

As the Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin, We Will Call and Equip Laity and Clergy to Bring People to and Disciple Them in a Saving Relationship with Jesus Christ

Standing Committee Minutes

June 18, 2022

Meeting in Person and by Zoom

Committee Members: Bishop Eric Vawter Menees – President, Mr. David Chambers (2023) - Vice President, Mr. Paul Wagner (2025), Dcn. Chuck Kendall (2025), Mr. Bruce Hunter (2022), Dcn. Lee Johnson (2022), Dcn. Leslie Arbegast (2023), Fr. Carlos Raines (2024), Mrs. Karlyne Paul (2024)

Staff and Permanent Guests: Ms. Christina Pestana, Secretary, and Canon David Francis, Treasurer

Regrets: Mr. David Chambers

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer Bp. Menees

2. Agenda Approval Bp. Menees
Agenda approved with additional item: “Approve Social Media Guidelines”
Motion: Bp. Menees
2nd: Dcn. Chuck
Motion carried

3. Bible Study Bp. Menees
Luke 9:18-23 “Who do you say that I [Jesus Christ] am?”
Confirmation is where individuals move from professing the faith of their parents, to owning their own faith. No one is born a Christian. At some point, everyone will have to make their own decision for Christ. It’s not by osmosis.

4. Minutes of May Meeting Ms. Pestana
Motion to approve the May minutes: Dcn. Chuck Kendall
2nd: Mr. Paul Wagner
Motion carried.

Social Media Guidelines

The rural deans reviewed this and provided comments: Should we add a point #6: “We are not to comment on Ecclesiastical matters until a final decision has been made?” The group decided to not include it at this time.

Bishop Menees stated that he will distribute the Social Media Guidelines to the clergy in the diocese, and it will be added to the Rector and Warden’s Manual. These are guidelines not a “policy.”

Motion to accept the Social Media Guidelines: Dcn. Lee Johnson
2nd: Mr. Bruce Hunter
Motion carried.

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5. Financials

Cn. Francis

a. Banking transition

We moved funds over from Wells Fargo to CVCB. The final balance of funds will be moved over from CVCB when all outstanding items have cleared. Anglican Diocese Holding Corp funds will remain at Wells Fargo due to the TEC audit still on hold.

b. Financial Reports: May 2022

Motion: Dcn. Chuck Kendall

2nd: Ms. Karlyne Paul

Motion carried.

c. Written reports for publication: May 2022

Motion to approve the first paragraph of the budget notes for publication:

Mr. Bruce Hunter

2nd: Mr. Paul Wagner

d. Budget planning for 2023

6. Strategic Planning Update

Bp. Menees

Bishop Eric discussed the Strategic Planning with the rural deans. They encouraged him to utilize the Diocesan Convention for engaging and gaining buy in with the greatest number of leaders possible. Jud Boies has agreed to facilitate a participatory planning process at Convention. Deans asked that Bishop Eric have clergy identify the leaders in their congregation who will attend the Convention, in addition to the delegates. Other ideas were raised, such as doing initial planning at the deanery level first, then bringing that input to the Convention and working from there. This will require advance planning and a careful approach. Discussions will continue with Jud Boies and the deans.

The objective is to begin the development of the Strategic Plan in 2022, work on it through 2022-23 and ratify it at Convention 2023. Bishop Eric will have to spend a significant amount of his time in 2022-23 working on this.

Motion to adopt the strategy to utilize Convention for Strategic Planning: Dcn.

Chuck Kendall

2nd: Fr. Carlos Raines

Motion carried.

7. Convention 2022

Bp. Menees

a. Theme, Location, Planning Committee

The theme is "Revive." Convention will take place in Fresno with Emmanuel Anglican Church hosting.

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- b. Formation of 2023 Budget Committee
Budget must be provided to Standing Committee in August in order to get it published in time to vote on it for Convention.

Canon Dave Francis, Fr. Townsend Waddill, Fr. Noah Lawson, Mr. Dave Chambers, Fr. Gordon Kamai, and Mr. Bob Johnson have served in the past. Mr. Paul Wagner will replace Mr. Dave Chambers will serve on the committee this year.
8. Compliance Update Ms. Pestana
The new Guidelines to Protect Children and Youth are now posted on the ADSJ website along with relevant resources to assist churches implement the guidelines. The next step is for Bishop Eric to send out a letter to all clergy-in-charge to roll out the new Guidelines.
9. Commission on Ministry Report Ms. Pestana
Bishop Menees gave the report of nine ordinands and upcoming ordinations.
10. Kigezi Report Bp. Menees
Bishop Gaddie Akanjuna of Kigezi Diocese, Uganda, will be a great partner bishop. They are much more developed as a diocese than one would imagine, because it has to fill in where the government cannot. Bp. Gaddie will not be coming to New Wineskins because he is unable to get a visa due to a backlog.

Bishop Menees will ask all congregations to support Fr. Richard and Martha Menees, diocesan missionaries to Kigezi, asking for between \$50-\$250 per month. They will help develop a retreat center on Bushara Island, which is about 4-10 acres in size. The retreat center will be funded and supported by a eco-tourism center that will also operate on the island.
11. Bishop's Report - Written Bp. Menees
Clarification was provided regarding the oversight of congregations in Mexico. Bishop Eric is the lead of the Border Bishop's group and is overseeing four of the congregations that are being mentored as part of this group. One of the priests from Mexico is applying to come under Bishop Eric's episcopal oversight as Mexico develops its own diocese.

There was an allegation of abuse at Hume Lake youth camp the week of June 12th. Proper steps were taken by the ADSJ camp director, with Hume Lake staff, Bishop Eric and the camper's rector. Hume Lake followed their process and made a report to CPS.
12. Deanery Reports SC Members
Verbal deanery reports were given by deanery representatives.

Note: There will be no Standing Committee meeting in July; financials will still be sent.

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Closing Prayer – Eternal God and Heavenly Father, bless the Diocese of San Joaquin. Inspire us and strengthen our bonds to you and one another. Help us to witness to the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that with Godly love, patience, and zeal we may win many hearts to the Truth once delivered. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Next Meeting – August 20, 2022