



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH THE GENERAL CONVENTION

BONNIE ANDERSON, D.D.
PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES

November 15, 2009

To: The faithful, hopeful and persevering people of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth
The Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick, Jr.
St. Luke's in the Meadow Episcopal Church
The Rev. Susan Slaughter

From: Bonnie Anderson, President of the House of Deputies and Companion on the Trail

Today certainly makes the case for hope. Today is the day that many people have hoped for, prayed for, worked for, cried over, and lost sleep over. Today is the day when we see hope realized in God's time.

Today is the day that we will conjure up in our mind's eye when we are looking for reason to keep pressing on.

Today is the day we will recall when we seek inspiration and courage during difficult times.

After thirty-three years of struggle and prayer, confusion and angst, here we are, the Holy people of God, gathered together in the midst of Holy worship on Holy ground to give thanks to our beloved God who did not leave us alone.

The Episcopal Church is truly blessed by the commitment of the lay people, bishop and clergy of this diocese. You show us how God is working through all the baptized. You are an example of deep faithfulness.

Giving of gifts:

In the House of Deputies at the 76th General Convention in Anaheim in 2009, small wooden crosses were given to all the deputies, made by an artist from Eastern Oregon. Near the close of convention, the Diocese of Eastern Oregon presented me with a larger wooden cross made by the same artist. In their presentation they asked me to keep the cross until I felt the appropriate time to pass it on. Today is the time.

Susan and the Sr. Warden: This cross is passed to you and the people of St. Luke's in the Meadow. Please know it comes to you in peace and thanksgiving for your courage and your ministry. When you feel it is the appropriate time to pass it on, please do.

Bishop Gulick and Chair of the Standing Committee if present:

To the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth I present the official seal of the General Convention, inscribed from the House of Deputies. You are valued and beloved by the Episcopal Church as we all are one in the Body of Christ.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonnie Anderson".

Bonnie Anderson, D.D.
President, The House of Deputies