

PETITION
Of the
CLERGY AND LAITY
Of the
AREA MISSION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN NAVAJOLAND
To the
81ST GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ("THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH")
FOR ADMISSION INTO UNION WITH THE GENERAL CONVENTION
AS A MISSIONARY DIOCESE

Petition of the Clergy and Laity Of the Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland For the Erection of a Missionary Diocese from the Whole of Said Area Mission

TO THE EIGHTY-FIRST GENERAL CONVENTION OF
THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ("EPISCOPAL CHURCH"):

The Clergy and Laity of The Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland, duly assembled in a Special Meeting of the Convocation at All Saints Episcopal Church, Farmington, New Mexico for the purpose of erecting out of the whole of The Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland a Missionary Diocese of The Episcopal Church out of the whole of The Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland as determined by General Convention when the Area Mission was established and agreed by the Dioceses of Utah, Arizona and Rio Grande. This Special Meeting of the Convocation was duly called by the Bishop, the President of the Standing Committee and the Secretary of the Convocation, in accordance with Article V,

Section 1 of the Constitution of The Episcopal Church and Title I, Canon 1.2 of the Canons of The Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland.

This Convocation petitions and memorializes the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church for the ratification and formation of The Missionary Diocese of Navajoland from the whole of The Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland.

In support of this petition, we respectfully share with the General Convention that at the Special Meeting of the Convocation, held at All Saints Church in Farmington, New Mexico, on January 20, 2024, duly assembled and regularly organized, a resolution was duly passed and adopted favoring the creation of the new Missionary Diocese to incorporate the whole of the Area Mission, and authorizing and directing the Bishop of the Area Mission, on behalf of the Convocation, to consent to the formation of the Missionary Diocese of Navajoland from the whole of the Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland. The action of the Convocation is fully set forth in an authenticated copy of a resolution attached hereto and made part hereof by reference.

It is represented to the General Convention that within the boundaries of the Area Mission, there are nine congregations and eight priests who have been for at least one year canonically resident within the bounds of the proposed new Missionary Diocese and regularly settled in a parish or congregation and qualified to vote for a Bishop. It is further represented that suitable support of the Episcopate has been addressed in budgets and grant applications consistent with the missionary obligations for which the whole Church assumes responsibility (Canon 1.11.1), as evidenced by the budget and financial documents accompanying this Petition. It is further represented that this Petition for the creation of the Missionary Diocese of Navajoland originated in a Convocation of the Area Mission called by the Bishop pursuant to the Canons of the Area Mission and based on the recommendation of the Standing Committee. A narrative budget for fiscal years 2025-2027 is also attached to this Petition.

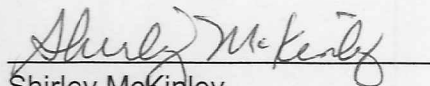
It is further represented to the General Convention that post admission, a certified copy of the duly adopted Constitution and Canons of the Missionary Diocese of Navajoland, including unqualified accession to the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, will be timely filed with the Secretary of General Convention to be approved by the Executive Council. The Constitution and Canons of the Missionary Diocese will (a) acknowledge the authority of Constitution and Canons adopted by the General Convention, (b) incorporate applicable provisions of Canon I.11.3 of the Canons of the General Convention, (c) provide for an Annual Convention composed of the Bishop, clergy and Lay Delegates from organized congregations, (d) provide for the election of a Standing Committee with powers and duties as described in Canon I.12, (e) provide for the election of deputies and alternate deputies to General Convention, consistent with Article I.4 of the Constitution of The Episcopal Church, and for deputies to the Provincial Synod, (f) provide for the development of annual operating budgets, administration and programs to be approved by the Convention of the Missionary Diocese, (g) make provision for review and approval of requests for grants in aid from the Executive Council or other sources of funds for current operations and capital needs giving account for work done

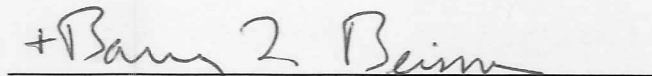
and monies received from The Episcopal Church, (h) make provision for the process of electing future bishops of the Missionary Diocese consistent with the Canons of The Episcopal Church, (i) create a Commission on Ministry possibly to be shared with another diocese in accordance with its own canons and consisting of Priests, Deacons (if any) and Lay Persons, (j) provide for a Disciplinary Board, pursuant to Title IV of the Canons of The Episcopal Church, which may be in combination with one or more other dioceses.

It is further represented that, pursuant to Canon I.10.5 of the Canons of The Episcopal Church, upon the erection of the Area Mission into a Missionary Diocese, the Convocation of the Area Mission shall be entitled to elect Deputies to the succeeding General Convention. and also to elect a Bishop of the Missionary Diocese. The jurisdiction previously assigned to the Bishop of the Area Mission shall be terminated upon the admission of the new Missionary Diocese.

All of the requirements of the Constitution and Canons for the erection of the said Missionary Diocese having been met, the Clergy and Laity of the Area Mission of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland pray that the General Convention consent to the formation of a new Missionary Diocese out of the whole of the Area Mission of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland, and said new Diocese to be known as the MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF NAVAJOLAND, and that the Missionary Diocese of Navajoland at an appropriate time be admitted to union with the General Convention.

Attest:


Shirley McKinley
Secretary of the Convocation


The Rt. Rev. Barry Beisner, Bishop

Date: February 1, 2024