



South Dakota Episcopal

Church News

www.diocesesd.org

September/October 2011

Annual Convention Time

On September 9, 2011 between 200 and 250 people will gather at the Ramkota Hotel & Convention Center in Pierre to greet old friends, make new ones, worship our Lord, be inspired, learn something new, and conduct the business of the diocese.

The reports to convention from various boards, committees, commissions, and councils have been included in this and the July/August issues of the newsletter. Also in this issue are the minutes from the 2010 Diocesan Convention.

At Convention you will hear further reports on the 2012 budget, from the Youth Coordinator, about a Capital Campaign to endow youth ministry, a Sudanese update, and several honoring presentations.

Delegates and visitors attending the convention will be treated to home-made “cookies” throughout the 2 days, provided by the hosting deaneries—Pine Ridge and Rosebud—and the coffee will always be on.



The clergy will have lunch together on Friday, and all delegates and visitors are invited to an opening “picnic” between 5:30-7 pm—a casual way to transition into convention mode over a tasty bite to eat. The lunch buffet on Saturday is included in the convention registration fee, or \$10.50 (with advanced notice) for guests who want to join the group for lunch only. A soup/sandwich/salad buffet works best for a diverse group that includes people allergic to certain foods, on restricted diets, big and small eaters, etc.

The budget presentation may also have an edible component.

But it’s not just about food. Bishop Tarrant’s address will be visionary and hopeful. People will step forward to serve the diocese in a variety of positions. Delegates will learn from one another and share stories and experiences. They will experience again what it means to be a part of the diocese and the larger church.

A few special events are also being planned. See below for one:

God Willing and the People Consenting
The Right Reverend John T. Tarrant
will ordain

Vernon L. Cloud
as Deacon

in Christ’s Holy Catholic Church
at

127th Diocesan Convention
Ramkota Hotel & Convention Center
Pierre, South Dakota

Saturday, September 10, 2011
Four o’clock in the afternoon

Your prayers and presence are requested
by the people of The Diocese
of South Dakota
and the family and friends of the ordinand.

**The Diocese
of
South Dakota**



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The cool nights and school buses on the roads remind us that we are moving to a change of season. I look forward to seeing many of you the weekend of September 9 & 10 for the 2011 Diocesan Convention in Pierre. We are continuing to explore how we can best make this time together life giving and fruitful. Although we have shortened the length of convention, we need not lessen its purposefulness.



The Rt. Rev. John Tarrant

I believe the primary purposes of convention are to gather (fellowship), pray, learn, remember, vision and plan. These are not separate activities, but intertwined. Of course, we are required by both State law and church canon to have this annual meeting, but it is also a reminder that the ministry we offer through the Episcopal Church in South Dakota is a joint venture. We are much more together than we would be separately.

We will be offering several workshops on a variety of topics. The St. Augusta's Cathedral Book Store will have resources including books, gifts and 2012 calendars available. We will also have several displays from different churches and ministries around the church.

During the Saturday afternoon service we (the church) will be ordaining Vern Cloud to the diaconate. Vern has long served the church in many capacities. He has served at one time or another on most of the committees and commissions of our diocese. He has been faithful in worship and study and represents the essence of servant leadership. Vern is being ordained during convention as a symbol of unity within our diocese of which he has been a strong voice over the years. The ordination of a deacon at convention is also a reminder of our commitment to the One who came not to be served, but to serve. We as a diocese are a community of servants to God through our service to the people of God and God's creation. I encourage those who might not otherwise attend convention to come to the Ramkota in Pierre at 4:00 pm on Saturday for the ordination service.

Diocesan Convention is our annual family gathering. As in years past we will have guests with us (Bonnie Anderson, president of the House of Deputies of General Convention for one), but it is the family coming together in the name of our Lord Jesus that is important. We gather under the banner of "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" and we discover, despite our many differences, that that is enough.

God's peace be with you,

+John



Black Hills DOK installs new members



Sande Reimenschneider (Emmanuel), Jan Tippett (St. Andrew's), Marla Harvey (St. Andrew's), and Mary Bredenberg (Emmanuel) were recently installed as new members of the Black Hills Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King.

Spearfish campus ministry

Campus ministry is alive and well at Black Hills State University! The **Church of All Angels** and youth minister **Holly Moseley** want to welcome your young people to Spearfish and BHSU.

Please contact Holly at teenangels@rushmore.com or the church office at angelsec@rushmore.com with the contact information for your child or parishioner attending BHSU. Monthly meals and conversation, a friendly face, information about exam week free food, care packages and even study help are available.

Email, call the church at 642-4349 or text Holly at 351-1328. We look forward to helping you and your loved ones feel at home in Spearfish.

Holly Moseley
Children's and Youth Ministries Coordinator
All Angels Episcopal Church
Spearfish, South Dakota
605-642-4349

Niobrara School Summer Seminary studies theology

Niobrara School for Ministry Summer Seminary was held at TEC in June. The Rev. Douglas Dunn from Denver, CO was the instructor for a class on Theology. Despite the cold weather the week was a meaningful experience for all who attended.

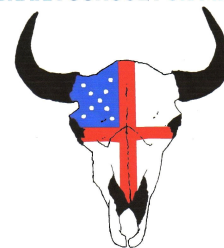


Front l to r: Paul Sneve, Marty Garwood, Dean Carda, Hazel Red Bird, Virginia Bird, Beverly Halverson Ackerman, Carol Traversie, Pat White Horse-Carda, Larry Ort.

Second Row: Evelyn Weaver, Harold Tiger, Sandy Williams, Mark Marion, Stan Woolley, John Keyes

Back Row: Doug Dunn, Eldon White Pipe, Claude Vershure, Kim Fonder, Judy Graves, Cece Bau-meister, Dave Sanford

NIORARA SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF
SOUTH DAKOTA

See more Niobrara School on page 6.

St. Peter's celebrates summer

St. Peter's Fort Pierre celebrated the end of July with breakfast pizza, watermelon and games. The beanbag toss was toooo fast for me to get a good photo, but the egg race was pretty hilarious. Fortunately Connie Carlisle made sure the eggs were hardboiled so we could eat them after their demise.



Carol Zuber is racing with Delany while Dale, Harry, Connie and Delbert cheer them on.

Submitted by Mary Ashley, worship leader.

Summer means Vacation Bible School

The Rapid City Episcopal churches combined forces and offered "Dare to be Different" to their children through story, movie, music, movement, games, and crafts. The VBS curriculum, based on the book *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'engle, taught them about the power of God's unconditional love and how that love overcomes darkness in the world. (Somehow, tie-dying played a part!)

Sioux Falls had a "bear-y" successful PandaMania where a record number of children learned that God is wild about them! Through song, dance, and crafts, they learned to look out for God in all that they do.

"Where's the Treasure?" At Church of All Angels, Spearfish, it's in the hearts of the children and the congregation. While sharing all sorts of fun "loot", the VBS kids learned that the real treasure is what cannot be taken away – the "Joy, joy, joy, joy down

in my heart" as well as the love of Jesus and the peace that passes understanding. On their treasure hunt they discovered other bountiful blessings – flowers, friends, family, a beautiful church, bells, ants on the sidewalk, and a beautiful day, to name a few. They enjoyed entertaining and educational skits, fun crafts, delicious treats, and culminated the week with a tour through the VBS maze, where everyone received more loot and a personalized Bible reminding them that God's Word is our treasure, and we are God's treasure.



They share with us their daily closing prayer, a song known to the teacher as "Herman's Prayer":

If we all said a prayer for each other every day
What a wonderful world this would be;
I would ask God to bless you,
and keep you every day,
Knowing you'd say the same prayer for me.



Alan Clive "Kenyon" Cull (90) passed away peacefully at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Tuesday, June 21. Kenyon was born to Florence and Frank Cull on July 1, 1920 at Standlake, Oxfordshire, England. He was educated at Reading School and the University of Reading. From 1940-1946 (WWII) he served in the British Army with the British Intelligence Signal Corps. He was stationed in the Middle East and Africa. In 1945 he met Prisca Lois Fenenga (adopted daughter of Agnes Fenenga, a Christian missionary from Gregory, SD) during a gathering for the allied forces in Ramallah, Palestine. He and Prisca were married in Jerusalem in 1946 and stayed in a monastery guest house on the Sea of Galilee for their honeymoon. Following

WWII they returned to England and he completed his education at Newland Park Teachers College and then taught history at Caversham Secondary Modern School in Reading, England.

In 1951 he with his wife and daughter moved to Yankton, SD. He graduated from Yankton College in 1952 and obtained his Master's Degree from the University of South Dakota in 1955. From 1952-1955 he taught at Central School in Yankton. In 1955 he was appointed Headmaster of St. Mary's Episcopal School for Indian Girls in Springfield, SD. In 1985 he resigned to become Director of Development, then retiring in Yankton in 1987. As Headmaster of St. Mary's School he was also Lay Vicar of Ascension Episcopal Church, Springfield. He served two terms on the Diocesan Council and one term as a member of the Governing Body of the National Association of Episcopal Schools. He was active in St. Andrew's Lodge, Oriental Consistory and El Riad Shrine.

Kenyon was a true Christian missionary and would put helping others first, always. He was recognized for his unselfish effort with several Christian and related educational awards including: an honorary Doctorate in Pedagogy from Yankton College, inducted in the Yankton High School Hall of Fame, awarded an honorary Canon of the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota, made an Honorary Kentucky Colonel, Teacher of the Year by the Daughters of Colonial Wars, listed in Who's Who in Education.

During his retirement he was an active volunteer at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, the Adult Day Care (ADC) Program, Yankton Retired Teachers, and Christ Episcopal Church. He loved his home by Lewis & Clark Lake and his cabin in Custer State Park. Daily nature walks, gardening and reading were his hobbies. In his earlier years he was inspired to see new places, whether driving across the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation or flying to England. He is survived by his daughter, Joy (Dennis Johnson) of Cheyenne, Wyoming and son Bruce (Jennifer) of Yankton, 4 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Prisca, one brother, four sisters, and his parents. Kenyon has donated his body to the University of South Dakota Medical School.

Funeral services were held at Christ Episcopal

Church, Yankton, SD on Saturday, July 2 at 2pm with Father James Pearson officiating. Memorials are asked to be made to Christ Episcopal Church.



The diocesan office learned on August 9 of the news of the death of **The Rev. William Fay**, age 87, in Berkeley, CA.

Fr. Bill was from California, and served as a priest on the Crow Creek Mission in 1954-1955; on Standing Rock Mission in 1955-1962; and on Pine Ridge Mission in 1962-1971.

After 1971 he and his wife Margaret "Margie", returned to California. He served in various capacities in the diocese before settling in Berkeley where they were members of All Souls Episcopal Church.

PROVINCE VI ECW

Representatives from Wyoming, Colorado, South Dakota, Nebraska and Minnesota gathered at the Hampton Inn in Colorado Springs, CO July 15 – 16 for the annual Province 6 ECW meeting. Elizabeth Campbell and Inez Harris attended from SD. Friday evening was spent over dinner getting reacquainted and in informal discussion.

Saturday, the Province women group were guests for lunch with the National ECW Board who were having one of their meetings there. The three hour time spent with the Board was a time of sharing what to expect from the next Triennial Meeting, in Indianapolis in June, 2012, as well as Province Women sharing some of their concerns and suggestions for implementation of some of the workshops planned for Triennial.

They also reviewed the history of Triennial/women in the church, and Elizabeth Campbell shared with the Board a project that she and Inez Harris are preparing – gathering all the crosses/pins given to the women at the Triennial meetings – and displaying them in a shadow box, with the expectation that

(Continued on page 6)

(ECW—Continued from page 5)

when done the box can be shared with ECWs around the country, much as the Triennial quilt is. It will be finished and presented to the Board at the next Triennial Meeting.

The business meeting of the Women of Province VI was held on Saturday afternoon with Charlotte Cox, (CO), president, presiding. Reports were heard from each diocese present, along with written ones from those not in attendance. Routine business followed, with an election of new officers: President, Sandra Squires (NE); Vice-open; Secretary, Elizabeth Campbell (SD), Treasurer, Shirley White (NE); Province VI representative to the National Board for the next Triennium, Mari-Lou Triebenbach (MN); United Thank Offering Representative for the next triennium, Robin Sumners (CO).

The Board voted to support a resolution to the National Board submitted by Elizabeth Campbell: "Be it resolved that the Honored Woman program be continued in name and practice as it has been since its inception in 1991" the Secretary was directed to submit it to the Board within ten days.

Much discussion centered around the finances of the Province Women's Board, and it was suggested that the Treasurer be in contact with each diocese regarding this, suggesting that they utilize the \$5.00 seed money sent last year and go from there, and that each diocese contribute an amount within their budget for the work of the Province Board.

There is a need for the by-Laws to be revised, with the last revision in 1997. The following were assigned to this task: Elizabeth Campbell, chair; Robin Sumner, Amy Mayes (WY) and Sandra Squires. These will be redone and presented for approval at the next Board meeting.

A report was heard from Mari-Lou Triebenbach, UTO Representative. The UTO/ECW committee appointed by the Bishop at the last Triennial to study their relevance and impact on the workings at 815, among other things, will have their report ready for the October Standing Committee of the Church. Offerings were close to \$2,000,000, but much less than in previous years.

Lyn Zolman, provincial president of Daughter's of the King, reported that a DOK leadership conference was

held in February, 2011, and as part of that conference they did a service project with World Vision.

The next meeting of the Province Women will be in conjunction with the Provincial Synod Meeting in the spring of 2012.

submitted by Inez Harris, Yankton

Proposed and Tentative Schedule Niobrara School for Ministry 2011-2012

October 15, Pierre

Further Explorations in Theology

Building on the foundation laid
at 2011 Summer Seminary.

*Contact Fr. Paul at

605-381-2018 to register.

Prior approval needed if you didn't attend 2011
Summer Seminary.

NIORARA SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF
SOUTH DAKOTA

November 4-5, Sioux Falls

Dakota Experience

Exploration of Lakota history, language,
culture, and theology. *Contact Pat Woolley to
register (dsdmsm@me.com).

December 3, Pierre

Organization of the Church

How the Church organization works in our
Diocese and how it fits in with the National
Church. *Contact Pat Woolley to register
(605-842-2033).

January 14, Pierre

John, the Other Gospel

Exploration of the 4th Gospel—what it meant
at the time it was written and what it means
for us today.

March 16-17, Rapid City

Dakota Experience

June 3-8, Thunderhead Camp

Summer Seminary—Using the Hymnal

Learning about our hymnals and other musical
resources, and using them to strengthen and
bless our worship.

GRACE HAPPENS

They Sang Great-Grandpa On His Way

by the Rev. Fred Jessett

Stan Olson died three weeks before Christmas in 2004. He was 95 years old and had lived his last six years in a nursing home. He'd been saying for months that he was ready to die and wanted to join his parents, brother, wife and son, most of whom had died far too young.

Stan was my father-in-law. My wife, Kris, and I were with him that Saturday afternoon as his breathing slowed and grew shallower. The doctor had seen him the day before and agreed that no heroic measures should be taken; Stan would be allowed to slip away as he had said so often he wished to do. Our priest had stopped by and anointed Stan shortly before we arrived.

We had put his best hearing aid in his ears. It was a device with a very small microphone which picked up sound and "broadcast" it to his ears. This way if he was at all conscious he could hear us. He responded from time to time with hand squeezes and movement of his eyes or eyelids.

Our oldest son, Tom, his wife Michiko and their two daughters arrived in the late afternoon. We took turns talking to Stan but when it was the girls' turn, they couldn't think of anything to tell him. Kris showed them the little microphone on the hearing device. She asked if they would like to sing to him and they said yes. First Kari, 8, and then Erika, 11, sang into the microphone, a last song for their great-grandfather to hear.

Now the pause between each breath, and the pulse of the vein in his neck seemed agonizingly long. As we watched, he took a breath and then did not take another. "I think he's gone," I said. Kris handed me the prayer book and, with some difficulty, I read the prayers for one who has just died, commending Stan into God's hands.

Then we called the nurse on duty who came in and

confirmed that Stan had indeed died. We all hugged and talked and cried together. After that we went out to supper where we toasted Stan with our water glasses for the wonderful father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather that he was.

It was a graceful death and a number of things seemed right about it. First, he was allowed to die peacefully surrounded by people he loved. In fact someone was present from each of the three generations of his descendents. And the church of which he was a long and faithful member had been present that day to bless him and commit him into God's keeping.

Then at his memorial service all of his living descendents: his daughter, son-in-law, four grandchildren and their spouses, and seven great-grandchildren were present and most took part in the service. All those living, who had known him as a father, even two or three generations on, were there to pay tribute and thank God for his life.

But I think the best thing of all was that he left this life with the sound of his great-granddaughters' sweet voices singing to him. And those great-granddaughters will carry in their hearts the memory of singing their great-grandfather on his way to eternity and God.

© 2011 by the Rev. Fred Jessett

SAVE THE DATE:

Memorial Day weekend, 2014!

Memorial Day weekend, 2014, is the target date for a thrilling event to be hosted by a coalition of churches in South Dakota. Partnering with the Taize community, our Diocese has the opportunity to span church, cultural, economic, and geographic boundaries to work for a vision of the Kingdom of God. We are in the imagination stages of a national Taize event for young adults to take place in our State! Stay tuned as the process unfolds. If you are interested in being a part of the leadership of this event, please contact the Rev. Rita Powell!



The birth of a new nation: The Republic of South Sudan July 9, 2011.

The Episcopal Church of Sudan bishops, priests and laypeople—joined by representatives from the Church of England and the Episcopal Church—celebrated the July 9 declaration of independence along with hundreds of thousands of South Sudanese during a 5-hour ceremony in the capital of Juba.

“Today is the day when we move beyond the pain and suffering,” said Sudanese Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul to the media before the ceremony began. “For 55 years, we have been suffering. But today, justice has been done.”

While there is a new currency, a new national anthem, a new flag, a new transitional constitution, and a new president (Salva Kiir), there is still much to do and major issues still need to be resolved, particularly along the north-south border where instability continues to threaten the peace process.

We can pray with others that the newly chosen leaders “can resist the seduction of power and govern in a way that they have not experienced, with wisdom and justice, with an eye to national rather than personal interests, with respect for the majority yet protection of the human rights of all.”

The republic is the 196th country in the world and the 193rd member of the United Nations. Northern and southern Sudanese have fought all but a few years from 1955-2005 over religion, ethnicity, ideology and oil. The war claimed over 2 million lives and displaced more than 5 million people.

The United States played a significant

role in negotiating the North and South peace agreement, which ultimately led to the South’s independence. South Sudanese often express appreciation for this as well as many other efforts of support offered by Americans, such as an international refugee program that has brought 3800 “Lost Boys and Girls of Sudan” to the US since 2000. About 150 of them live in the Sioux Falls area, which is home to 4000 South Sudanese.

Facts on South Sudan:

Population: 8.26 million

Religion: Mostly Christian and traditional beliefs

Economy: Oil accounted for 98 percent of the South’s total revenue in 2010. While oil comes from the South, all pipelines pass through the North, where the only refineries and seaport are located.

Poverty: Up to 90 percent of South Sudanese live below the poverty line, surviving on just 50 cents a day. The country has the highest infant-mortality rates and the lowest education indicators in the world. One child in 10 dies before age one and less than one percent of girls complete primary education.

The Diocese of South Dakota—many, many of YOU—have assisted in myriad ways to help in the rebuilding of structures and institutions and hope in South Sudan. Moses Jokhnial’s dream of a school in his village has blossomed, and related projects have taken root.

Here are a couple letters from Rhonda Morse, one of the major team leaders. And she has many great photos in a gallery at galleries at <http://gallery.me.com/rhondamorse>.

Dear Friends,
United Panyang Primary School has opened its doors! Thanks to you, education of children in Moses Jokhnial II's native community begins, and



hope for their future is realized. Please read the next letter for more information on the school, other activities this year, and future desires... Oh, yes, we have more plans up our sleeves! For additional photos, visit my galleries at <http://gallery.me.com/rhondamorse>.



Moses with some students at their new desks in the new school.

Because of the school and a more peaceful time, the positive changes in the community since our initial visit in 2009 have been incredible. A few examples: The population has increased as displaced people return because of new opportunities and hope are realized for the community. Some of these returning people have skills to share with local villagers. Church communities have expanded significantly. The town market has also expanded and offers more products. Women and girls rejoice with food grinding mills that ease their workload and give girls the time to go to school. Along with improving health, water wells do the same. Girls are playing, which is something we did not witness before.

Do you realize the impact that you are having on people in a very different world from ours? I believe our project motto says it best, "To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world." The people in Moses's village appreciate each of you being just this! Best always,

Rhonda Morse
Rebuilding South Sudan through Education
Sioux Falls, SD
605.334.2557 (home)
605.929.6530 (cell)

Dear Friends,

Moses's dream of providing his native community in South Sudan with its first school has come true. On May 19, 2011, the day was filled with celebration as **United Panyang Primary School** opened. Moses, Myrna Stanley, and I joined students (clad in new uniforms), dignitaries, and thousands of villagers in a festival of speeches, singing, and dancing. What a privilege it was being part of the celebration as the community and youth find new hope for their future through education! The day's celebration was also used to give tribute to the role played by Moses's American friends in the success of his project. We only wish all of you could have been with us to receive their appreciation for your generosity in giving.

Thank you from the bottom of ALL of our hearts.



The students are elated with having school uniforms. These are important in recognizing individuals attending school, but also for many, it will be their main piece of clothing for the year. We were excited delivering 400 uniforms, but surprised to learn the number of students had increased to 800. A good problem to have.



In partnership with the Alliance for the Lost Boys of Sudan, we have established a G.O.A.T.S. (Giving Others the Ability To Survive) project to assist the village's widows and their children. The project provides a widow with a female goat

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(Continued from page 9)



and the means for each widow to gradually build a herd of goats. A bright young woman, Rebecca, is coordinator of the project and someone we feel will work well in developing the program and a widow's support group. The widows are thrilled to have a program

that offers them the chance to help themselves. We now have a waiting list for goats.

The women are responding very positively in **learning to sew** and seem to grasp how this new skill can serve as a **micro business** for them. Making washable sanitary pads is their first task as these are important for keeping girls in school. Teaching them to sew was a fun challenge for us. Strange it seemed showing an adult how to use a scissor!



The villager's faith in God is central to their lives. While having so very little and enduring many struggles daily, their faith gives them hope and a joy of life. Parishioners greatly appreciate fundraising efforts by their American friends that facilitated the building of three churches and delivery of Bibles, hymnals, and choir shirts this year. Their prayers, praises, and songs are ever present and were a special part of our school's opening celebration. They

We're not done yet.....

Our **next major goals** are providing the school with additional **school supplies and a staff of well-qualified teachers**. While the local teachers are important to this staffing, their level of education is limited. We fully recognize the need to employ 3-4 teachers with a higher level of education. These teachers are critical in preparing students in upper class levels to succeed in the national exam, which is required for continuing onto secondary school.



told us the only thing they can give in return is the prayer that God will bless you always.

The birth of a new nation, the **Republic of South Sudan**, on July 9, 2011, offers more light and fervor in our efforts and

The importance of improved **healthcare and empowerment of women** for the community's future cannot be overstated. Through a generous grant from United Thank Offering, we will begin addressing the

healthcare issue with construction of the community's first basic medical clinic. With healthcare and women's issues going hand-in-hand in a developing community, establishing a women's center to offer pertinent activities in education, health, and development is on our wish list. The 'master plan' for the women's center will also include a water well, food grinding mill, and vegetable garden nearby. Along with the school, these steps are significant in addressing many of the UN Millennium Goals for this community.



Without water wells, unclean water is dipped from a pond.

those of others to help our South Sudanese brothers and sisters help themselves. Again, **thank you for being our support** in making this happen.

Minutes
126th Annual Convention (2010)
 The Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota
 September 10-11, 2010

Plenary Session I

Call to Order: The 126th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota was called to order by Bishop John Tarrant at approximately 8:20 pm.

Introductions: Don Metcalf will be in charge of the microphone. Pages were introduced as the people wearing red shirts. Pages are Jessica Tarrant, Hannah Gerbing, Leif Gerbing, Calla Holzhauser, and Abbie VanVliet. Webster Two Hawk will be the Lakota translator; Moses Joknhial will be the Dinka translator.

Bishop John Tarrant introduced guests: The Rev. Annie Henninger, new to Rosebud Mission East and living in Gregory with her husband Jay; and Helen Barron representing Province VI.

Bishop Tarrant explained that Rosebud East is comprised of St. Andrews Bonesteel and All Saints Milk's Camp (Herrick) which have been transferred into the Rosebud Mission. The Rev. Annie Henninger will be working with those two congregations as well as Calvary Okreek. The other churches in Yankton Mission will be aligned with Santee Mission for ministry.

Bishop Tarrant announced Clergy Transitions during the past year. Leaving the Diocese of South Dakota: The Rev. Marion Rectenwald moved to Tennessee, The Rev. John Wedgwood-Greenhow moved to Texas, The Rev. Jeff Barnes retired to Oregon. The Rev. Charles King retired moving to Connecticut. Retired since last Convention: The Rev. George Parmeter. Ordained since last Convention: Kim Fonder as Transitional Deacon. Clergy deaths since last Convention: The Rev. Phil Allen; thankful for his life and ministry in South Dakota and the wider Church. Other transitions within the Diocese: The Rev. Kay Jennings will be serving at St. Thomas in Sturgis being installed in October, The Rev. Mercy Hobbs is serving at Trinity in Pierre, and the Rev. Rita Powell is serving at St. Paul's in Vermilion as well as her duties as Diocesan Youth Coordinator.

The Bishop announced several clergy who are not present at this time due to commitments of service for wakes and funerals: The Rev. Robert Schwarz, The Rev. Paul Sneve, The Rev. Craig West and Deacon Kim Fonder at the funeral of Mary Noisy Hawk, wife of The Rev. Lyle Noisy Hawk. The Rev. Judy Spruhan is at a conference. Pat and Dottie LeBeau were called to be with Pat's father in his illness.

Overview of Schedule and Agenda: We began with the Liturgy of the Word and should be mindful that the entire Convention is held in the context of worship.

- First workshop will be in this room this evening for everyone and will be a panel discussion and sacred conversation about topics of interest in our congregations.
- Presentation by The Very Rev. Ward Simpson on Title IV. The Canons of the Diocese of South Dakota need to be revised to align with the Canons of the National Church.
- Saturday morning will begin with worship, the Bishop's address, and the installation of The Rev. Paul Sneve as Archdeacon.
- Budget Presentation
- Elections
- Resolutions
- Lunch at noon.
- Presentation on the South Sudan Project.
- Workshops will be held from 1:30 to 3:30.
- Final business of the Convention at 3:30.
- Liturgy of the Table begins about 4:00 pm.

Housekeeping Announcements:

- Location of restrooms, Convention office, exhibits and refreshments.
- Page Alerts are the yellow cards on the table.
- Convention evaluations are in your packet. Please fill them out and return.
- Thank you to the Central and Northwest Deaneries for their hospitality, graciousness, and delicious snacks.

Credentials Committee Report: Deacon Marty Garwood announced that of 70 authorized clergy 41 were in attendance; of 156 authorized lay delegates 81 were in attendance therefore a quorum was declared. A reminder that the red and green cards are for voting if needed.

Presentation of Title IV by The Very Rev. Ward Simpson: Submitted by the Resolution Committee: *Resolved: that the whole of the existing Canon 15 shall be repealed and the following enacted as Canon 15 of the Canons of the Diocese of South Dakota. This repeal and enactment shall be effective as directed in Section 5 of the new Canon 15.* The Very Rev. Ward Simpson explained that Title IV deals with clergy discipline. In the past the emphasis was on the offender and justice whereas the new Canon in the National Church is reflective of truth and reconciliation looking at the offender, victim and community. He led us through a detailed explanation of each section of the proposed Canon. Questions, clarification and discussion followed. The process applies to all 3 orders, deacons, priests, and bishops. Neighboring bishop would take over if a bishop had a conflict of interest. This Canon

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will apply to ethical and criminal cases with mandatory reporting of chargeable crimes. This resolution fills in the part of the National Canon that are left to each diocese. The National Canons are very specific in what to do. We must adopt a new Canon 15 at this Convention to be in compliance for July 1, 2011.

The Very Rev. Ward Simpson made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Seconded by The Rev. Thomas Campbell. David Wheeler, Grace, Huron, made a suggestion to delay the vote until tomorrow's business session to allow time to consider the resolution. After consultation with the Parliamentarian, Bishop Tarrant agreed to delay the vote.

Bishop Tarrant declared initial business complete.

Workshop I: Presented by The Rev. Kathy Monson Lutes and The Rev. Paul Sneve. There was a panel presentation of responses to questions posed by young people at Thunderhead Episcopal Center camp sessions this past summer. "How can I be a Christian and a Lakota at the same time? How can we incorporate the two traditions with respect?" and "How can we effectively and respectfully meet the intergenerational desires of our congregations particularly in worship and liturgy?" Several people shared their thoughts with us on these questions.

The session adjourned at 9:30 pm for hospitality and fellowship.

Plenary Session II

Following the Bishop's Address, Prayers of the people and the Installation of The Rev. Paul Sneve as Archdeacon, the Second Plenary Session was called to order by Bishop John Tarrant at 10:16 am on September 11, 2010.

Credentials Committee Report: Deacon Marty Garwood announced that of 70 authorized clergy 41 were in attendance; of 156 authorized lay delegates 92 were in attendance therefore a quorum was declared. A reminder that the red and green cards are for voting if needed.

Parliamentarian: Steve Sanford was introduced and reviewed microphone procedure.

Continuation of Title IV: There is a motion on the floor to adopt Canon 15 on Ecclesiastical Discipline. Dean Simpson noted there is proposed change in Section 2, Paragraph 1(a). The second sentence would be changed from *Beginning with...* to *From among...* . Dean Simpson moved to accept the change, seconded by David Wheeler, Grace, Huron. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion carried.

Dean Simpson moved the question to adopt Canon 15. The Rev. Canon David Hussey seconded the motion commending the work of the Committee.

All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, Resolution to change Canon 15 is passed.

There are no minutes available for the 2009 Convention. They will be published in the Church News when available.

Call for motion to accept Reports by Title: Motion by Jean Potter to accept reports by title by various commissions and committees submitted and printed in the *South Dakota Church News* in July/August and September/October issues. Seconded by Canon Hussey. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Budget Presentation: Randy Barnhardt gave a Power Point Presentation of the Diocesan financial situation. He also did a very informative visual representation of Diocesan income and expenditures using Hershey bars. This really helped everyone see how our money is earned and used. Randy and Bishop Tarrant gave explanations of some changes in titles and duties to do more with the same money, and the duties of Diocesan employees. It was noted that every bit of income is used to fund ministry in the Diocese.

Jean Lacher, St. Paul's, Brookings made a motion to pass the budget. Seconded by Deacon Marty Garwood. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, budget passed.

Elections: Don Eagle introduced the nominees for each office.

- Secretary of Convention, 4 year term: Patricia Woolley
- Treasurer, 4 year term: Gary Conradi
- Trial Court, Presbyter, 5 year term: The Very Rev. Ward Simpson
- General Convention 2012 Lay Deputy: Dennis Potter, Jean Lacher, Tamara Fonder, Patricia Woolley
- Standing Committee, Presbyter Member, 4 year term: The Rev. Tom Campbell
- Standing Committee, Lay Member, 1 year term: Samuel Robertson

Rule of Order 7.3, There being only one nominee for each of these offices, the Secretary shall cast one unanimous ballot for those nominees.

Call for First Ballot:

1. Standing Committee, Lay Member, 4 year term: Dennis Potter, Jean Lacher

2. General Convention 2012 Clergy Deputy: The Very Rev. Ward Simpson, The Rev. Deacon Kim Fonder, The Rev. George Parmeter, The Rev. Tom Campbell, The Rev. Kathy Monson Lutes

Resolutions: The Very Rev. Ward Simpson presented Resolution #01: That the Diocese of South Dakota, during the diocesan convention, institute the insertion of a cultural introduction seminar for the delegation and to address the cultural sensitivity of the native peoples. The Committee on Resolutions has reviewed the Resolution and it is proper form. Jean Lacher moved to accept Resolution #01, Rev. Tom Campbell seconded.

Discussion: Bishop Tarrant clarified that the printed explanation cannot be changed. He sees the spirit of the Resolution to offer a workshop at Diocesan Convention to help in the understanding between the cultures in our Diocese. Points of discussion included that the seminar should be an exchange of information, a way to learn about issues of other culture. Native Americans are a large part of our Diocese and our Convention should reflect that, our Diocese reflects the State of South Dakota in that there are still racial divisions.

A motion was made by Jane Hill to amend the motion to read "That the Diocese of South Dakota,...insertion of an *annual cultural workshop* for the delegation ...". Seconded by Gary Keehn. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion carried.

Bishop Tarrant stated that we can no longer be divided. Most of our hurt and misunderstanding comes from ignorance, hatred and fear. We need to take opportunity to learn more to become one.

Deacon Marty Garwood called the question. Most in favor, some opposed, no abstentions, Resolution #01 is passed.

Report of Tabulation of Ballots:

1. Standing Committee, Lay Member, 4 year term: Dennis Potter
2. General Convention 2012, Clergy Deputy: The Very Rev. Ward Simpson, The Rev. Deacon Kim Fonder, The Rev. Tom Campbell, The Rev. Kathy Monson Lutes. Alternate: The Rev. George Parmeter.

Point of Personal Privilege: Sam Robertson, Chair of the Anti-Racism Committee spoke. The way in the past was to teach *to* minorities. We need to work on Native and White cultures working *with*, teaching *with*, and learning *with* so we can move forward.

Youth Presentation: The Rev. Rita Powell, Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator showed an original video made at Thunderhead Camp this past summer. The taping was done by Brittany Salisbury and was accompanied by an original rap by Ross Miller. The video showed many happy children from our Diocese learning about themselves and each other in their cultures and as Episcopalians.

Rev. Powell also announced Brother John from the Taizé community in France would be visiting South Dakota in October. She was very excited to offer this program and worship in Vermillion and in Rapid City.

She reminded us of the DVD that is available to give the basic outline of starting a youth ministry. This was funded by the Niobrara Convocation Women.

Announcements: UTO Coordinator Sherry Van Doren reminded us to give thanks into the blue box. Last year \$150 was raised for UTO at Convention. As of December, she would be passing on the position of UTO Coordinator to Diana Regan from St. John's, Deadwood. The Diocese of South Dakota received \$30,000 from UTO this year. St. John's, Crow Creek has an insulated foundation and is prepped to have toilets installed. The Sudanese Project also received money for a water well.

Deacon Judy Petersen reported there were 26 members present at the Diocesan ECW luncheon. The outreach project this year will be to help a parish in Copperhill, TN to get a roof. The ECW will have a Christmas tree at the Capital this year with the theme "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow".

Recess: The Convention was recessed at noon for luncheon followed by a presentation on the Sudanese Project. Workshops to follow.

Workshops: Godly Play, Small Church Events, Older Adults and Life Long Ministry Formation, Youth Ministry, and Parochial Reports.

Plenary Session III

The Convention reconvened approximately 4:00 pm after workshops.

Announcements: Bishop Tarrant asked the Secretary of the Convention to send Greetings to The Rt. Rev. Charles vonRosenberg, Bishop of The Diocese of East Tennessee and Mrs. Annie vonRosenberg sending them the prayers and good wishes of the 126th Convention of The Diocese of South Dakota.

Emily Pieper, Chaplin at the Flandreau Indian School gave thanks to the Diocese of South Dakota for their sup-

(Continued from page 13)
port and inspiration.

The Very Rev. Kathryn Costas, ERD Coordinator thanked all the parishes who contributed to the ERD this year. Bishop Tarrant reported that the Diocese received \$10,000 from ERD. It was used to buy propane on Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Reservations last spring after the ice storms, help the clean up and recovery in Marty after the flooding, and to establish an Emergency Fund in the Diocese.

Holly Husiken, TEC Manager spoke of the Wish List for TEC. They are in need of a tractor to mow the area.

The Rev. James Pearson announced the upcoming 150th Anniversary of Christ Church Episcopal, Yankton.

Report of Place of Next Convention: The next Convention will be September 9-10, 2011, at the Ramkota Conference Center in Pierre, SD. The Rosebud and Pine Ridge Deaneries will host. There plans to be a proper resolution allowing Deacon's to serve on Standing Committee.

Details of the Eucharist: Bishop Tarrant clarified duties.

Final Announcements: Bishop Tarrant gave his thanks to all who attended and worked so hard. He expressed his feeling that it is an honor and a privilege to serve the Diocese of South Dakota.

The 126th Convention of the Diocese of South Dakota adjourned at 4:35 pm for the Liturgy of the Table.

Respectfully submitted by

Patricia Woolley
126th Diocesan Convention Secretary

Canon to the Ordinary/Deployment Report to Diocesan Convention 2011

Trinity, Watertown:

The Rev. Jackie Bernacchi began serving as Rector of Trinity in early March. Rev. Jackie and her husband Les are living in the new Rectory that Trinity purchased this Spring from their investment funds. Rev. Jackie has served Mission churches in ND at Minot and Missions in the Devil's Lake area, and brings over ten years experience working with both Native and Anglo congregations. Jackie brings to our Diocese a wonderful energy and enthusiasm along with some amazing gifts and training for pastoral care.

The Cheyenne River Mission:

The Mission is being supplied by The Rev. Les Campbell who is supported by the very active Mission Council and Lay Leaders on Cheyenne River, as we actively continue our search for their next Priest in Charge. Bishop John spent Holy Week on the Cheyenne River Mission this year and held services at the various churches. I have been helping out as supply clergy and meeting with leaders of the Mission to offer support and encouragement. I was blessed to have been able to celebrate Christmas Eve and Palm Sunday with the folks at St. John's, Eagle Butte and Emmanuel, White Horse and am presently supplying on the Mission one Sunday each month.

Grace, Huron:

Bishop John and myself are actively working with the Vestry and folks of Grace as they continue to shape a new vision for their future. The Vestry has put together a diverse and energetic Search Committee from the congregation who are hard at work on their Parish Profile and will soon begin advertising for their next Rector. Grace, Huron is also seriously considering the purchase of a Rectory from their Parish Endowment to help in attracting their next Rector. During the past year I have been supplying for them on a regular basis. Pastor Ron Brugger ELCA who served us well as Interim at St. Paul's, Brookings and Trinity, Watertown began serving as Interim Pastor in June.

St. Mark's, Aberdeen:

St. Mark's new leadership team, led by Sr. Warden Linda Simon, has been hard at work to reconcile and reenergize their congregation. They have experienced a significant return of lapsed members and raised up some new leaders from among younger families. I continue to supply and meet with them at least once a month to encourage and support their vision and efforts. They have welcomed a new Baptist congregation from Aberdeen to share their worship space and church facilities. This new group is not only making a significant financial contribution to St. Mark's but is also actively helping with the upkeep and renovation of St. Mark's facility.

Rosebud Mission:

The Mission is currently being supplied by The Rev. Joan Conroy, ELCA of Rapid City and Pastor Mark Swenson, ELCA of Valentine, NE. The search for the next Priest in Charge continues with some exciting possibilities on the horizon. Fr. Stan Woolley is serving Holy Spirit, Ideal. We are actively seeking the right clergy person(s) to serve the Rosebud and have several possible leads. We are especially thankful for the strong and capable lay leadership.

Madison & DeSmet:

Grace Church, Madison and St. Stephen's, DeSmet con-

tinue to be faithfully served by Fr. George Parmeter in his role as Supply Priest. Bishop and Staff continue to be in conversation with the leadership at Grace as they seek to revitalize their ministry to the community. A member of Grace, Madison has entered the Ordination process and continuing discernment about becoming a Priest to serve that congregation.

Holy Apostle's, Sioux Falls:

We continue in conversation with the folks at Holy Apostles as they seek to develop new strategies for Mission and consider widening the scope of their ministry to the Sioux Falls community. They continue in the Search process for a part-time or retired priest.

Incarnation, Gregory:

The Rev. Annie Henninger is now serving Incarnation following the retirement of Fr. Lyle Martin. Incarnation has become part of Rev. Annie's ministry to the Rosebud East Mission which includes Calvary, Okreek, St. Andrew's, Bonesteel and All Saint's, Milkscamp.

**THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY
Report to 2011 Convention**

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

COM MEMBERS

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

We have four members whose terms expire at the end of 2011. They are Barbee Hovelson, Deacon Virginia Bird, Ginny Slechta, and The Rev. Dr. Vern Raschke. Barbee has chosen the option of staying on for another term. The other three have decided to pursue other ministries. They have been Commission on Ministry members for many years and the COM would like to offer our heartfelt thanks for their commitment and dedication to the work of the Commission.

Deacon Virginia Bird brought the voice of the Deacon to our group, and her voice and expertise were invaluable to the work of the COM. Thank you, Virginia.

Ginny Slechta served as a lay voice on the COM. She has worn many hats in her many years of serving our Diocese as a lay minister. Ginny served as the secretary on the Commission and kept the official files at the Diocesan Office for us. Thank you, Ginny.

The Rev. Dr. Vern Raschke brought his knowledge and genuine love for the church and ministry to our meetings. Thank you, Vern.

We, as a COM, acknowledge their gifts and years of devoted ministry to our group and thank them for their willingness to serve our Diocese on this Commission. They will all continue to be active in the ministry of our Diocese.

COM ACTIVITIES

Since Convention, 2010, the COM met twice at Trinity Church in Pierre, South Dakota. We met October 1 and October 2, 2010 and again April 7 through April 9, 2011. Our April meeting also included taking part in the Mega Meeting with Standing Committee and Diocesan Council.

Our October 2010 meeting convened at 1:00 PM on October 1 with Noon Day Prayer. We began our business session with minutes from our previous meeting. We reviewed the progress of those in the Ordination Process and lifted them up in our prayers.

Our early afternoon was spent in interviews with several individuals. We enjoy listening to their stories and helping them discern their call to ministry. We make every effort to help them feel comfortable and at ease and let them know we want to walk this path with them.

Later in the afternoon, a good discussion was held as to how an individual's progress can be measured as they move through the process. Several things were discussed. One was having all individuals write a reflection on what they learn at the ministry weekends and Summer Seminary. We could possibly offer three reflection questions that they could then report on. Those reflections would be a valuable tool not only for the COM but also for the mentors and the Board of Examining Chaplains. More discussion will follow at upcoming COM meetings.

Saturday, October 2, 2010, opened with Morning Prayer. We finished some business items and then had more interviews.

After our October meeting the COM made recommendations to Bishop John for three individuals for Postulancy

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and two for Candidacy.

Our April 2011 meeting began at 1:00PM on Thursday, April 7 with Noon Day Prayer. Minutes from the October 2010 meeting were read and approved. Evelyn presented the Agenda for the meeting. We reviewed the progress of the individuals that are in various stages of the Ordination Process. Those stages include Discernment, Postulancy and Candidacy.

We had several good interviews at this meeting. We prefer to call them visits. The COM enjoys spending time with individuals discerning their ministry, whether that is Ordained or Lay Ministry. We want to be their Advocate as they travel their faith journey.

After our April meeting, we made several recommendations to Bishop John. We recommended one for Postulancy, four people for Candidacy, and Ordination recommendations for 3 individuals.

For several years the COM together with the Standing Committee has hosted receptions at Niobrara Convocation and Diocesan Convention for those in the Ordination Process or those discerning their ministry. We will host those receptions again in 2011. It is a time we look forward to connecting with people in an informal basis over a glass of punch and light refreshments and getting to know each other. We are also available to help answer questions people might have of us.

Friday evening, April 8th and Saturday, April 9th we joined the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council for the annual Mega Meeting.

Since the 2010 Commission on Ministry Report to Convention, there have been five Ordinations in the Diocese of South Dakota. Deacon John Keyes of Yankton; The Rev. Kim Fonder from the Mini Sose Cluster; The Rev. Pat White-Horse Cart from the Yankton and Santee Missions; The Rev. Deacon Marion Paulis, Transitional Deacon, from Watertown; and The Rev. Deacon Christina O'Hara, Transitional Deacon, from Sioux Falls. We are looking forward to more Ordinations in the near future.

Ministry is alive and well in the Diocese of South Dakota and for that we say, Thanks be to God.

The prayers of the Commission on Ministry are always with those who are discerning their ministry and those already in the Process. We also keep the Diocese of South Dakota and our Bishop John Tarrant and his family in our prayers. We are available to assist Bishop John with recruitment, training, and management of the process of preparation for lay and ordained ministry.

We would welcome hearing from you if you have questions about the work of the COM or if you would like to visit about ministry.

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

Niobrara School for Ministry Report to 2011 Convention

This year saw some changes take effect, most notably losing the Rev. Mercy Hobbs as our Co-Director of Niobrara School. We also welcomed Pat Woolley as our Registrar who has been a tremendous help to our students.

We had three Ministry Weekend Classes, one Dakota Experience and our Summer Seminary. We conducted a course on Preaching at Wakes and Funerals taught by me held at St. Peter's, McLaughlin on Sept 25 and another class taught by the Rev. Tim Fountain on Preaching at Trinity, Pierre on January 8. On February 12 at Trinity, Pierre, the Rev. Stan Woolley taught a course on Anglican Ethos and on March 12 he taught a course on Episcopal Identity. I also taught the Dakota Experience Course at Emmanuel, Rapid City on March 18-19. Our Summer Seminary held at Thunderhead Episcopal Center June 5-10 saw an Introduction to Theology taught by the Rev. Doug Dunn.

This year our Diocese welcomed the Reverends Kim Fonder (Mni Sose), Pat White Horse-Carda and Deacon John Keyes into the ranks of Clergy who have participated in the Niobrara School for Ministry. In working with the Board of Examining Chaplains, the Commission on Ministry, and Bishop Tarrant to assist these three to prepare for ordination, we were able to identify areas within our Curriculum that needed attention. We tried to meet these needs by offering the courses that we did this year. June 14-16, the Rev. Stan and Pat Woolley Represented the Niobrara School for Ministry and attended the Local Ordination Education Conference in Kansas City. They returned with some great information for us, but they also brought even more questions. On November 11-12, representatives from the Commission on Ministry, the Board of Examining Chaplains and Niobrara School students will meet to discuss these questions and to begin to revise the Niobrara School's Curriculum. This Symposium will be moderated by Fr. Stan and Pat Woolley.

This is an exciting time for Niobrara School as we seek to develop a program that is consistent, predictable and of a quality that will rival many seminaries. Everyone is wel-

come to take any course that is offered. Our School is not just for those training for ordination; in fact most of our students are lay people who just want to learn more about God, Scripture and the Church. Course listings with dates, times and places are announced in the *ChurchNews* and on our Diocesan Website.

In Peace,
The Venerable Paul Sneve,
Director of the Niobrara School for Ministry

Stewardship Commission Report to the 2011 Convention

The primary concern of the Stewardship Commission this year has been to work on developing a Capital Campaign for the Diocese to support the Bishop's vision. That work has been hampered by the loss of some key people, most notably Robert Wagner, and most recently Tom Campbell, who has been called to a school ministry in Texas. Nevertheless, we have asked Jay Vanduch to produce a video to communicate the Bishop's vision across the Diocese.

In addition, we've begun The Alleluia Fund, which for the next five years, will be used to raise capital funds to support Thunderhead Episcopal Camp. We want to put TEC on a solid foundation to accomplish God's call to mission.

- To equip our young people for the work of ministry*
- To establish TEC as a self-sustaining ministry*
- To diversify and expand TEC's resources for ministry*
- To enhance TEC's facilities*
- To expand our horizons for the future*

The people of our Diocese are blessed with an abundance that exceeds any in the history of the world. We are called to share that abundance for the welfare of those we serve through our ministries. Together we can do great things. Alleluia! Give Thanks and Praise.

Faithfully,
Bunker Hill, Stewardship Chair

2010-2011 YOUTH REPORT

Youth Ministry in South Dakota is beginning to really grow. Here's a youth ministry "roll call" from around the Diocese:

All Angels, Spearfish: Youth meet on Wednesdays, one or more overnights each year, youth convention, camp, and service projects. Youth help with vacation Bible

school and other events. We send care packages to college students and military personnel at least once a year, participate in the local Polar Plunge (one of the top fundraisers in 2011!), and will be involved in the community-wide Peer Ministry training this year. Homework help is available after school as well. Thanks to Holly Moseley's leadership!

Calvary Cathedral-Good Shepherd-Holy Apostles in Sioux Falls: The Episcopal Churches of Sioux Falls joined forces this past January and combined their youth groups into one, meeting regularly at Calvary Cathedral. The SF Youth Groups are led by the Rev. Christina O'Hara, with assistance from Ross Miller and Ifoumbe M. The SF Youth Groups are currently using the J2A curriculum in addition to hosting event nights and service projects. The Youth Groups participated in both the Souper Bowl and the 30 Hour Famine, which was a great recognition of hunger in both our community as well as globally. In August, the HS Youth will participate in packing the Project SOS supplies at the Banquet before kicking off our new year in September.

Christ Church, Lead, the Rector, Vern Raschke meets with youth on Wednesdays for a class (using Seasons of the Spirit curriculum for 13-18 year olds), Eucharist, and supper.

Christ Church, Yankton: WE are a VERY SMALL group but have had some dedicated kids that are faithful at attending. There were three kids that we met with on the first and third Wednesday of each month. We share a meal have a discussion and fellowship. Led by Rev. Jim Pearson and Shannon Doerr.

Grace, Huron: Episcopalooza is one Wednesday a month, but we meet from 5:00 until 8:00. Supper, acolyte practice, and classes are contained in this three-hour period. Family Fun Nights happen once a month, all year long. Some examples of our activities: skating parties, kickball tournaments, holiday parties, Minute-to-Win-It tournaments, bowling nights, movie nights. Led by Sarah Rubish .

St. Andrew's, Rapid City: Youth ministry at St. Andrew's Rapid City is alive and well under the leadership of Dave Van Vliet. Our youth meet on Wednesday evenings during the school year - they are active in planning and participating in worship opportunities as well as other activities and are a visible and valued part of our parish life together.

St. James, Belle Fourche has a youth focused fall kick-off where the youth of the parish do the service, including the sermon, up to the Eucharist.

St. Luke's in Hot Springs has a youth ministry and education program joined with outreach that includes outdoor activities and sports with picnics and music with a small youth choir.

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St. Mary's, Mitchell: Youth Group meets bi-weekly, focusing on stewardship, Scripture in our lives and FUN. Led by Tara Morris and Erin Roth.

St. Matthew's, Rapid City: Led by Alice Testerman, and Father Paul Sneve, St Matt's youth meet for fun, learning, and service work. They did a ton of work for Niobrara Convocation!

St. Paul's, Brookings: We generally have a youth group that meets every other Wednesdays during the school year. This year we are probably going to modulate into a more focused discussion group. Led by Fr. Ryan Hall.

Trinity, Mission: helps hold weekly Young People's Fellowship (YPF) with a meal, a lesson and Christian music and fun games. Led by Margaret Figgert, among others.

Trinity, Pierre Led by the Rev. Mercy Hobbs, youth at Trinity have held fundraisers to raise money for the ER-D as well as the organization which provides people with flocks of chickens, geese and mosquito netting, responded to the Pierre/Ft. Pierre flood relief by filling sandbags, making meals for the workers and helping people move out of their homes, participated in work weekend @ TEC to build a new deck for one of the cabins, and planned and participated in worship @ Trinity.

Trinity, Watertown: an outstanding group of young people make up their Youth Group. Their faith and willingness to share with others shines through in everything they do. This group is currently leading their church's VBS, doing skits, helping with crafts and learning how to be good mentors to the younger kids in their community. Trinity's Youth are involved with their community's P.A. C.H. (People Against Child Hunger) program, volunteering to pack lunches for distribution for kids that may be going without meals over the weekends & raising money through their VBS "Coins for kids", to try to make enough to sponsor one child for the upcoming school year. This group is led by Brenda Boettcher & Linda Shroll, and assisted by Pastor Jackie Bernacchi+

This year, for the first time, we have raised funds to support a **full time youth minister on the Standing Rock Reservation** - a talented young deacon from North Dakota, Rev. Brandon Mauai. He'll be working with Priest-In-Charge Rob Schwarz to begin to grow a ministry there. Any time a new ministry is launched, it carries with it all the hopes and prayers of the wider church. We pray that God will inspire their work in those communities!

We had another amazing offering at **Thunderhead Camp** this summer. The leadership team was incredibly cohesive. The ministry of camp is aimed towards the kids who are campers, but the ministry opportunity for the young

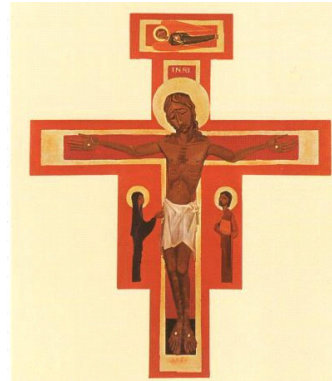
adults who lead the camp is almost as important. We had several counselors share that they would be much farther away from church, their faith, and God were it not for the opportunity to engage in meaningful leadership and ministry at camp, praying, teaching, playing together. A heartfelt thanks to Head Counselor Ross Miller (Calvary, Sioux Falls), Counselors Michael Langley (St. Paul's, Vermillion,) Chris Soukup (Calvary, Sioux Falls,) Josh Hanscom, Travis Shafer, Brittany Salisbury, Elly Crawford (St. Mary's, Old Agency, Sisseton Mission,) Quinetta Hairy Chin (Bullhead, Standing Rock Mission,) and Kelsey Wagner (Calvary, Sioux Falls.) Thanks also to the Thunderhead staff: Holly Moseley, Deb Hopkins, Tom Lutes, and Sarah Fortier for all their hard work.

Program highlights included teaching from Rev. Mercy Hobbs, Hebrew bible study on the name of God from Brother John of Taizé, and confirmation classes taught by Dean Ward Simpson and Rev. Rita Powell. We have stained glass art projects, field trips to Harney Peak, chapel twice daily, campfires, games and talent shows. We got to be a part of the 139th Niobrara Convocation at TEC. We had a special workshop taught by Professor Gladys Hawk, exploring the Lakota language of God. We heard a presentation from Bonnie Anderson, Chair of the National House of Deputies. We had the visit of Brother John of Taizé. We got to share in the Episcopal Youth Experience. We had an archery workshop taught by national expert Mike One Star.

Campus Ministry is emerging in our Diocese as well. The student group Taizé USD at the USD in Vermillion, SD continues to be a vital ministry for its leaders as well as for the campus life in general. Between 6 and 8 youth leaders put on a weekly meditative compline at the chapel on campus. Rev. Rita Powell will be the first female chaplain for the USD Coyote football team this fall! Fr. Ryan Hall, at SDSU in Brookings, is part of an ecumenical contemplative campus ministry. Holly Moseley has been reaching out at BHSU, and the diocese has partnered with the Methodist / Ecumenical ministry at the School of Mines in Rapid City. All of these groups came together to make a powerful pilgrimage to Taizé, France this year, where a group of 19 young adults had the chance to deeply explore their faith, identities, and life journeys. Next spring, an ecumenical campus ministry trip pilgrimage will journey to Chicago for a Taizé weekend - Stay Tuned!

SAVE THE DATE: Memorial Day weekend, 2014!

Memorial Day weekend, 2014, is the target date for a thrilling event to be hosted by a coalition of churches in South Dakota. Partnering with the Taizé community, our Diocese has the opportunity to work across church, cultural, economic, and geographic boundaries to work for a vision of the Kingdom of God. We are in the imagination stages of a national Taizé event for young adults to take place in our State! Stay tuned as the process unfolds. If you are interested in being a part of the leadership of this event, please contact the Rev. Rita Powell!



**POSITIONS TO BE FILLED
BY ELECTION
AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION**

- ___ Historiographer/Registrar
 - ___ 1 Person to fill 3 year term
- ___ Standing Committee
 - ___ 1 Presbyter (Priest) to fill 4 year term
 - ___ 1 Presbyter (Priest) to fill 3 year term
 - ___ 1 Lay person to fill 4 year term
 - ___ 1 Lay person to fill 1 year unexpired term
- ___ Province VI Deputy
 - ___ 1 Clergy (presbyter or deacon) to fill 1 year term
 - ___ 1 Clergy (presbyter or deacon) to fill 2 year term
 - ___ 1 Clergy (presbyter or deacon) to fill 3 year term
 - ___ 1 Lay person to fill 1 year term
 - ___ 1 Lay person to fill 2 year term
 - ___ 1 Lay person to fill 3 year term

NOMINATIONS TO DATE

Standing Committee Lay person, 4 year term



Jean Lacher
St. Paul's, Brookings

**Diocese of South Dakota
Annual Diocesan Convention
September 9-10, 2011
Pierre, South Dakota**

Partial Schedule
Friday, September 9

- 11:30—3 pm ECW Mtg, Galleria G
- 12:00—Clergy Lunch & Conference, Trinity Church
- 3-7 pm—Registration in Lobby
- 4:00 pm—Niobrara Council
- 4:00 pm—Host of Next Convention
- 4:30 pm—Choir Rehearsal
- 4:30 pm—Standing Committee
- 5:30—7 pm—Picnic Reception
- 7:00 pm—First Business Session
- 9:00 pm—SC/COM Reception for those in, or interested in, the ordination process.

Times are 'ballpark', and room assignments will be posted and also on the schedule in your registration packet.

Muse on this....

As a boy living in rural upstate New York, it was my job to water our milk cow in the barn. The cast iron hand water pump over the well was about 30 ft out from the barn. Twice a day during the cold weather and every evening otherwise, it was my job to go out to the well and pump a pail of water. Then I had to carry it those 30 feet to the barn. The water was there, but I had to go out, pump it into the pail and carry it back in for the creatures.

This experience comes to mind for me when I think about our understanding of God. We often pray and act as if God is out there 30 ft. and down in the well.

The way I read the scriptures, we don't have to do that; simply not necessary.

The Good News, or the Gospel, is that, 'God is with us'. John the Baptist was beheaded for proclaiming it, Jesus was lynched for modeling it, and St Paul was imprisoned for establishing communities that were living it. The new reality that 'God is with us' changed the world—'Resurrected it'. God would not let the religious, economic and political forces of domination win by crucifying the 'Good News'.

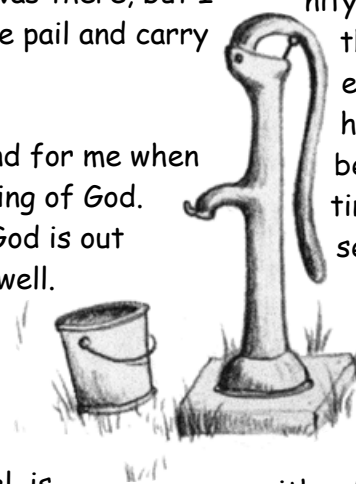
I write here to share with you that sometimes we act and pray as if we don't really believe that, 'God is with us'. We don't act 'changed'. It seems sometimes as if we pray and act as if God is out there down 20 feet having to be pumped up and carried in to our



relationships, into our business and community meetings. I image God as getting there before us, welcoming us with an energy urging hope and compassion and healing for all. Sometimes I want to begin prayers by thanking God for getting there ahead of me and saving a seat for me.

The whole Bible witnesses that God is prejudiced toward the poor, the powerless, the sick, the suffering, and toward peace. So, since 'God is with us', God is yearning, anxious somewhere in each of us to be part of that healing reconciling love. As Jesus' people, we have this inexhaustible treasure of the awareness of God's gift of self, blessing, uniting, challenging in each of our souls.

Fr Stan Woolley
Trinity Church, Winner



Violence in our cities

By The Venerable Paul Sneve

Recently a young man impulsively drew a gun and fired on Police Officers while pulled over for a routine traffic stop in Rapid City. Two Officers were killed and one injured, and the young man was also shot and killed.

The shock of this incident jarred all of Rapid City and rippled across the country. Law Enforcement Officers know that they face many risks every day, but for the slain Officers' coworkers in the Police Department, the effect of these shootings makes this risk even more real and frightening. The challenges of such risks are further complicated by the grief that they feel having lost two men that they have worked closely with. The prayers of many have been lifted up on behalf of the slain, their families and those who knew them. Funerals for Officers McCandless and Armstrong were held in the Rapid City Civic Center to accommodate the great numbers of mourners.

The great majority of Native People in Rapid City share in the shock, horror and sadness of this tragedy, but they also have other concerns. In the past, many Native People in Rapid City have experienced increased tensions with the Police when an act of violence was committed by a Native Person. Perhaps some of this was unintentional as the Police sought to prevent more violent acts, or perhaps individual officers allowed their nervousness, caused by such a violent act, to affect their interactions with Native People. There are those who would assert that certain Officers had more overt racist attitudes that motivated their work. It is difficult to speculate over reasons for these past events, but the nervousness of the Native Community in the aftermath of this unthinkable event is real. Many Native people are afraid that their relations with the Police will worsen.

Already dangerous and inflammatory racist remarks made by a few have been circulating, aim-

ing their hatred at Natives and Non-Natives alike. Hatred driven statements can only hurt and worsen the situation. Most Native leaders are making a call for calmness and well reasoned reactions. Already plans for community events to provide venues for positive dialogue between civic leaders, the police and local neighborhoods are being planned. It is my understanding that over the years, Police and Native relations have improved and still need to be improved more, but if we do not maintain an active role in good and fruitful communication, such progress can be reversed.

The love of Christ knows no boundaries and we are commanded to love one another as Christ loves us. Let us allow the Love of Christ to lead us, to strengthen common bounds, to establish more, and to rejoice in our differences. I believe that the Grace of God can bless everyone and provide positive change if we can follow God's loving hand, reaching out to others, listening to them and working to understand them.



The Venerable Paul Sneve
Archdeacon, Diocese of South Dakota
St. Matthew's, Rapid City

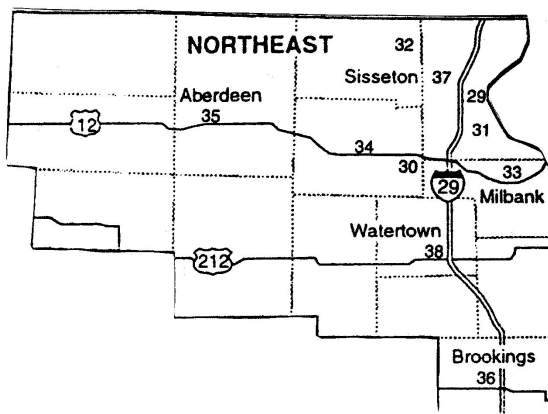
“Back to the Future”

Now, we don't have a De Lorean or a grumpy science major pal with a duster. However, we (the Northeast deanery “we”) are intrigued and inspired by regional or deanery ministry. We understand that it was more in style once. We can see why! To have regional, as well as diocesan, ministry events strengthens both.

As some may know, the Northeast Deanery has revived the tradition of clericus. We meet monthly and support each other over a meal. Bonds are stronger and ministry together becomes even more of a joy.

So, how about some deanery events to boot? A few of us from the NE are suggesting the following for deanery wide, and open to all, ministry support for 2011-12. People from the NE Deanery will present at, or facilitate these events.

Please note that events are open to **ALL**.
Details coming soon.



** If you think that Amelia Earhart was brave, and Lady Gaga daring, you should meet the heroines of Old and New Testament*

Fall 2011...Amazing Ladies: A *day* retreat to take a look at several heroines of the Bible. These were gutsy sometimes audacious women who swayed kings, ruled Israel, led armies, and just plain defied convention to walk with God. Meet these daring and holy women up close and personal.



**In times of brutal circumstances with the church often in disarray, this saint brought sanity and a gentle vision of God.*

Winter 2011-12.... Julian of Norwich.

Living the dedicated life of an anchoress, Julian shares a series of visions given her in a near death experience. She gives the world a theological corrective to the depressing view of a God in deadly wrath.

Tentative Spring 2012 Events

NE youth theme retreat.

Luncheon discussion group classes on Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Episcopal Traditions & Worship, etc.

The Very Rev. Jackie Bernacchi
Dean, NE Deanery
605-886-4167
jbernacc@midco.net

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Bishop's visitation dates
in bold letters

Diocesan Calendar

<p style="text-align: center;">SEPTEMBER</p> <p>Sep 4 Tiospaye Waken, Sioux Falls Sep 5 Diocesan Offices Closed Sep 9-10 Diocesan Convention, Pierre Sep 11 St. Peter's, Ft. Pierre Sep 14-21 House of Bishops, Ecuador Sep 25 Grace Church, Madison Sep 30-Oct 1 Commission on Ministry, Pierre</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OCTOBER</p> <p>Sep 30-Oct 1 Commission on Ministry, Pierre Oct 2 Sisseton Mission Oct 8 Consecration of Nebraska Bishop Oct 10 Diocesan Offices Closed Oct 15 NSM, Pierre (Theology) Oct 16 Rosebud Mission West Oct 30 Pine Ridge Mission Oct 31 Begins 3rd Year of Consecration</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOVEMBER</p> <p>Nov 4-5 Dakota Experience, Sioux Falls Nov 6 Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls Nov 11 Diocesan Office closed Nov 13 Okreek & Ideal Nov 20 Rosebud Mission East Nov 24-25 Diocesan Office closed Nov 26 Paulis Ordination, Milbank Nov 27 St. Mark's, Aberdeen</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DECEMBER</p> <p>Dec 3 NSM, Pierre (Church Organization) Dec 4 St. Paul's, Brookings Dec 10 O'Hara ordination, Sioux Falls Dec 11 Holy Apostles, Sioux Falls Dec 18 Grace, Huron Dec 24 St. Mary's, Flandreau</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JANUARY, 2012</p> <p>Jan 1 New Year's Day Jan 8 St. Mary's, Webster Jan 14 NSM, Pierre (Gospel of John) Jan 22 Mni Sose Cluster Jan 29 St. James, Belle Fourche</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FEBRUARY</p> <p>Feb 5 St. Paul's Vermillion Feb 12 St. Andrew's, Rapid City Feb 26 Trinity, Watertown</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Later in 2012</p> <p>May 7-10 Clergy Retreat, Blue Cloud June 21-24 Niobrara Convocation July 5-12 General Convention, Indianapolis ECW Triennial Sept 27-28 Diocesan Convention, Pierre Oct 12-13 Planning For Tomorrow Conference</p>
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 Will you sing in the Convention Choir on Saturday? We have a special anthem if there are enough volunteers.

Let the Diocesan Office know if you wish to sing, and the anthem will be mailed to you.

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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.

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.