

*This is a draft and subject to approval by the Board of Directors*

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of Iowa was held at St. Anne's, 2110 West First Street in Ankeny on January 21, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. pursuant to the annual meeting held on December 10, 2004.

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, president, presided.

The following directors were present:

The Rev. Al Aiton

The Rev. Cathleen Bascom

Mr. Bill Early

The Rev. Artis Ferrell

Mr. Steven Kennell

The Rev. Dian Ong

The Rev. Donald Payer

Canon Glenn E. Rankin

The Rev. Mel Schlachter

Mr. William Smith

Ms. Marrie Williams

Mr. Paul Meginnis II, *ex officio*

Mr. Thomas W. Carpenter, *ex officio*

The Rev. Lynne Carver, *ex officio*

Also present: Ms. Nancy Morton, Assistant Secretary; Ms. Anne Wagner, Ms. Sue Genereux, Assistant Youth Missioner, Ms. Cindy McConnell, Mr. Gene Gardner, and The Rev. Patrick Genereux.

Absent were: The Rev. Julia K. Easley, Ms. Elinor Kornhauser, The Rev. Mel Low, Ms. Kim McIrvine, Ms. Barbara Sass, The Rev. Anne Williams, Mr. Robert Joy, Assistant Treasurer and Ms. Kesha Brennom, Youth Missioner.

The Rev. Cathleen Bascom opened the meeting remembering Martin Luther King, Jr. with a Litany for Forgiveness and Hope.

The minutes of the December 10, 2004 meeting were corrected to indicate that the Advent Lessons and Carols were held in Council Bluffs on December 19. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Bishop's Report**

With only a few weeks since we last met, my report is delightfully short. Visitations were made to St. Luke's Fort Madison, where I had the honor of being St Nicholas for an

afternoon, and to St. Luke's in Des Moines. I presided at Christmas Eve services at St. Paul's, Creston and later that evening at the Cathedral of St. Paul in Des Moines.

Donna and I traveled over Christmas Day into Boxing Day to visit parents in England. We were able to extend the trip to attend Bishop Neville Chamberlain's retirement service in Dundee Cathedral where Bishop Mabuza and I were appointed honorary canons of the Cathedral. The occasion also helped the three of us speak about future joint ventures, particularly mission type trips, starting with Bishop Mabuza coming to Iowa for a healing mission in July. He will extend an invitation to us to return to Swaziland for an evangelistic mission in 2006, and then we explored the possibility of doing a joint pilgrimage mission to Brechin in 2007. We also raised the possibility of planning a three way young adult retreat in Brechin in 2006 with an emphasis on ministry leadership.

The new Bishop is expected to be consecrated in late August or early September. I have offered a standing invitation to the new Bishop or the retired Bishop to preach at the Convention Evensong in 2005. I have also begun exploring bringing the Provost over for 2006 to participate in our celebration of women's ordained ministries. The media refer to the Provost as the highest ranked female priest in the British Isles!

I am glad to have our relations with Brechin receive an energetic boost. There is also new work in the wings with Native Americans in Iowa. At the encouraging of Bishop Smith of North Dakota, we applied to the National Church for a grant towards ministry development work with St. Paul's, and for a ministry initiative project around Tama. I have asked Jim Davis to pursue these opportunities. The grant is small, \$8600, but will cover additional travel for Jim and possibly help us bring in a consultant to guide us in our thoughts about starting a new Native Ministry work. My planned visitation to St. Paul's, Sioux City, this Sunday, will afford discussion on their desired relationship to this new ministry emphasis.

New ministry is also the theme for those ordained deacon last month. In a change of routine, we ordained four transitional deacons at the Cathedral of St. Paul on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Tim Squier and Kate Bradley will work from their home bases of Seabury Western and EDS. Kate is a chaplain at Harvard and Tim will work in a suburban parish in the Chicago Diocese. It is my intention to hold such ordinations during that week in December for our senior Seminarians. We will keep close watch on their educational development, but will use General Ordination Exams as a good diagnostic rather than qualifying tool.

Others ordained were Judith Jones from Waverly and Curt Moermond from Grace, Cedar Rapids. Judith will work out of St Andrew's while continuing as a professor of New Testament at Wartburg College. Curt has joined the Sacred Goose Chapter as a non-stipendiary ordained person, centering his ministry at Keokuk twice a month. Curt and Judith both bring a mature formation to their ministry. On the same day in December, I also ordained Sue Palmer to the priesthood, and most recently ordained Peg Jackson to the priesthood at Fort Dodge. Again there is symmetry to their vocational process. Both

are retired teachers and both serve in dual focused parishes: Sue in Albia and Chariton, Peg in Webster City and Fort Dodge.

Work within the staff at the Bishop's Office continues to provide opportunity and challenge. The opportunity is to use the All Commissions Day at the end of this month to call more gifts and creativity among the commission members for the tasks we have set ourselves. Recently four priests, Tim Vann, Kate Campbell, Maureen Doherty and Margaret Weiner, met with the Ministry Development personnel of the Diocesan staff to integrate their roles as Theological resource persons for work with the ministry teams beginning in ten of our congregations. The challenge is to move into more specialized areas of ministry as a team while preserving a sense of unity. We are reaching a pivotal point in discovering what a shared episcopate might mean and what it cannot mean.

Finally, there have been some developments within the Diocese in regard to our response to the Windsor report. The House of Bishops meeting in Salt Lake City worked faithfully with the task set to us by the Archbishop of Canterbury. It was good to have almost a full House of Bishops present, but the private circulation of a minority report including names of Bishops not present, and the absence of the dissenting Bishops from the final Eucharist places actions beyond words.

The Marriott Hotel in Des Moines was the recommendation of the site committee investigating locations for holding Diocesan Conventions from 2006-2008. A move is necessary because the convention has outgrown the facilities of the Hotel Fort Des Moines both in meeting space and available electronic technology. November 4-5, 2005 is the final year of our contract with Hotel Fort Des Moines.

On a motion by The Rev. Al Aiton, duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLUTION NO. I**

Convention to move to Marriott in 2006

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, the Downtown Marriott Hotel in Des Moines be awarded the contract for the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa for October 27-28, 2006, November 2-3, 2007 and November 7-8, 2008.

The Rev. Lynne Carver reviewed briefly the revisions in the Policies and Procedures Concerning Sexual boundaries relating to children. After the discussion it was requested that she make the following additions: require 6 months involvement with the congregation before a volunteer may work with children, a personnel file required for volunteers, personnel files are to be stored in a locked facility, define who has access to personnel files and how record follows person who has transferred from another parish.

On a motion by The Rev. Lynne Carver, duly seconded, the following resolution with additions was adopted:

**RESOLUTION NO. II**

Sexual Boundaries Policy adopted

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, the December 2004 revision of the Policies and Procedures Concerning Sexual Boundaries be adopted as policy of the Diocese of Iowa.

The Rev. Patrick Genereux raised the possibility of the diocese registering for or purchasing Via Media, a new evangelism tool. Christ Church in Burlington was very interested in using it and he was aware some other congregations were also.

On a motion by The Rev. Mel Schlachter, duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLUTION NO. III**

Via Media Enrollment

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, the Diocese of Iowa “purchase”/register to have diocesan access to Via Media evangelism tools, to be paid for from the Evangelism Initiative line of Congregational Life. We hope this can be done with expedience.

**Financial Report**

Ms. Anne Wagner reviewed the year-end financial report to date. She anticipates receiving a few more payments toward 2004 pledges. The final figures for the year will be available when the annual audit is completed. She noted that the low interest rates impacted income. Expenses for the year were on budget. The shortfall will be covered by using \$40,000 from the Working Capital Supplement and taking the balance from the Thelma McClure Reserve Fund.

Special note was made of the churches that had met or surpassed the 2004 Asking. The board discussed the congregations who had pledged below the Asking as well as those who were behind in their pledges.

On a motion by Mr. Bill Early, duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLUTION NO. IV**

Pledge letters

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, a letter be addressed commending those parishes Who surpassed their asking and pledge for 2004. The letter to be signed by the Bishop. And,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a letter commending those parishes who met their asking and pledge for 2004. The letter also to be signed by the Bishop.

On a motion by The Rev. Cathleen Bascom, duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLUTION NO. V**

Letter for *Iowa Connections*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, a letter from the Board to all congregations via *Iowa Connections* describing 2004-2005 financial realities and hopes.

Mr. Steven Kennell and Mr. Bill Smith were designated to draft the information for the article.

Ms. Wagner noted that Askings for the 2006 would be sent to churches shortly. The board asked about the possibility of including a DVD of the Power Point presentation shown at the Diocesan Convention in November. That option will be investigated.

Ms. Cindy McConnell, treasurer and Mr. Gene Gardner, finance committee, of St. Timothy's, West Des Moines, requested approval to restructure the current loan from the Revolving Loan Fund. In one proposal the new loan would total \$175,000. According to diocesan policy, there is a cap of \$100,000 on loans from this fund. On rare occasions, such as when purchase of a building is involved, the Board has approved overriding the cap.

Mr. Steven Kennell moved the following resolution. It was duly seconded, voted upon and defeated.

**RESOLUTION NO. VI**

Defeated loan request

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, the Board of Directors approves a new loan of \$175,000 from the Revolving Fund for St. Timothy's, West Des Moines.

On a motion by Mr. Bill Early, duly seconded, the following loan request was adopted:

**RESOLUTION NO. VII**

Approved loan request

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, the Board of Directors approves a new loan of \$100,000 from the Revolving Fund for St. Timothy's, West Des Moines. The loan repayment schedule is twenty-four months interest only and ninety-six months of principle and interest.

The Board approved the appointment of Mr. Don Wacome to serve on the Commission on Ministry.

Bishop Scarfe announced that the Diocesan Ministry Development Team would work with commissions on All Commission Day, Saturday, January 29. He invited Board members to attend and participate in the discussions.

**Commission Reports:**

*One World, One Church Commission:* Mr. Paul Meginnis reported that the commission will be meeting at All Commissions Day and on February 5. They are beginning to see themselves as an umbrella organization for Ecumenical Activities and a Global Mission, which includes Swaziland and other countries as well as our companion relationship with Brechin.

*Ministry with Young People Commission:* Ms. Sue Genereux reported that the Youth Ministry Development Team has been looking ahead to how the \$250,000 in the budget could be used to the best advantage. The discussion will include college ministry which is part of that budget. Their vision for the commission is the formation of Christian leaders for youth and to train young people as peer ministers. They plan to draw on web and fiber optic technology as communication tools. The Youth Ministry Development Team plans forums for everybody under 30 and is exploring a comprehensive missionary program.

*Congregational Life Commission:* There was no report except that they will be regrouping at the All Commissions Day.

*Stewardship Commission:* The commission has been inactive for some time. Bishop Scarfe announced that the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Stewardship (BAGS) will meet for the first time on January 22 to begin a comprehensive look at stewardship and make recommendations to assist congregations.

*Jubilee Commission:* No report. They will participate in All Commissions Day.

**Deanery/Chapter Reports:**

*Northeast Deanery:* No report

*Chapters:* The Rev. Mel Schlachter reported that a new chapter will include Iowa City, Cedar Rapids and Anamosa. Their first meeting is on February 13.

The Rev. Cathleen Bascom reported that Grinnell, Marshalltown and Newton have been working together on music and possibilities of young adult ministry.

The Rev Patrick Genereux reported that the clericus of the Sacred Goose chapter continues to meet. They in the process of setting dates for the "Keeping Our Children Safe" training.

*Northwest Deanery:* No report.

The March 4 meeting will be held at St. Mark's, 3120 E 24th Street, Des Moines IA.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Morton, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

The Rev. Anne M. Williams  
Secretary of the Episcopal Corporation  
of the Diocese of Iowa

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe  
President of the Episcopal Corporation  
of the Diocese of Iowa