

## C13-1

Resolved, that Canon 9 of the Board of Governors of Appleton Family Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta be amended to read as follows:

**Section 1.** ~~The Appleton Family Episcopal Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta shall be under the direction and control of a Board to be known as the Board of Governors of The Appleton Family Episcopal Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta. Appleton Episcopal Ministries shall be a ministry of the Macon Convocation and the Diocese of Atlanta. The purpose of Appleton Episcopal Ministries is to share God's love by promoting health, education, and safety of underserved children and families in central Georgia.~~

**Section 2.** The Board of Governors shall consist of the following:

(a). ~~The diocesan Bishop, The Bishop Coadjutor, the Bishop Suffragan, Assistant Bishop, or the Bishop's representative shall be a member of the Board, having voice, but not vote; and~~

(b). ~~Two elected at the annual Diocesan Council. One representative (lay or clergy) from each parish of the Macon Convocation, with the intention that any three clergy from the Macon Convocation will serve. The three clergy members of Appleton Episcopal Ministry's Board of Governors shall be selected by the Macon Convocation's Clericus.~~

(c). ~~Two selected by the Episcopal Church Women; and~~

(d). ~~Two to be appointed by the Bishop.~~

**Section 3.** All members of the Board shall have a term of three years, and shall be eligible for successive terms. No member shall serve more than two successive terms.

**Section 4.** Vacancies occurring on the Board may be filled for the unexpired term by the Board with the approval of the Ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese.

**Section 5.** The Board of Governors shall have the authority to adopt by-laws and organize itself in whatever manner it deems desirable for the efficient and effective conduct of this ministry consistent with the canons and constitution of the Diocese.

**Section 6.** The Board of Governors shall hold at least four meetings each year, one in each calendar quarter, and at such other times as deemed necessary by the Bishop and/or the Chair.

**Section 7.** The person who chairs the Board shall be appointed by the Bishop from among the Board's membership, and shall be responsible to see that report is made to the Annual Diocesan Council accounting for the stewardship and effective conduct of this ministry.

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### EXPLANATION

The proposed changes to Canon 9 will restructure the Board of Governors, will give focus to its scope and purpose, and will result in a streamlined approach to effective and efficient ministry.

For many years, the Board of Governors of the Appleton Family Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta has struggled to find its role in the ministry of this diocese. The Board did fund an after-school youth ministry at St. James' Church in Macon for a number of years. However, the Board also found it difficult, if not impossible, to supervise even one ministry in such a way as to meet its charge to conduct its ministry efficiently and effectively (see Section 7.) Thus, the Board suspended that ministry in order to discern its role and to seek a fresh start relative to its purpose and structure.

In May, the Right Reverend Keith Whitmore met with the Board for a daylong retreat. After prayer, reflection, and candid discussion, the Board agreed on the Statement of Purpose contained in Section 1 of the proposed Amendment. In subsequent meetings with Bishop Whitmore, the Board agreed that a Missioner should be employed to oversee convocational outreach ministry projects.

There followed an informative evening meeting that was attended by interested people from each parish in the Macon convocation for a sharing of thoughts and ideas. It became clear that the concept of Appleton as a convocational "umbrella" in partnership with the Diocese could facilitate parish outreach ministries with common needs more efficiently and effectively than could each parish acting alone. Finally, the Board presented its work to a pre-Council meeting of the Macon Convocation, which unanimously approved the above proposed canonical changes to Canon 9.