



South Dakota Episcopal

ChurchNews

www.diocesesd.org

July/August 2008

Timelines . . . Transitions . . .

Transformations . . . Transparency

. . . *We work to elect a new bishop!*

As your Nominating Committee began its efforts to find candidates for our Tenth Bishop, we realized that it was necessary to review what had happened in the past, both in the National Church, and in the Diocese, so that we might better place this election in its proper historic context.

We also realized that it was important to share with you those things we felt were important as you make a proper selection of our next Bishop. To that end, we decided that we needed to review our Episcopal history in three parts.

The first part looks at the formation of the Episcopal Church in the United States. This will assist us in understanding the role of our Bishop in the National Church.

Part II reviews the nine previous Bishops in the Diocese of South Dakota. These two parts are essentially a history lesson, drawing on sources from the National Church, as well as local sources. Most notable sources were That They May Have Life, by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, A Century of Worship, 1887 – 1987, by Dana Close Jennings (and friends), and 400 Years: Anglican/Episcopal Mission Among American Indians by Owanah Anderson.

Finally, Part III looks at those characteristics and skills desired in our next Bishop. Our main source for Part III is the Bishop's ordination service, starting on page 517 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Part III is provided as a guide in your thinking about who we might call as our Tenth Bishop and what kind of Bishop we wish to have.

We urge you to read all three parts, to review and discuss them as you wish and as you have the time. These parts continue on pages 5-8 and are followed by more election information on pages 9-12.

So, let's begin . . .

(Continued on page 5)

**Prepare for
Focus Groups
(see inside)**

**This ChurchNews
contains Convention
Reports & Bishop
Election Info**

**& Diocesan
Convention**

**Oct 3-5,
2008**

**The Diocese
of
South Dakota**



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**Bishop's
visitation dates
in bold letters
(Dates subject
to change)**



JULY

- Jul 7-10 Future Staff camp
- Jul 8-13 EYE, San Antonio, TX
- Jul 11-12 Diocesan Council meeting
- Jul 11-13 Women's Retreat at TEC
- Jul 13 Bishop visits St. Thomas, Sturgis**
- Jul 14-19 Grade 7&8 Boys Camp
- Jul 16-Aug 4 Lambeth Conference
- Jul 22-25 Day Camp at Sisseton Mission
- Jul 28-Aug 2 Grade 7&8 Girls Camp

AUGUST

- Aug 10 *ChurchNews* deadline, September/October issue
- Aug 15-18 Bishop speaks at Churchman Conference in Sewanee
- Aug 16 Ministry Weekend, St. Mark's, Aberdeen (*Sexual Misconduct*)
- Aug 15-17 Men's Retreat, TEC
- Aug 23 Ministry Weekend, St. Matthew's, Rapid City (*Isaiah*)
- Aug 31 Installation of Fr. Rob Schwarz, Standing Rock Mission

SEPTEMBER

- Sep 5 Diocesan Council meeting
- Sep 5-8 TEC Alumni Retreat
- Sep 6 Bishop Election Transition Committee, Al's Oasis
- Sep 7 Bishop visits Deadwood & Lead**
- Sep 13 Pre-Convention Deanery Meeting, Pierre
- Sep 14 Pre-Convention Deanery Meeting, Brookings
- Sep 21 Pre-Convention Deanery Meeting, Emmanuel, Rapid City
- Sep 21 Bishop visits Rosebud Mission**

OCTOBER

- Oct 2-3 Clergy Conference, Cedar Shore
- Oct 3-5 Diocesan Convention, Cedar Shore
- Oct 10 *ChurchNews* deadline, Nov/Dec 2008 issue
- Oct 19 Bishop visits Cheyenne River Mission**
- Oct 25 Ministry Weekend, Chamberlain (*Sexual Misconduct*)

NOVEMBER

- Nov 2 Daylight Savings Time ends
- Nov 2 Bishop visits Yankton Mission**
- Nov 7-9 Dakota Experience, Calvary Cathedral
- Nov 15 Ministry Weekend, Calvary Cathedral (*Isaiah*)
- Nov 16 Bishop visits St. Katharine's, Martin (morning)**
- Nov 16 Bishop visits Gethsemane, Wanblee (afternoon)**

- Change of address
- Subscription—\$5/yr.
- Cancellation
- Donation

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name

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date



St. James holds Youth Appreciation Service

St. James parish of Belle Fourche held a youth appreciation service Sunday, June 1. Morning prayer was conducted entirely by the church's youth and children.

Participating in the service were **Kemper, Kaitlyn** and **Karlee Gusso, Hunter Kunerth, Gretchen** and **Eli Satzinger, Isabella Ferguson, and Corinne Smith Peters.**

Taking the collection were **Isabella Ferguson** and **Gretchen** and **Eli Satzinger.**

Karlee and **Kemper Gusso** delivered the homily.

The Rev. Evelyn Weaver and **The Rev. Sandy Williams** welcomed and blessed the youngsters who were presented with copies of "Jesus. He's Your Final Answer."

Sending donations to Episcopal Relief & Development?

About a year ago there was an address change for **Episcopal Relief and Development**; however, some materials contain the former address. Mail addressed to ERD in Newark, NJ is being returned.

Correct address is: Episcopal Relief and Development, PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058

Transitions . . .

Deacon Charlie King ordained

He waited patiently as the canonical steps were accomplished, as transitions caused some delays – all the while performing a wonderful diaconal ministry in the Sioux Falls hospitals, to the Tiospaye Wakan congregation at Calvary Cathedral, and by helping at the Rosebud Mission on

occasion. Finally an ordination date was set – only to be delayed again due to the Bishop being in the hospital.



But on Saturday, May 17, **Deacon Charlie King** was ordained to the priesthood in a service at Calvary Cathedral. **The Rev. Canon Dr. Robert Wagner** was the preacher.

Fr. King will hold services for Tiospaye Wakan and at St. Mary's, Flandreau.

Charlie King is examined by Bishop Robertson

Fr. Jeffrey Barnes installed

On June 29, **Fr. Jeffrey Barnes**, retired since November 2006 from the Cheyenne River Mission, was installed as Interim Vicar at **Holy Apostles, Sioux Falls.** Fr. Barnes will provide services, pastoral care, and assist the congregation in discerning their future direction.

Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator appointed

Bishop Robertson has appointed **Rita T. Powell** to be the Youth Ministry Coordinator for the Diocese effective June 16. In May she graduated with a Master of Divinity degree from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and was married to Justin Beebe. On June 14 she was ordained a transitional deacon in the Diocese of Connecticut.

(Continued on page 4)

New Deans appointed

Bishop Robertson recently appointed Deans to fill vacancies existing in several Deaneries in the Diocese. Here is a list of the Deaneries and their Deans:

Black Hills Deanery — **The Very Rev. Bunker Hill** (from Spearfish)

Central Deanery — **The Very Rev. John Tarrant** (from Pierre)

Eastern Deanery — **The Very Rev. Liam Muller** (from Mitchell)

Northeast Deanery — **The Very Rev. Kathryn Costas** (from Aberdeen)

Northwest Deanery — **The Very Rev. Rob Schwarz** (from Standing Rock Mission/Mobridge)

Pine Ridge Deanery — **The Very Rev. Craig West** (from Martin/Pine Ridge Mission)

Rosebud Deanery — **The Very Rev. John Spruhan** (from Rosebud Mission)

The Deaneries are important in implementation of the Partners With God strategy, with the process for the election of our new bishop, with hosting Diocesan Convention, and in many other ways as we carry out our mission. More information will be included in upcoming issues of *ChurchNews*.

(Continued from page 3)

Let's meet her —

The Rev. Deacon Rita Powell, 30, is from a dairy farming family in Massachusetts. Her parents work in creative education. She went to Barnard College in New York City, where she played softball and studied world religions. After some time working in construction management in New York's Central Park, Rita's call to ministry took her to Yale Divinity School where she studied theology and learned about the priesthood.

Her first summer at seminary included an internship here on the Rosebud, where she worked with **Father John Spruhan** and **Father Craig Loya**. Last summer she worked for **Holly Huisken** as a cook at TEC and for the past few years has been working as a full time youth minister in Connecticut, wondering how she could be a part of the Diocese of South Dakota.

She is very excited to be here and to learn about the stories of the churches here. Look for her to visit your deanery sometime soon!

Rita and Justin will live in Vermillion. Contact information and schedules will be published as they develop. Her email contact is: ritapowell@aya.yale.edu



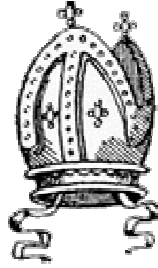
Rita will help identify, solicit and train lay and clerical youth leaders; equip congregations and deaneries to organize fellowship opportunities for youth; encourage, plan, publicize and help implement all diocesan youth events including youth programs at Niobrara Convocation; develop and share resources for use in youth ministry at all levels of organization to the end that diocesan entities are self-sufficient in their capacity to hold activities beneficial to youth; create a youth ministry network; administer programs at TEC; and advocate for youth ministry in the diocese.

We welcome Rita to the Diocese.



(Continued from page 1)

Part I: The Role of Our Bishop in the National Church



As most of us know, the Episcopal Church of the United States has its beginnings firmly tied to the Church of England. When the American Revolution occurred and the separation from England was firm, some of the doctrine held by the Church of England no longer applied. Most notable was the relationship between the Church in England, its King, and its place in government.

At the time of the American Revolution, the Anglican clergy, especially the Bishops, faced a dilemma. They had pledged allegiance to the British Crown at the time of their ordinations. In some of the colonies the Anglican Church was regarded as the state church. Many clergy and Bishops left, going either to Canada or returning to Great Britain. Those who remained in the United States were no longer recognized as clergy by the Anglican Church.

When the Revolution was over, there was an acute shortage of clergy and no Bishops to ordain them. This resulted in three problems: (1) The need for American Bishops to confirm and ordain clergy in the United States; (2) A need for a national organization to coordinate the activities of the then separated parishes; and (3) A source of financial support since the churches in America were no longer receiving monies from Britain.

The intervening years from 1784 to about 1792 were busy and resulted in the formation of the Episcopal Church in the United States as we know it today. Some of the activity during this time included: Dr. Seabury went to England in 1784 to be consecrated as Bishop. This failed to happen because he refused to swear allegiance to the King as part of his consecration. He was then ordained by three Scottish Bishops, thus ensuring apostolic succession, and he became the first American Bishop.

The first General Convention in Philadelphia in 1785 convened to write a constitution and make re-

visions to the Book of Common Prayer. In addition to this, and more importantly, they formally urged British Bishops to ordain American Bishops. In 1786, an Act of Parliament was passed to allow American Bishops to be ordained without an oath of allegiance to the Crown. In 1787, Messrs White and Provoost were ordained in England, and in 1790, James Madison became the fourth American Bishop, also ordained in England.

In 1789, a General Convention adopted a constitution providing for a church structure independent of foreign or civil authority. The structure of the General Convention was adopted to include a House of Bishops as well as elected representatives of the clerical and lay orders, in what became the House of Deputies. General Conventions were scheduled to meet triennially.

Diocesan conventions were to meet annually, presided over by the Diocesan Bishop, and were composed of both clergy and elected laity from parishes and missions.

Seventeen Canons were adopted as the foundation of Christian doctrine and a revised American Book of Common Prayer was authorized.

It is noted that the formation of the Episcopal Church mirrored the Federal government that was also being formed at this time. The Episcopal Church was a federal union of independent diocesan units. Each Diocese was a federation of independent parishes. Over the years, the individual States of the United States of America have surrendered a large part of their original sovereignty to the national government. This has not always been the case for the Dioceses in their dealings with the National Church.

The Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States was officially established in October, 1789, as the first independent Anglican Church outside of Great Britain (the term, 'Protestant', was not officially dropped from the full name until 1967). The first American Bishop, Thomas Claggett, was consecrated as the Bishop of Maryland in 1792 by Bishops Seabury, White, Provoost, and Madison.

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This ensured the continuous succession of American Bishops.

The General Convention and the House of Bishops, especially during the last three decades, has addressed many of the same social issues found in the United States. These efforts have been preceded by extensive work of the National Church lay staff and various subcommittees of the National Church, often headed up by Bishops appointed or “volunteered” out of the House of Bishops. Some of the issues include racial relations, economic justice, ordination of women, inclusiveness, ecumenical relations, and recurring themes such as missions and financial considerations.

Interestingly, in 1797, the Lutheran consistory in the state of New York made overtures to the Episcopal church of that state and a committee was formed to report to the next General Convention, if necessary, but nothing came of it. Now we are in communion with at least some Synods of the Lutheran Church.

In summary then, Part I shows us that Bishops have a national role and have had such a role since the beginning of the United States. *The Book of Common Prayer* says it well: “First, there is the order of Bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church.” Our Bishop will also share with fellow Bishops the leadership of the Church throughout the world.

Part II: Our own Episcopal Heritage

Now let’s look at the history of the first nine Bishops in South Dakota.

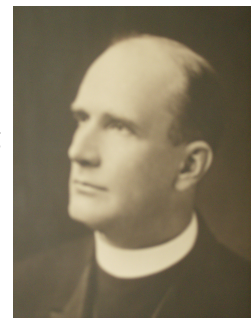


The Right Reverend William Hobart Hare

first served as the Missionary Bishop of Niobrara, which was established in 1873. It covered a territory north of the Niobrara River and west of the Missouri, all the way to the Rockies. He then served from 1883 to 1909 as the Diocese’s first Bishop. He designed the Niobrara Cross as a symbol of the truth in Christianity. During his tenure, Bishop Hare ministered to 10,000 active Episcopal members within the Native American communities in 100 churches spread throughout the reservations.

The Right Reverend Frederick Foote Johnson

served as Bishop from 1910 to 1911, and in 1911 created a mission in the surrounding region of Rosebud. He was involved in building the Rectory for the Church of the Incarnation at Dallas, SD.



The Right Reverend George Biller, Jr.

served as Bishop from 1911 to 1915. Bishop Biller created the South Dakota Churchman in February, 1913. It was designed as a means to reach out to the people in the Diocese. At this time, Bishop Biller would have been able to visit his people only once or twice a year. He spoke forcefully about the dire need for a Suffragan Bishop.

The Right Reverend Hugh Latimer Burleson

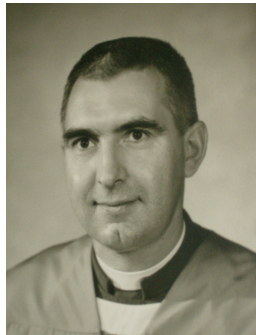
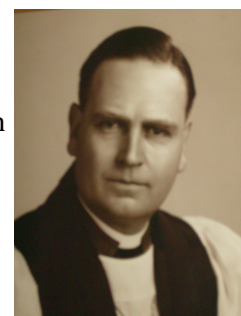
served as Bishop from 1916 to 1931. He further defined the goal of the South Dakota Churchman as: "To reach every family, even in our remotest mission, and the scattered church-folk of the countryside. It is a messenger of religion and life as exemplified in the work and service of the Episcopal Church. It should also be a missionary, making known to our own people, and to those favorably disposed to us, the activities which the church carries on, for the ideals for which she stands." In 1930, Bishop Burleson created the Niobrara Council to address all Native American concerns.

***The Right Reverend W. Blair Roberts***

served as Bishop from 1931 to 1954. After World War II, he appointed Native American clergy to assist in the growth of Native urban communities in South Dakota's larger cities of Huron, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls, including other growing towns. In 1940, he also dedicated the new St. Elizabeth's School on the Standing Rock reservation after a fire had destroyed the school in 1939.

The Right Reverend Conrad Herbert Gesner

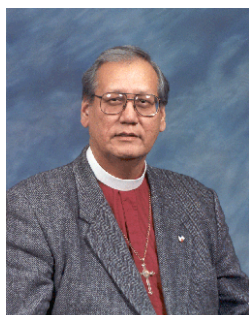
served as Bishop from 1954 to 1970. During his tenure, the growth of Native American and Non-Native American clergy flourished. In 1965, he was one of the designers and creators of the Thunderhead Episcopal Camp, also known as TEC. TEC now serves as a retreat center and a summer camp for the Diocese.

***The Right Reverend Walter Heath Jones***

served as Bishop from 1970 to 1983. He furthered the progress of church-oriented programs such as Cursillo. He was also an active member of the National Committee on Indian Works. During his episcopacy, an election was called for a Suffragan Bishop. Harold S. Jones became the first Native American Suffragan Bishop of South Dakota.

The Right Reverend Craig Barry Anderson

served as Bishop from 1984 to 1992. Bishop Anderson promoted a fundraising campaign which resulted in a more than one million dollar endowment for clergy support. He also started the Niobrara School for Ministry and served on the South Dakota Governor's Commission on Reconciliation.

***The Right Reverend Creighton Leland Robertson***

has served as our ninth Bishop, starting in 1994. It is his announced retirement that has prompted the search for the Tenth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota. In 1995, Bishop Robertson sought for alternate means to train clergy. This began a program now called Mutual Ministry, which trains congregations and then raises members up to serve as clergy in that local area. He has also been an adamant spokesperson, stressing the need for more Native American clergy.

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In summary, our past Bishops in South Dakota have been bold proclaimers of the Gospel of Christ, enlightening the minds and stirring up the conscience of all of South Dakota's Episcopalians. These past Bishops have acted as our Chief Priests and Pastors, encouraging and supporting all baptized people in their gifts and ministries.

Part III: Our Prayerful Expectations

Finally, in Part III, we look at our expectations for the person who will accept the call as South Dakota's Tenth Bishop and fulfill this trust in obedience to Christ. Our backdrop is the history of Bishops in the National Church and in South Dakota, while our focus is on the words in *The Book of Common Prayer*.

These expectations state that the new Bishop:

- ◆ Will be faithful in prayer and in the study of Holy Scripture, that our Bishop may have the mind of Christ.
- ◆ Will boldly proclaim and interpret the Gospel of Christ, enlightening the minds and stirring up the conscience of all of South Dakota's Episcopalians.
- ◆ Will encourage and support, as Chief Priest and Pastor, all baptized people in their gifts and ministries. Our Bishop will nourish our people from the riches of God's grace, praying for them without ceasing, and celebrating with them the sacraments of our redemption.
- ◆ Will guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church.
- ◆ Will share with fellow Bishops in the government of the whole Church; be willing to sustain fellow presbyters and take council with them; and will guide and strengthen the Deacons and all others who minister in the name of the Church.
- ◆ Will be merciful to all, showing compassion to the poor and strangers, and defend all those who have no helper.

We look for a Bishop who is a Spiritual Guide and Teacher, a Community Leader and Bridge Builder, and an Experienced Administrator.

Obviously, the person elected as our next Bishop has a huge task. We must remember, however, that Christ gives us no task too great to handle, with His help. Further, we have to rely on prayer and guidance from the Holy Spirit to make the right choice. We on the Nominating Committee ask that you prayerfully consider what we have presented here, talk about it, pray about it some more, and make your selection at the appropriate time. If you have questions or comments, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee. Elsewhere in this publication you can find a list of contact names and numbers (*next two pages*).

Remember —

1. The regular October, 2008 Diocesan Convention is scheduled for Chamberlain. For this convention we elected delegates at our regular 2008 congregational annual meetings. For most of our congregations, these meetings occurred in January 2008.
2. The regular October, 2009 Diocesan Convention takes place in Chamberlain. For this we will elect delegates as we always have, namely, at our regular 2009 congregational annual meeting, usually taking place in most congregations in January 2009.
3. *The **special convention** in May, 2009, for the election of a bishop coadjutor, will be held in Pierre. The same delegates that you elect for the fall 2009 Diocesan Convention will also be your delegates certified to participate in the Special Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor, which will take place May 8-9, 2009.*

So, since your 2009 delegates will be participants in both the special and the fall convention, you might want to make sure they can attend both conventions and are persons who can help the election process by having attended the focus groups, staying informed and meeting with the candidates.

Election Time Line

July 2008

- Gather survey data for diocesan profile
- Focus groups around the diocese to hear hopes, dreams, and aspirations about the next bishop

July 19—*Clergy Focus Groups*

July 26—*Lay Focus Groups*

Aug 2008

- Diocesan Profile finalized and approved for public distribution

Sep 2008

- Profile and Nomination Forms distributed throughout the Episcopal Church and within Diocese

Oct 2008

- Nominations close

Nov – Dec 2008

- Contact proposed nominees and begin screening process. First cut.

Jan 2009

- Telephone (or other) interviews leading to second cut

Feb 2009

- Site visits to proposed nominees. Third cut

Mar 2009

- Slate announced
- Nomination by petition period begins (10 days)

April 2009

- Walk-about/presentation of the nominees at sites around the Diocese

May 9, 2009

- Special electing convention in Pierre

June – Sep 2009

- Bishop coadjutor-elect complies with canonical requirements and receives consents at the General Convention in Anaheim in July
- Transition Committee completes preparations for the consecration

Oct 2009

- Consecration of the bishop coadjutor

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**LOOKING
AHEAD . . .**

**WATCH FOR THE BISHOP NOMINATION
FORM – COMING IN THE
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE OF
CHURCHNEWS!**

Nominating Committee plans Focus Groups

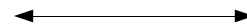
By the Rev. Judy Flagstad

At its June 6-7th meeting, the Nominating Committee finalized plans for Focus Groups to meet in July to converse together regarding the election of our new bishop. The groups will be held for both laity and clergy of the diocese and will be led by trained facilitators. The clergy will meet on Saturday July 19th with two locations to choose from - **Grace Church in Huron** or **Emmanuel Church in Rapid City**. The laity focus groups will be held on Saturday July 26th at the deanery level, with the deans of each deanery announcing the location (*see following page*). In addition, a presentation was made for the Niobrara Deanery during Niobrara Convocation in Eagle Butte.



elect a Bishop Coadjutor. Once the focus groups are done, the information from each group will be summarized by the facilitator and sent on for compilation of the data. These data, along with the data from the surveys distributed in the various congregation July 6th and 13th, will be used to prepare a profile of the Diocese. After the Standing Committee approves the profile in August, it will be posted on the Diocesan website.

More information on the focus groups follows (*next page*). Plan to attend one. We need your input!



Here are your chances to share in the nomination process

Your Nominating Committee for the election of a new Bishop is also providing, in addition to focus group conversations, another means whereby you can share your opinions and feelings concerning the diocese and the qualities and attributes you think we should look for in a Bishop.

A TWO-PAGE 60-QUESTION SURVEY will be distributed to members attending Church on Sundays, July 6th and 13th, so church-goers can use one of those two occasions to complete the questionnaire, either while at services or at home.

The LAY focus groups (July 26) will be asked to respond to three questions.

1. What is the role of the Bishop in the Church today?
2. Where are we as a Diocese in our spiritual journey (walk with Jesus)?
3. What kind of person do we need to fill the role of Bishop in the Diocese today? What skills are needed?

For the CLERGY groups (July 19), the following will be considered:

1. Describe the Diocese during the last decade/episcopacy.
2. What past experiences with bishops have been helpful/not helpful?
3. What are our hopes and aspirations for our next Bishop?
4. What have been the mission goals of the last decade/episcopacy? How have we together achieved or failed these missions?
5. Where is God calling us as a Diocese?
6. How can we support our new Bishop over the next decade?

In both the clergy and lay groups, there will be time limits set for each question with comments noted on newsprint. At the conclusion of the questions, each person will be given five dots to place next to the items they feel are most important as we prepare to

	5	4	3	2	1
Our new Bishop should:					
24. Be compassionate/caring.					
25. Be an effective administrator of diocesan staff and resources.					
26. Have common sense.					
My Bishop Wish List					
Please indicate your opinion as to the extent you agree or disagree with the following statements.					
Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
5	4	3	2	1	

The survey asks fixed-response questions concerning responsibilities and characteristics desired of our new Bishop, your wish list regarding your new Bishop, and some simple questions about yourself.

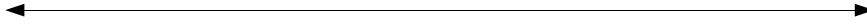
ALL COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO YOUR CONGREGATIONAL LEADER NOT LATER THAN JUNE 14TH AND MAILED IMMEDIATELY BY THAT LEADER TO THE DIOCESAN OFFICE.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

The privacy of all answers shall be respected. Data from the surveys will be aggregated and cross-tabulated to most effectively portray the aspirations of members of the Episcopal Church in South Dakota.

This is your opportunity to help guarantee that the process and outcome of the search for a new Bishop reflects your concerns.



Focus Groups scheduled for clergy and lay persons

Meetings, designed to help small groups of Episcopalians from across the diocese focus on issues and opportunities facing the church in South Dakota, will be held for lay persons and clergy during selected weekends in July.

Meetings for Clergy – Saturday, July 19

Clergy will meet Saturday, July 19 with two locations to choose from – **Grace Church in Huron** or **Emmanuel in Rapid City**. The meetings, similar in format to those for laity, will begin at 1 pm and end not later than 4:30 pm.

Meetings for Lay Persons—Saturday, July 26

The meetings for laity will be held at seven different churches in our diocese so that members and leaders in our Church can meet with others who reside in the same deanery. They will be held in each deanery at the locations provided below and be hosted by the associated dean or designee.

<u>DEANERY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>HOST</u>
Black Hills	Emmanuel, Rapid City	The Very Rev. Bunker Hill
Central	Trinity, Pierre	The Very Rev. John Tarrant
Eastern	St. Mary's, Mitchell	The Very Rev. Liam Muller
Northeast	Trinity, Watertown	Grace Van Horn, Jr. Warden
Northwest	St. Peter's, McLaughlin	The Very Rev. Robert Schwarz
Pine Ridge	St. Katherine's, Martin	The Very Rev. Craig West
Rosebud	Bishop Jones Bldg, Mission	Vice-dean Pat LeBeau

Each gathering of lay focus groups will begin at the designated church at 1:00 pm, Saturday, July 26, and end not later than 4:30 pm. Those attending will have opportunity to converse and share with each other in small groups regarding their opinions and feelings as they consider issues and visions related to a new Bishop for South Dakota.

Facilitators to Conduct Meetings

Facilitators have volunteered to be trained and available to conduct the meetings being held on July 26. They are Pamela Barnett, Deacons Caitlin Collier and Marty Garwood, Dottie LaBeau, JoAnn Grove, Dr Larry Ort, and Tally Salisbury. Others may be added to this list.

Coffee and/or light refreshments will be served.

(Continued on page 14)



Commission focuses on Ministry of the Laity

We would like to introduce you to a new feature of the *ChurchNews*—Footsteps in Faith.

The Commission on Ministry is a body of people appointed by our Bishop to assist him with the process of preparation for lay and ordained ministry. Many times our conversations deal with those who are discerning and preparing for ordained ministry.

The Commission had a good discussion at our last meeting on how we could do more to help and affirm the ministry of the laity in our Diocese.

All of us, by virtue of our Baptism, are ministers. If you look in your Book of Common Prayer on pages 304-305 you will see the questions that are asked of those being baptized and those who are renewing their baptismal covenant.

By answering 'I will, with God's help' to these questions, we are being sent forth into the world, not only to affirm our own religious beliefs, but also to show all those whom we come into contact with on a daily basis, a lifestyle that is focused on God.

We are sent forth to do the work we have been given to do; the work that God wants us to do.

We minister to his people.
We spread the Good News.

We all know many individuals in our Diocese who do just that! Their stories need to be told! How do we do that? When you want to get the word out, what do you do?

You advertise!!

What means do we have to accomplish that in our Diocese?

Our *ChurchNews*!

Next, the COM had a lively discussion on a name for this endeavor. Spotlight on a Lay Person,

Let Your light Shine,
Walking With Jesus . . .
these were some of the ideas.

We decided on "Footsteps in Faith."

We realize that sometimes our steps are going to go forward and sometimes we tend to take steps backward. Our steps can be large or other times they tend to be baby steps. But, they all have a story to tell.

An individual's story involves not only his or her ministry in the church but also outside the doors of the church. The story continues into the family, the job site, committee meetings, the list goes on and on.

So, we want to hear your story. Please share with us your walk with God as a lay person in our Diocese!

Our first letter, which follows, is written by a lay person from Pierre. Her name is Portia Hurney. We hope to have a letter in each *ChurchNews*, beginning now and for a long time!

We sincerely hope you will enjoy reading "Footsteps in Faith."

We would also love to hear your comments. Perhaps, if there is sufficient space available, some of your comments could be printed. If you would like to submit a letter or if you know a lay person who embodies their baptized ministry, please let us know.

We look forward to hearing from you!

The COM holds up in prayer our Bishop, our Diocese, and ALL who are discerning their call to ministry, either lay or ordained.

Faithfully,

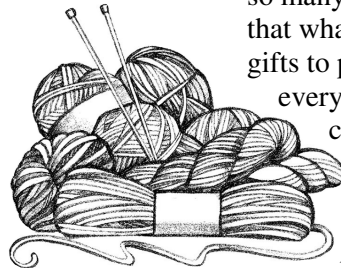
Rev. Evelyn Weaver
for the Commission on Ministry
2018 13th Avenue
Belle Fourche, SD 57717
eweaver@rushmore.com

Footsteps in Faith

By Portia Hurley, Trinity, Pierre

When I was first asked to write an article on my experiences of lay ministry outside of the church, I had no idea what I would write about. I kept thinking, “It would be so easy to talk about things that I do within the church. How do I minister in my every day life?” I agonized over this for quite some time, and finally, call it the grace of God, I was reminded of Saint Teresa of Avila. If we are the body, hands, and feet of Christ, surely we are able to live that out—beyond the church. I realized that in many ways life is a ministry—that ministry can be applied to our every day lives in our careers, social activities, and education. I thought I would share some of my every day ministering experiences.

In the fall of 2006, I was attending Cottey College in Nevada, MO. I decided to start a prayer shawl group on campus. A group of about 20 young women met monthly to knit or crochet together making shawls for those who are sick, in mourning, or who just needed some love. Our shawls traveled all across the United States, comforting many people.



Not only was it a ministry that comforted those in need, but it also brought together many young women on campus, where they joined together to learn techniques and make new friends. The Prayer Shawl Ministry of Cottey College also opened its doors and hearts to students of all faiths. It was important to me that everyone felt welcome to join our group—regardless of religious affiliation. Affiliation didn’t matter; we were all just spreading joy and love to those in need—which is certainly a ministry.

I have since realized that a personal ministry can be as simple as opening your mind and heart to others in every day experiences—being friendly and understanding. In the fall of 2007, I had graduated from Cottey College, and moved on to Creighton University. It was at Creighton that the ministry of an open mind and heart truly became evident. In many of my theology classes I struggled with people who disagreed with me theologically, and I learned how to

talk to others in a respectful way with an open mind and heart. While this can be really hard to do at times, and in some cases was painful, it certainly became a different kind of ministry. Not only did I learn about others in my class, but they also learned from me—with open minds and hearts we learned that we are all in communion with Christ together—even if we disagree. This way of interaction is certainly a ministry as it allows you and others to learn, and to feel safe and welcomed.



I have also learned that we all have our own gifts to apply to our personal ministries. A ministry can take so many different forms that we often don’t realize that what we do is a ministry, or that we have the gifts to pursue one. Implementing little things into everyday life to serve is certainly what we are called to do. Ministry isn’t supposed to end at the close of our Sunday service. After all, the service finishes with the words, “Go forth in the name of Christ.” Once we realize that the “little things” have tremendous value, we all can go forth by doing the simple things that God has gifted us with the ability to do.

Focus Groups . . .

(Continued from page 12)

Your Opportunity to Help!

These meetings are everyone’s chance to help inform your nomination committee about the concerns and aspirations each of us has regarding our diocese and the opportunity to elect a new Bishop Coadjutor. They are especially helpful for those in your congregations who would be delegates to Diocesan Conventions.

We invite you to attend, enjoy the company and the light refreshments, and share your valuable ideas!

Camp is a G-R-E-A-T experience!

The camps are filling up and the enthusiasm is overflowing! This year's theme, "Living in the Sacred Circle," brings together the many aspects of our lives. We especially focus on how we live – our impact on our earth and the people around us. Worship, projects, discussions, and other activities help us not only think about all this, but also begin to act upon it.

Back Home

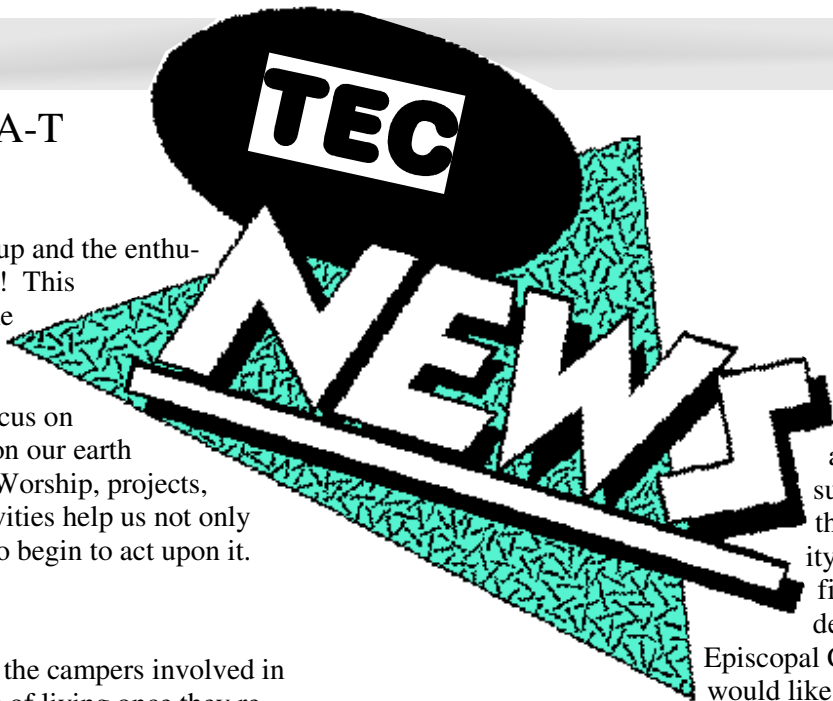
We encourage you to keep the campers involved in these discussions and ways of living once they return home. Does your church recycle? Perhaps the young people will coordinate the efforts to do so, or help with whatever you already have in place. Are the youth included as worship leaders? They have helped plan and lead worship at camp. Are they living with wisdom, bravery, fortitude, and generosity? Give them opportunities to share the lessons learned at camp.

Scholarships

Thank you to the many generous people who responded to our mailing and funded scholarships or donated items on our wish list this summer. What a joy it is to give everyone who asked for a scholarship a resounding "Yes! Come to camp – the scholarships are here."

Retreats

Remember to sign up early for the Women's Retreat, July 11-13, and the Men's Retreat, August 15-17. These are very popular and rooms fill up quickly. Let us know of any special accommodations you need. Scholarships are also available for the retreats, so don't hesitate to come. You may contact us for carpool information at 584-2233 or email thunderhead@dakotablue.net - we look forward to hearing from you!



P.S.
As we approach summer and the possibility of forest fires, Thunderhead

Episcopal Camp would like you to

know the safety precautions in place to protect your campers. The buses and drivers that bring the youth to camp stay all week, ensuring that we have the capability to evacuate if needed. Generally the fires have not come close to camp in the past. If we do need to evacuate, we will notify the Diocesan office, and the news that your campers are safe will be conveyed to families.

Serving Christ with you,
Holly Huisken, Camp Director



2008 participants of Summer Seminary at TEC enjoyed cool—but snowless—days, a stimulating course, and WONDERFUL meals.

—Photo by Fr. Paul Sneve



Episcopal Women's Council awards scholarships

Sandy Magnavito, Chair of the EWC Scholarship Committee, reports that the Committee recently awarded three scholarships of \$500.00 each to women in the Diocese of South Dakota. Scholarships were awarded to **Twila Two Bulls** of Rapid City, **Jessica McCormick** of Spearfish, and **Meghan Conway**, of Pierre by the Episcopal Women's Council.

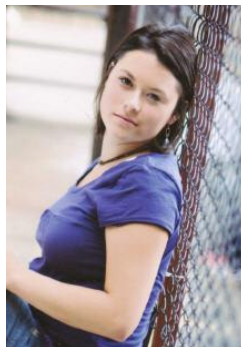
Twila Two Bulls, who has been a member of Christ Church at Red Shirt Table, Pine Ridge Mission, serves as an organist and Lay Eucharist Minister. She is a non-traditional student who plans to major in Lakota Culture and History at Oglala Lakota College.



Jessica McCormick, a member of Church of All Angels in Spearfish, has served as an acolyte, active member of the youth group, and has attended camp at TEC. She plans to major in Elementary Education at Dakota State University in Madison. Jessica will put the money towards her registration fees. She

says that teaching elementary school has been a passion of hers since she was little. "In becoming a Teacher, I feel that I have more to give back to the community and teaching the basics for young children."

Meghan Conway, who has also been an active member by serving as an acolyte and a member of the youth group of Trinity Episcopal Church in Pierre, plans to major in Hotel Management at South Dakota State University in Brookings. She thanks everyone for this award which will help her purchase books for the year.



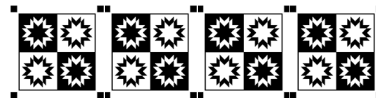
The scholarship committee congratulates these fine young women on their achievements.

The scholarship committee would also like to congratulate the women of this diocese for donating an additional \$500.00 which made it possible for us to offer a third scholarship this year to a non-traditional student.

Members of the scholarship committee are:

- Chair Sandra Magnavito, St. Andrew's, RC
- Secretary Vaud Oberlander, St. Andrew's, RC
- Dr. Karen Whitehead, Emmanuel, RC
- Karen Eagle, Mission
- Advisor Lois Moose, St. Andrew's, RC

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra L. Magnavito, M. Ed.
Chair



The ECW Quilt wants to travel this year

The beautiful ECW quilt is available for display at all Episcopal churches in South Dakota.

Many churches made a block to represent their church. It is great fun to see your particular block in the whole and to view the many difficult blocks. It is quite a work of art.

The quilt comes with a stand (easy to put up) and a booklet explaining each block and who designed it.

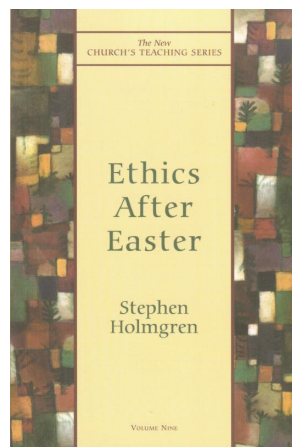
Please let us know if you would like to display the quilt.

Beverly Trull
8 Montana St.
Rapid City SD 57701
605-342-1951

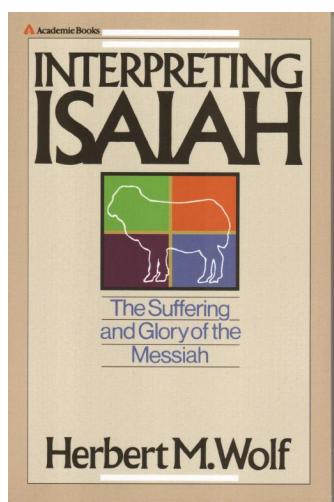


Soul Food Buffet — 2008 Ministry Weekends

What a year so far! The Niobrara School for Ministry has offered the week-long Summer Seminary on Ethics and two courses for ministry training and continuing education. Both day courses were taught twice (one east river; one west river) so that no one would have to travel much more than 2 hours to attend a session. **Fr. Liam Muller** of Mitchell held two sessions on *St. Paul's Letters to Today's Church*. **Fr. Paul Sneve** of Rapid City led two sessions on *The History of The Episcopal Church in South Dakota*.



A few copies of *Ethics After Easter*, the text for Summer Seminary and part of the Church Teaching Series, remain for a discounted price of \$10. If you would like a copy, contact the Diocesan Office.



The Book of Isaiah: Immigrant's Journey from Exile to Homecoming

Facilitator: **The Rev. Mercy Hobbs**

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

August 23, 2008 St. Matthew's, Rapid City

November 15, 2008 Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls

Text: Interpreting Isaiah by Herbert M. Wolf
(\$17) Copies of text available at the Diocesan Office

Coming up next for the Niobrara School for Ministry:

Training for the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct

Facilitator: **The Rev. Kathryn Costas**

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

August 16, 2008 St. Mark's Church, Aberdeen

October 25, 2008 Christ Church, Chamberlain

And also this year—

Matrimony

Facilitator: **Tally Salisbury**

Dates and places TBA

Holy Eucharist

Facilitator: **The Rev. Mercy Hobbs**

Dates and places TBA

TRAINING FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Instructor: The Rev. Kathryn Costas, St. Mark's, Aberdeen

I Will Attend:

_____ August 16, 2008, St. Mark's, Aberdeen

_____ October 25, 2008, Christ Church, Chamberlain

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Fees: \$ 15.00



THE BOOK OF ISAIAH - Immigrant's Journey from Exile to Homecoming

Instructor: The Rev. Mercy Hobbs, St. Paul's, Vermillion

I Will Attend:

_____ August 23, 2008 at St. Matthew's, Rapid City

_____ November 15, 2008 at Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Fee: \$15 toward meals + \$17 toward text = \$32 Total fee

Send registration form and fees, at least 2 weeks in advance of class,

To: The Rev. Paul Sneve
 St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
 P.O. Box 1606
 Rapid City, SD 57701-1606



South Dakota helps South Sudan “Rebuild Through Education”

By Margaret Muller

The project “Rebuilding South Sudan Through Education” created by **Moses Joknhial II**, is a project designed to build a school in Moses’ home village in the Sudan. He left his village at age 9 and was a Lost Boy of the Sudan until he came to the United States in 2001. He has received his education here in the United States and is desirous of giving back to his community. The presentation he gives is so moving that help for this project seems to have a life of its own. Everyday I find new people willing to lend a hand to fundraising or other help.

The students at **Hanson School in Alexandria, SD** have taken on many fundraising events to help Moses Joknhial’s Rebuilding the Sudan project. Moses visited the students on March 18 and since then the students have been working hard to raise money for his project.

The sixth grade girls were inspired by his presentation and approached me about a fund-raising effort. They were most anxious that the girls in the Sudan be given a chance for an education...they couldn’t imagine not being equal to or better than the boys! After working through several ideas, they settled on a penny drive. They worked from April 7 to May 1 and challenged the school to see which class will bring in the most pennies. They graphed the coins by weight to see who the “winner” would be. They’re very excited about the idea of helping and couldn’t wait to get started. Every Friday they collected the buckets and weighed them before school. By mid-April they collected 103 pounds of assorted change and many dollars in bills. One of the staff members took a flyer and a bucket to work and is collecting money there, as well. The two Hutterite Colonies served by the school are also participating in the coin drive.

The Student Council jumped into the project as well and sponsored a Pizza Hut night, where 20% of the

night’s proceeds goes to Moses’ project. They are excited about helping and contributing to this global project.

All of the students have been so willing to work and contribute. It has been amazing to watch this project grow. As people hear of the story, they are more than willing to lend a hand. The parable of “give and you shall receive” is never more true than in this

story. Moses gave of himself and his story and people are so willing to see he receives the help he needs, which in turn will help the people of a small village in Africa.

At **St. Mary’s Church in Mitchell**, there are ongoing projects to benefit this cause as well. There are coffee sales going on which benefit two causes. The coffee is bought from Mexico, where independent farmers are creating a market for themselves and improving life in their village. When the coffee is purchased, the price of the coffee is returned to the farmers and the profit goes to benefit the Sudan project. Parishioners are also purchasing note cards which will benefit the project. Recently, the Outreach Committee voted to continue its support of the project when the school is built by sending needed supplies to the school children and to support Moses as he begins his project.

This project is on-going and all of our hands and hearts are needed to make it succeed. Moses will be leaving in December 2008 to begin the building of the school and we need to see that he has the materials and money he needs to realize his dream.

This project has such a life of its own...won’t you find a way to help?

Margaret J. Muller
K-6 Special Education Teacher
Hanson School District 30-1
Alexandria, SD 57311
Margaret.Muller@k12.sd.edu



(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 19)

Coins for Classrooms helps connect children with children

The *Coins For Classrooms* campaign is helping Moses raise money to build a school in his home village in South Sudan and to help rebuild lives there. Our offer of help for educational opportunities to people in Panyang, South Sudan will help the people there restore their lives, nurture peace, and work for a new future. The coins you collect will help build their first school – ever.

Though it is something adults can participate in – and many do at their places of business, etc. – *Coins For Classrooms* is an educational tool for children, teaching them to connect and share with others globally. It is a great way of connecting children with children, living worlds apart. There is so much for them to learn from this experience!

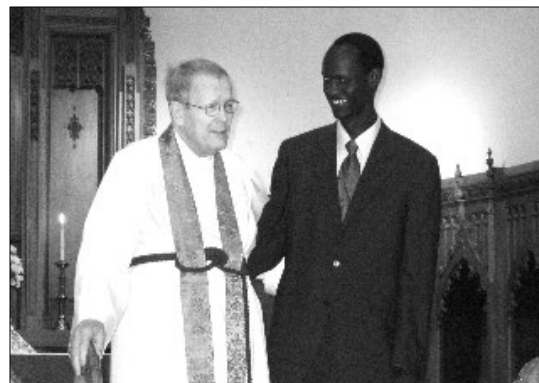
It could be promoted at Vacation Bible School (VBS) or in Sunday School in the Fall. Rhonda and her team (see contact info below) have resources and ideas, and can schedule a visit by Moses. Contact her with questions or to let her know your plans.

Rhonda Morse
Holy Apostles Church
1415 S. Bahnson
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
rpmorse@sio.midco.net
605-334-2557



The community of Watertown has also worked to collect donations from interested individuals and businesses. **Trinity Church** has taken on a project called “Well Water from Watertown” through which they plan to raise \$12,000 toward a well for the village, so the children don’t have to walk long distances to fetch water and can attend school, instead. At their VBS in June, the children were touched by the story and contributed “handfuls, pocketfuls, and bagfuls of coins to contribute to the well project.”

In addition, members of Trinity, Watertown highly recommend reading the book Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Subtitled, “One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time,” it is a touching and enlightening story of a mission similar to Moses’ quest for his home country. The book is recommended reading for incoming students at Augustana College in Sioux Falls.



Canon Robert Wagner with Moses Joknhial II at Calvary Cathedral

Calvary Cathedral has donated part of its Lenten and Easter offerings to the South Sudan school project, plus a generous outpouring on June 8 raised \$2,500 or the equivalent of 45,000 bricks for the new school building.

Donations come in daily from churches, schools, groups, and individuals. This project crosses many boundaries—it is multi-generational, multi-cultural, ecumenical, and global in scope. It addresses at least one Millennium Development Goal (#2).

Let us know your experiences and plans to help.



MINUTES
123rd Annual Convention (2007)
The Diocese of South Dakota
Cedar Shore, Oacoma, South Dakota
October 5 - 7, 2007

“PARTNERS WITH GOD”

Saturday, October 6, 2007
PLENARY SESSION I - Gathered to Discern

Morning Prayer

Call to order: The 123rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of South Dakota was called to order by Bishop Creighton Robertson at approximately 9:12 AM.

Introductions: Jane Hill introduced the Pages who will be working during the convention. Bishop Robertson called on The Rev. Webster Two Hawk to be the Lakota translator, Webster was not present so Christine Dunham & Dora Bruguier agreed to be the Lakota Translators for the convention. Bishop Robertson introduced the guests:

- ◆ The Rev. Dr. James Lemler, Office of Mission at The Episcopal Church Center.
- ◆ Merlynn Byrne, Diocese of Minnesota, Province VI Representative, support for Faith Foundation Formation
- ◆ The Rev. Jocelyn Bell, Chattanooga, TN (Companion Diocese)
- ◆ Lou Schoen, Province VI, Coordinator for Anti-racism
- ◆ Recognize Deacon Virginia Bird, St Andrews, (certificate from NAAD), Rapid City

Clergy changes were announced.

Appointments:

Bishop's Aide: Deacon Judy Graves
 Dispatch of Business: The Rev. Canon Dr. Robert Wagner
 Parliamentarian: Steve Sanford
 Jane Hill will be the Diocesan EYE Coordinator

Overview of Schedule and Approval of Agenda:

Canon Wagner announced

- Nominations close at 11:00 am today. All nominations are to be given to Pat LeBeau or other members of the Nominations committee. Pat

LeBeau had an addition – The Rev. Cordelia Red Owl resigned from Standing Committee, leaving a one year Presbyter position open. The Standing Committee will have two presbyter positions open - highest vote getter is a four year term, the other a one year term.

- Deadline for Resolutions is at 11:00 am today. All resolutions are to be given to David Wheeler or another member of the Resolution Committee. Election of a Bishop Coadjutor will be by Resolution.

- Saturday morning workshops are:
Spiritual Leadership: Faith Stories by The Rev Bunker Hill
Christian Education/Christian Formation by The Rev. Kathy Monson Lutes
Theological Reflection by The Rev Judy Flagstad
Mission - the Heart of the Matter by The Rev James Lemler
Discussion About God; Love vs. Trust by Kristin Sanford

Saturday afternoon:

- ◆ Discernment and Steps leading to the Election of a new Bishop.
- ◆ Overview of the mission strategy proposal “Partners With God”
- ◆ Presentation of the 2008 Budget.

Sunday morning:

- ◆ Elections
- ◆ Presentations of Resolutions - new resolution on electing a Bishop
- ◆ Actions related to the Bishop's election
- ◆ Actions related to “Partners With God”
- ◆ Actions related to the Budget
- ◆ Response to the Bishop's charge
- ◆ Unfinished business & closing Holy Eucharist

Housekeeping Announcements were made.

Credentials Committee Report: Deacon Marty Garwood, announced 39 clergy out of 65 were present and 83 out 121 lay delegates were present; therefore a quorum was declared.

Report of Parliamentarian: Steve Sanford reported

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

Rules of Order; for Resolutions and change of Rules of Order regarding voting. Method for submitting amendments to resolutions and canons. Diocesan Canons: Canon 2, Section 2.8, Failed to file an approved Parochial Report needs a 2/3 vote, Section 3.1 Failure to Pay Pledge may be denied to vote. Movers of motions must use the microphone and identify themselves by name and congregation, prior to the introduction of a motion.

Minutes: Bishop Robertson called for corrections/additions to the 2006 Diocesan Convention Minutes. There were none, The Rev. George Parmeter made a motion to approve the minutes as printed and seconded by Jan Laitos. No discussion, motion carried.

Call for Motion to Accept Reports by Title: Motion by The Rev. Kristina Jensen to accept reports by title by various commissions and committees submitted and printed in the *South Dakota Episcopal ChurchNews* in July/August and September/October issues, seconded by Norm Nelson, motion carried.

Workshops: Spiritual Leadership: Faith Stories, Theological Reflection, Mission – Heart of the Matter, Christian Education & Formation, and Discussion About God: Love vs. Trust.

The convention recessed for noonday prayers.

PLENARY SESSION II - Gathered To Consider

Announcements by the President & Dispatch of

Business: The Rev. Canon Dr. Robert Wagner called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm. Announcements

- made by the President: Evensong service at 5:15 pm, Reception for those in the Ordination process at 5:45 pm, Banquet and program at 6:45 pm and Sunday, Holy Eucharist at 10:30 am.
- By Don Metcalf, 136th Niobrara Convocation Committee Chairperson: all congregations are encouraged to bring your banner to Eagle Butte for Niobrara Convocation.
- TEC is raffling a quilt.
- Choir practice after Evensong.
- Sandy Magnavito announced two EWC

Scholarships.

- TEC gave certificates of appreciation to Diocese of East Tennessee and TEC Sunday

Credentials Report: Deacon Marty Garwood. 41 of 65 clergy present, 92 of 124 lay persons are present; thereby a quorum is declared.

Canon David Seger: Process to Elect A Bishop Co-adjutor For The Diocese of South Dakota; Organizational Structure, Transition Committee, Nominating Committee, Preliminary and Tentative Timeline, Discussion and questions regarding committees, Rules of Order, proposed budget, nominations by petition not on the floor, electronic ballot, background/referral check, handicap website change to text mode. Keeping the rest of the Ministry in mind and keep planning for the future while selecting a Bishop.

Motion by Standing Committee, the Rev Mercy Hobbs, seconded by Dennis Potter, vote will be taken on Sunday.

Canon Robert Wagner: Overview of the Mission Strategy Proposal “Partners With God...” Vision statement and seven goals; all are connected and each is important.

1. Achievement Management
2. Ministry Development
3. Ministry Support
4. Education
5. Evangelism
6. Community Engagement
7. Stewardship

Motion by Canon Robert Wagner, seconded by Deacon Susan Lyman to endorse the guide for fulfilling Ministry and Mission in the Diocese of South Dakota. Vote will be on Sunday.

Presentation of Program and Budget: Chuck Bahnson and Randy Barnhart introduced the Budget committee. Motion by Chuck Bahnson, seconded by Holly Boomer to adopt the budget. Discussion on nothing for outreach outside the Diocese, increase participation and giving in the Diocese, use of other line items, 2007 money left over. Finalize the budget on Sunday. Vote will be on Sunday.

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

At approximately 5:00 pm the second Plenary Session ended.

Sunday, October 7, 2007

PLENARY SESSION III - Gathered to Plan & Decide & Fund

Call to Order: Following Morning Prayer, Bishop Robertson called the Third Plenary session to order.

Dispatch of Business: announcements and next order of business.

Credentials Report: Deacon Marty Garwood. 41 of 65 clergy present, 92 of 124 lay persons are present; thereby a quorum is declared.

Nominations Committee Report: Pat LeBeau, Chair, announced all nominations are approved and can be voted on. Elections and introductions of nominees.

Standing Committee

1 Presbyter, 4 year term

1 Lay, 4 year term

2009 General Convention Deputies

4 Clergy + Alternates

4 Lay + Alternates

Province VI Deputies & Alternates

1 Clergy, 3 year term

1 Clergy, 2 year term unexpired

1 Lay, 3 year term

Trial Court

1 Presbyter, 5 year unexpired term - none

1 Presbyter, 4 year unexpired term - none

1 Lay, 5 year term - none

Treasurer

Secretary of Convention

Historiographer/Registrar - no nominees

ELECTIONS: Pursuant to Rule of Order 7.3 of this convention, there being only one nomination for the following office, Pat Le Beau, Chair of the Nominations Committee, asked that a unanimous ballot be cast for the following:

Secretary of Convention – Karen White Horse

Treasurer – Chuck Bahnson

Province VI Deputies & Alternates

1 Clergy, 3 year term – Deacon Susan Lyman

1 Lay, 3 year term – Barbara Oates

Standing Committee

1 Presbyter, 4 year term – The Rev. Les Campbell

1 Presbyter, 1 year term – The Rev. John Tarrant

2009 General Convention Deputies

4 Lay – Jean Lacher, Dennis Potter, Wade Brings and Wilma Standing Bear

The President: “So Ordered”

Ballots were distributed for the remainder of the elections.

Resolutions: David Wheeler, Committee Chair, introduced the Resolutions Committee

Resolution # 001 *Constitution and Canons, Article VII, Section 1 be amended to include Deacons, as well as presbyters and lay person, as persons eligible for election to the Standing Committee of the diocese.* Does not effect a Canonical change - if approved this would have to be brought back next year. Action taken: was adopted.

Resolution #002 *Encourage all parishes and missions to embrace three step process of Reflection, Education and Action in Creation Care recommended by the Episcopal Church Ecological Network. Make available copies of the Church’s new Catechism of Creation. Recycle used batteries.* Action taken: was adopted.

Resolution #003 *Designate that the 123rd Convention of the Diocese of South Dakota designate the offering from the Sunday morning Eucharist go to the Sudanese School project.* Motion by Jean Lacher, seconded by The Rev. George Parameter to amend the resolution to include Friday night offering. All in favor, none opposed, action taken: was adopted.

Tabulations of Ballots Results: Pat Tarrant, Chair of Ballot & Tabulations Committee, not done yet.

Actions Related To Bishop’s Election: Introduce Standing Committee, Nominating Committee and Transition Committee. The Rev. Mercy Hobbs - thank you for the prayers and support. Close with a prayer written by Deacon Virginia Bird.

Resolution #004 *Calling For The Election of a Bishop Coadjutor.* A motion by David Wheeler,

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seconded by Dennis Potter to elect a Bishop Coadjutor. No discussion. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Actions Related to “Partners With God...” A motion was made on Saturday to endorse the guide, no discussion, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Actions Related To Budget: A motions was made on Saturday to adopt the budget, the budget is in narrative form not numerical form. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Response To Bishops Charge: The Rev. John Tarrant will address later.

Report Of Place Of Next Convention: October 2-5, 2008 @ Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, hosted by Eastern Deanery.

Other Reports As Time Allows: Ted Kneebone - Where is the repository of the Diocese of South Dakota records? Center of Western Studies @ Augustana College in Sioux Falls. The materials are cataloged and made available to the Diocese. Need to digitize the information. How many have Church histories published? Send information to Mary Armin. How many are interested in preserving Church History? Need direction. Librarian vs. Archivist. There is a recording of Bishop Roberts baptizing him. SDSU has copies of a color film “Life & Ministry of Bishop Roberts”. Norm Nelson - Official records (baptism, weddings, etc) are legal documents. Motion by Norm Nelson, seconded by Ted Kneebone to add to consider issues. All in favor, motion passed.

The Rev. John Tarrant: A response to the Bishops Charge “to the Diocese was faith filled, courageous and visionary, a charge that understands the tasks before us to not be about us, but about the fulfilling of God’s dream” as he quoted from former Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Working through both Lay and ordained in the development as Partners with God’s vision and plan for engaging ministry in the Diocese of South Dakota. We marvel at his faithful courage, that in light of our Diocese containing seven of the poorest counties in this country, our Bishop has called us to reach beyond ourselves

to enable God’s dream to be realized by those outside our Diocese through a tithe of our Diocesan budget. We accept the charge as a Diocese to prayerfully nominate and elect a bishop coadjutor in accordance with the canonical requirements of the Episcopal Church.

Report of Election Committee: The results were announced as follows:

Standing Committee

1 Lay, 4 year term – Kim Fonder

2009 General Convention Deputies

4 Clergy – The Rev. David Hussey

The Rev. George Pameter

The Rev. John Spruhan

The Rev Webster Two Hawk.

Alternates: The Rev. Kathy Monson Lutes

The Rev Kathryn Costas

Province VI Clergy

2 yr term unexpired – The Rev. Phil Allen

Unfinished Business/New Business Before The Convention: Barbara Oates - Thank you letter, resolution to elect a woman, doesn’t allow all women to vote at convention, introduced the EWC. Two scholarships will be available from EWC. The voting issues that were raised are referred to the Chancellor.

Final Announcements from Dispatch of Business and the President: Several announcements were made. The third plenary session ended and the meeting adjourned sine die for the closing Holy Eucharist at 10:37 am.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen White Horse

123rd Diocesan Convention Secretary

CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE FUND 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

Three loan applications were considered during 2007. Loans were approved for Trinity Parish in Watertown, Church of the Holy Comforter in Lower Brule and St. James' Parish in Belle Fourche.

As of December 31, 2007, seven loans were being repaid, with interest rates that ranged between 3.0% and 8.25%. Loan balances to be repaid total \$157,167.73.

Other assets in the Centennial Challenge Fund are invested in cash and Frank Russell Lifepoints Growth Strategy Fund – Class A. The market value of these investments is \$404,220.38.

THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY The Report to 2008 Convention

The Commission on Ministry (COM) of the Diocese of South Dakota is an appointed body which serves under the direction of the Bishop. The members are both ordained and lay ministers from the Diocese. The COM is charged canonically to assist the Bishop with recruitment, training, and management of the process of preparation for lay and ordained ministry.

COM MEMBERS

The Rev. Evelyn Weaver, Chair
The Rev. Paul Sneve, Vice Chair
Deacon Virginia Bird
Ginny Slechta
The Rev. Judy Flagstad
Barbee Hovelson
The Rev. Dr. Vern Raschke
Dottie LeBeau
Kitty Kringen
Andrea Meyer

COM ACTIVITIES

The Commission met at Trinity Church in Pierre, South Dakota, on September 14-September 15, 2007. The Reverend Phil Allen and The Reverend Mercy Hobbs joined us for our meeting. Our meeting opened with noonday prayer. The minutes were

read and approved. We reviewed the people that have started in the ordination process and well as others who are discerning their call to ministry. We stated that we need to continue to help identify and encourage individuals with their process.

Phil Allen visited with us about his work in the Niobrara field and also with Mutual Ministry Teams. He discussed with us different ways that ministry could be done in several areas of our Diocese. We appreciate all he is doing!

We discussed the COM/Standing Committee Receptions that we host at the Niobrara Convocation and also Diocesan Convention each year. We enjoy this ministry and feel that it is important to be visible in those locations. We encourage people to come and meet us and ask questions they might have concerning lay or ordained ministry.

On Saturday, September 15, we interviewed four individuals, two who are discerning a call to the Diaconate and two discerning a call to the Priesthood.

The COM recommended all four individuals for Postulancy to Bishop Creighton and to the Standing Committee. Mercy Hobbs was present at our meeting as a liaison from the Standing Committee.

The Commission met again on April 18 and April 19, 2008 at Trinity Church in Pierre, South Dakota. The Reverend Mercy Hobbs joined us to give us an update on Niobrara School for Ministry to be held in June of 2008 and also to give us a report on the Ministry Weekends for 2008 and 2009. We were also joined by the Reverend Canon Dr. Robert Wagner from the Diocesan Office. They both added a good voice to our meeting, and it was our privilege to have them present.

We opened our meeting with noonday prayer. Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. Reports were given concerning the receptions at Niobrara Convocation and Diocesan Convention hosted by COM and Standing Committee. The Province VI COM Meeting to be held in North Dakota in June was discussed. Evelyn Weaver will attend that meeting and report back at our September meeting. The report on People In The Process was

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presented and discussed. As always, those individuals are lifted up in prayer by the Commission.

We also had a get-acquainted visit with an individual who is discerning his call to the ordained ministry. We got to know him and he had a chance to meet the COM members. He shared his ministry with us and we had an opportunity to ask questions concerning his present ministry and where he would like, with God's help and direction, to see that ministry grow and develop. We had a good visit and the COM affirmed his ministry and will hold him up in prayer as he continues to discern his call.

On Saturday, April 19, the Commission met to discuss how we could better address the ministry of the laity of our Diocese. Our meetings usually focus on the ordained ministry. As a COM, we are to assist ALL individuals with their discernment for ministry, so we had a good discussion on how we could identify and affirm individuals in our Diocese who are actively engaged in doing baptismal ministry. We decided that we need those people to share their stories so others will see that what they do is ministry also. It is easy to think of what we do in our daily life as 'just doing what needs to be done' instead of as our ministry. Starting with the July-August issue of the *ChurchNews*, the COM will have an article entitled "Footsteps In Faith". The stories will be written by lay people from around our Diocese who are willing to share their walk with God. We are excited about this and hope to build on this beginning at our future meetings.

We, as a Commission, also would like to say THANK YOU to some individuals.

We usually conduct our meetings at Trinity Church in Pierre. We would like to give a big THANK YOU to The Reverend John Tarrant and all of the members at Trinity. Their gift of hospitality is truly a big part of their ministry.

Also, a big THANK YOU to Jan Enright from Pierre who provides us with delicious meals and snacks for our meetings. Jan is such a joy to work with! She always has a smile on her face and a wonderful meal ready for us. THANK YOU, Jan.

The prayers of the Commission are with Bishop Creighton and the Diocese of South Dakota. We

continue to pray for all those in the ordination process and everyone who is discerning a call to either lay or ordained ministry.

If anyone has questions about our work or would like to visit about ministry, please give one of our members a call. We would very much like to hear from you!!

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Evelyn Weaver
Chair of the Commission on Ministry

CHURCH PERIODICAL CLUB Report to the 2008 Diocesan Convention

The Church Periodical Club is one of the oldest outreach organizations associated with the Episcopal Church. It was founded in 1888 by Mary Ann Fargo and a small group of women who began sending church periodicals, prayer books and bibles via the Wells Fargo Stage Coach Line to missionaries in the Dakotas.

CPC depends on monies raised at the parish level to support the ministry of supplying theological and educational materials in support of Anglican mission efforts around the world. Grants are awarded to projects in juvenile facilities, hospitals, libraries, seminarians, prisons and retirement homes.

There are three opportunities to support CPC efforts within the Diocese of South Dakota. In the Spring of the year there is a Sunday proclaimed as CPC Sunday. Parishes may have an ingathering at that time. Local ECW groups also collect money for CPC at their monthly meetings or by including it as an annual budget item. Money gathered from these sources is used to buy books for Niobrara Summer Seminary, to help our seminarians with test book expenses, and to support the National Book Funds.

Penny jars are used to collect money for the Miles of Pennies Fund. All of the pennies collected in these jars is used to purchase children's books and is distributed by a CPC granting committee.

We also now have a fund set up for congregations that need Sunday School materials. If you have any

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extra materials or funds to donate, it will be greatly appreciated. This fund is for the Diocese of South Dakota churches only. If you are in need of Sunday School materials, please contact The Rev Judy Graves, Deacon at Calvary Cathedral.

Please continue to send your contributions to The Rev. Judy Graves, Deacon, % Calvary Cathedral, 500 South Main, Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814.

Church Periodical Club		
Account Activity		
December 31, 2007		
January 1, 2007 Beginning Balance		1,395.52
Miles of Pennies	509.88	
National Book Fund	885.64	
Total	1,395.52	
	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Income:		
National Book Fund:		
Christ ECW - Yankton	0.00	100.00
Christ ECW - Lead	0.00	20.00
Grace ECW - Huron	0.00	25.00
Calvary Cathedral-Sioux Falls	0.00	91.66
St. Andrew's Guild-Rapid City	0.00	47.16
St. John's - Deadwood	0.00	24.63
Trinity - Watertown	0.00	25.00
Emmanuel - Rapid City	100.00	100.00
St. Luke's - Hot Springs	0.00	47.18
Belles of St. Mary's-Mitchell	0.00	50.00
Total National Book Fund Income	100.00	530.63
Reservation Church Sunday School:		
Penelope Rudolph - RC	0.00	200.00
Total Reservation Sunday School	0.00	200.00
Miles of Pennies:		
Trinity - Watertown	0.00	25.00
Emmanuel - Rapid City	144.63	144.63
St. Andrew's Guild-Rapid City	0.00	15.68
Total Miles of Pennies Fund	144.63	185.31
Total Income	244.63	915.94
Expenses:		
CPC	0.00	27.50
St. Augusta BookStore	120.84	120.84
Postage	0.00	29.28
Total Expenses	120.84	177.62
December 31, 2007 Ending Balance		<u>2,133.84</u>

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL 2007-2008

December 7, 2007

Diocesan Office, Sioux Falls

Motions Approved

- To retain Camp Remington, and to seek funding to cover the needed upgrade to the Guest House outhouse.
- With the approval of Beulah Turgeon, who started the fund, it was recommended that the Chapter of Calvary Cathedral move the funds from the Suffragan Bishop Fund to the Diocese for use in the election process.
- Approved the Budget & Review Committee's recommendation that salvage monies (money budgeted in 2007 but not used due to mission clergy vacancies) be put into the 2008-2009 Bishop election fund. This amounts to approximately \$70,000, on top of the approximately \$17,000 already set aside for election expenses.
- To increase each experience category of mission clergy \$5,000 for 2008, and that this would become the policy for minimum clergy salary guidelines.
- To approve the deficit budget (-\$214,303) and to request the Chapter of Calvary Cathedral to take the necessary actions to fund it. Approving this budget was a step out in faith, and supports the hard work of the Partners Task Force and the dreams of this diocese.
- Approved the petition to revive St. Philip and St. James in White River as a Station. It has approximately 30 members and meets at the Community Building up to three Sundays a month.
- Policy 10, Termination, ¶4 was amended to read: "The employee shall be paid for any accrued vacation time/accrued holiday time for which the employee is eligible."
- Approved the sale of 120 acres of Bishop Hare land to the Todd County School District for \$1,250 per acre.
- Approved the concept of putting the various funds designated for leadership development in the Niobrara Deanery into one general fund un-

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der the St. Mary's School Scholarship Board, but requested more specifics on the nature and purpose of monies to be paid out of the fund.

Reports Received

1. Parish & Mission Fund Report, which contains the date each fund was started, the initial fund amount, the initial investors, the market value of each as of August 31, 2007, and the entity benefiting from the fund.
2. Thunderhead Episcopal Camp: Canon Robert Wagner related some ongoing discussions by staff and others on the future of TEC.
 - a) With the hiring of a Youth Director, they are proposing to change the existing camp structure to a hospitality model. This would involve an oversight committee (the TEC Board) and personnel to provide hospitality at TEC much like a hotel or convention center provides a facility and amenities. Groups using TEC would provide the program and pay the TEC facility for those amenities.
 - b) Convert TEC to a 501(c)3 which will empower it to receive tax deductible gifts and free \$35,000 from the diocesan budget which could then go toward youth ministry and programs.
 - c) The church is in the ministry business, not the investment business. TEC has two pieces of land with questionable foreseeable use. We need to get an appraisal of their current and potential value. At the appropriate time, these parcels could be sold and the money added to the 501(c)3 to use for facility maintenance.
 - d) Three season camp use is the maximum to be considered at this time.
 - e) There also needs to be a master plan for sequential improvement of the TEC facility.
3. Partners With God
 - a) The strategy constructed by the Task Force was unanimously approved by Diocesan Convention in October, 2007.
 - b) Diocesan leadership has been contacted for interest and willingness to serve in

one or more area. Though the response has been slow, key people have responded, and there should be good leadership for all seven areas.

- c) The first steps are already surfacing in programs and steps taken around the Diocese which can be shared with others in the Diocese at the Deanery level or communicated in other ways such as the *ChurchNews*

4. Reports received from the Deployment Officer, Chancellor, and the Bishop.

February 29, 2008

Diocesan Office, Sioux Falls

Motions Approved

1. Approved an increase in Camp Remington fees to \$30/cabin/night.
2. Authorized staff to check out a few other fund raising companies, and to contract with one company that meets our criteria and does not exceed \$24,000.
3. Approved the position description for the Diocesan Youth Coordinator.
4. Approved the position description for the Thunderhead Episcopal Camp Director

Reports Received

1. 2007 Year End Statements (Balance Sheets and Income & Expense Statements) for the Diocese of South Dakota and for the Chapter of Calvary Cathedral Funds.
2. A Portfolio Composition Report provided by the Treasurer and Investment Committee showing that diocesan investments grew an average of 8.77% in 2007.
3. Notification from the National Church that it has cut the block grant to the Diocese of South Dakota by 5% (amounting to approximately \$28,000 for 2008).
4. A feasibility/planning study proposal from Evans/Davis Company for a Capital Campaign
5. Report on Partners With God Initiative
 - a) Acceptance of position descriptions in Youth Ministry.
 - b) Dakota Experience offered now for anti-racism education, and another op-

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- tion soon will be the Anti-racism training put on by the National Church.
- c) Stewardship is getting attention with the resolution to go ahead with a capital campaign feasibility study, and also with some emphasis and education on environmental stewardship by Diocesan Convention and in the *ChurchNews*.
 - d) The action taken to raise the base salary of diocesan clergy is very consistent with the Partners goal of Ministry Support.
 - e) The office is applying for a grant for scholarship and travel funds to help provide a camp experience to children of incarcerated parents.
 - f) Leadership is being identified in all areas of the Partners Initiative, and action is beginning in a variety of ways as ideas and plans are formulated.
6. Reports received from the Deployment Officer, Chancellor, Standing Committee President, and the Bishop.

The Diocese of South Dakota Grant Activity Report December 31, 2007				
SOURCE AND PURPOSE	12/31/2006 Balance	2007 Receipts	2007 Disbursements	12/31/2007 Balance
D & FMS - Pine Ridge Review	9,103.77	0.00	9,103.77	0.00
D & FMS - Ad Campaign	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
D & FMS - Niobrara School for Ministry	19,551.26	0.00	13,551.26	6,000.00
D & FMS - Native Leadership	0.00	9,000.00	0.00	9,000.00
D & FMS - Jubilee Grant	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00
UTO - St. Mary's - Flandreau	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
UTO - Sisseton Mission Vicarage	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00
UTO - Ascension - Blackfoot	12,782.27	0.00	12,782.27	0.00
TOTALS	42,437.30	44,500.00	55,937.30	31,000.00

UNITED THANK OFFERING Report to 2008 Convention

Last year was a fantastic year for the UTO in our diocese. As stated in the March/April *South Dakota ChurchNews*, our 2007 gifts totaled \$11,590.79.

It would be great if we could continue this thankful giving in 2008. The UTO Committee held their granting session in April. Their committee received 198 requests in the amount of \$7,923,979 and had funds of \$2,401,906 to grant. The task was completed by granting 91 grants: 69 domestic, 18 international, and 4 companion dioceses.

I will be at Diocesan Convention and will have many materials (including blue boxes) to be given out. Your congregations will have their materials in time for your fall Ingatherings. These Ingatherings should be held around All Saints Day, with gifts mailed to the diocesan office by December 10.

Hope you are having a wonderful summer and thank you for your generous giving
Sherry Van Doren,
Diocesan Coordinator

2007 UTO REPORT

#	Church Name	City	2007 SPRING	2007 FALL	2007 TOTAL
2	St. James'	Belle Fourche		114.98	114.98
3	St. Paul's	Brookings	195.95	124.36	320.31
4	St. John's	Deadwood		489.92	489.92
5	Grace Church	Huron	209.77	154.36	364.13
6	Christ Church	Lead	430.36	110.00	540.36
7	St. Mary's	Mitchell	587.00	385.00	972.00
10	Emmanuel	Rapid City	938.85	818.61	1,757.46
11	St. Andrew's	Rapid City	449.93		449.93
12	Calvary Cathedral	Sioux Falls	474.31	334.76	809.07
13	Good Shepherd	Sioux Falls	129.21		129.21
14	All Angels	Spearfish	1,362.63	642.31	2,004.94
17	Trinity	Winner	473.53	80.60	554.13
18	Christ Church	Yankton	707.40	552.52	1,259.92
23	St. Peter's	Ft. Pierre	199.98		199.98
26	St. Luke's	Hot Springs		31.00	31.00
29	Grace Church	Madison	78.00	252.73	330.73
31	Christ Church	Milbank	20.00	81.96	101.96
35	St. Paul's	Vermillion		176.02	176.02
39	Ascension	Blackfoot	45.00		45.00
51	Holy Comforter	Lower Brule	50.27		50.27
73	Rosebud Mission		61.70	99.52	161.22
74	Church of Jesus	Rosebud		82.03	82.03
87	St. James'	Enemy Swim	313.75	201.07	514.82
	Diocesan Convention			86.40	86.40
	Individual Donations		45.00		45.00
TOTALS				4,818.15	11,590.79
2002 Totals					9,658.37
2003 Totals					7,039.60
2004 Totals					11,851.24
2005 Totals					9,825.74
2006 Totals					7,358.23
Balance Forward					42.39
TOTAL INCOME					11,590.79
Checks to National UTO			6,800.00	4,800.00	11,600.00
Balance as of 12/13/07					33.18

THE DIOCESE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
Income and Expense Statement
December 31, 2007

	12/31/2007	2007
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
INCOME	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>INCOME</u>
CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT:		
Parish and Missions	298,878	299,923
Late Payments	7,946	7,946
Total Congregational Support	<u>306,824</u>	<u>307,869</u>
CHAPTER ENDOWMENT SUPPORT	180,000	300,740
GENERAL CONVENTION BLOCK GRANT	567,648	567,648
Miscellaneous Income:		
Gifts	24,979	24,000
Remington Retreat Center	4,855	4,000
Thunderhead Camp	38,665	32,000
Conference Fees & Registrations	14,748	16,000
South Dakota Churchnews	7,784	9,000
Youth & Young Adult Ministries	0	1,000
Undesignated Income	24,961	25,000
Designated Income	69,587	59,910
Other Interest	279	175
Total Miscellaneous Income	<u>185,858</u>	<u>171,085</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	1,240,330	1,347,342
EXPENSES		
MISSION SUPPORT		
Salary and Housing	266,003	349,390
Medical Insurance	83,964	131,798
Travel	48,892	60,100
Utilities	21,188	30,150
Pension	58,967	75,854
Moving and Interview	12,896	24,800
Payroll Taxes	1,211	2,091
TOTAL MISSION SUPPORT	<u>493,121</u>	<u>674,183</u>
EXPENSES		
EXTRA DIOCESAN		
General Church Program	49,204	49,204
General Convention Deputies	6,750	6,750
Provincial Assessment	2,651	2,651
Provincial Synod Deputies	690	1,500
Lambeth Conference Reserve	750	750
TOTAL EXTRA DIOCESAN	<u>60,045</u>	<u>60,855</u>
DIOCESAN PROGRAM SUPPORT		
Miscellaneous:		
Thunderhead Camp	72,953	62,000
Remington Retreat Center	2,565	4,000
Communications	252	1,500
South Dakota Churchnews	5,561	9,000
Other Conferences	4,317	5,400
Deanery Programs	1,000	3,500
Seminarian Assistance	750	750
Seminarian Expenses & GOE Fees	0	0
Continuing Education	2,144	2,000
Jubilee/Anti-Racism/Reconciliation	0	1,750
St. Mary's Scholarships	15,764	14,160
Diocesan Companion Relationships	1,225	2,000
New Church Planting	250	250
Total Miscellaneous Program Support	<u>106,781</u>	<u>106,310</u>

...continued...

Ecumenical Associations:		
Association of Christian Churches	1,531	1,531
Flandreau Chaplaincy Program	1,000	1,000
Total Ecumenical Associations	<u>2,531</u>	<u>2,531</u>
Commissions and Committees:		
Aging	250	250
Commission on Ministry Meetings	1,206	4,500
D.C.O.T.E.	728	2,000
Clergy Conferences	7,827	11,700
Deacon's Conferences	0	0
Christian Formation	0	500
Lay Ministry Formation	750	2,500
Niobrara School for Ministry	8,843	12,000
Dakota Experience	2,345	2,500
Episcopal Women's Council	2,000	2,000
Youth and Young Adult Ministries	882	3,000
Ecumenical Relations	842	2,500
Education for Ministry	3,340	3,500
Liturgy and Music	345	750
Niobrara Council	3,600	3,600
Standing Committee	2,230	3,500
Stewardship	0	500
Total Commissions and Committees	<u>35,188</u>	<u>55,300</u>
TOTAL DIOCESAN PROGRAM SUPPORT	<u>144,500</u>	<u>164,141</u>
EPISCOPATE, EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF	202,322	205,252
DIOCESAN OPERATIONS		
Hospitality	3,403	3,000
Payroll Taxes	5,726	5,806
Pension	32,388	31,759
Medical Insurance	43,384	44,805
Travel	59,090	52,000
Discretionary Fund	7,177	4,000
Audit & Professional Fees	4,528	4,750
Convention & Journal	10,873	10,000
Telephone	6,841	6,500
Office	17,158	17,158
Supplies	13,042	10,000
Postage	4,727	5,500
Equipment Maintenance	1,309	2,500
Equipment	488	3,000
Archives	750	750
Dues & Subscriptions	1,493	2,500
Production & Printing	1,067	1,100
Insurance	10,402	18,000
Diocesan Council	8,153	12,000
Bishop Election/Consecration	107,670	7,670
Miscellaneous	230	113
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	<u>339,899</u>	<u>242,911</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>1,239,887</u>	<u>1,347,342</u>
DIFFERENCE	<u>443</u>	<u>0</u>



2008 Pre-Convention Deanery Meetings

All **delegates** and **clergy** should attend the deanery pre-convention meeting
in order to prepare for convention business.
All Episcoplians are encouraged to attend.

<p>Central, Northwest, Rosebud, & Pine Ridge Deaneries</p> <p>Sat. Sept 13, 2pm Trinity Church, Pierre 408 N. Jefferson 224-5237</p>	<p>Eastern & Northeastern Deaneries</p> <p>Sun. Sept 14, 4pm St. Paul's, Brookings 726 Sixth Street 692-2617</p>	<p>Black Hills Deanery</p> <p>Sun. Sept. 21, 2pm Emmanuel, Rapid City 717 Quincy 342-0909</p>
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<p>Central Deanery <i>The Very Rev. John Tarrant, Dean * 224-5237</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chamberlain Fort Thompson Fort Pierre Gettysburg Lower Brule Pierre Pukwana</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Northwest Deanery <i>The Very Rev. Rob Schwarz, Dean * 845-2182</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bear Creek Little Oak Blackfoot Creek Bullhead McLaughlin Cherry Creek Mobridge Dupree On the Tree Eagle Butte Promise Firesteel Thunder Iron Butte Lightning Wakpala Little Eagle White Horse</p>	<p>Eastern Deanery <i>The Very Rev. Liam Muller, Dean * 996-3025</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DeSmet Mitchell Flandreau Santee Howe Creek Sioux Falls Huron Vermillion Madison Yankton</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Northeast Deanery <i>The Very Rev. Kathryn Costas, Dean * 225-0474</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aberdeen Brookings Brown's Valley Enemy Swim Lake Milbank Old Agency Sisseton Watertown Webster</p>	<p>Pine Ridge Deanery <i>The Very Rev. Craig West, Dean * 685-6631</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Allen Porcupine Batesland Potato Creek Calico Red Shirt Kyle Table Manderson Sharp's Martin Corner Oglala Wakpamni Lake Pine Ridge Wanblee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Black Hills Deanery <i>The Very Rev. Bunker Hill, Dean * 642-4349</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Belle Fourche Deadwood Hot Springs Lead Rapid City Spearfish Sturgis</p>	<p>Rosebud Deanery <i>The Very Rev. John Spruhan, Dean * 747-5927</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bonesteel Okreek Corn Creek Rosebud Gregory Soldier's Herrick Creek Ideal Wagner Lake Andes White River Mission Winner Norris</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <p>September 2008</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th>Sun</th><th>Mon</th><th>Tue</th><th>Wed</th><th>Thu</th><th>Fri</th><th>Sat</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <p>October 2008</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th>Sun</th><th>Mon</th><th>Tue</th><th>Wed</th><th>Thu</th><th>Fri</th><th>Sat</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat								5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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Nomination Form 2008 Annual Diocesan Convention

**Clip Photo
Here**

(can also be sent
digitally—300
dpi)

Please fill in all areas, and return the form **BY SEPTEMBER 10*** to
Diocesan Office
500 S. Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814

Print Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

e-mail: _____

Telephone: (Day) _____ **(Evening)** _____

Congregation/City: _____

Nominated by: _____
(Signature)

___ **Yes, I accept this nomination:** _____
(Signature)

I nominate this person for:

___ **Historiographer/Registrar** (3 years)

___ **Standing Committee**

___ 1 Presbyter (Priest) to fill 4 year term (term expires 2012)

___ 1 Lay person to fill 4 year term (term expires 2012)

___ **Province VI Deputy**

___ 1 Clergy (presbyter or deacon) to fill 3 year term (term expires 2011)

___ 1 Clergy to fill 1 year unexpired term (term expires 2009)

___ 1 Lay person to fill 3 year term (term expires 2011)

___ **Trial Court**

___ 1 Presbyter (Priest) for 3 year unexpired term (term expires 2011)

___ 1 Presbyter (Priest) for 5 year unexpired term (term expires 2013)

___ 1 Lay Person for 2 year unexpired term (term expires 2010)

___ 1 Lay Person for 4 year term (term expires 2012)

Please send the candidate's brief biographical information and a recent photo. Background information should include information that demonstrates the skills, experience and commitment the nominee would bring to this position.

***Return form by August 10 for nomination to be included in *ChurchNews*.

Standing Committee

- 1 Presbyter (Priest) 4 year term (term expires 2012)
- 1 Lay person to fill 4 year term (term expires 2012)

With a Bishop in charge of the Diocese, the Standing Committee shall be the Bishop's Council of Advice. When the Diocese is without a Bishop...the Standing Committee of the diocese shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority as provided by the General Convention Constitution and Canons. The Standing Committee also plays a part in the ordination process. The Standing Committee consists of eight members, and election shall be made by the diocesan convention for a term of four years. Members are entitled to election for two terms. The Standing Committee meets 3-4 times a year, or as needed. A member of Standing Committee is a voting delegate to Annual Convention.

Province VI Deputy

- 1 Clergy (presbyter or deacon) to fill 3 year term (term expires 2011)
- 1 Clergy to fill 1 year unexpired term (term expires 2009)
- 1 Lay person to fill 3 year term (term expires 2011)

Each Province has a Synod which meets regularly (generally yearly around the Province) for the purpose of organizing and carrying out the responsibilities of the Province. The Provincial Synod can enact ordinances for its own regulation, elect judges of the Provincial Court of Review, perform such duties as may be committed to it by the General Convention, and deal with other matters within the Province, as directed and limited by Canon. Annual Diocesan Convention elects one clerical and one lay deputy and alternates to the Provincial Synod for a term of 3 years.

Trial Court

- 1 Presbyter (Priest) for 3 year unexpired term (term expires 2011)
- 1 Presbyter (Priest) for 5 year unexpired term (term expires 2013)
- 1 Lay Person for 2 year unexpired term (term expires 2010)
- 1 Lay Person for 4 year term (term expires 2012)

Trial Court is an elected body consisting of five members (3 presbyters and 2 lay persons) for terms of five years for the trial of any priest or deacon subject to its jurisdiction. The Trial Court shall be governed by the Rules of Procedure set forth in Appendix A to the General Convention Title IV and by Federal Rules of Evidence.

Dakota Experience:

An orientation to Native American (L/Dakota)
history, culture, and spirituality within the context of the Episcopal Church.

The next session is scheduled for

November 7-9, 2008
at Calvary Cathedral in Sioux Falls

It is a *required* session for

- all clergy new to the diocese
- for those in the ordination process
- and for elected or appointed leaders of diocesan committees, commissions, agencies, or boards.

It is *recommended* for anyone interested in learning/sharing about the Dakota way of life.

Begins Friday 6:30 pm with Supper and
concludes after the 11:30 Holy Eucharist with Tiospaye Wakan on Sunday.

Facilitator: The Rev. Paul Sneve (St. Matthew's, Rapid City)

Preliminary* Convention Schedule
The Diocese of South Dakota 2008 Convention
October 2-5 ♦ Cedar Shore, Oacoma
“PARTNERS WITH GOD. . .”

THURSDAY, October 2

1 pm Clergy Conference Begins
 6:30 pm Clergy/Spouse Dinner

FRIDAY, October 3

7:00 am Clergy/Spouse breakfast
 8:00 am Clergy Conference Continues
 12 noon Clergy/spouse lunch

11am—3pm EWC Meeting with lunch

- Program
- Other Business

2:00 pm Registration & Credentials Orientation
**3-7 pm Registration and Credentialing,
 in the lobby**

4:00 pm Standing Committee Meeting
 4:00 pm Host of Next Convention Meeting
 (Northeastern Deanery)
 5:00 pm Choir Rehearsal, Convention Floor
 5:00 pm Niobrara Council

**AS PARTNERS, WE GATHER IN OUR HERITAGE
 TO PRAISE, TO HEAR,
 AND TO WELCOME EACH OTHER.**

**7:30 pm Opening Eucharist & Bishop’s Charge
 at Convention Center**
 Reception before and after

After service:
 Nominations Committee Meeting, lobby
 Resolutions Committee Meeting, lobby
 Committee on Bishop’s Charge, lobby

SATURDAY, October 4

Breakfast on your own.
 8 a.m.-12 noon Registration at Convention Center

AS PARTNERS, WE GATHER TO DISCERN

8:30 am Morning Prayer
 9:00 am Organizing for Action
 Introductory Business
 10:30 am Workshops & Noonday Prayers
 (Noonday prayers within workshop.)

11:00 am Deadline for nominations, resolutions

12 noon Lunch buffet
 Discussions about God Workshop

AS PARTNERS, WE GATHER TO CONSIDER

1:15 pm Discussion and Action on Budget
 Elections
 Resolutions
 Response to Bishop's Charge
 Other Reports

AS PARTNERS, WE GATHER TO FEAST

6:45 pm Banquet Buffet
 Entertainment
 Compline

SUNDAY, October 5

AS PARTNERS, WE GATHER TO DISCUSS

Breakfast on your own.
8:30 am Morning Prayer
9:00 am Presentation by Nominating Committee;
 Transition Committee
 Floor Discussion
 Unfinished Business

**AS PARTNERS, WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE
 AND OFFER THANKS**

10:45am Closing Eucharist at Convention Center

**Subject to Change



Cell phone batteries

I can't seem to go an hour without my cell before panic sets in, and lately my battery seems to be losing the ability to hold juice. So I've taken to carrying the charger around with me, asking for an outlet in some of the most inappropriate places, like restaurants and shoe stores. If only I had known when my battery was new about the precautions that would help preserve its life. Unfortunately, there's no bouncing back for a worn-down battery, so I'll likely be replacing mine before long, adding it to the expanding cell phone parts and accessories waste stream (130 million cell phones and their batteries were tossed in 2005), but here are a few tips to help save your cell phone battery from a similar fate.

1. Stop charging overnight! The longer a battery is charging, the longer it's exposed to heat, which can wear it down. Most cell phone batteries fully charge in under two hours, so as soon as all bars have been restored, unplug your phone. And while you're at it, unplug the charger, which constantly drains power even when it's not juicing up your phone.
2. All heat sources—not just the charger—can damage the battery, so whenever possible, keep your phone out of the heat. Put it in your pocket instead of on the picnic table on hot days. Avoid parking it on the dashboard of your vehicle.
3. Adjust to power-saving settings. Lighting the screen drains the most battery power, so cut the LCD brightness down as far as you can without causing eye strain, and, if your eyes can take it, turn down the backlight setting so that it dims in just a few seconds.
4. During periods when you'd rather not be bothered, like in the movie theater or while sleeping, turn the phone off completely.

And keep in mind that power is draining whenever the phone is in use, even if it's not for a phone call, so only play Tetris when you absolutely have to.

© The Green Guide, 2008

Resources

Green Living: The E Magazine Handbook for Living Lightly on the Earth from the Penguin Group, by the editors of E/The Environmental Magazine, 320 pages, paperback, © 2008, \$17

[The Penguin Group] Experts suggest that 40 percent of American homes will buy organic, yet a large majority have only a limited knowledge of how to actually make informed, green choices. *Green Living*, from the editors of E/The Environmental Magazine offers a thorough, step-by-step plan for every aspect of your life, from the laundry room to the kitchen:

- Maintaining a healthy home
- Going organic and avoiding genetically modified food
- Finding a planet-friendly car
- Making socially responsible investments
- Using personal-care products free of damaging chemicals

With advice on everything from planet-friendly cosmetics to home-based renewable energy, and straight talk on hemp, hybrids and hair coloring, *Green Living* is the ideal reference for both the neophyte and the experienced environmentalist.



In Sioux Falls –

500 tons of trash is picked up every day. About 30% of that is paper. Each ton of paper, if recycled instead, would save 17 trees, 4,077 kilowatts of energy, 463 gallons of oil, and 6,953 gallons of water.

Each ton of recycled steel, from coffee and soup cans, would save more than its weight in raw materials. That would be 2,500 pounds of iron ore, 1,400 pounds of coal, and 120 pounds of limestone.

—From the *Argus Leader*
Sunday, May 11, 2008



GRACE HAPPENS

“Seeing Into Another World”

By The Rev. Fred Jessett

Some years ago at a conference in a California retreat center, I noticed a lovely stone church across the street without any sign telling what church it was. About 5:30 that afternoon I walked over to check it out. When I entered I realized a service had just concluded and that it must be Roman Catholic.

Behind the free standing altar in the sanctuary there was a wood-paneled wall and on either side of that were stairs up to a large tabernacle with a glass door. I decided to return earlier the next day to see what service was held there.

At five o'clock the next day I went back. Two other people were there and I knelt and prayed. Then I heard voices chanting, looked up, and did a double take. The wood panels behind the altar were gone – I could see through that wall. Beyond there was another chapel where nuns were chanting psalms. What I had thought was a solid wall was really just a partition with panels that had been opened.

My first reaction was that I was seeing into another world. Looking toward the altar I saw something beyond it, something I hadn't known was there. It was the world of those nuns, quite different from my world.

While I knew I wasn't actually seeing into "another world," yet this experience made me think "this is what it might feel like if I could see into another world."

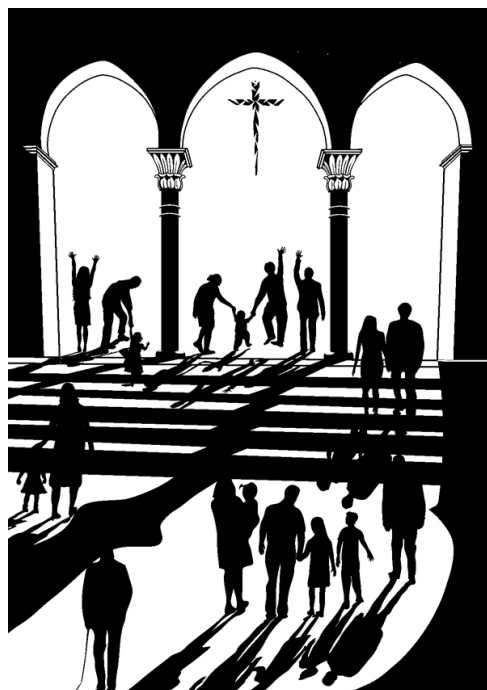
Jesus spoke often about a different world he called "the kingdom of God" or "the kingdom of Heaven." He always said that it wasn't far away. In

one situation he said "...you are not far from the kingdom of God," in another, "...no doubt the kingdom of heaven has come upon you," and in another, "The kingdom of God is within you."

So maybe it shouldn't surprise us when we catch a glimpse of something that seems to belong to another world or a different dimension of reality. The longer I live the more I'm aware that there are times when the veil or wall or whatever it is that separates this world from the kingdom Jesus spoke about, grows thin or transparent, and we seem to connect with that dimension. I've experienced it most often around the death of someone to whom I was very close. Bishop N. T. Wright says these are times when this world and the kingdom of God "overlap."

These are moments when we catch a glimpse of a realm that is far greater than the everyday world we live in, yet is no farther away than the air we breathe. I've written of many such moments in this column and sometimes people respond by

telling me of moments in their lives when they experienced this same thing. We should remember these and share our stories because these are moments when we know that grace happens.

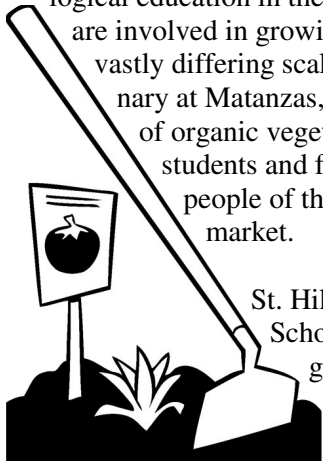


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Loving our neighbors includes caring for creation that supports all our earthly lives

By Katharine Jefferts Schori
April 18, 2008

I have had the remarkable privilege to visit several Episcopal schools and institutions of theological education in the last year. Several of them are involved in growing their own food, at vastly differing scales. The Ecumenical Seminary at Matanzas, Cuba, has acres of fields of organic vegetables, raised alike for the students and faculty of the seminary, the people of the neighborhood, and for market.



St. Hilda's and St. Hugh's School in midtown Manhattan grows lettuce and other greens for the students' lunches – in a rooftop greenhouse. A developing

diocesan project in Quito, Ecuador, will raise organic produce and livestock as an agricultural teaching laboratory, for market, and to feed the students and retreatants who will call the place home.

We are beginning to understand in new ways our ancient belief that we become what we eat – in the body of Christ, as well as in the food that sustains our bodies.

This growing multi-layered awareness is a sign of enormous hope for this earth. The Judaeo-Christian tradition has been famously blamed for much of the current environmental crisis, particularly for our misreading of Genesis 1:28 as a charge to “fill the earth and subdue it.” Our forebears were so eager to distinguish their faith from the surrounding Canaanite religion and its concern for fertility that some of them worked overtime to separate us from an awareness of “the hand of God in the world about us,” especially in a reverence for creation. How can we love God if we do not love what God has made?

We base much of our approach to loving God and our neighbors in this world on our baptismal cove-

nant. Yet our latest prayer book was written just a bit too early to include caring for creation among those explicit baptismal promises. I would invite you to explore those promises a bit more deeply – where and how do they imply caring for the rest of creation?

We are beginning to be aware of the ways in which our lack of concern for the rest of creation results in death and destruction for our neighbors. We cannot love our neighbors unless we care for the creation that supports all our earthly lives. We are not respecting the dignity of our fellow creatures if our sewage or garbage fouls their living space. When atmospheric warming, due in part to the methane output of the millions of cows we raise each year to produce hamburger, begins to slowly drown the island homes of our neighbors in the South Pacific, are we truly sharing good news?

You will read this soon after Easter, and that celebration will undoubtedly have included lots of physical signs of new life – eggs, flowers, new green growth. As the Easter season continues, consider how your daily living can be an act of greater life for other creatures.

How can you enact the new life we know in Jesus the Christ? In other words, how can you be sacrament, the outward and visible sign, of the grace that you know in the resurrected Christ? How can your living let others live more abundantly?

The food we eat, the energy we use, the goods and foods we buy, the ways in which we travel, are all opportunities – choices and decisions – to be for others, both human and other. Our Christian commitment is for this – that we might live that more abundant life, and that we might do it in a way that is for the whole world.



*The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori
is Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.*

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Pine Ridge	The Very Rev. Craig West (o/h) 685-6631 stlhdcaw@gmail.com
Rosebud	The Very Rev. John Spruhan (o/h) 747-5927 RevDrWho@aol.com

**Rustic Cabins at Camp Remington
In The Black Hills**

Located off the Needles Highway (#87): South of Sylvan Lake—3 m. north of Playhouse Road.

3 screened cabins sleeping 4-6 +, each with outhouse. Use 1 cabin or more for a minimum donation of \$30 per night per cabin.

Provided: beds, mattresses, pots, pans, dishes, silverware, propane stove and refrigerator, fireplace. Water can be carried from nearby covered spring.

Bring your own: bedding or sleeping bags, blankets, towels, food and beverages, and lighting.

RESERVATIONS - Call Randy Barnhardt at 605-338-9751

INFORMATION - Call Seymour Flinn at 605-342-0358

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**Prepare for
Focus Groups
(see inside)**

This ChurchNews
**contains Convention
Reports & Bishop
Election Info**

**& Diocesan
Convention
Oct 3-5,
2008**

*The Episcopal Church in South Dakota is a sacred circle gathered
around*

The Mission of the Diocese of South Dakota is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ through the ministry of all.