

Minutes of the 171st Annual Convention
Episcopal Diocese of Iowa
Saturday, October 21, 2023
Des Moines, Iowa

Plenary I

The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot called the Convention to order at 10 a.m. Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Nora Boerner (Beloved Community/Trinity Iowa City) to offer the land acknowledgement.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Eric Rucker (St. Andrew's Des Moines) to lead the convention in prayer.

Bishop Monnot announced the stated purpose of the Convention: to deepen our connection as one diocese, to transform ourselves, our communities, and the world for Christ. She shared the Convention planners' desired outcomes and experiences, and offered her gratitude to delegates and visitors for their presence.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Kathleen Travis (St. Mark's Des Moines), Acting Chair of the Credentials Committee, to give the first report of that committee. Travis reported that in accordance with Article VII.1 of the Constitution of the Diocese, a quorum was present for the conduct of business.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Jean McCarthy (assisting priest, St. Paul's Des Moines), Chair of the Dispatch of Business Committee for the Committee's report. McCarthy moved that the agenda, as prepared by the Convention Committee and the Secretary of the Convention be adopted; McCarthy moved, further, that the Rules of Order as provided to the delegates, having been updated for clarity and consistency with practice serve as the Rules of Order for the 171st Annual Convention.

Bishop Monnot gave a summary of the Rules of Order pertaining to participants speaking in the course of the Convention and methods for voting. She then called for a vote on the motion.

On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Kathleen Travis, Acting Chair of the Credentials Committee. Travis moved that the following persons be granted Seat and Voice at the 171st Convention:

Special Guests:

The Rev. Amy Current; Bishop, Southeastern Iowa Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rt. Rev. Craig Loya; Bishop, The Episcopal Church in Minnesota (keynote speaker)

By video greeting, Companion Bishops of the Diocese of Iowa

The Rt. Rev. Richard Aquilla; Bishop, Diocese of Nzara, South Sudan

The Rt. Rev. Dalcy Dlamini; Bishop, Diocese of Swaziland, Eswatini

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Swift; Bishop, Diocese of Brechin, Scotland

Sponsored Institution

The Very Rev. Don Compier; Dean, Bishop Kemper School for Ministry

Diocesan Staff

Ms. Amy Mellies, Children and Youth Missioner

Ms. Traci Ruhland Petty, Communications and GILEAD Missioner

Ms. Anne Wagner, Comptroller

Diocesan Coordinators and Chairs

Mr. David Oakland, Commission on One World, One Church

Priests licensed to officiate and serving Iowa congregations

The Rev. Robert North, St. Mark's Maquoketa

The Rev. Christopher Potter, Trinity Cathedral Davenport

The Rev. Catherine Scott, St. Paul's Council Bluffs

The Rev. Larry Snyder, St. John's Keokuk

Members of the Leadership Council (not already a delegate)

The Rev. Paul Gennett

The Rev. Tom Early (St. John's Ames) seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Bishop Monnot welcomed three youth delegates:

Theo Boerner, Trinity Iowa City

Harold Freeman, St. John's by the Campus Ames

Juliann Kofoot, St. Thomas' Algona,

and two youth visitors:

Hazel Boerner, Trinity Iowa City

Robert Monnot, St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines

Bishop Monnot proposed that the Convention omit a roll call and record attendance from registration. No objections were offered, and the Bishop so ordered.

Bishop Monnot noted that minutes of the 170th Annual Convention had been available for more than 30 days. She noted a correction to those minutes, the addition of the word "PRIESTS"

immediately before the words “DEEMED FIT” in the final version of the amended Canon 18 on page 8 of the minutes. She then called for any other proposed additions or amendments. None were forthcoming.

On a voice vote, the motion for approval of the minutes of the 170th Convention was carried.

Bishop Monnot called for a motion to open nominations for officers of the Convention. The Rev. Dr. Elaine Caldbeck (St. Peter’s Bettendorf) moved, and Ms. Diane Hayes (St. Paul’s Cathedral Des Moines) seconded.

On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Bishop Monnot nominated the Rev. Lauren Lyon (nonparochial) for election as Secretary of the Convention. No other nominations were made.

Lyon was elected by voice vote and appointed Canon Julianne Allaway to serve as Assistant Secretary.

Jean McCarthy nominated Mr. William Smith, Jr. (St. Timothy’s West Des Moines) as Treasurer of the Convention, seconded by Jeff Cornforth (St. Luke’s Cedar Falls).

Smith was elected by voice vote.

Bishop nominated the following persons as officers of the Diocese of Iowa for the coming year:

Mr. Bill Graham, Diocesan Chancellor
Dr. Hal Chase, Diocesan Historiographer
Canon Julianne Allaway, Diocesan Registrar
Mr. William Smith, Jr., Diocesan Treasurer

and called for confirmation by the Convention.

By a voice vote, these officers were confirmed to serve through the coming year.

Reports to Convention and addendum were received into the proceedings of the Convention.
[These Reports are included with the record of these Convention proceedings.]

Bishop Monnot reminded delegates and visitors of the Convention’s stated purpose to connect with one another and invited the following clergy new to the diocese to come forward for recognition and a group photograph:

The Rev. Paul Gennett; Assisting Priest, St. John’s by the Campus Ames
The Rev. Brian Gross; Interim Rector, Christ Church Cedar Rapids
The Rev. James “Jim” Harrison; Interim Rector, Trinity Iowa City

The Rev. Elizabeth “Betsy” Abbott Wells McElroy, Transferring to the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin

The Rev. Christopher Potter; Interim Dean, Trinity Cathedral Davenport

The Rev. Catherine Schroeder; Priest, Grace Boone

Bishop Monnot called the attention of delegates to United Thank Offering boxes on tables and the QR code for electronic donations.

Bishop Monnot called upon The Rev. Cn. Meg Wagner to introduce the first opportunity for “Impromptu Networking.” Canon Wagner gave instructions for the process by which delegates would find three persons unknown to them and engage in conversation at timed intervals. Questions for discussion in each of the three encounters were projected on the screen (*Stories of transformation: Share a story of a time you have felt especially connected to God – where were you? What was happening?*). Delegates engaged in this activity.

Bishop Monnot offered her convention address. [***A full text of the Bishop's Address is included with the record of these Convention proceedings.***]

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Kris Leaman (St. Mark’s Fort Dodge) for a report of the Nominations Committee in which the following nominations were made:

Board of Directors, Episcopal Corporation

At Large

Cleric At Large, three-year term

The Rev. Holly Scherff (St. John’s Shenandoah)

Cleric At Large, two-year term (none nominated)

Lay Member At Large, three-year term

Dr. Paula Sanchini (Christ Church Cedar Rapids)

Chapter Representatives

Cleric, Metro Chapter

The Rev. Jean Davis (St. Paul’s Cathedral Des Moines)

Lay Member, Southwest Chapter

Ms. R.J. Fitzgerald (St. Paul’s Harlan)

Cleric, Three Rivers Chapter

The Rev. Brian Gross (Christ Church Cedar Rapids)

Standing Committee

Cleric

The Rev. Diana Wright (Trinity Carroll, Trinity Denison, St. Paul’s Harlan)

Lay Members

Ms. Alescha Caldwell (Christ Church Clinton)
Mr. Ed Gillott (St. John's by the Campus Ames)
Ms. Jolene Phelps (St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines)

Disciplinary Board

Cleric

The Rev. Nora Boerner (Trinity Iowa City)
The Rev. Eric Rucker (St. Andrew's Des Moines)
The Rev. Catherine Schroeder (Grace Boone)
The Rev. Anne Williams (St. Mark's Anamosa)

Lay Members

The Hon. Cynthia Danielson (St. Michael's Mount Pleasant)
Ms. Ann Papouchis (St. John's Mason City)

After nominations were presented, Bishop Monnot noted that there were no names presented in nomination for an open (clergy) 2-year term on the Board of Directors. She advised delegates that Canon 7, Section 3 empowers the Board to fill open positions until the time of the next Diocesan Convention and that the Board is prepared to take that action.

Bishop Monnot called for a motion to close nominations.

Delegate Rev. Jean McCarthy, (St. Paul's Des Moines) rose, was recognized by Bishop Monnot, and nominated Dr. Susie Messer (St. Paul's Des Moines) for election to a 2-year term as Lay Member of the Board of Directors.

No additional nominations were offered. Bishop Monnot called for a motion to close nominations. The Rev. Elaine Caldbeck so moved, and the Rev. Tom Early seconded. The motion was carried by a voice vote.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Diane Eddy (Grace Church Cedar Rapids) for instructions for the election process.

Bishop Monnot recognized Cn. Meg Wagner. Cn. Wagner informed the Convention that the nomination of a candidate from the floor required a change in the existing ballot. The time interval for voting had been pre-programmed in the electronic voting app and it had already opened with a ballot that did not include the additional nominee's name. Some delegates had already voted.

She explained that the addition of a candidate nominated from the floor required suspension of voting in progress, revision of candidate slates, and reopening the voting process with changes

in voter credentials. The revised process would enable all delegates to vote on the full slate of candidates.

Bishop Monnot directed those changes. She instructed delegates that the opening of the election would be postponed and that any delegates who had already voted should vote again on the revised slate of candidates when the election reopened.

Plenary 1 concluded. Delegates recessed for a short break.

Plenary 2

The session commenced at 11:50 a.m. Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Elizabeth Duff Popplewell (St. Luke's Cedar Falls) for the opening prayer.

The Bishop welcomed the Rev. Amy Current, Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to address the Convention.

Bishop Monnot thanked Bishop Current and introduced a video address by the Rt. Rev. Dalcy Dlamini of the Diocese of Swaziland, Eswatini.

Bishop Monnot invited delegates to make contributions to the United Thank Offering.

Bishop Monnot called upon Diocesan Treasurer, Bill Smith (St. Timothy's West Des Moines), for presentation of the proposed 2024 budget.

Mr. Smith presented the budget and requested Bishop Monnot's permission to respond to questions, which was given.

Treasurer Bill Smith moved adoption of the budget as presented on behalf of the Board of Directors. (No second is required for Board motions.)

Bishop Monnot called for discussion of the motion. Hearing none, she called for a voice vote by which the motion was carried.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Dr. Elaine Caldbeck, Co-Chair of the Resolutions Committee for presentation of resolutions.

Dr. Caldbeck informed the Convention that two resolutions had been received timely and both had been available for 30 days. No late resolutions were submitted prior to the Convention. She moved 171-A after Bishop Monnot called for the motion. It was seconded by Ms. Keila Eddy (Grace Cedar Rapids).

171-A Compensation for Non-Stipendiary Clergy

Resolved, That this 171st Convention of the Diocese of Iowa adopts the following resolution.

All active currently non-stipendiary clergy of any order under the age of 72, canonically resident in and serving in the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, and with a current letter of agreement with the congregation they serve, be paid a minimum of \$25 per month and assessment be paid on their account to the Church Pension Fund (CPF) beginning January 1, 2024, and

Resolved, that compensation may be paid as housing allowance with agreement of the clergy and vestry of the congregation served, and

Resolved, that two or more congregations served by the same clergy person must agree in a timely manner upon the fair allocation among them of the costs of the clergy's compensation and the related assessment to the CPF. Those congregations must also in a timely manner decide on a process for paying those amounts, which may require one congregation to be responsible for communicating with and paying the CPF, and

Resolved, that compensation paid under this resolution does not replace payment on behalf of the clergy by the congregation or the diocese for the expenses of Diocesan Convention, Clergy Conference, continuing education, discretionary fund, or mileage, and other expenses as may be established in the letter of agreement.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Ven. Dr. Judith Crossett (Trinity Iowa City) to speak first to the resolution. Archdeacon Crossett described the resolution and detailed its rationale.

The following delegates posed questions or offered comments on the resolution:

The Rev. Dr. Alice Haugen (St. Paul's Durant)

The Rev. Bonnie Wilkerson (St. Luke's Fort Madison)

The Rev. Bob North (St. Mark's Maquoketa)

Questions generally pertained to the effect of the resolution on individual clergy asking on their behalf and on behalf of their congregations.

After recognizing and responding to all who rose to speak to Resolution 171-A, Bishop Monnot called for a vote and gave instructions for use of voting cards. The motion was carried.

Bishop Monnot suspended work on Resolution 171-B until Plenary 3. She called upon Cn. Meg Wagner to introduce Open Space Conversations scheduled for the afternoon; Cn. Wagner also gave updated instructions on voting.

Bishop Monnot announced the revised hours for electronic voting, advised delegates on the location where lunch would be served. She invited Marilyn van Duffelen to lead the Doxology in the language of Lakota. Bishop Monnot announced the Adjournment of Plenary 2 and directed delegates to return for afternoon sessions of the Convention at 1:15 p.m.

Plenary 3

Bishop Monnot called Plenary Session 3 to order at 1:15 p.m. and called upon the Rev. Tom Early to lead the Convention in prayer.

Bishop Monnot reminded delegates of the purpose and norms of convention.

Bishop Monnot introduced a video address from the Rt. Rev. Richard Aquilla of the Diocese of Nzara, South Sudan.

Bishop Monnot called upon Cn. Meg Wagner to guide the convention in Open Space Conversations. Delegates gathered in topic groups for these discussions.

Bishop Monnot invited the Very Rev. Nicola Dance to address the Convention. Dean Dance spoke to delegates about interactions of diocesan congregations with St. Paul's Cathedral.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Dr. Elaine Caldbeck to continue the report of the Resolutions Committee. Dr. Caldbeck moved and presented Resolution 171-B.

Resolution 171-B: The Episcopal Church of Iowa's Resolution for a \$5 million increase to victim services funding in Iowa for Human Trafficking Victims

Resolved, that the Episcopal Church of Iowa-aware of human trafficking across communities of Iowa, its devastating and lasting effects on Iowa families, and the need for increased state funding for victims services programs including Human Trafficking—supports a \$5 million increase to the Attorney General's Budget for Victim Services.

It was seconded by the Hon. Maggie Tinsman (St. Peter's Bettendorf).

Bishop Monnot recognized the Hon. Tinsman to speak first to the resolution.

In the course of the discussion, the following delegates were recognized. Their comments included questions, expressions of support for the resolution, and proposed amendments.

Mr. Larry Schmidt (St. James' Independence)
The Rev. Kathryn Campbell (St. Thomas' Algona)
The Rev. Wendy Abrahamson (St. Paul's Grinnell)
The Rev. Dr. Marilyn van Duffelen (St. Paul's Indian Mission Sioux City)
Ms. Diana Palmer (St. Paul's Grinnell)
Ms. Tory Thompson (St. Luke's Cedar Falls)
The Rev. Kris Leaman (St. Mark's Fort Dodge)
Ms. Susan Siems (St. Mark's Maquoketa)
Dr. Hal Chase (St. Andrew's Des Moines)

Proposed amendments and their disposition were as follows:

Ms. Diana Palmer (St. Paul's Grinnell) of the Resolutions Committee proposed an amendment in the form of an additional paragraph. It was seconded by the Hon. Maggie Tinsman.

Further resolved that the foregoing resolution be submitted to the Attorney General of Iowa and the Governor of Iowa.

Discussion of the resolution and this amendment included expressions of support for the concept, comments about its potential partisan nature, the resolution's ability to address areas of need that are not specifically addressed or sufficiently well funded under the current state budget, its ability to draw positive attention to the Episcopal Church in Iowa.

Maggie Tinsman (St. Peter's Bettendorf) offered informed responses to some questions and comments including assurances that care for victims of human trafficking will not be a partisan issue in the legislature, the attention of the Iowa Attorney General to this issue, and existing regulations requiring annual audit of state funds.

After discussion of the amendment, Bishop Monnot called for a vote by voting cards on the proposed amendment to Resolution 171-B. The motion to adopt the amendment to the resolution was carried.

Mr. Hal Chase (St. Andrew's Des Moines) moved the following amendment. It was seconded by Ms. Janice Carpenter (St. Stephen's Newton).

Be it further resolved, that the proposed \$5 million fund to victim services be audited annually by the Iowa State Auditor.

After discussion of the amendment, Bishop Monnot called for a vote by voting cards on the proposed amendment to Resolution 171-B. The motion to further amend the proposed resolution was not carried.

No additional amendments were proposed. The final text of Resolution 171-B as adopted by the Convention is:

Resolution 171-B: The Episcopal Church of Iowa's Resolution for a \$5 million increase to victim services funding in Iowa for Human Trafficking Victims

Resolved, that the Episcopal Church of Iowa – aware of human trafficking across communities of Iowa, its devastating and lasting effects on Iowa families, and the need for increased state funding for victims services programs including Human Trafficking – supports a \$5 million increase to the Attorney General's Budget for Victim Services.

Resolved, that the foregoing resolution be submitted by letter to the Attorney General of Iowa and the Governor of Iowa.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Elizabeth Duff Popplewell to lead the Convention in prayer in preparation for a time of silence. Following the prayer, Bishop Monnot called the Convention to remembrance of Iowa Episcopalians departed this life since the last Convention:

The Very Rev. John Hall, Dean Emeritus Trinity Cathedral Davenport

Mr. David Nixon, Postulant for Holy Orders, Trinity Emmetsburg

The Rev. Mary Hoffman, Retired Deacon Trinity Cathedral Davenport

The Rev. Eve Mahr, Deacon St. Andrew's Des Moines

The Rev. Netha Brada, Retired Priest St. Matthew's by the Bridge Iowa Falls

The Rev. Charlie Bencken, Priest (licensed to officiate in Iowa) served St. Thomas' Sioux City and St. Alban's Davenport

Memorial resolutions presented on behalf of the diocesan board of directors to be received and confirmed by title, with full text to be included in the record of these convention proceedings

The Bishop announced the death early this morning of the Rev. Barbara Easley (priest of the first ministry development team in Fort Madison); with no memorial resolution at this time.

Memorial Resolution

The Very Reverend Dr. John Liston Hall

(1937 – 2023)

WHEREAS, The Very Rev. Dr. John Liston Hall was born and ministered in the heartland of our country; and

WHEREAS, Dean Hall could be called a "prairie priest," serving churches from the rolling prairie of the Nebraska Sandhills to the plains of Illinois to the Iowa bank of the great Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, Dean Hall, ordained nearly sixty years, served thirty two of those years in the Diocese of Iowa, collaborating in ministry with the Episcopal presence of Bishops Epting, Scarfe, and Monnot; and

WHEREAS, The Very Reverend Dr. John Hall was a leader, pastor, prophet and inspiration for the congregation of Trinity Cathedral as its Dean, and the City of Davenport, from 1989 until 2005; and

WHEREAS, Dean Hall and his wife Kay created a household with five children, striving to embody the love of Christ at home; and

WHEREAS, on St. John Chrysostom's Day, January 27, 2023, in his 86th year, Dean Hall left this life to dwell with his lifetime companion Christ Jesus; then be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa gives great thanks for the life and ministry of this servant of Christ, expressing our gratitude to the whole Diocese and in particular to Trinity Cathedral; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Board offers our love and sympathy and celebration to his wife Kay and their family, and to the grieving members of Trinity Cathedral; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we convey our gratitude and condolences to the Diocese of Nebraska and St. Mark's on the Campus, Lincoln, Nebraska, being the Diocese where Dean Hall was born, called to ministry, ordained, and served faithfully as a priest and teacher.

PROMULGATED this 4th day of March, 2023.

Submitted by The Rev. Mel Schlachter

(Received by the diocesan Board of Directors, March 4, 2023)

Memorial Resolution

Dr. David E. Nixon

(1939 – 2023)

WHEREAS, Dr. David E. Nixon, member and lay leader of Trinity Church, Emmetsburg, was born in February of 1939, and

WHEREAS, David grew up in Nebraska, attending high school there before heading for the Brown School of Communication in Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS, he was a broadcast journalist for many years, both in radio and television working in Sioux City, Des Moines and Minneapolis, with this community experience leading to significant involvement throughout his career in various community wide organizations and services; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1990s, he joined the faculty of Iowa Lakes Community College to develop a program in Communications and Broadcast journalism, while completing a Doctorate in Education; and became the Dean of that College, and

WHEREAS, he left Emmetsburg in 2002 to become the President of Monroe Community College in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, before his move to Michigan he and his wife Judy (who died at the beginning of the Pandemic in 2020) had become faithful members and active leaders of Trinity Church, Emmetsburg, and

WHEREAS, on his retirement he returned to Emmetsburg and resumed his involvement with the Trinity congregation, and

WHEREAS, finding the congregation struggling without full-time clergy, he and others in the Congregation formed a Ministry Development Team officially in 2017, being made Postulants; and

WHEREAS, through deaths and moves, he became the one member left, he began to pursue a vocation as a priest, attending the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry, and had been made a postulant; and

WHEREAS, he served as the primary lay minister in the Congregation, including participation in Congregational leader meetings and the Small Church group; and

WHEREAS, David entered the Church Expectant on January 18, 2023, leaving a hole in both the congregation and the Diocese, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of Iowa expresses its thanksgiving to God for the faithful life and witness of His servant, David E. Nixon; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors expresses its sympathy and care for the congregation of Trinity Church, Emmetsburg, and to David's children, David Jr. of Wellman, Iowa; Rick of West Des Moines; and Leslee Mandy-Nixon, also of West Des Moines.

Submitted by The Rev. Cn. Kathleen S. Milligan
(Received by the diocesan Board of Directors, March 4, 2023)

Memorial Resolution
The Reverend Mary Hoffman
(1933 – 2023)

WHEREAS, Deacon Mary Hoffman was born in Oklahoma City but came to Iowa where, having married her high school sweetheart, she was graduated from Drake University and later studied also at the University of Iowa, and

WHEREAS, her concern for others led her to obtain a Master's degree in Social Work and to work as an advocate for the mentally ill for many years at Vera French Community Mental Health Center, and

WHEREAS, her love of the Lord led her to pursue the calling she felt to the diaconate, leading to her ordination on August 15, 1995 by the Rt. Reverend C. Christopher Epting, the first ordained woman to serve at Trinity Cathedral, and

WHEREAS, although she could not always serve at the altar at Trinity Cathedral, she served by starting many ministries which continue today, such as the Hildegard's Prayer and Bible Study group, the Parish Visitors' group, and organized and trained Lay Eucharistic Visitors, and

WHEREAS, she supported clergy for Sunday and weekday services, Sunday School, funerals, baptisms, weddings, quiet days, and many other special services and programs, and further was often called to serve as deacon for diocesan services, and

WHEREAS, among her many gifts as a baker and cook, a gardener, a worker of needlepoint and knitter, her greatest gift to all she met in or outside the church was her ability to listen with warmth, compassion, and caring spiritual guidance, and

WHEREAS, Mary's journey from loving wife and mother, to loving Deacon has now moved on September 16, 2023 to life with God where her love of music is filled with hearing the heavenly choir, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa give thanks for Mary's decades of loving and caring service and express our appreciation for her witness and listening care to everyone she encountered, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that we offer our condolences to Mary's sons Keith and John, to Rich Berglund and Rita Hoffman, to her half-siblings Penny, Tracy, and Happy, to her grandson Gene and great-grandchildren Max and Keegan. We offer our prayers for their comfort and peace.

Submitted by the Ven. Judith Crossett

(Received by the Executive Committee of the diocesan Board of Directors, October 17, 2023)

Memorial Resolution
The Reverend Wineva "Eve" Mahr
(1945 – 2023)

WHEREAS, Deacon Eve Mahr was born and educated in Iowa and then heard and followed her call to the sacred order of deacons in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Des Moines; and

WHEREAS, she shared her knowledge, skill, and humor as a 50-year member of Kappa Delta Phi civic sorority and as a long-term editor and contributor to needlework and craft publications; and

WHEREAS, after her ordination May 8, 2021, she served the congregation of St. Andrew's, supported and mentored both the Sudanese community of Trinity Cush Episcopal Church and the Muslim Darfur Community of Iowa, building relationships within and among all these three congregations which share St. Andrew's building; and

WHEREAS, she never ceased to use the skills in fiber arts she developed since her early years to improve the lives of those around her, from teaching sewing to African women refugees to building quilting groups, giving women skills, self-confidence, and practice in English; and

WHEREAS, her Iowa roots, love of the hospitality of food, and gift for relationships led her to be instrumental in St. Andrew's partnership in the Community Garden and the North Des Moines Community Fridge, both of which benefit not only the immigrant families she cared about but also the whole community; and

WHEREAS, her lifelong love of cooking and hospitality was appreciated in many parish meals, community meals, and family meals; and

WHEREAS, her love for her family and her faith made all whom she encountered her family; she sought the strangers in our midst and made them friends; and

WHEREAS, since Deacon Eve's journey from feeding family to feeding all who came as she served at God's table, was brought on September 21, 2023 to the Heavenly Banquet with God, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa give thanks for Eve's long and hospitable ministry and express our appreciation for her witness and care to everyone she encountered, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that we offer our condolences to Eve's husband Steve, her son Derek, daughter Sarah and son-in-law Chris, her beloved grandchildren Tessa and Zella, her mother Wineva, her siblings and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family. We offer our prayers for their comfort and peace.

Submitted by the Ven. Judith Crossett

(Received by the Executive Committee of the diocesan Board of Directors, October 17, 2023)

Memorial Resolution
The Reverend Netha Nadine Brada
(1937 – 2023)

WHEREAS, the Reverend Netha Nadine Brada was born on September 22, 1937 in Sheffield, Iowa and grew up near Alta Vista, graduating from the Colville High School; and

WHEREAS, she married Ronald George Brada in 1958 and raised 3 children with him: sons Mark and Matthew, and daughter Shannon, who predeceased her; and sharing the farm life with him being especially fond of work with their horses; and

WHEREAS, for a number of years she worked in the Iowa Falls Public Schools system as an administrative assistant and sharing a sense of the Community life; and

WHEREAS, having found the Episcopal Church as an adult, she became involved in Total Ministry and the task of encouraging congregational involvement in the larger community; and

WHEREAS, she eventually pursued her calling to ministry within the church, preparing with participation in L.A.N.D. Academies (Leadership Academy for New Directions); and pursuing education through the Diocesan Ministry Formation Project in the mid-1990s, and

WHEREAS, she was ordained under the old Canon 9, as the first priest so ordained in the Diocese of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, she served as priest to the people of St. Matthew's by the Bridge Church in Iowa Falls, while also serving Iowa Falls in various outreach programs, and in civic organizations such as Kiwanis; and

WHEREAS, upon her retirement in 2007, she continued to serve as chaplain to the Scenic Living Communities, as well as serving as a Supply Priest whenever needed, particularly with Grace Church, Charles City; and

WHEREAS, this faithful servant of God entered the Church Expectant on September 24, 2023; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that this 171st Annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa gives deep thanks for the pioneering work for her vocational discernment and preparation; expresses our gratitude for her ministry and life in Iowa Falls and within the Diocese; and extends our love and sympathy as well as gratitude to her family for sharing Netha with all of us.

Submitted by The Rev. Canon Kathleen S. Milligan

(Received by the Executive Committee of the diocesan Board of Directors, October 17, 2023)

Memorial Resolution
The Reverend Charles Bencken
(1938 – 2023)

WHEREAS, having been born in California and formed in the Roman Church, The Reverend Charles Bencken was received as a priest in the Episcopal Church in 1999 in Nevada where he and Cathi married; and

WHEREAS, he served in the diocese of Nevada as supply priest, and with two congregations in Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, he moved to Iowa with his wife, Cathi Head Bencken, when she came to serve as rector at Trinity Church, Muscatine in 2008; and

WHEREAS, while here Charlie also served in this diocese as priest, licensed to officiate, and alongside the congregations of St. Thomas', Sioux City, and most recently at Saint Alban's, Davenport; and

WHEREAS, while the permanent supply priest at St. Alban's for 3 years, he endeared himself to that congregation, going above and beyond the scope of his role as "supply", willingly bringing his gentle spirituality to any situation he was asked to do; and

WHEREAS, following Cathi's retirement, they relocated to Connecticut in 2021 for another fruitful chapter of their lives; and

WHEREAS, Charlie left this earthly life on October 2nd in the year of our Lord, 2023; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 171st Annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa extends our heartfelt condolences to our sister, Cathi, and to Charlie's family; and be it finally

RESOLVED that this resolution be communicated to Cathi, with our love and prayers.

Submitted by: Robin Sade, St. Alban's Church, Davenport

Kevin Powell, Trinity Church, Muscatine

Stacey Gerhart, St. Thomas' Church, Sioux City

(Received by the Executive Committee of the diocesan Board of Directors, October 17, 2023)

The Bishop led the Convention in prayer for these persons and invited delegates and visitors to name those included in the diocesan Necrology, and others. **[A full Diocesan Necrology is included with this record of Convention proceedings.]**

Bishop Monnot announced the close of Plenary 3 and the adjournment of the Convention until 3:01 p.m.

Plenary 4

The bishop called the Convention to order at 3 p.m. and called upon the Rev. Elizabeth Duff Popplewell to lead delegates and visitors in prayer.

Bishop Monnot introduced special guests who were confirmed at the convention's opening Eucharist the previous evening. Bishop Monnot recognized Amy Mellies, Missioner for Children

and Youth and the following visitors from the diocesan youth community of faith and invited them to come forward:

Juliann - St. Thomas' Algona
August, Claire, Oliver, Harold - St. John's by the Campus Ames
Charleigh - St. John's Mason City
Clio - Trinity Muscatine

Bishop Monnot introduced a video presentation on the summer 2023 Pilgrimage visit of young adults and bishops from companion dioceses of Brechin and Swaziland to Iowa.

Bishop Monnot introduced a video greeting from the Rt. Rev. Andrew Swift, Diocese of Brechin, Scotland.

Bishop Monnot called for the presentation of election results. The following candidates were elected.

Board of Directors

Cleric at Large: The Rev. Holly Scherff (St. John's Shenandoah)
Lay Member at Large: Dr. Paula Sanchini (Christ Church Cedar Rapids)
Cleric Metro Chapter: The Rev. Jean Davis (St. Paul's Cathedral, Des Moines)
Lay Member Southwest Chapter: Ms. R. J. Fitzgerald (St. Paul's Harlan)
Cleric Three Rivers Chapter: The Rev. Brian Gross (Christ Church Cedar Rapids)

Standing Committee

Cleric: The Rev. Diana Wright (Trinity Carroll, Trinity Denison, St. Paul's Harlan)
Lay Member: Mr. Ed Gillott (St. John's by the Campus Ames)

Disciplinary Board

The Rev. Nora Boerner (Trinity Iowa City)
The Rev. Eric Rucker (St. Andrew's Des Moines)
The Rev. Catherine Schroeder (Grace Boone)

Lay Members

The Hon. Cynthia Danielson (St. Michael's Mount Pleasant)
Ms. Ann Papouchis (St. John's Mason City)

Bishop Monnot thanked all candidates who offered to serve in our diocese whether elected or not; just standing for election is a way to serve the diocese.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Cn. Meg Wagner to introduce the Ministry Table Shuffle.

Presentations were offered by the following ministries of the Diocese of Iowa:

Agape Café	One World, One Church
Behavioral Health Ministry Team	Safe Church, Safe Communities
Beloved Community Initiative	Simpson Youth Academy
Bishop Kemper School for Ministry	Small Churches Big Impact (Chariton)
GILEAD Grants	Women at the Well
Hazel's Toffee	Youth Ministry Development Team

Delegates were directed to visit tables of their choosing, listen to a presentation, ask questions, and move to the next table.

At the conclusion of this process, delegates were asked to return to their home tables and share information.

Bishop Monnot announced the following appointments:

Ms. Anne Wagner (Comptroller) - Diocesan Pension Fund Administrator
Ms. Traci Ruhland Petty (Communications Missioner) - Editor of *Iowa Connections*

Companion Diocese Coordinators:

Mr. Jim Conger (New Song Coralville) - Brechin
The Rev. Stacey Gerhart (St. Thomas' Sioux City), Ms. Amy Mellies (Diocesan Youth Coordinator) - Swaziland
The Rev. Abigail Livingood (Trinity Waterloo) - Nzara

Ms. Stephanie Murphy (St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines) - Diocesan Altar Guild Coordinator
The Rev. Kyle Carswell (St. Timothy's West Des Moines) - Diocesan Ecumenical Officer
The Rev. Holly Scherff (St. John's Shenandoah) - Diocesan Disaster Relief Coordinator and Episcopal Relief and Development Ministry Partner
The Rev. Diane Eddy and Mr. David Eddy - United Thank Offering Coordinators

Commission on Ministry

Terms Expiring in 2024:

The Rev. Stephen Benitz (St. John's Mason City)
The Rev. Jean Davis (St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines)
The Rev. Kris Leaman (St. Mark's Fort Dodge)
Ms. Deb Leksell (Good Shepherd Webster City)
Ms. Jenna Parker (St. Timothy's West Des Moines)

Terms Expiring in 2025:

The Hon. Greg Jones (St. Thomas' Sioux City)
The Rev. Jane Stewart (New Song Coralville)
Ms. Sarah Thompson (Grace Cedar Rapids)
The Rev. John Greve (Grace Cedar Rapids)
The Rev. Kevin Powell (Trinity Muscatine)
Ms. Keila Eddy (Grace Cedar Rapids)

Terms Expiring in 2026:

Reappointed

Ms. Vicky Matthiessen Krause (Christ Church Burlington)
Ms. Karen McCallan (St. John's Glenwood)
The Rev. Melody Rockwell (Christ Church Cedar Rapids)
The Rev. Anne Williams (St. Mark's Anamosa)

Newly Appointed

The Rev. Alice Haugen (St. Paul's Durant)
Mr. Harvey Nicholson (St. Matthew's by the Bridge Iowa Falls)

Professional Development Leave Committee

Terms Expiring 2024 (continuing)

Dr. Catherine Gillespie (St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines)
The Rev. Dr. Mary Jane Oakland (St. John's by the Campus Ames)

Terms Expiring 2025 (continuing)

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Goodrich (St. John's Dubuque)
Dr. David Smith (Grace Decorah)

Term Expiring 2026 (new appointment)

Mr. Dale Schirmer (St. John's Mason City) member of the Board of Directors

Dr. Hal Chase (St. Andrew's Des Moines) - Diocesan Historiographer

Diocesan Representatives to Province VI Council:

Ms. Ann McLaughlin (Good Shepherd Webster City) continuing
The Rev. Catherine Schroeder (Grace Boone) newly appointed

Diocesan Representatives to Board of Bishop Kemper School for Ministry:

Ms. Deb Leksell (Good Shepherd Webster City)
Ms. Greta Muller Levis (St. John's by the Campus Ames)
The Rev. Cn. Kathleen Milligan (St. Stephen's Newton)

The Bishop recognized and thanked those completing terms of service:
The Rev. Canon Kathleen Milligan - Secretary of the Diocesan Convention (2012-2022),
completing her term today.

Board of Directors

The Rev. Donald Keeler (St. Martin's Perry)
Ms. Jolene Phelps (St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines)
The Rev. Diane Eddy (Grace Cedar Rapids)
Mr. Charles "Morrie" Bryant (St. Andrew's Des Moines)
The Rev. Kris Leaman (St. Mark's Fort Dodge)
The Rev. Elizabeth Duff Popplewell - President of Standing Committee, and as such, *ex officio*
member of the Board of Directors

Commission on Ministry

The Rev. Mel Schlachter (New Song Coralville)
Mr. Kevin Sanders, Chair (St. Luke's Cedar Falls)

Mr. Kevin Sanders (St. Luke's Cedar Falls) - Professional Development Leave Committee

The Rev. Jean McCarthy (St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines) - Diocesan Ecumenical Officer

The Rev. Melody Rockwell (Christ Church Cedar Rapids) - Global Missioner

2023 Summer Ministry School and Retreat Coordinators

The Rev. Jane Stewart (New Song Coralville) - completing service
The Rev. Abigail Livengood (Trinity Waterloo) - continuing
The Rev. Jean Davis (St. Paul's Cathedral Des Moines) - continuing

Bishop Monnot thanked all who worked on the Convention.

Bishop Monnot called for a motion for publication of the Journal of the 171st Annual
Convention along with the Constitution and Canons. It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Elaine
Caldbeck (St Peter's Bettendorf) and seconded by the Rev. Tom Early (St. John's by the Campus
Ames). The motion was carried by a voice vote.

Bishop Monnot noted the convention would continue with banquet and dance this evening.

Bishop Monnot called upon the Rev. Jean McCarthy for a report of the Dispatch of Business
Committee.

The Rev. McCarthy certified on behalf of the committee that the business of the 171st Annual
Convention of the Diocese of Iowa had been completed.

Bishop Monnot announced that the Convention would be adjourned at the conclusion of closing worship and called upon the Rev. Elizabeth Duff Popplewell (St. Luke's Cedar Falls) and the Rev. Stephen Benitz (St. John's Mason City). The bishop offered a blessing (*Stand tall and step out of your boat...*), and the Rev. Kevin Emge (Trinity Ottumwa) led the Convention in singing (*The Lord of the Dance*), as the Bishop blessed the delegates with asperges as they danced in procession out of the meeting space.

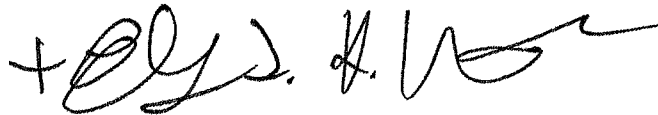
The 171st Annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Submitted by:



The Rev. Lauren Lyon
Secretary of Diocesan Convention

Attestation:



The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot
President of Diocesan Convention
Episcopal Diocese of Iowa

See also

Bishop's Address

Reports to Convention

Diocesan Necrology

Convention Sermons

Convention Keynote address

Final minutes, pending approval by action of the 172nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa, October 2024