

JOURNAL OF THE 81st DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The 81st Convention of the Diocese of Rochester was held November 10, 2012 at Trinity Church in Geneva, New York.

OPENING OF CONVENTION/ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

The Right Rev. Prince G. Singh welcomed guests, delegates and clergy to the 81st Convention at Trinity Church in Geneva, NY. The Secretary established a quorum was present and the Bishop called the convention to order at 8:06 a.m. on November 10, 2012.

FIRST BUSINESS SESSION

Welcome

The Bishop welcomed delegates and noted that all ordained Episcopal clergy functioning in charge of congregations by canonical residence or license with this Diocese shall have seat, voice and vote. According to ARTICLE III (c), the Chancellor, Secretary and Treasurer of the Diocese and Lay Canons also have seat, voice and vote except in the case of a vote by Orders.

Majority Vote

The Secretary established the numbers needed for a majority vote.

Appointment of a Chaplain

The Bishop appointed the Rev. Claire Wimbush as Chaplain to Convention.

Introduction of Officers

The Bishop introduced the Diocesan Treasurer, Mr. Robert Van Niel.

Reading of the Minutes of the 80th Diocesan Convention

The Bishop announced that the Committee on the Reading of the Minutes had reviewed the minutes of the 80th Diocesan Convention as posted on the website and made available in print at all Pre-convention District Meetings. He called for a motion to waive the reading of those minutes and to accept the minutes of the 80th Diocesan Convention.

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Appointment of Registrar and Assistant Registrar

The Bishop appointed Ms. Nancy Bell to serve as Registrar and Ms. Carolyn McConnell as Assistant Registrar.

Committee on Elections

The Bishop appointed the Committee on Elections: The Rev. Eric Thompson, Chief Teller; Ms. Mary Lou Hunt-Quintal, Ms. Suzi Blachford, Ms. Cheryl Frank, Mr. Ed Bohrer and Mr. John Mayou.

Committee on the Dispatch of Business

The Bishop appointed the Committee on the Dispatch of Business: The Rev. Josh Walters and Ms. Laura Despard from Christ Church Pittsford.

Committee on Credentials

The Bishop appointed the Committee on Credentials: The Rev. Paul Frolich, Ms. Eileen Henion and Ms. Linda Puckett from St. George's Hilton.

Seat and Voice as reported by the Committee on Credentials

The Chair of the Committee on Credentials, the Rev. Paul Frolich, reported the credentials of the delegates were in order. He cited Article III, Section 2(c) of the Constitution which grants guests of this Convention seat and voice by the Bishop. Included were:

All members of elected or appointed bodies and committees of this Diocese

All committees and organizations funded through programs of this Diocese

Officers of the Diocese

All Diocesan staff

Young people of the Diocese present at this Convention

All spouses, partners and guests present at this Convention, including SPICE

Mr. Loren Ranaletta, President of Episcopal Senior Life Communities

Mr. Mark Gearan, President of Hobart and William Smith Colleges

The Rev. Dr. Marvin A. McMickle

The Most Rev. Matthew H. Clark, Bishop Emeritus of Rochester

The Rev. John Macholz, representing Bishop Marie Jerge, Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church

Ms Courtney Spitz and Mr. Mario Urso, Auditors representing the Diocesan Audit Firm of Bonadio and CO., LLP

Dispatch of Business

The Rev. Josh Walters, Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, moved the agenda for the Convention. **MSP**

Rules of Debate

The Rev. Josh Walters, Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, moved the Convention Rules of Debate as follows:

- that all speakers must identify themselves by name, congregation and organization
- that no more than 15 minutes be devoted to each question, including amendments and substitutions
- that the sponsor and first opponent limit themselves to three minutes. All speakers, thereafter are limited to two minutes

The rules of debate may be amended or extended during debate by a simple majority vote, if desired. Delegates were reminded that motions, amendments and substitutions should be presented to the Secretary in writing with the name and congregation of the mover, using the form found in the packets.

Appointment of a Time Keeper

The Bishop appointed the Rev. Josh Walters as Time Keeper.

Nominating Committee Report - Districts

The Bishop called upon the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Jamie Bishop, to report on the election of lay representatives from the districts to Diocesan Council:

Monroe District: The Rev. Deven Hubert

Northeast District: The Rev. Susan Kohlmeier

Rochester District: The Rev. Mary Ann Brody

Southeast District: The Rev. Charlie Tyo

Southwest District: The Rev. Eric Thompson

Nominating Committee Report – Elected Officials

The Chair of the Committee on Nominations moved the nomination of elective offices by title. As the slate for each office was presented, the Bishop called for additional nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed at the end of each slate. For those slates where there was no contest, the Bishop asked for a motion to elect the candidates on the slate by acclamation.

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Commission on Ministry, Clerical:

The Rev. Ken Pepin, Episcopal SeniorLife Communities

The Rev. Jennifer Zogg, St. Paul's Rochester

Nomination from the floor: The Rev. Linda Liebhart, Church of the Redeemer Addison

Commission on Ministry, Lay:

Mr. John Clinton Bradley, St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene, Rochester

Ms. Elizabeth Campbell, St. John's Canandaigua

Nomination from the floor: Mr. Allison Bourne, St. Peter's Henrietta

Nomination from the floor: Ms. Keri Omphroy, Church of the Incarnation Penfield

The Bishop recognized the Rev. Canon Dr. Peter Peters who explained that convention would be able to elect the entire slate of COM nominees due to the recent reorganization of the COM. The Bishop will appoint one additional person to the committee. The Bishop asked for a motion to elect all those nominated for COM by a vote of acclamation. **MSP The slate was elected by acclamation.**

Diocesan Council, Lay-at-Large:

Ms. Judy Carpenter, St. Paul's Rochester

Mr. Robert Crystal, Church of the Ascension, Rochester

Mr. Scott Seabridge, Church of the Incarnation, Penfield

Nomination from the floor: Dr. Carolyn Mok, St. Thomas Rochester

Standing Committee, Clerical:

The Very Rev. Michael Hopkins, St. Luke's and St. Simon Cyrene Rochester

Standing Committee, Lay

Mr. Neil Houghton, St. John's Honeoye Falls

Mr. Robert Sudlow, Church of the Epiphany, Gates

Mr. Dick Van Belzen, Christ Church, Pittsford

Nomination from the floor: Mr. Richard Frey, St. Luke's Brockport

Nomination from the floor: Ms. Hazeldene Hercules, St. Peter's Henrietta

Trustee

The Rev. John Burr, St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene Rochester

The Rev. Marilyle Sweet Page, Christ Church, Rochester

Ms. Susan Scanlon, Esq., St. Thomas, Rochester

Disciplinary Board (Canon 21) - Clergy

The Rev. Mary Ann Brody, St. Stephen's Rochester

Disciplinary Board (Canon 21) - Lay

Mr. Jeremy Cooney, Christ Church Rochester

Taking of the First Ballot

The Bishop declared the nominations closed. Since there was no contest for Standing Committee – Clerical, Trustees, Disciplinary Board – Clerical and Lay and no further nominations from the floor, the Bishop asked for a vote on these offices by acclamation. **The slates were elected by acclamation.**

The Bishop then asked the Chief Teller, the Rev. Eric Thompson, to instruct the voters regarding the voting procedures, the location of the ballot boxes and the number of votes to be cast.

Report from Constitutions and Canons

The Bishop called upon Mr. Phil Fileri from the Constitutions and Canons Committee to make a report. Phil provided an update on the work of the Constitutions and Canons Committee on time frames in light of new technology which will be an agenda item in 2013. An additional correction of the canons is required to delete the term "Ecclesiastical Trial Court" in light of Canon 21 changes adopted at the 80th Convention. He referenced Canon 29 which contains certain time frames for the submission (90 days) and circulation (one month) of proposals to amend the Constitutions and Canons. He noted that these timeframes have not been met with respect to Resolution H which makes the corrections to Canon 3.4.a.3.i and Canon 3.4.b. He moved, as permitted by Canon 29, that Convention consent to suspend the timeline requirements for that resolution in order to adopt Resolution H. This would require a 2/3 vote by order.

The Bishop called for a vote by orders to suspend the time requirements in order to consider Resolution H. **MSP Clergy MSP Lay**

Resolution H: Amendment to Canon 3

The Bishop called upon the Rev. Michael Hartney from the Committee on Constitutions and Canons for the purpose of moving Resolution H.

Amendment to Canon 3

Submitted by the Committee on Constitution and Canons

Resolved, that Canon 3.4.a.3.i and Canon 3.4.b be amended by the deletions noted below.

Section 4.

(a) At least ninety (90) days before a Convention at which elections for diocesan bodies are to be held, the Secretary shall send to:

- (1) All the clergy entitled to vote,
- (2) All the Clerks of the Vestries and of other bodies in union with this Diocese and
- (3) the Nominating Committee, lists specifying:
 - (i) all the offices to be filled by election at the upcoming Convention, ~~(excepting the Ecclesiastical Trial Court, nominations for which are specified by Canon 27,)~~ and
 - (ii) the incumbents in each office whose terms are expiring, together with a statement as to whether each is eligible for reelection.

(b) Clerical or lay delegates entitled to seats and votes in a forthcoming annual Convention and vestries of parishes and executive committees of missions may file nominations for the offices to be filled at the said Convention ~~(except the Ecclesiastical Trial Court)~~, prior to the assembling thereof. All such nominations shall be placed in writing and signed by either a clerical or lay delegate; shall be accompanied by information as to the residence, parish, and ecclesiastical status of each nominee; and shall be delivered into the hands of the Nominating Committee at least two months before the opening of the Convention; and the Nominating Committee shall then circulate the same among the parishes. Nominations, stating the information required above, may also be made from the floor of the Convention.

Rationale:

The Diocesan Convention of 2011 adopted a revised Canon 21 establishing a Disciplinary Board that is elected by the Diocesan Convention. The Disciplinary Board replaces the Ecclesiastical Court referred to in the old Canon 21. Under new Canon 21, the procedures for electing a Diocesan office apply to the elections of members of the Disciplinary Board so the exception as provided above is not required. Also, Canon 27 referenced in the existing language is not the correct Canon.

The Committee on Constitutions and Canons recommends that this be adopted by 2/3 vote in both Orders so as to be effective immediately.

Adopted by Clergy and Lay

Election of the Chancellor

Referencing Article V, Section 2 of the constitution of the diocese, the Bishop nominated Mr. Philip Fileri, Esq., the current Chancellor, for the office of Chancellor for a term of three years.

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Correspondence

There was no correspondence to Convention.

Ministry Reports

The Bishop asked for the acceptance of reports of the Commission on Ministry, the Trustees, the Diocesan Council, the Standing Committee and all other official reports included in the delegates' packets.

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Standing Committees for the 81st Convention

The Bishop announced the appointments to the Standing Committees for the 81st Convention and expressed thanks for their service.

On Arrangements: The Rev. David Hefling, Chair, the Rev. Karen Lewis, Ms. Patti Cummings, the Rev. Debs Duguid-May, Ms. Joanne Wisor, Ms. Susan Woodhouse assisted by the Bishop's staff.

On Constitution and Canons: Philip Fileri, Esq., Chair, Dyson Gay, Esq., the Rev. Peter Harter, Esq., Thomas Wright, Esq., Susan Scanlon, Esq., the Rev. Canon Dr. Denise Yarbrough, Esq., the Rev. Christopher Luedde, the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins, the Rev. Michael Hartney,

On Nominations: Mr. Jamie Bishop, Chair, the Very Rev. Lance Robbins, the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins, the Very Rev. Brad Benson, the Very Rev. Cole Gruberth, the Very Rev. Jim Adams, Mr. Gary Gocek, Monroe Warden, Ms. Catharine Kelly, NorthEast Warden, Ms. Pat Selwood, SouthEast Warden, Mr. Robert Walker, SouthWest Warden, Mr. Chris Moore, Rochester Warden

On Resolutions: The Very Rev. Michael Hopkins, Chair, the Rev. Canon Dr. Peter Peters, Mr. Bruce Blaine

To Read and Correct the Minutes: The Bishop and the Secretary

Bishop's Address

The Bishop began his address with recognition of the baptisms, confirmations, receptions and reaffirmations that have taken place over the past year. Those names were scrolled on the monitors as he spoke and offered prayer. He thanked Roja, the diocesan staff, members of

Trinity and all involved in preparing for convention. He noted signs of change which included transition from “doing church” to “being church” and the use of our churches in creative ways. He acknowledged the leadership in our congregations as being from all around the world and spoke about beginnings and endings as well as stories of transformation. At the conclusion of his address, he introduced Mr. Matthew Townsend, the newest member of Diocesan staff and Diocesan Missioner for Communication. Matt spoke about the need to evangelize or expire and the need to get the good word out. Noting our work had just begun and that together we can do it, he closed with prayer. (The Bishop’s address is available on the Diocesan website and in a separate location in the Journal.)

Report from Diocesan Council

The Bishop called on Mr. Chris Cleveland and Ms. Sarah Peters to report on the work of Diocesan Council over the past year. They reviewed the Mission, Vision and Characteristics that were adopted by Council and gave an overview of the tasks of Council as well as its structure which has evolved into two working subcommittees: Congregational Development and Mission Grant. After reviewing the charges to both sub-committees, Chris and Sarah called on the Rev. Dennie Bennett, Chair of the Mission Sub-committee, to report on the more specific work of that committee.

Diocesan Council Mission Grant Sub-committee Report

The Rev. Dennie Bennett, Chair of the Mission Sub-committee, reviewed the work of the committee, its process and timeline. In 2012, thirty-two grants totaling \$58,250 were awarded to support local pariah projects.

Dennie called upon the Rev. Dahn Gandell, the Rev. Mary Ann Brody, the Rev. Richard Witt to report (respectively) on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Nazareth Elementary School Exploration and the Rural Migrant Ministry (RMM).

Millennium Development Goals

The Rev. Dahn Gandell described the work that the MDG team undertook during the year. A complete report is included in the reports section of this document.

Rural Migrant Ministries

The Rev. Richard Witt used a background of photos and spoke about the work of Rural Migrant ministries. A complete report from Rural Migrant Ministries is included in the reports section of this document.

Exploratory Initiative with Nazareth Elementary School

The Rev. Mary Ann Brody provided some background to the Episcopal School Exploration Initiative which has led to further exploration of a partnership with the Sisters of St. Joseph and Nazareth Elementary School. A report will be made to Diocesan Council in June 2013.

Diocesan Council Congregational Development Subcommittee

The Bishop called on Ms. Judy Carpenter for a report from the Congregational Development Subcommittee of Diocesan Council. Judy outlined the more specific work of the committee in the development and implementation of a process for awarding grants to assist parishes that have taken initiatives, show promise and growth but are in need of financial assistance for a limited time period. Judy then called upon two of those parishes to describe the impact of their redevelopment funding on their ministries.

Trinity - Greece

The Rev. Debs Duguid-May spoke about Trinity's journey. Using the redevelopment funds, the parish looked at its existing model of ministry and their goals and needs. The congregation moved from anxiety to trust as the model evolved to become more collaborative and focused on God's work. The parish has grown, become more inclusive, building usage has changed and the parish has become more financially efficient.

St. George's Hilton

The Rev. Paul Frolick spoke about the process, progress and impact of the redevelopment funds on St. Georges, Hilton. The parish engaged in a strategic planning process, developed goals to use their resources more wisely and determined needs within the community that their ministries might impact. Each parish member signed the plan and made a commitment to its success. The grant funds enabled them to hire a new priest and meetings with the community have resulted in several very successful new ministries.

Apportionment Task Force

The Bishop called on the Very Rev. Jim Adams and Mr. Charlie Zettek to make a report on the Apportionment Task Force. They reported that the resolution being presented is the culmination of two years of committee work. They thanked the committee and spoke about the process it had undertaken. (The complete Apportionment Task Force Report is available in another section of this Journal.) Following review of the resolution and discussion, the resolution was amended and adopted as follows:

Resolution A: Apportionment Task Force submitted by the Apportionment Task Force

Be it resolved, that the 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester approves the recommendations for changes to the apportionment process of the Diocese from the Diocesan Council and the Apportionment Task Force (ATF), effective for apportionments beginning in the budget year 2014:

1. Maintain a progressive rate structure where parishes with greater resources contribute a larger % than those with less.
2. Lower the base rate, for the smallest churches, to 10%.
3. Adjust income bands to better reflect our current distribution of parish income profiles.
4. Simplify & clarify the apportionment formula as follows:
 - Eliminate the use of Communicants in Good Standing as a variable in the calculation.
 - Utilize only the most recent year of Operating Income as the basis for calculating apportionment.

- Provide clear directions on what is included in Operating Income.

Operating Income (Line A):	
< \$50,000	10%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	12%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	13%
\$150,000 - \$249,999	14%
\$250,000 - \$499,999	15%
> \$500,000	16%

5. Apply annual “cap & floor” limits to moderate the short term impact that a change in the formula may have on any individual parish. *EXAMPLE: Limit annual change in apportionment for any one parish to (+/-) 5%.*
6. As part of each year’s budget process, Council may propose the apportionment rates and/or the cap & floor limits, subject to the approval of the Diocesan Convention (Canon 6.5 (b), as most appropriate to further the mission statement of the Diocese.
7. Creating a separate apportionment appeals process is not the most effective way to address the underlying issues of a parish with financial concerns.

Adopted as Amended

Closing of the Polls

The Bishop called upon the Rev. David Hefling, Chair of the Arrangements Committee, who reminded people of the ballot procedure. The polls were declared closed and a thirty minute break was announced. The first business session closed at 10:31 a.m.

Second Business Session

The second business session was called to order at 11:10 a.m. with a video of pictures of “joy” from around the diocese being played on the monitors. The Bishop called upon the Rev. Claire Wimbush to offer a prayer of Thanksgiving.

Results of the First Ballot

The Bishop called upon the Rev. Eric Thompson, Chief Teller, to report the results of the first ballot.

They were announced as follows:

Diocesan Council- Lay: Ms. Judy Carpenter, Dr. Carolyn Mok and Mr. Scott Seabridge were elected.

Directions were given for a second ballot for Standing Committee – Lay.

Special Resolution of Courtesy

The Bishop called upon the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins to present a special Resolution of Courtesy to Canon Karen Noble Hanson.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks Canon Karen Noble Hanson for her years of service among us, for her work this past year as Chief Investment Officer, and for her friendship and counsel and asks God to continue to bless her many ministries. **MSP**

Karen expressed her thanks to Convention.

Presentation on the 2011 Audit Report

The Bishop recognized Mr. Robert VanNiel, Treasurer of the Diocese, to present and move the audit report. Bob thanked the audit committee of the Trustees and Ms. Courtney Spitz of the audit firm, Bonadio & Co. LLC, for their oversight of the process and noted that the audit provided a positive opinion of diocesan finances for 2011. Assets totaled almost \$30M. Total Operating Income was ~ \$2.594 M and Total Operating Expenses was ~ \$2.510 M resulting in a surplus of ~ \$84K. Work continues on compliance accounting for donor restricted gifts as well as capitalizing and depreciating all capital expenditures. Overall, financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial condition of the Diocese as of 12/31/11. Delegates approved the following resolution:

Resolved: That the 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester accepts the 2011 audit as prepared by Bonadio & Co., LLC and presented by the Trustees.

Adopted

Report from the Trustees

The Bishop called on Ms. Sue Scanlon to report on the work of the Trustees. Sue reported that the Diocese has a new funds manager as of November 2011, Genesee Valley Trust, and online reporting is now available to the parishes. She reviewed the status of the investments over the last few years and indicated the values have been falling and a flat market will extend the time need to rebuild. She emphasized that overall we are blessed with significant financial resources and that we must focus on good stewardship going forward.

Diocesan Budget 2013

The Bishop called upon Mr. Todd Rubiano, Diocesan CFM, to present the 2013 budget. Todd reviewed the document noting areas to improve and the accomplishments of the past year. A small committee of Council members worked to streamline the budget presentation, reduce the number of line items update the timeline for the process. The resulting budget has ten major expense categories and a reduction of line items from 202 to 134.

Presentation of the Diocesan Budget for 2013

CFM Todd Rubiano presented the budget as follows:

Proposed Budget

From Apportionment	\$1,009,868
From Investment	<u>1,387,000</u>

Total Income \$2,396,868

Proposed Diocesan Ministry: Expenses for 2013

Congregational Development	\$429,313
Mission within the Diocese	231,700
Mission outside the Diocese	242,892
Clergy & Lay Benefits	120,500
Leadership Development	60,000
Communications	115,000
Governance, Committees and Missioners	122,750
Support Staff	431,108
Executive Staff	475,105
Office Expense	<u>168,500</u>
Total Expenses	\$2,396,868

He offered a comparison between 2010 and 2013 noting that investment income is down. Mr. Chris Cleveland, Vice-chair of Council, presented the budget resolution. Following considerable discussion and an amendment to the resolution, a vote by order using show-of-hands approved the resolution.

Be it resolved, that the 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester approves the 2013 Diocesan Operating Budget as presented and recommended by Council, with thanks to the Committees and Task Forces for their work and to all the Parishes through whom ministry and mission are undertaken and be it further

Resolved, that the CFO publish on the Diocesan Website, in a timely fashion, the salaries and benefits for each member of the support staff.

Adopted as amended by Clergy and Lay

Clergy Transitions

The Bishop recognized Canon Julie Cicora to provide a report on clergy transitions. The report can be found in the Reports section of this Journal. It was requested that the Rev. Winifred Collin, who retired from Christ Church Pittsford, be added to the report.

Resolution B: Dissolution of St. Andrew's, Friendship, as a Church proposed by Diocesan Council

The Bishop recognized Mr. Chris Cleveland, Vice-chair of Diocesan Council to move Resolution B. The Bishop recognized the Very Rev. Cole Gruberth to speak to Resolutions B, C and D. Cole provided some background on the three parishes and the three resolutions of dissolution. Following discussion, the language in each of the three resolutions was amended with approval of the new language by the Chancellor. The amendment was passed and the convention voted to approve Resolution B as amended. **MSP**

Dissolution of St. Andrew's, Friendship, as a Church
Proposer: Diocesan Council (Rule of Order 21 (a))

Resolved, that this 81st convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, meeting in Geneva, New York, on November 10, 2012, upon the receipt of the recommendation of a majority of the members of the Diocesan Council, meeting in regular session on October 16, 2012, and in accordance with the Canons of the Diocese of Rochester, declares that the Parish known as **St. Andrew's, Friendship, New York** is dissolved, that its vestry is dissolved and that its assets be dedicated to the furtherance of Episcopal ministry in accordance with the Constitutions and Canons of the Episcopal Church.

Explanation:

During the first few months of 2008, St. Andrew's Parish of the Allegany County Episcopal Ministry (ACEM) found itself in a critical financial position. This situation was presented and discussed at the February 2008 ACEM Council meeting where the Friendship members stated that they would not be able to meet their monthly assessments to the ACEM. The ACEM Council agreed to forgive the monthly assessment payments for Friendship so the congregation could discern next steps. The consensus of the remaining members of the congregation was that the Parish House must be sold or rented to a non-profit group. Currently, the Parish House and Church are being leased to another Church group with a possible sale in 2013 to this group. The remaining members of the congregation are attending worship in other churches or have left the area.

Adopted as Amended

Resolution C: Dissolution of Our Savior, Bolivar as a Mission Proposed by Diocesan Council

The Bishop recognized Mr. Chris Cleveland, Vice-chair of Diocesan Council, to move Resolution C. Once the resolution was moved, the Bishop Called upon Mr. Phil Fileri, Chancellor of the Diocese, to speak to the details of the resolution. Phil's comments were as follows:

"While this appears on its surface to be a rather uncomplicated resolution, in fact it is not. By way of further explanation, the donors of the land, Ida and Alonzo McKee, made the bequest of the land to the Diocese of Western New York in 1911. The bequest restricted the use of the land for an Episcopal Church. The church of Our Savior was built and has continuously operated as an Episcopal Church. The donors also included a "right of reverter" indicating that in the event that the land and Church are no longer used as an Episcopal Church, it could not be used for any other purpose and must be returned to their heirs. The Diocese has contracted with an organization that specializes in finding heirs. So far, more than one hundred family members have been located. The Standing Committee, upon the review of a petition to be prepared for them by the attorneys for the Diocese, will authorize the Diocese to seek approval from the Surrogate's Court in Allegany County to return the land and its improvements, including the church, to the heirs.

There is also a Trust that benefits the Church of Our Savior, the Margaret Dermitt Trust. The funds were used, prior to the closing of this Church, for the benefit of programs still operating under the authority of Our Savior, Bolivar. If the Diocese wishes to do so, it may seek to maintain the 501c-3 entity status in order to continue to receive the benefits of the Margaret Dermitt Trust, to continue ministry in the area. The Standing Committee, upon the review of a petition to be prepared for them by the attorneys for the Diocese, may authorize the Diocese to seek approval from the Surrogate's Court in Allegany County to authorize the diocese's continued receipt of these funds. However, the amount is only in the \$2,000 range so an evaluation of whether this effort is justified will need to be made."

Following discussion and a reminder about the language change, the resolution was approved as follows:

Dissolution of Our Savior, Bolivar as a Mission
Proposer: Diocesan Council (Rule of Order 21 (a))

Resolved, that this 81st convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, meeting in Geneva, New York, on November 10, 2012, upon the receipt of the recommendation of a majority of the members of the Diocesan Council, meeting in regular session on October 16, 2012, and in accordance with the Canons of the Diocese of Rochester, declares that the Mission known as **Our Savior, Bolivar, New York** is dissolved, that its executive committee is dissolved and that its assets be dedicated in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church.

Explanation:

In 2009 at a meeting of the Vestry, the members decided to suspend services at Our Savior Bolivar. The congregation can no longer pay its assessment to ACEM and does not have enough members to sustain it.

The deed to the property contains a right of reversion to the heirs of the original donors (early 1900's) if the property ceases to be used as a "church". Diocesan staff was asked to look into finding heirs of the original donors, and the process of identifying heirs is on-going so that the Church may properly dispose of and transfer title to the property.

Adopted as Amended

Resolution D: Dissolution of St. John's, Mt. Morris, as a Church proposed by Diocesan Council

The Bishop recognized Mr. Chris Cleveland, Vice-chair of Diocesan Council, to move Resolution D. Once the resolution was moved, the Bishop Called upon Mr. Phil Fileri, Chancellor of the Diocese, to speak to the details of the resolution. Phil's comments were as follows:

While this appears to be a straightforward resolution, there are two matters that will need to be addressed. First, regarding the Swan Trust Fund.

The Swan Trust Fund was created by Charles F. Swan in 1911 and named the vestry of St John's Church as Trustee. The Surrogate Court for Livingston County has jurisdiction over the trust. The income currently helps to supports the Swan Center in Mt Morris which provides services to senior citizens in the area. The value of the trust was \$158,953.62 on November 2, 2012.

The Standing Committee, upon the review of a petition to be prepared for them by the attorneys for the Diocese, will authorize the Diocese to seek approval from the Surrogate Court in Allegany County to change the Trustee of the Swan Trust Fund to the Trustees of the Diocese and to take such other appropriate actions that may be necessary to support any ongoing operations.

Second, the Diocese, through the Standing Committee, may determine the best use of the land, the former rectory, now used as the Senior Center, and the church, including but not limited to selling the property and/or reusing it for other not-for-profit purposes.

Following discussion and a reminder of the amended language, the convention adopted the amended resolution as follows.

Dissolution of St. John's, Mt. Morris, as a Church
Proposer: Diocesan Council (Rule of Order 21 (a))

Resolved, that this 81st convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, meeting in Geneva, New York, on November 10, 2012, upon the receipt of the recommendation of a majority of the members of the Diocesan Council, meeting in regular session on October 16, 2012, and in accordance with the Canons of the Diocese of Rochester, declares that the Parish known as **St. John's, Mt. Morris, New York** is dissolved, that its vestry be dissolved and that its assets be dedicated in accordance with the Canons of the Episcopal Church.

Explanation:

For the past several years, St. John's, Mt. Morris has been struggling as a Parish. The average attendance (5 or 6 from 5 families) has been steadily shrinking as well as the annual income. The resources of the parish are unable to pay for more than essential maintenance. For the previous two years, the parish received the donated services of the Rev. Butch Mothersell and the Rev. Charlie Tyo. When these two priests retired in July 2011, the Rev. Kelly Ayer was appointed Priest-in-Charge and her services were paid for by a congregational development grant from the Diocese. After working with the Rev. Kelly Ayer, the congregation has come to the conclusion that there are not the necessary resources, energy and critical mass to continue as a viable parish. After a meeting in mid July, the remaining members of St. Johns decided to discontinue services once the Rev. Kelly Ayer's contract was finished on September 30, 2012.

Adopted as Amended

Prayer

The Bishop called upon the Rev. Claire Wimbush to lead convention in prayer.

Resolution E: Resolution Concerning Burial of the Indigent in Monroe County submitted by the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins

The Bishop called upon the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins to present Resolution E. Following discussion, Convention voted to adopt the resolution as follows:

**Resolution Concerning Burial of the Indigent in Monroe County
Submitted by the Very Rev. Michael W. Hopkins**

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester urge the Monroe County Legislature to act quickly to provide adequate funding for burial of those without the means for a proper burial, as well as providing for appropriate upkeep of graves (particularly at the South Annex of Oatka Cemetery) and provision for permanent grave markers; and be it further

Resolved, that funding be adequate for those whose preference is not for cremation for cultural or religious reasons; and be it further

Resolved, that the Episcopal churches in the Monroe and Rochester Districts provide for a yearly contribution to the Supplemental Burial Fund managed by the Greater Rochester Community of Churches, and that clergy make themselves available as pastoral presence at burials in the site set aside at Oatka Cemetery in Scottsville for indigent burials; and that churches and clergy in other parts of the Diocese do the same if similar funds exist in their respective counties; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to every member of the Monroe County legislature.

Explanation

Six years ago (March 1, 2006) the Monroe County Executive cut the maximum grant for assistance with burial costs from \$1,850 to \$1,250 maximum, with the result that many families have had to choose cremation when it is against the wishes of the deceased, or their own wishes, or forgo a formal funeral altogether. \$1,850 was barely adequate for a funeral, in fact it was based in the past on the *average* cost of a burial, not the maximum cost. A Supplemental Burial Fund was begun by the Greater Rochester Community of Churches and has been of some assistance to a handful of families, but there is no way the fund could ever cover the significant shortfall that exists. Recently a bill to address this situation has been introduced in the County Legislature, although it has been blocked from being introduced in committee by the majority leader. The bill has not been made available to the public. This resolution asks the diocese and its parishes to put pressure on the Legislature for a solution to this dire problem, and also for our parishes to respond to the need for supplemental burial funds in their counties or communities. Seeing that the dead have a respectful and dignified burial no matter what their economic circumstances has long been a concern of the church, and it should continue to be so.

Adopted

Noonday Prayers

The Bishop called upon the Chaplain, the Rev. Claire Wimbush, to lead Convention in Noonday Prayer.

Recognition of Bishop Matthew Clark

The Bishop recognized and welcomed Bishop Matthew Clark and invited the Rev. Canon Denise Yarbrough to move a special resolution of Courtesy.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester extends appreciation and gratitude for the ministry of the Most Rev. Matthew H. Clark, Bishop Emeritus of Rochester, for his decades of service to the diocese of Rochester and to the entire Rochester community, his commitment to ecumenical and interreligious dialogue and engagement, his passion for justice, his compassion for those Jesus called "the least of these" and his prophetic witness on behalf of the marginalized and oppressed and we ask God's continued blessing on the work that Bishop Clark initiated and supported as it continues to unfold in his diocese, and also upon the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester as it awaits its new pastor and upon Bishop Clark as he continues to serve God in new ways in this next season of his life. Following a standing ovation, Convention approved the resolution. **MSP**

Bishop Singh invited Bishop Clark to lead the convention in prayer.

Recess

The Bishop recognized the Rev. David Hefling to make announcements and explain the table talk exercise planned for lunch. The Bishop opened the polls for the second election and declared the Convention in recess for lunch at 12:43 p.m.

THIRD BUSINESS SESSION

The third business session began with the UTO Ingathering and slides of the kitchen renovation at St. Thomas' Bath which was funded by a UTO grant. The Bishop called the third business session to order at 1:30 p.m.

Results of the Second Ballot

The Bishop called upon the Rev. Eric Thompson, Chief Teller, who announced the results of the second ballot as being inconclusive. A third ballot was taken and the polls closed.

Report on General Convention

The Bishop called upon the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins and Mr. Neil Houghton to give a report on the 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church which was held in Indianapolis in July 2012. They provided an overview of the major events of the gathering: worship, legislation and major accomplishments.

District Youth Missioners

The Bishop recognized the District Youth Missioners who reported on the work accomplished with youth over the past year. Plans for 2013 include teaming up with Western New York Diocese to bring a Happening event to the Diocese of Rochester in May. Happening is a week long event run for high school students by high school students. Their individual district reports are available in the reports section of this Journal.

Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Mark Geran, President of HWS, was recognized by the Bishop. He greeted the delegates and welcomed them to Geneva on behalf of HWS. He noted that the Bishop is on the Board of Trustees at HWS and that many of the traditions of the church are rooted in the schools. He also gave thanks for the Rev. Leslie Adams, Chaplain of the Colleges. The Bishop then called upon Ms. Eileen O'Connor Casey, a William Smith alumna and member of the Bishop's staff, to present a Special Motion of Courtesy as follows:

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester extend appreciation and gratitude for the leadership of Mr. Mark Gearan, President of Hobart and William Smith Colleges; and ask God's continued blessing on the partnership between the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester and

the Colleges whose commitment to the formation of our young women and men in the areas of mind, equity, community engagement, and environmental stewardship echo our own values.

MSP

Resolution F: Resolution Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing and Climate Change proposed by the Public Policy Committee

The Bishop recognized the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins to move Resolution F. Ms. Marilyn Wienk from the Public Policy Committee spoke to the resolution urging adoption. Following additional testimony, discussion and a failed motion to divide the resolution, and an amendment, the amended resolution was adopted as follows:

Resolution Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing and Climate Change Proposed by the Public Policy Committee

Resolved, That this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester urge the New York State Legislature and Governor Andrew Cuomo more fully to examine the health, environmental, and socioeconomic impacts of high-volume horizontal hydraulic fracturing before allowing the issuance of drilling permits for gas in the Marcellus and Utica Shales underlying most of the area of this Diocese; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention encourage our elected New York State officials to increase incentives for a transition from dependence on fossil fuels, including natural gas, to safe, clean, renewable energy, such as wind and solar, and thereby generate jobs in those industries as well as curb emissions of greenhouse gasses causing climate change; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention instruct the Secretary of Convention to notify the Governor and the State Senators and Assembly Members representing the districts within this Diocese of our resolution.

Explanation

Physicians, Scientists and Engineers for Healthy Energy and the Environmental Working Group issued a joint statement in June 2012 that New York State “is not ready for shale gas drilling” because the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has not yet completed investigations of “underground water sources, faults, floodplains, drilling and fracturing risks,” has not analyzed health impacts, pipeline hazards and staffing needs,” and has “failed “to identify safe disposal options for toxic wastewater.” The Medical Society of New York also recently called for a moratorium on drilling until a health impact study is conducted. In order to reach the natural gas located deep within the Marcellus and Utica Shales, a long vertical well would be drilled and then turned to progress horizontally through the shale layer. After the well is completed, millions of gallons of water are trucked to the site, then mixed with sand and chemicals and injected at great pressure into the well, causing the shale to fracture and release the gas back up into the well. The gas is then moved to storage tanks and trucked to a pipeline for delivery. The DEC has estimated close to four thousand heavy truck trips per well for building and fracking. Multiple wells will be drilled from a single well pad, reaching out in all directions under a single well pad. If owners of 60% of the involved land have signed leases, the compulsory integration rule would prevent other landowners from forbidding drilling under their land. Since the chemicals used in the fracking process have not been made public, we cannot adequately assess the potential health problems. Risk of pollution to ground water is possible because 30%-70% of the fluid pumped into the well flows back out after accumulating additional contaminants such as arsenic and radioactive materials. This wastewater has not been classified as hazardous. Current water treatment plants may not be able to process these wastes. The high risk of water pollution led to the banning of hydraulic fracturing in the New York City and Syracuse watersheds. Natural gas when burned for fuel may release less carbon dioxide and mercury than coal. However, the primary constituent of natural gas is methane, a much more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. Also, methane has been emitted from wells in Pennsylvania during the return of fracking fluids to the surface. The economic benefits of hydrofracking have been stressed by the gas industry, but the costs to the communities of infrastructure repairs from all the heavy truck traffic have not been weighed fully. Gas extraction in New York could end in less than thirty years when the supply of gas is predicted to be exhausted. Meanwhile, damages to the agriculture and tourism industries would be permanent. Many local bans and moratoria have already been enacted in the state, including several within the Diocese. The Episcopal Dioceses of Ohio and Southern Ohio passed resolutions at their Convention last fall “to put on hold additional issuance of fracturing permits until concerns of scientists and Ohioans are addressed.” One resolution at General Convention in July 2012 calls for us “to resist the development and expansion of ever more unconventional and environmentally destructive sources of fossil fuel and move toward conversion to more sustainable sources” (B023), and another resolution asks us to “advocate for public policy to reduce climate changing emissions” (D055). This resolution before you calls the Diocese to join in this effort.

Adopted as Amended

Welcome of the Rev. John Macholz

The Bishop welcomed the Rev. John Macholz representing Bishop Marie Jerge of the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. He then called upon the Rev. Ginny Mazzerella who presented a Special Resolution of Courtesy as follows:

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester gives thanks for the continued partnership between the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, particularly the Upper New York Synod, our local partners in ministry, and asks God to continue to open our hearts and minds to the many ways we can continue to engage in shared ecumenical ministries of worship, service and learning in our diocese and synod so as to further our mutual vision of sharing the Good News of God in Christ to all whom we are called to serve in our local, national and international ministries. **MSP**

Resolution G: Resolution to Recommit to Anti-Racism and Repentance submitted by the Anti-Racism Committee

The Bishop called upon the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins to propose Resolution G. Michael provided some background to the resolution and the Bishop recognized the Rev. Kit Tobin to speak to it. Following additional discussion and a failed amendment, the resolution was approved as follows:

Resolution to Recommit to Anti-Racism and Repentance Submitted by the Anti-Racism Committee

Resolved, That, following the 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester recommit to anti-racism training and to dismantling structures of racism in all its forms; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention request that the Bishop appoint a Task Force, in accord with the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, to examine the history of racism and the impact of the Doctrine of Discovery in this diocese; and be it further

Resolved, That this Task Force establish a Day of Repentance for the Church's complicity in the sin of slavery and the oppression of Native Americans and all persons of color and hold a Service of Repentance on that day within the next three years; and be it further

Resolved, That this Task Force report back on its progress at the 82nd Diocesan Convention in 2013.

Explanation

At the 77th General Convention in July 2012, Resolution A125 recommits the Episcopal Church to continue "the work against the sin of racism in all its forms" and "continue to engage in anti-

racism training on an on-going basis.” Another General Convention Resolution 2012-A127 resolves that “anti-racism training be carried out on provincial and diocesan levels” using “existing programs and ministries, or develop new programs and ministries, to dismantle and eradicate structures of racism.” Since 2007, the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester has been actively engaged in the work against racism. That year Convention passed a resolution “to prepare a plan to bring the diocese into compliance with GC Resolution 2000-B049” that requires anti-racism training for “the lay and ordained leadership of the Episcopal Church.” At the diocese’s 2008 Convention, a resolution was passed that mandated an eight-hour training based on the national Church’s program, *Seeing the Face of God in Each Other*, for clergy and elected lay leaders. As of June 2012, over one hundred people in the diocese have received this training, but many more still need to take it. More opportunities for training sessions are planned for 2013. Beyond the anti-racism training program, this diocese might fulfill yet another General Convention Resolution 2012-A128, which directs dioceses to examine the impact of the Doctrine of Discovery that had provided the framework for slavery and the oppression of Native Americans and other ethnic groups. GC Resolution A143 in 2009 “encourage[s] each diocese” to “name a Day of Repentance and on that day hold a Service of Repentance” for “the complicity of the Episcopal Church in the institution of slavery and in the subsequent history of segregation and discrimination.” Such a day could be broadened to include repentance for the oppression of Native Americans and other ethnicities as well as African Americans. Crucial as it is to take the training that raises awareness of racism in us and in the structures of society, racial reconciliation efforts, such as a Day of Repentance, are also necessary for us to become a Church of and for all races and ethnicities and be committed to ending racism in the world.

Adopted

Results of the Third Ballot

The Bishop called upon the Rev. Eric Thompson, Chief Teller, to report the results of the third ballot. Standing Committee – Lay Mr. Neil Houghton elected.

Recognition of Persons - Terms Ending

The Bishop thanked those persons whose terms end with this Convention acknowledging that some have stood for re-election.

Diocesan Council

The Rev. Lucy Alonzo

Ms. Margy Ashley

The Rev. Dennie Bennett

Ms. Judy Carpenter

Mr. Chris Cleveland

The Rev. Deven Hubert

The Rev. Kit Tobin

The Rev. Eric Thompson

Commission on Ministry

Ms. Libby Campbell
Ms. Barbara Fornalik
Ms. Katherine MacDowell
The Very Rev. Lance Robbins
Mr. John Roy
The Rev. Jennifer Zogg

Standing Committee

Ms. Laura Despard
The Rev. Chris Luedde

Trustees

The Rev. John Burr
Ms. Susan Scanlon
The Rev. Marilyle Sweet-Page

Committees for the 82nd Convention in 2013

The Bishop appointed the following Committees for the 82nd Convention in November 2013:

On Arrangements: The Rev. David Smith, the Rev. Debs Duguid-May, Ms. Patti Cummings, Ms. Susan Woodhouse, assisted by the Bishop's staff.

On Constitution and Canons: Philip Fileri, Esq., Chair, Dyson Gay, Esq., Thomas Wright, Esq., Susan Scanlon, Esq., the Rev. Canon Dr. C. Denise Yarbrough, Esq., the Rev. Christopher Luedde, the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins, the Rev. Michael Hartney, A. Paul Greene, Esq.

On Nominations: Jamie Bishop, Chair, The Rev. Carmen Seufert with others still to be named.

On Resolutions: The Very Rev. Michael Hopkins, the Rev. Canon Peter Peters, Bruce Blaine, the Rev. Eric Thompson

Resolutions of Courtesy

The Bishop recognized the Very Rev. Michael Hopkins, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, who moved the Resolutions of Courtesy as follows:

**Resolutions of Courtesy
The 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester**

Worship at Convention and Music During the Celebration

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks Bishop Prince Singh; Mr. Steven Kane, Music Director, the choir and Mr. Ned Singh. Our special thanks to the Rev. Karen Lewis for planning the liturgy for this convention.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks The Rev. Dr. Marvin A. McMickle for his presence among us and for his willingness to be our preacher and we ask God's continued blessing on the partnership between Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks the Rev. Karen Lewis and the saints of Trinity Church for hosting the Convention.

Volunteers and Those Involved in Convention

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks all who participated especially the committee on arrangements: The Rev. David Hefling, Chair The Rev. Karen Lewis, Ms. Patti Cummings, The Rev. Debs Duguid-May, Ms. Joanne Wisor, Ms. Susan Woodhouse assisted by the Bishop's staff in the arrangements for this convention-

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks the Rev. Claire Wimbush for serving as Chaplain.

Gift of Wine for the Convention

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks Elizabeth Prejean of Prejean Winery for her generous gift of wine.

Gift of Bread for the Convention

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks Lisa Dunn for her baking abilities and the generous gift of bread for the Convention Eucharist and to each parish.

Greetings

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester sends greetings and love to Mrs. Bettina Barrett and ask God to continue to bless her with health and happiness.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester send greetings and love to Mrs. Charlotte Spears and ask God to bless her with peace, love and joy.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester send greetings, good wishes and prayers for continued strength, peace and love to the Rt. Rev. William Burrill.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester send greetings, love and good wishes to The Rt. Rev. Jack M. McKelvey and Mrs. Linda B. McKelvey.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester send greetings, prayers and good wishes to the clergy and their families from our diocese who have been ordained and consecrated as bishops in The Episcopal Church: The Rt. Rev. Gayle Harris, The Rt. Rev. Stephen Lane, and The Rt. Rev Mark Lattime.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester extend its appreciation and thanks to all the churches that sent in their pictures of Joy!

Officials of Convention

Secretary of Convention

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester give thanks for the commitment and skill of Ms. Susan Woodhouse, Secretary to Convention, for her volunteer ministry.

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the Diocese

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester give thanks for the commitment and skill of Mr. Robert Van Niel, Treasurer of the Diocese and to Ms. Bliss Owen, Assistant Treasurer, for their volunteer service.

Chancellor of the Diocese

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester give thanks for the commitment and skill of Phil Fileri, Chancellor of the Diocese, for his volunteer service.

Senior Clergy and Other Leaders

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester send greetings to the three most senior clergy in this Diocese, The Rev. George Exley-Steigler (Anne), The Rev. Richard Henshaw and The Rev. George Anderson (Twila) with the love and affection from the entire Diocese for their many years of service to us all.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester give thanks for the Ministry of the Rev. Dick Eckart for leading weekly chapel services at the Diocesan House.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester give thanks for the Ministry of the Rev. Linwood Garrenton for keeping our prayer cycle up to date.

District Deans

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester extend appreciation and gratitude for the leadership of our District Deans, The Very Rev. James Adams (NE), The Very Rev. J. Brad Benson (SE), The Very Rev. Michael Hopkins (Roc), The Very Rev. Cole Gruberth (SW), and The Very Rev. Lance Robbins (Mon). May God bless you and be with you as you lead our districts into the future ministry of the church.

Diocesan Task Forces

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester give thanks for all of the work completed by the Task Forces of the Diocese including the Apportionment Task Force, the Communication Task Force, and the Retiree Health Benefit Task Force.

Diocesan Staff, Canons and Bishop

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester extend appreciation and thanks for the dedication and work of the staff at the Diocesan House; Mrs. Twila Anderson, Ms. Eileen O'Connor Casey, The Rev. Canon Julie Cicora, Ms. Kristy Estey, Ms. Marie Fessler, Canon Karen Noble Hanson, Ms. Carolyn McConnell, The Rev. Canon Dr. Peter Peters, Mr. Todd Rubiano, and Ms. Cathy Shoemaker.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester send special thanks to Ms. Jane Reynolds for continuing to make available to the Convention and to the Diocese a myriad of resources to help us further our mission.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester give thanks to The Rev. Dahn Gandell for her continuing ministry on the Millennium Development Goals and Episcopal Relief and Development; The Rev. Deven Hubert for her ministry as Chaplain to the retired clergy; The Rev. Nancy Stevens for her ministry to the Deaf and the Rev. Cynthia Rasmussen for her work as Catalyst for Urban Ministry.

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester express our appreciation and thanks to the Rt. Rev. Prince G. Singh as he continues in his fifth year as Bishop of this Diocese and sends greetings and love to his family, Dr. Roja Singh, Ned Singh and Eklan Singh.

Neighboring Dioceses

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester extend greetings to the dioceses on our borders: Central New York, Northwestern Pennsylvania, and Western New York. We pray for these dioceses and resolve to seek greater collaboration in mission and ministry with these neighbors on our borders.

Volunteers And All Who Served Us

Resolved, that this 81st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester thanks all volunteers and employees of the companies who provided the Diocese with service of food, arrangements, communications, and care.

Convention Eucharist and Adjournment

Convention engaged a closing Eucharist and was declared closed at 3:43 p.m. sine die.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Woodhouse,
Secretary of Diocesan Convention