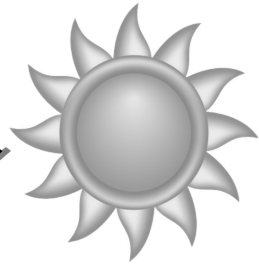


South Dakota Episcopal
Church News



www.episcopalchurchsd.org

Summer 2022

**General Convention 2022 Wrap Up
Baltimore Maryland
Historic election for House of Deputies leaders**



[Rev. Gay Clark Jennings prepares to hand over the House of Deputies *gravel* to the new president, Julia Ayala Harris.] Photo: Scott Gunn

Two women will lead the House of Deputies for the first time in history. Oklahoma lay Deputy Julie Ayala Harris, elected July 9 on the third ballot, succeeds the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, who finished her third and canonically required final term at the end of convention.

Ayala Harris is the first Latina and the youngest person elected to lead the house. Deputies elected the Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton as vice president the following day. Taber-Hamilton, who is Shackan First Nation, is the first Indigenous and first ordained woman to serve as vice president.

Ayala Harris and Taber-Hamilton are the first people of color serving together as leaders of the House of Deputies.

**The Diocese of
South Dakota**



Volume 75, Number 3
Statement of Ownership
South Dakota Episcopal
Church News
(ISSN 0746-9276)
Published 4 times a year,
February, May, August &
November

by
The Diocese of
South Dakota
408 N Jefferson Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Periodicals postage paid at
Pierre, SD, and additional
mailing office.

Correspondence and articles
should be sent to:

Church News Editor
408 N Jefferson Ave
Pierre, SD 57501-2626
(605) 494-2020

Or E-mail:
office.@episcopalchurchsd.org

Annual Subscription: \$7

80th General Convention wrap-up: shortened, masked, tested, legislated

BY MARY FRANCES SCHJONBERG. Posted Jul 12, 2022

Editor's note: This story was updated July 12 to add more complete information on COVID-19 infections. Episcopal News Service – Baltimore, Maryland

The 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church is one for the history books, and not just for the decisions made but also for how the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way the church conducted its business.

The July 8-11 gathering – postponed a year because of COVID-19 and shortened from eight days – conducted what Presiding Bishop Michael Curry had referred to during the planning process as “matters essential for the governance and good order of the church.” Still, 412 resolutions were filed for consideration.

Legislative committees acted online most of the resolutions before gathering in Baltimore. That cleared the way for the House of Bishops and House of Deputies to devote the in-person gathering only to legislative floor sessions. They passed most of the resolutions in batches through consent calendars. Bishops and deputies had floor debates only on more controversial measures or on actions that they wanted to raise to greater prominence.

The streamlined convention had been scheduled to run until 5 p.m. EDT but both houses finished their work before 1 p.m. on July 11.

Among those essential actions, the bishops and deputies passed a \$100.5 million budget for the next biennium (the 81st General Convention is scheduled for the summer of 2024), approved the first reading of a constitutional change to clearly define the Book of Common Prayer, continued the church's commitment to reckoning with its history of racism, elected Julia Ayala Harris to succeed the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings as House of Deputies president and the Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton as vice president, and agreed to the reunification of two dioceses in Texas.

COVID-19 hovered over the gathering. About 1,200 attended – typically as many as 10,000 people participate – and they had to provide proof of vaccination and conduct rapid tests in their hotel rooms each morning. Attendees and volunteers also were asked to report positive tests to Dr. Rodney Coldren. All participants received five test kits the day they registered at the Baltimore Convention Center. They had to wear masks indoors. There was no exhibit hall, a space typically filled with displays from vendors and Episcopal-related ministries, and no visitors were allowed.

There were 32 reported COVID-19 infections at General Convention through the afternoon of July 12, according to Dr. Rodney Coldren.

Twenty-five deputies (including one the morning of July 12), two bishops, two spouses, two staff and one volunteer reported positive self-tests, Coldren told Episcopal News Service on July 12.

Twelve of those cases were new between Coldren's reports to the House of Deputies on July 10 and 11.

"COVID-19 is doing exactly what it does: it multiplies," he told the House of Deputies the morning of July 11. "We've gone from an average of five a day to seven to 12. This is exactly what it does." He added that he expected more convention participants to test positive on July 12.

Coldren said his July 11 briefing that using a conservative model, he would have expected 76 cases, or about 10 percent, in their house had convention not been shortened to four days and had protective measures such as masking and daily self-testing not been taken. His modeling assumed no major outbreaks within any deputation but, rather, one-to-one transmission every other day, he said.

"Know that what you have done really has protected your fellow deputies," he said.

Coldren warned participants to be vigilant up to five days from the end of convention. He urged them to be masked when in public during that time.

\$100.5 million churchwide budget adopted, future budget process revised

The convention adopted a balanced \$100.5 million churchwide budget. Much of the new spending in the budget is tied to resolutions proposed by the [Presiding Officers' Working Group on Truth-Telling, Reckoning and Healing](#). Central among them is [Resolution A125](#), for which the budget includes \$400,000 in start-up funds for a new Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice.

The budget plan, as proposed by the [Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance](#), includes spending \$225,000 on research to confront The Episcopal Church's historic ties to the federal system of Indigenous boarding schools, as outlined in [Resolution A127](#).

Convention changed the budget process itself. [Resolution A048](#) eliminates Program, Budget and Finance and instead empowers Executive Council to present its budget proposal directly to General Convention [through a standing budget committee](#).

The reforms are meant to streamline the process, ending the expectation that [Executive Council](#) spend two-and-a-half years producing a budget draft only to hand it over to Program, Budget and Finance to get up to speed and finalize a budget to propose to convention.

The change also should make it easier to accommodate the funding requests of General Convention resolutions. "The new budget committee will meet again [after General Convention], and they will look at every resolution that's passed by this body and try to figure how to fund them as best is possible," the Rev. Mike Ehmer, Northwest Texas deputy and Program, Budget and Finance chair told the convention.

[The narrative version of the budget is here.](#)

[The line-item budget is here.](#)

Full ENS coverage of the budget process is [available here](#).

ENS coverage of the convention's action is [here](#).

Defining the Book of Common Prayer — it might not be just a physical book anymore

Convention approved the first reading of a constitutional change to define the Book of Common Prayer. [Resolution A059](#) calls for amending [Article X](#) of the Constitution of The Episcopal Church, which lays out how the Book of Common Prayer can be revised but has never specifically provided for authorized liturgies that are not proposed revisions to the existing book.

If the change passes a second reading at the 81st General Convention in 2024, Article X would, for the first time, define the Book of Common Prayer as “those liturgical forms and other texts authorized by the General Convention.” In other words, liturgies that are not in the current prayer book – such as same-sex marriage rites and gender-expansive liturgies – could be elevated to “prayer book status,” whether they are replacing parts of the prayer book or standing on their own.

[Over a dozen liturgical texts](#) have been “authorized” – for trial use, experimental use, or simply “made available” – by General Convention over the years. However, Article X currently only addresses convention's ability to revise all or some of the existing Book of Common Prayer. It says nothing about the authorization of other liturgies not directly related to the existing prayer book, a category that encompasses many of the other rites.

All authorized Episcopal liturgies are compiled at episcopalcommonprayer.org, which was created by the [Task Force on Liturgical and Prayer Book Revision](#). [Resolution A058](#) designated the site as the official liturgical website of The Episcopal Church.

Full ENS coverage of prayer book and liturgical revision is [available here](#).

Reckoning with church's systemic racism and involvement in Indigenous boarding schools

Perhaps some of the most moving debate during the convention came as bishops and deputies considered [Resolution A125](#) to establish a voluntary Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice among dioceses and congregations, and [Resolution A127](#) to pledge more than \$2.5 million over the next biennium to further The Episcopal Church's commitment to investigating its role in Indigenous boarding schools.

House of Deputies President the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings called it “holy listening.”

ENS coverage of the [deputies' consideration of both resolutions is here](#) and the [bishops' actions is here](#).

Convention passed two other resolutions related to racism. [Resolution A086](#) would allocate money toward making a priority the development and support of programs that respond to eco-justice concerns, address environmental racism, and work to alleviate environmental burdens on Indigenous communities, and to provide training and financial aid and other resources for the work. [Resolution A052](#) clarifies the mandate of the Executive Council [Committee on Anti-Racism and Reconciliation](#). [Resolution C058](#) requires the Executive Council to respond to the church's [racial audit of leadership](#).

Bishop Eugene Sutton of the hosting Diocese of Maryland [preached](#) about The Episcopal Church's legacy of racism during his sermon on July 10.

Reunion of two Texas dioceses

The Episcopal Church in North Texas now has a new identity as part of the Diocese of Texas. Resolution D050 reunified the Fort Worth-based Diocese of North Texas with the Diocese of Texas. The North Texas diocese, with 14 congregations and fewer than 4,000 members, was greatly diminished in membership by a 2008 schism, in which a majority of clergy and lay leaders in the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth voted to leave The Episcopal Church over disagreements about the ordination of women and LGBTQ+ people.

The merger followed a process known as reunion since both dioceses have roots in the historic Diocese of Texas. Convention's vote follows actions in June by the diocesan conventions of each of the two dioceses to approve the merger.

Full ENS coverage is here.

Social justice actions

While some Episcopalians worried ahead of time that the shortened convention would limit action on social justice issues, bishops and deputies took stands on several such issues.

Reproductive rights, including abortion access

Convention passed Resolution D083 “affirming that all Episcopalians should be able to access abortion services and birth control with no restriction on movement, autonomy, type, or timing.” After impassioned debate, deputies rejected Resolution D054, which asked church leaders to consider relocating the 81st General Convention from Louisville, Kentucky, and all future meetings of convention to venues where women and others able to conceive, bear and birth children have full access to reproductive health care. That rejection meant the resolution did not go to bishops.

Bishop and deputies amended Resolution A001, setting the five finalists for the 82nd General Convention in 2027, requiring church leaders to “consider the physical and emotional well-being and safety” of attendees when picking a site.

Full ENS coverage, including the five location finalists, is here.

Family leave policies

Convention adopted resolutions to offer paid family leave and health insurance to lay and clergy church employees through the Denominational Health Plan. Resolution A003 urges but does not require, dioceses to adopt uniform paid family leave policies for all employees. Resolution D034 created a new task force to provide advice about the Denominational Health Plan, which is provided through Church Pension Group and which churches and dioceses are required to provide to clergy and some lay employees. The task force will provide the 81st General Convention in 2024 with options to reduce health insurance costs across The Episcopal Church.

Full ENS coverage is here.

Gun violence epidemic

Convention spoke out against gun violence, passing resolutions B003 on ghost guns, B006 urging advocacy for state legislation against gun violence and B007 commending investment in community violence intervention to prevent gun violence.

Participants rallied in prayer when gun violence struck close to the Baltimore Convention Center, the afternoon before convention began.

Convention rose in unanimous, silent affirmation of Resolution A226, to recognize, honor and lament the three members of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Vestavia Hills, Alabama, who were murdered June 16 by a man who was attending a potluck supper at the church. The resolution also recognized the surviving 18 church members and friends who were there that night. ENS coverage is here.

And on the lighter side ...

Will the last deputy ...

Prior to convention Coldren, the public health expert hired to advise Jennings with \$50,000 approved by Executive Council, suggested during a briefing for deputies that deputations designate one member to not participate in group activities such as dining together to preserve their diocese's vote should all deputation members be infected with COVID.

Of course, GC80 Designated Survivor immediately began tweeting.

The term quickly gained traction. Jennings adopted it as the title for the deputy appointed at every convention to preside over the house if both the president and vice president cannot. The Very Rev. Sam Candler, chair of the Atlanta deputation, held that title for the 80th General Convention but did not have to serve.

Please refresh your device

The 80th General Convention was often stymied by lack of dependable and continuing WiFi access. Systems failed in both the House of Bishops and House of Deputies on the opening day, preventing participants from accessing the internet on their church-provided iPads, and forcing the bishops and deputies to temporarily postpone votes that required digital tallies. WiFi trouble continued off and on in the House of Deputies up until the final gavel, especially during elections. The difficulties prompted widespread tweeting.

The text of all resolutions and their final status are in the General Convention Office's Virtual Binder at vbinder.net.

Full ENS coverage of the historic convention and events leading to it is here.

Onward to Kentucky

The next stop for the General Convention is Louisville, Kentucky, in the summer of 2024.

Photo: Scott Gunn *The Rev. Mary*

Frances Schjonberg retired in July 2019 as senior editor and reporter for Episcopal News Service.



Looking for more information regarding Diocesan Convention

September 23 & 24

1st United Methodist Church

117 N. Central Ave. Pierre, SD 57501

Needing Hotel information?

Registration Information?

Talk to your congregation's leader and sign up for the details.

If you do not have access to the information your local congregation leaders has the information and can assist you with any of your questions.

MINUTES FROM OUR 2021 Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota**137th Annual Convention****Friday, September 24, 2021****Plenary Session I**

1. Opening Prayers by The Rev. Canon Dr. Lauren R. Stanley, Canon to the Ordinary.
2. Call to Order and Introductions: Bishop Jonathan H. Folts thanks this year's host of convention, the Eastern Deanery, and introduces those at the head table: Canon Stanley as Dispatch of Business, Steven Sanford as Chancellor of the Diocese. Canon Stanley asks that all messages and requests for time to speak come to Dispatch of Business.
3. Credentials Committee Report: Deacon Marty Garwood reported that of the 115 possible delegates, 79 were present. Of the 67 clergy, 35 were present (23 excused, eight no responses, one hasn't checked in yet.) We have a quorum.
4. Voice and Vote: Give voice and vote to priests who are canonically resident in another Diocese or Synod but serve congregations in this Diocese: The Rev. Robert Two Bulls Sr., The Rev. Charley Chan; The Rev. Daryl Schubert; The Rev. Henrique Fleming; The Rev. George Gehant. So moved by Michael Mornard, Grace Church, Huron (second, Fr. Clay Riley, All Angels, Spearfish). Motion carried
5. Clergy or Personnel who have joined the Diocese since last Convention: The Rev. J.D. Barnes, Rector, Emmanuel, Rapid City; The Rev. Dr. Lauren R. Stanley as Canon to the Ordinary; the Rev. Mike Newago, Rector, Christ Church, Yankton; the Rev. Lydia Simmons, Christ Church, Lead, and Missioner for Camp and Young Adult Ministries; The Rev. Canon Cody Maynus, Canon for Formation and Rector, St. Andrew's, Rapid City; Mr. Mitch Honan, Canon for Finance and Property. Not present: Rev. Robert Lambert, St. Andrew's, Rapid City.
8. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Dean Ward Simpson, Calvary Cathedral (second, The Ven. Paul Sneve, Vermillion). Motion carried.
9. The Minutes: Motion to accept the Minutes made by Michael Mornard, Grace Church, Huron (second by Veloria Johnson, Calvary). Motion carried.
10. Call for motion to accept reports: Motion to accept reports as printed, made by Deacon Marty Garwood, St. Andrews, Rapid City (second by The Rev. Annie Henninger, Rosebud East). Motion carried.
11. Secretary of Convention: Motion to elect Canon Stanley as Secretary made by the Rev. Jean Mornard, Grace Church, Huron (second by Sandy Magnavito, St. Andrews, Rapid City). Motion carried.
12. ECW Presentation: Holly Mosely, Vice President of Episcopal Church Women, introduced the new President of the ECW, Stephanie Bolman-Altamirano, and the Honored Woman of 2021, Valorie Rondell Augustson, St. James, Enemy Swim.
13. UTO and CPC: Bishop recognized Linda Simmons, past UTO chair, and introduced Diana Mathisrud, Christ Church, Lead, as the new UTO Coordinator. Bishop introduced Deacon Judy Graves as the president of the Church Periodical Club (CPC).
14. Presentations: Bishop introduced Canon Cody Maynus and the Rev. Lydia Simmons, who presented

information on Thunderhead Episcopal Center. Rev. Lydia Simmons and members of the TEC board past and present were recognized. Canon Cody and the Ven. Paul Sneve also presented on the Niobrara School of Ministry and the newly revised Deacon Formation process.

15. Announcements by Canon Lauren.

16. Recess: Convention recessed until Saturday

17. Opening Eucharist began at 8 p.m.

Saturday, September 25, 2021 Plenary Session II

1. Call to Order: Bishop called convention back to order, and introduced and thanked Pastor Greg Kroger of First United Methodist Church, as well as Ron Smith, church organist, and Elaine Scott, hospitality. The Bishop thanked The Rev. Pat White Horse-Carda for giving Friday night's homily, as well as all who helped with the worship services.

2. Elections: Bishop explained how the elections would take place.

3. Bishop's Address

4. Report of Parliamentarian: Chancellor Steven Sanford explained how movers of motions needed to introduce themselves, as well as the rules for debate and the time limits.

5. Resolutions

a. Resolution on Annual Day of Remembrance for Indigenous Children Who Died at Boarding Schools. The Rev. Shaneequa Brokenleg moved to add an amendment to add a resolve to the resolution that the convention expresses thanks to the Niobrara Council for their work and guidance with this resolution. The Rev. Kim Folts seconded the motion. The amendment passed. Resolution passed.

b. Resolution Regarding Article III, Section 4: "Quorum." submitted by the Committee on Canons. This change will reduce the number of clergy required at convention to constitute a quorum. Changes in the constitution require two separate readings. This is the first; it will come up again at the 2022 convention. First Reading passes.

c. Resolution Officially Opposing Legislation that Harms Transgender/Non-Binary Children & Youth. Mother Shaneequa spoke in favor of the resolution. Betsy Cardo, St. John's, Deadwood, proposed an amendment to remove "and athletic" from the resolution due to concerns for the hard-won gains women have made in athletics since Title IX (seconded by Sandra Magnavito, St. Andrew's, Rapid City). Mother Shaneequa expressed disagreement with the proposed amendment because athletes would be playing as their actual true gender. Victoria Johnson, Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls, spoke against the amendment, stating that we need to affirm youth in their gender identity. She spoke as a queer Episcopalian, recalling that, growing up in a non-affirming family, her church affirmed her before she could even begin to affirm herself. Canon Lauren Stanley spoke against the amendment, citing years of working with LGBTQ and two-spirited youth on the Rosebud. She begged the convention to leave athletics in the resolution. The amendment failed. No second needed on the original resolution. Resolution passed.

d. Resolution Regarding CPG and ECMT Misgendering Clergy and Employees of The Episcopal Church. Multiple submitters; no second needed.

Speaking to the resolution were Mother Shaneequa, Julie Gehm (Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls), Victoria Johnson (Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls), and Richard Rahn and Jamie German (St. James, Enemy Swim). Resolution passed.

e. Chancellor Steven Sanford proposed that we consider the final two resolutions together: Resolution for the Full Inclusion of Transgender, Non-Binary, and Two-Spirit People in the Life and Work of the Episcopal Church, and Resolution Recognizing That "Gender Identity and Expression" Refers to Transgender, Non-Binary Two-Spirit and/or Gender-Diverse People. Mother Shaneequa and Canon Lauren spoke to both resolutions. Multiple submitters; no second needed. Michael Mornard, Grace Church, Huron, asked if we actually need these resolutions since they were both passed by the General Convention. Lauren answered that General Convention asked each diocese to consider the resolutions at their conventions. The resolutions passed.

8. Workshop, Session 1: Amy Sazue of the NDN Collective/Rapid City Indian School Lands Project led a discussion about Indigenous Boarding Schools and efforts, particularly in Rapid City, to help with healing intergenerational wounds.

9. ECW Scholarship: Sandy Magnavito, St. Andrew's, Rapid City, announced the winner of the \$750 ECW Scholarship, Sierra Legarenda of Rapid City.

9. Blessing of Holy Oil

10. Lunch and Quilt Auction. The Rev. Kim Fonder, Standing Rock Episcopal Mission, ran the auction, raising money to defray lay readers' expenses and to support the Indian Boarding School Project.

11. Workshop, Session 2: The Rev. Richard Zephier, Itancan of Niobrara Council, and Rector, St. Mark's, Aberdeen, the Rev. Pat White Horse-Carda, retired, and Ms. Robin Bowen of Sisseton Episcopal Mission spoke powerfully and movingly about boarding school experiences and the continuing effects on people today.

12. Election Results – The Rev. Lydia Simmons presented the elections results: * The Clergy Representative to the Standing Committee – The Rev. Kim Fonder, unopposed. For the Lay Representative to the Standing Committee, Robin Bowen, 74 votes; SaraBeth Donovan, 64 votes.

*Diocesan Council Representative to the Diocesan Convention – Stephanie Bolman-Altimirano, 101 votes; Dwight Edstrom, 38 votes.

13. Announcements and Thank You's: Bishop thanked Virginia Traversie for coordinating snacks, and for her love and care for Don Metcalf.

*UMC women will put out bags of leftover turkey for the road

*The Rev. Webster Two Bulls was recognized and applauded

*Printed copies of the Bishop's Address are available and the sound recording is already of the Diocesan Facebook page

14. Ordinations: Bishop Jonathan announced upcoming ordinations:

*Mark Marion, St. Mark's, Aberdeen, will be ordained to the permanent diaconate on Saturday, Oct. 16, at St. Mark's.

*The Rev. Deacon Lydia Simmons will be ordained to the priesthood on Oct. 28 at Christ Church, Lead.

15. The Budget. Canon for Finance and Property Mitchell Honan presented the budget.

*The three major sources of income for the Diocese come from the National Church block grant, the Chapter Endowment funds, and pledges from parishes and missions.

He encouraged churches to create investment accounts to help sustain financial security for the future

*He spoke about three current endowments: Bishop Hare Center, Thunderhead Episcopal Center Endowment, and the Native American Youth Fund

* He cited communication as an area for improvement – vast distances in our diocese make it hard for face-to-face meetings with congregations. He thanked the Convention for the trust placed in him and promised to find ways to improve communication. He also promised not to ask for administrative tasks to be done by congregations that are not absolutely necessary.

Convention voted unanimously to approve the budget. Bishop Jonathan thanked Canon Mitch for his work and commented on revisions to the budget to increase transparency. The national church accountant had high praise for this budget, as did our annual auditor.

16. Courtesy Resolutions: All passed.

17. 2022 Convention: The next convention will be Sept. 23-24, 2022, at First UMC Church in Pierre.

18. Niobrara Convocation: The next Niobrara Convocation will be June 23-25, 2022, in Sisseton.

19. Adjournment: Bishop Jonathan adjourned the 137th Convention of the Diocese of South Dakota at 3:30 p.m.

Convention Report — Canon for Formation

I'll organize the bulk of my work into several headings to make it an easier read.

THUNDERHEAD EPISCOPAL CENTER

We were able to have a 'normal' season at Thunderhead Episcopal Center this year. We brought together a diverse staff who provided exceptional leadership to and on behalf of the young people of our diocese. We hosted three seminarians this summer—one from Yale Divinity School and two from Virginia Theological Seminary—who blended theological reflection with their work on the camp staff. Attendance at almost all our camps was down this year, a trend that seems pretty consistent among other Episcopal summer camps. There are several reasons for this, I believe, among them rebuilding after COVID-necessitated closures the previous two summers. We are working to assess this summer's programming and make good and holy changes for next season to ensure that our camps are feasible financially and able to provide our young people with the opportunity to love one another and God well at Thunderhead. A word of thanks to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Rapid City, for its annual cleaning work at the beginning of the season and to Christ Church, Lead, for being a supportive part of the counselors' experience this summer! Thanks also to the churches of our diocese that shared their clergy with us as chaplains this summer: Calvary Cathedral; Church of the Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls; Grace Church, Huron; the Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission; Christ Church, Yankton; St. Andrew's, Rapid City; and Trinity Church, Pierre.

CAMP REMINGTON

Camp Remington had another good season this year thanks to the tireless efforts of Les Koss, Key Parker, Chris Thrall, and Marlys Fratzke. Camp Remington has a long history of providing folks within our diocese and elsewhere an opportunity to reflect and recreate in the beauty of creation. Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Rapid City, has provided great support opening and closing Camp Remington in the past and they did so again this year. There is a desire among Camp Remington patrons to have a more regularly Sunday Eucharist in the Chapel of the Transfiguration. Any clergy who are not otherwise occupied on a Sunday morning are very welcome to come and celebrate. Please be in touch with me!

VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT

I have had the opportunity to meet individually and collectively with a number of folks who are in discernment for a possible call to Holy Orders in our diocese. Father Kim Fonder, Superintending Presbyter of the Standing Rock Episcopal Mission, invited me to be present for a community-wide job/vocation fair in McLaughlin, SD, and I was able to visit one-on-one with a number of people discerning their vocations, both within the church and within other industries and ministries. I would welcome the opportunity to do something similar in your communities as well!

While the work we do at the diocesan level is important in terms of encouraging vocations to the diaconate and the priesthood, nothing is more powerful than support at the local level. If there are people in your congregations and communities whom you think might be called to the diaconate and/or the priesthood, please offer them your encouragement and support. Some of the best deacons, priests, and bishops I know were encouraged to begin discernment by their congregations and communities. Let's be partners in helping others discern God's call in their lives!

CATECHIST FORMATION

At present we have three candidates for senior catechist who have been serving admirably in our diocese for many years. I anticipate that they will be commissioned as Senior Catechists in the very near future. I also hope to work with our Archdeacon and my siblings on the Niobrara Council to study and prepare a renewed process for Senior Catechist formation that acknowledges the leadership that those who are presented for that important ministry have already mastered while also giving them the tools they need to serve in the ways God and their communities are calling them.

FORMATION FOR HOLY ORDERS

We continue to refine the deacon formation process in conversation with the Commission on Ministry here in our diocese and our formation partners throughout the region and The Episcopal Church. The Niobrara School for Ministry offered courses in History and Polity (Dr. Bradley Peterson, Bexley Seabury Seminary), Old Testament (the Rev. Dr. Amelia Arthur, Diocese of Minnesota), New Testament (the Rev. Dcn. Charles Bobertz, PhD, St John's University School of Theology), Pastoral Care (the Rev. Dr. Christina O'Hara, Diocese of South Dakota), and Sacraments (the Rev. Ellen Huber, Diocese of South Dakota), and have plans to offer further courses for those in formation for the diaconate.

Our diocese has entered a partnership with Bexley Seabury Seminary in Chicago, ILL to help provide structure and content to those in our formation process. At this point, the bulk of that partnership is oriented toward deacon formation, including offering courses and curriculum development gatherings. Bexley Seabury is also leading the way by piloting a Mentor-Assessed, Competency-Based Master of Divinity degree program specially designed for those in formation for the priesthood. This pilot program is being underwritten by Trinity Church, Wall Street, in the City of New York. Our very own Deacon Twilla Two Bulls will be a part of this pioneering first cohort of students. We are so grateful to Deacon Twilla for continuing to lead us into the future! Bexley Seabury will also be offering a number of resources and courses for lay formation and especially for lay licensure. If you are interested, please be in touch!

CLERGY FORMATION

The clergy of our diocese gathered this year at Terra Sancta Retreat Center in Rapid City for our annual clergy retreat. Our retreat director was Sister Elizabeth Mills, CSM, from the Community of Saint Mary in Sewanee, TN. Sister Elizabeth's retreat was organized around the theme of 'We are Risen Indeed!' and focused on living and leading in a post Resurrection Church. In addition to Sister Elizabeth's talks, the retreat afforded our clergy the opportunity to rest and recreate together. Our days were shaped by the Daily Office and the Holy Eucharist. Liturgical music was provided by the inestimable Dr. Justin Stephens (of Emmanuel Episcopal Church and the broader Black Hills Deanery) and Wake Up Eutychus (a folk band comprised of ELCA Lutheran pastors from the Black Hills area.) Our clergy retreat in 2023 will be at the Abbey of the Hills (formerly Blue Cloud Abbey) in Marvin, SD.

LAY MINISTRIES

I have begun to design and implement training modules for various licensed lay ministries in our diocese. At this point, the module that is most developed—and which has been piloted by the intrepid people of St. Thomas, Sturgis—is for training licensed lay worship leaders. I am working presently on a module for licensed lay pastoral caregivers and should be ready to offer that module early in 2023. If you are interested in these modules—or in others that might be further down the pipeline—please do reach out to me. I’m happy to share the curriculum with clergy and lay leaders in charge of congregations or present the material myself. I’m also happy to connect you to Bexley Seabury Seminary-provided courses that can be completed online. As ever, I’m grateful to be able to walk alongside our diocese as we, together, seek to be the people and the communities God would have us be in the world.

Respectfully,
The Rev. Cody Maynus, Canon for Formation

Report to Diocesan Convention 2022

By the Ven. Paul Sneve

Probably the most significant item in this report will be my moving to Sioux Falls to become the Priest in Charge for Tiospaye Wakan Congregation. We received a Sustainability Grant that enabled this shift that included money for Program and Facility maintenance. The mid-to long-term goal will be to finally complete the requirements for Tiospaye Wakan become a Parochial Mission. Nothing will change for the congregation as far as where and how we worship, but it will mean a much greater degree of independence and a more focused ministry for Native People in Sioux Falls. If all goes well, we should be bringing the final proposal for this convention’s approval next year.

Another significant event that occurred this past year was my participation in the Working Group of Truth Telling, Reckoning and Healing that did the prep work for Resolution A125 which created the Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice, which is a funded Coalition that was approved (along with a number of other resolutions) by General Convention. This voluntary organization will oversee research into the sins of the Church committed within our history. This includes a forensic audit into the sources of money within the larger church and investigation/research into the history of Episcopal Native Boarding Schools. These investigations will require many hours of research but will help us to have a better understanding of our history. It was also approved to enable the formation of special “Healing Centers” to assist our communities heal from our Historical Trauma.

The translation of the Book of Common Prayer is now starting up again. COVID all but stopped our work, and as we assess the loss of our elders who passed away during the past two years, we are slowly starting back up. As before, we need you to provide us with the names of individuals who will be able to help us to translate the BCP. Of course, these people will need to be fluent speakers as well as have a good understanding of the church and our Book of Common Prayer. As more and more liturgies become finished, we will make them available to all in a digital form so our communities will be able to use them immediately.

In the peace of Christ,
The Ven. Paul Sneve

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY
Report to 2022 Convention

Since Diocesan convention last year, COM has met a few times via Zoom due to the pandemic. We conducted three “get-to-know-you” meetings with individuals. We also interviewed three people seeking to be made a postulant and made recommendations for each. In May, COM joined the Standing Committee’s Zoom meeting when they interviewed a person seeking candidacy.

Beginning in 2022, Bishop Jonathan and Canon Cody began designating specific months during the year for when people will meet with COM depending on where they are in the process. For the balance of 2022, COM will meet on August 20 th if there is anyone ready for a “get to know you” meeting. On Nov. 5, COM will meet if there is anyone ready to be recommended for ordination to the permanent diaconate or to the priesthood.

2021-2022 saw several existing members going off COM and new members coming on. Current members of the Commission on Ministry are: Ms. Jessica Bad Horse, The Rev. Shaneequa BrokenLeg, The Rev. Judy Flagstad (co-chair), The Rev. Ellen Huber, The Rev. Christina O’Hara (co-chair), The Rev. Clay Riley, The Rev. Warren Shoberg, and Ms. Mona Vocu.

For the Commission on Ministry
Judy Flagstad+

Camp Remington, respectfully by Les Koss

On Saturday, May 14, 17 people came to help open Camp Remington for the season. All toll, they put in over 51-person hours getting the camp ready for the summer. All three cabins and the Chapel were cleaned, beds put out, floors swept and washed, stove and refrigerators cleaned. The four outhouses were cleaned. Picnic tables were brought out of storage and placed at the cabins. The Chapel was cleaned, the pews placed in position, altar essentials stored in closet, new sign over altar, sign repaired on chapel entrance. The camp sign was placed on Needles Highway at the entrance to Camp Remington. Some new mattresses were installed, and old ones hauled away. Old furniture and trash were hauled away. Due to the cool spring, the grass did not need to be mowed at the time.



Special thanks to Key Parker and Danny Vetsch for work on the new altar sign and chapel entrance sign. Thanks to Chris Trull, who was able to procure four new mattresses.

Those who helped are shown in the picture, listed in no order: Key Parker, Bryan and Lisa Fischer, Mara Vucurevich, Lyn VonWald, Sue Larson, Chris Trull, Jackie Newell, Donna Burnap, (Les not shown) and Cora Koss, Kent and Nancy Bryant, Mark Dvorak, Denise Oen, Danny Vetsch, and Lois Oetker. Many thanks to all the people who gave of their time to help.

On June 17, Key Parker, Kent Bryant and Les Koss went to camp and mowed the grass, timmed around cabins and chapel. The camp looks great.

Annual summary of Diocesan Council meetings.

November 2021: Diocesan Council welcomed three new members, The Very Rev. Ward Simpson, representing the Eastern Deanery, Dory Hanson, representing the Black Hills Deanery; and Stephanie Bolman-Altimirano, Diocesan Convention Representative. Diocesan Council was notified that with The Very Rev. Ward Simpson now on the Diocesan Council, his position on the Standing Committee is open and the Bishop appointed The Rev. J.D. Barnes, Emmanuel, Rapid City. Diocesan Council was also notified of the new appointments to the Commission on Ministry and the Dioceses Disciplinary Board. Bishop Folts then reminded Diocesan Council about the year-long project he presented at Diocesan Convention and asked that Diocesan Council also develop a plan.

Diocesan Council was updated on upcoming installations and ordinations. And a lengthy discussion was held regarding the discovery of buried indigenous boarding school children out east and what may come of these discoveries.

Chancellor Steve Sanford discussed the abrupt request made to Canon Mitch Honan by the Pine Ridge Tribal council, regarding the vacant lot next to Holy Cross, Pine Ridge. After discussion, it was requested that Chancellor Steve Sanford be the key contact person between the Pine Ridge Tribal Council and that the Chancellor confirm exactly who is making this specific request.

Finances, other property, and staff updates were presented.

February 2022; Most of this month's meeting was dedicated to working with the Rev. Canon Timothy Hodapp, from the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, on developing the Diocesan Council's Wolakota/Wodakota/Wonakota project.

Chancellor Steve Sanford updated Diocesan Council regarding the continued talks between Pine Ridge Tribal Council and Holy Cross, Pine Ridge. He also updated Council regarding what the process may be for combining the many titles the Diocese holds. The goal is for this change in name to happen before the Diocesan Convention in September.

April 2022; Diocesan Council spent time with the Rev. Canon Timothy Hodapp, from the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, developing the Diocesan Council's Wolakota/Wodakota/Wonakota project.

Bishop Folts updated Diocesan Council regarding several projects, including Common Ground, Shared Roots, and he gave an update regarding two grants given to a couple of different congregations in the Diocese.

Chancellor Steve Sanford directed the Diocesan Council through the merger of recognized names the Diocese has. It was agreed to combine the Chapter of Calvary with the Episcopal Foundation creating the South Dakota Episcopal Foundation. Next, Steve updated the progress between the Pine Ridge Tribal Council and Holy Cross, Pine Ridge, land transfer.

Missioner for Camp & Young Adult Ministries

“God of all change, who teaches us that we are called not to conform to the world but to be transformed, help us to be present to all those we hold in prayer. Remind us of the transformative work of our prayers and actions in the world, starting here at TEC.”

This prayer has been our opening prayer for the prayers of the people during our daily worship services this summer at Thunderhead Episcopal Center. The summer of 2022 saw a number of new traditions as well as renewed energy around existing camp practices! Our staff for this season was made up of: Rev. Deacon Micah Cronin from New Jersey as the Assistant Program Director; Hannah Scolare from Virginia as our July Camp Cook; Josh Haisch from St. Andrew’s Rapid City as a facilities assistant, Jared Moore from Virginia Theological Seminary as a music leader and seminarian: as well as counselors Sam Armstrong from Virginia Theological Seminary; Artemis Langford from Wyoming; Elijah Moore from Virginia; and Gabe LePage from Yale Divinity School. This amazing staff did a wonderful job of ensuring that each and every person that encountered TEC this summer felt loved and welcomed exactly as they are. The staff also attended Niobrara Convocation to learn more about the diverse ministries in the Diocese of South Dakota and the Niobrara Deanery. Throughout the summer we were able to welcome a number of Diocesan clergy as chaplains and visitors at camp, including Rt. Rev. Jonathan Folts, Very Rev. Ward Simpson, Rev. Jean Mornard, Rev. Deacon Marty Garwood, Rev. Christina O’Hara, Rev. Canon Lauren Stanley, Rev. Kurt Huber, and Rev. Ellen Huber. A number of other guests at camp played an important role in supporting the mission and ministry of TEC as well. It has been a blessing to have representation from across the Diocese in this chaplain role and their ministry to TEC has been extraordinarily valuable.

The camps we have been able to offer this year have been 11th-12th Grade Camp, 9th-10th Grade Camp, 7th-8th Grade Camp, 5th-6th Grade Camp, and Family Camp. Our high school camps saw smaller numbers, which we predicted due to the two years off during the height of COVID-19. But, in positive news, our middle school camps, especially 5th-6th, were larger and with all new camp participants!

The ministry offered at TEC is still going strong and spent the summer deeping our identity as an experiment in Christian Community. Our participants explored what it means to be transformed by love and what it looks like to fully love our neighbors as ourselves. Through a diversity of activities, hikes, programs, and worship, the community experienced transformation in a tangible way.

Youth Ministry beyond TEC has had some exciting opportunities arising soon as well. The Episcopal Church Office for Indigenous Ministries is hosting a Native Youth Event in North Dakota August 14th-17th and we are hoping to have youth from South Dakota attend this event.

Furthermore, The Episcopal Youth Event in 2023 has been announced that it will be held in Baltimore, MD, the first week of July 2023. This event is open to high school students and we would love to have a presence from the Diocese of South Dakota.

Finally, in regards to college ministry programming. I have met with a number of congregations to begin the initial conversations about where they see their parish engaging in college ministries in their communities. The conversations have been fruitful and we are beginning to see the start of some extremely promising programming there as well!

As we enter into the 2022-2023 school year, I hope that I can be a resource for youth and young adult ministries in congregations throughout the Diocese. If you have questions on your programming, how to start, or ideas for engaging in new ways, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via email, lydia@episcopalchurchsd.org. I hope to talk with many of you in the year to come as we continue to invest in the ministries of youth, young adults, and camping.

Faithfully submitted,
Rev. Lydia Simmons, Missioner for Camp and Young Adult Ministries

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of South Dakota Activity Report 2021-2022

- August 2021: Consent to the election of The Rev. Dr. Ketlen Solak, as Bishop Diocesan of Pittsburg, PA.
- September 2021: Approval for the Ordination of Deacons Mark Marion & Lydia Simmons.
- October 2021: Consent to the election of The Rev. Betsey Monnot as Bishop Diocesan of Iowa.
- February 2022: Consent to the election of Bishop Fraser Lawton as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Dallas, TX.
- Consent to the election of The Rev. Juan Carlos Quinonez as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Ecuador Central.
- Consent to the election of The Rev. Brian K. Burgess as Bishop Diocesan of Springfield, IL.
- April 2022: Consent to the election of The Rev. Jos Tharakan as Bishop Diocesan of The Diocese of Idaho.
- May 2022: Consent to the election of The Very Rev. Douglas Scharf as Bishop Diocesan of Southwest Florida.
- June 2022: Consent to the elections of: The Rev. Canon Shannon Rogers as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Louisiana.
- The Rev. Phyllis Spiegel as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Utah.
- The Rev, Jeffrey Mello as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Connecticut.
- Recommended Mr. Mike Reade' be admitted as a Candidate in the Ordination Process towards the Priesthood.

Report of the Canon to the Ordinary For Diocesan Convention 2022

In the 15 months, I have served Bishop Jonathan as Canon to the Ordinary, I have seen more of South Dakota, and met more South Dakota Episcopalians than I had in the previous 8 and a half years in this Diocese! My travels have gone from Sisseton in the northeast corner of the state, down to Yankton, over to Pine Ridge, up to Spearfish, over to Eagle Butte, and back down to Pierre. “Oh, the places you will go,” as the children’s book says. But there are still many more congregations to visit and serve.

A large part of the job entails Transition Ministry — working with congregations in search of new clergy and clergy in search of new positions. We have been blessed to fill the Superintending Presbyterian positions on both the Rosebud Episcopal Mission West and the Pine Ridge Episcopal Mission/St. Katharine’s, Martin. The Rev. John D. Willard V joined us on the Rosebud West in November 2021. The Rev. Michelle S. Dayton joined us on the Pine Ridge and in Martin in late July 2022.

Both of those searches used our new search format for the Diocese: The people of each congregation are asked to talk about what they want in a new priest, and then are filmed for a video that goes to interested candidates. With the use of movies to tell the story of each place in search, clergy who are interested are able to hear *directly* from the people, instead of simply reading about a congregation’s profile on-line. We also have begun advertising nationally and internationally for positions. This new approach has produced more interest in positions that are open in this Diocese and will be used in future searches as well.

A slightly truncated search was conducted for Grace, Madison, and St. Mary’s/Our Blessed Redeemer, Flaudreau, which we thought came to a successful conclusion, but the circumstances have changed. The Rev. Isaiah “Shaneequa” Brokenleg is serving those parishes as a long-term supply priest.

I am currently working with St. Thomas, Sturgis, following the retirement of The Rev. Bunker Hill; and with St. Paul’s, Vermillion, following the departure of the Ven. Paul Sneve. Both searches are still in their early stages, and are still open as of this writing, but we hope to find the right person for each position as soon as possible. I also have begun some of the consultations with Christ Church, Milbank, helping to support those parishioners after the death of the Rev. Marian Paulis.

I was blessed to attend two different Transition Ministry conferences, both held in Texas, where I worked with other Transition Ministers from around the country to offer names of congregations and clergy in search.

Another part of this job focuses on supporting clergy in their own calls, sometimes simply listening to them, sometimes working with them on their dreams and goals, sometimes helping to take care of issues that have risen at the congregation (including insurance claims on property or their own health-care coverage). This year, this work included taking responsibility for parochial reports, making sure we had as many as possible filed, checking each report to ensure the information is correct, and submitting those reports to the Office of the General Convention, which collects all of them.

In supporting the Bishop’s initiative for the Wolakota/Wodakota/Wonakota Project, I have worked with several congregations to help them to dream big dreams and then implement them. I do this type of consulting with clergy and congregations in other Dioceses as well.

In March, I joined the Client Council of the Church Pension Fund for a three-year term. This position entails one three-day business meeting per year, as well as several short meetings, to discuss the Pension Fund and how it cares for the clergy and laity of the Episcopal Church. Part of being on the Council means representing the needs and desires of clergy and lay participants in the fund to the people who work there. I’ve spent a lot of time already discussing the differences between churches on the East Coast and churches in the rural areas of the Northern and Great Plains.

In late April/early May, I was blessed to attend my third CREDO, a clergy retreat offered by the Church Pension Fund. This conference was held in New Hampshire, where I met new friends, reconnected with some old friends, and spent serious discernment time on what it means to serve as a Canon to the Ordinary.

As a Deputy, I attended the 80th General Convention in Baltimore in July, speaking twice on resolutions dedicated to working on the Indian Boarding School Initiative. I also attended the 150th Niobrara Convocation at St. John’s, Browns Valley.

I am honored and grateful to serve in this position, and look forward to many new adventures - and even more places to go - in the coming year!

~ The Rev. Dr. Lauren R. Stanley, Canon to the Ordinary

Diocese of South Dakota to receive UTO Grant to respond to Environmental Justice Issues. United Thank Offering announced the grant recipients for the 2022 granting cycle, and we are excited to share that the Diocese of South Dakota will receive funding for an Indoor Riding Arena at Black Horse Ranch in the Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission.

The focus of the granting process this year was " Care of Creation: Turning love into action by caring for God’s creation to protect the most vulnerable who will bear the largest burden of pollution and climate change through: justice, advocacy, environmental reparations, or the development of formational materials ";

Indoor Riding Arena Project - This project seeks to repair our relationship to the earth while also providing reparations for the Lakota people by partnering with the community in restoring Lakota Horse Culture through the Equine Programs.

The Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission @ Black Horse Ranch is in the fundraising and development stage of three new Equine Programs: The Horsemanship Program, The Equine Facilitated Wellness Program and The Center for Equine Meditation.

The Horsemanship Program: A program to introduce participants to the Lakota Horse culture through Equine Facilitated Learning Exercises, groundwork, grooming and care, riding instruction, and Lakota Horse Culture instruction and history. We began this program this summer with our Horse & Pony Camps.

The Equine Facilitated Wellness Program: This program to seeks to collaborate with local tribal leadership in utilizing Equine Facilitated Learning as part of a comprehensive recovery program. This program is beginning to serve AA and NA recovery groups. The Center for Equine Meditation: This program is geared toward non-tribal members living outside of the reservation to engage in Equine Facilitated Learning and Lakota Horse Culture instruction and history. Contact us to see about scheduling a group from your church, work or community!

We had to cancel a couple of days of camp this summer because the weather became too hot. An indoor riding arena will allow us to have camp programs and other activities even when the weather is not ideal, so we can care for all our relatives both two legged and four legged. If you are interested in helping fund this time sensitive project, we are still raising funds to complete the arena, and gratefully welcome your support!

“Caring for God’s creation is one of humanity’s first tasks according to Genesis, and we have done a pretty poor job of it so far. UTO’s 2022 grant recipients will play a great role in remedying that situation through the ministries they develop and disseminate to encourage greater participation in creation care. As always, if we’d had more money to grant, we would have been delighted to fund more of the excellent grant projects submitted, so please continue to be thankful and make your thank offerings to UTO,” shared Sherri Dietrich, UTO Board President.

United Thank Offering Funding

Every penny given to the United Thank Offering is given away the following year to support innovative mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church. Through the gratitude and generosity of those who contributed through Blue Box donations, UTO awarded over \$1,051,154.14 in grants to address environmental issues.

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings, and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

For more information on UTO:

The Rev. Canon Heather Melton Staff Officer, The United Thank Offering
917.771.3366 or at hmelton@episcopalchurch.org
<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/united-thank-offering>

For more information on Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission & its Equine Programs:

The Rev. Kurt Huber or The Rev. Ellen Huber Superintending Presbyters
605.200.0899

cheyennerivermission@gmail.com
<https://www.cheyenneriverepiscopalmission.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/BlackHorseRanchEB>
<https://www.facebook.com/CheyenneRiverEpiscopal>

**The Center for Equine Meditation
Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission
@ Black Horse Ranch (Eagle Butte, SD)**

Does your group need to explore better ways to work together, or simply want a chance to deepen your connections?

Come and visit us at Black Horse Ranch for a day long experience in Equine Facilitated Learning and Lakota Horse Culture instruction and history. Perfect for a retreat day!

Contact us to see about scheduling your church: vestry, council, youth group, or any community group!

**Call or text 605-200-0899 or
blackhorseranch2020@gmail.com
for questions or to schedule!
No horse/pony experience needed!**



**Follow us on Facebook:
BlackHorseRanchEB**

Last note from General Convention News 2022

The General Convention Deputation from South Dakota wanted a creative way to identify ourselves in the House of Deputies.

Since there had been three “incidents” in the news about Yellowstone bison letting tourists know they were not pets, we thought hearkening back to the blue jeans incident at Custer might be entertaining.

Lots of deputies stopped by our tables to take photos, and to ask about the blue jeans. Our response consistently was:

“Do NOT

***The Episcopal
Diocese of
South Dakota***



***Keeping You Safe From
Fluffy Cows***

NEWS RELEASE FROM WONIYA WAKAN (HOLY SPIRIT)
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WAGNER, SD.
CONTACT PERSON: DEANNA STANDS 605-491-1033
DATE: 07/08/2022

REMEMBRANCE PRAYER ADOPTED

At the 150th Niobrara Convocation, held at St. John’s, Sisseton Mission, this remembrance prayer for the boarding and residential school children was adopted.

Created by Woniya Wakan (Holy Spirit) members, Wagner, SD, it is hoped that this prayer will be used by any church at an appropriate time and eventually be used throughout the national Episcopal Church.

A PRAYER TO REMEMBER THE INNOCENTS

Ohiṇni wičhaṅkiksuyapi kte. We will always remember them.

Dear Lord, Almighty God,
We pray for all indigenous children who were in residential
and boarding schools In Canada and the United States.
Some died there; we ask that you give assurance to their descendants
that their souls are with you and their ancestors.
Some survived there; we ask that you give your healing grace
to all who endured hardship
while there and are still struggling with those memories.
Lastly, we ask you to help us guard our children against
harm in this world.

All this we ask in the name of your son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

90 and Fabulous!

Pat Michels

Please help us celebrate our mom's
90th birthday, during August 2022
with a card shower!

Cards can be sent to:
Patricia Michels
Avera Majestic Bluffs
Chalkstone #534
2111 West 11th Street
Yankton, SD 57078

Sincerely,
The Michels Family

Auf Wiedersehen, Good bye, Au revoir

After numerous years in the Diocese of South Dakota and after serving on numerous committees in the Diocese, The Rev. Julian "Bunker" Hill officially retired-retired. May 29, 2022, was Bunkers last Sunday with the congregation at St. Thomas, Sturgis.

After decades of distinguished service with the Church of All Angels, Spearfish, Bunker chose to answer a call to help at St. Thomas in Sturgis. Bunker was well received and along with his wife, Jane, they made a home in Sturgis. Bunker not only was involved in church affairs but the community at large, even winning the coveted "Best Chili Award" at the Sturgis Alliance of Churches Chili Cook-off in 2021. Bunker served in Sturgis for seven years and will be missed by all. He and Jane have embraced their retirement in Denver, CO.

A HEALTHY MINDSET By Safegatherings

Remember: Dial 988!

Mental illness is a serious problem in our country, and it isn't getting any better. Millions of people, especially young adults, are living with a mental disorder and either do not realize they are ill or do not seek the help they need. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), mental health disorders include anxiety, depression, seasonal affective disorder, or more serious illnesses such as bipolar disorder, major depression, schizophrenia, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and more.

In your work at your church or organization, you likely come across people who are in crisis and need help. When someone is injured and needs an ambulance, you call 911. But in a mental health crisis situation, who do you call?

Fortunately, there is a new option available, and it's as easy as remembering 988. The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) offers 24/7 call, text and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use and/or a mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. People can also dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.

When calling 988, callers first hear a greeting message while their call is routed to the local Lifeline network crisis center (based on the caller's area code). A trained crisis counselor answers the phone, listens to the caller, understands how their problem is affecting them, provides support, and shares resources as needed. If the local crisis center is unable to take the call, the caller is routed automatically to a national backup crisis center. The Lifeline provides live crisis center phone services in English and Spanish and uses Language Line Solutions to provide translation services in more than 250 additional languages for people who call 988.

According to SAMHSA, the primary goal of the Lifeline is to provide support for people in suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress in the moments they most need it and in a manner which is person-centered. The vast majority of those seeking help from the Lifeline do not require any additional interventions at that moment.

Treating a mental illness is not something a person can attempt on their own. Similar to most health conditions, help for mental illness requires professional diagnosis and treatment. If someone asks you for help, let them know that there are resources available. And, share this article with other leaders in case they are unaware.

Remember: Dial 988!



Every copy of
*The South Dakota
Church News*
that has an incor-
rect address is re-
turned to us with
a 75¢ postage due
charge.

Please use this
form to correct
your address or
supply your new
address BEFORE
you move.

Moving? Please tell us...

Change Cancellation New Subscription

Name.....

NEW Address.....

City, ST, Zip

Effective Date

Church we will attend after move

Mail to: South Dakota Church News
408 N. Jefferson Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501-2626

THANK-YOU



Bishop's visitation and meeting dates.
Please remember this schedule is subject
to last minute changes.

Diocesan Calendar

August 2022

8/1-10 Lambeth, England
8/13 Diocesan Council (Pierre)
8/13-14 St. Mary's, Mitchell
8/18 Trinity, Watertown
8/20-21 Standing Rock Mission
8/28 Christ Church, Milbank

September 2022

9/3-4 St. John's, Oglala and
 Christ Church, Red Shirt Table
9/5 Labor Day
9/10 St. Luke's, Hot Springs
9/16-18 Rosebud East Mission
9/22 Clergy Conference, Pierre
9/23-24 Diocesan Convention
9/25-10/8 Bishop on Vacation

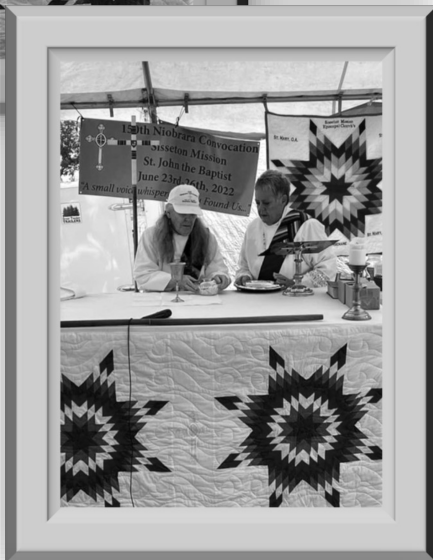
October 2022

10/1-8 Bishop on Vacation
10/10 Native American Day
10/15-16 Yankton/Santee Mission
10/22 -23 Sisseton Mission
10/29-30 All Angels, Spearfish
10/31 All Souls Day

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Ends: Fall Back November 6, 2022
Begins: Spring ahead March 12, 2023

FEATURES INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



Dial 988	Page 22
Diocesan Convention minutes	Page 7
General Convention Wrap up	Page 1-6
Last Note about General Convention	Page 19
News Release (Remembrance Prayer)	Page 20
150th Niobrara Convocation	Page 24
Reports	
Archdeacon	Page 12
Camp Remington	Page 13
Commission on Ministry	Page 13
Canon for Formation	Page 10
Diocesan Council	Page 14
Missioner Camps & Young Adults	Page 15
Canon to the Ordinary	Page 17
Standing Committee	Page 16
Transitions & Celebrations in the Diocese	Page 21
UTO Announces Care of Creation Grant	Page 18-19