CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT AND BYLAWS OF THE VERGERS GUILD OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF TEXAS

ARTICLE I:
NAME

The name of the chapter shall be **The Walter Mace Memorial Chapter.**

ARTICLE II:
MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Walter Mace Memorial Chapter ("the Chapter") of the Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church ("the Guild") is to promote a greater awareness of the servant ministry of vergers in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas ("the Diocese") and to provide support, training, education, and fellowship to the vergers who practice their ministry therein. The Chapter is a nonpartisan organization and will not participate in, or support as a body, any doctrinal or political controversies of any type.

The mission of the Guild is summarized in its motto, "Service through worship and worship through service".

ARTICLE III:
MEMBERSHIP

All vergers, and persons interested in the Verger Ministry, are invited to join the Chapter and the Guild. There shall be three classes of membership:

Section 1 Full Members, defined as those persons who are paid-up members of both the Chapter and the Guild.

Section 2 Associate Members, defined as those persons who are paid-up members of the Chapter, but not of the Guild.

Section 3 Honorary Members, defined as those persons who have been selected by the Board for recognition of their service to the Chapter, particularly retired vergers or members of the clergy. They shall pay no dues, and shall not have voting rights.

ARTICLE IV:
OFFICERS

Section 1 The officers shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Training Officer, and Communications Officer.

Section 2 In the spring of each year, commencing in 2008, half of the above officers shall be elected.

Section 2A Nominations shall be solicited in written form (including electronic mail and/or the newsletter) by the Nominating Committee at least two months prior to the election, and shall include descriptions of the offices to be filled.

Section 2B Ballots listing the candidates will be handed or mailed to all voting members of the Chapter, and must be returned to the Nominating Committee chair prior to the official election date or at the election meeting.

Section 2C For each office, the candidate securing the largest number of votes shall be elected. If no one secures more than half the votes, a second election will be held to fill that office.

Section 3 The Board shall be elected by ballot to serve for a two year term or until their successors are elected. The election shall be by 50% plus one of the Guild Members voting. Their term of office shall begin at the close of the meeting.

Section 4 The President and Vice President may be re-elected to serve in the same office for no more that two successive terms. The President and Vice-President shall not be eligible for re-election to the office of President or Vice-President until after a duration of two years beyond their last term.

Section 5 Commencing in 2008, the Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer will stand for election; in 2009 the President, Training Officer and Communications Officer will stand for election.

ARTICLE V:
MEETINGS

The regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held on a quarterly basis, or more often if desired. At least one meeting per year will be a training of educational event.

ARTICLE VI:
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 The officers of the Chapter shall constitute the Executive Board, and may appoint up to four Full members (past officers, members with corporate memory, or members with special skills, etc.) to join the Executive board in an advisory capacity.

Section 2 The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Chapter between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations, and shall perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Guild, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Guild.

Section 3 Special meetings of the Executive Board can be called by the President, and shall be called upon the written request of two members of the Board.

Section 4 In the event of the dissolution of the Chapter, the Executive Board shall disperse the funds remaining in the treasury to an Episcopal charity or institution.

ARTICLE VII:
DUTIES

Section 1 The President shall preside at all general meetings and meetings of the Executive Board. The President shall represent the Chapter at official functions, shall serve as Bishop's Verger if requested, and shall otherwise promote the office of Verger throughout the Diocese.

Section 1A In the absence of a representative of the Guild, the President shall attend and conduct the installations of vergers of the Diocese. The President may delegate this duty to another officer of the Chapter.

Section 1B The President shall appoint committees as needed.

Section 1C The Executive Board shall appoint, or renew the appointments, of the Chaplains as soon as is practicable after each general election. The length of time each Chaplain may serve is to be determined by the wisdom of the board.

Section 2 The Vice President will preside in the absence of the President. In the case of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall serve until the next election of officers and shall be eligible for the office of President.

Section 3 The Chaplains shall serve as spiritual directors, advisors, and liturgical consultants for the Chapter.

Section 4 The Training Officer shall plan programs for the regular meetings and coordinate other training events with the President.

Section 4A The Training Officer shall nominate and train Regional Training Officers and others to be trainers, and work with clergy to recruit and train new vergers.

Section 5 The Communications Officer will assist the Vice President in communications to the membership and the church at large.

Section 6 The Secretary/Treasurer will record the minutes of meetings, handle chapter correspondence and serve as financial officer of the chapter.

Section 7 Vacancies in office other than the President will be filled by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII:
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Chapter may adopt.

ARTICLE IX:
AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws can be amended at any regular meeting of the Chapter by a two-thirds vote, provided that the Executive Board recommends the change or the amendment has been submitted in writing to the attendees at the previous regular meeting.

Approved at the regular meeting held Saturday, March 1, 2008 at 2939 Jeffcote Road, Conroe, Texas.