually active outside of holy matrimony, has departed from the historic faith and order of the Church of Jesus Christ. This body has denied the plain teaching of Scripture and the moral consensus of the Church throughout the ages. This body has divided itself from millions of Anglican Christians around the world, brothers and sisters who have pleaded with us to maintain the Church's traditional teaching on marriage and sexuality. "With grief too deep for words, the bishops who stand before you must reject this action of the 74th Convention of the Episcopal Church."

They went on to say that they made this declaration as "faithful Episcopalians, and members of this House."

The Bishops of the Anglican Communion Network reaffirm this statement in its entirety.

As the Primates of the Anglican Communion warned in October of 2003, if the consecration given consent by the action of General Convention proceeded, it "will tear the fabric of our Communion at its deepest level." Sadly, this very thing has happened.

It is important to understand that the issues of sexuality are not alone, or even primarily, the cause of this rupture. Rather, a crisis of faith runs deep in the Episcopal Church over the uniqueness of Jesus as Savior and Lord, the sacred authority of the Apostles' teaching in the Holy Scriptures, and the responsibility Christians have to act in charity and accountability with each other. All these have been relativized and, in turn, this "accommodation" to the culture of North American individualism has been the context in which division has already occurred and may yet continue.

What is now to be done?

The issue for the 75th General Convention of the Episcopal Church in June 2006 is whether the 2003 decision can be reversed and the tear in the fabric of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion can be repaired. Failing this reversal, the state of impaired or broken communion among those formerly together in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion can be expected to become permanent. We, the Network Bishops, are prepared to be part of the efforts to reverse the situation, precisely because we are committed both to the Anglican Communion and the Constitution of the Episcopal Church, and because we long to be instruments of healing and reconciliation in the face of division.

To that end, we unanimously support the recommendations of the Windsor Report as the basis on which our divisions may begin to be mended. We pledge to work with all bishops of this Church and of the Communion who also support the Windsor report, and the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Primates in particular, in working toward greater unity and mutual responsibility under Scripture and within the Anglican heritage.

The Rt. Rev. Keith Lynn Ackerman, SSC, DD, Bishop of the Diocese of Quincy

The Rt. Rev. James M. Adams Jr., Bishop of the Diocese of Western Kansas

The Rt. Rev. Peter H. Beckwith, Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield

The Rt. Rev. Robert Wm. Duncan, Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh

The Rt. Rev. Daniel W. Herzog, Bishop of the Diocese of Albany

The Rt. Rev. John W. Howe, Bishop of the Diocese of Central Florida

The Rt. Rev. Jack L. Iker, DD, Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Worth

The Rt. Rev. Edward L. Salmon, Jr., Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina

The Rt. Rev. John-David Schofield, Bishop of the Diocese of San Joaquin

The Rt. Rev. James M. Stanton, Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas

The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey N. Steenson, Bishop of the Diocese of Rio Grande

The Rt. Rev. David J. Bena, Bishop Suffragan of Diocese of Albany

The Rt. Rev. Stephen H. Jecko, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas

The Rt. Rev. Henry W. Scriven, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh

The Rt. Rev. William J. Skilton, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of South Carolina

NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE COMMUNION

April 19 - In advance of the 2006 General Convention, Bishops have taken steps to clarify their ownership claim to parish property in the event of a split in the Episcopal Church. In March, Executive Council authorized an expenditure of \$100,000 from short-term reserves for the House Of Bishops ad hoc task force on property disputes.

"It is the belief of the ad hoc task force that in the event parishes are successful in taking without just compensation the Episcopal Church's real and personal property, some diocese and parishes will experience severe financial situations which could re-

sult in jeopardizing their financial existence, integrity and stability," council said in a resolution, adopted March 8 in Philadelphia. "The ad hoc task force is also of the belief that some dioceses and parishes may not have the financial resources to support litigation to prevent the taking of their property."

As a result, the Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, the Rt. Rev. James R. Mathes demanded Articles of Incorporation, Parish By-Laws, employment agreements between clergy, wardens and vestry, title deeds, balance sheets and evidence of Surety Bond. He then threatened his priests with deposition if

they failed to comply by May 20. *The Living Church* [Ed. Note: *What do your Articles of Incorporation say about your parish? It is time to find out and perhaps, change them.*]

April 28 - The Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry has sent a letter to all 122 parishes in the diocese demanding copies of their title deeds and a review of all their tax records. The four-page "Declaration" was sent out on Monday of Holy Week stating that all "real property for any parish, Mission, Congregation, or Institution is held in trust for the

(Continued on page 4)

NEWS BRIEFS, continued from pg. 4

Episcopal News Service

MAY 9: The Rev. S. Todd Ousley, Missioner for Congregational development and Clergy Deployment for the Diocese of Eastern Michigan, was elected bishop coadjutor. Ousley was added by petition after the slate of candidates was announced. Married with two younger children. *Episcopal News Service*

The Diocese of Tennessee failed again to elect a bishop. After casting 36 ballots, Bishop Bert Herlong moved to close the Convention. The convention was split between the Rev. Canon Neil Michell of Dallas, who held the votes of the laity since the third ballot; and the Rev. Canon James Magness of Lexington, who held the votes of the clergy since the 6th ballot. The Standing Committee will appoint a new search committee. *Episcopal News Service*

May 9 - The Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan, the Most Revd Dr Robin Eames, has announced his retirement. He is also today the senior primate in the Anglican Communion. Dr. Eames chaired The Windsor Report committee. *Anglican Communion News Service*

May 9 - General Synod meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand this week, named Bishop Brown Turei, Bishop Jabez Bryce and Bishop David Moxon to form the new-model tri-partite Primacy, with the expectation that they would share the joint role fully and publicly. Until the necessary legislative changes have been made, Bishop Brown will receive the formal title of Primate, described as "holding the taonga of leadership." The new Archbishops will each retain their present episcopal roles. *Anglican Communion News Service*

May 17 - Mounting protests demanding the banning of showing of the "Da Vinci Code" as blasphemous have pressured the Indian government into putting on hold the release of the movie until Christian leaders have reviewed it and given their approval. "If anything in the film affects their [Christian] sensibilities, we will not allow the movie to be screened," Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi, India's federal information and broadcasting minister told journalists. *Ecumenical News International (Ed. Note: the movie was banned on May 21.)*

May 17 - An international Anglican church panel has agreed to hear an appeal for help from a Jacksonville parish embroiled in a legal and theological fight with the Episcopal Diocese of Florida. But whether the case of Redeemer Anglican Church -- formerly the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer -- is taken up by the London-based Panel of Reference may depend on Bishop John Howard agreeing to drop or delay the lawsuit he filed against the Southside parish in March. The Jacksonville diocese sued the lay leadership at Redeemer to remove them from their property.

Howard took the action after Redeemer quit his diocese and joined an Anglican diocese in Africa, because the denomination elected an openly gay bishop in New Hampshire in 2003. The church and its lawyers contend the congre-

gation has the right to remain on the property because they paid to purchase, expand and maintain it for decades. Howard counters that the diocese possesses the deed and that Episcopal Church law clearly states that the hierarchy, not congregations, own properties. Redeemer contends the hierarchy to which it ultimately belongs is the Anglican Communion, an international fellowship of national churches symbolically led by the Archbishop of Canterbury in England.

The parish appealed to the communion's Panel of Reference in April asking that it mediate its dispute with Howard over its wish to be overseen by another bishop *Jeff Brumley, the Jacksonville Times-Union*

May 18 -The Most Rev Njongonkulu Ndungane, Archbishop of the Anglican Church in South Africa, has decided to retire after the Lambeth Conference of 2008. A successor will be selected during 2007. *Anglican Communion News Service [Ed. Note: Ndungane has traveled widely throughout Africa and the far East in the last 3 years promoting ECUSA's right to consecrate a practicing homosexual. He is very much at odds with the other Primates on the continent of Africa.]*

May 19 - The Episcopal Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church has today elected The Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway, The Rt Rev Dr Idris Jones, to serve as Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church. Jones was consecrated as Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway in 1998. *Anglican Communion News Service*

May 19 - A Palestinian Anglican priest, who has drawn criticism from Jewish and pro-Israeli Christian groups, has won a prestigious peace prize awarded by the Episcopal Church in the United States. "Canon Naim Ateek's ...message is of non-violence, whether perpetrated by the Israeli government or the Palestinians. Ateek will receive the prize at the US church's annual convention in Columbus, Ohio, being held from 12-21 June. *Ecumenical News International*

May 21 - Two nominees for the highest office in the Episcopal Church, holding opposite views on the denomination's biggest controversy, - the consecration of an openly homosexual bishop - both visited Kentucky's largest Episcopal congregation, St. Francis in the Fields in Harrods Creek. Bishops Ted Gulick of Kentucky and Charles Jenkins of Louisiana confirmed and received about 40 people into the church yesterday -- said their visit showed Episcopalians could cooperate despite disagreeing over the controversial ordination of an openly gay bishop. Gulick approved while Jenkins did not. The controversy was sharply debated at St. Francis. The church's ministers and many members opposed the approval and a number of members have reduced financial pledges to

the diocese. About 19 people were confirmed by Gulick and 21 by Jenkins. Both men are nominees for Presiding Bishop, to be chosen on June 18 at the next church convention. *Peter Smith, The Courier-Journal*

May 24 - The Anglican Church of Kenya has told the visiting British Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt. Rev. John Gladwin he is no longer welcome in the country after it discovered he has sympathetic views to homosexuals. The Kenyan Anglicans said they will consider severing links with the bishop's diocese due to his view on gays and lesbians. *Ecumenical News International*

May 25 - the Most Rev. Frank Griswold, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church USA, in his first visit to Newark, said he would not discuss anything relating to the upcoming general convention of the Episcopal Church. That convention starts in three weeks in Columbus, Ohio. At the last general convention, in 2003, conservative Episcopalians threatened a schism after more liberal church leaders voted to confirm an openly gay bishop, Gene Robinson of New Hampshire, and also authorized blessings of same-sex unions in dioceses where bishops approve them.

Around the world, many bishops in the Anglican Communion who publicly condemn homosexuality have broken formal ties with the Episcopal Church because of those actions. At the upcoming convention, leaders of the 2.3 million-member denomination are expected to discuss whether to apologize to the rest of the 77million-member Anglican Communion for the confirmation of Robinson and action on blessings for same-sex unions. Conservative factions in the church say a church split remains a possibility if Episcopal leaders do not apologize. Many liberal church leaders have expressed regret only for upsetting others around the world, not for the actions themselves. At the dinner yesterday, Griswold, speaking to about 75 people, expressed optimism that the Episcopal Church will remain together, saying it had withstood fierce disagreements in the past. *JEFF DIAMANT Newark Star-Ledger*

May 25 - The Rt. Rev. Larry Maze, bishop of Arkansas, and the Rt. Rev. Joe Morris Doss, assisting bishop, Louisiana joined a diverse spectrum of clergy and other religious leaders on Capitol Hill May 22 to speak against the so-called "Federal Marriage Amendment" (FMA). The bishops are part of "Clergy for Fairness" -- a coalition of religious leaders working to oppose passage of the amendment that would define marriage in the U.S. Constitution as between one man and one woman. The Senate is scheduled to debate the measure the week of June 5. *Episcopal News Service*



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June 2, 2006

To: the Candidates for Presiding Bishop, Episcopal Church, USA

Please give me the courtesy of 5 minutes of your time by reading this letter. For the past decade, I have been the Administrator for Episcopalians United for Revelation, Reformation and Renewal, now known as Anglicans United & Latimer Press. General Convention 2006 will be my fourth convention.

In my job, I have been in contact with *thousands* of people who have left the Episcopal Church. Most were donors to this ministry. I have exchanged letters, answered prayer requests and spoken with over 10,000 people. Most of the people I deal with have been Episcopalians for decades. They love Jesus and the Prayer Book. They taught Sunday School, cut the grass, put on the pageants, ran the Vestries and gave sacrificially to keep their parishes open. They ran the Search processes, and tried desperately to work with the clergy chosen. Repeatedly, since 1997, only to then watch their church friends of many years' standing, flee to the nearest Methodist or Lutheran church because of persistent clergy promotion of the gay agenda, and/or intentional misinterpretation the Scriptures. I have counseled and prayed with them over the phone, strategized on how to deal with non-celibate hetero- and homosexual clergy, encouraged them to stay and fight for their parish and wept with them when they no longer could.

I have encouraged thousands to write to their priest and/or bishop and have over 1100 letters they copied to me. Fewer than 50 of these people ever received an acknowledgement, let alone a credible response. One of the things that has touched me is that overseas bishops always call or write back, if for no other reason than common courtesy.

Last June, prior to a meeting with Archbishops Drexel Gomez and Gregory Venables, I mailed out 1600 surveys to a segment of our donors and received 800 replies within 2 weeks. The replies consistently talk of rude/coarse behavior towards themselves and others in their parish who share the same beliefs; refusal by clergy and/or bishops to even attempt to explain current practice against doctrine and scriptural standards. The vast majority of respondents were already looking for another church to join, pending the outcome of General Convention 2006, the response to the Windsor Report, and the election of the new Presiding Bishop. A copy of the final tally of that survey is attached.

Archbishops Gomez and Venables sat down one evening and read all of the replies – passing them back and forth and talking about the similarity of the stories from around the country, and the sense of abandonment and despair. It was refreshing to come home and tell those faithful people that caring bishops had read their replies and acknowledged, with genuine concern and sorrow, the way they have been treated. The Presiding Bishop's office never replied to my offer to send copies.

Should you be elected, by year's end you will assume the role of Presiding Bishop of this church and you will have a small window of time to heal some of this polarization. Resolution A167, suggests that the Episcopal Church again apologize to gay and lesbian persons "for years of rejection and maltreatment by the Church." I really want to implore you to make an equally impassioned apology to those on the "loosing side" of past General Conventions. They voted with their feet after years of rejection and maltreatment by the Church. It is my hope that the newly elected Presiding Bishop will acknowledge the anguish of those who felt driven from their pews and their parish homes based on the political nature of the Councils of this church and the resultant polarization.

As you stand for election to the office of Presiding Bishop, please know the staff at Anglicans United will be praying for you and we ask that you pray for us. Should you be elected, we will spend the next 9 years praying, watching and hoping that you will represent ALL of the people of this church. Yes, even those of us who believe the Bible does not require revision or reinterpretation.

Yours in Christ,

Cheryl M. Wetzel, Administrator

Anglicans United & Latimer Press

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Dallas, TX 75376-3217

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We will post news every evening, starting June 12. * We are leaving for Convention on June 11. Our office will be closed until June 27.

NEWS BRIEFS, cont.

Protestant Episcopal Church in the US and the Diocese of North Carolina. *David Virtue, Virtue on Line*

April 29 - Lord George Carey, Dr Rowan Williams' predecessor as Archbishop of Canterbury, has likened the consecration of Bishop Gene Robinson in New Hampshire to heresy – because Bishop Robinson is a practicing gay. The remarks came this week on the Australian network ABC, as Dr Carey sought to defend himself against criticism for interfering in the gay row from 135 senior Anglican clergy – mainly from Australia, but also from the United States and England. Asked by interviewer Stephen Crittenden of ABC's 'The Religion Report' whether the decision of the Episcopal Church USA to confirm New Hampshire's election of Bishop Robinson in 2003 was "verging on being a heretical act", Dr Carey replied, "Oh, I think so, yes." *Ekklesia News, London*

April 29 - The Venerable Dena Harrison, archdeacon and canon for ministry in the Diocese of Texas, was elected as the diocese's second bishop suffragan, on the third ballot. She becomes the 13th woman elected as a bishop of the Episcopal Church. Harrison will oversee pastoral and congregational development for the 64 Episcopal congregations in the Austin region. Episcopal News Service

April 30 - The leader of the Episcopal Church USA said Bishop John Howard and his Jacksonville-based diocese face one the most dicey legal and theological situations in

SIX BISHOPS TO BE CONFIRMED:

Elected Bishop Coadjutor:

Diocese of Albany: the Very Rev. Canon William H. Love, rector, St. Mary's, Lake Luzerne, NY

Diocese of California: the Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, Suffragan bishop of Alabama

Diocese of Eastern Michigan: the Rev. S. Todd Ousley, Missioner for Congregational Development and Clergy Deployment, Diocese of Eastern Michigan

Diocese of Northern California: The Rev. Canon Barry Beisner, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Northern California

Elected Suffragan Bishop

Diocese of Texas: the Ven. Dena Harrison, Archdeacon and Canon for Ministry, Dio. of Texas

Diocese of West Texas: the Rev. David M. Reed, rector, St. Albans, Harlingen, TX

NEWS BRIEFS, continued

the nation because of parishes quitting the denomination over questions of biblical interpretation and human sexuality. All or parts of nine congregations have left the 33,000-member Episcopal Diocese of Florida since November and some priests predict a "wave" of individuals may quit beginning this summer. Some of those congregations have refused to leave their buildings, and Howard is suing Redeemer Anglican Church in Jacksonville to force it from its Southside property.

"This is a more severe instance of what is happening on a smaller scale elsewhere" in the Episcopal Church, Bishop Frank Griswold, spiritual leader of the denomination, told The Florida Times-Union on Saturday. Alarmed by the 2003 election of an openly-gay Episcopal bishop in New Hampshire, conservative parishes from Jacksonville to Tallahassee have formed a regional alliance and joined more conservative dioceses from as far away as Africa. *Jeff Brumley, The Jacksonville Times-Union*

May 2 - Pope Benedict XVI and Nigerian Anglican Archbishop Peter Akinola have made Time magazine's list of this year's 100 most influential people. The two Christian leaders are among US President George Bush, Turkish writer Orhan Pamuk, Chinese environmentalist Ma Jun, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Microsoft's founder Bill Gates and his wife

Melinda. They are named in the category "Leaders & Revolutionaries". Time describes them as people with the clout and power to change our world". *Ecumenical News International*

May 4 - Canada's Anglican bishops unanimously endorsed a motion expressing "grave concern" about proposed legislation in Nigeria that "would prohibit or severely restrict the freedom of speech, association, expression and assembly of gay and lesbian persons." Their motion also called criticized the (Anglican) Church of Nigeria for its support of the legislation, noting that the 1998 Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops called upon churches to "listen to the experience of homosexual persons." The proposed laws, said the bishops, "criminalize civil and religious same-sex marriage as well as the public and private expression of same-sex affection, all public affiliation between gay persons and even publicity, public support and media reporting of the same."

In unusually strong language, the bishops said they "disassociate" themselves from the actions of the Church of Nigeria and called upon Anglicans around the world to listen to and respect the human rights of gay people. *Anglican Church of Canada Press*

May 5 - A bill requiring students to learn about the contri-

butions homosexuals have made to society and remove sex-specific terms such as "mom" and "dad" from textbooks has passed another hurdle on the way to becoming the law of the land in California. Having already been approved by the state's Senate Judiciary Committee, SB 1437, which would mandate grades 1-12 use books "accurately" portraying "the sexual diversity of our society," got the nod yesterday of the Senate Education Committee. The bill also requires students hear history lessons on "the contributions of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered to the economic, political, and social development of California and the United States of America." *Associated Press [Ed. Note: this bill passed the California legislature and was vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger.]*

May 6 - The Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, Suffragan bishop of Alabama, was elected the next bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California over six other candidates. Many had feared that California would be the second diocese to elect a homosexual bishop...they elected a married Southern straight man... *Jared Turner, the Roanoke Times*

The Rev. Canon Barry Beisner, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Northern California, was elected bishop coadjutor. Married with children, Beisner takes office on Jan 1, 2007.

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