

**Journal of the Proceedings of the  
161<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention  
Des Moines, Iowa  
Friday and Saturday, October 25 – 26, 2013  
New and Renewed Leaders, New Methods for New Times**

**Plenary Session One**

Following an opening liturgy with the Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant, the 161<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa was convened by the Right Reverend Alan Scarfe at 11:17 a.m. on Friday, 25 October, 2013. Bishop Scarfe then called on the Reverend Maureen Doherty, Chair of the Credentials Committee for her initial report. On behalf of the committee, she certified that a quorum was present for the transacting of business. Bishop Scarfe then asked for a Roll Call of those present. Rich Dorzweiler, Trinity Church, Iowa City, moved to dispense with the Roll Call and to have attendance taken from registration. The motion was seconded and passed. John Doherty, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes, which are published in the 2012 Journal. The motion was seconded and passed.

Bishop Scarfe welcomed delegates and guests to the Convention, and gave an overview of the coming two days. He mentioned the report on Year One of the current Diocesan Plan, Celebrating the Episcopal Witness, and the preview of Year Two, New and Renewed Leaders, to be presented on Day Two of Convention. He commented on the Indaba Conversations planned for the Convention, and highlighted the Closing Eucharist and banner procession, scheduled this year for the end of the Convention. He then recognized special guests:

*Bishop Samuel Peni, wife Sentina, and daughter Joy (Diocese of Nzara)*  
*Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya (Diocese of Swaziland)*  
*Bishop Rodger Prois (Western Iowa Synod, ELCA)—will give remarks at banquet*  
*Rev. Russ Melby (Church World Service)*  
*Susan Guy (Iowa Interfaith Power & Light)*  
*Sharon Strohmaier (Iowa Religious Media Services)*

Bishop Scarfe then highlighted the availability of child care throughout the Convention; and then introduced the three official youth delegates.

*Gracie Cobb (St. Timothy's, West Des Moines)*  
*Anna Mable (St. Timothy's, West Des Moines)*  
*Michael Wagner (Trinity, Iowa City)*

*Three other young people also attended as visitors. They were also recognized:*

*Isabel Allaway (Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Des Moines)*  
*Leah Cole-Duvall (St. Timothy's, West Des Moines)*  
*Molly Haller (Trinity, Muscatine)*

Bishop Scarfe also mentioned the Youth Conference for middle-school aged young people, taking place during the Convention. He recognized the presence of the Ames Chapter of the Daughters of the King, who were providing for the prayer space located in the plenary room; and he announced that The Reverend Kent Anderson from St. John's, Dubuque, would be offering Morning Prayer in that space at 7:30 a.m. on the Saturday morning for anyone who would like to attend.

After a series of announcements and housekeeping details, Bishop Scarfe asked for the report from the Committee on Dispatch of Business. The Reverend Jean McCarthy, St. Mark's Des Moines, presented the following resolution:

In recent years our convention format has been one of prayer, reflection, and work; in this 161st Convention we will continue this same format.

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the agenda for this 161st Convention, as prepared by the Dispatch of Business Committee and the Secretary of Convention, be adopted; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rules of Order, as approved by the 156th Convention of the Diocese of Iowa, be the Rules of Order for this 161st Convention.*

The motion was seconded and adopted.

The Chair again called upon the Reverend Maureen Doherty for a report from the Credentials Committee, who moved that seat and voice be granted to individuals as follows:

Resolutions Committee:

Mr. Stephen Carroll, St. Paul's Church, Grinnell  
Ms. Donna Scarfe, St. Paul's Cathedral, Des Moines

Diocesan Coordinators & Chairs:

David Oakland, Commission on One World, One Church  
Martha Hippee, Altar Guild  
Marcia Powell, United Thank Offering

Diocesan Staff:

Robert Joy, Financial Officer  
Anne Wagner, Convention Coordinator  
Lydia Bucklin, Youth Missioner & Editor of *Iowa Connections*

AV Tech

Kevin Wolff

Special Guests:

Bishop Samuel Peni, Diocese of Nzara  
Sentina Peni (wife of Samuel)  
Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya, Diocese of Swaziland  
Bishop Rodger Prois—Western Iowa Synod, ELCA  
Russ Melby—Church World Service  
Susan Guy—Iowa Interfaith Power and Light  
Sharon Strohmaier—Iowa Religious Media Service

Licensed Clergy:

Charles Bencken  
Patricia Cashman  
Milton Cole-Duvall  
Steven Godfrey  
Lilette Johnston  
Meshack Mabuza

Postulants & Candidates (not a delegate):

Kay Beach  
Marcus Haack  
Kristine Leaman  
Frederick Steinbach  
Meg Wagner

The motion was seconded and carried.

The Chair then asked for a motion to receive the Reports to Convention as presented in the Delegates packet. It was moved by The Reverend Carl Mann, St. Alban's, Spirit Lake; seconded, and adopted.

Officers were then elected for the Convention. On the motion of Jean McCarthy, duly seconded, the Reverend Canon Kathleen Milligan, St. John's, Dubuque) was nominated as Secretary of the Convention. The Chair closed nominations; and on a voice vote, Milligan was elected. She then appointed The Reverend John Thorpe, St. Stephen's, Newton, as the Assistant Secretary.

On the motion of Jean McCarthy, Mr. Bill Smith, St. Timothy's, West Des Moines, was nominated as Treasurer for the Convention. Nominations being closed by the Chair, Smith was duly elected on a voice vote.

Officers were then elected for the Diocese. On a motion by Jean McCarthy, Mr. Thomas Carpenter and Ms. Linda Neuman were nominated as Diocesan Chancellors. There being no further nominations, the two were elected.

On a motion by Jean McCarthy, Thomas Colbert was nominated as Diocesan Historiographer. Nominations being closed, he was elected.

On a motion by Jean McCarthy, Ms. Julianne Allaway was nominated as Diocesan Registrar. There being no further nominations, she was duly elected.

Jean McCarthy then nominated Mr. William Smith as Diocesan Treasurer. There being no further nominations, he was elected.

Bishop Scarfe drew the attention of the Convention to the Nominations Report, and the blue or pink ballots in each packet received at registration. He then called on the Reverend Wendy Abrahamson, rector of St. Paul's Church, Grinnell, and chair of the Nominations Committee, who placed in nomination the slate for the Standing Committee

THE STANDING COMMITTEE (3-year terms):

*Clergy*

Carl Mann (St. Alban's Church, Spirit Lake)  
Elizabeth Popplewell (St. Luke's Church, Cedar Falls)  
John Thorpe (St. Stephen's Church, Newton)

*Lay Member*

William "Bill" Early (St. Paul's Church, Harlan).

The bishop then opened nominations from the floor for other candidates for the Standing Committee.

The Reverend Robert A. Kem, St Anne's, Ankeny, was duly nominated for a clerical position on the Standing Committee. Bishop Scarfe then closed nominators for the Standing Committee. As there was only one nomination for the Lay position on the Standing Committee, The Very Reverend Cathleen Bascom, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, moved to declare William Early be elected unanimously. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

Wendy Abrahamson then placed in nomination the candidates for at-large Directors of the Episcopal Corporation:

*Clergy:*

Kent Anderson (St. John's Church, Dubuque)

*Lay Member:*

Stephen Carroll (St. Paul's Church, Grinnell)

Nominations were invited from the floor; but there being no further nominations, Cathleen Bascom moved to declare that Kent Anderson be declared the Clergy at large Director; and Steve Carroll be declared the Lay at-large Director. The motion was seconded and carried.

Abrahamson then placed in nomination Mr. Robert Collins, St. Paul's, Council Bluffs, as the Southwest Chapter Representative, as a lay member to complete a resigned term.

Bishop Scarfe then called for nominations of the candidates selected by the Northwest, Central and South Central Chapters to serve as Chapter Representatives – Directors of the Episcopal Corporation for three year terms. The Reverend Richard Graves, (St Mark's, Fort Dodge and Church of the Good Shepherd, Webster City was nominated from the Northwest Chapter. Mr. Tim Dill, (St. Paul's, Grinnell) was nominated as the candidate for the Central Chapter Representative – Director of the Episcopal Corporation.

On a motion by Carl Mann, duly seconded, Robert Collins, Richard Graves and Tim Dill were elected as Chapter Representatives for Directors of the Episcopal Corporation.

The Committee then nominated the following persons to serve on the Disciplinary Board:

*Clergy*

Wendy Abrahamson (St. Paul's Church, Grinnell)

Anne Williams (St. Mark's Church, Anamosa)

*Lay Members*

Cyndy Danielson (St. Michael's Church, Mount Pleasant)

Gailanne Dill (St. Paul's Church, Grinnell)

The Bishop asked for nominations from the floor; and Wendy Abrahamson nominated the Reverend Catherine Quehl-Engel as candidate for the Disciplinary Board. Nominations were then closed; and as there were the requisite number of candidates for the open positions on the Board, Carl Mann moved that the nominated candidates be declared unanimously elected. The motion was seconded and carried.

Nominations for Deputies to the 2015 General Convention and the Province VI Synod followed. Abrahamson placed in nomination the following:

*Clergy:*

Cathleen Bascom (Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Des Moines)

Cathi Bencken (Trinity Church, Muscatine)

Netha Brada (Retired, Iowa Falls)

Sean Burke (St. James' Church, Independence)

Kevin Emge (St. Paul's Church, Grinnell)

Jan "Raisin" Horn (University of Iowa Chaplaincy and Trinity Church, Iowa City)

Judith Jones (St. Andrew's Church, Waverly)

Carl Mann (St. Alban's Church, Spirit Lake)

Kathleen Milligan (St. John's Church, Dubuque)

*Lay Members:*

Kristine "Kris" Leaman (St. John's Church, Mason City)

Brian Jones (St. Andrew's Church, Waverly)

William "Bill" Smith, Jr. (St. Timothy's Church, West Des Moines)

## Margaret “Maggie” Tinsman (St. Peter’s Church, Bettendorf)

The floor was opened for further nominations. Wendy Abrahamson, for the Nominating Committee nominated Ms. Rebecca Dubinsky(Cathedral Church of St. Paul) and Dr. Heidi Schleicher (St. Anne’s Church, Ankeny) as candidates for Lay Deputies to the 2015 General Convention and Provincial VI Synod.

Other nominees were Mr. Mike Wagner (Iowa City, Trinity) , nominated by the Youth Ministry Development Team; Dr. Paula Sanchini (Christ Church, Cedar Rapids); and The Reverend Robert Kem (St Anne’s Ankeny).

Delegates were instructed to fill in the new nominations on the lines provided on the ballots. Ballots could be turned in during the lunch break or during the afternoon break on Friday. Instructions were given for filling out the ballots.

Bishop Scarfe then called on Diocesan Treasurer, Bill Smith for the diocesan financial presentation. Reporting on the Fiscal Year 2012, Smith reported that the budget showed a virtual photo-finish, with expenses exceeding income by about \$1,000. As for the 2013 fiscal year, at this point, with nine months (through September), expenses exceed budget by \$21,420. As many congregations catch up in the last few months of the year, it looks like we will be close to on target.

Following the Financial Report, Bishop Scarfe commended the Youth Ministry Development Team (YMDT) and turned the Convention’s attention to the screens for the video presentation. At its conclusion, Bishop Scarfe highlighted the UTO Blue Boxes. At the 2013 Convention \$420.68 was collected. He challenged the Convention to exceed the total this year. He gave the location of the Budget Hearings, gave reminders about balloting and about the Exhibit Hall, and then dismissed us for lunch.

## Plenary Session Two

Plenary Session Two was convened at 1:45, with a “Flash Mob” style presentation led by Donna Scarfe to the song “I Need You to Survive”. Bishop Scarfe then called the Convention to order and introduced the video showing what congregations shared on the “IowaShare” web site sharing success stories. At its conclusion, the Bishop moved to the podium and gave his Convention Address.

He then called on Diocesan Treasurer Bill Smith for a report about the 2014 Budget and funding proposal. Smith introduced the proposed 2014 budget, and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded. Considerable discussion ensued concerning the proposal to cut funding for the campus chaplaincies at the conclusion of the 2013 – 2014 academic year, and instead to fund a position to work as Ministry Developer with a new Young Adult Ministry Development Team to work in similar ways to the Youth Ministry Development Team. Cathleen Bascom moved to amend the budget to restore the funding for the college chaplaincies for the full year, and increasing the draw from our investments to up to 6% for 2014 only, in order to fund the new YAMDT developer. After some discussion a motion to table the discussion and allow for 30 minutes of prayer and consideration, was made by Ray Gaebler, (St. Timothy’s) West Des Moines. It was seconded and passed.

When the Plenary Session was reconvened, Dean Bascom’s motion was passed. A further amendment, to redistribute the available money between the three state schools was moved and seconded, but failed. The budget was then approved as amended. After announcements regarding the upcoming Indaba Conversations, and reminder that voting time would end at the close of the break, the Convention was recessed with prayer.

## Third Plenary Session

The third Plenary Session began with the introduction of the Indaba Facilitators: The Reverend Canon Kathleen Milligan, chief facilitator, with the Reverend Canon Suzanne Peterson and the Reverend Elizabeth Popplewell. Milligan gave a brief summary of the Indaba Process, and introduced the question for the first Conversation:

*We have a year to examine and evaluate new and current models of ministry with young adults. What questions do we want to consider in this year of deep listening, praying and visioning for our common life?*

After approximately an hour of discussion at the tables the session was brought back to order for announcements and prayer, and was then recessed for Evensong, social time, and the Convention Banquet, with Keynote speakers: Bishop Samuel Peni and Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya, from our Companion Dioceses of Nzara and Swaziland.

## **Plenary Session IV**

Plenary Session IV was brought to order at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Delegates were reminded to sit with their Conversation Groups for the second Indaba Conversation. Bishop Scarfe then introduced the Reverend John Thorpe who gave the “Prezi” regarding year two of our Diocesan Plan: *New and Renewed Leaders, New Methods for New Times*. Following this review of the upcoming year for the Diocesan Plan, the Reverend Kathleen Milligan gave the report from the first Indaba Conversation.

### ***Relationships***

*We heard that relationships are absolutely essential to building community. We want to take this time to listen to each other, and to learn how to empower those among us. We hope not to create a competitive model, but a model that encompasses multiple forms of leadership and leadership development. We heard celebrations for current ministries and yearnings for new ways of doing ministry? How do we reach out to young people? How do we invite them in? And from the youth, how do we find, create, and sustain community?*

### ***Communications***

*We realize that important voices are missing from this conversation. We need to hear from a wide variety of young people beyond the traditional college population and hope there will be a broad representation of those voices on YAMDT.*

*We need to work on improving communications with and from the chaplains about their ministries. We recognize that there is no silver bullet. We are not selling a program but creating a sustainable form of ministry with young people. We desire to know what the goals of the YAMDT are for the YAMDT and for the Young Adult Missioner. What benchmarks do we hope to achieve in this year of collaborative ministry and deep listening?*

### ***Vision***

*We believe that there is something to be seen outside our imagination. The world is different. How do parishes engage in this work? How can we prepare for adaptive change? What new ways of being church can we consider? What models already exist for this work (within the Diocese, outside the Diocese, and even outside the Episcopal Church). Can we examine them? We desire to move this discussion from a budget based concern to one of ministry. How can we learn from the youth who are comfortable with inviting others? How do we develop new ways to tell our stories, sometimes in an interfaith context? We need to learn to tell the story of Jesus, not just the story of the Episcopal Church.*

### ***Emotions***

*It is evident that we have a passion for this work and a desire to do it well. The conversation gave evidence of thoughtfulness as well as frustration with old methods. We have a fear of what happens if we don't do this or do it well. We know that this work will require courage.*

Milligan then introduced the question for the second Indaba conversation:

*In reimagining the church, what do you want to let go of/release to make room for/receive something new?*

When the time allotted for the conversation ended, the Convention was recessed following announcements and prayers. Delegates were reminded that they could sit anywhere they chose for the closing session.

## **Plenary Session V**

Plenary Session V began with the report of the Elections Committee. Those elected were as follows:

Standing Committee: The Reverend Elizabeth Popplewell was elected as the Clergy Member.

General Convention Deputation:

Laity:

Maggie Tinsman  
Bill Smith  
Michael Wagner  
Brian Jones  
Rebecca Dublinske  
Paula Sanchini  
Heidi Schleicher  
Kristine Leaman

Clergy:

Cathleen Bascom  
Raisin Horn  
Kathleen Milligan  
Carl Mann  
Cathi Bencken  
Sean Burke  
Kevin Emge  
Netha Brada

In each order, the first four are deputies, both to the General Convention and to the Provincial Synod. Alternates will serve in order of their election.

Marcia Powell, the diocesan UTO Coordinator was introduced, and announced a grant of \$13,100 from the United Thank Offering for the Diocese of Nzara for an Agricultural Assistance Program. Bishop Samuel Peni was invited to come forward for the presentation, along with Tim Goldman, who wrote the grant proposal.

The Bishop then announced the Alleluia Fund Grants for the year. St. Alban's, Davenport received \$6,000 for their work in Human Trafficking. The Agape Café on the campus of the University of Iowa received \$3,000. The Diocese of Nzara received a grant of \$4,500 for their medical clinic. The Diocese of Swaziland received \$4,500 for their HIV/AIDS Office. The Reverends Brian McVey and Raisin Horn; and Bishops Peni and Wamokoya were invited forward for the presentation.

The Bishop introduced the Reverend Jean McCarthy. She first made a report on her work with the Just Faith educational program. She then introduced the Reverend Russell Melby, who has for 30 years represented Church World Service/Crop, and has been a regular guest at our Conventions. She expressed the thanks and good wishes of the Diocese as he is retiring. He spoke a few words of thanks for the support the Episcopal Church in Iowa has given over the years.

Following this, Bishop Scarfe recognized the Reverend Anne Williams, who gave a brief summary of the new materials and program for the Education for Ministry Program.

The Bishop then announced the following appointments:

Diocesan Pension Fund Treasurer

Mr. Robert P. Joy, Diocese of Iowa

Editor of IOWA CONNECTIONS

Ms. Lydia Bucklin, Diocese of Iowa

Altar Guild Directress

Ms. Martha Hippee, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Des Moines

Companion Dioceses Coordinators:

Diocese of Brechin

The Rev. Barbara Schlachter, Retired, Iowa City

Diocese of Swaziland

*New:* Ms. Cheryl Valenta, Christ, Cedar Rapids

Diocese of Nzara

*New:* Mr. Ray Gaebler, St. Timothy's Church, West Des Moines

Disaster Relief Coordinator

The Rev. Martha Lang, Trinity Church, Muscatine

Ecumenical Officer

The Rev. Jean McCarthy, St. Mark's Church, Des Moines

Episcopal Relief and Development Coordinator

Ms. Stephanie Blake, St. Andrew's Church, Waverly

eSeminary Director

*New:* The Rev. Alice Haugen, St. Paul's Church, Durant

Global Missioner

*New:* The Rev. Suzanne Peterson, Trinity, Waterloo

Jubilee Officer

The Rev. Judith Jones, St. Andrew's Church, Waverly

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Coordinator

Ms. Stephanie Blake, St. Andrew's Church, Waverly

United Thank Offering Coordinator

*New:* Ms. Marcia Powell, Church of the Saviour, Clermont

Commission on Ministry

*Terms ending 2014*

Ms. Julianne Crosmer, Trinity Church, Iowa City

The Rev. James Griesheimer, Grace Church, Decorah

Mr. Kevin Sanders, St. Luke's Church, Cedar Falls

The Rev. Melvin Schlachter, Iowa City, Retired

Dr. David Smith, Grace Church, Decorah

*New:* The Rev. Anne Williams, St. Mark's Church, Anamosa

*Terms ending 2015*

Mr. Stephen Benitz, St. John's Church, Mason City



Ms. Aileen Chang-Matus, Grace Church, Cedar Rapids  
The Rev. John Doherty, Cathedral Church Of St Paul  
Ms. Margaret Hansen, Christ Church, Burlington  
The Rev. Martha Kester, St. Luke's Church, Des Moines  
The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland, St. Paul's Church, Marshalltown

*Terms Expiring 2016:*

*Re-Appointment:* The Rev. Merle Smith, St. Stephen's Church, Newton  
*Re-Appointment:* The Rev. Barbara Easley, St. Luke's Church, Ft. Madison  
*Re-Appointment:* The Rev. Cn. Kathleen Milligan, St. John's Church, Dubuque  
*New:* Ms. Jeanie Sims, St. John's Church, Dubuque  
*New:* Mr. Steve Carroll, St. Paul's Church, Grinnell  
*(Pending Acceptance: Ms. Jessica Hansen Cathedral Church Of St Paul)*

*Ex-Officio:*

*(Need to confirm: Ms Ellen Bruckner)*  
The Rt Rev Alan Scarfe

Professional Development Leave Committee

*Term Expiring 2014:*

Dr. David Smith, Grace Church, Decorah

*Terms Expiring 2015:*

The Very Rev. Cathleen Bascom, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Des Moines  
Mr. Don Wacome, Church of the Savior, Orange City

*Terms Expiring 2016:*

*NEW:* The Rev. Alice Haugen, St. Paul's Church, Durant  
*NEW:* Mr. Brian Jones, St. Andrew's Church, Waverly

Bishop Scarfe requested a motion to allow him to appoint additional committee members, including the 2014 Convention Committees at a future date, and that these appointments be approved by the Board of Directors. It was so moved by the Reverend Carl Mann, was seconded and passed.

The Reverend Carl Mann moved that the minutes of this Convention, along with the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese be published. The motion was seconded and carried.

The dates for the 162<sup>nd</sup> annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa were announced for October 24 – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Des Moines Marriott Hotel Downtown.

Announcements were made concerning lunch arrangements and the procession of Banners for the closing Eucharist. Convention was then recessed for lunch to reconvene at the Cathedral.

Following a Banner Procession from the Marriott Hotel, the Convention gathered for Eucharist at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul. During the course of the Eucharist, a preliminary summary of the second Indaba Conversation was given by the chief facilitator, the Reverend Kathleen Milligan.

***We are asking God to help us embrace:*** allowing God to work; showing love; experimenting with new forms of worship; empowering youth; new ways of doing community; our rich history; using new media; re-imagining hierarchy; flexibility; change; active Christianity; making more time for outreach and service to others; more meaningful worship; working with Ecumenical Partners; balance; flexibility; freedom; the ability to adapt; keeping the core of Anglican/Episcopal identity, and still being open to

*what the Spirit is calling us to do; finding ways to engage the whole mind, body, spirit of all – even those who don't attend in person.*

***We are willing to give up:** rigidity, greed, the fear that God will not work, the fear of change, idolatry of self; the expectation that people want to be with us; what we think a Christian ought to look like; meetings; buildings; self-preoccupation; fear of mistakes; possessions, isolation; the Lectionary; obsession with our buildings; being in our church on Sundays; fence-sitting; ancient prejudices; pews; gimmicks; old meeting and organizational structures; over-programming.*

***Ah-ha:** clergy/lay roles are changing; we are feeling the need to be formed and touched by liturgy; life-long formation continues to be essential; we acknowledge that this will be a long and challenging process, and there will be some messiness and chaos along the way.*

The final formal summary of Conversation Two will be completed and made available at a later date.

A number of courtesy resolutions were offered up during the Prayers of the People. These follow here.

### **The Rev. Artis Ferrel**

WHEREAS, the Rev. Artis Ferrel has served as priest at All Angels, Red Oak, St. John's, Glenwood, and St. John's, Shenandoah for more than a dozen years with compassion, joy, and caring; and  
WHEREAS, she has served on the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Corporation and the Commission on Ministry; and  
WHEREAS, she has been a vital part of the Prayer Beads for Our Troops ministry of St. John's, Glenwood, making, blessing, and distributing tens of thousands of these chaplets; and  
WHEREAS, the Rev. Artis Ferrel has now retired from parochial ministry; therefore  
BE IT RESOLVED, that this 161st Convention of the Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for the dedicated and faithful service of this precious servant of God wishing her every blessing as her ministry continues in retirement; and  
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that her husband Bud also receives our greetings and best wishes.

Submitted by the Rev. Canon Glenn Rankin  
October 2013

### **The Rev. Thomas Gehlsen**

WHEREAS, The Rev. Thomas Gehlsen left a career in education to offer his priestly skills for the benefit of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa; and  
WHEREAS, Tom was a faithful parish priest at St. Paul's, Durant; St. Anne's, Ankeny, St. Luke's, Des Moines, and most recently at Grace Church, Boone, and St. Martin's, Perry; and  
WHEREAS, Tom also served the Diocese as Deployment Officer/Transition Minister, as well as being in charge of Theological Education and E-Seminary; and  
WHEREAS, he will soon retire and move to the colder climate of Minnesota; therefore  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the 161st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev. Thomas Gehlsen, sends him forth with our love and blessing, and wishes Tom and his family well as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Submitted by the Very Rev. John Horn  
October 2013

### **The Rev. Elizabeth Koffron-Eisen**

WHEREAS, "Deacon Liz" was ordained by Bishop Epting in 1996 and has ably served Grace Church, Cedar Rapids and Trinity Church, Iowa City since that time; and  
WHEREAS, her ministry has significantly encompassed pastoral care, liturgy and music, and animal communication for the benefit of many in those congregations and communities; and  
WHEREAS, her Christian caregiving has been founded on deep personal experience of giving and receiving, loving and being loved; therefore  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa meeting in Convention give thanks for the servant ministry of Elizabeth Koffron-Eisen, and wish her and her husband Tom every blessing in the years ahead.

Submitted by the Rev. Mel Schlachter  
October 2013

### **The Rev. Patricia Triska**

WHEREAS, The Reverend Pat Triska retired from active ministry on January 26, 2013 after 17 years of Diaconal Ministry; and

WHEREAS, Pat served diligently and faithfully Grace Episcopal Church, Boone for her entire ministry; and

WHEREAS, Pat was much admired and beloved by colleagues, and parishioners for her gifts offered to Grace Church and the Community of Boone as hospital chaplain, developer of Habitat for Humanity, feeding the needy at community meals, and pastoral care giver, and was an advisor and role model for many women aspiring to ordained ministry; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this 161st Convention of the Diocese of Iowa joyously gives thanks to God for Pat's ministries among us, and extends its congratulations to her on the occasion of her retirement.

Submitted by the Rev. Thomas Gehlsen  
October 2013

### **The Rev. Russell Melby**

WHEREAS, Rev. Russell Melby, who came to Iowa from the northern hinterlands of the Dakotas; a Norwegian by birth, a Lutheran pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America by choice, and has served faithfully as the Iowa Director of Church World Service/CROP in the Des Moines area; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. Melby has been a faithful friend at our convention and in our churches since 1984; and

WHEREAS, many have walked with him in CROP Walks to end hunger; and

WHEREAS, he has furthered the work of ecumenism and companionship on the journey; and

WHEREAS, he is soon to join the ranks of the retired; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa, the Episcopal Corporation of Iowa gives thanks to God for the many years of friendship and sharing of the work of God in combating hunger and poverty, and prays that God will refresh and bless him in his retirement.

Submitted by the Rev. Jean McCarthy  
October 2013

### **David Raymond**

WHEREAS, David A. Raymond, Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in the Diocese of Iowa began playing the organ at age 13; and

WHEREAS, he studied at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City, continued his studies at the University of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, he has been the organist at St. Luke's, Des Moines and has performed on many of the great organs in the United States; and

WHEREAS, he has been the organist at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul since August 1988, overseeing the design and installation of the 68 rank Casavant organ, where he continues to enrich their worship; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa, the Episcopal Corporation of Iowa gives thanks to God for the many years of musical gifts shared by David and prays that God will enable him to "make a joyful noise" for many years to come.

Submitted by the Rev. John Doherty, Deacon  
October 2013

### **The Rt. Rev. Samuel Peni**

WHEREAS, the Rt. Rev. Samuel Peni, his wife Sentina, and baby Joy, made the long journey from the Diocese of Nzara to be present with their friends in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, they have given us the opportunity to renew and extend the bonds of sharing and affectionate friendship between our people; and

WHEREAS, they have taught us many things about the challenges and joys of creating a new diocese in the new nation of South Sudan, and taught our bishop and Donna how striking it can be to wear matching clothes; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that this 161st Convention of the Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for their presence among us; prays that Bishop Peni's episcopacy will continue to lift up the life and well-being of the people of Nzara; prays for safe travel for him and his family; and looks forward to the time when we will see them again.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee  
October 2013

### **The Rt. Rev. Ellinah Wamukoya**

WHEREAS, the Rt. Rev. Ellinah Wamukoya still had the energy to bring her message of joy and hope in Jesus Christ to the Diocese of Iowa after attending her Provincial Synod and the Diocesan Conventions of both Swaziland and Brechin; and

WHEREAS, she has taken up the mantle of her episcopacy with grace, especially as the first woman in the Anglican Church in Africa to become a bishop; and

WHEREAS, her journeys reveals how God calls us throughout our lives, even when we have other plans or have been looking forward to retirement; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that this 161st Convention of the Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for Bishop Ellinah's presence among us; prays that God will continue to fill her with a vision for the people of Swaziland, and will bless and protect her in her travels; and gives thanks for the day when we will see her again.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee  
October 2013

### **The Cathedral Church of St. Paul**

WHEREAS, the Cathedral Church of St. Paul once again hosted the liturgies of Diocesan Convention with grace and order; and

WHEREAS, one was a special Evening Prayer in memory of those who died during Superstorm Sandy, at which the Mayor of Des Moines spoke; and

WHEREAS, the Convention Eucharist was an especially joyful celebration involving Bishops from two of our Companion Dioceses as well as our own Bishop; and

WHEREAS, the two Bishops as well as the Cathedral's own organist were made Honorary Canons; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that this 161st Convention of the Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for the people of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, and for its Dean, The Very Rev. Cathleen Bascom; prays that their ministries to the city of Des Moines may flourish; and looks forward to many more years of service to the Diocese of Iowa.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee  
October 2013

As the Eucharist drew to a close, Bishop Scarfe called on Jean McCarthy for the final report of the Dispatch of Business Committee. She certified, on behalf of the Committee that the business of the 161st convention, as it appeared on the agenda, along with fellowship and worship had been completed.

The Convention was adjourned with the Blessing and Recessional.

Respectfully submitted:



The Reverend Cn. Kathleen S. Milligan,  
Secretary of Convention

Attest:



The Rt. Reverend Alan Scarfe  
IX Bishop of Iowa

