

Report of the Historiographer

Your Historiographer completed a condensed history of the diocese for the diocesan website. It is located at ecww.org/About. It will be provided to Convention delegates as part of a Convention "app." This brief history features an optimistic interpretation of Episcopal membership numbers. The decline in numbers has been interpreted by many analysts as a result of controversy over issues such as ordination of women, revision of the Prayer Book and welcoming of homosexuals. I present the view that the decline in birthrate that ended the Baby Boom produced a significant and inevitable decline in membership. Looking ahead I suggest that the Episcopal Church will continue the slow and steady growth that occurred from the 1890's to the 1940's. I believe this interpretation helps to explain the history of the Episcopal Church's last 100 years.

I will be glad to give an illustrated talk on our history to interested congregations.

I will also continue work on a comprehensive history of Episcopalians in Western Washington.

Submitted by Carle Griffin, historiographer