

RESOLUTION OF THE 49th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF NORTHWEST TEXAS

Be it resolved, that all those who share their words, ideas, opinions, and comments at Diocesan Convention -- and at all gatherings of our Diocesan family -- will, with God's help, seek to portray the precious gifts and graces of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).

Be it further resolved that we will, with God's help, refrain from personal attacks or negative characterizations, remembering that we are one body in Christ.

Be it further resolved that the secular dynamic of "winners and losers" is inappropriate within the "communion of saints."

And, be it further resolved that differences of opinion are welcomed and invited as an integral and precious part of the joyful life we share in the Church.

EXPLANATION:

Without question, God has given to us all the ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5: 18).

With a strong desire for reconciliation within our Diocesan family, the 48th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Northwest Texas overwhelmingly directed the creation of an ad hoc Reconciliation Task Force with the expressed purpose of increasing understanding and communication within the diocese. The Convention realized, at the time, that our communal deliberations, like our participation at Holy Eucharist, should always be outward expressions of inward grace.

After appointment and instruction by the Bishop, the Reconciliation Task Force convened, prayed, studied and shared. A consensus was reached that some of the terms, tenor and tone at our last convention fell short of the joy of Christian unity.

The Reconciliation Task Force strongly recommends adoption of this resolution as the first order of business at the 49th Annual

Convention of the Diocese of Northwest Texas. And we offer our prayer, in the words of the Psalmist: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer" (Ps. 19:14).

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

The Task Force on Reconciliation

The Rev. Dr. Steve Sellers, St. Paul's, Lubbock, Chair

Mr. Gerald Burney, St. James, Dalhart

Mr. Anthony Garcia, St. Paul's, Lubbock

Deacon Nikki Jones, St. Stephen's, Sweetwater

The Rev. David Scott, Perryton

Mr. Doug Tow, St. Stephen's, Lubbock

Mrs. Peggy Valentine, St. Mark's, Abilene

Ms. Laurie Cizon, Amarillo