



## Full Speed Ahead for the Bishop Coadjutor-Elect

**T**his has been a busy year for many of us in the diocese. On top of our usual work, family, and church activities, we pondered what we wanted in a new Bishop; we searched for possible candidates; we screened those possibilities; we traveled around the diocese to see and hear them speak; we gathered to elect the Rev. John Tarrant to be with us and guide us through the next decade or so, God willing; we spent countless “man” hours in planning, organizing, and executing; we asked for and received a rich blessing of volunteers, ideas, and capable hands; we supported and encouraged one another.

Then—General Convention quickly and unanimously approved our election of the Rev. John Tarrant.

The next step is his ordination and consecration on October 31 – to which we ALL are invited! No tickets, no registration required.

October 31 is All Hallow’s Eve, the day before All Saints Day. The Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Katharine Jefforts Schori, will be the chief consecrator. She and two additional, active bishops, serving as co-consecrators, will be listed in the official Succession of American Bishops register in the Episcopal Church Annual as John’s consecrators, fulfilling the constitutional requirement that each Bishop be ordained and consecrated by no fewer than three Bishops.

The Sioux Falls Convention Center is the place to be at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 31, 2009. Thence will begin the biggest procession we’ve seen in this diocese in many years, peopled with lay and ordained leaders and ministers of all ages and talents from all corners of the diocese. A choir (again from churches around the diocese) will lead the singing of hymns and service music, and will perform an original anthem, written especially for this occasion by Dr. Stephen Yarbrough, Vermillion.

The Presiding Bishop and her husband Richard Schori will meet with Bishop and Ann Robertson and John and Pat Tarrant on Thursday. Visiting Bishops will meet with the Presiding Bishop on Friday morning, and diocesan clergy will meet with her on Friday afternoon (for which we need an RSVP).

*(Continued on page 7)*

**Partners With  
A Generous  
God**

**This ChurchNews  
issue contains  
Convention  
Reports**

**Diocesan  
Convention  
Oct 2-4,  
2009**

**The Diocese  
of  
South Dakota**



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*Grace be with you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.*

This year's theme for the clergy conference and Diocesan Convention is: "Partners with a Generous God." We are continuing as a Diocese to embrace the Partners with God structure for our ministry.

Under the goal of Stewardship the plan states: "Believing that all we are and all that we have are gifts from God, and faithful to our belief that God provides abundantly, we will provide motivation, education and support to help individuals and congregations understand stewardship and through gifts of time, talent and treasure promote responsible care for our environment, our church, our community and ourselves."



The Very Rev. John Tarrant

This past year Bishop Robertson established a Diocesan Stewardship committee chaired by Fr. Bunker Hill. The committee is charged with the opportunity to develop a comprehensive stewardship strategy, which will enable us to live more generously, and responsibly, in response to God's abundant blessing to us.

The Committee has invited Jim Murphy from the Episcopal Church Foundation to lead our clergy conference. He will give us the theological and the methodological tools to embark on a planned giving and possible capital program for congregations and the Diocese as a whole. During convention the stewardship committee will host workshops intended to aid us in exploring different aspects of Christian stewardship.

Our stewardship is our grateful response to a loving, giving God. We were created in the image of a giving God and it is through giving that we touch the Spirit of God. Christian stewardship involves everything we do after we say, "I believe." Whether rich or poor or some place in between we have an obligation in response to God's grace in our lives to be generous about the way we spend our lives.

As I have traveled around this Diocese I have been awed by the hospitality and generosity of so many of you. Many who in the eyes of the world would not be seen as rich have given richly in times of celebration and in times of need. It is this spirit that we hope to extend to all aspects of our lives. It is this spirit we hope to build upon as a Diocese, so that the love of God that we have experienced in Christ Jesus might be the force behind all we say and all we do. This spirit is indeed the Holy Spirit, which will enable us "to do infinitely more than we could ask or imagine."

God's peace with you,

*John+*



## Sioux Falls church recognized for outreach ministry

*Submitted by Craig Friedel*

**T**he Church of the Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls, has worked hard developing—and executing—a new outreach program, the Moving Assistance Program (MAP), and they’ve been recognized for it. The program officially started on March 1, 2008. The success of the program earned it the Make a Difference Challenge Award in 2008, and in 2009 they were awarded the Community Spirit Award sponsored by the Sioux Falls Community Area Foundation. Also, one of the Good Shepherd youth, **Sarah Friedel**, won the Spirit of Volunteerism Award sponsored by the HELP!Line Center and the Argus Leader. Her efforts were directly related to the Moving Assistance Program.

Here’s what the Sioux Falls Area Community Fund wrote about them in a recent newsletter:

### **Moving program earns Community honors**

After a few months of on-the-job training, **Craig Friedel** learned how to reassure a young mother that her family’s earthly possessions would make it to their new home. He found the right thing to say when someone was embarrassed by where she lived, even when it was all that person could afford.

Friedel answered a call to a unique volunteer experience while working with fellow members of The Church of the Good Shepherd, an Episcopal parish. Searching for a meaningful service role in the community, the group contacted HELP!Line Center. They learned that the Center receives a significant number of calls each year from people in need who have the opportunity to move to safer, more affordable housing, but simply do not have a way to make the move. Some were too frail or old to organize their moves. Others lacked a car, packing boxes, or someone to help with the heavy lifting.

Within a few weeks, the Moving Assistance Program had its own nonprofit status and was looking for start-up funds. In the year-and-a-half since, MAP has completed nearly 50 moves, relocating

130 men, women, and children to better homes.

For that work, Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation on April 30 announced MAP as the recipient of its 2009 Community Spirit Award. Friedel accepted a \$2,500 grant on behalf of the all-volunteer agency he leads during the annual fundraiser for SFACF’s grantmaking program.

SFACF first learned about the moving program in March 2008, when Friedel applied for an unrestricted Community Funds grant to cover start-up expenses: \$550 for packing tape, labels, and gloves; \$170 for tape dispensers; \$600 for phone service; and a little more than \$1,600 for office supplies and liability insurance.

MAP turned \$3,000 in seed money into a priceless gift for those who have been helped. More than a quarter of those served were elderly, 83% had physical or mental disabilities, and 22% survived domestic abuse. One-third of the moves were for families with children. “MAP is a wonderful example of how a small grant from SFACF and the commitment of dedicated volunteers can address a need in Sioux Falls in a timely and efficient manner,” says Mary Tidwell, incoming chair of SFACF’s Board of Directors.

“Our unrestricted grant fund is designed to do just that — match gifts from donors with people who have a vision and the dedication to work to better our community. It’s a win-win experience for everyone involved!”

“It’s always nice to be recognized, but the most rewarding thing for us is to see the results of what you can do in the eyes of the people you’re helping,” Friedel says. “Obviously, the additional funds from SFACF help, too. We look at it as allowing us to do more, for more people.”



## EFM Mentors are trained

**E**ducation for Ministry (EFM) Mentors received training and certification in July in Pierre. This training enables them to facilitate EFM courses in their congregations.

EFM is an outstanding 4-year course of study in Scripture, Church History, and Theology from the University of the South in Sewanee.



From left to right:  
Dawn Hurley, David Jenkins (the trainer from Topeka KS), Judy Graves, Judy Flagstad, Ellen Lang, Marty Garwood, Dr. Jim Szana.

## Transitions . . .

**T**he Rev. Martin Brokenleg retired from his position of Director of the Native Ministries Program at Vancouver School of Theology (VST) at the end of June, 2009. He and Gene are moving to Victoria, but he will maintain a busy schedule as speaker and workshop leader and will continue to teach as a sessional instructor for VST.

## ECW grants scholarships

Dear ECW,

**T**hank you so much for the \$500 ECW Scholarship. I appreciate your votes and know that the scholarship will be very useful to me at South Dakota State University in Brookings next year. I plan to major in Animal Science with an emphasis in Pre-Veterinary Medicine.

Your scholarship will be used for purchasing materials and books for my fall classes. The cost of books is steep and climbing, therefore I sincerely appreciate the extra financial help. I believe this scholarship is a great opportunity for young Episcopal women to pursue.

I have grown up with a wonderful experience at St. Andrew's [Rapid City] and in the Episcopal religion and feel very blessed to have my church family behind me while I move on to the next step in my life. Thank you again.



Hillery Baysinger

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Hillery Baysinger

## J2A training to be offered at Calvary Cathedral

**C**alvary Cathedral in Sioux Falls will host training on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> in the Episcopal youth ministry curriculum Journey to Adulthood (J2A), and is offering the training to other churches in the Diocese of South Dakota at no charge.

The Journey to Adulthood is a complete youth ministry program of spiritual formation for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. It uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, outreach ministries and both serious and playful activities to underscore its two guiding principles:

1. Manhood and womanhood are free gifts from God.
2. Adulthood must be earned.

Calvary is reinstating the use of J2A for its youth group curriculum after a hiatus of several years. A trainer with Leader Resources, which owns the copyright to the program, will conduct the training at the Cathedral from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be included as part of the workshop.

The Cathedral is covering the cost of the training

*(Continued on page 5)*

for its staff, volunteers, and parents, and is opening the training to others in the Diocese of South Dakota at no charge. Churches from outside the diocese are also welcome to attend for a small fee.

Based in Leeds, MA, Leader Resources offers Christian Formation resources for Sunday School, youth groups, adult education, and congregational development. The trainer, Crystal Colombo, lives in the Seattle area. She will work with workshop attendees to adapt the program to the needs of the individual church. For more information on the J2A program, visit [www.leaderresources.org](http://www.leaderresources.org)

Questions about the training or the J2A program may be directed to Holly Huisken, Youth Director for Calvary Cathedral (605) 336-3486, or Julie Gehm, chair of the Cathedral's Youth Advisory Committee, at (605) 310-3689. *Please let us know you're coming by September 24<sup>th</sup>* so we can have enough food and materials.



## BSA Junior Camp a success

**T**he Brotherhood of St. Andrew held its annual Junior Camp July 22-26, 2009 at St. James, Enemy Swim (Sisseton Mission).

21 students (7 boys and 14 girls) attended this fun-filled and spiritual 5-day camp. There was Morning Prayer and class every morning, and Evening Prayer before bed each night. In between there was swimming, a puppet show, kayaking, Bible trivia, ice cream, bonfires and s'mores, races and other active games, hikes, movies, and – very important to **Robin Bowen**, Camp Director – excellent meals!

Robin gives thanks for a great crew of helpers and others who volunteered time and equipment. Assisting with the camp were **Fr. Les Campbell, Fr. Charlie Chan**, and **Fr. Conrad Ciesel**.

## South Sudan Update

**S**unday School children at **Church of the Holy Apostles** have learned what an Episcopal church is like in a remote village in South Sudan by making a replica of it.



Creating a "mud hut"

Based on photos from Moses Jokhnial II's native village of Pajut, the children assembled elements of the "Episcopal of the Sudan" church compound. Where worship services are held out in the open, they made rows of mounded earth providing seats for worshippers.

The children constructed 'mud huts' for housing the minister's family and the village's most needy inhabitants. Trees offer shade for the parishioners. The children learned grain is given as offering and is collected on a cloth laid on the ground. This grain serves as payment of the minister's salary and food for the week for those living within the church compound.



The children have created a wonderful teaching tool for themselves and for all of us learning more about the lives of our Episcopalian brothers and sisters in another part of the world.

*by Rhonda Morse  
Church of the Holy Apostles*

**2009 PLEDGE TO THE DIOCESE  
As of July 31, 2009**

	Pledge	Payable To Date	Paid To Date	Balance	Churchnews	Payable To Date	Paid To Date	Balance
<b>PARISHES:</b>								
Aberdeen - St. Mark's	16,220.00	9,461.67	9,461.68	6,758.32	55.00	32.08	55.00	0.00
Belle Fourche - St. James'	3,217.00	1,876.58	1,877.00	1,340.00	105.00	61.25	70.00	35.00
Brookings - St. Paul's	9,600.00	5,600.00	5,600.00	4,000.00	240.00	140.00	240.00	0.00
Deadwood - St. John's	5,805.00	3,386.25	2,902.50	2,902.50	90.00	52.50	90.00	0.00
Huron - Grace	15,750.00	9,187.50	9,191.00	6,559.00	380.00	221.67	285.00	95.00
Lead - Christ Church	7,460.00	4,351.67	3,860.00	3,600.00	150.00	87.50	150.00	0.00
Mitchell - St. Mary's	1,625.00	947.92	947.94	677.06	165.00	96.25	165.00	0.00
Mobridge - St. James'	1,500.00	875.00	1,125.00	375.00	80.00	46.67	80.00	0.00
Pierre - Trinity	16,024.00	9,347.33	4,580.00	11,444.00	55.00	32.08	55.00	0.00
Rapid City - Emmanuel	43,523.00	25,388.42	25,388.44	18,134.56	615.00	358.75	358.75	256.25
Rapid City - St. Andrew's	23,000.00	13,416.67	13,542.49	9,457.51	360.00	210.00	222.51	137.49
Sioux Falls - Calvary	61,054.00	35,614.83	35,614.88	25,439.12	835.00	487.08	787.50	47.50
Sioux Falls - Good Shepherd	8,000.00	4,666.67	4,669.00	3,331.00	30.00	17.50	0.00	30.00
Spearfish - All Angels	22,352.00	13,038.67	11,176.00	11,176.00	350.00	204.17	175.00	175.00
Sturgis - St. Thomas'	5,027.00	2,932.42	2,932.40	2,094.60	120.00	70.00	120.00	0.00
Watertown - Trinity	8,605.00	5,019.58	5,019.56	3,585.44	270.00	157.50	157.50	112.50
Winner - Trinity	1,000.00	583.33	650.00	350.00	120.00	70.00	120.00	0.00
Yankton - Christ Church	19,984.00	11,657.33	10,028.85	9,955.15	485.00	282.92	243.73	241.27
<b>TOTAL PARISHES</b>	<b>269,746.00</b>	<b>157,351.84</b>	<b>148,566.74</b>	<b>121,179.26</b>	<b>4,505.00</b>	<b>2,627.92</b>	<b>3,374.99</b>	<b>1,130.01</b>
Bonesteel - St. Andrew's	571.00	333.08	380.67	190.33	40.00	23.33	40.00	0.00
Chamberlain - Christ Church	2,600.00	1,516.67	1,300.00	1,300.00	130.00	75.83	65.00	65.00
Cheyenne River Mission	1,725.00	1,006.25	1,118.17	606.83	495.00	288.76	244.17	250.83
Crow Creek Mission	1,000.00	583.33	925.00	75.00	235.00	137.08	235.00	0.00
DeSmet - St. Stephen's	30.00	17.50	30.00	0.00	15.00	8.75	15.00	0.00
Flandreau - St. Mary's	600.00	350.00	600.00	0.00	50.00	29.17	50.00	0.00
Ft. Pierre - St. Peter's	2,700.00	1,575.00	2,700.00	0.00	95.00	55.42	95.00	0.00
Gettysburg - Christ Church	250.00	145.83	160.00	90.00	45.00	26.25	30.00	15.00
Gregory - Incarnation	400.00	233.33	0.00	400.00	80.00	46.67	0.00	80.00
Herrick - All Saints	130.00	75.83	54.17	75.83	35.00	20.42	24.00	11.00
Hot Springs - St. Luke's	2,352.00	1,372.00	1,176.00	1,176.00	120.00	70.00	60.00	60.00
Lake Andes - St. Peter's	539.00	314.42	539.00	0.00	15.00	8.75	15.00	0.00
Lower Brule Mission	2,409.00	1,405.25	0.00	2,409.00	190.00	110.83	0.00	190.00
Madison - Grace	1,760.00	1,026.67	1,289.58	470.42	45.00	26.25	45.00	0.00
Martin - St. Katharine's	6,007.00	3,504.08	3,503.48	2,503.52	225.00	131.25	131.25	93.75
Milbank - Christ Church	2,400.00	1,400.00	1,602.00	798.00	65.00	37.92	65.00	0.00
Pine Ridge Mission	1,638.00	955.50	1,121.33	516.67	375.00	218.76	206.34	168.66
Rapid City - St. Matthew's	3,600.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	1,500.00	120.00	70.00	70.00	50.00
Rosebud Mission	7,283.00	4,248.40	2,598.93	4,684.07	335.00	195.42	135.00	200.00
Santee Mission	2,452.00	1,430.33	0.00	2,452.00	105.00	61.25	0.00	105.00
Sioux Falls - Holy Apostles	7,348.00	4,286.33	3,674.04	3,673.96	85.00	49.58	85.00	0.00
Sisseton - Gethsemane	700.00	408.33	450.00	250.00	80.00	46.67	0.00	80.00
Sisseton Mission	1,900.00	1,108.33	211.00	1,689.00	180.00	105.00	20.00	160.00
Standing Rock Mission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	180.00	105.00	30.00	150.00
Vermillion - St. Paul's	12,188.00	7,109.67	7,000.00	5,188.00	180.00	105.00	180.00	0.00
Webster - St. Mary's	1,200.00	700.00	700.00	500.00	25.00	14.58	25.00	0.00
Yankton Mission	975.00	568.75	571.00	404.00	130.00	75.83	95.00	35.00
<b>TOTAL MISSIONS</b>	<b>64,757.00</b>	<b>37,774.88</b>	<b>33,804.37</b>	<b>30,952.63</b>	<b>3,675.00</b>	<b>2,143.77</b>	<b>1,960.76</b>	<b>1,714.24</b>
<b>TOTAL PARISH &amp; MISSIONS</b>	<b>334,503.00</b>	<b>195,126.72</b>	<b>182,371.11</b>	<b>152,131.89</b>	<b>8,180.00</b>	<b>4,771.69</b>	<b>5,335.75</b>	<b>2,844.25</b>

## Consecration . . .

(Continued from page 1)

A rehearsal of procession leaders and organizers will be at 5:30 pm at the Convention Center, and rehearsals of all participants in the service beginning at 8:30 pm at the Convention Center. The Choir will rehearse at 7:30 pm on Friday at Calvary Cathedral and again at 9:00 am on Saturday at the Convention Center.

Elsewhere in this issue is a list of Sioux Falls motels near the Convention Center. If you have any questions about any of the arrangements, please contact the Diocesan Office.

The people and/or churches of the diocese have been asked to contribute to a fund for the purchase of the vestments and symbols of the office of bishop for our Bishop-elect, the Rev. John Tarrant.



- A *rochet* (“rotch-it”) is a vestment of white material that replaces the surplice. It has long sleeves that often end in ruffles or pleated cuffs. It is usually worn under a *chimere*.
- A *chimere* is a robe without sleeves worn over a *rochet* or alb. Traditionally black, more often now red.
- The *stole* is a long strip of material worn by bishops, priests, and deacons when officiating at the Eucharist or other sacramental functions. It is usually in the liturgical color of the day, but a bishop can also wear a black tippet.
- A *cope* is a ceremonial cloak or cape that is semicircular, richly ornamented, with a clasp in front and a hood in back. It is usually worn at non-Eucharistic liturgies, or at a Eucharist through the Liturgy of the Word.
- A *chasuble* is a sleeveless outer vestment worn by the celebrant during the Eucharist. It is oval or oblong with an opening for the head.
- The *mitre* is the article most often associated with bishops. This head-covering is usually

white, gold, or red and has two tails, called lappets, that fall from the back. The lappets represent the waters of baptism. The shape of the mitre represents the tongues of fire that rested on the head of the disciples gathered in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost. The mitre is worn or taken off during a service, depending upon what is happening in the liturgy.

- The *pectoral cross* is merely a larger (perhaps 6”) cross than what many people wear around their necks on a chain as a reminder of Christ’s invitation that we take up our cross and follow him. The traditional pectoral cross usually hangs at about the breastbone or pectoral muscles of the wearer.
- An *episcopal ring* is a sign of the office of bishop. It can be a signet ring, with the seal of the diocese inscribed in the metal or stone of the ring (and used for sealing official documents), or a ring ornamented with the purple gem, amethyst.
- The *crozier* is one of the symbols of the governing office of the bishop. It is symbolic of a shepherd’s staff, so it serves as a reminder that a bishop is the shepherd of God’s flock. You

sometimes see medallions or other symbols in the crook of a crozier.



Monetary gifts may be sent to:  
Diocese of South Dakota  
500 S. Main Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814

Make checks out to the Diocese of South Dakota, marked for “Vestment Fund”



(Continued on page 8)



1101 N. West Avenue

## Lodging near the Sioux Falls Convention Center

<i>Motel</i>	<i>Telephone</i> 605-
Sheraton Sioux Falls 1211 N. West Ave	331-0100
Ramada Inn & Suites 1301 W. Russell	336-1020
Brimark Inn 3200 W. Russell	332-2000
Ramkota Inn 3200 W. Maple	336-0650
Motel 6 3009 W. Russell	336-7800
Oaks Hotel 3300 W. Russell	336-9000
Super 8/Knights Inn 1508 W. Russell	339-9330
Arena Motel 2401 W. Russell	336-1470
American Budget Sioux Falls Inn 1300 W. Russell	331-5800
Sleep Inn 1500 N. Kiwanis	339-3992
Kelly Inn 3101 W. Russell	338-6242

If you would like help locating lodging in another part of the city, contact the Diocesan Office.  
605-338-9751  
office.diocese@midconetwork.com

### *Directions*

From I-29, take Russell Street Exit and drive east about 1.8 miles to West Avenue. Turn right (south) on West Avenue.

As you approach West Ave, you will travel past Howard Wood Field; and the Sheraton Hotel is on the corner of Russell and West.

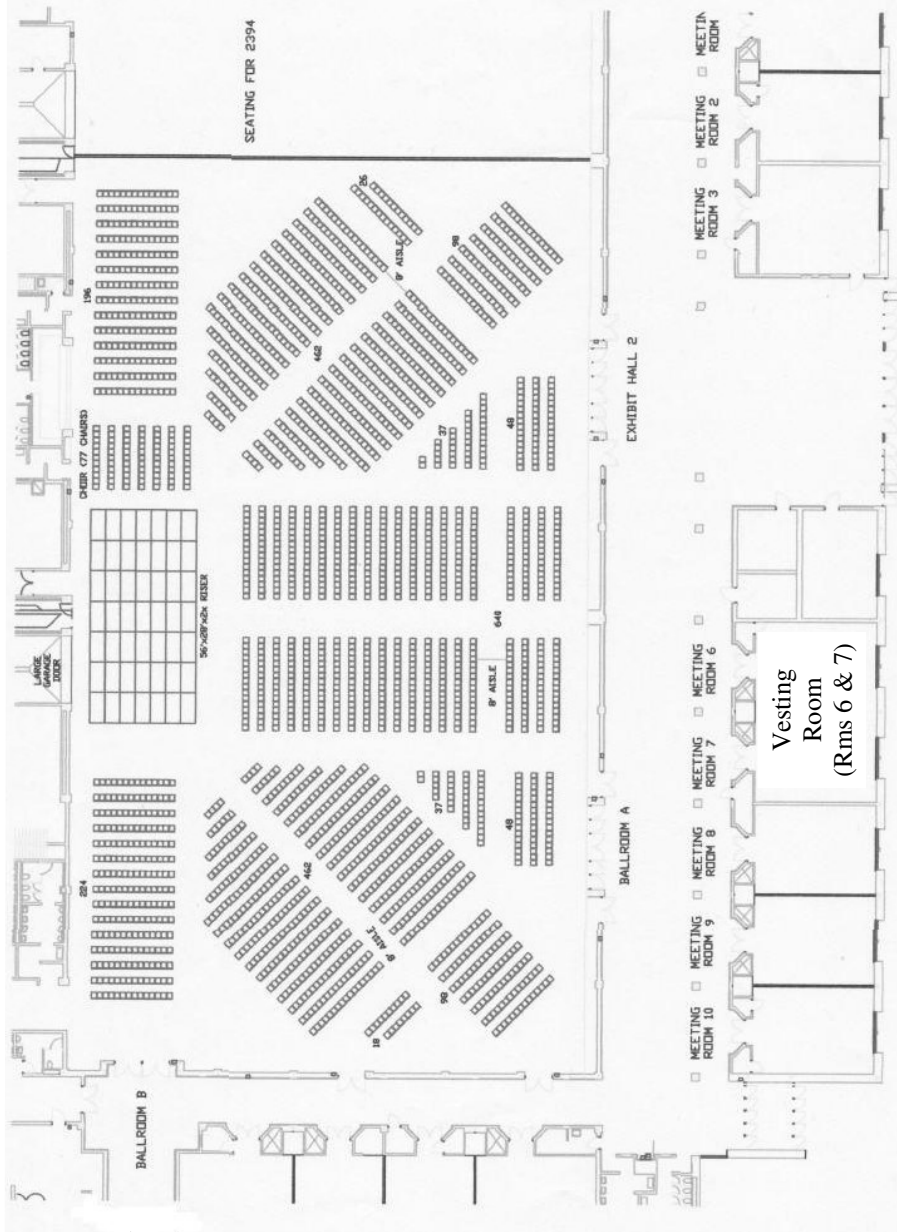
South of the Sheraton is the Sioux Falls Arena, the Sioux Falls Convention Center, and the Birdcage, home of the Sioux Falls Canaries baseball team.

There is plenty of parking to the east, south, and west of the Convention Center. The building is handicapped accessible, but a shorter route to the Consecration Hall would be through the southwest entrance (see map, next page).



**T**he Diocesan Deputation to General Convention following the committee hearing unanimously approving Tarrant's election. From L-R: Wilma Standing Bear, Jean Lacher, George Parmeter, Wade Brings, Pat Tarrant, Kathy Monson Lutes, John Tarrant, David Hussey, Dennis Potter, Tom Campbell (visitor). John Spruhan wasn't available for this picture, taken courtesy of Wade Brings.





Additional Exhibit Hall & Entrances ↑

To Arena & Sheraton Hotel ↑

Main Entry ↑  
Flags Out Front

↑  
Handicapped  
Parking & Entry

# Parking



# Parking



**CHURCH PERIODICAL CLUB  
Report to 2009 Diocesan Convention**

THE CHURCH PERIODICAL CLUB started out at the Church of the Holy Communion in New York City. Mary Ann Drake Fargo and a small group of women began sending bundles of church periodicals, prayer books and Bibles via the Wells Fargo Stage Coach Line to missionaries in the Dakotas, the then far west.

CPC is an independent affiliated organization of the Episcopal Church. CPC depends entirely on contributions to carry out its unique ministry. Your contribution is worth more than words. There is an unending list of mission projects: juvenile facilities, hospitals, libraries, schools, seminarians, prisons, alcohol/drug abuse centers, retirement homes, seafarers' institutes and companion dioceses to name few.

CPC has spread into a network throughout the Episcopal Church. Like the Church, CPC functions at all levels: parish, diocesan, provincial and national. Through the national granting program, grants are allocated worldwide based on contributions available in two funds. Applications for these grants are processed through the CPC office at the Episcopal Church Center in New York City.

The National Book Fund is the first national granting fund of the Church Periodical Club. This fund has helped meet religious and secular needs by providing printed and audiovisual materials to individuals, churches and organizations affiliated with the Anglican Communion.

The Miles of Pennies fund became the second national granting fund of the Church Periodical Club. This separate fund is for children only, pre-school to grade 12. In addition to providing printed or taped books and related materials, Miles of Pennies gives grants for the shipping costs of recycled children's books.

**HELP SUPPORT THE NATIONAL BOOKS FUND AND MILES OF PENNIES THROUGH THE CHURCH PERIODICAL CLUB IN YOUR PARISH, DIOCESE OR PROVINCE.**

**THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY  
Report to 2009 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.

**Church Periodical Club**

Account Activity  
May 31, 2009

January 1, 2009 Beginning Balance		1,607.41
Miles of Pennies	712.54	
Reservation Church Sunday School	200.00	
National Book Fund	<u>694.87</u>	
Total		<u>1,607.41</u>

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Income:		
National Book Fund:		
Christ ECW - Yankton	0.00	100.00
Christ - Milbank	0.00	0.00
Calvary Cathedral-Sioux Falls	66.00	66.00
Emmanuel - Rapid City	0.00	0.00
St. Mark's - Aberdeen	0.00	0.00
St. Paul's - Vermillion	0.00	0.00
The Reverend Kay Jennings	0.00	25.00
Belles of St. Mary's-Mitchell	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Total National Book Fund Income	66.00	241.00
Miles of Pennies:		
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Miles of Pennies Fund	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Income	66.00	241.00
Expenses:		
CPC	0.00	43.90
Postage	0.00	15.87
St. Augusta Book Store	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>59.77</u>
May 31, 2009		<u><u>1,788.64</u></u>
Miles of Pennies	712.54	
Reservation Church Sunday School	200.00	
National Book Fund	<u>876.10</u>	
Total		<u><u>1,788.64</u></u>

**COM MEMBERS**

- The Rev. Evelyn Weaver, Chair
- The Rev. Paul Sneve, Vice Chair
- Deacon Virginia Bird
- Ginny Slechta
- Dottie LeBeau
- Barbee Hovelson
- The Rev. Judy Flagstad
- The Rev. Dr. Vern Raschke
- The Rev. Rita Powell

*(Continued on page 11)*

## COM ACTIVITIES

The Commission met at Trinity Church in Pierre, South Dakota, on September 12-13, 2008. Jean Lacher, President of the Standing Committee, joined us for our meeting. We began with Noon Day Prayer. Our business session included minutes of the last meeting and reports from the COM members.

At our meetings, the People In the Process are reviewed and lifted up in prayer. Each person in the process has an advocate on the COM who serves as a support person for them. At our September meeting, we reviewed the names and members who were chosen to serve as their advocate. We will keep in touch with that individual by phone or perhaps a card. We can then report to the Commission at the next meeting how that person is and if they are in need of anything from us.

Evelyn Weaver attended the Province VI Commission on Ministry meeting held on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota in June of 2008 and gave her report.

“Footsteps in Faith” is an article written by lay persons for the South Dakota Episcopal ChurchNews to spotlight the ministries of the laity. Several persons have already written fine articles. We decided that this was something the COM wanted to continue and we brainstormed other names of individuals we could ask to write their story. A lot of time on the COM is spent discerning ordained ministry and we want to also lift up the ministry of the laity in our churches. Thanks to all of you who have submitted your stories and we look forward to hearing from more of you!

The remainder of the business session included a Mutual Ministry discussion and how that process, working with our Bishop, might be redefined.

Before closing the meeting, Virginia Bird gave us material and directions for the retreat for the following morning. She gave us material from the book, *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth* by Richard J. Foster. We were to read the material and then come Saturday morning for reflection.

The Commission on Ministry met on Saturday, September 13, 2008 for a silent retreat. We had time to go off by ourselves and read the material and reflect on it. After a couple of hours, we came together and shared our thoughts and reflected on our ministry and how that affects our ministry on the COM. We all agreed it was a very worthwhile morning. Thank you Virginia for leading us in the retreat!

The COM met March 20-March 21, 2008 at Trinity in Pierre, South Dakota. As always, we began our meeting with worship. We conducted our business session in the afternoon. We heard reports from various COM members. We had an update on those Persons in the Process. There were several items on the agenda that needed our attention.

Before we closed our afternoon session, we discussed our plans for the evening. We will be meeting with Bishop Robertson, Canon Wagner, and Fr. David Hussey for a discussion of Mutual Ministry. This will include how discernment is done and the education component.

We enjoyed supper together at Trinity prepared by our good friend, Jan Enright. Thank you, Jan, for always serving us such wonderful meals!

The evening session was very good. We had a wonderful discussion with everyone taking part and sharing their insight and their wisdom. We were in agreement that the areas that we need guidelines for include education, training, and discernment; both individual and community discernment.

Bishop Creighton said that he would like the vision of this group shared with the next bishop. The COM discussed inviting the bishop-elect to our meeting in September of 2009 even though it will be before the consecration.

The COM, together with the Standing Committee, continues to host receptions at Niobrara Convocation and Diocesan Convention. It is a time that we can meet individuals who have questions regarding lay or ordained ministry. They have an opportunity to meet us and we can spend some time together in fellowship.

The Commission on Ministry has been in a time of transition since Bishop Creighton announced his retirement. As I stated at the beginning, the COM is an appointed board which serves under the direction of the Bishop. It has been our honor and privilege to serve as Bishop Creighton's Commission on Ministry. The majority of our members have served for many years with Bishop Creighton as our convenor. We will continue to hold both him and Ann up in our prayers as they prepare for retirement. We give thanks to God for all Bishop Creighton has done for our Diocese and we ask that our God bless him, his ministry, and his retirement.

The Commission also will pray for Bishop-elect John and Pat and their family as they prepare for the consecration service on October 31. Our prayer is that our Diocese will support, encourage, and assist the new Bishop in every-way possible as he begins his tenure with the Diocese of South Dakota. May our God bless him and his ministry.

The prayers of the Commission are with the Diocese of South Dakota. We continue to pray for all those in the ordination process and everyone who is discerning their call to 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,  
The Rev. Evelyn Weaver  
Chair of the Commission on Ministry

### **2009 Ecumenical Officer Report**

I continued to serve the Diocese in this capacity in 2009, with Marge Gross also continuing to serve as Associate Ecumenical Officer. We both continue to serve on the Board of Directors of the Association of Christian Churches of South Dakota, which meets quarterly.

The highlight of this year was attending the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church as a Deputy from the Diocese of South Dakota, and serving on the Ecumenical and Interreligious Legislative Committee, #18. This committee crafted several resolutions that passed both houses of General Convention.

- Resolution A073 sets the basis for full communion to be established between The Episcopal Church and the Northern and Southern Provinces of the Moravian Church. The agreement would allow for shared congregations, the establishment of shared churches, and for clergy and laity to move seamlessly between Moravian and Episcopal churches, in the same way the Lutherans and Episcopalians move back and forth, now. The full communion partnership will be especially useful in North Carolina and Pennsylvania, where Moravians have larger populations.
- Resolution A074 endorsed a theological statement on interreligious dialogue that gives dioceses and parishes a document that supports and explains why Episcopalians enter into interreligious dialogue with Muslims and Jews and other world religions. I was part of the subcommittee that made revisions to this resolution before sending it out of the legislative committee for final approval by both houses.
- Resolution A072 reaffirmed the church's ongoing dialogue with the United Methodist Church, which includes interim eucharistic sharing, and expanded that dialogue to include the historically black churches, the African Methodist Church (AME), the

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (AMEZ) and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (CME).

- Resolution A075, with the Presbyterian Church USA, allows Episcopalians and Presbyterians to accept the eucharistic hospitality offered by both churches, and also to share resources. At the local level this allows churches that might be struggling to combine efforts and work together on Christian education, youth groups, and other ministries.
- Resolution A076 directs the Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations to begin a dialogue with the Church of Sweden, with the ultimate goal of reaching full communion. The full texts of these resolutions may be found on the Episcopal Church website, [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org) under "General Convention".

The Consecration of The Very Rev. John Tarrant as the Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese, scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2009 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center, will be a major ecumenical event. Part of the procession will include representatives from other denominations as well as other religions. Their presence will offer their prayers for our Diocese as we step ahead in ministry further into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Very Rev. John H. Spruhan, Ecumenical Officer

### **Episcopal Church Women Diocese of South Dakota Spring Meeting Minutes April 25, 2009**

President Judith Petersen called the meeting to order at 11am followed by the opening prayer, "Water is Life..." The meeting was held at Al's Oasis in Oacoma. Attendees: President Judith Peterson, Vice President Susan Lyman, Treasurer Linda Frederick, Secretary Bonnie Walker, UTO Chairperson Sharon Van Doren, Altar Guild/Quilt Chairperson Beverly Trull, Margaret Vranesh. A quorum was declared in accordance with ECW Bylaws. Copies of the Bylaws approved at the October 3, 2008 meeting were distributed. Minutes of the October 3, 2008 meeting were reviewed and accepted for file. The Treasurer presented her report which was reviewed and accepted for file. Treasurer Linda Frederick then reviewed the 2009 budget, providing current status.

#### **Outstanding Bills**

Judith Petersen presented receipts for postage and related correspondence expenses in the amount of \$41.61.

### **Committee Reports and Unfinished Business**

1. UTO Report was presented by Sharon Van Doren. The fund status was reported and printed in the January/February 2009 issue of the South Dakota Episcopal Church News. Sharon noted we were ahead of both North Dakota and Wyoming relative to the amount of contributions. She also advised receipt of approximately \$2,000 after the 2008 deadline, which will be applied to the 2009 collection. She recommended churches/parishes establish a spring ingathering to collect UTO boxes. Sharon related some ideas for placement of the boxes to facilitate collection, e.g. someone put a box in her refrigerator and contributed every time she opened the door; someone else kept the box in her car and contributed every time she drove somewhere; someone has placed a jar in the parish hall for collections each Sunday after service or during Bible study. Sharon would appreciate hearing about any other suggestions/ideas. She may be contacted in Huron at 352-5705.
2. CPC Report (Chairperson Judy Graves). None.
3. Education Scholarship Report was presented by Judith Peterson on behalf of Sandy Magnavito. Scholarship is for \$500 and funds are available to support three scholarships. The checks are sent to the financial aid offices of the educational institutions at which the students are enrolled. Four applications have been received to date; the deadline is May 31, 2009, so more applications may be received. The Scholarship Committee will have to notify the Treasurer of the three applicants selected to receive the scholarships and the educational institutions they will be attending. Scholarship information is outlined on page 40 of the May/June 2009 issue of the South Dakota Episcopal Church News.
4. Honored Woman Report was presented by Chairperson Susan Lyman. Bernice Jones of St. Andrews Church in Rapid City is South Dakota's 2009 nominee.
5. Altar Guild/Quilt Report was presented by Chairperson Beverly Trull. She reported the quilt is now in Watertown and Judith Petersen noted since it has now completed its rounds of all the requesting South Dakota churches/parishes, it should now go to the Cultural Heritage Museum in Pierre. President Petersen will take this for action. Beverly requested to resign from her duties as Quilt Chairperson since the quilt is now to be retired. Beverly then questioned clarification of her duties as the State ECW Altar Guild Chairperson. The duties are not outlined in the bylaws and will have to be researched since no one present had any first-hand knowledge of the duties.
6. South Sudan Project Report was presented by Judith Petersen. Fundraising is ongoing and to date, approximately \$1,000 has been raised from South Dakota churches/parishes. A progress report of the Su-

dan project appeared in a recent issue of the South Dakota Episcopal Church News.

7. Triennial Report regarding the funding status was presented by Linda Frederick. Funds in the amount of \$1,000 have been distributed to each of the three attendees. Additional funds will be distributed for hotel rooms. Two of the attendees were present (Sharon Van Doren and Susan Lyman) and conferred with Linda regarding funding.
8. Women's Retreat is scheduled June 5-7 at TEC. The theme this year is "Awakening the Body, Mind, and Spirit—Creating Balance in an Unbalanced World." More information and the registration form are available on page 34 of the May/June 2009 issue of the South Dakota Episcopal News. ECW scholarships are available; there is a balance of \$360 on hand. It was suggested scholarship information could be made available on the Diocesan website. Judy Petersen will consult with Judy Graves and Holly Huisken regarding applicants needing scholarship funds and ways to advertise the scholarship.

### **New Business**

1. Fall Election of ECW Officers for the 2010-2012 term of office was discussed. In accordance with the Bylaws, officers may hold office for two consecutive terms. President Petersen asked if the officers present would be willing to serve a second term; all agreed. The slate to be presented at the Fall ECW meeting is:
 

President	Judith Petersen
Vice Pres	Susan Lyman
Treasurer	Linda Frederick
Secretary	Bonnie Walker

 In addition, nominations may be taken from the floor.
2. Outreach Three-Year Cycle was proposed by President Petersen. She envisions the first year being of an international concern, which the Sudan Educational Project was. The second year would focus on assisting a South Dakota church/parish and the third year assistance would be directed to a church or parish in another state. This proposal met with the consensus of those present. In accordance with ECW Bylaws, President Peterson will appoint a committee chairperson.
3. Memorial Cards for ECW Donations was suggested by Judith Peterson when discussion revealed most individuals do not think about the option of bequeathing funds to the ECW. Bonnie Walker volunteered to research a card availability and format.
4. Deceased Women's Names need to be collected for those women dying during 2008. A list was distributed during the 2008 Diocesan Convention; however, it was not compiled by the ECW. We do not want to duplicate work; Judith Petersen will take this for action and determine who usually compiles this list.

*(Continued on page 14)*

5. Fall Meeting Program was discussed. It was proposed Sharon and Susan present a Triennial Report while Margaret Vranesh will liaison with a couple women who perform a very entertaining skit.
6. Triennial Meeting Representatives present were introduced: Sharon Van Doren and Susan Lyman. A third representative, Diana Regan, will also be attending.
7. Letters to Churches/Parishes reminding them of the \$3 per woman annual donation to ECW was addressed. Bonnie will draft correspondence for President Petersen's review and approval to be sent to all South Dakota churches/parishes.
8. Committee Members of the various ECW committees are assigned by the Committee Chairpersons in accordance with the Bylaws. There is no provision; however, for reporting committee members' names to the ECW President. It was felt there is a need for this requirement. Bonnie will draft a proposed Bylaws change to be presented at the Fall meeting.

President Petersen presented the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2009 at the Cedar Shore Resort in Chamberlain.

Bonnie C. Walker  
Secretary

### **Episcopal Relief & Development Report to 2009 Convention**

Episcopal Relief & Development is the international relief and development agency of the Episcopal Church of the United States, guided by the Episcopal Church's principles of compassion, dignity and generosity as we work to heal a hurting world. ER-D is working to alleviate hunger and improving food supplies, they are creating economic opportunities and strengthening communities, promoting health and fighting disease, and responding to disasters and rebuilding communities. Last year they reached more than 2 million people in over 40 countries.

Each Diocese has a Coordinator(s) that works along with parish representatives to educate and raise awareness of how we can help a hurting world. This past year, Diocesan Convention passed a resolution making the first Sunday in Lent Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday. General Convention passed this resolution in July. It would be wonderful for each congregation to have a special offering for ER-D that Sunday.

There are many ways to promote the work of ER-D in our congregations. At St. Mark's, Aberdeen, the Wednesday School offering for the year was used to purchase gifts from the Alternative Gift Market. The children decided what to purchase with the funds collected. They were able

to purchase a duck, a share in a flock of chickens, a share in a fish farm, and mosquito nets.

Bishops Blend is a special line of coffees and teas. These can be purchased from ER-D for your personal use. They are also a great way to do fundraising.

Each Lent, ER-D publishes a Lenten devotional that can be ordered free of charge. St. Mark's has used this devotional for the past two years. There is much we can do to share in healing a hurting world. My hope is that in this next year we will be able to have people volunteer as congregational representatives to bring awareness about the work ER-D is doing and to raise funds so they can continue with their much needed programs.

As coordinator, I would be happy to speak with you and your congregation about the work of ER-D and how you can help. If you have not done so, please visit their website at: [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org).

The Rev. Kathryn Costas, Diocesan Coordinator

### **LITURGICAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2008-2009**

The Liturgical Committee has been very busy since the last Diocesan Convention and has been meeting on a regular basis to plan the worship of a number of events:

- The Electing Convention in May, 2009
- The Service of Thanksgiving for Bishop Robertson's Ministry
- The 2009 Diocesan Convention
- The Consecration of Bishop Coadjutor-elect John Tarrant.

The committee, made up of Deacon Virginia Bird, JoAnn Edstrom, Dr. Stephen Yarbrough, and The Rev. George Parmeter, invited a number of people to join us in the planning of these events due to the complexity and number, and expresses our gratitude for their willingness to assist us. They are Kim Fonder, Mo. Kathryn Costas, Jean Lacher, Barbee Hovelson, Fr. Liam Muller, and Deacon Marty Garwood. Fr. Tarrant has graciously taken time to assist us with the planning of his consecration on October 31 in Sioux Falls. We are also thankful to the Deanery Deans, the Niobrara Deanery Officers, and Bishop Robertson for their support and assistance.

The Liturgical Committee is working hard to bring a visible balance to our worship that will reflect the make up of our diocese and appreciates the support of the Bishop, Standing Committee, and people of the diocese in accomplishing this goal.

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Dr. Stephen Yarbrough has written an exciting anthem for the Consecration of Bishop Tarrant. Kim Fonder has built a new altar for Diocesan events and is invaluable in helping us with Lakota Music. Jean Lacher has made a new altar frontal for the new altar. Barbee Hovelson's graphic design talents have been valuable in designing the worship area for the consecration.

It has indeed been a busy year, and we thank everyone for their support and assistance.

Yours in Christ  
The Rev. George Parmeter, Chair

**Official Acts of the Bishop  
2008-2009  
Report to 2009 Diocesan Convention**

**Consents:**

- Ordination and Consecration of Herman Hollerith IV to be Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia (10/20/08)
- Resignation of The Rt. Rev. Keith L. Ackerman, Bishop of the Diocese of Quincy (10/31/08)
- Ordination and Consecration of J. Scott Mayer to be Bishop of the Diocese of Northwest Texas (1/20/09)
- Ordination and Consecration of Kevin Lee Thew Forrester to be Bishop of the Diocese of Northern Michigan (3/30/09)
- Resignation of The Rt. Rev. Peter J. Lee, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia (5/20/09)
- Resignation of The Rt. Rev. Dorsey L. Henderson, Bishop of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina (5/20/09)
- Resignation of The Rt. Rev. Charles E. Jenkins, Bishop of the Diocese of Louisiana (5/20/09)

**Confirmed/Received:** 75 persons reported

**Ordained to the Diaconate:** None

**Ordained to the Priesthood:**

Rita T. Powell (01/07/2009) for the Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut

**Transferred In:**

The Rev. Ryan A. Hall (from Nebraska)  
The Rev. Rita T. Powell (from Connecticut)

**Approval of Re-marriage After Divorce:** 10

**Licensed 246 Lay Ministers**

**Other Reports:**

**Clergy Deaths:**

The Rev. Robert F. Weld (10/24/08)  
The Rev. Leland D. Brown (1/2/09)  
Deacon Dora Bruguier (6/24/09)

**TEC Board  
Report to 2009 Convention**

This is the first annual report of the newly formed TEC Board. Last December a separate nonprofit corporation called Thunderhead Conference Center was created. The TEC Board is the Board of Directors for that corporation. There are multiple reasons for the creation of the new entity. One of the biggest reasons is that this new corporation will obtain 501(c)(3) status and will be able to accept tax-deductible contributions. We hope that this will encourage people to donate to TEC by knowing that the donations will be used solely for the advancement of this sacred space.

The TEC Board is responsible for management of the facilities and grounds. Its main purpose will be to provide generous hospitality to those who stay there. Holly Huisken serves as the camp director under the supervision of the Board. The program of the summer camp will be under the direction of the Rev. Rita Powell and the Youth Commission.

The Board met twice this past year. Our first meeting was in Pierre on March 13-14. We came together to discuss the new direction in which the board was going and to chart our course. On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, we gathered at TEC during the "work weekend." The central point of discussion was the potential sale of land around the camp to establish an endowment. The members walked the grounds in order to see exactly what land is owned by the Diocese. After much discussion, there was agreement (although not unanimous) that the land on the north side of Hwy. 85 could be sold without doing harm to the character of the camp. The land on the south side, which includes and surrounds the camp, should be maintained as it is. Those who disagreed felt that no land should be sold. Although the final decision rests with the Diocesan Council, the TEC Board hopes that the Council will consider its recommendations as it proceeds.

Between now and convention, the Board will meet again Aug. 28-29 in Pierre. Before ending the report, I would like to express our sincere thanks to Holly for the enormous amount of work that she does on behalf of TEC, the

*(Continued on page 16)*

Diocese, and the youth in South Dakota. She is a force of nature that keeps TEC moving forward. If you see her at convention, be sure to give her a quick “thank you.”

Respectfully submitted,  
David Wheeler  
TEC Board Chair

### **STANDING COMMITTEE 2008-2009 Annual Report**

#### **August 9, 2008**

1 – Gave consent for the Rev. Brian James Thom to be Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Idaho.

2 – Gave consent for the Rev. Charles Andrew Doyle to be Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Texas.

#### **October 3-5, 2008 at Diocesan Convention**

1 – Gave permission for the Diocese to sell two lots in Flandreau, SD and proceed with the building of a new church in Flandreau, SD.

2 – Welcomed new members to the Standing Committee that were elected by Convention - Pat White Horse-Carda and Mo. Marion Rectenwald. Accepted the resignation of Mo. Marion Rectenwald on October 6, 2008.

3 - Officers elected for the coming year:  
President – Jean Lacher  
Vice President – Fr. John Spruhan  
Secretary – Pat White Horse-Carda

#### **December, 2009**

1 –The Bishop appointed Fr. George Parmeter for a one year term to replace Mo. Marion Rectenwald on the Standing Committee.

#### **February 6, 2009**

1 – Gave consent to the consecration of the Rev. Herman Hollerith IV to be Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia.

2 – Gave consent to the election of two Suffragan Bishops for the Diocese of Los Angeles.

3 – Gave consent to the consecration of the Rev. James Scott Mayer as Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of North West Texas.

#### **February 14, 2009**

1 – Gave consent for the Diocese of Long Island to elect a Bishop Coadjutor.

#### **March 27, 2009**

1 – Rejected consent for the Rev. Thew Forrester to be Bishop of Northern Michigan.

#### **June 26, 2009**

1 – Gave consent for the Diocese of Springfield to elect a Bishop Coadjutor.

#### **July 7, 2009**

1 – At General Convention in Anaheim, CA, the South Dakota deputation (including members of the Standing Committee Jean Lacher, Fr. George Parmeter and Fr. John Spruhan) presented Fr. John Tarrant to the Committee for the Consent of Bishop Elections to be the Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of South Dakota. He was approved by the committee, the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops where he was immediately seated with seat and voice for the remainder of General Convention.

Throughout the year the Standing Committee has worked with the Nominating Committee and the Transition Committee on the election process of our next Bishop.

Respectively submitted,

Jean Lacher, President  
Standing Committee

### **Youth in the Diocese Report to 2009 Convention**

#### **CONVOCATION**

The youth at Niobrara Convocation this year had a lot to participate in! Starting Thursday night, Nammy\*-award-winning Native rapper Supaman, of Rezawrecktion, performed songs and told stories. His story of transformation from thug to disciple was inspiring and he spoke openly about being Native and being a Christian and the dynamic tension of those two identities. Friday the TEC staff chaperoned the Convocation youth down to a Tribal Youth Day at the Rosebud Casino for games and more live music. Saturday, the Habitat for Humanity Road Race and Walk happened, and in the afternoon over 40 young people joined TEC staff at the Mission pool for a good time

*(Continued on page 17)*



in the water. At Sunday morning's closing festival Eucharist, over 20 young people were confirmed by the Bishops present. It was a joyous event, and will hopefully continue to grow in strength and size with every summer.

\*Native American Music Award

## SUMMER CAMP

TEC had a glorious summer of youth program. We had a 30% increase in campers! A total of 81 young people participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> family camp, high school, girls, boys, and coed middle school camps. Almost 70% of our campers' visits to TEC were made possible by the generosity of the scholarship money given to TEC by the Niobrara Council and St. Mary's Scholarship Board. And a special thanks to all of you, parents and other leaders in the Diocese, particularly **Fr. Rob and Jeanne Schwarz, Sheryl Sam, Kim Fonder, Jay Vanduch, Pat White Horse-Carda, Harold Bakker, Julie Gehm, Kitty Tigger, T.J. Bozied, and Dave Sanford** who went the extra mile (or 400) to get kids to and from camps this summer. Your commitment is part of how we let our youth know they are valuable!

We had wonderful visiting priests and spiritual directors. Special thanks to **Mo. Kathryn Costas, Fr. Rob Schwarz, Fr. Ryan Hall, Mo. Mercy Hobbs, Fr. Liam Muller, Mo. Liz Powers, and Sam Robertson** for all the program and presence they provided our young people this summer! **Mo. Kathryn** trained our counselor staff in observing boundaries - physical, emotional, and spiritual. **Father Ryan** and **Father Rob** brought liturgical lessons to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade camp, teaching about vessels and vestments and Holy Communion. **Portia Hurney**, Head Counselor, Trinity, Pierre, was a wonderful part of camp this summer contributing a series of explorations of different styles of prayer for the High School and Middle School girls sessions. **Fr. Liam** taught a rigorous course on the essentials of being an Episcopal Christian for the coed middle school confirmation camp. **Sam Robertson** brought a message of racial awareness and compassion to the middle school boys camp. **Father John Tarrant** contributed from afar by loaning TEC a series of provocative DVDs by Christian writer Rob Bell which were used by each camp to stimulate real discussions of faith in our lives.

In addition, we had chapel services twice daily, song practices where we learned songs in English, Lakota, French, German, Swedish and Spanish, and trips to explore the sacred beauty of the Black Hills. Campers visited Roughlock Falls, Lake Roubaix, Bear Butte, and our very own special cliffs for Eucharist. And of course, camp wouldn't be camp without prayer partners, campfires and songs, water balloon volleyball, capture the flag, mafia,

signs, and name games. As one camper said after every meal.... Go Camp!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Rita Powell  
Diocesan Youth Coordinator



## Annual Diocesan Convention to be held in October

**D**iocesan Convention will be held at Cedar Shore Resort, October 2-4, 2009. The Northeast Deanery hosts this year. The Clergy Conference begins October 1.

# PARTNERS WITH A GENEROUS GOD

### *Resolutions to Diocesan Convention*

## PLEASE NOTE:

In order to be better stewards of resources, convention will continue cutting back on printed materials. This year bring with you your –

- Book of Common Prayer
- 1982 Hymnal
- Dakota Hymnal

If you don't have a copy of each, borrow them from your church. Dakota Hymnals will be available for purchase for \$15 at convention. Until this becomes a habit, we ask that those with books be prepared to share with those who forget to bring them.

- Bible if you wish to read along with the lessons during the services.

If you have a good suggestion for approaching "paperlessness" or another area where we can be better stewards, please make it known.

### KEYNOTE CONVENTION SPEAKERS

- **Bishop-Elect John Tarrant** will preach at the Opening Eucharist on Friday evening.
- **The Very Rev. Bunker Hill**, Chair of the Diocesan Stewardship Commission which helped plan this convention, will preach at the Closing Eucharist.
- **James W.N. Murphy**, Associate Program Director of Planned Giving & Endowment Management for the Episcopal Church Foundation, will facilitate the Clergy Conference.

*Another note: the Hwy 50 bridge from Chamberlain over the Missouri River to Cedar Shore may be closed at Convention time. Exit I-90 at Oacoma and follow the road around to the resort.*

**A**ll Resolutions to Diocesan Convention are to be submitted in writing to the Committee on Resolutions through the Diocesan Office. They should be clearly typed. The committee requests that resolutions do not begin with "whereas" but simply state the resolution, following by the explanation and rationale. The "whereas" is not part of the resolution. This format for resolutions allows for greater clarity as to what the resolution is attempting to communicate.

Resolutions should take the following form.

**Submitted by** (name of individual, church, or deanery).

**RESOLVED, that the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Convention of the Diocese of South Dakota** (state the resolution).

**RESOLVED,** (Further resolves may also be stated).

**Explanation:** (This is where informative material and rationale for the resolution is inserted. It is used in place of "whereas")

**Impact on Budget:** (This is where an estimate of costs is placed and suggestions for funding)

The deadline for submitting resolutions generated before the pre-Convention deanery meeting is two weeks before those meetings and the deadline for submitting resolutions generated at pre-Convention deanery meetings is no later than the Friday following those meetings.

The first mailing of Convention materials, including pre-registration forms, was mailed to delegates in mid-August. If you are a delegate or alternate and did not receive a packet, please notify the Diocesan Office.

## 2009 Convention Pre-Registration Form

**Return completed form by SEPTEMBER 10**

*Please see instructions on back*

**CHECK ONE:**

Name _____	Clergy Delegate	Lay Delegate	Alternate	Visitor
Last                                  First	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

First name is prominent on nametag. How would you like your first name to read? \_\_\_\_\_

***CLERGY**, will you be attending the Clergy Conference & Thursday dinner? \_\_\_\_\_ YES    \_\_\_\_\_ NO*

***CLERGY SPOUSE**, will you be attending the Thursday night dinner? \_\_\_\_\_ YES    \_\_\_\_\_ NO*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Location/City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Will you sing in the Convention Choir? Yes  No

Do you wish to have an exhibit table (\$10/table/day)? Yes  No

✓ Check the 2 workshops you will attend:

___ Stewardship 101	___ Living Wisely
___ Annual Stewardship Program	___ Parish Endowments
___ Stewardship/Native American	___ Next Step

**REGISTRATION FEE:** (includes 2 Saturday meals, snacks, and materials. Breakfast is on your own)

\_\_\_ **\$60 for Clergy Delegates, Lay Delegates, Alternates, and Visitors**

**MEALS ONLY:** (for unregistered guests only)

**Saturday Lunch Buffet**

\_\_\_ @ \$11.50 each

**Saturday Night Banquet Buffet**

\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 each

\_\_\_ @ \$12.50 each (Child 10 yrs and under)

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Payment Enclosed** (make checks payable to "The Diocese of South Dakota")

\_\_\_ I will pay at convention.

## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

### PRE-REGISTRATION

- Please use only one (1) name per form.
- **Return pre-registration forms (and payment - check or money order) by September 10 to:**

*The Diocese of South Dakota*

*500 S. Main Avenue*

*Sioux Falls, SD 57104*

*Email office.diocese@midconetwork.com, or call (605) 338-9751 if you have any questions.*

- Payment is preferred in advance, but can be made on-site at the registration table.
- Registrants need to check in at the Convention Registration table at Cedar Shore to receive packet of materials.
- Delegates must also check in at the Credentials table after registering.

### MEALS

- Registration fee for Delegates, Alternates, and Visitors includes Sat Lunch, Sat Banquet, Breaks, and Materials.
- Breakfast is on your own.
- Meals for unregistered guests —use Meals Only portion.

### HOUSING:

- Our room block rate at **Cedar Shore** is guaranteed through **September 1**. Call 605-734-6376 to book; tell them you're with "The Diocese of SD Convention." Rates: \$72.95/night (for single or double) plus tax.
- Alternate lodging is available at area motels. See separate sheet.

### **Cedar Shore Resort**

1500 Shoreline Dr. Oacoma Rooms @ \$72.95

1-90 Exit 260 Chamberlain/Oacoma

Reservations: 888-697-6363

605-734-6376

### ALTERNATE CONVENTION LODGING

#### Chamberlain

##### **Bel Aire Motel**

312 E. King Ave

605-734-5595

##### **Hillside Motel**

502 E. King

605-734-5591

##### **Super 8 Motel**

Lakeview Heights

605-734-6548

##### **Best Western Lee's Motor Inn**

220 W. King Ave

1-800-528-1234

605-734-5575

##### **Riverview Inn**

605-734-6057

##### **AmericInn**

Off I-90 at Exit 265

1981 E. King St.

1-800-634-3444

605-734-0985

#### Oacoma

##### **Days Inn of Oacoma**

400 E. Hwy 16

605-734-4100

##### **(Kelly Inn) Oasis Inn**

Next to Al's Oasis Restaurant & Lounge

1100 E. Hwy 16 (I-90 at Exit 260)

605-734-6061

##### **Holiday Inn Express**

I-90 at Exit 260

1-800-465-4329

605-734-5593

##### **Howard Johnson Inn & Suites**

203 E. SD Hwy 16 (I-90 at Exit 260)

605-234-4222

## *Partners with a Generous God*

We are God's stewards,  
using the gifts God has given us  
to do the work God is calling us to do.

**WORKSHOPS** by members of the Diocesan Stewardship Committee include:

Stewardship 101: An introduction to Christian stewardship – *Bishop-elect John Tarrant*

Our Bishop-elect will give his theology and insights on faithful Christian stewardship

Living Wi\$ely: Explore money, faith, and getting out of debt

– *Treasurer Chuck Bahnsen & Administrator Randy Barnhardt*

When times are hard and money is tight, consider the Church as a place to find help.

Annual Stewardship Program: launching an annual pledge program – *Dean Bunker Hill*

Laying the groundwork for launching an effective program of pledging in your parish.

Stewardship in a Native American Context – *Karen Eagle, Mission*

This workshop will examine the challenges and opportunities for stewardship  
in a Native American Context.

Establishing a Parish Endowment – *Connie Lane, Rapid City*

Every church should have in place the structure necessary to enable the church to encourage legacy giving.

\*\*\*Each workshop will be held twice to allow for a broad participation.  
Look for times and room locations in your registration packet.\*\*\*

The Diocese of South Dakota 2009 Convention  
October 1-4 ♦ Cedar Shore, Oacoma

## Preliminary\*\* Convention Schedule

### THURSDAY, October 1

1 pm Clergy Conference w/Jim Murphy of  
Episcopal Church Foundation on Legacy Giving  
6:30 pm Clergy/Spouse Dinner & Shower

1:15 pm **Plenary Session II**  
Elections  
Resolutions

4:00 pm Workshops\*  
4:00 pm Next Step Workshop

### FRIDAY, October 2

7:30 am Clergy/Spouse breakfast  
8:00 am Clergy Conference Continues  
12 noon Clergy/Spouse lunch

6:00 pm COM/SC Reception for those in the  
ordination process

11:30—3pm **ECW Lunch & Meeting**

**6:45 pm Banquet Buffet  
Compline**

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

### SUNDAY, October 4

4:00 pm Standing Committee Meeting  
4:00 pm Host of Next Convention Meeting  
(Central & Northwest Deaneries)  
5:00 pm Choir Rehearsal, Convention Floor  
5:00 pm Niobrara Council Meeting

*Breakfast on your own.*

8:15 am Choir Rehearsal

**7:30 pm Opening Eucharist**  
Reception hosted by Northeast Deanery

8:45 am **Plenary Session III**  
Unfinished Business

After service: Liturgy Commission Meeting, lobby

9:15 am Workshops\*

**10:45 am Closing Eucharist** at the Convention  
Center

### SATURDAY, October 3

*Breakfast on your own.*

8 a.m.-12 noon Registration at Convention Center

**8:30 am Morning Prayer**

9:00 am **Plenary Session I**  
Introductory Business  
Discussion and Action on Budget  
General Convention Report

\*These workshops will be held twice, so you can attend two different sessions.

- Stewardship 101
- Living Wisely
- Annual Stewardship Program
- Stewardship in a Native American Context
- Establishing a Parish Endowment

**11:00 am Deadline for nominations, resolutions**

\*\*some of this is subject to change.  
Check next issue of *ChurchNews*, second mailing to  
delegates, and registration packets for updates.  
August, 2009

**11:30 Noonday Prayers**  
12 noon Lunch buffet

**Nomination Form**  
**2008 Annual Diocesan Convention**  
**Please fill in all areas, and return the form BY SEPTEMBER 10\* to**  
**Diocesan Office**  
**500 S. Main Avenue**  
**Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814**

**Clip Photo Here**  
or send digitally  
(300 dpi)  
if photo not already on  
file at Diocesan Office

**Print Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone: (Day)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Eve or Cell)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Congregation/City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature)*

\_\_\_ **Yes, I accept this nomination:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature)*

**I nominate this person for:**

\_\_\_ **Diocesan Council Convention Representative**  
\_\_\_ 1 Person to fill 4 year term (term expires 2013)

\_\_\_ **Standing Committee**  
\_\_\_ 1 Presbyter (Priest) to fill 4 year term (term expires 2013)  
\_\_\_ 1 Presbyter (Priest) to fill 3 year term (term expires 2012)  
\_\_\_ 1 Lay person to fill 4 year term (term expires 2013)

\_\_\_ **Province VI Deputy**  
\_\_\_ 1 Clergy (presbyter or deacon) to fill 3 year term (term expires 2012)  
\_\_\_ 1 Lay person to fill 2 year term (term expires 2011)  
\_\_\_ 1 Lay person to fill 3 year term (term expires 2012)

\_\_\_ **Trial Court**  
\_\_\_ 1 Presbyter (Priest) for 3 year term (term expires 2012)  
\_\_\_ 1 Presbyter (Priest) for 5 year term (term expires 2014)  
\_\_\_ 1 Presbyter (Priest) for 1 year term (term expires 2010)  
\_\_\_ 1 Lay Person for 2 year unexpired term (term expires 2011)  
\_\_\_ 1 Lay Person for 4 year unexpired term (term expires 2013)

**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.**

\*\*\*to be included in convention packets. Deadline for nominations is Oct 2 at 11:00 am.

### **Diocesan Council**

1 person to fill 4 year term (term expires 2013)

The Diocesan Council consists of the Bishop and one person elected from each Region Deanery, the Diocesan Convention, the Niobrara Convocation, the Chancellor, and the Treasurer. The Council implements actions assigned to it by the Diocesan Convention; reviews diocesan regional and local programs, administers legal functions of the Diocese; controls the property under the Chapter; determines budget policies; recommends programs, and more. It meets 4 times a year or as necessary. Council members are voting delegates to Annual Convention.

### **Standing Committee**

1 Presbyter (Priest) to fill 4 year term (term expires 2013)

1 Presbyter (Priest) to fill 3 year term (term expires 2012)

1 Lay person to fill 4 year term (term expires 2013)

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 2012)

1 Lay person to fill 2 year term (term expires 2012)

1 Lay person to fill 3 year term (term expires 2013)

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 term (term expires 2012)

1 Presbyter (Priest) for 5 year term (term expires 2014)

1 Presbyter (Priest) for 1 year term (term expires 2010)

1 Lay Person for 2 year unexpired term (term expires 2011)

1 Lay Person for 4 year unexpired term (term expires 2013)

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.



# 2009 Pre-Convention Deanery Meetings

An opportunity to contribute to a discussion about a new vision for Diocesan Convention.  
**Delegates and interested others** are urged to attend.  
Participants will also prepare for upcoming convention business.

<p><b>Eastern &amp; Northeastern Deaneries</b></p> <p>Sun. Sept 13, 4pm St. Paul's, Brookings 726 Sixth Street 692-2617</p>	<p><b>Central, Northwest, Rosebud, &amp; Pine Ridge Deaneries</b></p> <p>Sat. Sept 19, 1pm St. Peter's Church, Ft. Pierre (Hwy 83)</p>	<p><b>Black Hills Deanery</b></p> <p>Sun. Sept. 21, 2pm St. Andrew's, Rapid City 910 Soo San 343-4210</p>
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<p><b>Central Deanery</b></p> <p>Chamberlain Fort Thompson Fort Pierre Gettysburg Lower Brule Pierre Pukwana</p> <p><b>Northwest Deanery</b> <i>The Very Rev. Rob Schwarz, Dean * 845-2182</i></p> <p>Bear Creek      Little Oak Creek Blackfoot      McLaughlin Bullhead      Mobridge Cherry Creek    On the Tree Dupree          Promise Eagle Butte      Thunder Butte Firesteel          Wakpala Iron Lightning    White Horse Little Eagle</p>	<p><b>Eastern Deanery</b> <i>The Very Rev. Liam Muller, Dean * 996-3025</i></p> <p>DeSmet          Mitchell Flandreau        Santee Howe Creek      Sioux Falls Huron            Vermillion Madison          Yankton</p> <p><b>Northeast Deanery</b> <i>The Very Rev. Kathryn Costas, Dean * 225-0474</i></p> <p>Aberdeen Brookings Brown's Valley Enemy Swim Lake Milbank Old Agency Sisseton Watertown Webster</p>	<p><b>Pine Ridge Deanery</b> <i>The Very Rev. Craig West, Dean * 685-6631</i></p> <p>Batesland Calico Kyle Martin Pine Ridge Porcupine Wanblee</p> <p><b>Rosebud Deanery</b> <i>The Very Rev. John Spruhan, Dean * 747-5927</i></p> <p>Bonesteel      Norris Corn Creek      Okreek Gregory          Rosebud Herrick          Soldier's Crk Ideal              Wagner Lake Andes      White River Mission          Winner</p>	<p><b>Black Hills Deanery</b> <i>The Very Rev. Bunker Hill, Dean * 642-4349</i></p> <p>Belle Fourche Deadwood Hot Springs      Lead Rapid City Spearfish Sturgis</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>September 2009</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; font-size: small;"> <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>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>October 2009</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; font-size: small;"> <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	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					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	31
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## GRACE HAPPENS

### “Caregivers Who Truly Care”

*By The Rev. Fred Jessett*

**I**n over 40 years of ordained ministry I have seen the inside of many nursing homes. I've watched the staff interact with residents, and I have gotten to know some of the staff. I've been impressed with some of them, especially those who work in the Alzheimer's unit. My friend, I'll call her Mary, is one of them.

They never see improvement, only decay in the condition of those in their care. In addition to the health and sanitation issues all nursing home caregivers face, they must deal with behavior which is unpredictable and, in some residents, can become violent. Even so, some care deeply for people who are neither friends nor relatives, yet whom they know as intimately as a mother knows her small child.

They see heartbreaking things like residents whose families seldom or never come to visit them, or as Mary told me once, both a mother and her daughter in the same unit; neither one recognizing the other.

They see amazing things like the woman who could not speak two words that made sense, yet when she heard a music therapist playing and singing, she began to sing. She sang all the right words and continued song after song.

Sometimes the caregiver knows a great deal about residents' former lives when they enter the unit, and sometimes they only discover a resident's accomplishments after the obituary is published. Sometimes someone comes to the unit whom the caregiver has known previously. Mary cared for a woman who had been one of her grade school teachers.

These workers get to know the resident's family. They become almost part of the family, knowing of births, graduations, weddings, and deaths. Once, at the request of a family, Mary accompanied a resident to the wedding of one of the resident's grandchildren.

For many, the hardest part of this job comes when a resident dies. The care-givers lose the resident and also contact with the resident's family because the family no longer has a reason to come to the facility. And yes, these caregivers do grieve when residents die. Sometimes a profound bond forms between caregiver and resident and no amount of professionalism can keep a caring heart from breaking.

Mary told me that when someone she has cared for dies, she likes to be able to do the post-mortem care of the body. This gives her the feeling that she has truly completed her care for that person.

Unfortunately these caregivers are not paid well and do not always get the respect they deserve. Why do they continue in these difficult, sometimes dangerous, jobs? For some it may be just a job, but for Mary and those like her, there is a profound sense of call. This is where God means them to be and this keeps them on the job in spite of the blood, vomit, feces, and thrown objects, they must too often face. They know that what they do, and how they do it, makes all the difference in the world to those for whom they care. And they experience things the rest of us will never experience, and learn things we will never know about our common humanity.

Here they experience God's grace even as they are the channels of that grace to others.

© Fred Jessett 2009



## A “short” summary of General Convention actions

From *EpiscopalLife Monthly*,  
Episcopal News Service,  
and General Convention website.



By Solange De Santis, *EpiscopalLife Monthly*  
By Mary Frances Schjonberg, *ENS*

**T**he Episcopal Church, proud of its history and determined in its methods, gathered for the 76<sup>th</sup> time in General Convention, on this occasion in Anaheim, CA from July 8 to 17, and spoke with a clear voice, though many went home with heavy hearts.

Leading from opening addresses from Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and House of Deputies President Bonnie Anderson, the 1100 clergy and lay deputies and 150 bishops focused on mission. They considered mission in a time of economic scarcity, mission to all the baptized, mission to the “least” among us.

Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams visited for two days and engaged with a wide range of Episcopalians, from leaders to kids in a local church program.

As in recent conventions, this gathering addressed questions of human sexuality. While the interpretation and effects of its decisions are varied, convention unambiguously stated through resolution that gay and lesbian people may be called to ordination at all levels. It also said that God’s call to ordination is a mystery that the church discerns through the process outlined in the Constitution and Canons of the church. Nothing changed with this resolution. What the convention did was to reaffirm that the ordination process is under the control of local bishops and dioceses, while stressing that access to that process is open to all baptized persons.

The resolution also reaffirmed the Episcopal Church’s participation in the Anglican Communion, while noting that the communion and the Episcopal Church are not of one mind on this matter.

It acknowledged that times are changing, with same-gender marriage, civil unions and domestic partnerships legal or about to become legal in some states, and authorized the church to collect and develop resources

for blessing same-gender couples.

As always, convention encompassed much more than legislation. The host diocese, Los Angeles, started building a Habitat for Humanity house at the convention site. It hosted a multimedia “emergent church” service and a U2charist featuring the music of rock group U2. The exhibit hall, with its varied and colorful booths featuring books, vestments, jewelry, carvings and a wide range of ministries, became a bazaar, a meeting place and a crossroads.

Perhaps the most vibrant parts of convention involved young people. Los Angeles hosted a lively children’s program for parents working long hours. Older counterparts, from teenagers to young adults, were seen on the floor of convention speaking to the issues, advocating for peace and justice and getting comfortable with leadership roles.

The 77<sup>th</sup> General Convention meets in Indianapolis in 2012 and again decides how this church will address its faith and its time.

### **Budget adopted**

Convention adopted as budget/mission priorities: networking the members of the body of Christ, alleviating poverty and injustice, claiming our identity, growing congregations and the next generations of faith, strengthening governance and foundations for ministry (Resolution D052).

It acknowledged economic reality by passing a budget that reflected lower givings by dioceses hit with financial woes of their own. The decision resulted in the layoff of about 30 people out of a staff of 180 in New York and regional offices.

It adopted a \$141 million budget for 2010-2012 that asks for less money from dioceses and drastically reduces church-wide spending by \$23 million. The proposed budget predicts total triennial income of \$141,271,984 with \$79,161,193 coming from the dioceses and \$27.6 million from investment income. Expenses are budgeted at \$140,856,531.

Some church-wide programs will be eliminated under the budget, encouraging more mission work to take place in dioceses and congregations. The next General Convention could be two days shorter, and interim church bodies will meet face-to-face less frequently during the triennium.

The budget did, however, recommit the church to the UN's Millennium Development Goals for social progress by reinstating a budget line for that work that supports Episcopal Relief and Development's program partnership called NetsforLife. It supplies insecticide-treated bed nets to prevent malaria.

It also endorsed and provided 10% of the money asked for a strategic vision that is aimed at evangelizing in fast-growing Hispanic/Latino communities.

Grant money to the assisted dioceses (including South Dakota) was not increased, but neither was it reduced. Several deputies spoke earnestly in favor of increased support for Native American ministry.

"The most lasting impact of the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention is likely to be an increase of initiative and energy in local congregations and dioceses. The emphasis on local ministry is a proper expression of the principle of subsidiarity, whereby mission should occur at the level closest to the people who are called to engage in that mission," said Bishop Lee of Virginia.

**A sampling of Legislation adopted by General Convention.** View complete legislation at [www.gc2009.org](http://www.gc2009.org) and [www.episcopalchurch.org/79901\\_113303\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/79901_113303_ENG_HTML.htm)

### **Ecumenical**

As Christian churches continue to reach out to each other in this age of ecumenism, General Convention approved the expansion or affirmation of relationships with Moravians, Presbyterians, United Methodists, African Methodists, and others.

### **Denominational health insurance plan**

Resolution A177 establishes a mandatory health plan for the Episcopal Church through the church's Medical Trust. The plan applies to all domestic dioceses (including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) and congregations, parishes and missions, as well as church organizations mandated by church canons. It would provide parity of coverage to all lay and clergy employees working at least 1,500 hours a year.

C071, authored by the Diocese of East Tennessee, called for health care coverage for all. They also produced a discussion guide on the Christian basis for universal health care. Check it out at [www.etdiocese.net](http://www.etdiocese.net)

### **Title IV disciplinary canons revision**

The 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention also approved an overhaul of the Episcopal Church's ministry discipline

canons, moving them away from a court-oriented system towards one based on safety, truth-telling, healing and reconciliation. The revision of Title IV, Ecclesiastical Discipline, applies only to clergy and not laity and will be effective on July 1, 2011.

### **Lay pension plan**

Resolution A138 changes church canons to implement a mandatory pension plan for lay church employees who work at least 1,000 hours a year.

### **Bishop Consents**

Our own Bishop-elect, John Tarrant, may be the last bishop-elect to receive confirmation at General Convention. Resolution B029, approved on first reading, will amend the church's constitution to remove the provision that bishop elections within 120 days of General Convention receive approval at convention. All other bishop elections receive consents by diocesan bishops and Standing Committees, and this resolution would make that process apply to all elections.

### **Evangelism**

(A065) All dioceses are urged, through their Commissions on Ministry or other appropriate bodies, to identify, call forth, and certify evangelists, and to ensure that there are adequate training programs and materials available for culturally appropriate evangelism. By adding "Evangelist" to The Episcopal Church's licensed lay leaders (A064) we lift up and celebrate those whose unique gifts particularly inspire, encourage and lead the community toward bolder proclamation of the good news.

Convention encouraged the art of story-telling, scheduling three "mission conversation" sessions during which people learned to tell their personal stories of faith in ways that call others to action.

### **Education Resolutions**

- A191 on Ministry formation and theological education for all four orders.
- B013 on equipping the baptized for ministry in The Episcopal Church.
- C013 provided less financial support through SIM for those studying ordained ministry than originally asked.
- B025 encourages congregations to develop partnerships with local public schools, giving time in support of public education

### **Lifelong Christian Formation**

Resolution A082 adopted the Charter for Lifelong

Christian Formation and encouraged dioceses to formulate a strategy for it. Lifelong Christian Faith Formation in The Episcopal Church is lifelong growth in the knowledge, service and love of God as followers of Christ and is informed by Scripture, Tradition and Reason.

In our Baptismal Covenant, The Episcopal Church has gracefully articulated the way in which we answer Christ's call. Lifelong Christian Formation describes the many processes by which we live into that covenant.

Life-long Christian formation is foundational to the success of any church, and is an integral part of the process by which we will rebuild The Episcopal Church. Our congregations will grow in numbers and health when they are supported by leaders – of all orders of ministry – who know their identity in Christ and are able to access their tradition for the purposes of proclaiming and living out the Gospel.

### Revision of Church Calendar

Approved for revision and trial use the revised and augmented *Holy Women, Holy Men* (A095, A096, A097, A098)

### Racism, Justice, Reconciliation Resolutions

- A142 recommits to being anti-racists
- A143 extends encouragement to research the complicity of the Episcopal Church in the slave trade.
- B006 urges action on the economic justice implications of immigration.
- A155 establishes a community-development initiative in Native people's communities and begin a strategic plan for establishing domestic development programs
- A152 directs the Committee on Indigenous Ministries to assess preservation of burial sites and other sacred places
- D035 repudiates and renounces the Doctrine of Discovery (the concept that Christian sovereigns and their explorers could assert dominion over non-Christian lands)

### Others

- A045 asks the church to restrict use of bottled water where safe.
- C051 on ministry to wounded soldiers & veterans.
- D055 reaffirmed the tithe as the minimum standard of giving.
- Resolution D018 urges bishops to develop a pas-

toral teaching resource on God's mission and the global economic crisis and invites dioceses and congregations to use Lent 2010 as a time of "penitential reflection on the brokenness of the global economic order and its reformation in light of the gospel," noting that the global economic crisis is as much a spiritual, moral and ethical crisis as it is a financial crisis.

### The church's liturgical life

- A178 encourages dioceses, congregations and individuals to remember and support Episcopal Relief and Development's work during Lent;
- A088 adopts *Rachel's Tears, Hannah's Hopes*, liturgical resources to assist with healing after abortions or other childbearing-related losses;
- C078 directs development of a liturgy for the loss of a companion animal;
- A099 adds various observances and prayers to the church's liturgical calendar.

### Openness of ordination process affirmed

The 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention reaffirmed the inclusive nature of the Episcopal Church's ordination process and agreed to spend the next three years developing resources that could be used for blessing same-gender relationships. The moves came in the form of resolutions D025 on the ordination process and C056 on same-gender blessings.

### Resolution D025

Resolution D025 says that the Episcopal Church is committed to its relationships in the Anglican Communion; recognizes the contributions of both its lay and ordained gay and lesbian members; that many of those members live in committed relationships; that access to the church's discernment and ordination process is open to all baptized members according to the Constitution and Canons; and that members of the church disagree faithfully and conscientiously about issues of human sexuality.

D025 was chosen from among 13 resolutions that proposed some action addressing Resolution B033, adopted by the 75<sup>th</sup> General Convention (2006), which called for restraint in consenting to the consecration of bishops whose "manner of life" – widely understood to mean homosexuality – would cause concern for other members of the Anglican Communion.

Both bishops and deputies approved Resolution D025 by two-to-one margins.

**Resolution C056**

C056 calls for the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, in conjunction with the House of Bishops, to invite church-wide participation in collecting and developing theological resources and liturgies for blessing same-gender relationships. The commission is to report on its efforts to General Convention 2012.

The resolution also says that bishops, “particularly those in dioceses within civil jurisdictions where same-gender marriage, civil unions or domestic partnerships are legal, may provide generous pastoral response to meet the needs of members of this church.”

The bishops approved (by a three-to-one margin) a version of Resolution C056 that was developed by a group of more than 25 bishops who Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori later described as “representing diverse and divergent views” who “gathered informally” and “had thoughtful, loving and candid conversation.” Later the House of Deputies gave its required concurrence in a vote by orders, also by a wide margin.

**Differing views**

While groups that advocate for the full inclusion of gay and lesbian people in the church praised the convention’s actions, other groups were critical. On July 16, Bishop Gary W. Lillibridge of West Texas read a statement to a closed session of the House of Bishops opposing the decision and asserting loyalty to the Anglican Communion. The “Anaheim Statement” was later signed by some 30 diocesan, suffragan and retired bishops.

On July 27, Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, who attended convention for the first two days, wrote, “No one could be in any doubt about the eagerness of the bishops and deputies of the Episcopal Church at the General Convention to affirm their concern about the wider Anglican Communion.”

However, Williams noted “that a realistic assessment of what convention has resolved does not suggest that it will repair the broken bridges into the life of other Anglican provinces; very serious anxieties have already been expressed.”

While Williams underscored that “no Anglican has any business reinforcing prejudice against LGBT people,” he concluded that blessings for same-gender unions cannot, at present, have “the authority of the Church Catholic, or even of the communion as a whole,” because such a change in policy would require “the most

painstaking biblical exegesis” as well as consensus in the Anglican Communion and with ecumenical partners.

House of Deputies President Bonnie Anderson said during the convention’s final media briefing that she hoped the convention’s actions could be interpreted “without any sort of ulterior motive with regards to how our actions are designed to affect or not affect the Anglican Communion.”

Jefferts Schori added, “We are simply trying to express the state of discernment in this church at this time, recognizing that there is not unanimity within our own church and certainly not expecting that there will be unanimity around the communion, but we must be faithful to the call of God as we hear it.”

**ECW Triennial Convention Report**

- Deacon Susan Lyman

**I**t began with a delayed flight. I arrived at John Wayne Airport four hours late and crept into our room at 11:30 pm. Next morning we hit the floor early and scooted from then on. Sharon Van Dorn was an experienced conventioneer so she showed me the ropes.

The ECW plenary sessions were well managed. We had music by a couple from Downey, Calif. for every session. Our chaplain, The Rev. Nancy Sloan, gave us words of guidance, hope and meditation. The Rev. Liz Habecher was in charge of program. She kept us on task and eased any tensions.

The hearings on bylaw changes were informative. Those who spoke were very articulate. The only change that passed was adding “and communication” to the job title of Vice President of Information.

The hearing on UTO grants was well attended. It is amazing!! UTO distributed almost \$7 million in grants, all collected from the little blue boxes.

Our speakers were the Dean of the National Cathedral, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Presiding Bishop Katherine, Phyllis Tickle, and members of the committee appointed to study UTO. That committee was a hot button issue. Three resolutions were presented to suggest/request representatives from UTO and ECW be on the survey crew, and they were passed.

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Projects: 'Jericho Road' and 'Project Dignity' were supported. \$72,000 of the \$100,000 asked for was raised over the last three years for the Jericho Road house in New Orleans. 'Dignity' is an L.A. Diocesan project. Many homeless families are living in motels. 'Dignity' collects necessities for them, such as soap, towels, toys, first aid needs, laundry soap, gift cards, school supplies, etc. The husband of the woman who started Project Dignity (who died last year after a 22 year battle against brain cancer) spoke to our group. The Project still operates out of their garage to keep overhead low.

We met the candidates for the National Board and elections were held. Marcia Hines of Wyoming, Province VI, was elected president.

The evenings were up to us. There were dinners every night and a wide variety of programs.

The theme of the Triennial was "Grow in Grace." I found grace the whole time – in the airport waiting to go to Houston, in Houston in the dash to the connecting flight, late at night at John Wayne Airport, at the Marriott with the staff, at the convention, the exhibit hall, the exhibitors, the workshops; meeting all the honored women and all the amazing, gentle, intelligent, purposeful women; and the daily Holy Communion.

As Billy Crystal says, "Marvelous, simply Marvelous!" Thank you for sponsoring me.

—Deacon Susan Lyman, Vermillion & Santee

## Diocesan Calendar

### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

- Sep 18-19 COM, Pierre
- Sep 13 Pre-Conv Deanery Mtg, Brookings
- Sep 19 Pre-Conv Deanery Mtg, Ft. Pierre
- Sep 20 Pre-Conv Deanery Mtg, St. A's, RC
- Sep 26 J2A Training, Calvary Cathedral
- Sep 26-27 Standing Rock Youth Event
- Oct 1-2 Clergy Conference, Cedar Shore
- Oct 2-4 Annual Convention, Cedar Shore
- Oct 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Nov/Dec issue)
- Oct 17 Ministry Training (*Prevention of Sexual Abuse*), Chamberlain
- Oct 30 Clergy meeting w/Presiding Bishop
- Oct 30 Consecration Rehearsals
- Oct 31 Consecration of Bishop Coadjutor

### NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

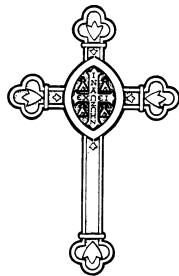
- Nov 6-8 Dakota Experience (tentative)
- Nov 21 Ministry Training (*Christian Education*), Sioux Falls
- Dec 4-5 Diocesan Council
- Dec 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Jan/Feb issue)

### 2010

- Jun 6-11 Summer Seminary, TEC
- Jun 17-20 Niobrara Convocation, Sisseton Mission

138<sup>th</sup> Niobrara Convocation  
(2010)  
June 17-20, 2010

Hosted by:  
the Sisseton Mission  
St. Mary's Church  
Old Agency



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- For detailed information on General Convention legislation, go to [www.gc2009.org](http://www.gc2009.org) and click "View Legislation"
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***The Episcopal Church in South Dakota is a sacred circle gathered around Jesus in prayer, loving and serving God and our neighbor in Jesus' name.***

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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.