

MINUTES
of the
PROCEEDINGS
of the
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVENTH COUNCIL
of the
Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the
Reformed Episcopal Church
held at
GRACE REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Havre-de-Grace, MD

November 1 and 2, 2007

Published by order of the Council

NOTICE

The One Hundred Twenty-Eighth Council of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic will be held (D.V.) on the first Thursday and Friday, November 6 and 7, 2008, at St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church, Oreland, Pennsylvania.

Internal Revenue Service Number (EIN) for the
Reformed Episcopal Church is:
23-6424640

Group Exemption Number (GEN) for the
Reformed Episcopal Church is:
1663

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. Organization
 1. Report of the Committee on Credentials
 2. Report of the Committee on Program

- II. Items Requiring Action from the Reports of Officers and Elective Boards and Committees
 1. The Bishops
 2. Standing Committee
 3. Secretary of the Trustees of the Diocese
 4. Treasurer of the Trustees of the Diocese
 5. Theological Seminary of the Reformed Episcopal Church (Northeast & Mid-Atlantic)

- III. Election of Officers and Standing Committees
 1. Report of the Committee on Nominations
 2. Election

- IV. Items Requiring Action from the Reports of Committees--Non-elective
 1. Committee on Constitution and Canons
 2. Board of Examining Chaplains
 3. Committee on Memorials
 4. Committee on Christian Education
 5. Committee on Young People's Work
 6. Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth and Development
 7. Committee on the State of the Diocese
 8. Secretary/Treasurer of the Looney-Hoffman Fund
 9. Committee on Bassinger Home Fund
 10. Committee on Public Relations
 11. Official Auditor
 12. Special Committees appointed by the President
(The President may determine when such reports be made if necessary for conducting the Council's business.)
 - A. Mustard Seed Farm Committee
 - B. Spiritual Growth and Nurture
 - C. Ministers' Salaries
 - D. A History of the Diocese
 - E. Ministry to Men
 - F. Foreign Missions Banquet
 - G. Short-term Missions
 - H. Committee on Women=s Ministries

- V. Appointment of Committees--Non-elective

- VI. New Business

Unfinished Business, New Business, and matters of importance may be presented, at the discretion of the Chair, one-half hour following the convening of the business session on Friday morning.

RULES OF ORDER
FOR GENERAL COUNCILS AND DIOCESAN SYNODS
OF THE
REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1. The business of every meeting shall be introduced with prayer.
2. The **Minutes** of the sessions of the preceding day shall be read every morning at the opening of business unless the house shall otherwise determine.
3. The President shall appoint the several committees, unless the canons of the church shall otherwise specify.
4. When the President takes the chair, no member of the house shall continue standing, or shall afterward stand up, except to address the Chair.
5. No member shall absent himself from the sessions of the house unless he have leave, or be unable to attend.
6. When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall with due respect address himself to the President, confining himself strictly to the point in debate.
7. No member shall speak more than twice in the same debate without specific leave, by vote of the house.
8. A question being once determined shall stand as the judgment of the house, and shall not again be drawn into debate during the same session, unless with the consent of two-thirds of the house.
9. While the President is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse.
10. No motion shall be considered as before the house unless it be seconded.
11. Reports made by the various Boards and Committees to any Council (or Synod) of the church are officially received upon presentation to the house, and are the subject of its action only insofar as they embody recommendations which require specific authorization or approval under the canons of this church.
12. When any question is before the house, it shall be decided upon before any new subject is introduced, except for the question of adjournment.
13. All questions of order shall be decided in the first instance by the Chair, without debate. An appeal, however, may be made from the decision of the Chair by any member of the house; said appeal requiring a two-thirds majority vote to be sustained.
14. The question on motion of adjournment shall be taken before any other, and without debate.
15. When the house is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat, until the President shall leave the Chair.
16. A call to prayer shall always be in order, when made by a member entitled to the floor; and in such case the Chair shall designate the person(s) whom he desires to lead in that service.
17. These Rules of Order shall remain in force until altered or suspended by the Council, two-thirds of the members present voting for such alteration or suspension.

(Adapted from the Journal of the Twenty-sixth General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church and adopted by the General Committee of the General Council, April 18, 1998)

**OFFICERS OF THE DIOCESE
2007-2008**

PRESIDENT

The Most Rev. Leonard W. Riches, M.Div., D.D.
Bishop, Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
Presiding Bishop, Reformed Episcopal Church
85 Smithtown Road
Pipersville, PA 18947

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, M.A., S.T.M., Ph.D. Candidate
Bishop Co-Adjutor
117 Redford Road
Oreland, PA 19075

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

The Rev. Canon R. Charles Gillin, M. Div.
38 Larkspur Drive
Marlton, NJ 08053

SECRETARY

Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud
116 N. Marple Road
Haverford, PA 19041

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Mrs. Tonya M. Forsberg
1600 Garrett Road, H206
Upper Darby, PA 19082

TREASURER

The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud, M. Div, D. Min.
116 N. Marple Road

Haverford, PA 19041

STANDING COMMITTEES – NON-ELECTIVE

Diocesan Year – November 1, 2007 to October 31, 2008

[First Person Named is Chairman.]

BOARD OF EXAMINING CHAPLAINS

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks
The Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner
The Rev. Gregory J. Miller
The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches

CONSTITUTIONS AND CANONS

The Rev. Canon R. Charles Gillin
Frederick K. Ganjon, Esq.
Richard W. Stevens, Esq.

MEMORIALS

The Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick
The Rev. David S. Ayres
Miss Miriam Brownlowe

BASSINGER HOME FUND

The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud	Mrs. Barbara Hamarich
The Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Headman	Mr. Charles Mundroff
The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks	

STATE OF THE DIOCESE

The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches
The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud
Mrs. Karen A. Baird

CREDENTIALS

The Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr.
Mrs. Karen A. Baird

Mrs. Kimberly Jenkins

NOMINATIONS

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks
The Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner
The Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick
The Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn

The Rev. Gregory J. Miller
Mrs. Melinda Kellogg
Mrs. Christine Specht

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Mr. Jason A. Holloway
The Very Rev. Eduardo A. Andrade
Mr. Steven K. Hoopes

Mr. William A. Jenkins, Jr.
Miss Rebecca Miller

ADJUNCT MEMBERS

The Rev. David S. Ayres
The Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn
The Rev. Chiron P. Thompson
Miss Jenna Chavis
Mrs. Rosalind Chavis

Mr. Michael Laur
Mrs. Jaime Mosher
Miss Alice K. Riches
Mr. David Tracht

PROGRAM

Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud
The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud
The Rev. Rondal D. Martin

Mrs. Lisa Hicks
Mrs. Tonya Forsberg

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Rev. Stephen D. Cox
The Rev. Paul S. Howden
Mr. Steven K. Hoopes

Dr. Robin Headman
Mrs. Barbara J. Riches
Mrs. Joan Workowski

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Headman
The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches
Mrs. Lynda Dent

The Rev. Donald L. March
Mrs. Gina Lloyd Rivers

EVANGELISM, CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud
The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks
The Very Rev. Eduardo A. Andrade
The Rev. Dr. Matthew P. Harrington

The Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn
The Rev. Gregory J. Miller
The Rt. Rev. Leonard W. Riches,
ex officio

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A HISTORY OF THE DIOCESE

The Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick
The Rev. Dr. Dale H. Crouthamel

The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches
Mr. William A. Jenkins, Jr.

MINISTERS' SALARIES

The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud
The Rev. Dr. Matthew P. Harrington
The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches

Mr. Richard Storrer
Mr. Charles W. Twining, Jr.

MINISTRY TO MEN

The Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner
The Rev. Dr. Robert W. Blum
The Ven. Dr. Paul U. Ekezie

The Rev. Gregory J. Miller
The Rev. John Milligan
The Rev. Belgrave Pelle

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND NURTURE

The Rev. Gregory J. Miller
The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks
The Very Rev. Eduardo A. Andrade
The Rev. Dr. David A. Crum
The Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr.

The Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn
Mrs. Lisa Hicks
Mrs. Kimberly Jenkins
Mrs. Barbara J. Riches
Mrs. Christine Specht

MUSTARD SEED FARM

The Rev. Richard W. Workowski
The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches
Dr. A. David Hamarich

Mrs. Dawn Mitchell
Dr. Barbara J. West

FOREIGN MISSIONS

The Rt. Rev. Robert H. Booth
Mrs. Sue Bretherick
Mrs. Nancy J. Fleischer

Mrs. Susan Higham
Mrs. Beth Howden
Mrs. Lorraine Roddy

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS

The Rev. Paul S. Howden
The Rev. Ronald D. Bretherick
Mrs. Susan Higham
Mr. Charles W. Twining, Jr.

DIOCESAN COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Mrs. Joan Workowski
Mrs. Karen A. Baird
Mrs. Sarah R. Benner
Mrs. Jill Crum
Mrs. Barbara A. Hamarich

Mrs. Kimberly Jenkins
Mrs. Dawn Mitchell
Mrs. Elisabeth P. Riches
Mrs. Elaine Simmons
Mrs. Diane Wright

OFFICIAL AUDITOR

The Very Rev. Jason R. Grote

MINUTES

**November 1, 2007
MORNING SESSION**

The One Hundred Twenty-seventh Council of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic of the Reformed Episcopal Church convened on Thursday, November 1, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace Reformed Episcopal Church, Havre-de-Grace, MD. The service of Holy Communion was presided over by the Rt. Rev. Leonard W. Riches. The Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote, Jr., and the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks assisted. The Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr. delivered the Homily.

Preliminary proceedings to organize the Council took place at Grace Church. There were 88 in attendance qualifying to vote at the proceedings. The Secretary confirmed a sufficient number present to constitute a quorum, the Roll having been taken as the Clergy, Delegates, and Alternates arrived. The morning offering in the amount of \$1,400.00 was designated to the Anglican Relief and Development Fund to provide food and clean water for the famine stricken country of Tanzania.

After the scheduled Reading Period, Bishop Riches declared the Council in session at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Riches led in prayer before calling for the Report of the Credentials. The Rev. William A Jenkins presented the Report. It was moved and seconded to accept the report as presented adopting the recommendation therein. The motion carried.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

Feast of All Saints
To the One Hundred Twenty-seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Fathers and Brethren,

The Committee on Credentials is charged with reviewing the filed credentials of each parish in accordance with Title II, Canon IV, Section One. Its membership is made up of the following: The Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr., Mrs. Kimberly D. Jenkins, and Mrs. Karen A. Baird.

The committee met prior to council, assembling this morning to review all certificates submitted to the committee by the parishes of this Diocese. All were found to be in order conforming to the Titles and Canons of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

There were fourteen parishes whose certificates contained irregularities. All but six of these were corrected and the others were approved by the Ordinary before the start of Council.

Christchurch, Abingdon, No date for Roll examination
Christ Memorial, Philadelphia, No Jr. Warden signature
First Church, New York, Missing Election Date, Delegate Addresses
St. Paul's, Oreland, Missing Roll Exam date
All Saints Anglican Church, Newark (NJ), No Election date

There were four parishes which made no report.

Covenant Reformed Episcopal Church, Roanoke, VA.
Emmanuel Reformed Episcopal Church, Somerville, NJ.
New Covenant Church, Lynchburg, VA.
Jesus the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn, NY.

The Committee Recommends the following:

That all delegates and alternates properly certified be seated as members of the 127th Council of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr.

ROLL CALL

(*indicates attendance at one or more sessions)

November 2, 2007

OFFICERS OF THE DIOCESE

*The Most Rev. Leonard W. Riches
*The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks
*The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud
*The Rev. R. Charles Gillin

*Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud
Mrs. Karen A. Baird

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL BY VIRTUE OF POSITIONS ON COMMITTEES AND BOARDS OF THE DIOCESE

Rev. Richard E. Baird
*Mr. Elijah Barnes
Rt. Rev. Robert H. Booth
Frederick Ganjon, Esq.
Mrs. Barbara Hamarich
*Mr. James Kester

*Mrs. Mary Ann Ludwig
Mr. Edward Meharg
*Mr. Ronald E. Riches
*Mrs. Elaine Simmons
Richard W. Stevens, Esq.

CLERGY *(Refer to Directory of Clergy in APPENDIX)*

LAY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

DELEGATES

ALTERNATES

ABINGDON, VA

Christchurch of Abingdon - The Rev. Chori Seraiah, Rector

*Mr. Wayne Beebe
Ms. Lucien Castonguay

Mr. Lance Christie
*Mr. Jon Berkley

BALTIMORE, MD

Faith Church - The Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr., Rector

Mr. William Kuchta
*Mrs. Linda Kuchta

*Mr. Paul Hahn
Mrs. Yvonne Hahn

BASKING RIDGE, NJ

Covenant Chapel - The Rev. Gregory J. Miller, Rector

*Mr. Ronald Riches

Mr. Christopher Komline

Mrs. Catriona Duncanson

*Mrs. Carol Riches

BROCKTON, MA

Church of the Good Shepherd - The Very Rev. Eduardo A. Andrade, Rector

Mr. Bill Keith

Mrs. Judy Pardon

Mrs. Barbara Keith

Mrs. Linda Schmuck

BROOKLYN, NY

Jesus the Good Shepherd - The Rev. Eugene Phipps, Rector

No Credentials Received

BRONX, NY

St. Mary's Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Belgrave Pelle, Rector

Mr. Rupert Jeremy

Ms. Millecent Roberts

Mrs. Helin Scott

Mr. Lauchland Jones

CATONSVILLE, MD

Bishop Cummins Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Dr. David A. Crum, Rector

*Mr. Stan Czajowski

Mr. Ronald Albright

*Mrs. Marie Czajowski

Mrs. Nancy Albright

*Mr. Bill Dunn

Mr. Rich Foks

*Mrs. Sandy Dunn

Mrs. Sally Foks

*Mr. Charles Mundroff

Mr. Ernie Neels

Mrs. Cheryl Mundroff

Mrs. Diane Neels

Ms. Brenda McIntyre

Mr. Donald Shipley

*Ms. Beverly Perkins

Mrs. Joyce Shipley

COLLINGDALE, PA

Grace Reformed Episcopal Church, MISSION - The Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick, Rector

*Mr. William F. Kozma

Miss Miriam Brownlowe

ELDERSBURG, MD

St. Stephen's Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Eric W. Jorgensen, Rector

Mr. Thomas Grapes

Mr. Gary Miller

*Mr. Timothy Craig

Mrs. Jill Miller

*Mrs. Melissa Craig

Mr. William Moores

Mrs. Betty Moores

FAIRFAX, VA

Holy Trinity - The Rev. Charles L. Camlin, Rector

*Dr. Sam Mansour

*Ms. Kim Bollen

*Mrs. Joanne Mansour

*Mr. James Byers

HARRISBURG, PA

St. Michael's Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Donald L. March, Rector

*Dr. James Long

*Mr. Ed Copeland

*Mrs. Elizabeth Long

*Ms. Susan Rhoades

HAVERTOWN, PA

St. Matthew's Reformed Episcopal Church - The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud, Rector

*Mrs. Tonya M. Forsberg

Mr. Michael J. Barber

*Mr. Gregory R. Wright

Mr. Reuel F. Kleckner, Jr.

HAVRE-DE-GRACE, MD

Grace Reformed Episcopal Church - The Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn, Rector

*Mr. William Molali

Mr. William Ranken

*Mr. George Lutz

Mr. Ivan Mehosky

LYNCHBURG, VA

New Covenant Church - The Rev. Edward Y. Hopkins, Rector

No Credentials Received

JERSEY CITY, NJ

Church of Our Redeemer - The Rev. John Milligan, Rector

*Mr. Randy Williams

Mr. George Cooper

*Ms. Eunice Rivers

MT. LAUREL, NJ

St. Timothy's Reformed Episcopal Church, MISSION - The Rev. Frank M. Spadafora, Rector

*Mr. John Ross

Mr. Richard Williams

NEW PROVIDENCE, NJ

St. Luke's Reformed Episcopal Church - The Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner, Rector

*Mr. Alan Wright

Mr. Alan Kohler

*Mrs. Diane Wright

Mrs. Gayle Kohler

NEW YORK, NY

First Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Dr. Matthew P. Harrington, Rector

Mr. William Brauer

Mrs. Ethel Brauer

NEWARK, NJ

All Saints Anglican Church - The Rev. Dr. Paul Ekezie, Rector

Dr. Kenneth C. Igwe

Ms. Monica D. Lewis

ORELAND, PA

St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Rondal D. Martin, Rector

*Mr. Donald Fleischer

Mr. Steven Fearheller

*Mrs. Nancy Fleischer

Mrs. Teresa Fetko

PASADENA, MD

Christ the King - The Rev. Gregory P. Carr, Rector

*Mr. Michael Barry Hite

*Mrs. Jo Ann Hite

PHILADELPHIA, PA

Christ Memorial Church, MISSION - The Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick, Interim

Mrs. Lynda Dent

Mr. Jonathan Bulack

@Church of the Atonement, MISSION - The Rev. Walter L. Hawkins, Vicar

*Mr. Millage B. Holloway, Jr.

Mrs. Christine D. Specht

Church of the Messiah - The Rev. Chiron P. Thompson, Rector

Mr. Orlander Boddie

*Mrs. Elaine P. Simmons

@St. Luke's Bishop Hoffman Memorial Church - The Rev. Barton L. Craig, Interim Rector

*Mr. Gerald Higham

*Mr. Ronald Reese

*Mrs. Susan Higham

*Mrs. Beverly Reese

PIPERSVILLE, PA

Emmanuel Church of Four Brooks - The Rev. William G. Garrison, Jr., Rector

*Mrs. Barbara Riches

Mr. Paul Pillsbury

*Mrs. Elisabeth Riches

Mrs. Alice Pillsbury

ROANOKE, VA

Covenant Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Rodney H. Longmire, Rector
No Credentials Received

RYDAL, PA

St. Mark's/Memorial Church of Our Redeemer - The Rev. Richard W. Workowski, Rector

*Mr. Patrick Roddy

Dr. A. David Hamarich

*Mrs. Lorraine Roddy

Mrs. Barbara Hamarich

SCRANTON, PA

Grace Reformed Episcopal Church - The Rev. Paul S. Howden, Rector

*Mr. James Kester

Mr. David Mosher

*Mrs. Elaine Kester

Mrs. Jaime Mosher

SOMERVILLE, NJ

Emmanuel Reformed Episcopal Church - No Rector
No Credentials Received

VENTNOR, NJ

Church of St. John's by-the-Sea - The Rev. Ronald D. Bretherick, Rector
*Miss Marion Olsen

The Report of the Committee on Program was presented by Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud. It was moved and seconded the Report be accepted as presented adopting the recommendations therein. The motion carried.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM

To the One Hundred Twenty-seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

The 127th Diocesan Council began on Thursday, November 1, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. with registration followed by the Service of Holy Communion at 10 a.m. The Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr. delivered the sermon. Bishop(s) Leonard W. Riches, Royal U. Grote, David L. Hicks, and the Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn, Rector, Grace Reformed Episcopal Church, Havre-de-Grace, MD, participated in the Service. Mr. Ronald E. Riches, Choirmaster of Covenant Chapel, Basking Ridge, NJ, directed the choir accompanied by Trudy Gelfand, Organist.

The Rev. Donald L. March and the Rev. Samuel Orimogunje officiated in the Morning Prayer Service at 9:30 a.m. on November 2. The Council Schedule is included in the packets distributed at registration.

The Committee's gratitude is extended to Grace Church and her members for hosting the 2007 Council. Their gracious hospitality is greatly appreciated. Gratitude is extended to the diocesan choir comprised of members from parishes within the diocese and to the choirmaster for their contribution toward the worship of the council.

It should be noted the distribution of literature or printed materials and the setting up of displays are limited to canonical agencies of the Reformed Episcopal Church. All other materials and displays must be approved by the Program Committee.

By way of announcements: In the electronic age in which we find ourselves, it has become increasingly time and cost-prohibitive to produce the diocesan minutes in hard copy in the same quantities of which we are accustomed. The Minutes are posted on the diocesan website and hard copies will be produced in the future on a limited basis - one for each parish, one for officers of the council, one for binding in the Seminary Library and one for the archives of the REC housed in Blue Bell. Secondly, be aware that in the future it has become necessary to consider charging a registration fee to parishes and council members to cover administrative costs connected to the coordination of diocesan council. Examples of those costs are: accommodations for the officers of the council, honorariums and travel expenses for guests, costs to produce programs, production of minutes, and meeting room costs over and above individual accommodations.

Unfinished Business, New Business, and matters of importance may be presented, at the discretion of the Chair, one half-hour following the convening of the business session on Friday morning.

The Program Committee makes the following motions: 1) that the participating bishops of other dioceses be awarded full entertainment and privileges of the house; that all official candidates for postulancy be awarded corresponding membership of this Council; 2) that the Council's preachers and their wives and the wives of all participating bishops be awarded full Council entertainment; 4) that the Order of Business, as distributed to the Council's delegates/alternates, be adopted; 5) that the Rules of Order distributed to the delegates/alternates of this Council be adopted; 6) that the Council authorize the printing of a sufficient number of Minutes for distribution, and expenses related to the printing as well as other expenses incurred for the conduct of the Council be covered by the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie C. Abboud (Mrs.). Chairman

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks assumed the Chair in order for the President to present his report to the Council. It was moved and seconded Bishop Riches' report be accepted as presented adopting the recommendations. The motion carried with a rising vote thanks.

The Chair recognized the Rev. Belgrave Pelle who suggested a service of retirement and a banquet be arranged in conjunction with the 128th council in 2008 in honor of Bishop Riches' faithful service. Bishop Hicks assured him that such an event would be appropriately arranged. The Council attendees applauded.

REPORT OF BISHOP LEONARD W. RICHES

To the One Hundred Twenty-seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

With this report I submit to you, as representatives of the diocese meeting in Council, a summary of my activities in discharging the responsibilities of the Episcopal office during the year that has past. I offer particular emphasis in reporting those functions which relate especially to my service as Bishop Ordinary of this diocese. A more complete record of my service as Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church will be presented to the Fifty-second General Council, scheduled to meet in the Church of Our Lord, Victoria, British Columbia, October 22-24, 2008.

CONFIRMATIONS: In conjunction with ten visits to parishes in the diocese, fourteen persons were presented to me for the laying-on of hands in Confirmation. Some parish visits are made for purposes other than Confirmation. In accordance with historic practice, I regularly serve as

principal celebrant at the Holy Eucharist when it is administered, and also deliver the homily. The official visits made, and the number of persons presented for Confirmation, are as follows:

April 22	St. Mark's Church, Rydal, PA	None
April 29	All Saints Anglican Church, Newark, NJ	Seven
May 13	St. Luke's Church, New Providence, NJ	None
May 20	Covenant Chapel, Basking Ridge, NJ	Two
May 27	St. Michael's Church, Enola, PA	None
June 3	Bishop Cummins Church, Catonsville, MD	Two
September 9	Christchurch, Abingdon, VA	None
September 23	Church of Our Redeemer, Jersey City, NJ	Three
September 30	St. Timothy's Church, Mt. Laurel, NJ	None
October 21	St. Michael's Church, Enola, PA	None

In connection with the wider sphere of my episcopal responsibilities, I also note for the record that in Redeemer Church, Pineville, SC, on September 14, 2007, I confirmed seventeen persons who were presented to me at a special service held in conjunction with the sessions of the 35th Annual Council of the Diocese of the Southeast, meeting in Redeemer Church. The persons confirmed were presented by the rectors of several parishes in the Diocese of the Southeast. I was privileged to fulfill this ministry in conjunction with my service as Bishop Ordinary *pro tempore*, a responsibility which I have continued to carry out in the Diocese of the Southeast following the death of the Rt. Rev. James C. West, Sr., on May 28, 2006.

The total number of persons presented to me for Confirmation during the past year is thirty-one.

HOLY BAPTISM: On Sunday, May 20, 2007, in Covenant Chapel, Basking Ridge, NJ, I administered the Sacrament of Holy Baptism to Catherine Anne Ryan and Jocelyn Faith Ryan, daughters of Christopher Ryan and Jennifer Elizabeth Ryan (née, Riches), and granddaughters of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Riches.

On Sunday, September 2, 2007, in the Cathedral Church of St. Matthias, Katy, TX, I administered the Sacrament of Holy Baptism to Nathanael Thomas Grote, infant son of the Rev. and Mrs. Joshua Grote, and grandson of the Rt. Rev. and Mrs. Royal U. Grote, Jr.; and to Sheala Nicole Zabel, daughter of Mrs. Kendra R. Grote.

May these children, marked with Christ's own name and sign, "*...manfully fight under His banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and...continue Christ's faithful soldier[s] and servant[s] unto [their] life's end.*"

HOLY MATRIMONY: On Saturday, September 1, 2007, at 5:30 P.M., in the Cathedral Church of St. Matthias, Katy, TX, I officiated at the marriage of Jacob Nathanael Grote to Kendra Rashea Zabel. I was assisted in the ceremony by the Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote, Jr., father of the groom. May this couple "*love, honor, and cherish each other...that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace.*"

MEMORIAL SERVICE: On Saturday, November 25, 2006, in Grace Church, Collingdale, PA, I attended a memorial service for Agnes S. Bustard, widow of the Rev. Dr. Edwin A Bustard, who served for nearly forty years as rector of Grace Church. The service was conducted by the Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick, rector of the parish. The nave was filled with family members and friends who had gathered to honor the memory of one who had served Christ with fervent devotion and steadfast commitment. *“Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house; they will be always praising Thee.”* (Psalm 84:5)

RECEPTION OF PARISH: On Sunday, September 9, 2007, I was present in Abingdon, VA, together with the Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote, Jr., to receive the parish of Christchurch by transfer from the Diocese of Mid-America. The parish had been nurtured through a phased process of affiliation for the preceding several months under the oversight and care of Bishop Grote. It was my privilege to deliver the homily on this happy occasion. Following the service, I joined with Bishop Grote at the home of one of the parishioners, meeting with members of the congregation throughout the afternoon and into the late evening, providing further information about the Reformed Episcopal Church, and answering numerous questions on a variety of subjects.

CREATION OF NEW MISSIONARY DIOCESE: In response to needs occasioned by the continuing growth of the Reformed Episcopal Church, and on recommendation of the Council of Bishops, the General Committee of the General Council took action at their regularly scheduled meeting on October 13, 2007, to establish a new Missionary Diocese of the Central States. This step will allow for more direct Episcopal oversight and care, and will ease travel demands for the bishops. The boundaries of the Missionary

Diocese are inclusive of the territory defined by the outer boundaries of the contiguous states of Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, West Virginia, and Virginia. As a further step, and in accordance with Canon 12, section 2(a) of the Canons of the Reformed Episcopal Church, the General Committee gave consent to the recommendation of the Council of Bishops that the Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse be appointed as the founding bishop of this new diocese. The required canonical process of securing consent to these actions by a majority of the several Standing Committees of the church is currently in process. As initially established, the Missionary Diocese of the Central States will comprise 13 parishes in eight contiguous states. Seven of those parishes, located in three states, were formerly in the Diocese of Mid-America. One parish, in eastern Tennessee, was formerly located in the Diocese of the Southeast. Five parishes in the Commonwealth of Virginia, until now located in our own Diocese, will by this action become part of the new Missionary Diocese. This 127th Council, then, marks the final occasion when we will have clerical and lay delegates representing New Covenant Church, Lynchburg, Covenant Church, Roanoke, Holy Trinity Church, Fairfax, and Christchurch, Abingdon, and Epiphany Anglican Church, Williamsburg, with us as members of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. May God bless them with continued growth and fruitfulness in life and ministry in their new affiliation, even as He has blessed us together with them in the fellowship and association which we have shared with one another in the months and years that have passed.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS: On Tuesday, December 5, 2006, in St. Paul's Church, Oreland, PA, it was my privilege to participate in the annual Founders' Day program sponsored by the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Episcopal Church in Blue Bell, PA.. The featured speaker for the occasion was the Rt. Rev. John Fenwick, Bishop in the Free Church of England, and former Assistant Secretary for Ecumenical Affairs to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Bishop Fenwick served as lecturer in Christian Worship and Church History at Trinity College, Bristol, UK, from 1988-1992. He is the author of the book *The Free Church of England: Introduction to an Anglican Tradition*. It was my privilege to serve as celebrant for the Holy Eucharist which began the day's program.

On December 24, 2006, at 7:30 P.M., in Covenant Chapel, Basking Ridge, NJ, I participated in the traditional Christmas Eve service of Nine Lessons and Carols. The Rev. Gregory J. Miller is rector of the parish; and my brother, Mr. Ronald E. Riches, serves as choirmaster.

From Thursday, February 1 through Saturday, February 3, 2007, I participated in the annual Clergy Retreat held at the Eden Resort and Conference Center in Lancaster, PA. Speakers were the Rev. and Mrs. Robert Pardon, directors of *Meadow Haven*, a ministry to those who have been victimized under the influence of cults and aberrant religious groups. On Saturday morning, February 3, I served as celebrant for the Holy Eucharist which brought the retreat sessions to a close.

On Sunday, April 22, 2007, at 3:30 P.M., it was my privilege to officiate at the service of Consecration for the building of St. Mark's and the Memorial Church of Our Redeemer, Rydal, PA. The Rev. Richard W. Workowski, rector of the parish, and the Rev. Barton L. Craig, who assists in ministry at St. Mark's, shared with me in the service. Special choral and instrumental music added to the festive character of the service. I was honored to serve as celebrant and homilist for the occasion. Participation in the observances of the day was especially meaningful to me inasmuch as the Memorial Church of Our Redeemer was the parish with which my family affiliated in 1946 when I was seven years of age. St. Mark's Church is also the parish in which I served as a member of the choir in the early 1960's, during my days as a seminarian. In 1975, St. Mark's Church became the third parish in the diocese which I was privileged to serve as rector – a responsibility which I fulfilled from July of that year until the close of 1981.

On Friday, May 4, 2007, I attended the annual Reformed Episcopal *Women's Day* program, held at the National Christian Conference Center in Valley Forge, PA. A featured aspect of this event was receipt of the annual project offering, designated for the drilling of a well for a hospital in Nigeria. The Reformed Episcopal Church is in a Covenant Union with the Church of Nigeria. Ten thousand dollars was raised in fulfillment of this effort by the Committee on Women's Ministries on behalf of our brothers and sisters in Nigeria.

On Saturday, May 5, 2007, at 12:30 P.M., in the Hylton Memorial Chapel, Woodbridge, VA, I participated in the service of Installation for the Rt. Rev. Martyn Minns as Bishop of the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA), a mission and ministry sponsored by the Church of Nigeria. The Most Rev. Peter J. Akinola, Archbishop and Primate of All Nigeria,

presided at the installation. The Ven. Dr. Paul U. Ekezie, rector of All Saints Anglican Church, Newark, NJ, also participated in the service. The occasion was widely covered by the press, and I was privileged to be invited to speak to reporters in my capacity as Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church regarding the significance of this installation of another orthodox Anglican bishop for leadership and service in North America.

On Sunday, October 21, 2007, in conjunction with my visit to St. Michael's Church, Enola, PA, I was privileged to share in ceremonies honoring the tenth anniversary of the ordination of the Rev. Donald L. March and of the Very Rev. Dr. William M. Sloan to the presbyterate. A delightful reception was held in the parish hall following the morning service.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS: From January 25-27, 2007, I participated in the annual conference, held under the theme of "*Mere Anglicanism*", in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Charleston, SC. At the invitation of the program committee I was honored to serve as a panelist during these sessions.

On Saturday, May 19, 2007, at 2:00 P.M., in St. Paul's Church, Oreland, PA, I participated in the annual Commencement Exercises of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Episcopal Church, delivering the charge to the current year's class of graduates.

DENOMINATIONAL FUNCTIONS: As a function of my service as the Ordinary of this diocese, I have participated in two regular semi-annual meetings of the Conference of Bishops during the past year. In my capacity as Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church, I have also presided at each of these sessions: April 11-14, 2007, and October 8-13, 2007, at Cummins Theological Seminary in Summerville, SC. Meetings of the General Committee, as well as other agencies of the General Council, were also held in conjunction with these sessions.

In fulfillment of my responsibilities as Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church, I have continued to serve during the past year as Bishop Ordinary *pro tempore* of the Diocese of the Southeast, filling the position of oversight which was left vacant when the Rt. Rev. James C. West, Sr., entered the presence of the Lord on May 28, 2006. In that connection, I have traveled to South Carolina on several occasions, meeting with the Standing Committee of the Diocese of the Southeast on two dates (April 10, 2007, and May 30, 2007); holding a meeting with the clergy of the diocese in Summerville, SC on Saturday, April 14, 2007; and presiding at two Councils of the Diocese. The Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote, Jr., who presided at a meeting of the Standing Committee on January 5, 2007 in my behalf, also attended both of these Diocesan Councils with me. On February 10, 2007, in Grace Church, Moncks Corner, SC, I presided at a special Council of the Diocese, called to elect a Bishop Ordinary and a Bishop Suffragan for the Diocese of the Southeast. The vote taken for Bishop Ordinary was sustained among the laity, but failed among the clergy. Accordingly, no vote was taken for Bishop Suffragan, and the special council was adjourned with no bishop having been elected. From September 13-15, 2007, in Redeemer Church, Pineville, SC, I presided over sessions of the 35th Annual Council of the Diocese of the Southeast. Again, the matter of electing a Bishop Ordinary was placed before the Council, and the Very Rev. Alphonza Gadsden, rector of Liberty Church and President of the Standing Committee, was elected Bishop Ordinary by a two-thirds majority of both houses,

clerical and lay. The vote to elect a Bishop Suffragan was not sustained. As of this date, the Standing Committees of the several dioceses of the Reformed Episcopal Church, together with the Bishops of the church, have voted their consents to this episcopal election in accordance with canonical requirements. The consecration of Bishop-elect Gadsden has been scheduled for Saturday, November 17, 2007, at 2:00 P.M., in Redeemer Church, Pineville, SC.

PARISHES AND VESTRIES: As previously announced to the diocese, responsibilities for all parochial and clergy matters are under the oversight and care of the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, Bishop Coadjutor of the diocese. I continue to make myself available to him for consultation whenever he seeks counsel or advice. He continues to fulfill the responsibilities of his office with faithful dedication, wisdom, and skill.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES: I limit my reporting to those activities which relate directly to the fulfillment of my diocesan responsibilities. I have presided at three meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Diocese, and at one meeting of its Executive Committee. I presided over two meetings of the Standing Committee, and attended one meeting of the Committee on Nominations. I have also attended two meetings of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary.

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION: I continue my service as Chancellor of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Episcopal Church, where I also serve as Professor of Theology and Liturgics. As has become customary, I taught two courses during the past academic year: one in Liturgics, and the other on the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion. These responsibilities generally engage me for two days each week during the ten-week Advent Quarter, from late November through the end of February.

DEVELOPMENTS IN INTER-CHURCH RELATIONS: Throughout the past year I have continued to serve as chairman of the *Federation of Anglican Churches in the Americas* (FACA). In conjunction with that responsibility I have presided over two meetings of the *Federation*: the first of these was held on January 24, 2007; and the second meeting, on October 9, 2007. All sessions were held at Cummins Theological Seminary in Summerville, SC. At its inception in February, 2006, FACA was organized by representatives of the Reformed Episcopal Church and the Anglican Province of America, and was comprised solely of members of those two jurisdictions. By the time of the most recent meeting in October, 2007, membership in FACA had increased to six jurisdictions, including the Anglican Mission in the Americas, the Diocese of the Holy Cross, the Episcopal Missionary Church, and the Anglican Church in America. In addition, representatives of six other ecclesiastical groups were present at the last meeting. Together with those jurisdictions which have already been admitted to membership in FACA, the thirty-three representatives present for the October 9, 2007 meeting represent more than 500 parishes in the Anglican tradition in the United States. God continues to use FACA as an instrument for uniting the disparate jurisdictions of faithful Anglicans in North America, drawing them together in communication and cooperation, as well as in common witness and mission, without requiring the surrender of individual identity or autonomy on the part of any member jurisdiction. It is of particular significance to note that the members of the *Federation* voted overwhelmingly, at the October 9, 2007 meeting, to accept membership in the *Common Cause*

Partnership, bringing an even higher degree of effectiveness to the effort to achieve unity among faithful Anglican Christians in North America.

On October 8, 2007, at Cummins Theological Seminary in Summerville, SC, I participated in sessions of the APA / REC Unity Committee, which seeks to bring about a deeper level of oneness in understanding, witness, common life, and mission among the members of the two jurisdictions. To that end, a series of regional seminars is currently being planned in which the clergy of both jurisdictions will be called to participate. Information will be provided as plans and venues are established.

I continue to serve as chairman of the board of *Anglicans United*, a service and support organization which helps to meet the various needs of orthodox Anglicans in the United States and Canada. In connection with that responsibility, I have participated in two board meetings during the past year: on April 12, 2007, and on October 8, 2007. Both meetings were held in Summerville, SC.

From March 26-28, 2007, at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL, I participated in the roundtable sessions of the Common Cause Partners. The Rt. Rev. Ray R. Sutton joined me in representing the Reformed Episcopal Church in these sessions. Partners at the table together with us include the Anglican Communion Network, the Anglican Province of America, the Anglican Mission in the Americas, the Convocation of Anglicans in North America, the American Anglican Council, Forward in Faith North America, the Anglican Federation in Canada, the Anglican Network in Canada, and Anglican Essentials in Canada. At the invitation of the Rt. Rev. Robert W. Duncan, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh and chairman of the Common Cause Partners, I participated with the other episcopal leaders of these member-groups in meetings which were held weekly from May through early September by conference call, to plan for a Common Cause Council of Bishops, to be held in September, 2007. The Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote, Jr., represented the Reformed Episcopal Church in these conference call sessions during the time that I was on vacation.

At the call of the Rt. Rev. Robert W. Duncan, the first *Common Cause Council of Bishops* was convened in Pittsburgh, PA, from September 25-28, 2007. Fifty-one bishops, representing faithful Anglican jurisdictions and dioceses in North America participated in these historic sessions. Representing the Reformed Episcopal Church together with me were the Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote, Jr., the Rt. Rev. Charles W. Dorrington, the Rt. Rev. Michael Fedechko, the Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse, the Rt. Rev. Ray R. Sutton, the Rt. Rev. George B. Fincke, the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, and Bishop-elect Alphonza Gadsden. I was honored to serve as celebrant and homilist for the Holy Eucharist on Wednesday, September 26. The outcome of this gathering, convened in response to the call issued by the Anglican Communion Primates of the Global South meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, in 2006, was the formation of "...a new ecclesiastical structure in North America". The following summary is taken from the official press release issued following the conclusion of the conclave.

"Anglican bishops from ten jurisdictions and organizations pledged to take the first steps toward a 'new ecclesiastical structure' in North America. The meeting

of the first ever Common Cause Council of Bishops was held in Pittsburgh September 25-28.

“The bishops present lead more than 600 Anglican congregations. They formally organized themselves as a college of bishops which will meet every six months. They also laid out a time line for the path ahead, committed to working together at local and regional levels, agreed to deploy clergy interchangeably and announced their intention, in consultation ‘with those Primates and Provinces of the Anglican Communion offering recognition under the time line adopted,’ to call a ‘founding constitutional convention for an Anglican union,’ at the earliest possible date agreeable to all of the partners.”

The General Committee of the General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church voted unanimously to affirm our church’s place within this structure at their meeting on October 13, 2007, in Summerville, SC.

The Common Cause College of Bishops Statement is appended to this report, as is the text of the theological statement of the Common Cause Partners. The *Articles of the Common Cause Partnership* are a close adaptation of the *Articles of Federation* for FACA, which may be consulted as an appendix to my episcopal report to the 126th Council of the Diocese. All of these documents have been presented to and approved by the General Committee of the General Council.

I echo the words with which Bishop Duncan concluded the official press release:

“We met deeply aware that we have arrived at a critical moment in the history of mainstream Anglican witness in North America. God has led us to repentance for past divisions and opened the way for a united path forward. To Him be the glory.”

APPRECIATION: The ministry of Episcopal oversight and care is collegial. In past years I have appreciated the willing and dedicated service of the Rt. Rev. Daniel G. Cox, and the Rt. Rev. Robert H. Booth, both of whom are now retired, in assisting me in my service to the diocese. In more recent time, that assistance has been provided by the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks -- initially, as Canon to the Ordinary, and now for more than two years, as Bishop Coadjutor. In his present capacity, Bishop Hicks carries full responsibility for oversight and care of parishes and clergy, and does so with skill, effectiveness, and faithful dedication. To him, and to those who have been colleagues with me throughout past years in Episcopal ministry, I extend my deep and heartfelt appreciation. I continue to value the service rendered to Christ and His church by The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud, Archdeacon of the Diocese. He can always be counted upon to respond with wisdom and firm resolve to the challenges and difficulties which are the very nature of the Archdeacon’s office and function. I am also indebted to those who work in the Diocesan Administrative Office – Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud and Mrs. Tonya M. Forsberg – for their faithful and efficient service, and for seeing that regular communication is maintained between the office in Blue Bell and the Episcopal Office which the diocese provides for me in Emmanuel Church, Pipersville, PA.

CANONICAL REPORTS: In conformity with the requirements of Title I, Canon I, Section 2 of the Canons of the Diocese, the following clergy, not retired by reason of age or disability, and not in charge of a parish, or otherwise engaged in the ministry of a parish or mission, or in service to the diocese, have reported to me and are listed as *“in Good Standing”*:

Presbyters: Mark A. Bleakley, Gary C. Hajek, John Heaton, William J. Holiman, Jr., James P. Raun, Richard K. Walters, Wayne E. West, Rodney A. Whitacre.

Deacons: Robert T. Pardon, David L. Rudolph.

The following men, having failed to report for two or more consecutive years, or as a result of action taken by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, are listed as *“not in Good Standing”*:

Presbyters: Edward Allatt, III, Wayne S. Arndt, David S. Babikow, Alan D. Bauer, George J. Bundt, Harry G. Dews, Raymond E. Feeck, Thomas R. May, Joseph H. McBratney, Robert O. Schmid, Richard F. Thompson, David G. Wood.

Deacons: Warren Anderson, Edward J. Ard, Leon Bailey, Terrence D. Brown, Marc A. Clauson, Robert O. Littlejohn, Peter C. K. Mist, Samee Solanky, Robert Tuton.

RECOMMENDATIONS: I recommend that the offering of the morning of the first day of this 127th Council be alms, and be forwarded through the Anglican Relief and Development Fund as the official relief agency of the Reformed Episcopal Church, to the Anglican Church of Tanzania, in support of their project to meet the needs for food and clean water in this famine-ravaged country; and that the offering of the morning of the second day of Council be assigned to support the youth camping ministry of our Diocese.

RETIREMENT: With this report to the 127th Council I officially announce my intention to retire as Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic at the conclusion of the 2008 calendar year. In anticipation of this announcement, I informed both the Standing Committee of the Diocese and the Board of Trustees of my intention at their respective meetings on September 24, 2007.

I was elected bishop by the 94th Council of the Diocese (then known as the New York and Philadelphia Synod) in October, 1974. June 14, 2008 will mark the thirty-third anniversary of my consecration to the episcopate. Thus, by the conclusion of the next diocesan year I will have served this diocese in the Episcopal office for more than thirty-three years -- six years as Assistant Bishop, three years as Bishop Coadjutor, and twenty-four years as Bishop Ordinary. The ongoing work of this portion of the church only stands to benefit from the freshness of perspective, vision and vigor that come with new and more youthful leadership. Throughout his years of service as Canon to the Ordinary, and currently as Bishop Coadjutor, the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks has amply demonstrated the excellence of his gifts and capabilities for administration, oversight, and pastoral care, as well as his commitment to the growth and strengthening of the life and work of this diocese, as well as that of the Reformed Episcopal Church. It is my purpose to effect a formal transfer of responsibility to Bishop Hicks with a service of Installation to be

conducted as part of the service of Holy Eucharist which will open the sessions of the 128th Council of the Diocese on November 6, 2008. I intend to make myself available for the remainder of the month of November, 2008, to assist in any way that Bishop Hicks may require in order to accomplish a smooth and complete transition. It is my plan to take the month of December, 2008, as vacation, and to conclude my official relationship with the diocese effective December 31, 2008.

I look forward to continuing to fulfill my calling to serve this diocese as Bishop Ordinary, as well as to serve the Reformed Episcopal Church as Presiding Bishop, during the year that lies ahead. May God bless us together as we anticipate and plan for the bright future which I believe He has in store for all of us in this branch of Christ's church.

“Finally, brothers...aim for perfection...be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.” (II Corinthians 13:11)

Respectfully submitted,

(The Most Rev.) Leonard W. Riches
Diocesan Bishop

Bishop Riches returned to the Chair in order for Bishop Hicks to present his report. Bishop Hicks highlighted his activities contained within his report and made several announcements of encouragement and introduced new members of the Council.

Bishop Hicks introduced the Rev. Walter L. Hawkins (the new vicar of Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia, PA), the Rev. Rondal D. Martin (new rector of St. Paul's, Oreland, PA), and the Rev. David S. Ayres (new rector of St. Luke's/Bishop Hoffman Memorial Church, Philadelphia, PA).

Bishop Hicks acknowledged Jay Nelson (St. Michael's, Harrisburg, PA) who created three crosses mounted on stone that were on display at the Chair. Mr. Nelson used wood from the Christ Memorial Church property to make the crosses. The crosses were presented to Bishop Hicks, Bishop Riches and the Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Headman.

The Rev. Canon Ralph L. Frye was introduced to the Council along w/members of a new mission in Williamsburg, VA - Epiphany Church. The Rev. Canon Frye relayed greetings to the REC for the warm reception he has received in accepting his wish to retire in the Reformed Episcopal Church.

The Rev. Mark A. Bleakley and the Rev. Dcn. Samuel Orimogunje were also introduced to the council.

It was moved and seconded Bishop Hicks report be received. The motion carried with applause.

REPORT OF BISHOP DAVID L. HICKS

To the One Hundred Twenty-seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

The following report is submitted as a summary of the principal activities as Bishop Coadjutor, since the One Hundred Twenty-sixth Council of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.

I. General Activities

Reformed Episcopal Seminary: I continue to serve as Associate Professor of Biblical Languages and Literature, teaching Greek Elements and Exegesis. I have also assisted with chapel services through the academic year. I also serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the seminary.

Philadelphia Area Ministerium: Beginning this past June, rather than continuing with monthly meetings, the Ministerium meets on the Saturday of the Ember Days of the church calendar. We meet in the McCausland Chapel at Reformed Episcopal Seminary.

Anglican Fellowship of the Delaware Valley: I have attended this gathering of orthodox Anglican clergy throughout the year. Meetings are held monthly at Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont, PA.

Provisional Vestry of Philadelphia Reformed Episcopal Churches:

I continue to serve as rector of the combined vestries of our mission parishes in the Philadelphia area – Church of the Atonement, Christ Memorial Church, and Grace Church.

October 29, 2006 – I served as preacher at the **Reformation Day Service** held at Calvary Presbyterian Church, Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. This is an annual event, sponsored by Philadelphia area Reformed Episcopal, Orthodox Presbyterian and Presbyterian Church in America congregations.

November 19, 2006 – St. Mary's, Bronx, New York: I attended the parish's annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service, serving as preacher and celebrant.

December 31, 2006 – Jesus the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn, New York. I presided over the evening dedication service for the new building purchased by the parish. I was assisted by the Ven. Jon W. Abboud, the Rev. Belgrave Pelle, the Rev. Eugene Phipps and the Rev. Percy George.

February 8, 2007 – Funeral Service for the Rev. Karl M. Heckert. On Sunday, February 4, 2007, the Rev. Karl M. Heckert passed away. Accompanied by the Rev. Wayne A. Headman and the Rev. Donald L. March, I attended the funeral service held at Musselman Funeral Home, Lemoyne, Pennsylvania. A local Methodist minister, with whom the Rev. Mr. Heckert was acquainted, conducted the service.

February 21, 2007 – Grace, Collingdale, PA. I participated in the Ash Wednesday with the congregations of Grace Church and Christ Memorial Church. After the service, I met with the congregation of Christ Memorial Church to discuss plans for replanting the parish in West Philadelphia.

February 25, 2007 – Atonement, Philadelphia, PA. I spoke to the congregation at its annual meeting, regarding the future cooperative ministry of Atonement Church and Messiah Church in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. I am asking both congregation to consider and pray about a possible merger of the two parishes. A similar meeting with Messiah Church was held on February 11th.

March 3, 2007 – I attended the ordination of Peter Geromel to the presbyterate in the Diocese of the Holy Cross at Church of the Transfiguration (DHC), Phoenixville, PA. The Rev. Mr. Geromel is a graduate of our theological seminary.

April 29, 2007 – St. Stephen’s Church. I attended the banquet and service, celebrating the 25th anniversary of St. Stephen’s Church, Sykesville, Maryland.

July 10-12, 2007 – Anglican Province of America, Synod of the Diocese of the Eastern US. In response to the invitation of the Rt. Rev. Walter Grundorf, I represented the Reformed Episcopal Church at the annual synod of the APA Diocese of the Eastern US.

August 13, 2007 – I attended and participated in the funeral service for the **Rev. Thomas E. “Tim” Couch** at St. Michael’s of the Valley Episcopal Church, Ligonier, PA. Tim came to the Reformed Episcopal Church from the Presbyterian church in 1991 and made his church home at Bishop Cummins Memorial Church, Catonsville, Maryland. When he moved to Ligonier, Pennsylvania, His orders were regularized by the Rt. Rev. Leonard W. Riches, the Rt. Rev. Robert Duncan of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh and the Rt. Rev. Daniel Cox in a service held at St. in January, 2001. Tim made history by being the first Reformed Episcopalian to be licensed by the Episcopal Church to serve in one of its dioceses. Tim preached throughout Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, but chiefly assisted the Rev. James Simons, rector of St. Michael’s of the Valley. The celebrant at the service was the Rt. Rev. Henry Scriven, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. The Rt. Rev. Daniel Cox and I were concelebrants. The Rev. James Simons delivered the homily. Other Reformed Episcopal clergy in attendance were the Ven. Jon W. Abboud, the Rev. David Crum and the Rev. Steven Cox. Tim is survived by his wife, Marilyn, and his daughters, Heather C. Young and Michelle A. Evans.

September 4-6, 2007 – Anglican Guild of Scholars, Wilmington, DE. I participated in the annual meeting of the Anglican Guild of Scholars by responding to a paper written by the Rt. Rev. Paul Hewitt.

September 25-28 – Common Cause Council of Bishops, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This gathering of bishops from the Common Cause Partners, convened by Bishop Robert Duncan of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, is a major step toward a federated jurisdictional structure for traditional Anglicanism in North America. I attended the sessions for the entire week.

October 7, 2007 – Consecration of the Church of Transfiguration (Diocese of the Holy Cross), **Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.** At the invitation of the Rt. Rev. Paul Hewett, I read the lessons for the Evening Prayer portion of the service.

October 18, 2007 – Installation of the Rev. Mark Rudolph as rector of St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church (Anglican Mission in America). I attended the installation service, along with other clergy and laity of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

II. Regular Episcopal Visits (66 Confirmations)

October 29, 2006: **Covenant Chapel, Basking Ridge, New Jersey**

13 persons were confirmed

November 5, 2006: **Church of Messiah, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.**

3 persons were confirmed.

November 26, 2006: **Church of the Redemption, Quakertown, Pennsylvania.**

2 persons were confirmed.

February 4, 2007 – **Trinity Church, Hockessin, Delaware**

No confirmations.

March 11, 2007 – **Faith & Emmanuel Church, Baltimore, Maryland**

1 confirmation.

March 18, 2007 – **St. Paul's, Oreland, Pennsylvania**

1 confirmation. 2 additional confirmations were held for St. Paul's at Reformed Episcopal Seminary on Thursday, May 3, 2007.

April 1, 2007 – **St. Matthew's, Havertown, Pennsylvania**

4 confirmations.

April 8, 2007 – **St. Mark's, Rydal, Pennsylvania**

No confirmations.

April 22, 2007 – **St. Mary's, Bronx, New York**

16 confirmations.

April 29, 2007 – **Grace Church, Havre de Grace, Maryland & Bohemia**

Reformed Episcopal Church, Chesapeake City, Maryland

No confirmations.

May 6, 2007 – **First Church, New York**

No confirmations.

May 20, 2007 – **Jesus, the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn, New York**

4 confirmations.

June 3, 2007 – **Holy Trinity, Fairfax, Virginia.**

1 confirmation.

June 24, 2007 – **St. Stephen's, Sykesville, Maryland**

3 confirmations.

July 1, 2007 – **Emmanuel, Pipersville, Pennsylvania**

5 confirmations.

July 29, 2007 – **Good Shepherd, Brockton, Massachusetts**

2 confirmations.

September 9, 2007 – **St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

No confirmations.

September 16, 2007 – **Grace Church, Collingdale, Pennsylvania**

4 confirmations. 2 additional confirmations for Grace Church were held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary on Thursday, April 19, 2007.

September 16, 2007 – **Christ Memorial Church, Collingdale, Pennsylvania**

1 confirmation.

September 23, 2007 – **Christ the King, Pasadena, Maryland**

1 confirmation.

September 30, 2007 – **New Covenant, Lynchburg, Virginia**

No confirmations.

October 14, 2007 – **St. John's by-the-Sea, Ventnor, New Jersey**

1 confirmation.

October 21, 2007 – **Atonement Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

No confirmations.

III. Pastoral Connections and Vacancies

Atonement, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The parish has been served by the Rev. Mark Specht, Interim Rector, assisted by the Rev. David Ayres. Atonement and Messiah Churches have begun discussion of a possible future merger of the parishes. Atonement Church is part of the Provisional Vestry re-structuring effort among the mission parishes in Philadelphia. I have recently appointed to the Rev. Walter Hawkins to serve as vicar, beginning October 1, 2007. The Rev. Mark Specht continues to assist at Atonement Church under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Hawkins.

Grace Church & Christ Memorial Church, Collingdale, Pennsylvania. These two parishes, currently worshipping together at Grace Church, are part of the Provisional Vestry re-structuring effort, along with Atonement Church. Christ Memorial Church will continue to meet and worship with Grace Church, Collingdale, until such a time as the parish is able to be re-established in West Philadelphia. The parish is searching for a vicar to be appointed for this effort.

St. Paul's Church, Oreland, Pennsylvania. On Sunday, December 17, 2006, I installed the Rev. Rondal D. Martin as rector of St. Paul's Church. The Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Headman served as interim rector.

Church of the Redemption, Quakertown, Pennsylvania. In response to the resignation of the Rev. Robert N. McIntyre in December, 2006, I visited the Church of the Redemption on Sunday, January 7, 2007. I met with the wardens and appointed the Rt. Rev. Robert Booth to serve as interim rector.

In a letter dated July 18, 2007, I was informed by the Senior Warden, Mr. James C. Busfield, that the vestry of Church of the Redemption had determined to close the parish, effective August 26, 2007.

St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Rev. Barton Craig has served as interim rector, since the resignation of the Rev. Richard Walters in 2006. The vestry has called the Rev. David Ayres to serve as rector, beginning November 1, 2007.

Trinity Church, Hockessin, Delaware. The Rev. John Campbell has resigned as rector of Trinity Church, effective March 2, 2007. I met with the congregation on March 2nd, in order to discuss plans for the future ministry of the parish. The consensus of the parish membership was that the work was no longer viable and should be closed. This is a church plant effort that has struggled for many years and the current membership became too weary to continue expending the energy needed to successfully build a parish. The last service was held on Easter Sunday.

IV. Other Parochial Matters

St. Philip's, Warminster, Pennsylvania. On Sunday, October 22, 2006, the vestry of St. Philip's Church, Warminster, voted unanimously to close the parish. The last service, a service of Holy Communion, was held on November 12, 2006. I delivered the sermon and served as

celebrant. A Presbyterian Church in America congregation is leasing the parish building from the Diocese.

Church of the Atonement & Church of the Messiah, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I have encouraged Atonement and Messiah churches to enter into dialogue about the merger of the two parishes. I have met with the members and clergy of both parishes on several occasions to foster this dialogue. Both parishes are receptive to considering the idea; however, there is much to discuss before a merger would be able to take place.

St. Timothy's (Providence Chapel), Mount Laurel, New Jersey. On December 11, 2006, I met with the Vestry of Providence Chapel to discuss the effectiveness of parish's current ministry and the best use of the parish's financial assets. The parish has changed its location for worship services and adopted a new name, "St. Timothy's Church. The Reformed Episcopal Church in Mt. Laurel." Under the leadership of the Rev. Frank Spadafora, the restructured effort has attracted new members and visitors and appears to be moving in a positive direction.

Epiphany Anglican Church, Williamsburg, Virginia

In a letter dated September 9, 2007, the congregation of Church of the Blessed Redeemer requested the approval of the Bishop and Standing Committee to be received as an "associate parish" of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, under the name of "Epiphany Anglican Church – An Associate Parish of the Reformed Episcopal Church." The parish was formerly connected with the Charismatic Episcopal Church. The Rev. Canon and Mrs. Ralph Frye worship with the congregation. The Standing Committee approved the request.

Emmanuel Church, Somerville, New Jersey

For some time, I, along with other presbyters of this Diocese, have attempted to provide guidance to the Rev. Christopher Pierce, rector of Emmanuel Church, Somerville, in regard to the place and purpose of church discipline. His response to our efforts, in addition to his method of pastoral leadership, has led me to conclude that it is in the best interest of the church for him to serve no longer as the rector of a parish in the Reformed Episcopal Church. I refer you to the report of the Standing Committee for further information.

V. Postulants for Holy Orders

Michael J. Fetko (St. Paul's, Oreland)
Justin M. Forsberg (St. Matthew's, Havertown)
Bartholomew P. Martin (New Covenant, Lynchburg)
Joel E. McDurmon (St. Paul's, Oreland)
Robert N. McQuay (Bishop Cummins, Catonsville)
Scott Thompson (Holy Trinity, Fairfax)
Eric W. Vowles (Grace, Havre de Grace)

VI. Canonical Examinations

Samuel A. Orimogunje (All Saints, Newark)

On Thursday, August 16, 2007, Samuel Orimogunje was examined for ordination to the diaconate. The examination was held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner and the Rev. Gregory J. Miller. Mr. Orimogunje sustained the examination.

Irene Olivene Browne (St. Mary's, Bronx)

On Tuesday, August 28, 2007, Olivene Browne was examined for the office of

deaconess. The examination was held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Rev. Jonathan S. Riches and Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud. Mrs. Browne sustained the examination.

Walter L. Hawkins (Grace, Collingdale & Atonement, Philadelphia)

On Tuesday, September 18, 2007, the Rev. Walter L. Hawkins was examined for reception as a presbyter. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Rev. Jonathan S. Riches and the Rev. Richard Workowski. The Rev. Mr. Hawkins sustained the examination.

VII. Ordinations

Mark A. Bleakley (Grace Episcopal, Pittsburgh)

On Friday, September 14, 2007 I, together with the Rev. Rodney Whitacre and the Rev. John Porter, ordained the Rev. Mark A. Bleakley to the presbyterate. He was presented by the Rev. Mr. Whitacre, who also served as litanist. The Rev. Mr. Porter delivered the sermon. The Rev. Mr. Bleakley has served as a deacon in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, under license from Bishop Robert Duncan, and he will continue to minister in the diocese as a presbyter.

Samuel A. Orimogunje (All Saints, Newark)

On Saturday, September 22, 2007, I ordained Samuel Orimogunje to the diaconate. He was presented by the Rev. Dr. Paul U. Ekezie, and the Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud delivered the sermon. The service was held at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newark, New Jersey.

VIII. General Council Activities

October 10, 2006, January 24, 2007 and October 9, 2007: I attended the meeting of the Federation of Anglican Churches in the Americas (FACA), held at the Diocesan Headquarters of the Diocese of the Southeast in Summerville, South Carolina.

October 11-14, 2006, April 10-14, 2007 and October 10-13, 2007: I attended General Council committee meetings in Summerville, South Carolina.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks

Bishop Daniel G. Cox requested his report be filed with the Secretary and the content contained within the minutes of the proceedings. No action required.

REPORT OF BISHOP DANIEL G. COX

To the One Hundred Twenty - seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Friends in Christ:

Once again it was not necessary for me to make any Episcopal visits, thus there are no Confirmations to report to this Council.

I am grateful for the friendship and kindness of my Bishops, Leonard and David.

I am blessed by the fellowship with the REC parishes of Maryland and Fairfax County, Virginia and their Clergy. I am further grateful for the inter-communion with the Anglican Province of America churches in Maryland and also with their Clergy. The Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn is the Dean of the Maryland Deanery of the REC, and the Rt. Rev. Robert S. Loiselle, Sr. serves as Dean for the APA.

I have been Rector Emeritus of Bishop Cummins Church for the past eleven years. The Rev. Dr. David A. Crum, the current Rector, is a good and godly friend. I also serve informally as a senior associate at Christ the King Church, Pasadena, Maryland, under the Rev. Gregory P. Carr, Vicar, a true brother in the faith.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel G. Cox
Retired Assistant Bishop

DGC/cpm

*The Rev. R. Charles Gillin filed the Report of the Standing Committee Report with the secretary.
No action required.*

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Dear Brethren:

This Committee held two meetings this past diocesan year on February 20, 2007 and September 24, 2007 at Reformed Episcopal Seminary, Blue Bell, PA. The Most Rev. Leonard W. Riches, Bishop Ordinary, chaired the meetings.

The activities of the Most Rev. Leonard W. Riches and the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, including episcopal visits and confirmations, can be found in detail in their reports presented to Council.

POSTULANTS FOR HOLY ORDERS (As reported on September 24, 2007)

Michael J. Fetko (St. Paul's Church, Oreland, PA)
Mark W. Foreman (New Covenant, Church, Lynchburg, VA)
Justin M. Forsberg (St. Matthew's Church, Havertown, PA)
Bartholomew P. Martin (New Covenant Church, Lynchburg, VA)
Joel E. McDurmon (St. Paul's Church, Oreland, PA)

Robert N. McQuay (Bishop Cummins Church, Catonsville, MD)
Scott Thompson (Holy Trinity Church, Fairfax, VA)
Eric W. Vowles (Grace Church, Havre de Grace, MD)

CANONICAL EXAMINATIONS

Samuel A. Orimogunje (All Saints, Newark, NJ) - On Thursday, August 16, 2007, Samuel Orimogunje was examined for ordination to the diaconate. The examination was held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner and the Rev. Gregory J. Miller. Mr. Orimogunje sustained the examination.

Irene Olivene Browne (St. Mary's, Bronx, NY) - On Tuesday, August 28, 2007, Olivene Browne was examined for the office of deaconess. The examination was held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Rev. Jonathan S. Riches and Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud. Mrs. Browne sustained the examination.

PENDING ORDINATION

Bartholomew P. Martin (New Covenant, Lynchburg, VA) - In a letter dated August 16, 2007, the Rev. Edward Y. Hopkins requests that the postulancy period for Mr. Bartholomew Martin be reduced to the shortest term permitted by the canons. Bishop Hicks received a phone call from the Rev. John Heaton, headmaster of New Covenant School, expressing the same request. Mr. Martin has been serving as a chaplain to the school and assistant to the Rev. Mr. Hopkins, since June of this year. Both of the clergymen in Lynchburg believe that Mr. Martin's ministry will be more effective if he is ordained. The Canons of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Title I, Canon 5, Section 2, state, "No one shall be ordered Deacon within eighteen months from his admission as a Postulant, unless, under special circumstances, the Bishop, with the advice and consent of a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice, shall shorten the time of his candidacy; and in no case shall the time be shortened to less than twelve months." Mr. Martin has been a postulant for twelve months, as of September 1, 2007. Bishop Hicks recommended that his minimal time of required postulancy be satisfied as of November 1, 2007. The Standing Committee voted to concur with the Bishop's recommendation.

ORDINATIONS

Mark A. Bleakley (Grace Episcopal, Pittsburgh, PA) - On Friday, September 14, 2007 Bishop Hicks, together with the Rev. Rodney Whitacre and the Rev. John Porter, ordained the Rev. Mark A. Bleakley to the presbyterate. He was presented by the Rev. Mr. Whitacre, who also served as litanist. The Rev. Mr. Porter delivered the sermon. The Rev. Mr. Bleakley has served as a deacon in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, under license from Bishop Robert Duncan, and he will continue to minister in the diocese as a presbyter. The Standing Committee voted to concur with this action.

Samuel A. Orimogunje (All Saints, Newark, NJ) - On Saturday, September 22, 2007, Bishop Hicks ordained Samuel Orimogunje to the diaconate. He was presented by the Rev. Dr. Paul U.

Ekezie and the Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud delivered the sermon. The service was held at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newark, NJ. The Standing Committee voted to concur with this action.

CHANGES IN THE CLERGY ROLL

Licensing of Presbyter - On February 15, 2007, Bishop Riches issued a license to the Ven. Ellis Ezenekwe, a priest in the Kano Diocese of the Province of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) to minister in the Diocese of the Northeast & Mid-Atlantic, in accordance with the Covenant of Union between the Province of Nigeria and the Reformed Episcopal Church. Archdeacon Ezenekwe was recommended to us by letter from his ecclesiastical superiors.

Action taken at the request of the Rev. Deacon Timothy Gahles - On January 12, 2007, Bishop Riches certified the Rev. Timothy Gahles to the Rev. William Crawford of Calvary Chapel, Flemington, NJ, as a deacon in good and regular standing on the roll of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. Deacon Gahles has requested a transfer of his ministerial credentials - an action that is not canonically permissible, given the fact that the church with which he proposes to affiliate is not in communion with the Reformed Episcopal Church. Bishop Riches has requested confirmation by letter of any action taken by Calvary Chapel on Timothy Gahles application, and as of the date of meeting had received no report.

Necrologies - The Rev. **Karl M. Heckert** died on Sunday February 4, 2007. Prior to his retirement, he had been rector of St. Michael's Church, Enola, PA. Accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Headman and the Rev. Donald L. March, Bishop Hicks attended the funeral service for the Rev. Karl M. Heckert held at Musselman Funeral Home, Lemoyne, PA on February 8, 2007. A local Methodist minister, with whom the Rev. Mr. Heckert was acquainted, conducted the service.

On August 13, 2007 Bishop Hicks attended and participated in the funeral service for the Rev. **Thomas E. "Tim" Couch** at St. Michael's of the Valley Episcopal Church, Ligonier, PA. The Rev. Mr. Couch came to the Reformed Episcopal Church from the Presbyterian Church in 1991 and made his church home at Bishop Cummins Memorial Church, Catonsville, MD. When he moved to Ligonier, Pennsylvania, the Rt. Rev.

Leonard W. Riches, the Rt. Rev. Robert Duncan of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, regularized His orders and in a service held in January 2001. The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. Cox also participated in that service. The Rev. Mr. Couch made history by being the first Reformed Episcopalian to be licensed by the Episcopal Church to serve in one of its dioceses. He preached throughout Westmoreland County, PA, but chiefly assisted the Rev. James Simons, rector of St. Michael's of the Valley. The celebrant at the service was the Rt. Rev. Henry Scriven, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. The Rt. Rev. Daniel Cox and Bishop Hicks were concelebrants. The Rev. James Simons delivered the homily. Other Reformed Episcopal clergy in attendance were the Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud, the Rev. Dr. David Crum and the Rev. Steven Cox. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, and his daughters, Heather C. Young and Michelle A. Evans.

Transfer - Effective May 19, 2007, Bishop Riches transferred the Rev. F. Kenneth Fagerheim, at his own request, to the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America. He received notification of his reception, on the roll of clergy “Honorably Retired”, under date of August 31, 2007.

Reception of Presbyter - The Committee voted to receive the Rev. Chori Seraiah as a presbyter subject to the reception of a letter dimissory from the Diocese of Mid-America. The Rev. Mr. Seraiah is serving as rector of Christchurch, Abingdon, VA.

Reception of Presbyter - The Committee voted to receive the Rev. Ralph Frye on the roll of retired clergy, effective May 22, 2007, following a successful interview.

RECEPTION OF NEW PARISH

On Sunday, September 9, 2007, Bishop Riches was present with the congregation of **Christchurch, Abingdon, VA**, to officially receive them as a parish in the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. The congregation had been nurtured under the care of the Board of National Church Extension’s process of phased affiliation, under the oversight and direction of the Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote, Jr., who shared with him in the service of reception on September 9th. Bishop Grote served as the celebrant for the morning Eucharist, and Bishop Riches delivered the homily. Following the service, he and Bishop Grote met informally with the congregation to provide further information about the Reformed Episcopal Church, and to answer numerous questions about a wide range of church-related subjects. The gathering, held on a farm owned by one of the parishioners, included a fellowship dinner, and continued well into the late evening. The congregation is recovering from a split that occurred over the course of the past several months. Most of the members of the church are of Presbyterian and Reformed background. The Standing Committee concurred with the recommendation of Bishop Riches and voted to receive Christchurch, Abingdon, VA, as a parish in the diocese.

PASTORAL CONNECTIONS AND VACANCIES

Atonement Church, Philadelphia, PA - This parish is still being served by the Rev. Mark Specht, Interim Vicar, assisted by the Rev. David Ayres. Bishop Hicks has recently appointed The Rev. Walter Hawkins to serve as vicar, beginning October 15, 2007. The Rev. Mr. Hawkins is a graduate of our seminary and has been Assistant Pastor for Evangelism at Triumph Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA. His order as presbyter will be regularized according to the Form of the Public Reception of Presbyters on Sunday, February 17, 2008. Until that date, Bishop Hicks has asked the Rev. Mark Specht to assist at services of Holy Communion and in any other way that will aid the Rev. Mr. Hawkins with his transition into the Reformed Episcopal Church.

Grace Church, Scranton, PA - On October 8, 2006, Bishop Hicks installed the Rev. Paul Howden as Rector of Grace Church.

Grace Church & Christ Memorial Church, Collingdale, PA - These two parishes, currently worshipping together at Grace Church, are part of the Provisional Vestry re-structuring effort,

along with Atonement Church. Bishop Hicks met jointly with the vestries of both parishes on October 19, 2006, in order to discuss the plan for the Provisional Vestry. With the sale of the property at 43rd and Chestnut Streets, the parishes have begun discussing their separation and the return of Christ Memorial Church to West Philadelphia. On December 6, 2006, Bishop Hicks met with the real estate manager for the University of Pennsylvania to discuss the possible lease of St. Andrew's Chapel at 42nd and Spruce Streets – the site of the former Philadelphia Divinity School. He is still waiting for a proposal from the University. Until a more suitable place for worship is found, the purchaser of the old Christ Memorial building has agreed to lease the parish hall to the parish for a three-year term.

Bishop Hicks made an episcopal visit on September 16, 2007 in conjunction with a joint service with St. Patrick's Chapel, a congregation that had recently left the Episcopal Church and is currently renting space from Grace Church. The parish is under the oversight of the Rt. Rev. Paul Hewitt of the Diocese of the Holy Cross. Bishop Hewitt and Bishop Hicks con-celebrated Holy Communion, and each delivered a short homily.

Church of the Redemption, Quakertown, PA - In response to the resignation of the Rev. Robert N. McIntyre in December, 2006, Bishop Hicks visited the Church of the Redemption on Sunday, January 7, 2007. He met with the wardens and appointed the Rt. Rev. Robert Booth to serve as Interim Rector. For at least the past two years, the parish has reported less than 30 members on the roll. Therefore, Bishop Hicks recommended that the Standing Committee designate Church of the Redemption, Quakertown, a mission parish. A motion was made and seconded to designate the Church of the Redemption a mission parish. The motion passed. It was requested that the Secretary write to the Mission to inform them of their pension responsibilities to the Rev. Mr. McIntyre and the Rt. Rev. Robert Booth and to remind them of their financial obligations to the Diocese.

In a letter dated July 18, 2007, the Senior Warden, Mr. James C. Busfield, informed Bishop Hicks that the vestry of Church of the Redemption had determined to close the parish, effective August 26, 2007. The Standing Committee voted to concur with the recommendation of Bishop Hicks that the parish be closed.

St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman, Philadelphia, PA - The Rev. Barton Craig is still serving as Interim Rector. The parish continues to search for a new Rector. Bishop Hicks met with the Search Committee on February 1, 2007 in order to provide further direction and encouragement.

St. Paul's Church, Oreland, PA - On Sunday, December 17, 2006, Bishop Hicks installed the Rev. Rondal D. Martin as Rector of St. Paul's Church.

St. Philip's, Warminster, PA - On Sunday, October 22, 2006, the Vestry of St. Philip's Church, Warminster, voted unanimously to close the parish. The last service, a service of Holy Communion, was held on November 12, 2006. Bishop Hicks delivered the sermon and served as celebrant. A Presbyterian Church in America congregation is leasing the parish building from the Diocese. Bishop Hicks recommended that the Standing Committee concur with the action of the Bishop and Vestry in this matter. The Committee voted to concur.

Trinity Church, Hockessin, DE - The Rev. John Campbell resigned as Rector of Trinity Church, effective March 2, 2007. Bishop Hicks met with the congregation of Trinity Church on Sunday, March 2, 2007 to discuss the future of the mission parish. The consensus of the parish membership was that the work was no longer viable and should be closed. This is an effort that has struggled for many years and the current membership is too weary to continue to expend the energy needed to successfully build a parish. The Standing Committee voted to concur with the recommendation of Bishop Hicks that the parish be closed.

OTHER PAROCHIAL MATTERS

Church of the Atonement & of the Messiah, Philadelphia, PA - Bishop Hicks has encouraged Atonement and Messiah churches to enter into dialogue about the merger of the two parishes. He has met with the members and clergy of both parishes on several occasions to foster this dialogue. Both parishes are receptive to the idea; however, there is much to discuss and consider before a merger can take place.

Bishop Cummins Memorial Church, Catonsville, MD - In a letter dated July 24, 2007, the vestry of Bishop Cummins Memorial Church, in accordance with Title IV, Canon 48, Sections 5,6 of the Canons of the Reformed Episcopal Church, requests the approval of the Bishop Ordinary and Standing Committee to change the name of the parish to "Bishop Cummins Reformed Episcopal Church." The Committee voted to concur with Bishop Hick's recommendation to approve this name change.

Emmanuel Church, Somerville, NJ - During the past diocesan year, Bishop Hicks, along with several presbyters of this Diocese, have attempted to provide pastoral guidance to the Rev. Christopher Pierce, rector of Emmanuel Church, Somerville, NJ. Their counsel has centered on the place for and purpose of church discipline. The goal of biblical discipline is restoration. The Rev. Mr. Pierce's response to their efforts, in addition to his method of pastoral leadership, has clearly confirmed Bishop Hicks' conclusion that it is in the best interest of the church for the Rev. Mr. Pierce to no longer serve as the rector of a parish in the Reformed Episcopal Church. His ministry does not represent the pastoral method of the bishops in the Church. Vestry members at Emmanuel Church have disagreed with the Bishop's assessment. On July 17, 2007 the Senior Warden emailed to cancel a meeting with the Bishop previously scheduled for July 25, 2007. The Bishop had asked for this meeting to discuss the dismissal of the Rev. Mr. Pierce under the provisions of Title III, Canon 2 of the Diocesan Canons and to explain his assessment of the situation with the assumption that the vestry would take the appropriate action. Bishop Hicks sought the Standing Committee's advice at their meeting on September 24, 2007.

Vestry representatives from Emmanuel Church joined the Standing Committee meeting on September 24, 2007. They had been previously invited to the meeting in a letter to the Rev. Mr. Pierce who was summoned to appear before the Committee. Four of six vestry members were present from Emmanuel Church: Mr. Frank Beitz, Senior Warden, Mr. David Kaye, Junior Warden, Mr. Tom Jennings, Secretary and Mr. Scott Skrivanek. The Rev. Mr. Pierce previously advised the Committee in writing that he would not be present. Bishop Hicks welcomed the Emmanuel vestry members and proceeded to read his report. Bishop Hicks also distributed

packets of copies containing previous correspondence between him and the Rev. Mr. Pierce. Mr. Frank Beitz elaborated upon his letter to the Committee, dated August 6, 2007. This was followed by the reading of a statement from the vestry of Emmanuel Church by the vestry secretary, Mr. Tom Jennings. The statement was accompanied by three "clarifying questions" which Bishop Hicks and other Committee members attempted to address. The members of the Emmanuel Church vestry remained in the meeting while the Standing Committee voted unanimously to concur with the recommendation of the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks with respect to the following:

Bishop Hicks agrees to meet with the Rev. Christopher D. Pierce in counseling with Dr. David Hamarich, or an associate of Dr. Hamarich's choosing, for the purpose of working out differences that may exist; providing that the Rev. Mr. Pierce and Bishop Hicks both agree to sign a waiver of confidentiality and that the counselor's report and recommendations be sent to the Vestry of Emmanuel Reformed Episcopal Church, Somerville, NJ and to the Standing Committee of the Diocese. The Diocese will bear the cost of these counseling sessions.

The Standing Committee secretary was asked to send a letter containing the above action to the Rev. Mr. Pierce.

Epiphany Anglican Church, Williamsburg, VA - In a letter dated September 9, 2007, the congregation of the Church of the Blessed Redeemer requests the approval of the Bishop and Standing Committee to be received as an "associate parish" of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, under the name of "Epiphany Anglican Church – An Associate Parish of the Reformed Episcopal Church." The parish was formerly connected with the Charismatic Episcopal Church. The Rev. Canon and Mrs. Ralph Frye worship with this congregation. The Committee voted to concur with the Bishop Hick's recommendation to receive Epiphany Anglican Church as an associate parish.

Providence Chapel, Mount Laurel, NJ - On December 11, 2006, Bishop Hicks met with the Vestry of Providence Chapel to discuss the effectiveness of parish's current ministry and the best use of the parish's financial assets. With his advice, the Vestry has determined to change its location for the worship service and to adopt a new name. The Vestry plans to submit the new name of "St. Timothy's Anglican Church" to the Standing Committee for approval, according to Title II, Canon II, Section 7 of the canons of the Diocese. The Committee will await formal application.

Provisional Vestry for Church of the Atonement, Christ Memorial Church, and Grace Church (Collingdale) - The first meeting was held at Grace Church on February 12, 2007. Vestry members are Mr. Brian Davis, Mr. Jason Holloway and the Rev. Mark Specht, representing Atonement Church; the Rev. Roger Converse, Mrs. Lynda Dent, Mr. Steven Hoopes for Christ Memorial; and Mrs. Miriam Brownlowe, the Rev. Michael Fitzpatrick, and Mr. William Kozma for Grace Church. Mr. Brian Davis is Senior Warden, Mr. William Kozma is Junior Warden and the Rev. David Ayres serves as secretary. Bishop Hicks continues to serve as rector of these combined vestries of our mission parishes in the Philadelphia area.

OTHER BUSINESS

Sale of the Christ Memorial Church Property - The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud provided a report concerning developments at the Christ Memorial Church property. It was sold to a developer and settlement has been made on the property. The Agreement of Sale includes a provision for the parish to occupy the parish hall for a period of three years. The rent money was built into the Agreement. If the parish chooses to occupy other premises, then the balance of the rental money will be returned after giving due notice. Proceeds from the sale have been disbursed, by the Sustentation Committee, to parties who have had an historic interest in the property: the General Council, Reformed Episcopal Seminary and Christ Memorial Church. Funds from the sale of the property and the recent settlement received from Guide One have been invested and are being held by the Diocese for the parish. Interest income will provide a significant monthly sum to help reestablish a Reformed Episcopal work in West Philadelphia.

First Church, New York, NY - The Ven. Dr. Abboud reported on the outcome of the embezzlement of funds by a former treasure at the parish and informed the Committee that his participation in this investigation is officially ended. The Committee thanked him for his careful and diligent help. The Committee also acknowledged the many hours of labor contributed by the Rev. Matthew P. Harrington, rector of the parish.

Consent for Consecration - During the vacancy in the office of Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Southeast Bishop Riches has continued to serve as Bishop *pro tempore* as a function of his service as Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church. In that connection, he traveled to Summerville, SC, to conduct a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of the Southeast on May 30, 2007. From September 13 through 15, 2007, in Redeemer Church, Pineville, SC, he presided over sessions of the 35th Annual Synod of the Diocese of the Southeast. A principal aspect of these sessions was the election of the Very Rev. Alphonza Gadsden as Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese. Subject to the confirmation of this election by the Bishops of the Church and by a majority of the Standing Committees of the several dioceses, it is anticipated that Bishop-elect Gadsden will be consecrated in mid-November. The Standing Committee unanimously voted to concur with the recommendation of the Bishop by consenting to the consecration of the Very Rev. Alphonza Gadsden as Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Southeast, the requisite testimonials having been laid before them in accordance with the requirements of Title I, Canon 11, Section 2(a); such consent to be subscribed in the form specified in the aforementioned canon.

By-Law Approvals - The Committee on Constitution & Canons recommended the approval of the revised By-Laws of Trinity Church, Newark, DE, Emmanuel Church, Somerville, NJ and Trinity Church, Fairfax, VA. The Committee voted to approve these recommended By-Laws.

Episcopal Retirement - At the meeting on September 24, 2007 Bishop Riches shared his plans for retirement from diocesan work. He will present his plan and recommendations in his Episcopal report to the Diocesan Council on November 1-2, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. R. Charles Gillin
Secretary

The Rev. Gregory J. Miller filed the Report of the Secretary to the Diocesan Trustees. No action required.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF
THE TRUSTEES OF THE DIOCESE OF
THE NORTHEAST AND MID-ATLANTIC**

To the One Hundred Twenty - seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

The Board of Trustees met three times during the fiscal year. Trustee meetings are held at the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Blue Bell, PA with the exception of the November meeting which is held at the site of our annual Diocesan Council. Bishop Riches has presided over all meetings of the Board of Trustees in the preceding year. Regular reports were received from the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Provost of the Reformed Episcopal Seminary.

NOVEMBER 3, 2006:

- At the annual organizational meeting of the Trustees held at Diocesan Council the following officers were elected: The Most Rev. Leonard W. Riches, President; the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, Vice President; the Ven. Jon W. Abboud, Treasurer, the Rev. Gregory J. Miller, Secretary.

MAY 21, 2007:

- The Trustees ratified action taken by the Executive Committee to lend \$1.3M to Jesus the Good Shepherd RE Church for purchase of a new property in Brooklyn, NY.
- Trinity RE Church in Newark, DE decided to close their doors. The Trustees authorized the merger of the remaining Trinity funds with the funds of Grace RE Church, Havre-de-Grace, MD for the purpose of supporting an extension work in Bohemia, MD.
- St. Philip's RE Church in Warminster also voted to close. The Trustees authorized the Executive Committee to negotiate a lease or sale of the property.
- The former Grace RE Church in Roxboro transferred to the PCA and borrowed money from Christ Memorial Church to purchase the church property. The church is struggling and has

offered the property to the diocese. We would subsequently purchase the mortgage from Christ Memorial. The Trustees voted to take the property back and lease it to a PCA church meeting there.

- The property of Emmanuel Church at Four Brooks has been under the ownership of the diocese. The Trustees voted to deed the property to the parish with the provision that an outstanding diocesan loan on the property in the amount of \$49,837 become the obligation of Emmanuel Church.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2007:

- Pilgrim Church, the owner of the property formerly owned by Grace Church Roxboro has requested a cessation of their mortgage payments even though the property has not yet been deeded back to the diocese. The Trustees agreed to purchase the mortgage from Christ Memorial Church in the amount of \$233,000 and suspend payments for 3 months contingent upon the property being transferred to the diocese during that time frame. Failure to do so will result in the mortgage payments becoming due and payable retroactive to October 1, 2007.
- The proposed diocesan budget was reviewed and approved for the coming fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Gregory J. Miller,
Secretary to the Trustees

Dr. Abboud, Treasurer of the Seminary, called upon the Rev. R. Charles Gillin to give an update on the Seminary's Keeper of the Spring program. The Rev. Mr. Gillin thanked all those who faithfully support the Seminary. Mr. Eric W. Vowles gave a brief report on the value of his Seminary training. Mr. Vowles is assisting the Very Rev. Gerald S. McLynn at Grace, Havre-de-Grace, MD, and revealed his plans for ordination to the diaconate within the Reformed Episcopal Church.

[Secretary's note: In that the Reformed Episcopal Seminary is a diocesan seminary and the members of the Board of Directors are elected by the Council, an explanation was given as to the reason the Board was included in the report. This act is to adhere to the canons of the diocese. Also, the Secretary notes, the Rev. R. Charles Gillin's name was inadvertently omitted from the list. Thus, the Rev. Mr. Gillin is verified as a member of the Board of Directors of the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Blue Bell, PA.]

The Ven Dr. Jon W. Abboud presented the provisional Report of the Treasurer. In that the fiscal year has been revised to a calendar year the final report will be filed with the secretary. It was moved and seconded to accept the report. The motion carried.

		12/31/2007	9/30/2007	9/30/2006
Asset Report				
Non Income Producing	(as of 4/30)	\$263,270.96	\$263,270.96	\$263,270.96
Mortgages		\$42,916.10	\$46,724.56	\$71,529.03
Notes		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,733.17
Papalia Financial Services (unified fund) (1)	(All Saints Mort.)	\$1,041,193.89	\$1,091,255.44	\$1,055,129.18
Cape St. Claire Fund		\$152,457.86	\$152,457.86	\$145,457.86
Hicks Discretionary fund (in Checking)		\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
St. Phillip's Fund		\$16,853.26	\$14,072.56	
Phila Church Growth Fund Papalia		\$1,779,094.19	\$1,782,978.14	
Phila Church Growth fund checking (currently used for Atonement)	Sent to Miss. Dio. 11/15/2007	\$155,061.04	\$160,275.89	
VA Church Fund		\$0.00	\$3,300.00	
Escrow Account Balance		\$52,346.54	\$51,722.98	
Checking Account Balance		\$97,123.91	\$98,937.52	\$80,724.39
		\$3,600,617.75	\$3,665,295.91	\$1,618,844.59
Funds	Unified Fund Shares			
General Fund		108.096	108.096	108.096
Church Extention Fund/Parish Assistance	Cov. Chapel			
Income	7th Day Adventist (Trinity)	\$29,958.10	\$30,237.12	\$31,995.23
	Berean Christian (Recon.)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,659.74
	Unified Fund Shares	\$12,958.00	\$16,487.44	\$23,874.06
		13.936	13.936	13.936
Non Income	Cov. Chapel NJ (n)			
	Cov. Chapel, Rec (n)	\$29,500.00	\$29,500.00	\$29,500.00
	Emmanuel Four Brooks (n)	\$23,001.18	\$23,001.18	\$23,001.18
	Providence Chapel (n)	\$49,837.43	\$49,837.43	\$49,837.43
	St. Philip's PA (n)	\$5,928.00	\$5,928.00	\$5,928.00
		\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00
Ann Kenny Fund	Valhalla Valley - NC (n)			
	Unified Fund Shares	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
	Unified Fund Shares	33.61	33.61	33.61
Antioch Cemetery	Unified Fund Shares	2.272	2.272	2.272
Arndt Mem. Fund	Unified Fund Shares	21.339	21.339	21.339
Bassinger Home Fund		14.278	14.278	14.278
Bassinger Memorial Trst	St. Luke's NJ (n)			
	Unified Fund Shares	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00
	Unified Fund Shares	0.688	0.688	0.688
Bis. Rud. Epis. Endow.	Unified Fund Shares	75.853	75.853	75.853
Christ. Ed. Fund		0.651	0.651	0.651
Cumberland Church Fund	Faith Church-Baltimore (n)			
Non Income	Unified Fund Shares	\$7,144.25	\$7,144.25	\$7,144.25
	Unified Fund Shares	0.636	0.636	0.636
Dio. Ch. Ext. Trust	Unified Fund Shares	19.94	19.94	19.94
Hart Lodge Fund		17.26	17.26	17.26
In addition to the value of the Papalia portfolio the unified fund includes				
	Cov. Va. Mortgage	\$8,191.49	\$8,343.17	\$9,281.44
	Portion of 826 2nd Ave. (n)	\$96,859.10	\$96,859.10	\$96,859.10
	Cov. VA. Note	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Unified Fund Value	\$1,146,244.48	\$1,196,457.71	\$1,163,269.72
	Share value	\$3,714.83	\$3,877.57	\$3,770.01

(1) Includes \$127.40 contribution to bassinger home fund which adds .0366 shares to unified fund

(1) To arrive at this number see Papalia Reports, Add loan #1 to Acc #4 and subtract Cape St. clair fund

	10/1/2006 through 9/30/2007 & 4th Quarter 2007			From 10/1/08 to 12/31/08	
<i>Income</i>	2006/07 Budget	2006/2007 Actual		4Q 07 Budget	
Mortgages/Notes	\$18,147.00	\$35,192.10	193.93%	\$3,750.00	\$3,192.84
Diocesan Tithe	\$250,000.00	\$255,786.49	102.31%	\$63,750.00	\$49,772.05
clergy Tithe		\$875.00		\$750.00	\$0.00
Investments and other income	\$120,000.00	\$128,318.41	106.93%	\$34,000.00	\$31,908.33
Hick's Discretionary Fund				\$0.00	\$300.00
News Letter contribution		\$12,560.00		\$0.00	
VA Church Fund		\$3,300.00		\$0.00	-\$3,300.00
Clergy Retreat	\$200.00	-\$100.00	-50.00%	\$0.00	
Disability & Life Income	\$3,650.00	\$3,792.94	103.92%	\$950.00	
Jesus The Good Shepherd Escrow***	\$0.00	\$21,125.00		\$0.00	
Ins. Escrow***	\$0.00	\$29,641.85		\$0.00	
Hurricane Relief				\$0.00	
Cape St. Clair Sale **	\$0.00	\$145,457.86		\$0.00	
Offerings****	\$1,000.00	\$673.46	67.35%	\$375.00	\$2,040.00
Phila Church Plant Fund		\$160,275.89		\$15,285.09	\$5,285.15
Total income	\$392,997.00	\$505,983.28	128.75%	\$118,860.09	\$89,198.37
Expenses					
Transfer to Phila Ch. Gr. Fund		\$160,275.89		\$9,285.09	
Episcopal Expenses				\$0.00	
Salaries	\$120,860.00	\$121,218.33	100.30%	\$31,365.24	\$31,272.45
Consecration/misc	\$0.00			\$0.00	
Office Equipment	\$2,500.00	\$611.49	24.46%	\$375.00	
Medical reimb. Hicks	\$4,700.00	\$5,229.00	111.26%	\$1,425.00	\$1,044.00
Rent/Tel. (Pipersville office)	\$3,800.00	\$4,104.81	108.02%	\$1,000.00	\$1,125.45
Travel/Misc	\$14,500.00	\$11,204.50	77.27%	\$3,250.00	\$3,999.61
Subtotal	\$146,360.00	\$142,368.13	97.27%	\$37,415.24	\$37,441.51
Diocesan Secretary	\$9,500.00	\$9,545.93	100.48%	\$2,470.00	\$2,700.00
Administration	\$2,500.00	\$2,466.19	98.65%	\$562.50	\$1,082.49
Audit	\$3,000.00		0.00%	\$500.00	
Camping Program*****	\$3,000.00	\$1,756.00	58.53%	\$437.50	
Clergy Retreat	\$1,000.00	\$732.13	73.21%	\$187.50	
Council Journal	\$2,500.00	\$1,016.00	40.64%	\$300.00	\$1,277.48
Council Expense	\$3,500.00	\$2,905.83	83.02%	\$750.00	\$3,249.02
Council Offering Dist.*****	\$0.00	\$757.00		\$0.00	\$1,400.00
General Council Tithe	\$25,000.00	\$26,794.96	107.18%	\$6,375.00	\$2,854.66
Honoraria speakers****	\$0.00	\$1,750.84		\$375.00	\$800.00
Insurance	\$3,400.00	\$9,748.52	286.72%	\$2,462.50	
Misc. Archives	\$500.00	\$2,649.85	529.97%	\$187.50	\$356.00
Publications	\$500.00		0.00%	\$0.00	
Dio. Dis. & Life Ins	\$4,323.00	\$3,892.10	90.03%	\$1,050.00	
Transfer to Escrow Account	\$0.00	\$51,772.98		\$0.00	
Church Ext. Parish Assist. Salary Support				\$0.00	
<i>Diaconal Training</i>	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	100.00%	\$2,400.00	\$1,200.00
<i>Atonement</i>				\$7,750.00	\$10,500.00
<i>St. Michaels (Harrisburg)</i>	\$10,800.00	\$10,800.00	100.00%	\$2,295.00	\$2,295.00
<i>Emmanuel 4 Brooks, Pipersville, PA</i>	\$15,120.00	\$15,120.00	100.00%	\$3,213.00	\$3,213.00
<i>Good Shepherd, Brockton, MA</i>	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	100.00%	\$2,550.00	\$2,550.00
<i>Reserve other</i>	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$3,000.00	\$1,153.00
<i>*Grace Col./CMC</i>	\$10,000.00	\$32,413.78	324.14%	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Theological Education/Leadership Training	\$128,050.00	\$128,050.00	100.00%	\$33,250.00	\$33,249.99
Totals	\$400,853.00	\$621,616.13	155.07%	\$119,815.83	\$108,322.15

* No Monies are budgeted for Christ Memorial Church, \$1,000 per month to Grace, Collingdale

** Cape St. Claire funds were used to give mortgage to All Saints, Irvington and are reported on asset report

*** Money is held in separate escrow fund

**** Council and Founder's Day Speakers

***** \$502.75 for Young People's Work, \$757 for Reformed Episcopal Seminary Library

***** \$757.00 went to Reformed Episcopal Seminary; the balance was placed as an offset in the camping program

***** Atonement assistance comes from Philadelphia Church Growth Fund

***** assumes increase of \$1,000 in monthly draw

2006-2007 Parish Tithe

10/1/2006 through 9/30/2007

Category Description	10/1/2006- 9/30/2007
INFLOWS	
Parish Tithe	
All Saints, NJ	1,620.75
Atonement	1,747.00
Bishop Cummins	36,961.59
Bohemia Reformed Episcopal Church	581.67
Christ Memorial	894.95
Christ The King	8,232.25
Covenant Chapel	18,511.63
Covenant, VA	1,001.53
Emmanuel Four Brooks	5,198.65
Emmanuel, NJ	8,642.00
Faith, MD	1,942.00
First Church	6,127.09
Good Shepherd, MA	14,356.00
Grace, Collingdale	3,302.07
Grace, Havre-de-Grace	11,569.25
Grace, Scranton	11,429.52
Holy Trinity, VA	10,245.08
Jesus The Good Shepherd	6,295.29
Messiah	1,688.00
New Covenant, VA	3,947.71
New Redeemer	9,076.00
St. John's by-the-Sea	2,781.91
St. Luke's	4,807.29
St. Luke's Bishop Hoffman	2,733.93
St. Mark's	15,436.71
St. Mary's	7,746.00
St. Matthew's	13,077.90
St. Michael's	6,466.03
St. Paul's	15,744.06
St. Stephens	19,562.37
St. Timothy's	2,832.00
Trinity, DE	213.3
TOTAL Parish Tithe	254,771.53
TOTAL INFLOWS	254,771.53
OVERALL TOTAL	254,771.53

Reformed Episcopal Seminary – Northeast
 Balance Sheet - As of 12/31/05

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	
Checking Account	7,450	Accounts Payable	-
Petty Cash	100		
Accounts Receivable (2)	2,814	Notes Payable	
Investments			
Portfolio Value (12/31/05)	56,153		
Publishing (3)	3,600		
826 Second Ave.	1,028,391	LHFund Mortgage	483,178
832 Second Ave.	77,647		
Buildings & Contents (at cost)	128,184	Fund Balance	821,160
	1,304,338		1,304,338

(2) student tuitions
 (3) Investment in PTS Series less volumes sold (approximation)

Reformed Episcopal Seminary – Northeast
 Balance Sheet - As of 12/31/2006

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	
Cash			
Checking Account	799	Accounts Payable (5)	-
Petty Cash	100		
Accounts Receivable (2)	1,556	Notes Payable	-
Investments			
General Investment Fund	33,126		
Advertising Fund	10,793		
Needy Student Fund	21,585	Looney Hoffman Fund Mort	475,445
Portfolio Value (12/31/06)	65,504		
Papalia Fund (7)	1,714,268		
826 Second Ave. (4)	1,028,391		
832 Second Ave.	77,647		
Buildings & Contents (at cost)	128,184	Fund Balance	2,606,508
	3,081,953		3,081,953

(2) student tuitions and loans

(3) Investment in PTS Series less volumes sold (approximation)

(4)*665k purchase price plus other costs related to purchase & renovation less 70K for ranch house

(5) Includes pensions for staff and quarterly taxes not due until July

(6) At present there are 60693 shares in the SB portfolio 10k in Advertising. 20k in needy student, 30693 in general

(7)Corrected balance as of 12/31/2006

Reformed Episcopal Seminary – Northeast
 Balance Sheet - As of 9/30/2007

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	
Checking Account	286,708.93	Accounts Payable (2)	31,551.65
Petty Cash	100.00	Notes Payable	
Accounts Receivable (1)	3,850.00	Looney Hoffman Fund	
Investments		Mort	470,431.00
General Investment Fund	31,516.82		
Advertising Fund	10,268.41		
Needy Student Fund	20,536.81		
Portfolio Value (9/30/07)	62,322.04		
Papalia Fund (3)	1,731,882.88		
826 Second Ave.	1,028,390.60		
832 Second Ave.	77,647.18		
Buildings & Contents		Fund Balance	2,879,424.86
(at cost)	128,183.84		3,381,407.51
	3,381,407.51		

(1) student tuitions
 (2) 2007 Pensions due staff
 (3) Approximation

Reformed Episcopal Seminary – Northeast
 Balance Sheet - As of 12/31/2006

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	
Cash		Accounts Payable (5)	-
Checking Account	798.92	Notes Payable	-
Petty Cash	100.00	Looney Hoffman Fund	
Accounts Receivable (1)	1,556.00	Mort	475,444.94
Investments			
General Investment Fund	33,126.10		
Advertising Fund	10,792.72		
Needy Student Fund	21,585.44		
Portfolio Value (12/31/06) (4)	65,504.27		
Papalia Fund (3)	1,714,268.12		
826 Second Ave.(2)	1,028,390.60		
832 Second Ave.	77,647.18		
Buildings & Contents		Fund Balance	2,606,508.26
(at cost)	128,183.84		3,081,953.20
	3,081,953.20		

- (1) student tuitions and loans
 (2)"665k purchase price plus other costs related to purchase & renovation less 70K for ranch house
 (3)Corrected balance as of 12/31/2006
 (4) At present there are 60963 shares in the SB Portfolio, 10K in advertising, 20 K in needy Student 30693 in General Fund

**Reformed Episcopal Seminary Cash Flow
 January through December 2006**

Ordinary Income/Expense		Library	
Income		Archives	1,128.49
Book Store	11,190.02	Books	293.00
Checking Interest	944.08	Furnishings	63.48
Contributions		Membership Dues	75.00
Alumni	17,662.00	Subscriptions	1,502.35
Diocesan	108,707.83	Travel	94.71
Faculty	25,340.00	Library - Other	<u>19.96</u>
Matching Gifts	1,700.00	Total Library	3,176.99
Non Alumni	23,120.00	Looney Hoffman Mort.	
Non RE Churches	625.00	Interest	28,799.90
RE Churches	39,356.54	Principal	<u>7,117.06</u>
Trustees	14,445.00	Total LH Mortgage	35,916.96
Contributions - Other	<u>32,052.00</u>	Office Expense	
Total Contributions	263,008.37	Auxiliary	500.00
Fees	652.00	Commencement	1,334.40
Investments	41,299.92	Computers	357.76
Library Sales	196.24	Copy Machine-Office	4,310.94
Reimbursements		Diocesan	722.50
Medical	11,647.34	Miscellaneous-Office	1,377.85
Salary	191,359.44	Postage - Office	3,473.46
Reimbursements - Other	<u>26,883.33</u>	Reimbursement-Office	-1,513.32
Total Reimbursements	229,890.11	Supplies - Office	882.10
Rental Income		Telephones	3,851.41
Conference Room	100.00	Office Expense - Other	<u>-92.25</u>
Dorm House	9,909.54	Total Office Expense	15,204.85
Rental Income - Other	<u>21,256.00</u>	Personnel	
Total Rental Income	31,265.54	Consulting	8,100.00
Tuitions		Disability Insurance	10,646.17
Audit Fee	200.00	Medical-staff	44,668.54
Full-time	6,550.00	Payroll Expenses	440,047.30
Part-time	6,550.00	Pensions	<u>150.00</u>
SAAD	875.00	Total Personnel	503,612.01
Student loan repayment	4,766.00	Publicity	1,638.70
Transcript	115.00	Second Ave	
Tuitions - Other	<u>2,519.00</u>	Maintenance	5,149.98
Total Tuitions	21,575.00	Taxes	2,579.88
Total Income	600,021.28	Utilities	
Expense		Dormitory (832)	3,762.69
Bank Fee	65.30	Utilities - Other	<u>11,722.31</u>
Book Service Expense	12,594.61	Total Utilities	15,485.00
Deposit Return	2,381.65	Total Second Ave	23,214.86
Dues	<u>1,743.00</u>	SAAD	186.71
Total Dues	1,743.00	Vending	172.06
Insurance-Workers' Comp.	5,582.00	Total Expense	605,489.70
		Net Ordinary Income	<u>-5,468.42</u>

* Seminary at a Distance

**Reformed Episcopal Seminary Cash Flow
 January-September 2007**

Ordinary Income/Expense		Library	
Income		Archives	61.34
Book Store	5,497.82	Books	610.94
Checking Interest	7,227.70	Membership Dues	700.00
Contributions		Subscriptions	2,287.75
Alumni	10,193.00	Supplies	<u>259.65</u>
Diocesan	70,000.00	Total Library	3,919.68
Faculty	7,267.82	Looney Hoffman Mort.	
Matching Gifts	1,000.00	Interest	21,310.99
Non Alumni	15,505.82	Principal	<u>5,626.73</u>
Non RE Churches	175.00	Total LH Mortgage	26,937.72
RE Churches	21,150.52	Office Expense	
Trustees	420.00	Board of Directors	994.00
Contributions - Other	<u>3,783.87</u>	Class Gift	228.45
Total Contributions	129,496.03	Commencement	2,934.46
Fees	625.00	Computers	456.55
Investments	373,446.18	Convocation	100.00
Library Sales	62.62	Copy Machine-Office	3,242.10
Reimbursements		Miscellaneous-Office	1,092.37
Office reimbursed	21.41	Postage - Office	2,670.36
Salary	201,937.05	Reimbursement-Office	-2,408.50
Reimbursements - Other	<u>25,901.81</u>	Student Activities	135.94
Total Reimbursements	227,860.27	Supplies - Office	2,159.86
Rental Income		Telephones	3,160.04
Dorm House	8,005.36	Water	271.79
Rental Income - Other	<u>16,708.16</u>	Office Expense - Other	<u>-89.18</u>
Total Rental Income	24,713.52	Total Office Expense	14,948.24
Tuitions		Personnel	
Full-time	6,300.00	Consulting	5,181.00
Part-time	1,825.00	Disability Insurance	8,740.86
SAAD	875.00	Medical-staff	45,647.00
Student loan repayment	1,650.00	Payroll Expenses	356,150.83
Transcript	100.00	Staff Assistance	<u>150.00</u>
Tuitions - Other	<u>2,205.16</u>	Total Personnel	415,869.69
Total Tuitions	12,955.16	Publicity	3,506.50
Total Income	781,884.30	Reconcile Discrepancy	0.50
Expense		Second Ave	
Bank Fee	336.00	Dormitory	174.08
Book Service Expense	10,012.12	Furnishings	2,102.15
Charity - Chapel Offering	278.80	Maintenance	11,509.07
Check Returned	300.00	Renovations	16,435.78
Deposit Return	2,375.00	SnowRemoval	1,232.15
Dues		Taxes	2,633.04
Accreditation	34.54	Utilities	
Dues - Other	<u>2,353.00</u>	Dormitory (832)	4,478.68
Total Dues	2,387.54	Utilities - Other	<u>8,803.44</u>
		Total Utilities	13,282.12
Net Ordinary Income	<u>252,956.15</u>	Total Second Ave	47,368.39
Net Income	<u>252,956.15</u>	SAAD	413.98
		Vending	<u>273.99</u>
* Seminary at a Distance		Total Expense	528,928.15

Bishop Hicks presented the Report of the Committee on Nominations. In that requests had been solicited from each parish prior to Council and that no nominations were made from the floor, it was moved the nominations be closed and the secretary instructed to cast one ballot in favor of the nominations made in the report. The motion carried.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Committee Members

The Rt. Rev. Leonard W. Riches - <i>ex-officio</i>	The Rev. Gregory J. Miller
The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks - <i>chairman</i>	The Rev. Chiron P. Thompson
The Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner	Mrs. Melinda Kellogg
The Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick	Mrs. Christine Specht

To the One Hundred Twenty - seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

The committee on Nominations met at the Reformed Episcopal Seminary on September 24, 2007. One parish submitted suggested nominations for elected boards, committees and offices. The committee recommends that this council elect the following nominees.

First Vice-President: The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks
Second Vice-President: The Rev. Canon R. Charles Gillin
Secretary: Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud
Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Tonya M. Forsberg

Standing Committee

The Rt. Rev. Leonard W. Riches - <i>ex-officio</i>	
The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks - <i>ex-officio</i>	
The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud - <i>ex-officio</i>	
The Rev. R. Charles Gillin	Frederick K. Ganjon, Esq.
The Rev. Gregory J. Miller	Mr. Edward Meharg
The Rev. Belgrave Pelle	Mr. Ronald E. Riches

Trustees of the Diocese

The Rt. Rev. Leonard W. Riches - <i>ex-officio</i>	
The Rt. Rev. Robert H. Booth	The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches
The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks	The Rev. Richard W. Workowski
The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud	Mr. Elijah Barnes
The Rev. Richard E. Baird	Mrs. Barbara A. Hamarich
The Rev. William G. Garrison, Jr.	Mr. James Kester
The Rev. Matthew P. Harrington	Mrs. Mary Ann Ludwig
The Rev. Gregory J. Miller	Mrs. Elaine Simmons
The Rev. Belgrave Pelle	Richard W. Stevens, Esq.

Board of Directors for the Theological Seminary

The Rt. Rev. Leonard W. Riches
The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks
The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud
The Rev. Walter L. Hawkins
The Rev. R. Charles Gillin
The Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Headman

Mr. Christopher Komline
The Rev. Gregory J. Miller
Mr. Paul A. Tutton
Dr. Guy F. Webster
Dr. Barbara J. West

Respectfully submitted,

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, Chairman

Bishop Hicks assumes the Chair in order for Bishop Riches to install the Rev. R. Charles Gillin to the appointment of Canon to the Ordinary.

The Rev. R. Charles Gillin presented the Report of the Committee on Constitution and Canons. It was moved and seconded. The motion carried.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONS & CANONS

To the One Hundred Twenty - seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

This past year the Committee received and recommended the approval of the following parish by-laws to the Standing Committee:

- Trinity Church - Newark, DE
- Emmanuel Church - Somerville, NJ
- Holy Trinity Church - Fairfax, VA

All other parishes are strongly encouraged to submit amended by-laws to this Committee in order to bring them into conformity with the new denominational and diocesan Canons. To date, only seven parishes have submitted revised By-Laws to the Committee for approval. Please follow the procedure previously outlines in the Committee's report to the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Diocesan Council.

The Committee recommends the following canonical change for first reading.

Add a section 2B. to Title I, Canon I to read:

(B). All clergy on the active roll, not in charge, or assisting in the work of a Parish or otherwise engaged in the service of the Diocese or in a church in communion with the Reformed

Episcopal Church, are required to send one-half of their tithe to the Diocesan Treasurer for deposit into the diocesan treasury.

NOTE: If this amendment is approved, of necessity, the existing canon (Section 2) would become 2A. and the entire section 2 would be entitled, "Non-parochial Clergy".

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. R. Charles Gillin
Chairman

The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches filed the Report of the Board of Examining Chaplains. No action necessary.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINING CHAPLAINS

To the One Hundred Twenty - seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

The Board of Examining Chaplains consists of the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner, the Rev. Gregory J. Miller and the Rev. Jonathan S. Riches.

The Board continues to assist the Bishop in examining postulants and other candidates for ordained ministry within the diocese. The Board also assists in examining candidates for the office of deaconess as needed by the Bishop.

Samuel A. Orimogunje - On Thursday, August 16, 2007, Samuel Orimogunje was examined for ordination to the diaconate. The examination was held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner, and the Rev. Gregory J. Miller. Mr. Orimogunje sustained the examination.

Irene Olivene Browne - On Tuesday, August 28, 2007, Olivene Browne was examined for the office of deaconess. The examination was held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Rev. Jonathan S. Riches and Mrs. Bonnie C. Abboud. Mrs. Browne sustained the examination.

Walter L. Hawkins - On Tuesday, September 18, 2007, the Rev. Walter L. Hawkins was examined for reception as a presbyter. The examiners were the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, the Rev. Jonathan S. Riches and the Rev. Richard Workowski. The Rev. Mr. Hawkins sustained the examination.

The Board of the Examining Chaplains serves as the advisor to the Bishop with regards to the

examination process and candidates for ordination to the offices of permanent deacon, transitional deacon and presbyter. We continue to discuss the academic requirements that candidates for each of these offices must meet before being examined. While situations are discussed on a case by case basis, we are working toward a standard for each office.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches
Secretary

The Rev. William G. Garrison, Jr. read the Report of the Committee on Memorials. It was moved and seconded the report be received as presented. The motion carried. Choirmaster Ronald E. Riches led the council in one verse of the hymn "For All the Saints" in recognition of the faithful service rendered by those who have passed. The Very Rev. Eduardo A. Andrade led the council in prayer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS

The Rev. Thomas E. "Tim" Couch

August 28, 1938 - August 8, 2007

Tim, as he was affectionately known, was born on August 28, 1938 and entered into the joy of His Lord on August 8, 2007. He was a presbyter in our Diocese and served as an eucharistic minister at St. Michael's of the Valley Episcopal Church in Ligonier, Pennsylvania, having been certified for that ministry in a historic service at St. Michael's on January 28, 2001 presided over by the Most Rev. Leonard W. Riches and the Rt. Rev. Robert W. Duncan, Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of Pittsburgh (TEC).

He was the vice president of Ligonier Valley Study Center in Ligonier, Pennsylvania from 1972-1984. In 1984 Tim and his beloved wife Marilyn and their two daughters moved to Ellicott City, Maryland. They united with Bishop Cummins Memorial Church in Catonsville, Maryland where they were active in parish life. He was given the honorary title of minister-at-large. While he resided in Maryland he was a financial planner and a founder and Dean of Chesapeake Theological Seminary.

Tim served the Reformed Episcopal Church as a trustee of the Seminary and as a financial advisor to the Board of Pensions and Relief.

The Couch family moved back to Ligonier in 1996, where Tim continued his work as a financial planner. They were active in the ministry of St. Michael's Church. All the while Tim maintained his interest in and love for the ministry of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

He was buried from St. Michael's of the Valley on August 13, 2007. The Rev. Dr. James B. Simmons, the Rt. Rev. Henry Scriven, the Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, and the Rt. Rev. Daniel G. Cox were the clergy participants.

Tim, you have served our Lord and His Church well. God has granted you an entrance into the land of light and joy in the fellowship of His saints.

The Rev. Karl Morrell Heckert

July 23, 1935 - February 4, 2007

The mission Church of the Reconciliation had been in existence for about a year in 1994 when Karl Morrell Heckert first attended. He was serving as a lay reader at St. Stephens's Episcopal Church in Harrisburg and had deep religious convictions. He had attended the R.E. Seminary in Philadelphia years before, and was acquainted with the REC and knew Bishop Riches. He immediately began to assist with the services being held in the chapel of Zion Lutheran Church in downtown Harrisburg. In 1995 Karl was ordained a deacon and officially assigned as Vicar for the Reformed Episcopal Church of the Reconciliation.

After five years at Zion Church, Fr. Karl and the vestry began to search for a permanent home. A church property in Enola across the Susquehanna River from Harrisburg became available. Karl had grown up on the "west shore" and was enthusiastic over the opportunity. As Fr. Karl often pointed out Enola spelled backwards is Alone, the process moved forward and was purchased in 2000. Under Fr. Karl's leadership, the new building was restructured. Through the assistance of Edwin McCausland pews were acquired from the Salvation Army in Philadelphia. Major furnishings were obtained from a REC that was closing, including an organ and other chancel items. The first service was held on September 2, 2001. The following Sunday Bishop Riches consecrated the church.

On October 20, 2002 the Rev. Mr. Heckert was ordained to the presbyterate in the REC. In 2003, Church of the Reconciliation adopted a new name -- St. Michael's Reformed Episcopal Church. Fr. Karl retired on June 30, 2006. His work for the Lord is remembered today as St. Michael's continues to grow. Fr. Karl was called home on February 4, 2007.

Agnes Strudwick Bustard

July 12, 1906 - November 8, 2007

On November 8, 2007, Agnes Strudwick Bustard was called home. Born July 12, 1906, in the Germantown section of Philadelphia, Agnes was soon the eldest of eight children. In 1928 she was graduated from the Philadelphia College of the Bible, and with the intent of becoming a missionary, she enrolled in the 1928-29 program in Missions at the National Bible Institute in New York City. In 1935 she was married to the Rev. Edwin A. Bustard, Rector of Grace Reformed Episcopal Church, Collingdale. Immediately she plunged into the work of the Collingdale parish, teaching Sunday School to all ages and developing the Summer Vacation Bible School. The VBS soon became a hallmark institution at Grace Church, lasting four weeks and enrolling over 300 children. From 1952 to 1972 she taught Bible to adult women in the "Win-Some" class. For many years she taught Christian Education at the Philadelphia College of the Bible and the Manna Bible Institute and wrote Bible lessons for the American Sunday School Union. After retiring in 1972, the Bustards moved to West Jersey Grove Camp Meeting in Malaga, New Jersey, where Mrs. Bustard continued her Bible teaching and served on camp committees. She was a member of Grace Church from 1935 until her death. Known for her indomitable spirit and devotion to Holy Scripture, Mrs. Bustard's legacy to the Kingdom shines on through the lives of scores whom she taught the Word of God.

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth:
Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours.* Rev. xiv. 13.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - no report submitted

Mr. Jason A. Holloway filed the Report of the Committee on Young People's Work with the secretary. No action necessary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

To the One Hundred Twenty - seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

The Committee on Young People's Work (COYPW) exists for the purpose of fostering relationships between Christ and the children of this diocese. In the last year, we have seen the Lord do tremendous things in the lives of our young people, highlighted by their participation in the four events sponsored by the committee.

The year began with Winter Camp held at River Valley Ranch in Northern Maryland. It was an exciting weekend at which we were blessed to have the Reverend Rondal Martin of Saint Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church speak to us on selected parables. After that came a successful lock-in at Grace Reformed Episcopal Church in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The participants all learned the importance of keeping their word, even when it hurts. The COYPW wishes to extend its thanks to the Reverend Paul Howden and his congregation for hosting the event and providing food for all the participants.

Summer Camp was also a resounding success. It was held at Rock Mountain Bible Camp in beautiful Gibson, Pennsylvania. The week was filled with fun, including skits, various athletic competitions, and exciting night games. Mr. Tim Craig and Mr. Justin Forsberg were the speakers for Senior and Junior camp respectively. We thank them for their willing participation in the program and for their great lessons from Saint Paul's epistle to the Ephesians. The Summer Camp program has grown steadily over the last four years. We are pleased to report that, including counselors, we had 95 participants this year. Thanks be to God for his faithfulness in this ministry.

The final event of 2007 was held just a couple of weeks ago. Oktoberfest took place at Saint Mark's Reformed Episcopal Church in Rydal, Pennsylvania. It was a fun weekend at which we had participants from at least nine different parishes. Many thanks to the Reverend Richard Workowski and the members of Saint Mark's for contributing so much in the way of food and time to the event. It was greatly appreciated.

There are many people who work to fulfill the goals of this committee. Counselors, coordinators, and speakers all play pivotal roles in the execution of the committee's work. However, there are two members of this diocese whose work goes unnoticed by all except those most intimately familiar with planning for the various activities. To us, their work and dedication is both crucial and indispensable. Therefore, the COYPW would like to especially recognize the contributions of Mrs. Emily Harmer and Mr. Mike Laur, both members of Saint Stephen's Reformed Episcopal Church, for their tireless efforts and willingness to do far more than is asked of them. Their reward is great in Heaven.

Finally, we wish to thank all of you for your prayers and constant support. Be assured that this is a fruitful endeavor designed principally to further the relationships between our youth and Jesus Christ. It is to him, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, that we give utmost thanks for all his blessings in the past year. May the Lord look favorably upon our efforts in 2008 and in his love and mercy guide them that they would be encouraging to our youth and be carried out completely to his glory.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason A. Holloway
Chairman of the Committee on Young People's Work

**Committee on Young People's Work
Financial Statement
Fiscal Year October 1, 2006 - September 30, 2007**

<u>Gifts</u>	
St. Paul's RE Church	520.00
Covenant Chapel RE Church	500.00
REC Comm. On Women's Ministries	200.00
Women of St. Matthew's RE Church	455.00
Bohemia RE Church	<u>100.00</u>
Total Receipts	<u>\$1,775.00</u>
Bank Charge	60.00
Postage	131.00
Winter Camp	2040.00
Summer Camp	1015.00
Octoberfest	<u>150.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$3,396.00</u>
<u>INCOME/(DEFEICIT)</u>	<u>(\$1,621.00)</u>

Disposition of Funds

I.	Ending Balance by Depository	
	M&T Bank - checking	693.00
	Total	<u>693.00</u>
II.	Reconciliation of Funds	
	Fund Balances 9/30/06	2314.00
	Income/(Deficit)	(1621.00)
	Fund Balances 9/30/07	<u>693.00</u>

The Ven Dr. Abboud presented the Report on the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth and Development. In conjunction with the report ministry updates were given by the following: The Rev. Messrs. Andrade, Ayres, Ekezie, Fitzpatrick, Hawkins, McLynn, Pardon, Phipps and Spadafora. It was moved and seconded the encouraging report be received as presented. The motion passed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM, CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

To the One Hundred Twenty - seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

This committee is charged with the following: *“to determine the sites of new Churches and to request the Trustees of the Synod to provide such funds as shall be necessary for the establishment of those new Churches. This Committee shall have power to make recommendations to the Synod Trustees regarding financial aid to Churches. The Committee shall furthermore seek to promote the evangelistic and missionary interest and activity of the parishes, and the upbuilding of our people in the Christian faith and life, that the lost may be saved, believers strengthened, and the church of Christ advanced.”*

Following a procedure established several years ago, the committee consulted with the bishop about new allocations and those parishes currently receiving aid and diaconal training funds. Recommendations were made to the Executive Committee of the Diocesan Trustees for funding. The results of those recommendations are included in the budget for the coming fiscal year.

For the 2006/2007 Fiscal Year, financial assistance was provided to: Saint Michael’s in Enola; Emmanuel, Four Brooks; Good Shepherd, Brockton; and the joint work of Christ Memorial and Grace Church in Collingdale. Diaconal training funds were provided for one parish.

For the coming fiscal year, we continue our support of: Saint Michael’s in Enola; Emmanuel, Four Brooks; Good Shepherd, Brockton; and Grace Church Collingdale. Each of these parishes has been awarded a reduced support figure. In addition, in cooperation with Bishop Hicks and the Provisional Vestry for the Philadelphia Area Mission Parishes we are making a concerted effort to help revitalize Church of the Atonement in Germantown, Pennsylvania.

We remain willing to advise and assist both our new and older congregations in advancing the work of Christ our Lord.

We also remind the council that the One Hundred Twenty-Fourth Council adopted a policy with respect to sexual misconduct and criminal clearances. That policy is as follows.

This Diocese will not under any circumstances condone or participate in the cover-up of allegations of sexual misconduct.

This Diocese will observe the following procedure in the event of an allegation of sexual misconduct:

A. All allegations against a clergyman must be reported to the Bishop, who, along with the standing committee, will seriously investigate the allegations and report to the appropriate secular authorities when and where the evidence warrants.

B. All allegations leveled against a parishioner functioning as a volunteer on a parish level shall be investigated by the rector and parish council, who will then be responsible to report their findings, positive or negative to the Bishop who may at his discretion require further investigation. The appropriate secular authorities shall be notified when and where the evidence warrants.

C. All allegations leveled against a youth worker or counselor engaged by the Committee on Young People's Work shall be investigated by the committee and a report shall be submitted to the Bishop. The appropriate secular authorities shall be notified when and where the evidence warrants.

Churches are reminded that in some cases, clergy and child care workers are regarded as mandatory reporters who must report even the suspicion of abuse to secular authorities. Care must be taken to be familiar with the laws that apply to your particular situation. In all cases the state laws respecting mandatory reporting shall be observed.

Criminal Clearance policy:

1. That each parish and ministry of the Diocese recognize that Child Abuse does take place, even in Churches professing Biblical fidelity. The devil masquerades as an angel of light. The wolf does disguise himself as one of the sheep. Therefore the best protection against the abuse of children under our care is watchfulness and caution. **Wherever practical**, apart from normal worship service nursery duty (which is often shared among the members of the congregation) and normal Sunday school activities, **it is recommended** that two or more adults cooperate in the supervision of youth ministries and church sponsored youth activities. It is further recommended that situations involving unsupervised one-on-one interaction between **unscreened official representatives** of the parish and the children of the parish be discouraged. This will not only protect our children, it will also protect our adults from unfounded allegations.

2. That all clergy, candidates for ministry or clergy transferees be subjected to appropriate criminal and sexual misconduct clearances prior to functioning in a youth ministry or retreat that might involve the solitary or unsupervised care of children. Said clearances are to be secured by the Committee on Young People's Work and filed with the Diocesan Office.

3. That all counselors and chaperones of official diocesan or parish youth camps or retreats be subjected to appropriate criminal and sexual misconduct clearances prior to functioning in a youth ministry or retreat that might involve the solitary or unsupervised care of children. Said clearances are to be secured by the Committee on Young People's Work and filed with the Diocesan Office.

4. That all salaried youth workers and volunteer youth group sponsors be subjected to appropriate criminal and sexual misconduct clearances. Clearances are to be secured by the vestry and held on file by the secretary of the vestry.

5. That all church schools, nursery schools and day care centers screen their employees and volunteers according to the state laws governing their operation. If no specific state guidelines exist, the parish shall screen staff according to a consistent standard of care adopted on a local level.

6. That all clergy and youth staff be provided with and encouraged to become familiar with education materials related to the prevention of sexual misconduct. Materials are available from your insurance agent.

7. Because sexual predators move so frequently and are often adept at appearing to be caring people with a burden for children, that a reasonable period of time be observed (six months) before new parishioners are given unsupervised access to the children of our parishes.

It should be noted that the diocese also screens all candidates for ministry and clergy transfers. Those records are held on file in the Bishop's office.

Respectfully submitted,

The Ven. Jon W. Abboud, Chairman

The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches filed the Report of the Committee on the State of the Diocese. The Council was exhorted to participate in this valuable annual reporting request. Several churches did not participate in the process. The report printed in the minutes will reflect as much information as is available. It was moved and seconded the report be received as presented. The motion passed.

State of the Diocese Report

2006 Statistical Report		previous membership	confirmations	letter of transfer	sufficient evidence	letter of transfer	moved to I.A. status	death	current members
Atonement Church	Philadelphia	34	1	1	-	-1	-	-	35
All Saints Anglican Church	Newark	164	-	-	-	-8	-1	-1	154
Bishop Cummins RE Church	Catonsville	415	5	3	5	-3	-	-7	418
Covenant Chapel	Basking Ridge	59	12	-	4	-	-9	-	66
Covenant Church	Roanoke	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
Christ Memorial	Philadelphia	38	1	-	-	-	-	-	39
Christ the King	Pasadena	51	-	4	-	-	-	-	55
Church of the Messiah	Philadelphia	38	-	-	-	-	-3	-	35
Emmanuel Church	Baltimore	26	-	-	2	-	-	-	28
Emmanuel RE Church	Pipersville	34	-	4	-	-	-	-	38
Emmanuel RE Church	Somerville	54	1	-	5	-1	-2	-1	56
Faith RE Church	Baltimore	25	-	-	3	-	-	-1	27
First RE Church	New York	43	-	-	11	-3	-	-	51
Good Shepherd Church	Brockton	59	3	1	4	-1	-1	-	65
Grace Church	Scranton	65	-	5	-	-	-30	-	40
Grace RE Church	Collingdale	39	7	3	6	-	-	-1	54
Grace RE Church	Havre-de-Grace	54	-	4	-	-	-2	-	56
Holy Trinity Church	Fairfax	43	-	8	-	-8	-	-	43
Jesus the Good Shepherd REC	Brooklyn	72	-	-	17	-1	-	-	88
New Covenant	Lynchburg	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
New Redeemer RE Church	Jersey City	101	-	-	-	-	-	-2	99
Providence Chapel (St. Timothy)	Mount Laurel	18	-	-	3	-	-	-5	-
Redemption Church	Quakertown	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
St. John's by-the-Sea	Ventnor City	53	6	-	1	-	-18	-1	41
St. Luke's RE Church	New Providence	22	4	-	-	-	-4	-	22
St. Luke's Bp. Hoffman Church	Philadelphia	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
St. Mark's RE Church	Rydal	54	5	1	-	-1	-14	-	45
St. Mary's RE Church	Bronx	208	13	-	15	-	-10	-2	224
St. Matthew's RE Church	Havertown	72	3	-	1	-2	-13	-1	60
St. Michael's RE Church	Enola	72	-	8	-	-6	-27	-	47
St. Paul's RE Church	Oreland	104	-	1	-	-	-	-1	104
St. Philip's RE Church	Warminster	43	-	-	-	-	-43	-	0
St. Stephen's RE Church	Sykesville	160	7	2	-	-	-	-2	167
Trinity RE Church	Newark	24	-	-	-	-	-11	-	13
2006 TOTALS		2,288	68	48	74	(35)	(193)	(20)	2,230

State of the Diocese Report

2006 Statistical Report		baptized members	families	baptisms	marriages	burials	Sunday School	youth fellowship	women's fellowship
Atonement Church	Philadelphia	4	22	3	-	-	19	-	5
All Saints Anglican Church	Newark	43	20	20	2	1	18	-	40
Bishop Cummins RE Church	Catonsville	22	173	4	-	7	34	44	63
Covenant Chapel	Basking Ridge	19	28	-	-	-	55	-	10
Covenant Church	Roanoke	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
Christ Memorial	Philadelphia	4	25	-	-	-	-	-	-
Christ the King	Pasadena	55	34	2	-	-	14	-	-
Church of the Messiah	Philadelphia	7	19	-	-	-	14	22	18
Emmanuel Church	Baltimore	7	15	3	2	6	-	-	-
Emmanuel RE Church	Pipersville	10	17	-	1	-	29	12	11
Emmanuel RE Church	Somerville	3	35	3	1	-	22	10	8
Faith RE Church	Baltimore	7	12	2	2	6	-	-	-
First RE Church	New York	31	38	2	-	1	9	-	6
Good Shepherd Church	Brockton	8	38	3	-	-	17	6	13
Grace Church	Scranton	5	24	-	1	-	30	10	20
Grace RE Church	Collingdale	13	39	5	2	1	24	30	-
Grace RE Church	Havre-de-Grace	66	34	-	1	1	14	-	12
Holy Trinity Church	Fairfax	4	17	1	1	-	50	-	-
Jesus the Good Shepherd REC	Brooklyn	3	61	3	1	-	32	-	28
New Covenant	Lynchburg	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
New Redeemer RE Church	Jersey City	4	-	5	1	1	42	-	-
Providence Chapel (St. Timothy)	Mount Laurel	-	16	9	-	-	-	13	-
Redemption Church	Quakertown	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
St. John's by-the-Sea	Ventnor City	53	29	3	1	5	23	38	-
St. Luke's RE Church	New Providence	10	11	1	1	-	21	-	5
St. Luke's Bp. Hoffman Church	Philadelphia	-	21	-	-	-	16	-	13
St. Mark's RE Church	Rydal	-	22	2	-	2	25	19	7
St. Mary's RE Church	Bronx	11	90	11	2	2	63	23	18
St. Matthew's RE Church	Havertown	3	31	1	-	1	31	-	12
St. Michael's RE Church	Enola	11	18	2	2	-	30	-	10
St. Paul's RE Church	Oreland	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	8
St. Philip's RE Church	Warmminster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Stephen's RE Church	Sykesville	36	72	2	-	3	109	23	26
Trinity RE Church	Newark	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2006 TOTALS		465	954	79	21	38	754	237	340

State of the Diocese Report

2006 Statistical Report		men's fellowship	VBS	general fund	building fund	designated gifts/income	savings/port. income	total receipts	per capita giving
Atonement Church	Philadelphia	5	50	52,505	12,633	3,878	-	69,016	1,333
All Saints Anglican Church	Newark	62	-	37,091	284	-	-	37,375	194
Bishop Cummins RE Church	Catonsville	31	-	397,452	-	54,021	23,421	474,894	1,136
Covenant Chapel	Basking Ridge	9	-	210,163	-	16,005	308	226,476	3,431
Covenant Church	Roanoke	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
Christ Memorial	Philadelphia	-	-	89,531	-	-	-	89,531	532
Christ the King	Pasadena	13	-	236,716	-	25,993	-	262,709	4,255
Church of the Messiah	Philadelphia	9	50	33,679	2,010	2,090	-	37,779	1,079
Emmanuel Church	Baltimore	-	-	62,371	100	1,016	-	63,487	1,780
Emmanuel RE Church	Pipersville	6	35	70,597	50	1,985	1,733	74,365	1,230
Emmanuel RE Church	Somerville	-	-	99,876	35,720	7,142	12,781	155,519	2,936
Faith RE Church	Baltimore	-	-	13,046	81,021	205	-	94,272	702
First RE Church	New York	6	-	324,529	-	-	-	324,529	1,471
Good Shepherd Church	Brockton	9	-	161,704	2,254	10,085	-	174,043	2,413
Grace Church	Scranton	-	-	72,125	200	3,354	-	75,679	1,760
Grace RE Church	Collingdale	-	-	123,246	-	25,525	-	148,771	1,403
Grace RE Church	Havre-de-Grace	8	-	116,591	-	3,122	-	119,713	2,138
Holy Trinity Church	Fairfax	-	14	155,853	-	3,257	-	159,110	3,700
Jesus the Good Shepherd REC	Brooklyn	-	-	60,745	20,236	8,827	-	89,808	948
New Covenant	Lynchburg	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
New Redeemer RE Church	Jersey City	-	-	96,645	10,260	6,500	400	113,805	1,146
Providence Chapel (St. Timothy)	Mount Laurel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redemption Church	Quakertown	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
St. John's by-the-Sea	Ventnor City	-	35	68,734	4,500	17,058	-	90,292	1,849
St. Luke's RE Church	New Providence	-	60	37,466	-	10,597	54,821	102,884	1,703
St. Luke's Bp. Hoffman Church	Philadelphia	-	-	32,056	-	9,562	1,526	43,144	933
St. Mark's RE Church	Rydal	3	66	62,922	86,622	7,473	30,960	187,977	1,580
St. Mary's RE Church	Bronx	12	-	121,234	13,113	16,399	-	150,746	724
St. Matthew's RE Church	Havertown	-	50	127,079	75,235	15,063	40,072	257,449	2,140
St. Michael's RE Church	Enola	-	-	77,783	-	200	530	78,513	1,323
St. Paul's RE Church	Oreland	-	-	110,225	-	6,059	66,897	183,181	780
St. Philip's RE Church	Warmminster	-	-	28,715	-	-	-	28,715	-
St. Stephen's RE Church	Sykesville	21	105	213,503	120,812	1,914	-	339,882	1,993
Trinity RE Church	Newark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2006 TOTALS		194	465	3,294,182	465,050	257,330	237,102	4,253,664	46,611

State of the Diocese Report

2006 Statistical Report		personnel/ benefits	local ministry expense	diocesan apport/kithe	capital improvements	seminary	RE missions	non-RE missions	GF to sav.
Atonement Church	Philadelphia	18,462	35,809	1,705	-	-	1,150	563	-
All Saints Anglican Church	Newark	4,600	1,053	278	6,337	1,000	6,872	-	-
Bishop Cummins RE Church	Catonsville	287,712	75,765	35,754	15,844	-	20,065	18,005	-
Covenant Chapel	Basking Ridge	71,354	60,373	18,569	15,715	-	-	-	-
Covenant Church	Roanoke	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
Christ Memorial	Philadelphia	53,273	5,657	1,404	10,681	-	-	-	-
Christ the King	Pasadena	119,120	21,916	11,804	4,120	-	-	450	4,000
Church of the Messiah	Philadelphia	19,805	13,618	1,393	-	-	2,291	-	300
Emmanuel Church	Baltimore	49,303	-	1,333	-	583	200	162	-
Emmanuel RE Church	Pipersville	52,420	1,238	4,325	-	-	200	-	-
Emmanuel RE Church	Somerville	69,104	11,569	9,676	-	-	-	-	35,000
Faith RE Church	Baltimore	15,296	156	115	-	-	-	-	-
First RE Church	New York	186,178	34,535	10,611	-	-	1,037	-	-
Good Shepherd Church	Brockton	91,899	45,438	14,116	-	425	5,269	-	-
Grace Church	Scranton	41,643	21,741	7,213	-	-	-	-	-
Grace RE Church	Collingdale	59,486	33,981	4,638	1,749	-	-	-	-
Grace RE Church	Havre-de-Grace	54,672	28,543	11,503	35,596	-	1,360	1,063	-
Holy Trinity Church	Fairfax	111,150	-	11,997	-	-	-	-	-
Jesus the Good Shepherd REC	Brooklyn	3,847	678	5,542	-	-	-	1,960	-
New Covenant	Lynchburg	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
New Redeemer RE Church	Jersey City	64,481	5,041	9,406	-	500	-	-	-
Providence Chapel (St. Timothy)	Mount Laurel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redemption Church	Quakertown	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT	-	-	-
St. John's by-the-Sea	Ventnor City	37,147	30,285	2,644	-	-	-	-	-
St. Luke's RE Church	New Providence	64,560	26,132	4,073	5,305	-	-	-	-
St. Luke's Bp. Hoffman Church	Philadelphia	17,201	2,541	2,853	995	-	-	-	-
St. Mark's RE Church	Rydal	128,509	43,380	6,122	509	-	600	-	-
St. Mary's RE Church	Bronx	54,200	13,020	10,433	9,000	2,000	300	500	-
St. Matthew's RE Church	Havertown	78,088	9,427	12,616	1,031	6,300	9,300	-	-
St. Michael's RE Church	Enola	27,733	18,639	5,929	-	300	300	545	6,282
St. Paul's RE Church	Oreland	78,194	5,193	9,455	25,794	-	19,549	-	-
St. Philip's RE Church	Warminster	24,258	205	2,872	-	-	-	-	-
St. Stephen's RE Church	Sykesville	87,200	16,139	18,391	48,840	700	9,925	2,340	-
Trinity RE Church	Newark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2006 TOTALS		1,970,895	562,072	236,770	181,516	11,808	78,418	25,588	45,582

State of the Diocese Report

2006 Statistical Report	other	total gen. fund exp.	total bldg. fund exp.	total designated disbursements	income excess disbursements
Atonement Church Philadelphia	-	57,689	15,767	2,572	-7,012
All Saints Anglican Church Newark	38	20,178	7,000	-	10,197
Bishop Cummins RE Church Catonsville	26,711	479,856	-	18,598	-23,560
Covenant Chapel Basking Ridge	-	166,011	-	21,007	39,458
Covenant Church Roanoke	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT
Christ Memorial Philadelphia	19,272	90,287	-	-	-756
Christ the King Pasadena	55,662	217,072	-	14,637	31,000
Church of the Messiah Philadelphia	-	37,407	-	4,658	-4,286
Emmanuel Church Baltimore	14,674	66,255	-	-	-2,768
Emmanuel RE Church Pipersville	15,327	73,510	50	1,885	-1,080
Emmanuel RE Church Somerville	23,037	148,386	21,918	9,284	-32,062
Faith RE Church Baltimore	3,440	19,007	80,188	115	-5,038
First RE Church New York	92,168	324,529	-	-	0
Good Shepherd Church Brockton	5,443	162,590	-	3,031	8,422
Grace Church Scranton	13,000	83,597	185	3,354	-11,457
Grace RE Church Collingdale	21,945	121,799	-	6,957	20,015
Grace RE Church Havre-de-Grace	-	132,737	-	-	-13,024
Holy Trinity Church Fairfax	-	123,147	-	3,200	32,763
Jesus the Good Shepherd REC Brooklyn	3,707	15,734	20,689	511	52,874
New Covenant Lynchburg	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT
New Redeemer RE Church Jersey City	-	79,428	11,517	800	22,060
Providence Chapel (St. Timothy) Mount Laurel	-	-	-	-	-
Redemption Church Quakertown	NO REPORT	-	-	-	NO REPORT
St. John's by-the-Sea Ventnor City	-	70,076	7,294	9,828	3,094
St. Luke's RE Church New Providence	-	100,070	-	8,226	-5,412
St. Luke's Bp. Hoffman Church Philadelphia	14,988	38,578	-	8,801	-4,235
St. Mark's RE Church Rydal	3,216	182,336	100,290	4,736	-99,385
St. Mary's RE Church Bronx	47,704	137,157	14,500	3,400	-4,311
St. Matthew's RE Church Havertown	15,595	132,357	73,521	13,361	38,210
St. Michael's RE Church Enola	-	59,728	14,027	200	4,558
St. Paul's RE Church Oreland	71,462	209,647	-	-	-26,466
St. Philip's RE Church Warminster	-	27,335	371	-	1,010
St. Stephen's RE Church Sykesville	83,178	266,713	135,752	1,433	-64,016
Trinity RE Church Newark	-	-	-	-	-
2006 TOTALS	530,567	3,643,216	503,069	140,594	(41,207)

Respectfully Submitted,
 The Rev. Jonathan S. Riches

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE LOONEY HOFFMAN FUND -
no report submitted

Greetings were received by the following:

- Missionaries Judy King, Bill Jerdan, and Greg Wright.*
- The Rt. Rev. Royal U. Grote gave greetings, along with a report on the upcoming General Council in October 2008 in Victoria Canada.*
- Bishops Grundorf and Loiselle sent greetings to the council via Bishop Cox.*
- The newly elected bishop of the Diocese of the Southeast, Alphonza Gadsden, addressed the council.*
- Tonya Forsberg was introduced and welcomed as the newest member of the staff of the diocese and general council.*

The Chair announced brief meetings of the Standing Committee and the Board of Trustees of the Diocese will convene before dinner.

The Council was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. for dinner. The Rev. John Milligan led in prayer.

SECOND DAY
NOVEMBER 2, 2008

The second day of proceedings was called to order at 12:20 p.m. The Rev. Frank M. Spadafora opened the session in prayer. A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the first day. The motion unanimously carried. The offering received from the morning worship service in the amount of \$600 was designated for the diocesan camping ministries. Bishop Hicks assumed the Chair.

The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud filed the Report of the Bassinger Home Fund w/the secretary. No action required.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE BASSINGER HOME FUND

To the One Hundred Twenty-Seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

In keeping with the charge of our **Constitution and Canons**, the Bassinger Home Fund continues to afford a certain amount of protection to the clergy of this Diocese against infirmity, age, and death.

By the grace of our God, we were not called upon to answer any specific crisis in this fiscal year. We are thankful for our Lord's care and remain willing to assist when needed.

The Bassinger Home Fund administrates the following:

A Group Disability and Life Insurance Plan: Currently the Committee administrates a group disability plan for our clergymen. The current plan with Minnesota Mutual covers our full-time clergy for a benefit of \$500 a month with a 90-day waiting period until age 65. There is an associated death benefit of \$5,000 if the insured dies before age 65.

Our own history has clearly demonstrated minimum levels of disability protection necessary for our full-time clergymen. As a result, the Committee has established certain policies and repeats its suggestions to our clergy for coverage. They are as follows:

That prior to or in conjunction with joining the group program, they establish individual disability insurance. The Committee has adopted the following guidelines for financial assistance of disabled clergymen:

The Committee will not be able to provide financial assistance in the event of disability if:

1. The clergyman has opted out of Social Security and in addition to membership in the Synodical Group plan, has not purchased private disability insurance in benefit amounts of no less than \$1,100 a month with a rider adjusting the benefit for inflation, and a benefit period of "for life." *This minimum figure is necessary to replace Social Security and Medicare benefits that are lost to the clergy by filing of Form 4361.*
2. The clergyman is still in Social Security but has not joined the group plan and has not purchased individual disability insurance, unless unqualified for health reasons.

The 110th Synodical Council made participation in the Synodical Disability Program **mandatory for every church employing a full-time minister and that the churches are required to** pay the premium for said group life/disability insurance for their pastors. **The Group Disability/Life program is very reasonable.** Our own history has demonstrated these actions are absolutely necessary if the Fund is to maintain the strength necessary to meet the needs for which it has been established.

B. ***A Retirement Plan:*** The Retirement Plan for our clergy is administered by the General Council Board of Pensions and Relief. This pension program requires churches to make contributions on behalf of their pastors amounting to 10% of the total of the pastor's base salary (less all benefits), his housing allowance and/or fair rental value of the Rectory, and the Rectory utilities. **Please note, the pension contribution for 2007 with supporting form is due no later than January 15, 2008.** A recent change in the plan document allows Churches to make additional contributions to an employee's account in excess of the stipulated 10% amount. This contribution may not be funded by a salary reduction. It must be made directly from Church funds.

Christian charity and careful stewardship are both mandated by God's Word. The Committee administers the Bassinger Home Fund with an eye to both.

We, once again, encourage the delegates of this Council to advise their parishes regarding the Fund and its work. We encourage you to assure that the needs of your pastor and his family are cared for in good health, in disability, in retirement, and in death.

Thank you for your faithfulness and support.
Respectfully submitted,

The Ven. Jon W. Abboud, Chairman

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS - no report submitted

REPORT OF THE OFFICIAL AUDITOR - no report submitted

Bishop Riches advised the Council that an auditor would be named in the Appointed Committees.

The Rev. Richard W. Workowski filed the Report of Mustard Seed Farm with the secretary. No action required.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MUSTARD SEED FARM CAMP

To the One Hundred Twenty-Seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

Our diocesan camping program for the mentally and physically challenged was again held at Camp Joy-El in Greencastle (Chambersburg area), PA, August 5-10, 2007. The camp is within several miles of the West Virginia border and we have experienced a significant drop in campers due to the great distance from Philadelphia and environs, ---home of the majority of our population. We have therefore begun a search for a closer location, and a site in Lancaster County looks promising.

Four Registered Nurses form part of our staff [Meryllyn Fisher RN, Sue Poskit RN, Fran Ippoliti RN, Chris Sharpe RN]. Licensed Psychologist Dr. David Hamarich and Dr. Barbara West, Ph.D. run our TWO camps. Dr. Barbara West, for several years, has headed up our camping ministry to challenged senior citizens (and those in the 35 to 55 bracket); and the bulk of the camping ministry and overall director is David Hamarich. Numerous college students, committed laity, clergy and junior and senior counselors are "core" in the continued success and vitality of this diocesan mission.

The entire week is filled with activities from daily Bible classes, crafts, recreation, discussion times, Skit Night, a dance social, movies, swimming, wet slide (down a hillside!), bowling, luau,

free time, music, canoeing, tenting,---and yes,---nap time! This is not only a time anticipated by campers, but also by parents, who receive some much needed rest, and are also able to give fuller attention to their other children who are not a part of a special needs ministry.

Your prayers and gifts to “Mustard Seed” assist in keeping this vital evangelical outreach moving forward. Please remember Mustard Seed Sunday each February,---and/or as a parish Alms offering anytime during the year. In all things, may He receive the preeminence and praise.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Richard Workowski
MSFC Clergy Representative

The Rev. Gregory J. Miller filed the Report of Spiritual Growth and Nurture with the secretary with an exhortation for parishes to financial aid their rectors and their wives to attend the annual retreat. The Rev. Dr. David A. Crum reiterated the importance of the retreat. No action required on receiving the report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND NURTURE

To the One Hundred Twenty-Seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

The primary function of our committee has been to sponsor a retreat for pastors, their wives and other Reformed Episcopalians involved in the ministry of our church. For the past several years the retreat was held at the Eden Best Western Resort in Lancaster, PA.

This past year’s speakers were the Rev. Bob and Judy Pardon, Directors of Meadowhaven, the only long-term residential facility in the world helping people recover from exposure to and abuse from cults and aberrational Christian groups. Bob is a Reformed Episcopal Deacon attending our parish, Church of the Good Shepherd, in Brockton, MA. Bob and Judy helped us to understand that cults can be identified as groups that take major Christian doctrines and eliminate them or make them of minor importance. Aberrational Christian groups take minor points of doctrine and make them major or essential. Many so-called Christian churches are cult-like in practice despite good doctrine. The abuse these groups inflict psychological damage on many well-intentioned Christian people. Their ministry is invaluable and worthy of your support.

This year’s speakers will be John Freeman and Ed LeClair. John and Ed work with Harvest USA, a ministry committed to helping people deal with sexual sin, particularly in helping people

escape from the practices of homosexuality and heterosexual pornography. Their ministry has expanded to helping churches help those who might be trapped in these lifestyles.

During the retreat this year John and Ed will review the biblical foundation for right sexuality; help us to minister to people struggling with sexual sin with mercy with truth; help us understand the issues and challenges of ministering to those struggling with sexual sin; and helping us make our churches safe and redemptive for those who are struggling.

The dates of this year's retreat are January 31-February 2, 2008. We will be meeting again at the Eden Resort in Lancaster. **Please make sure you register by December 20, 2007.**

Special thanks go especially to Bill and Kim Jenkins and Cedric Benner for their many efforts on behalf of the committee and its work.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Gregory J. Miller,
Committee Chairman

The Ven. Dr. Abboud filed the Report of Ministers' Salaries with the secretary. No action required.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTERS' SALARIES

To the One Hundred Twenty-Seventh Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren:

Constructing salary guidelines for clergy is a difficult task. In many cases compensation of clergy is determined by the income of the congregation rather than the experience or competency of the clergyman. Sources of income vary from parish to parish. Some parishes have endowments and investments that generate income over and above parishioner contributions. Others are dependent solely upon the contributions of the parishioners. Some parishes face large overhead expenses for buildings and maintenance, some have little or no expenses. Sometimes parishes with large endowments find themselves with less income than parishes with no endowments because the people see the wealth of the church as a reason not to give to the church.

The first step to honoring God in caring for our clergy begins with honoring God in the stewardship of our individual funds. The standard of giving established in the Bible is Asacrificial giving.@ Sacrificial giving does not mean that we Agive until it hurts.@ Biblical sacrifices were not always bloody. Often they were gifts expressing joy, thanksgiving, praise and the celebration of God=s goodness. It is also important to understand that Asacrificial giving@ does not begin until the tithe is met. The tithe, or first ten percent, does not belong to us. It belongs to God. It is to be offered regardless of wealth or poverty. It is a percentage not a specific dollar amount. Thus, in God=s eyes, the ten dollar

offering of the man who earns a hundred dollars is the same as the ten thousand dollar offering of the man who earns a hundred thousand. God does not count the way we count. He blesses our faithfulness not the amount of our contribution. Thus while the fifty thousand dollar contribution of the man earning a million may seem a great blessing to the church it is still disobedience in God=s eyes.

Furthermore, we are led to understand that God does not need our money. Rather He has established Biblical stewardship as an expression of faith that ultimately blesses the good steward. Too often we plead with people to give because the church needs the money when the simple fact is that if the people of the church were obedient in the tithe they would be better off and the church would be blessed.

The Scriptures encourage us to consider those who labor in the word and doctrine as worthy of double honor. It is the opinion of the chairman and other members of this committee that double honor most likely refers to financial compensation and at the very least establishes the esteem and value a congregation should place upon its pastor. It appears that God desires His pastors to care for His people and His people to care for His pastors. When we do our part, He is honored and all His people, including the clergy, are blessed.

How do we calculate double honor? One way is to establish the mean income of the congregation (That is the number in the middle between the wealthiest and the poorest of the congregation) and double it. This equation would produce a significant difference between clergy serving poor congregations and those serving more affluent parishes. While appearing inequitable at first it is not, for God does not count dollars, and this system is reflective of a pastor who lives in the same community as his congregation. Further, while few parishes use this Biblical model it is nevertheless a fact that clergy serving congregations in more affluent areas are paid more than those serving in less affluent communities. This situation reflects not only the wealth of the congregation, but also the cost of living in the area surrounding the parish.

Each year Christian Ministry Resources surveys a broad spectrum of churches and publishes a compensation handbook. For the sake of comparison, (using 2004 figures) we have drawn the following figures from the sample of parishes that most closely parallels those in our diocese. These figures are provided as a point of reference and are not offered as a basis for establishing minimum or maximum salaries for clergy. The average attendance of the sample is between 0 and 250 on a Sunday morning. The compensation includes cash salary, rectory, housing, pension, employer paid life and health insurance and funds for continuing education. It reflects the number that most concerns our parishes when they establish a budget for a pastor's salary B How much will it cost the church to pay all the expenses related to having a pastor? The salary figure does not include reimbursable expenses such as auto or office expenses. The numbers are broken down based upon the basic type of community where the church is located. They are based upon the salary of a full time Sr. Pastor with six years of experience and a masters degree. The national average for all pastors in this group in 2004 was \$73,320 with a range of approximately \$30,000 above or below that number.

For 2008 we recommend the following figures, which have been adjusted for inflation and the rising costs of health insurance and participation in the pension program:

Urban	\$89,500	Suburban	\$95,000
Medium City	\$85,000	Small Town	\$74,000
Rural	\$75,300		

The committee recommends our parishes examine their budgets, giving patterns and pastor=s salaries in light of this report and requests every effort be made to honor God in establishing a compensation package for those who labor in the word and doctrine.

We would also like to recommend a minimum figure for pulpit supply of \$225.00 plus travel expenses and a minimum salary for a part time interim rector of \$1750 per month, plus pension contribution and expenses.

The committee would like to recommend the publications of:

Your Church Resources

You can order on line at YourChurchCatalog.com

Or by phone at 1-800-222-1840

Among other things, Christian Ministry Resources publishes two regular newsletters, Church Law and Tax Report, a review of legal and tax developments affecting ministers and churches, and Church Treasurer Alert!, which is a review of accounting, financial, and tax developments affecting churches and clergy. Every one of our churches ought to subscribe to one or both of these publications. Christian Ministry Resources also publishes an annual survey of church salaries and benefit packages.

Vestries are reminded they must record their pastors 2007 rectory allowance in the minutes prior to the first payroll of 2007. We also continue to recommend that every parish adopt an accountable plan of reimbursement for ministry expenses.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud, Chairman

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF THE DIOCESE -
no report submitted

The Very Rev. Cedric R. Benner announced the upcoming clergy retreat on behalf of the Report of Ministry to Men. The retreat will feature the Rev. Donald Stone on the topic of prayer. No action required on receiving the report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY TO MEN - no report submitted

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS BANQUET - no report submitted

There was no written Report on Short Term Missions. The Rev. Paul S. Howden addressed the council on the planned diocesan summer mission trips. The Rev. Dr. David A. Crum announced Bishop Cummins REC's willingness to help local parishes to support Cummins' missions focus with their youth while helping another church in the process.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SHORT-TERM MISSIONS - no report submitted

The Chair noted that pictorial identification cards were being produced during the council proceedings. All those who did not pick up their ID during council will receive their ID in the mail. Justin and Tonya Forsberg were thanked for their work in regard to the production of clergy IDs.

The Rev. Dcn. Roger W. Converse gave an update on his ministry with Intervarsity.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S MINISTRIES - no report submitted

The Chair acknowledged the ministry of the Rev. Barton L. Craig as Interim of St. Luke's/Bishop Hoffman Memorial Church over the past few months.

A representative from the Christchurch mission, Abingdon, VA, was recognized and asked to give greetings.

Bishop Riches assumed the Chair.

The Appointed Committee assignments were distributed.

The 52nd General Council to be held October 22-23-24, 2008 at Church of Our Lord in Victoria, Canada was announced. It was noted that passports are required to attend. Bishop Grote reported registrations for the council will be made available online and that necessary paperwork (statistical reports, etc.) will be required in order to register for the Council.

Bishop Riches announced that due to the formation of a new missionary diocese that the 128th diocesan council will be held at St. Paul's REC, Oreland, PA. New Covenant REC, Lynchburg, VA, had previously invited the diocesan council to meet in their church. New Covenant will be in the Missionary Diocese of the Central States in November of 2008.

The Chair called for NEW BUSINESS

The Rev. Canon R. Charles Gillin was recognized. Canon Gillin called for a correction to the 2005 Minutes in the Report of the Constitution and Canons. The 2005 minutes failed to record the four amendments presented in the report were unanimously approved for second reading. It was moved, seconded and carried that the correction be made in the printing of the 2007 minute proceedings.

It was moved and seconded that the Council Treasurer be authorized to cover expenses related to the distribution of minutes and all other expenses incurred for the conduct of this council. The motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that council be adjourned at 1:05 p.m. The motion carried.

*The Rev. Mark A. Bleakley led the council in prayer and Bishop Riches pronounced the
Benediction.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie C. Abboud, Secretary
Tonya M. Forsberg, Assistant Secretary*

