

August 11, 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The theme for the 2018 Diocesan Council is "The word is very near to you" taken from Deuteronomy 30:14.

This passage finds itself bookended in the Torah between "assurance" and "decision." God's promise is that he will always be with us, through thick and thin, but the decision is ours to answer the call or not. Moses lays before the Hebrew people a choice: "life or death." As well as an exhortation: "choose life."

This should serve as a reminder to us in the coming year to be very near to the word as well. In Bible studies, mission work, fellowship, and worship we should all remember to be present to God's Word speaking to us and calling us into the dream of flourishing he has for our diocesan family.

Interestingly, this portion of Scripture is followed by the announcement that Joshua will take up Moses' mantle of leadership. We certainly know something about that! As we celebrate the installation of our new bishops the future is bright for the kingdom in this place. I pray that you will take time to prayerfully consider who in your congregation may be called take up leadership in our diocese.

As in previous years, the Nominating Committee of our Diocese gathers the names of individuals who are called to serve the Church through the elected offices of the Diocese. As chair and co-chair of this committee for the 2018 Diocesan Council, we ask you to prayerfully reflect on the offices to be filled, on the leaders within your congregation and on the opportunity for the Diocese to receive the grace-filled blessings of your engaged leadership. We invite you now to identify members of your congregation and to submit their names for consideration of inclusion in the election to the various offices, which will be filled by the 2018 Diocesan Council. All names will be considered, but due to the changing needs of the diocese, not every name submitted will necessarily appear on the ballot.

Enclosed in this mailing, you will find a biographical data sheet for your nominations. Please make as many copies as you need. This nomination form is also available on line which simply needs to be saved and then emailed, faxed, or sent by mail to Laura Woodall. The list of offices for election and roster of nominating committee members are also included in this mailing.

Nomination forms due no later than All Saints' Day, November 1. Please email, fax or mail to laura.woodall@dwtx.org or fax # 210.824.1312.

We are grateful for your support and active participation in the nomination process this fall. Your prayerful involvement and leadership will lead to the continued renewal of the World as we work hand-in-hand to make to make God's dream of a new creation a reality.

Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied!

The Rev. Rob Harris
Committee Chair

Ms. Sally Kolos
Co-Chair

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

Biographical Data

for Consideration of the Nominating Committee

(Please forward a digital photograph of the candidate (.jpg format) and a copy of this completed form to laura.woodall@dwtx.org or mail a photo to Laura Woodall at the Bishop Jones Center, PO Box 6885, San Antonio, Texas 78209)

1. Name: _____

2. Phone: (h) _____ (w) _____ (c) _____

3. Address: _____

4. Parish/City _____ E-Mail _____

5. Length of time in Diocese and Parish: _____

6. Occupation: _____

7. Candidate for the following diocesan office: _____

8. Why is this person a strong match for the diocesan office mentioned in #7?

9. Local Church Activities (e.g. Vestry/Bishop's Committee; Lay reader; Church School; Council delegate, etc.)

10. Community Activities: _____

11. Diocesan Activities: (e.g. Elected/appointed member of board; department or committee, etc.)

12. Does this person understand the scope of this work and given consent to his/her nomination? _____

13. Has this person promised to make necessary trips to attend meetings of this Diocesan group? _____

14. Who nominated this person? (e.g. rector, vestry, active communicant, etc.) _____

Submitted by: _____

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas
Offices to be Filled by Election at Diocesan Council
February 22 - 24, 2018
San Marcos, Texas

Officers of the Diocese

Secretary, Treasurer, and Chancellor of the Diocese. They shall be elected annually by the Council. Present incumbents are **eligible**.

Description of duties: Canon 2.

Other Officers of the Diocese

Assistant Chancellors, Registrar, Archivist, and Historiographer, shall be elected annually by the Council. Present incumbents are **eligible**.

Description of duties: Canon 2.

Standing Committee

One cleric and one lay person to be elected for a three-year term. Retiring incumbents, the Rev. Lisa Mason and Mrs. Mary Katherine Duffy are **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Standing Committee meets about three times a year and serves as a Council of advice to the diocesan bishop. Among its responsibilities are granting or withholding consents to the election of bishops throughout the Episcopal Church and interviewing seminarians and recommending to the bishop whether or not they be made candidates for ordination. The Standing Committee is composed of 6 persons, 3 clergy and 3 lay. In the event that the office of bishop is vacant, the Standing Committee serves as the Ecclesiastical authority for the diocese. Persons serving on the Standing Committee should be familiar with the Constitution and Canons, aware of issues in the wider Anglican Communion, and be persons who are willing to undertake a wide range of leadership needs and discernment.*

Constitution and Canons of the General Convention

Article IV. In every diocese a Standing Committee shall be elected by the Convention (Council) thereof, except that provision for filling vacancies between meetings of the Convention may be prescribed by the Canons of the respective dioceses. When there is a Bishop in charge of the diocese, the Standing Committee shall be the Bishop's Council of Advice. If there be no Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop canonically authorized to act, the Standing Committee shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese for all purposes declared by the General Convention. The rights and duties of the Standing Committee, except as provided in the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention, may be prescribed by the Canons of the respective dioceses.

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas

Article V, Section I. The Annual Council shall elect a Standing Committee consisting of three priests and three lay communicants eligible for election to membership in the Council. One priest and one lay communicant shall be elected annually by the Council, and they shall serve for a term of three years. No member of the Standing Committee after serving a full term or part of a term thereon shall be eligible to serve again on the

Standing Committee for a full year after such service. A vacancy may be filled for the unexpired term by a majority vote of the remaining members.

Article V, Section 2. The Standing Committee shall have all the authority conferred upon it by the General Constitution and Canons, and in addition thereto, shall have such authority and perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Canons of the Diocese.

Canon 3, Section 1. The Standing Committee shall annually elect its own president and other officers under the temporary chair of the previous year's chair, at or immediately following adjournment of the Council. It shall keep a record of its proceedings, and annually report its proceedings to the Council, except such as pertain to the exercise of its function as a council of advice to the Bishop.

Canon 3, Section 2. No member of the Standing Committee, during his/her term as a member thereof, shall be eligible to election to membership on the Executive Board.

Diocesan Executive Board

Two clergy and four laypersons are to be elected for three-year terms. Retiring incumbents, Mrs. Susan Alwais, Mrs. Barbara Baugh, Mr. Tom Hardin, Mrs. Betty Mosty, and the Revs. Stephen Carson and David Chalk are **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Executive Board is required to meet two times a year, but usually meets more often. The Board functions in a way similar to a parish vestry, including preparing the diocesan budget and submitting it to Council for approval. The Executive Board appoints several departments and committees, including the Finance Department and the Nominating Committee. The Executive Board approves the designations regarding the World Mission funding opportunities (line 1b). Members of the Executive Board serve as liaisons to the various departments and commissions of the diocese. A knowledge of (and experience in) ministries representing the breadth of the diocese is an asset to persons who serve on the Executive Board. At the same time, a willingness to engage diocesan ministry and learn of the breadth of the diocese is the most basic requirement for service on the Executive Board.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Article IV

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Board of the Diocese formed and constituted according to the Canons.

Section 2. The Bishop shall be the President of the Executive Board. Other bishops of the Diocese, if any, in the order of their ecclesiastical precedence in diocesan authority, shall be vice-presidents, and shall take precedence over elected vice-presidents, if any. The Executive Board shall elect its other officers.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall, during intervals between meetings of the Council, have full power and authority to act for the Council in all matters not expressly reserved by the Constitution and Canons exclusively to the Council; provided, however, that no action may be taken by the Executive Board in direct contravention of a previous action taken by the Council.

Canon 4, Section 1. The Diocesan Executive Board shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) The bishops of the Diocese ex-officio, with right of voice and vote.
- (b) In 2005, six priests and twelve lay communicants canonically resident in the Diocese, who shall be elected by the Council for terms of three years. Each annual Council, beginning in 2003, shall elect two priests and four lay communicants to serve for the full term of three years.
- (c) No member of the Board shall be eligible for re-election until one year after his/her previous term of office shall have expired.
- (d) The Executive Board shall have power to fill vacancies in its own membership occurring between meetings of Council, subject to the limitation in (c).

Trustees of the Episcopal Church Corporation of West Texas

One cleric and one lay person to be elected for a three-year term. Retiring incumbents, the Rev. Ram Lopez is **eligible** and Dr. John Mason is **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Episcopal Church Corporation of West Texas holds title to the permanent funds and other property belonging to the diocese. It has authority to receive bequests and donations, and to sell or mortgage property to which it holds title. As such, Trustees should have an understanding of/interest in financial, real estate, and property matters. The Trustees work with the Bishop on designating certain restricted funds as they are needed in ministry. There is usually monthly contact needed with the Trustees, and a substantial amount of the Trustees business historically has been done via telephone and mail and confirmed at their quarterly meetings.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Canon 6, Section 1

The Episcopal Church Corporation in West Texas, a corporation organized under the Laws of Texas and by virtue of a resolution of the Diocese, shall be governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of the Bishops, the Treasurer of the Diocese, the Chancellor of the Diocese, Assistant Chancellors, ex-officio, and six other members consisting of three clergy and three lay communicants of the Diocese, elected by the annual Council. One clergy and one lay member shall be elected annually for a term of three years, and shall be eligible to re-election without interim for one additional consecutive three year term. No person so elected to serve two consecutive terms shall be eligible for re-election for a full year after such service. The Bishop shall be the president of the corporation. The Board itself shall elect its other officers, adopt its own bylaws and provide for a Finance Committee and other committees. Any vacancies on the Board shall be filled by a vote of the majority of the remaining members of the Board.

Trustee of University of the South

One lay to be elected to a three-year term. Retiring incumbent, Mr. William Campbell is **ineligible**.

Description of duties: *The Trustees of the University attend the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, promote Church support and student enrollment, and report to the annual Council the condition and progress of said University.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Canon 11

Section 1. The University of the South, at Sewanee, Tennessee, a corporation, being owned jointly and equally by this and other dioceses of the Church, is hereby recognized as an educational institution that is jointly supported by this Diocese.

Section 2. In conformity with the constitution of the University of the South, the Bishop, and the Bishop Coadjutor, if any, and the Suffragan Bishop(s) shall be members of the Board of Trustees, ex-officio; and one clergy and two lay communicants of this Diocese shall be elected Trustees of the University of the South by the Council, for a term of three years or until their successors are elected, with the term of one elected trustee expiring each year. Trustees may be re-elected without interim, and any successors must be of the same order, clerical or lay.

Section 3. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of a trustee by election at the next convening annual Council. If a vacancy occurs before the annual meeting of the Trustees, the Bishop shall appoint a temporary trustee to hold office until the next annual Council.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Trustees of the University to attend the meetings of the Board of Trustees, to promote Church support and student enrollment, and to report to the annual Council the condition and progress of said University.

Trustees of Texas Military Institute

Two persons, either clergy or lay, and communicants of the Diocese, shall be elected for a three year term. Retiring incumbents, the Rev. Rob Harris and Mrs. Amanda Bercher are **eligible**.

Description of duties: *The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for communicating the needs of the school to the Diocese and to gather resources in support of the school at the direction of the Board of Governors. The Trustees meet 3-4 times a year on average, at the campus of TMI.*

Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Texas, Canon 14, Section 3

(a) There shall be a Board of Trustees of not more than eighteen persons, and, in addition, not more than six chartered Trustees. The Bishop shall be an ex-officio member and Chair of the Board. The majority of the Board shall be communicants of the Episcopal Church. The Board shall be informed of the affairs of the school, its needs and the challenges, and wherever possible strive to enhance the quality of education, spiritual life, and the overall quality of life at T.M.I. The Board shall be

responsible for communicating the needs of the school to the Diocese and to gather resources in support of the school at the direction of the Board of Governors.

- (b) The members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected at the annual Council of the Diocese of West Texas upon nomination by the Bishop, except two members of the Board shall be elected annually the Council from those nominated by the Diocesan Nominating Committee and/or others nominated from the Council floor. Nominees may be clergy or lay communicants of the Diocese. The term of office shall be three years, and one-third of the members shall be elected each year. Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the annual Council, but may be temporarily filled until that time by the Board itself.

All persons recommended must be 18 years of age or older and communicants within the convocation from which they are being nominated.

Council**Nominating Committee**

Harris, The Rev. Robert C. Christ Episcopal Church 510 Belknap Pl San Antonio, TX 78212-3493	SA, ChristEpis Bus.: (210) 736-3132 Home: (210) 236-7451	Chair Cell Phone: (830) 481-9938	robh@cecsa.org Term Begins: 7/14/2016
Kolos, Ms. Sally PO Box 310 Hallettsville, TX 77964-0310	HallettsvilleStJames Home: (361) 798-2428	Co - Chair	sally.kolos@gmail.com Term Begins: 7/14/2016
Martinez, Mrs. Zoila 9806 Marbach Pass San Antonio, TX 78245-4720	SA, Grace	Central Conv. Cell Phone: (956) 355-9224	zoilamtz@hotmail.com Term Begins: 5/3/2017
Hammond, The Rev. Jeff St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church 601 W Creek St Fredericksburg, TX 78624-3117	Fredericksburg, StBar Bus.: (830) 997-5762 Home: (830) 992-3247	Northern Conv. Cell Phone: (830) 998-5014	enchantedrockfbg@gmail.com Term Begins: 5/3/2017
Guerra, The Rev. Carrie Trinity Episcopal Church 1501 N Glass St Victoria, TX 77901-5130	Victoria, Trinity Bus.: (361) 573-3228	Eastern Conv. Cell Phone: (956) 330-0480	carrie@trinitywelcomesyou.org Term Begins: 5/3/2017
Blakemore, Mr. Dan PO Box 1814 Gonzales, TX 78629-1314	Gonzales, Messiah Home: (830) 672-3445	NE Conv. Cell Phone: (972) 839-2332	dan.blakemore@yahoo.com Term Begins: 5/3/2017
Marsh, Mrs. Cynthia Ann 509 N High St Uvalde, TX 78801-4348	Uvalde, StPhilips Home: (830) 278-1830	Western Conv. Cell Phone: (830) 261-9816	marshca@sbcglobal.net Term Begins: 5/3/2017
Clark, The Rev. William Roderick St. Peter & St. Paul Epis. Church 2310 N Stewart Rd Mission, TX 78574-8842	Mission, St. Pt & Pl Bus.: (956) 585-5005	Valley Conv. Cell Phone: (361) 960-6466	rod@peterpaul.org Term Begins: 5/3/2017
Pettus, Mrs. Shawn 138 Del Mar Blvd Corpus Christi, TX 78404-1866	CC, GoodShepherd Home: (361) 885-0353	Southern Conv. Cell Phone: (361) 779-0772	shawn@pettusfamily.net Term Begins: 5/3/2017