

**Clergy Canonically Resident in the Diocese of Iowa
And Entitled to Seat, Voice, & Vote at the 163rd Annual Convention
October 23-24, 2015
In the order of their Canonical Residence**

**Denotes attendance at the sessions of the Convention*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Whence Received</u>
*The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe	March 1, 2003	Los Angeles
The Rev. Canon Robert W. Kem	June 29, 1949	Ordination
The Rev. Canon Robert E. Holzhammer	June 24, 1952	Ordination
The Rev. Canon Thomas S. Hulme	June 15, 1955	Ordination
The Rev. Canon Marlin L. Whitmer	June 22, 1955	Ordination
The Rev. Canon Arthur P. Becker	August 23, 1961	Fond du Lac
*The Rev. Canon Ronald D. Osborne	June 24, 1965	Ordination
*The Rev. Canon Frederick F. Kramer	September 2, 1966	Minnesota
The Rev. K. Calvin C. Hedelson	July 3, 1969	Nebraska
The Rev. Canon Glenn E. Rankin	January 18, 1971	Ordination
The Rev. Robert D. Gamble	June 10, 1974	Massachusetts
The Rev. John I. Kilby	February 11, 1976	Quincy
The Rev. Canon George F. Wharton, III	September 1, 1976	Louisiana
*The Rev. Canon S. Suzanne S. Peterson	December 18, 1976	Ordination
The Rev. Wayne L. Pelkey	May 9, 1977	West Missouri
The Rev. Thomas C. Putnam	June 23, 1977	Ordination
The Rev. Larry G. Gatrel	August 6, 1977	Ordination
The Rev. Canon Fred David Titus	May 26, 1978	Ordination
The Rev. Canon Robert R. Elfvin	October 17, 1978	Ohio
The Rev. William S. J. Moorhead	August 1, 1980	Nebraska
The Rev. Randall R. Lyle	December 29, 1982	Colorado
The Rev. Melvin L. Low	August 15, 1983	Fond du Lac
The Rev. Willa M. Goodfellow	October 25, 1983	Minnesota
The Rev. James F. Norton, Jr	November 2, 1984	Southern Ohio
The Rev. Wayne K. Kamm	April 9, 1985	Ordination
*The Rev. Canon Kathleen S. Milligan	April 18, 1986	Ordination
The Rev. Roger B. Rollins	May 1, 1986	Southern Ohio
The Rev. Kristy K. Smith	May 30, 1986	Ordination
*The Rev. Kathryn S. Campbell	June 11, 1986	Ordination
The Rev. Margaret Y. Weiner	June 13, 1987	Ordination
*The Rev. Peter L. Sickels	October 15, 1987	California
The Rev. Charles R. Summers	January 27, 1988	New Jersey
The Rt. Rev. C. Christopher Epting	September 27, 1988	Consecration
The Rev. Arthur "Paddy" P. Stanley	December 1, 1988	Guilford, Surrey England
The Very Rev. John L. Hall	August 31, 1989	Springfield
The Rev. Susanne K. Watson Epting	November 4, 1989	Ordination
The Rev. Roy L. Chrisman	March 2, 1991	Nebraska

Clergy Entitled to Seats and Votes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Whence Received</u>
The Rev. C. Michael Pumphrey	September 1, 1991	Maryland
*The Rev. Alexander A. Aiton	September 30, 1991	Central Pennsylvania
The Rev. Canon Peter O. Sanderson	November 1, 1991	Brechin, Scotland
The Rev. Julia K. Easley	June 1, 1992	Kansas
The Rev. Liane M. Nichols	October 18, 1992	Ordination
The Rev. William W. Magie	March 17, 1993	Ordination
*The Rev. Benjamin S. Webb	March 30, 1993	Ordination
The Rev. Elizabeth Coulter	September 21, 1993	Ordination
The Rev. Charles M. Pope	November 30, 1993	Ordination
The Rev. B. Jean McKinney	December 5, 1993	Ordination
*The Rev. Richard W. Graves	March 10, 1994	Los Angeles
The Rev. Leon H. Pfothenhauer	April 25, 1995	Ordination
The Rev. Patricia I. Triska	May 25, 1995	Ordination
*The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland	June 7, 1995	Ordination
The Rev. Mary E. Hoffman	August 15, 1995	Ordination
The Rev. John B. Harper	September 16, 1995	Ordination
*The Rev. Charles L. Lane	October 6, 1995	Ordination
The Rev. Mark E. Eccles	December 3, 1995	Ordination
The Rev. Patrick E. Genereux	December 5, 1995	South Dakota
The Rev. Patricia J. Roberts	December 17, 1995	Ordination
The Rev. Donald R. Payer	December 19, 1995	Ordination
The Rev. Elizabeth M. Koffron-Eisen	January 7, 1996	Ordination
*The Rev. Karen Wacome	March 23, 1996	Ordination
The Rev. Margaret S. Harris	April 13, 1996	Ordination
The Rev. A. Fred Berger	November 16, 1996	Ordination
*The Rev. Netha N. Brada	August 23, 1997	Ordination
The Rev. Dian M. Ong	September 17, 1997	Ordination
The Rev. Donald G. Twentyman	September 29, 1998	Minnesota
The Rev. Elsa "Muffy" E. Harmon	January 10 1999	Ordination
The Rev. Paul A. Fuessel	January 28, 1999	Springfield
*The Rev. Patricia A. Johnson	April 24, 1999	Ordination
The Rev. Mary E. Christopher	July 13, 1999	New Jersey
The Rev. Linda M. Hughes	September 9, 1999	Indiana
The Rev. Lynne T. Carver	October 31, 1999	Chicago
*The Rev. Martha E. Lang	November 22, 1999	Ordination
*The Rev. Jean E. McCarthy	May 27, 2000	Ordination
The Rev. Artis L. Ferrel	June 3, 2000	Ordination
The Rev. Stephanie M. Green Tramel	June 10, 2000	Ordination
The Rev. George W. Rogerson	April 7, 2001	Ordination

Clergy Entitled to Seats and Votes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Whence Received</u>
*The Rev. Merle E. Smith	April 7, 2001	Ordination
*The Rev. Kathleen R. Tripses	April 7, 2001	Ordination
*The Rev. Canon Cathleen Bascom	June 1, 2001	Kansas
*The Rev. Robert A. Kem	February 27, 2002	Nebraska
The Rev. Melvin H. Schlachter	March 1, 2002	Southern Ohio
The Rev. Sharon M. Mahood	June 21, 2002	Minnesota
The Rev. Barbara M. McCaulley	October 16, 2002	Ordination
The Rev. Maureen C. Doherty	February 11, 2003	Oklahoma
*The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe	March 1, 2003	Los Angeles
*The Rev. Anne E. Moats Williams	May 23, 2003	Ordination
The Rev. Terence J. Kleven	July 17, 2003	Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador
The Rev. James L. Davis	September 2, 2003	Milwaukee
The Rev. William J. Pugliese	October 10, 2003	Spokane
The Rev. Barbara J. H. Schlachter	October 23, 2003	Southern Ohio
*The Rev. Mary E. Cole-Duvall	May 18, 2004	Delaware
The Rev. Margaret "Peg" R. Jackson	June 12, 2004	Ordination
*The Rev. Wendy K. Abrahamson	August 1, 2004	Virginia
The Rev. Tim E. Vann	September 1, 2004	Nebraska
*The Rev. Judith A. Jones	December 18, 2004	Ordination
*The Rev. Curtis Moermond	December 18, 2004	Ordination
*The Rev. Lori J. Erickson	April 16, 2005	Ordination
*The Rev. Alice B. Haugen	April 30, 2005	Ordination
*The Rev. Catherine Quehl-Engel	September 2, 2005	Ordination
*The Rev. Carl D. Mann	December 3, 2005	Ordination
The Rev. J. Brian McVey	December 17, 2005	Ordination
*The Rev. Jan "Raisin" M. Horn	December 16, 2006	Ordination
*The Rev. John C. Horn	December 16, 2006	Ordination
*The Rev. Elizabeth C. Popplewell	December 16, 2006	Ordination
The Rev. Sallie Verrette	December 16, 2006	Ordination
*The Rev. Donald F. Keeler	December 17, 2006	Ordination
*The Rev. Vincent S. Bete	June 18, 2007	North Central Philippines
The Rev. Judith C. Dalmasso	June 23, 2007	Ordination
*The Rev. Mark E. Holmer	October 1, 2007	ELCA-CCM
*The Rev. John S. Doherty	October 7, 2007	Ordination
*The Rev. Sue Ann Raymond	October 25, 2007	Colorado
*The Rev. Martha R. Kester	October 29, 2007	Central Florida
*The Rev. Kent Anderson	June 4, 2008	Ordination
*The Rev. Cathi Bencken	November 12, 2008	Western New York

Clergy Entitled to Seats and Votes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Whence Received</u>
*The Rev. Judith Crossett	February 8, 2009	Ordination
*The Rev. Melody Rockwell	February 21, 2009	Ordination
*The Rev. Diane Eddy	February 22, 2009	Ordination
The Rev. Martha C. Rogers	June 1, 2009	Colorado
*The Rev. John Greve	July 26, 2009	Ordination
*The Rev. Jennifer Masada	July 26, 2009	Ordination
*The Rev. Jane Stewart	July 26, 2009	Ordination
*The Rev. Sean D. Burke	October 2, 2009	California
The Rev. Lyle Brown	October 25, 2009	Ordination
The Rev. Barbara Easley	October 25, 2009	Ordination
The Rev. James Kannenberg	October 25, 2009	Ordination
The Rev. Georgia Humphrey	January 19, 2010	Colorado
The Rev. Kathy Halverson-Rigatuso	January 23, 2010	Ordination
The Rev. Shelley Dowling	May 9, 2010	Ordination
The Rev. Marilyn Wentzien	May 9, 2010	Ordination
*The Rev. Christine Gowdy-Jaehnig	June 6, 2010	Ordination
*The Rev. James Griesheimer	June 6, 2010	Ordination
*The Rev. Jeannette Pillsbury	June 6, 2010	Ordination
*The Rev. Stacey Gerhart	March 2, 2011	Ordination
*The Rev. Diana L. Wright	December 17, 2011	Ordination
The Rev. Patricia Kirkland	January 8, 2012	Ordination
*The Rev. Sarah D. Lopez	January 28, 2012	Ordination
The Rev. Kevin R. Emge	July 1, 2012	Ordination
*The Rev. Aaron Hudson	December 15, 2012	Ordination
The Rev. Jean Smith	May 18, 2013	Ordination
The Rev. Ruth Ratliff	June 8, 2013	Ordination
The Rev. Bonnie Wilkerson	July 6, 2013	Ordination
The Rev. Michael Arthur Last	November 3, 2013	ELCA-CCM
*The Rev. Patricia Coffey Cashman	November 4, 2013	Pennsylvania
*The Rev. Sheryl Hughes Empke	December 7, 2013	Ordination
The Rev. Hannah Elyse Cornthwaite	December 7, 2013	Ordination
*The Rev. Karen Grahman Crawford	December 7, 2013	Ordination
*The Rev. Frederick Leo Steinbach	December 7, 2013	Ordination
The Rev. Paul Edward Walker	December 31, 2013	Bethlehem
The Rev. Randy Lee Webster	December 31, 2013	Bethlehem
*The Rev. Kelly Ann Shields	February 1, 2014	Ordination
*The Rev. Lauren Lyon	May 9, 2014	West Missouri
*The Rev. Warren Fredrick Frelund	May 20, 2014	Wyoming
The Rev. Kay Joan Beach	July 5, 2014	Ordination
*The Rev. Mary Margaret Wagner	December 6, 2014	Ordination
*The Rev. Kathleen Ann Travis	December 6, 2014	Ordination
The Rev. Holly Danielle Scherff	December 6, 2014	Ordination
The Rev. Judith Ann Thayer	December 6, 2014	Ordination
*The Rev. Kristine Kathryn Leaman	February 15, 2015	Ordination
*The Rev. Troy Cavan Beecham	April 1, 2015	Atlanta

*The Rev. Steven Robert Godfrey
*The Rev. Lydia Kelsey Bucklin
*The Rev. Elaine Sue Caldbeck

April 14, 2015
August 6, 2015
October 16, 2015

Chicago
Ordination
Southern Ohio

Lay Delegates to the 163rd Convention

**Denotes Lay Alternate that served during convention in place of an absent Lay Delegate*

Albia, Grace Church

Lynn Powell

Algona, St. Thomas' Church

Barb Goecke

Ames, St. John's Church

Bruce Bjorklund

Nicola Bowler

Margaret Dempsey

Ed Gillott

James "Jim" Murdock

Ankeny, St. Anne's by the Fields

Tim Jackelen

Tyler Schleicher

Bettendorf, St. Peter's Church

Jane Hoffman

Carolyn Krenos-Bodnar

Linda Neuman

Jim Stanley

Burlington, Christ Church

Michelle Moore

Carroll, Trinity Church

Marilyn Copeland

Cedar Falls, St. Luke's Church

Gail Callahan

Ken Cutts

Irv Rasmussen

Cedar Rapids, Christ Church

Doug Anderson

Joe Antisavage

Linda Antisavage

Kate Hogg

JanetLeary

Paula Sanchini

Judy Welch

Mary Westcott

Cedar Rapids, Grace Church

Christin Hart Thompson

Sarah Thompson

Chariton, St. Andrew's Church

Suzy Miller

Charles City, Grace Church

Diana VanLaningham

Clermont, Church of the Saviour

*Marva Eck

Clinton, Christ Church

Alescha Cernetisch

Nancy Nieland

Coralville, New Song Church

Emily Silliman

Linda Stewart-Kroon

Council Bluffs, St. Paul's Church

*Debbie Rathman

Davenport, St. Alban's Church

Jon Burgstrum

Grant Curtis

Davenport, Trinity Cathedral

Douglas Elloitt

Barbara Hixon

Keith Hoffman

Jan Parry

Decorah, Grace Church

Jo Kaplan

Des Moines, Cathedral Church of St. Paul

Julianne Allaway

Bruce Beeston

Sue Kerss

Michael Piper

Barbara Briggie Smith

Sharpe Smith

*Tommy Thompson

*Anna Whipple

Des Moines, St. Andrew's Church

*Leigh Hollis-Caruso

Nancy Johnson

Des Moines, St. Luke's Church

Debbie Caldwell

Steve Deaton

Jim McLallen

Des Moines, St. Mark's Church

Beth Ripley

Dubuque, St. John's Church

Jesse Green

Elizabeth "Beth" Leeper

Jeannie Sims

Emmetsburg, Trinity Church

David Nixon

Fort Dodge, St. Mark's Church

John Daniel

Glenwood, St. John's Church

Karen McCallan
Grinnell, St. Paul's Church
Jess Kite
Debby Pohlon
Harlan, St. Paul's Church
William "Bill" Early
Independence, St. James' Church
Wanda Stahl
Indianola, All Saint's Church
Lindy Ireland
Iowa City, Trinity Church
Nora Boerner
Greg Cotton
Julianne Crosmer
Howard Horan
John Loomis
Paul Muhle
Melissa Murphy
Iowa Falls, St. Matthew's by the Bridge
Ginger Hansen
Keokuk, St. John's Church
Meg Oliver-Mills
Maquoketa, St. Mark's Church
Karen North
Mason City, St. John's Church
*Susan "Sue" Frelund
Linda Willeke
Mount Pleasant, St. Michael's Church
Olabisi Gwamna
Muscatine, Trinity Church
Carol Allison
Ken Clark
Newton, St. Stephen's Church
Christopher Templeton
Carol Kramer
Orange City, Church of the Savior
Mike Kugler
Ottumwa, Trinity Church
Mary Neis
Perry, St. Martin's
Kathy Powell
Shenandoah, St. John's Church
Kim Naven Gee
Sioux City, Calvary Church
Becky Fredregill
Sioux City, St. Paul's Indian Mission

Joann Bishop
Tracy Henry
Sioux City, St. Thomas' Church
Jannette Domayer
Joni Miller
Linda Yagel
Spirit Lake, St. Alban's Church
Mike Mears
Spirit Lake, St. Alban's Church
John Barrow
Storm Lake, All Saints' Church
Paula Keeler
Waterloo, Trinity Church
Judy Henry
Nikki Roe
Waverly, St. Andrew's Church
Stephanie Blake
Webster City, Church of the Good Shepherd
Rhonda Masser
West Des Moines, St. Timothy's Church
Larry Anderson
Tom Carpenter
Mike McGill
Jennifer "Jennie" McKinney
William "Bill" Smith
Youth Delegates
Thomas Powell (*Church of The Saviour,
Clermont*)
Carolyn Shultz (*New Song Church, Coralville*)
Allie Schirmer (*Grace Church, Cedar Rapids*)
Chancellor
Tom Carpenter (*St. Timothy's Church, West
Des Moines*)
Registrar
Julianne Allaway (*Cathedral Church of St.
Paul, Des Moines*)
Treasurer
William "Bill" Smith (*St. Timothy's Church,
West Des Moines*)

**Minutes of the 163rd Annual Convention
Episcopal Diocese of Iowa
Marriott Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa
October 23rd – 24th, 2015**

Plenary Session One

Following an opening liturgy with the Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant, the 163rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa was convened by the Right Reverend Alan Scarfe at 11:14 a.m. on Friday, 23 October, 2015. Bishop Scarfe then called on the Reverend Mary Jane Oakland, 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. The Very Reverend John Horn, Dean of Trinity Cathedral, Iowa Davenport, moved to dispense with the Roll Call and to have attendance taken from registration. The motion was seconded and passed.

Bishop Scarfe called for a reading of the Minutes of the 162nd Annual Convention. The Secretary of Convention, the Reverend Cn. Kathleen Milligan, moved to amend the minutes to include a memorial resolution for the Reverend Carl Gilland, which had been approved at the September 2014 meeting of the diocesan Board of Directors; but which had been too late to include in the journal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Memorial Resolution: The Rev. Carl Gilland

WHEREAS, The Rev. Carl George Gilland entered into eternal life on Friday, June 20, 2014 at the age of 77; and

*WHEREAS, Carl was ordained to the diaconate in 1993 in the Diocese of Northern Indiana, and served there and in the Dioceses of Chicago, Iowa, and Kentucky;
and*

WHEREAS, he served as a faithful deacon at St. Mark's in Des Moines and as Deacon-in-Charge at Winterset; and

WHEREAS, he moved to Elizabethtown, KY, ministering at Fort Knox; and

WHEREAS, Carl brought his skills learned in his career in the United States Air Force to his diaconal ministry, and served the people with whom he walked faithfully and well, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Board of Directors of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, assembled for its regular meeting on September 6, 2014 gives thanks to God for Carl's ministry in the Episcopal Church, and extends its sympathies to his wife, The Rev. Linda Hughes, and their extended family.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Board submit this resolution to be part of the record of the 162nd Convention of the Diocese of Iowa to be held on October 24-25, 2014 in Des Moines.

Bishop Scarfe then asked for the amended minutes to be read. On a motion by the Very Reverend John Horn, duly seconded and passed, the reading of the amended minutes was dispensed with; and the minutes were approved as amended.

Bishop Scarfe welcomed delegates and guests to the Convention, and gave an overview of the coming two days. He highlighted the report on Year Three of the current Diocesan Plan *Jesus' Big Five from Matthew 25*; and he referenced the theme for the fourth year of the Plan: A Work of the People – New Structures for an Eternal Message, which is the theme for the 163rd Annual 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, right after Saturday's lunch. He then recognized our special guests.

Sheryl Kujawa Holbrook – Our Keynote Speaker

Margaret Rose – Ecumenical and Interreligious Deputy to the Presiding Bishop and our liaison for the Diocese of Iowa.

Roger Ferlo – Bexley Seabury

Susie Tierney – The Center for Social Ministries & JustFaith

Sharon Strohmaier—Iowa Religious Media Services

Norm Olson --Episcopal Consultant

Ron Byrd – Vital Teams

Jordan Bles, Church World Services, CROP

Bishop Scarfe then highlighted the availability of child care throughout the Convention; and then introduced the three official youth delegates, and reminded us of the presence of other young people in the simultaneous youth conference taking place at the Cathedral and the hotel. The three official youth delegates are as follows.

Thomas Powell (*Church of the Saviour, Clermont*)

Alexis Schirmer (*Grace Church, Cedar Rapids*)

Carolyn Shultz (*New Song Church, Coralville*)

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 8:00 a.m. on the Saturday morning for anyone who would like to attend.

After a series of announcements and housekeeping details, along with instructions about various opportunities for voting, 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:

Our convention format has been one of prayer, reflection, and work; in this 163rd

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the agenda for this 163rd Convention, as presented,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rules of Order, as approved by the 156th Convention,

The motion was seconded and adopted.

The Chair again called upon the Reverend Mary Jane Oakland 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 Staff:

Anne Wagner, Comptroller
Lacey Howard, Youth Missioner

Diocesan Coordinators & Chairs:

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

AV Tech

Kevin Wolff

Special Guests:

Sheryl Kujawa Holbrook –Keynote Speaker
Margaret Rose - Ecumenical & Interreligious Deputy to the Presiding Bishop
and church liaison to the Diocese of Iowa.
Roger Ferlo- Bexley Seabury
Susie Tierney – JustFaith & The Center for Social Ministry

Licensed Clergy:

Charles Bencken
Robert "Bob" North
Milton Cole-Duvall
Steven Godfrey
Meshack Mabuza
Larry Snyder
Elaine Caldbeck

Postulants & Candidates (not a delegate):

Marcus Haack
Kevin Powell

The motion was seconded and carried.

The Chair then asked for a motion to receive and approve the Reports to Convention including the acts of the Bishop and the various committees and commissions, as presented in the Delegates packet. It was moved by Penny Fitz-Randolph, St. Michael's, Mount Pleasant, seconded, and adopted.

Officers were then elected for the Convention. On the motion of The Reverend 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 Lauren Lyon, Trinity, Iowa City, as the Assistant Secretary. McCarthy then nominated Mr. Bill Smith, St. Timothy's Church, West Des Moines, as Treasurer of the Convention. The chair closed nominations; and Smith was duly elected.

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, St. Mark's, Des Moines, Mr. Dan Kaiser, St. Paul's, Grinnell was nominated as Diocesan Historiographer. Nominations being closed, he was elected. Bishop Scarfe took the opportunity to remember Mr. Thomas Colbert, a previous historiographer who had died in the past year.

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.

The chair called upon the Very Reverend John Horn for the Resolutions Committee. Horn reported that the Resolutions Committee had received no late resolutions, so no further action was needed. Bishop Scarfe then explained that over the last few years, our Indaba conversations have been a way of filtering issues in a less formal and adversarial way than resolutions may do. The summaries form much of the work of the Board of Directors for the coming year.

Bishop Scarfe’s address followed. He then highlighted the work of the deacons, and a video clip of the deacons and their work around Iowa was shown. The Bishop then recognized Deacon Jeannie Smith of St. Timothy’s, West Des Moines, whose name was inadvertently omitted from the clip.

The Chair then called on Ms. Susie Tierney, of the Center for Social Ministry (Just Faith), who reported on her work over the past year. She has visited with congregations all over the state, and several Just Faith groups are now meeting.

Treasurer Bill Smith was then called upon for a report on the 2014 budget highlighting the audited reports which were accepted in the early motion to accept the reports as presented. He then commented on 2015 to date. We are about where we expected to be at this time.

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 Raisin Horn, Associate Rector of Trinity Iowa City, and chair of the Nominations Committee, who placed in nomination the slate for the Standing Committee

THE STANDING COMMITTEE (3-year terms):

Clergy

- Wendy Abrahamson (St. Paul’s Church, Grinnell)
- Benjamin Webb (Christ Church, Cedar Rapids)
- Anne Williams (St. Mark’s Church, Anamosa)

Lay

- Shelby Benitz (St, John’s Church, Mason City)
- Jennifer Latham (St. Paul’s Church, Grinnell)
- Margaret Tinsman (St. Peter’s Church, Bettendorf)

There being no nominations from the floor, Bishop Scarfe closed nominations.

The Reverend Raisin Horn then placed in nomination the candidates for at-large Directors of the Episcopal Corporation:

At Large Members—Directors of the Episcopal Corporation (3 year terms)

Clergy:

Richard Graves (St. Paul's Church, Marshalltown)

Aaron Hudson (St. Paul's Church, Council Bluffs)

Lay Member:

Keith Hoffman (Trinity Cathedral, Davenport)

Tyler Schleicher (St. Anne's Church, Ankeny)

As there were no nominations from the floor, the bishop closed nominations.

The Bishop then called for nominations of the candidates selected by the North Central, Southeast, East, West, Central and North Cedar Valley Chapters, to serve as Chapter Representatives – Directors of the Episcopal Corporation:

Raisin Horn nominated the following:

Elaine Caldbeck (St. Marks, Fort Dodge and Good Shepherd Webster City) for a one-year vacancy for the North Central Chapter

Kelly shields (St. Luke's, Fort Madison) for the Southeast Chapter.

Suzanne Peterson (Trinity, Waterloo) for the North Cedar Valley Chapter

Tracey Henry (St. Paul's Indian Mission) for the West Chapter

Alescha Cernetish (Christ Church, Clinton) for the East Chapter

Lois Barnard (St. Paul's, Grinnell) for the Central Chapter

As only one candidate was selected by each of these chapters, Bishop Scarfe invited a motion for a unanimous ballot for the Chapter Representative. It was moved by Beth Leeper, St. John's Dubuque, seconded and approved.

Bishop Scarfe then called for nominations for the Disciplinary Committee

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

Raisin Horn, for the committee, nominated the following:

THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD:

Clergy

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

Judith Dalmasso (Trinity Cathedral, Davenport)
Lauren Lyon (Trinity Church, Iowa City)
Anne Williams (St. Mark's Church, Anamosa)

Lay Members

Cynthia Danielson (St. Michael's Church, Mount Pleasant)
Gailanne Dill (St. Paul's Church, Grinnell)
Jane Billingsley Hoffman (St. Peter's Church, Bettendorf)

There being no further nominations, the bishop declared that the ballot was closed. The bishop then thanked the members of the Nominations Committee, and called on Tom Carpenter, our chancellor, to give the directions regarding the elections.

Following announcements and prayers, the Convention recessed for the lunch break.

Plenary Session II

Following the lunch break, the Convention reconvened at 1:40 p.m. After the opening worship, Bishop Scarfe drew our attention to the upcoming Year Four of our Diocesan Plan. He called on Sarah Thompson, the Board Representative to the Diocesan Plan Oversight Committee, for a report. It was given in the form of a Video presentation.

Bill Smith, Diocesan Treasurer, then presented the proposed Budget for 2016. He highlighted the Indaba grant line item, and the continuing support for ministries to youth and young adults. The budget shows an expectation of congregational pledges of \$825,544; and a total budgeted income and expenditure of \$1, 209,760 – a decrease of approximately \$40,000 from the previous year. He then moved the adoption of the budget for the year 2016. The motion was seconded and carried.

Bishop Scarfe announced that the Diocese has been the recipient of several grants recently. These include

- A grant of \$23,500 from the Roanridge Trust, for the Young Adult Ministries Committee. The grant is for work with Disenfranchised Youth: Bridging

the Gap in Rural Communities.

- A Jubilee Ministries Development Grant in the amount of \$34,500 to St. Andrew's, Des Moines in support of their interfaith community building initiative.
- A UTO grant in the amount of \$40,000 to the Diocese and its Companion Diocese of Swaziland, to support the capacity building work through the development of two piggeries in the Lowengo Farm Project in Swaziland.
- A New Opportunities Grant from the Episcopal Church's Mission for the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. The grant is for \$6,800 for Sunday School instructional materials and appropriate equipment.

Moving to the Alleluia Grants, Bishop Scarfe highlighted the use of the 2015 grants. The total of \$16,000 raised was divided equally between local and global ministries. A video presentation highlighted the Free Store from St. Timothy's in West Des Moines, the Hygiene closet at St. John's Mason City, and the Medical Supply Closet at Grace, Cedar Rapids.

For 2016, the amount raised was \$28,000 – an increase of \$12,000 over the previous year. The work of awarding the grants was given to a Review Panel and approved at the Board Meeting in September of 2015. They were awarded as follows:

- \$4,000 for the work of an Older Adult Ministry Development Team.
Coordinator: The Rev. Warren Frielund
- \$1,500 to the Center for Social Ministry for facilitating two Urban Immersion experiences for youth in grades 7 through 12. Coordinator: Ms. Susie Tierney
- \$3,000 to Iowa Creation Stewards, for work in transformation of parish or private land into prairies, Community Food Gardens, or other green space. Coordinator: The Rev. Cn. Cathleen Bascom
- \$1000 to St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Study Table; provision of a place to study, do homework and work with adult mentors toward academic

improvement. Coordinator: Ms. Jennifer Hahn.

- \$1,115 to Transformational Conversations. A series of conversations to education parishioners about differing gender identities. Coordinator: Zubulun Treloar-Reid.
- \$1,500 to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Des Moines, for its free mid-week music experience for young children.

These recipients were acknowledged and congratulated. An additional grant of \$8,200 was made to our Companion Partnerships for the 2016 Companion Young Adult Celtic Pilgrimage to Brechin. \$6,000 is earmarked for travel for the delegates from Swaziland to Brechin; and \$2,200 for the Diocese of Brechin to offset their expenses in hosting the gathering.

After announcements and a reminder that the break was the last opportunity to vote, Bishop Scarfe recessed the second plenary session with Prayer.

Plenary Session III

The session was convened at 3:20 with an opening liturgy. Bishop Scarfe then called upon Deputies to the General Convention for their report. Cathleen Bascom reported on the excitement of the Election The Rt. Reverend Michael Curry as the next Presiding Bishop. Raisin Horn reported on the approval to develop a process for the revision of the Book of Common Prayer, as well as the adoption of a resolution from one of our own deputies, Brian Jones, to begin the process of a new hymnal. She also reported on the continuing work on Holy Women, Holy Men. Maggie Tinsman reported on her work with the Social Justice Committee, especially in areas of Gun Control, and Racial Reconciliation. Kathleen Milligan reported on her work with the Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations Committee. A Memorial had been approved by this Convention last year, and forwarded to the General Convention. It was combined with other similar resolutions and presented as a resolution commending ongoing study and the development of materials for sensitivity in interreligious dialogue. Bill Smith reported on the resolutions regarding the use of fossil fuels and petroleum products in particular. It was noted that another deputy, Mr. Mike Wagner of

Trinity, Iowa City, had served on a Taskforce for issues regarding alcohol abuse and addiction.

Bishop Scarfe then asked those who had not done so, to find their assigned tables for the Indaba Conversation. The Reverend Kathleen Milligan, chief facilitator, introduced Elizabeth Popplewell, Suzanne Peterson and Meg Wagner as the other facilitators. She gave an introduction to the procedure for the conversations, and then gave the question:

Four of the issues which clearly surfaced during General Convention this year related to 1) racial justice; 2) same-sex marriage; 3) climate change and 4) gun violence. Perhaps there were others which engaged or energized you or your congregation. How have you engaged with any of these? Are there resources that could help you with this work? How might the Diocese be of help on a local or chapter level?

After approximately 55 minutes the convention was brought back to order. Announcements were made, and the Convention was recessed with a prayer, for Evensong, and the evening banquet. At the Banquet, the Keynote Speaker was Sheryl Kujawa Holbrook. Following her presentation, our Youth Missioner, Lacey Howard presented a video of our work with diocesan youth. The youth then led us in the service of Compline.

Plenary Session IV

Plenary Session IV was brought to order at 9:06 a.m. on Saturday, October 24th. Delegates were reminded to sit with their Conversation Groups for the second Indaba Conversation. Our Young Adult Ministries Coordinator was invited to present the report on her work in the past year. This was done in the form of a video presentation. The Reverend Warren Frelund then gave his work on developing a Ministry Team for older adults, which is now a 2016 Alleluia grant recipient.

Bishop Scarfe called on The Reverend Steve Godfrey and Ms. Ellen Bruckner for a report on their work with the Art of Hosting. A video presentation highlighted their work with the 2015 Epiphany conversations and the Ministries Retreat workshop.

The Reverend Kathleen Milligan gave the report from the first Indaba Conversation.

General Reflections

We are not all of the same mind on any of these issues. We recognize that we need more guidance and resources about how to have these conversations without being divisive. We also need more resources that help us to read and understand biblical teaching on these issues. We know that these are all multilayered issues and several are interconnected.

We firmly believe that our churches need to be safe havens for all God's people and we may not know how to do this work but we know we have to.

SAME SEX MARRIAGE

We feel like there has been a general agreement with recent decisions and are surprised and glad we are moving on to other things. But we also recognize the need to foster continuing dialogue in our local contexts where there are people who are still struggling and we are proud that General Convention made space for people who hold different understandings.

We know that personal experience has the ability to transform perceptions.

GUN VIOLENCE

We are all horrified by gun violence and we know we need more resources to talk about it. We feel there is a danger of us becoming numb because gun violence has become so commonplace. We believe we need to solve the societal issues like racial inequality, poverty, mental health issues, etc. that lead some people to thinking that guns are a solution. We are frustrated by interest groups and political forces that seem so big and are barriers to change.

We recognize that "gun control" is a complex issue in our state, as we have a lot of hunters and also farmers who have guns for protection.

CLIMATE CHANGE

We can't seem to agree on a definition of climate change and it feels big and overwhelming and we need more education and to counter misinformation.

We know there are small steps that individuals and churches can take to address climate change. The buildings that we inhabit have many things that could be adapted/changed. We know that other organizations doing good work to address this, and we wish we were doing more.

As an agricultural state, we are both responsible for and very sensitive to pollution of our ground and waterways.

RACIAL JUSTICE

There was a wide range of response to this question – from not recognizing there is a problem with racial justice HERE (“We don’t have a problem with race in the Midwest”) to feeling overwhelmed by the enormity of it.

Milligan then introduced the question for the second Indaba conversation:

In what ways can we, individually and corporately, either reform existing structures (personal, physical, organizational and liturgical) or form new structures that will help us share the eternal message in our place?

When the time allotted for the conversation ended, the Convention was called back into order by the Chair. Results of the elections were then announced.

Standing Committee:

The Reverend Wendy Abrahams (Clergy)

Ms. Margaret Tinsman (Lay)

At-Large Members, Board of Directors:

The Reverend Aaron Hudson (Clergy)

Mr. Tyler Schleicher (Lay)

The Disciplinary Board

Clergy:

The Reverend Wendy Abrahamson

The Reverend Lauren Lyon

The Rev. Anne Williams
Lay:
Ms. Cynthia Danielson
Ms. Jane Billingsley Hoffman

The Bishop congratulated those elected, and thanked all of those who ran for office. 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 5 convened at 11:25 a.m. and opened with a video report on pilgrimages undertaken during the year. Highlighted were the trip to Swaziland by a number of our diocesan young adults; a visit to our companion diocese of Nzara for their Standing Committee meeting (annual convention); a trip made by people from St. Timothy's, West Des Moines to walk the Camino de Santiago de Compostella, and a trip by Trinity Cathedral to English Cathedrals and other sites.

The Bishop called on Resolutions Committee Chair John Horn for the presentation of the Courtesy Resolutions. The following resolutions were all approved throughout the year at regular meetings of the Diocesan Board of Directors. They were commended to this 163rd Convention for affirmation. These are of three types: Retirement, Appreciation, and Memorial resolutions.

Retirement

The Rev. Margaret "Peg" Jackson

WHEREAS, The Reverend Margaret Jackson responded to God's calling to Ministry following a long career as an educator; and
WHEREAS, she was ordained to the priesthood on 15 January 2005 by The Right Reverend Alan Scarfe, subsequently serving churches in Webster City, Fort Dodge, And Emmetsburg, bringing spiritual blessings with her insightful sermons and her supportive and sincere interactions with congregation member, enriching their worship as a gentle rain nourishes the hungry crops, and continuing her ministry with special dispensation from the Bishop to delay her retirement; and

WHEREAS, she was instrumental in helping Trinity Emmetsburg establish to the Fort Dodge correctional facility in assisting men to re-enter society with the clothing they need to procure meaningful work and lifestyle; and
WHEREAS, she officially retired on 31 December 2014 from Trinity Episcopal Church, Emmetsburg;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for the healing ministry of The Reverend Margaret Jackson, and wishes this good and faithful servant a quiet and Spirit-filled retirement

The Rev. Donald R. Payer

WHEREAS, The Rev. Donald R. Payer has faithfully served the parish of St. John's by the Campus in Ames since his ordination to the Diaconate on December 19, 1995, though January 2015, and

WHEREAS, in addition Don has served as the Story County Jail Chaplain; and

WHEREAS, Don worked tirelessly to found the Matthew Twenty Five House for men released from prison; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated a deep faith in our Lord Jesus Christ throughout his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, he has been an example of a person of payer, scripture, active evangelism, and pastoral care; and

WHEREAS, Don has retired from active ministry at the age of 86;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors of the Diocese of Iowa accepts with great gratitude his retirement with joy in celebrating his long and faithful ministry to and with us; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, we extend to Don and Jan our heartfelt thanks and prayers for the future.

The Rev. Dr. Lynne Carver

WHEREAS, The Rev Dr. Lynne Carver was ordained to the priesthood in 1992 by The Rt. Rev. Frank Griswold after a distinguished career as a clinical psychologist; and

WHEREAS, she was called as Rector to St. Peter's, Bettendorf in 1999, serving that parish faithfully for sixteen years and shepherding several people through the ordination process; and

WHEREAS, she served the Diocese of Iowa in numerous roles including member and President of the Standing Committee, and was instrumental in revising and teaching policies on Safeguarding God’s Children and Safeguarding God’s People, and continues to serve the wider church as a faculty member for CREDO; and

WHEREAS, she has retired from parish ministry in order to take up grandmotherly ministry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors, on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa, gives thanks to God for the life and ministry of The Rev. Dr. Lynne Carver among us, and wishes her joyful fulfillment as she enters a new calling.

The Rev. Richard Graves

WHEREAS, The Rev. Richard Graves was ordained to the priesthood in 1979 and served in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles before being called to Iowa in 1994; and

WHEREAS, he has served as Rector of St. Mark’s, Fort Dodge, since 2007 and Church of the Good Shepherd, Webster City, since 2008; and

WHEREAS, he has served the Diocese of Iowa in several capacities, including Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee and of the Stewardship Commission, as well as Secretary of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, even in retirement he will exercise his priestly ministry at St. Paul’s, Marshalltown

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa, gives thanks to God for the life and ministry of The Rev. Richard Graves among us, and looks forward to his continuing contributions to our diocesan life

The Rev. Jean McCarthy

WHEREAS, The Reverend Jean McCarthy has served the larger church in many ways, and especially having been ordained in the Diocese of Iowa for the last 15 ears, serving as Rector of St Mark’s in Des Moines since 2001;and

WHEREAS, she has represented us as well in ecumenical circles as well as ministries of justice;

WHEREAS, she continues to share among us her gifts of teaching, liturgy, and preaching; and

WHEREAS, she has now retired from active parochial ministry;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa, gives thanks to God for this faithful servant and the sharing of her gifts; looks forward to seeing the continuing fruits of her ministry; and wishes for Jean and for Mike, her husband and companion in ministry, a rich and long life.

The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland

WHEREAS, The Reverend Mary Jane Oakland has served this diocese faithfully and well for many years, first as an active lay leader; and since 1995 as an ordained deacon and then priest; and

WHEREAS, she has served as rector of St. Paul's Marshalltown for the last nine years; and

WHEREAS, she has served in significant diocesan ministries both with the Commission on Ministry as Chair, and with our Companionship with Swaziland; and

WHEREAS, she has now retired from active parochial ministry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa, gives thanks to God for the faithful service and leadership she has provided in so many areas; looks forward with her to her continuing presence and ministry among us; and wishes her, along with her husband David, a well-deserved rest, and a long and rewarding life.

The Rev. Margaret "Peggy" Harris

WHEREAS, Deacon Peggy Harris was ordained as a vocational deacon on April 13, 1996; and WHEREAS, Peggy has a deacon's heart, and was called to walk with the refugee community,

especially the Sudanese; and

WHEREAS, Peggy worked with Lutheran Services of Iowa, Catholic Charities, and the State of Iowa Refugee Services in the welcoming and resettlement of refugees; and

WHEREAS, Peggy educated herself in the procedures of resettlement and worked tirelessly to provide dignity and opportunity for the refugees under her care, including her learning Arabic and traveling in Sudan, and educating the Diocese of Iowa about Sudan; and

WHEREAS, Peggy resettled some of the Lost Boys of the Sudan, the Dinka Sudanese Community, and the Darfur People's Community, and was known among them with their title of respect as "Mama"; and
WHEREAS, Peggy and the people of St. Andrew's Church converted their preschool building into the Darfur People's Center, including a Muslim Prayer space, and provided a place for gathering and prayer of the Christian Dinka community at St. Andrew's; and
WHEREAS, Peggy has been a tireless advocate for the refugee population and has given her heart and her diaconal ministry to them for these many years, and resettled many nationalities, recruited and energized many volunteers in her ministry, and will be deeply missed in this ministry; and
WHEREAS, we have mourned with her the loss of her husband of over 50 years, John "Pete" Harris; and
WHEREAS, Peggy and her cat McCloud will be moving in October to Florida to be near her daughter Kathy, and to enjoy the sunshine and retirement;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, this 163rd Annual Diocesan Convention extend our thanks and appreciation for Peggy 's service, and our prayers for her retirement.\

Appreciation

The Rev. Judith Crossett, Deacon, Summer Ministry School & Retreat Director

WHEREAS, Judith Crossett said "Yes" when the Bishop asked her to become the coordinator of the Diocesan Summer Ministry School & Retreat in 2010; and
WHEREAS, Judith, having a great love of choral music and a call to share the experience of a youth choir. with churches that may b too small to have their own choir, saw the Summer Ministry School & Retreat as a good venue to provide that opportunity; and
WHEREAS, Judith used her background as an educator and deacon to recruit, and in some cases cajole, a top-notch faculty in a suitably broad range of topics each summer; and
WHEREAS, the many, many details associated with coordinating this event and the six worship services that occur during the weekend were ably handled by Judith for six years; and

WHEREAS, Judith's inability to be in more than one place at the same time has been an increasing frustration; due to the arrival of a grandson, the many other ministries of service she is called to, and the exigencies of having a "day job." THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors, the many folks whose lives have been improved by their participation in the Summer Ministry School & Retreat in the last six years, and this 163rd Annual Diocesan Convention extends our thanks and appreciation for Judith's service, and our prayers for whatever new ministry to which God calls her upon retirement as the Coordinator of the Diocese of Iowa's Summer Ministry School & Retreat after 2015.

The Episcopal Diocesan Chaplains to the Universities of Iowa, Northern Iowa, and Iowa State

WHEREAS, the Diocese of Iowa has entered into new forms of ministry with and among young adults, thus bringing to an end our formal diocesan chaplaincies on our University Campuses; and

WHEREAS, the ministries of three talented and dedicated chaplains are now changing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Directors on behalf of the Diocese of Iowa extends our gratitude to The Reverends Maureen Doherty and Raisin Horn, and to Mr. James Tener, for their faithful and fruitful work on the campuses of the University of Northern Iowa, The University of Iowa, and Iowa State University; recognizes their hard work, and their positive engagement with many students in the course of their ministries; and wishes them Godspeed, and God's blessings in their future endeavors.

The Rev. J. Brian McVey

WHEREAS, The Reverend J. Brian McVey has served this diocese as an active lay leader at St. Timothy's in West Des Moines; and

WHEREAS, he has served St. Alban's, Davenport first as priest-in-charge and then as Rector, since 2006, encouraging its acquisition of Jubilee Center Status; and has served the Diocese on the Investment Committee and until his resignation, as a member of the Diocesan Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, he has been one of the most prominent leaders in the diocesan involvement in ministry around issues of Human Trafficking, receiving recognition both as a Fellow of the Episcopal Church Foundation, and with an

invitation from the Archbishop of Canterbury to serve on a larger Ecumenical task force for this purpose; and
WHEREAS, he has now accepted a call to serve as Rector of the Church of the Advent in Nashville in the Diocese of Tennessee;
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Diocese of Iowa extends its gratitude to Brian for his service in congregations and with and for the Diocese of Iowa; and that we wish him and Karen, along with their children a long and fruitful ministry with the congregation of the Church of the Advent.

Memorial Resolutions

The Rev. K. Calvin Hedelson

WHEREAS, The Rev. K. Calvin “Cal” Hedelson entered into eternal rest on December 6, 2014 at the age of 91; and
WHEREAS, Father Cal was ordained in Nebraska in 1965, and came to Iowa to serve St. John’s Church, Shenandoah, Trinity Church, Emmetsburg, and St. Thomas’ Church, Algona; and
WHEREAS, he retired back to Nebraska and later Wyoming;
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa give thanks to God for the life and ministry of The Rev. Cal Hedelson, and extend its sympathy to his children, Glen, Steve, Jan, and Julie and their families for the life, witness, and faith of this faithful servant.

The Rev. Canon Robert E. Holzhammer

WHEREAS, The Reverend Canon Robert E. Holzhammer has passed this life, having the testimony of a good conscience; in communion of the Catholic Church; I confidence of a certain faith; in the comfort of a reasonable, religious and holy hope; in favor with God and in perfect charity with the world,” (BCP) and
WHEREAS, he served as Vicar of St. Matthew’s by the Bridge in Iowa Falls and Good Shepherd in Webster City, in the years immediately after Ordination and subsequently as Rector of St. John’s, Dubuque and Trinity, Iowa City were in retirement he served as Canon Holzhammer Rector Emeritus, and as a supply priest mainly at St. James’ Church in Independence, and

WHEREAS, Canon Holzhammer also served in the councils of the Diocese in various capacities including Deputy to General Convention, and with the national church, and as colleague to many, and

WHEREAS, Canon Holzhammer was perhaps the most audible presence of this Church (or any other) in Iowa as he became “the voice of the Hawkeyes,” and

WHEREAS, Canon Holzhammer also served his Lord as a husband to his spouse, Meredith (who preceded him death), father to Tina and David their children, grandfather, brother, son;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this body offers its thanks and praise to God for the life and ministry of this God’s loyal servant; shares with his family their joy that Robert lived well and long and did “without suffering or reproach: (BCP); and commends him to God, (also BCP

- *“Into paradise may the angels lead you,*
- *at your coming may the martyrs receive you*
- *and bring you into the holy city Jerusalem.*
- *May the choirs of angels welcome you,*
- *and with Lazarus who once was poor*
- *may you have peace everlasting.”*

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided David and Tina and that the Bishop be authorized to appoint a special “correspondent delegate” to replace Canon Holzhammer in the diocesan convention, equipped with a radio, to report from time to time to the convention during its sundry lulls, scores of Hawkeye football games when the convention falls on a game day.

Margaret Elaine Hansen

WHEREAS, Margaret Elaine Hansen was born and raised in Des Moines and lived in Burlington after marrying her best friend Bob, in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Margaret served her community in many capacities, including employment at the Burlington Hawk Eye, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Des Moines County, and Board President of the Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, she was a prominent and faithful member of Christ Episcopal Church, a passionate advocate for outreach, and an integral part of the Pastoral Care Team as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor; and

WHEREAS, she brought joy, warmth, and enthusiasm to the Diocese of Iowa, serving on the Board of Directors, the Commission on Ministry, and the One World One Church Commission, including traveling to our companion Diocese of Swaziland; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for the faithful ministry of Margaret Hansen among us, and sends its deepest condolences to Bob; their children and spouses, Todd and Diane, Jennifer and Tory; and their grandchildren Grant, Harper, Jacob and Elizabeth.

John Horn moved to affirm the resolutions approved by the Board of Directors.

The following additional Courtesy Resolutions were moved by the Resolutions Committee and adopted by acclamation.

The Reverend Mary Christopher

WHEREAS, The Reverend Mary Christopher was born in New York city, an unlikely place for a future Iowan, and managed to carry the Big Apple with her once she came to the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, she came to this Diocese in 1997 as Rector of St. Thomas Sioux City, serving there for a number of years; and

WHEREAS she has faithfully served as a priest in Residence at St. Michael, Mount Pleasant, since 2015, bringing a monastic spirit and presbyteral presence to southeast Iowa; and

WHEREAS, she has decided that the time has come to fully retire after nearly twenty years, among us;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that this 163rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev. Mary Christopher, and wishes this good and faithful servant a relaxing and well-earned retirement.

The Reverend Dr. Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook

WHEREAS, through various talks and workshops, this Convention we learned about new perspectives on being welcoming with radical hospitality, what it takes to be a “messy” church, third places as sacred spaces and, above all, the church’s role in the sustaining of hope, and

WHEREAS being over 55 should NOT be the end of ministry usefulness, we found that ministry may take unexpected forms and bring us to take out the things that no longer speak to our true selves, because we recognize that our time is limited that there is still much we wish to do, and

WHEREAS Iowa Episcopalians have been exploring the New Reformation in various aspects in our parishes, the crystallizing of these ministry activities in easy-to-understand bullet points give us encouragement to press on further for the Lord,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that this 163rd Annual Convention for the Diocese of Iowa gives heartfelt thanks and blessings to God for the prophetic ministry of the Reverend Dr. Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook.

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul

WEREAS the Cathedral Church of St. Paul provided a beautiful Evensong and a wonderful setting for the Diocesan Convention Eucharist; and

WHEREAS a Diocesan Choir was created and with few rehearsals produced such glorious music as was heard this day;

THEREFORE be it resolved that this 163rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Iowa offers its hearty thanks to the Cathedral Church of St. Paul and Dean Troy Beecham for their hospitality to the Convention, and prays for God's blessings upon all their endeavors.

Bishop Scarfe then announced the following appointments:

Diocesan Pension Fund Treasurer

Ms. Anne Wagner, Diocese of Iowa

Editor of IOWA CONNECTIONS

Mr. David Mable, Diocese of Iowa

Altar Guild Directress

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

Companion Dioceses Coordinators:

Diocese of Brechin

Mr. Jim Conger, New Song, Coralville

Diocese of Swaziland

Ms. Cheryl Valenta, Christ, Cedar Rapids

Diocese of Nzara

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

Disaster Relief Coordinator

Mr. Jerry Davenport, Christ Church, Cedar Rapids

Ecumenical Officer

The Rev. Jean McCarthy, The Diocese of Iowa

Global Goals

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

eSeminary Director

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

Global Missioner

The Rev. Suzanne Peterson, Trinity, Waterloo

Jubilee Officer

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

Global Goals Coordinator

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

United Thank Offering Coordinator

Ms. Marcia Powell, Church of the Saviour, Clermont

Commission on Ministry

Chair Ms. Jeannie Sims (St. John's Church, Dubuque)

Term Expiring 2016

Mr. Cody Barker (Grace Church, Cedar Rapids)

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

The Rev. Stacey Gerhart (Calvary Church, Sioux City) (one-year term)

The Rev. Jennifer Masada (New Song Church, Coralville) (one-year term)

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

Ms. Jeannie Sims (St. John's Church, Dubuque)

Term Expiring 2017

Ms. Julianne Crosmer (Trinity Church, Iowa City)

The Rev. James Griesheimer (Grace Church, Decorah)

Mr. Keith Hoffman (Trinity Cathedral, Davenport)

The Rev. Aaron Hudson (St. Paul's Church, Council Bluffs)

Dr. David Smith (Grace Church, Decorah)

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

Term Expiring 2018

The Rev. Al Aiton (St. John's by the Campus, Ames)

The Rev. Cathi Bencken (Trinity Church, Muscatine)

Ms. Jenna Cornick (St. John's Church, Mason City)

The Rev. Judith Crossett (Trinity Church, Iowa City)

Ms. Kristina Kofoot (St. Luke's Church, Cedar Falls)

Mr. Andrew Peterson (Trinity Cathedral, Davenport)

Ex officio

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe (Diocese of Iowa, Des Moines)

Ms. Ellen Bruckner (Diocesan Staff)

Professional Development Leave Committee

Terms Expiring 2016:

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

Terms Expiring 2017:

Ms. Jeannie Sims, St. John's, Dubuque

Terms Expiring 2018

**Dr. Sigmund (Sig) Barber (St. Paul's Church, Grinnell)
The Rev. Canon Kathleen Milligan (St. John's Church, Dubuque)**

Diocesan Representative to Iowa Religious Media Services Board:

The Rev. Jeanie Smith, St. Timothy's Church, West Des Moines

Diocesan Representative to Province VI Council

Three-year term beginning 2016

Ms. Shelby Benitz (St. John's Church, Mason City)

Bishop Scarfe then asked for a resolution to allow him to make additional appointments, including Convention Committees. The motion was made by John Horn, seconded and approved. Bishop Scarfe also asked for a motion to print the minutes and reports of the 163rd Convention along with the Constitution and Canons. The motion was made by John Horn, seconded and adopted.

The dates of the 164th Convention of the Diocese were announced for October 28 and 29th, 2016 at the Marriott Hotel in Des Moines. Announcements were given, and delegates were reminded that the Convention would properly adjourn following the Convention Eucharist. It was recessed for lunch.

Following the procession of Banners, the Convention Eucharist began at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul. Right before the Offertory, the Reverend Cn. Kathleen Milligan gave the summary of the second Indaba Conversation.

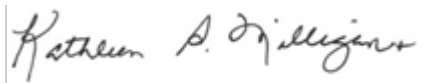
Indaba Conversation 2

We need resources and guidance about ways to have intentional conversation about our structures and how ministry is shared by all. We recognize the

Importance of empowering laity and providing formation opportunities for all ages. We need to examine our power structures. Some feel that our organizational structure limits our ability to develop initiatives on a local level. We want to examine our spaces and explore ways of getting out of the building and into the community – meeting people where they are and creatively ministering out in the world. We need to look at how we use our buildings and potentially open them to other uses and consider renovation opportunities. How do we do something creative in a space that has limitations? We have concerns about altering our church spaces – expense, historical restrictions, attachment to the building as a place you go for traditional prayer, etc. We want changes to have purpose and reflect new realities. We wonder what needs to die in order to allow for new life. We have some fear of what we might be asked to relinquish and in giving things up, we have concerns about how we stay grounded in our Episcopal identity. We recognize the power and Importance of advertising and social media and wonder how we can best utilize them as tools for evangelism. How do we create structures that foster the building of relationships – in community, interfaith, global, or person to person? We experience tension because of our divided focus between bringing in new people and ministering to the people who are already here. We know we need to make new disciples not just new members.

At the conclusion of a glorious celebration of the Eucharist, Bishop Scarfe called on the Reverend Jean McCarthy for a report from Dispatch of Business. She reported that that business of the 163rd Convention as set forth in the Agenda adopted in the first Plenary Session had been completed. The Convention was adjourned with the blessing.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Alan Scarfe'.

The Rt. Reverend Alan Scarfe
Bishop and President

Necrology November 2014-October 2015

We remember all who have died in the peace of Christ.

Ankeny, St. Anne's

LaVaughn Skinner

Bettendorf, St. Peter's

Nicholas Czubara
Mary McBride
Irwin Rietz

Burlington, Christ Church

Brother Joseph Francis
Margaret Hansen
Astrid Holoubek
Clifford Wilson

Cedar Falls, St. Luke's

George Wallace Archer
Elner L. Edsill
Stephen Roy Forsythe
Cindy Sanders
Michael Stitchman

Cedar Rapids, Christ

Charles Cannon
Nancy McHugh
Corinne (Connie) Yaw

Cedar Rapids, Grace

Darlene Eckley
Patricia (Paddy) Thorpe
John Wiley

Clinton, Christ

Robert Leedham
Lila Mae Masse
Paul Ridgeway

Council Bluffs, St. Paul's

Anthony Charles Nanfito

Davenport, St. Alban's

Eli McDermand
Jacquelyn McDermand
Sidney Rathburn

Davenport, Trinity Cathedral

Elinor M. Bradley
Theodore D. Curtis
David B. Easson

Mary Lee Gehrmann
The Rev. Benjamin Hunter
Dorothy A. Horton
Jane Davenport Liddy
Catherine A. Waterman
Hortense "Tentie" West

Des Moines, Cathedral Church of St. Paul

Bill Garten
Frank Gilliland
Maxine Graham
Barbara James
Bob Matthews
Clark A. Miller
Keith Bartlett Merrill, Jr. (Skip)
Bonnie Percival

Des Moines, St. Andrew's

Nancy Jane Caldbeck Bohemann
Jim Caldbeck
Gary Hall

Des Moines, St. Luke's

Ian Cameron Baker
Russell Laird
Frances McCorkle

Des Moines, St. Mark's

LaMona Coy
Minette Jones
Betty Kennedy

Dubuque, St. John's

Jill Heinz Barrett
Larry J. Hurst
John M. McLaughlin, Jr.
Elizabeth Jorgenson Schmitt

Durant, St. Paul's

LeRoy Steffen

Fort Madison, St. Luke's

AnnaMary Goosey Dillavou

Glenwood, St. John's

Eugene Glynn
Kay Jorgenson
Jean Pearson

Grinnell, St. Paul's

Nadine Bateman
Marie Durr
Ethel Howig

Iowa City, Trinity

Grace Fitzgerald
Patricia Ball Geissel
Robert Hogg
The Rev. Cn. Robert Holzhammer
Linda Molleur
Richard Oberfell

Keokuk, St. John's

Dwaine Hoffman

Maquoketa, St. Mark's

D. Mary Arterberry
Helen Feeney
James Summers

Marshalltown, St. Paul's

Thomas Burnell Colbert
Susan Kay (Fensterbusch) Thomas

Mt. Pleasant, St. Michael's

Paul Ford
Donna Gray

Muscatine, Trinity

Connie L. Armstrong
Louella Arlene Piercey Haller
Vern Richard Hanft
Barbara L. MacCartney Duval
Joan McKee Phillips
Antoinette Ruth Rogers
Rev. Don Sondrol
John Clay Stevens

Newton, St. Stephen's

Mary Freeman
Ron Trotter

Orange City, Church of the Savior

Jane Josselyn
Ragnar Skarsaune

Ottumwa, Trinity

Pauline Bernard
Jean Modrell

Charles Pedrick
Shirley Walker
James Yeager

Perry, St. Martin's

Nelly Hedges

Shenandoah, St. John's

John Benjamin

Sioux City, Calvary

Pamela Sharp

Sioux City, St. Paul's Indian Mission

Betty Campbell
Leona Faye Davis
Robert Dean Moyer

Sioux City, St. Thomas'

George Thorpe Clark
Clifford Peters
Ben Joel Trudeau
James Varvais
Bert Welch

Spirit Lake, St. Alban's

James W. Cravens
Michael S. Kunath
Jeffrey L. Wasson

Storm Lake, All Saints'

Emily Jackson
Mark Snedeker

Waverly, St. Andrew's

Evelyn Rathe
Margaret Schafer
Andrew Wharram
Maud Wickham

West Des Moines, St. Timothy's

Patricia Rae & Henry Albright
Harry Stanton Barrows
Luther H. Dooley
Rachel C. Hitchman
Harrington Kerfoot Mason
David Barry Moranville
Carl Bayard Staplin
Maxine L. Wolfe

***Bishop's Address to the 163rd Annual Iowa Diocesan Convention,
October 23, 2015***

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe

Reformation is a natural process of the life of the Church. It is evidence that the Spirit of God works restlessly among us refusing to give us up to the forces of entropy and apathy that would otherwise claim us. Reformation is an act of God, and it is also an act that God invites us to share in. The information to be reformed often comes through our own sense of agitation that we are better than this, and that the gifts of new life and grace deserves our better efforts. "New Structures for an Eternal Message" is a call to our own Reformation. And it is a call like all true reforms that has not come upon us overnight. In fact, if you have been paying attention, it has been the essence of each successive Convention as we have sought to be God's People for a Time like this.

Last year, we heard the prophetic cry of Jack Jezreel urging us to be a fifty-fifty people – ones who do not expect others to come to us even to receive the benefits of our good works. He challenged us to go where the need for Christ is, and immerse ourselves in the lives of others, returning to the sanctuary for our inner sustenance and support, and for new guidance that God would bring to us through word and sacrament; for God, as we pray in Eucharistic Prayer C, to "open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world around about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal". That means walking the streets with your neighbors as the churches in the North Cedar Valley did for several weeks marking with prayer and protest, through what they called The Jericho March, the very places and homes where young people had been gunned down in Waterloo in recent times. It means raising twelve thousand dollars in mere weeks in response to the war spilling over into our companion Diocese and causing people to flee to the Cathedral compound and then into the bush. It means getting prepared to host as many Syrian refugees as our government has the courage and compassion to invite. And it means setting off to visit our own neighbors who are homeless and camped out on the river bank of Des Moines.

Over the past two years we have shifted attention to the missing generation of young adults, and sought new ways of developing more broadly and receiving their leadership, as well as bringing the Gospel of Jesus into unique settings like the virtual community called The Well or the new Eucharistic setting at Fox Brewing Pub in West Des Moines. Years before that I had spoken of reshaping our liturgical spaces, daring to remove our pews and our sitting in rows, - dangerous talk. We have had the chance to listen to those who have committed themselves to such change like Richard Giles at a previous Convention and we have considered "changing the conversation" with Anthony Robinson or receiving a vision of a more mission Agile Church as in Dwight Zscheile's visit to the Diocese this year for Baptismal Living Day. All this began with reading together Parker Palmer's urge to reclaim our public space for the common good as God's light and enlightened ones, as the early church would call all the baptized.

Yes, this talk of reformation has been going on for years, and this year is no exception with the message of our keynote speaker, Sheryl Kujawa Holbrook, who adds to our perspective the importance of creating the sacred in third spaces – beyond home and work, and not exclusively in church - and in inspiring us to see that God is never finished with us even as we fall upward, as Richard Rohr would put it, into our latter years.

Does talk alone bring about reformation? Of course not, even Jesus had to underline his parables and teaching with the phrase “let the one who has ears hear”. He took nothing for granted. Good communication is not communication until the message is heard and acted on. What has to grow to bring about reform, is an absolute disgust with the status quo; an overwhelming yearning for something different. – and that can take all kinds of forms – as we can see from this Presidential campaign. Populist movements arise from deep distress, and I thank God that human beings are so made that we find our limits and say “enough is enough”. We will one day, I pray, say that about the inability and unwillingness to embrace more sensible gun safety; we will say it about mass incarceration which disproportionately impacts young male African Americans, and we will say it about our warring madness before it turns the entire world into one long line of refugees. Will we however begin to say “enough is enough” about a Church that is its own silent majority and whose silence – to use a phrase from the title of John Stott’s small but powerful book on evangelism – is a “Guilty Silence”, for we have an eternal message of Good News to tell, and more often than not we get in our own way in the telling. Where will we, each of us, find our place in God’s story and give voice where it is needed?

At first, I confess as I considered what was meant by new structures for an eternal message, I focused on the “new structures” phrase of our diocesan theme for the year. And only later did I read the phrase “an Eternal Message”. Only as we understand what the eternal message is that God has given us can we be motivated to develop new structures. Only as with the prophet Jeremiah the word of God burns within us will we find the strength and courage to speak. It is not easy, but the message is eternal. We believe that it is given in history and yet and it is eternal because it stretches consistent over time, and its source is from beyond ourselves, from the God who brings us a life story not a series of arguments through which to examine and confront the world around us, to quote Francis Spufford (whose book *Unapologetic* we have been basing our Regional teaching conversations around this year).

We have a life story to tell. We recite it liturgically from the Eucharistic Table most times we gather in worship. And we are challenged to let it live its ongoing risen life through us as we take up our baptismal call and our cross of loving our neighbor. This year’s call is to own our inheritance as people of the eternal message, to live more deeply into it and to let it re-form us in its own image.

I present reformation on three levels – beginning with ourselves. How do we let liturgy shape us? Engaging a rule of life in which prayer and worship are vital components is probably the easiest element. I want to refer to three very small ways in which this is being done among us. Twice a week, a small group in the Metro area meets at coffee shops for Morning Prayer. It is a way to support each

other in that spiritual discipline of the daily office which is available to all of us. In fact we are invited by the Prayer Book to stop for prayer at least four times a day – morning, noon, early evening and at close of the day. There is also a growing interest in the religious life as a third order, and for some, more than that. We know of the Archbishop of Canterbury's community in Lambeth, to which he has invited young people of differing spiritual backgrounds to live and explore religious life. More close to home, there are increasing sightings of similar vocations in Iowa. Two Sundays ago in Durant, I baptized three adult members of a family who had been drawn to baptism by the impression made upon them by their mother's preparation to join the Third Order of the Franciscans. A grandson too was baptized along with them. In Ankeny, a husband and wife have each been meeting one on one with two others in mutual support of one another as disciples of Jesus, using the prayer book as their model for a prayer rhythm. It is a model which I calculated could double the average Sunday attendance of the Episcopal Diocese in Iowa within ten expanding iterations, if we all entered into such discipling partnerships.

Personal openness to God's eternal message can come in many different ways. The expansion of Just Faith this year which we will soon hear about is more than an educational program. It too provokes our sense of indignation at the inequities and injustices around us; it teaches us to walk in the footsteps of those who experience life below the poverty line; and it opens our eyes to the temptation of complicity on one side as well as need on the other. At Ministries Retreat, each summer, there are often classes introducing us to expressing faith through art, or music, dance, writing and crafts. And working a shift in one of the growing numbers of parish gardens that are springing up across the Diocese is another way for some of us into this deeper life with God.

Some of our young people are choosing to use this more open ended time of their lives to give themselves to the re-formation that can come through living in community and in foreign parts. Of the group of young people you helped send to connect with their counterparts in Swaziland and Brechin last year, one has already gone back to South Africa to serve in the Episcopal Church Young Adult Service Corp; a second has gone to Massachusetts to work in an intentional community through the Episcopal Service Corp; another, a newly ordained priest, has taken up a pastoral call to the only mainstream English speaking Christian community in Beijing; a fourth person has chosen, along with others from the Iowa Diocese youth community, to serve with Americorp in this case serving as a link with the community and UNI on issues of poverty and educational retention, and yet one more has gained clearance to return for a semester to Swaziland to assist with the inauguration of their new pig farming project for which we received a UTO grant this year. Yet another is exploring a vocation to the priesthood. And everyone has heightened their passion to serve. The return of a young woman from a term with the Peace Corps in Swaziland has added a new dimension of focus on an already reforming spirit that is at work in her congregation, manifest in ministry development and feeding the hungry. When people go in service abroad or simply dare to take food and comfort to people in their community, their own reformation is not far away. You can add your own stories, and I wish you would through Iowa Share or to our new Communications Coordinator, Dave Mable. Our ability to turn our gaze away from ourselves has been honored by The Episcopal

Church this year through grants. Iowa received the main Jubilee Development Grant this year going toward the work being undertaken by St Andrew's Des Moines for their efforts to bring Muslim Darfurian and Christian Dinka families together for English as Second Language classes. Along with this and the UTO grant I referred to earlier, we also received a Roanridge grant for the exploration on faith and community among disenfranchised young people in our rural areas, and St Paul's Indian Mission received a New Community Initiative grant for its work with their own Indigenous children in Sioux City.

This is a year in which we invite each other to create a new structure to our day to day life. Somethings may have to be abandoned to make room. For, it is true that we all live full lives already, but it is our yearning for a closer connection with God that can lead us to say enough is enough with our sense of God's remoteness to us and to our neighbor, and can provide the impetus to seek more of God, for us and for our neighbor, that in turn can direct our ability to make room for something different, in the words from Philipians – to empty self and become servants.

The second major arena for reformation that I want to share is to be found within our communal lives; how we carry and present ourselves as Church. Jesus talked about a Temple that had to be destroyed so that God's new Temple, which was to be Christ's body, could be built. The huge shift that we need is first to see ourselves as the body of Christ, the Church, and not simply the buildings we have inherited. Now, don't get me wrong, it is a blessing to have a roof over our heads for worship. And I delight with the people of Church of the Savior Clermont that I don't have to stop at the corner gas station to make myself comfortable before the service, and that I cannot see my breath any more as I preside at the Eucharist. We also need the quiet sense of other that our worship spaces can offer. There we can bring others in from the cold, put them up for the night, and we can enjoy meals, dances and recreation together, alongside our prayers. Let us be honest, how many of you who have lived in the same house for many years, have never done any alterations or repainted? Or because of changing needs have decided to move? What about when you got the new sofa, or removed the sofa altogether for a new approach to furnishings? What about media centers and computers? Has anyone not "done" their kitchen lately?

Consider these words from Haggai: "You have looked for much, and lo, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away, says the Lord. Why? Because my house lies in ruins while you run off to your own homes". The Ministry Development Teams held a retreat focused on liturgical reform and the shape and unspoken stories of our sanctuaries. Many years ago I suggested that we have a few new interior design projects for our liturgical space, and I wonder what you would think if we raised the funding together to carry out such projects as part of a Capital Campaign. If we are not as crowded as we used to be, we should at least enjoy the space in which we come to God, and let it speak about the eternal message we believe. That does not have to be God addressing us in straight lines in spaces that cannot be adapted for any other use. When God made God's tent among us, it was to sit among us, and it was to create a home for everyone. How can we create that feel in our places of worship? And how above all can we send the message through our sacred spaces that such a God has a home for our neighbors. Don't forget that I speak as one whose mother found a church home

late in life through the invitation to go bowling only to discover that the bowling took place down the central aisle of the nave of the Church. The pews of course had been removed, and so the flexibility to play games was present. It did not take long for someone to invite her to the afternoon prayer group as well.

I will leave Sheryl to continue to speak to us this evening about other ways our creation of sacred space beyond our buildings can be instruments of reformation.

The third arena is the widest and wildest one of all – our environment, “this fragile earth, our island home”. More and more of us are getting out and allowing climate change and more importantly our response to it to re-form us. The list of our ecologists is growing – and we hope in the coming year to see regional task groups of creation stewards formed under Cathleen Bascom’s leadership – one of our new Alleluia Fund initiatives for 2015. The Faith and Grace Garden in St Timothy’s, and the garden at St Thomas, Sioux City have led the way over the years, and are now being joined by similar projects – at St Luke’s in Cedar Falls, or St Andrew’s Des Moines, for example. Next year, I am considering for the Diocesan Lenten Book Study that we read the Papal Encyclical *Laudato Si*. It affirms not only our need to be gentler on the earth but also the imperative of reforming the imbalance of economic disparity whereby those of us who use up most of the world’s resources live in comfort while those who use them up the least suffer the most under the destruction of our eco-system. Only with an intentional bearing of our cross in limiting our use of resources can we begin to address this. And will such action be our own road to reformation? Our own connection with the people in Swaziland and in South Sudan makes this an even closer reality. I want to commend you for the enormous generosity you show as a people across the Diocese for our companion dioceses. Recently, as I mentioned you raised more than \$ 12,000 for the people of Nzara for emergency food as the civil war came to that region. In one congregation alone, if I am to read their wall bulletin correctly raised \$55,000 for all purposes for Nzara this year, exceeding their Stewardship Share to the Diocese of Iowa. This is reformation.

None of us know where reformation will take us. It comes from such volatile elements as compassion, and outrage at injustice, or passion for the things of grace we may be forgetting, or for the people of grace we are forgetting, and as such it is not a manageable phenomenon. It is messy church at its best. And yet it is by the fruit of increased love that it will be measured and known.

Finally some new structures are essential to bring an Eternal Message to new people – new at least to us. Recently the Board approved funds to be put aside for a Hispanic outreach ministry. We are in conversation with Edmundo Desueza who I have invited to come and be a missionary among us for the next two years. He is known to our clergy through an excellent retreat he shared with his theologian/writing partner Judith Jones from Waverly. Edmundo will seek to develop a Hispanic congregation – even if it is in his living room – and to take time to coach others of us in Hispanic ministry. We have thought about this for some time, as some of you will remember Fr Reyes’ keynote speech at Convention several years ago. Some of you may also remember my story of driving up the I-35 after the 2013 Convention when we held the bold Indaba about Young Adults. Suddenly a voice in my head said – “so how about the old folks?” I am glad to announce that an Older Adult Ministry Development Team is being formed

coordinated by Warren Frelund, also seeded by an Alleluia Fund grant this year, and Warren will be addressing Convention tomorrow.

New structures are sometimes a necessity, and we find this to be the case as we look at congregational transitions. I am delighted that Steve Godfrey was willing to step into the position of missionary for transitions and congregational development. Many congregations are finding the traditional full time position of Rector difficult to sustain economically, and have begun to enter into three quarter or half time ministry agreements with clergy. Fortunately the Commission on Ministry has been seeing an increased number of vocations that are bi-vocational in nature. Part time clergy leadership requires a great reform in how we see congregational leadership. It is a question being grappled with it at every level of the Church including our Seminaries. Again we find support and inspiration from our companion dioceses. This summer Canons Kirilee Reid of Brechin and Charles Kunene of Swaziland joined with my Advisory Group on Formation to share needs and ideas. We found things from each other's systems that could be of mutual help. One thing that became clear for us in Iowa was that we need a more uniform system for formation among all of the baptized that can act as a foundation for all other more specialized formation pieces. As a framework for this, we are connecting the four major Diocesan formation units that have evolved over time – summer ministry retreat; the pre-convention workshops; the baptismal living day, and the new to last year epiphany conversations - as a single movement for formation under the banner of Ministry School and Retreat. Each event will take a seasonal name and be seen as connected entry points for anyone to begin or continue formation. It is hoped that in between each gathering, we will develop primarily through E-Seminary a series of educational units which over three years will provide building blocks for a comprehensive foundation in Christian formation.

It is another new structure of a different nature but of equal potential for reformation. I am also glad to see that a new Ministry Development Team is being formed for Trinity Emmetsburg. MDTs are potentially great tools for leadership in all configurations of congregations – alongside, ministering with, fulltime and part-time, stipended and non-stipended, clergy.

This year, the Board of Directors accepted the resolution by the Stewardship Commission to undertake a feasibility study towards the development of a Capital Campaign. It has been thirty years since we held such an endeavor. I am serious about a "New Liturgical Structures Fund, and also about matching the Revolving Fund with a new Endowment that can provide ongoing ministry grants to assist congregations in their leadership development. I would hope too that a portion of our giving would create an ongoing endowment for our companion dioceses.

Re-formation sometimes requires stepping back. This summer I was happy to see that Julianne Allaway was able to take a long deserved sabbatical – as I say, after more than 25 years in diocesan ministry it was way overdue. She brought back a journal for each of us on staff, a gift of open space saying that we do not have to keep on doing things the way we have always done them, and that sometime less is better than more. There is nowhere I know where that is a difficult message to grasp than in the Diocesan Office. This year we managed to bring most staff ministry into single focus through David Mable's addition as Communications' Coordinator, which has helped Lydia and Lacey serve their constituents and

respective Ministry Development Teams more singularly as Young Adult and Youth Missioners. Steve's expansion of the Transitions Officer work to include congregational development along with Ellen Bruckner has brought assistance to me directly that has been enormously helpful. Administratively, however, Anne, Beth and John are still wondering what "open space" looks like. It is important that we continue to work at finding that balance. Recently we have been missing one of our faithful volunteers, Jean Rowland, who has been recovering from a serious car accident. Others have stepped into the breach for which we are very grateful. This is David's first Convention and we have him to thank for the videos. We are also grateful to God that John is here with us for his second Convention as Coordinator after a serious life event in May. Will you please join me in showing appreciation for this wonderful community of servants.

Fill our days as we like with activity, it is still true that God works more often than not in the down times. For example, I literally wrote this address through the night. It is in the down time that we can recall or hear as new what The Spirit is saying to the Church. What ideas for new structures can we envision? And what compelling urgency of the needs of our neighbors and God's yearning love for them will determine such ideas?

Will we ever have new structures where the lines of divide between our still too often isolated ministries collapse, and we can reach out to one another for the mutual support and motivation we need? Clergy take a lead in this as we seek each other out – for deacons' day, or the new mentoring group for clergy in transitions, or by joining the upcoming retreat for priests self-organized for Advent, or creating regional clusters of mutual bible study and prayer. Can we seek new structures that remind us that Christian leadership is broad based – that all, ordained and non-ordained, come from the same baptismal source of new life and enlightened vision? So, all of us as the baptized work as part of one team and as such we create a bigger picture because we all provide insight into mission of God. It also begins here and now in this now growingly familiar new structure of Indaba as we listen to each other through Indaba and let God speak. We will see that we are all of common cause, and that cause is how God has come among us in Jesus and invites us to follow Him. He travels among the least of us, uplifts the neglected and tells all of us that our righteousness does not match up. How then is our hope sustained? Sheryl asks us. What new structures offer that?

Let me encourage us all to boldness by turning one more time to ideas in Unapologetic and the author I have used for teaching conversation this year. He writes how Jesus invites us to be less careful because we have nothing to lose. We cannot work at our own righteousness. We all have a tendency to muck things up. Nor should we be afraid or shocked that life is demanding and can be cruel. God in Jesus has already embraced the worst that we can throw at each other.

Nevertheless God in Jesus focuses God's shining love on us, and says from the emptiness of a cross and tomb "more things can be mended than you can know".

Missionary Jim Elliott, who was killed by those he had come to love through Christ in Papua New Guinea, said "We are no fools, who lose what we cannot keep, to gain what we cannot lose". This is the hope that sustains change; that spurs the daring of building new structures for an eternal message – the one that starts out:

“God so loved the world, that God gave...” You know how the rest goes!

*Sermon at Diocesan Convention,
Cathedral Church of St Paul, Des Moines,
24 October 2015
Alan Scarfe, Bishop of Iowa*

*(Readings for James of Jerusalem –
Acts 15: 1-22; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Matthew 13: 54-58)*

We are all familiar with the phrase “you can choose your friends, but you cannot choose your relatives”. I have often tried to apply this to understanding the fierceness of church conflicts, and to accept that when you break into domestic disputes, you as the mediator often find yourself turned on by both parties!

The story of Jesus’ younger brother, James, sneaks up on the Church. Little prepares us for his prominent role in the Council of Jerusalem in Acts of the Apostles. We read of him among his three brothers and his sisters during the scene in the today’s Gospel. Clearly at that time, he was not in the inner circles with Jesus but at the receiving end of his apparent rejection or denial of his family, describing his true family to be made up of those who “do His heavenly Father’s will” (as though his mother Mary had not!)

And yet here we find James, maybe fifteen to twenty years later, sitting with authority within the Church, laying out the mediating format of “new structures for an eternal message”, as the Church wrestled with the arrival of the Gentiles into their midst. He has singular authority, for we read of him being able to say “I have reached the decision”, and that was that.

James is tracked historically from that time as we come across a rare reference to the Christian Church in Josephus who reports of James’, the brother of Jesus, death by stoning.

Of course if we interviewed James today, we have only one line of questioning – “So – tell us what Jesus like as an older brother was?” And whatever other inconsequential inquiries our inquiring minds might want to know. The primary question ought perhaps to have been – tell us how and when did you first realize who your brother was, and what brought you to follow Him?

Paul gives us the answer – “when He appeared to me after the resurrection” One would hope that would do it for all of us. It certainly did also for Paul! The learning had to follow the encounter. No doubt there were years of reflection, playing statements and behavior in one’s mind, trying to put things together. Paul too had to do the same, and so do we. We discover that Jesus is the Eternal message, and James came to that conclusion without denigrating any other faith tradition. His respect for his faith of origin was in his mediating council.

Our formation, of which we have talked a lot today, is about letting this message shape us. We give it time to become reflective in our character and behavior; letting it set new perspectives and priorities of what is important

and significant in the way we live life and in the world we live in. When we find ourselves question the budget of the Diocese as being out of balance because of the weight towards ministry with and among youth and younger adults, I wonder if we older adults are forgetting the incredible potential of formation as Jesus' eternal message imprinting itself on the open minds and hearts of our young people. I don't know about you but God has only a small portion of potential room for change in my personality and behavior. As we grow on older we fill up with ideas and conclusion that we can't break out of, and it is harder to take in what Jesus might be pressing upon us. The younger generations are still forming their opinions, and maybe we should be putting greater resources towards bringing them into the presence of the teaching and life of Jesus who can shape them and guide them in their life directing questions. We should be proud as a Diocese for our priorities, as we think of how God's Spirit given to all of us at our baptism can shape and form new lives ready to listen to what Jesus has to bring to them rather than be at the mercy of society's lead.

As James discovered, so do we that Jesus is risen and that means that He is not only a historic figure who has left behind a handful of biographies. He IS, and thus is able to be present among those in whom His Spirit resides, and that motley crew of imperfections includes each and every one of us. For the early Church, as you read Acts chapter 15, God was no stranger. They were not shy to see God at work among them. There's not much "I" language in the speeches. They were as astonished as anyone at where this Jesus story spread, and among whom the Spirit kept appearing. Peter as he told his story of falling asleep on the roof top in Joppa and having the dream of God bringing a plate of creepy crawlers before him and ordering him to eat, like some scene out of the TV show Survivor, was a stunned at God's command. He initially thought it was a test of his orthodoxy and piously refused; but God then slammed him with "What I have cleansed let no one call unclean!" Fortunately he woke up before he had to eat – always a good thing about dreams.

He was equally stunned however when opened by the dream to visit a Roman centurion's house, he saw the Holy Spirit fall on the group just as The Spirit had done to the disciples on the Day of Pentecost. His report was matched by Paul and Barnabas' account of going to check things out in Antioch where Gentiles were becoming believers in Jesus. They had seen God pouring out the Spirit on Gentiles there too. And no doubt Philip chimed in about his meeting with the Ethiopian eunuch on the road, who was reading about the Suffering Servant in Isaiah and asked of whom the author spoke. Philp was able to speak to him about Jesus and the man believed, was baptized and the Spirit came upon him too. This was a eunuch – a blemished man, disqualified by the law of Moses.

The truth is that you don't make this stuff up. They were reporting all that God had done. How God had given the Spirit; how God forgave sins; how God made no distinction between peoples; how God was saving through unconditional love which we know as grace. Paul would understand himself eventually by being able to say – "I am who I am by the grace of God". It is

God's love that shapes us, and our formation aims to lead us to that fullness. Now I know that God's Name has been taken in vain over the centuries and we have done much violence and evil in God's and our as Church's Name. and that has made us shy of its claim and to be too ready to attribute things to God. There is a noble modesty in that.

But I am sure of two things – first there is no harm in recognizing grace in your life and being openly affirming of God in your life. That power of being loved or hearing God's declaration of love makes no distinction or creates no barrier to stop you from coming and knowing God. It is a love that covers a multitude of sins, and seeks to cast out all fear. There is no harm either I recognizing that same love shines perpetually towards your neighbors.

Second, I am sure that we always have to be discerning what new structures are needed to support and affirm the continual growing edge of the Gospel – which is nothing but the extending family of Jesus of those who seek to do the Heavenly Father's will. This is same thing that the Council of Jerusalem had to deal with and they recognized God's movement among the Gentiles.

They did however establish guard rails for the new movement. There structures included safety measures. It was a minimal condition for the new faithful. Now note for them to yield up the tenets and rituals of their faith understanding was as difficult as it is for us to accept that God is working effectively among the community churches of our day that have no historical or external accountability or connection but to themselves.

The council set up four expectations – all linked with the preservation of relationships between those of Jewish origin and those who were gentile. They were about eating together and being intimate together, and both linked with the concept of not causing the other to offend. We do not know how permanent they were intended to be, but there seemed to be a sense that eventually the rule of the inner law of love would triumph as the Spirit of Christ gets a deeper grip on the whole Church.

So what about us? As we encourage and release each other to new structures for the eternal message of God's love in Jesus Christ, what guard rails might we put down, or have we put down? Strangely as it may seem, and perhaps for some of you disappointingly, I found myself looking at our own form of four rules – or what has been called the Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral. It was created in 1888 as a way of laying down the essentials for the Anglican Church in what needs to be in place for unity within all churches to be acknowledged. As I say, I surprised myself as I circled back to our own version of James' letter. The four things I would put within that letter are: honor the given Scriptures handed down from our Hebrew heritage and in what we call the New Testament, as containing all we need to engage to know salvation; accept the ancient statements of essential faith as passed on to us in the Apostles and Nicene Creed, as documents which the Church wrested over for four centuries seeking to balance the human and divine within the person of Jesus while also recognizing that our God is one and yet known to us and revealed to us in three distinct ways whom we call Father, Son and Spirit; third, we gather around two sacraments – baptism as our entry and constant forming point into the way of Jesus Christ, and upholding that action of thanksgiving that

Jesus gave us in taking bread and wine and promising to be with us in flesh and blood whenever we participate in such Eucharist; and finally we acknowledge that there is a need for continuity of the new with the old, and a source of unity for our growing diversity, and that is offered in terms of the historic episcopate – a way of connecting all we do with the actions of those first Acts of the Apostles to whom Jesus handed over His work and ministry. Can these be guard rails for new mission? Do they provide the same connection between old and new which the Council of Jerusalem hoped would be offered in their four requirements? What structures can we build within them or along with them? I think they give us a lot of room for maneuver. Gently held and flexibly interpreted I believe the Quadrilateral remains a gift of understanding of our essentials – parameters under which the Church, to quote Augustine, can love God and do what we will.

All guard rails are temporary. They are not the driving force but a protective one.

The driving force of our mission comes from our increasing and deepening sense of grace – of the power of forgiveness – and of the growing awareness of becoming the people of the Spirit. These are the real cutting edges of mission and this is what shall overtake us in our passion for God and our yearning for people to know the great impact of God's love.

Familiarity – as perhaps hinted in the Gospel passage with Jesus family left standing at the door – can become the blunt edge of mission. We can all grow too familiar, attaching ourselves to non-essentials. Like James we need that revelation – that encounter with the Living Lord that will shock us into reality, the reality that we are not the ones in control here. We are in fact blessed as followers with a divinely given vision of a Life and a Hope in this world that cannot be snuffed out by anything or anyone. He is the One who through us seeks to build new structures – structures He might and will call His Body, His Temple. And if the walls should crumble – we will find that we as such followers remain standing – still as ever we have been – the Church, the Body of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

