

Report of the President and Dean of Reformed Episcopal Seminary
To the One Hundred Forty-second Council
of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic

Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured and out of them all the Lord rescued me! Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But evil men and imposters will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so, the man of God may be adequate for every good work. II Timothy 3:10-17

Dear Brethren:

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy to warn him about difficult times. He told him about those who opposed the truth of God and coming persecutions. He exhorted him to stay steadfast in the faith that he had learned and to rely on the truth of God's inspired Word, which is "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

As much as times change, many things remain the same. The time in our culture and our world is a difficult one. There are those who oppose the truth and the church around the world faces increasing persecutions. We must continue to rely on and expound God's holy Word as RES has done for over 135 years and the Reformed Episcopal Church has done for nearly 150 years. Teaching the truth of God and equipping people to serve God is not the role of just the seminaries. It is the role of the whole church and Christian families. We know that Timothy learned the truth of God from his mother and grandmother. All our parishes, church schools, and seminaries must be striving to disciple and equip the people of God to better serve Jesus Christ and His kingdom. Reformed Episcopal Seminary is focused on the mission of preparing and training leaders who will evangelize, disciple, lead, and equip others. The preparation at RESeminary is not something new. It is based firmly on God's Word and the historic apostolic and Anglican faith. As we prepare leaders for the church, we also strive to be a resource for the wider church, our clergy, parishes, and church members. We encourage our clergy and laity to involve themselves in the life of their seminary. Investigate the library, listen to convocations, participate in our community luncheons and banquet, audit and take a course, or encourage others to do the same. We are here in partnership with you and for you. Our educational offerings are almost all now available in-person and through distributed learning. Please e-mail seminaryoffice@reseminary.edu and let us know how we can serve you better.

The Seminary, like the whole Reformed Episcopal Church, remains grounded on Holy Scripture - the ultimate rule of faith and practice - and the historic and apostolic creeds and confession of the Church. Students are immersed in Scripture, the apostolic faith, and the historic prayer book in classes and chapel each day they are at school. These principles apply to our growing distributed learning program as well. As the seminary strives to support the diocese and the church by forming orthodox, biblical lay and ordained leaders that have been immersed in the classical Anglican tradition, we

appreciate your support through prayer, referral, financial support, and participation in our programs.

The seminary continues to expand and improve its various programs. We offer an accredited Master of Arts in Theological Studies with concentrations in both Anglican Theology and Christian Education. There are also over 15 certificate options including Diaconal Ministry, Deaconess Ministry, Anglican Theology, Biblical Languages, Church Planting, and Pastoral Theology. The curriculum Master of Divinity degree is the core degree for those in church leadership and ministry. The certificate and MA programs can be used as building blocks to achieve various credentials over time that expand on each other.

The seminary continues complete the reporting and certification requirements to maintain the approval for its accredited degrees and to also participate in a variety of programs that help and enable more students access and/or pay for their education including Title IV, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program, the G5 Bill, and other Department of Defense programs.

RESeminary continues to work to keeps its educational programs available to students without cost being an obstacle while seeking to balance its revenue streams between donations, tuition revenues, and rental and investment income. While for most of its history RES has been dependent on contributions and the support of the church, we are developing better revenue streams with over \$100,000 in tuition revenues so far in 2022. We still recognized that higher education programs are historically only sustainable through a combination of tuition, donations, and investment income. While the seminary has seen increased student activity and revenues this year, we are expecting a substantial deficit this year, with reduced support from both government funding and the Diocese and needed maintenance and capital upgrades, especially to the Milton Fisher House.

The seminary endowments should continue to grow. We have received word of several generous gifts. We are very grateful for all the donations and pledges we receive. We again are very thankful for the support and prayers of the Diocese and especially your sending, supporting, and helping us form students. It is our goal and hope that every church in this Diocese would partner with us and support this essential mission and ministry, through prayer, referrals, and when possible financial gifts. Every gift and each referral are much appreciated.

We know it is through the help and grace of God alone that we can go forth and complete this work that stands before us. Please pray about how you can better help and serve the Seminary and the future leaders of the church. Please pray fervently for the mission of the church and the seminary. The administration, faculty, and staff continue to strive to serve the Reformed Episcopal Church and the wider church by equipping leaders for God's kingdom here. By God's grace we remain "Ambitious to be well-pleasing unto Him."

If anyone would like to meet with me to discuss the ministry and mission of our Seminary or have me or another member of our faculty visit your church in-person or online, please let us know. Please also be sure to check out our website: www.reseminary.edu and let others know about us. We are delighted to serve the Diocese and the church as best as we can, by the grace and help of God.

Your fellow servant in Christ Jesus,

The Very Rev. Canon Jonathan S. Riches, D.Min., Ph.D.
President & Dean