

Minutes of the Third Joint Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Eastern and Western Michigan

October 28-29, 2022

Lansing Center, Lansing, MI

Western Michigan Business Meeting

Friday, October 28, 2022, at 6:00 pm

Opening Prayer by The Rt. Rev. Prince Singh.

Willian Fleener, Jr., chancellor, stated that we have a quorum. The Joint Rules of Order were adopted.

Fleener stated only canonically resident clergy who are resident in the diocese, lay delegates from each parish, and youth delegates are entitled to seat, voice, and vote. Therefore, for the benefit of this convention and the ministry of our diocese it is has been our practice to extend the privilege of seat and voice to individuals who are: Canonically resident clergy who are not resident in the diocese, Non-canonically resident clergy licensed and actively serving on a parish staff, Lutheran pastors serving in Episcopal congregations in the Diocese, Lay members of Diocesan Council, Lay members of Standing Committee, Members of diocesan staff and Postulants and Candidates for Holy Orders.

Bishop Singh motioned and was seconded that for the benefit of the Convention and the ministry of the diocese, to extend the privileges of seat and voice to the people listed by the chancellor. The motion passed.

Bishop Singh asked for a motion and was seconded that the Rev Joel Turmo, St. Timothy's, Richland, serve as Secretary of Convention. The Rev. Turmo was elected.

Bishop Singh asked for a motion and was seconded that The Rev. Dr. Jared Cramer St. John's, Grand Haven, serve as Treasure of the Dioceses and was seconded. The Rev. Cramer was elected.

The Rev. BJ Heyboer, St. Mark's Church, Newaygo, the chair of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidates for clergy and Lay members.

One clergy was elected to Standing Committee:

The Rev. Molly Bosscher, St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids (122 Votes)

Not Elected:

The Rev. Diane Pike, Retired, Niles (33 Votes)

On the first vote for lay member Standing Committee one person received a majority vote for a three year:

Elected:

Carole Redwine, St. Philip's, Grand Rapids (105 Votes)

Not Elected:

Freya Gilbert, St. Augustine's, Benton Harbor (70 Votes)

Joan Smith, Grace, Holland (61 Votes)

Nancy Foster, St. Mary's, Cadillac (55 Votes)

On the first vote for lay member Standing Committee one person received a majority vote to complete one year of an unexpired term.:

Elected:

Freya Gilbert, St. Augustine's, Benton Harbor (79 Votes)

Not Elected:

Joan Smith, Grace, Holland (38 Votes)

Nancy Foster, St. Mary's, Cadillac (37 Votes)

Four lay members were elected as deputies to General Convention and one alternate.

1st Lay Deputy: Claire Jones, Grace, Traverse City (114 Votes)

2nd: William Fleener, Jr., St. David's, Lansing (111 Votes)

3rd: Sheridan Leinbach, St. David's, Lansing (103 Votes)

4th: Laurie Atwater, St. Martin of Tours, Kalamazoo (101 Votes)

1st Lay Alternate: Mary Simpson, St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids (99 Votes)

Four clergy were elected as deputies to General Convention and two alternates.

1st Clergy Deputy: The Rev. Jen Adams, Grace, Holland (111 Votes)

2nd: The Rev. Nurya Love Parish, Grace, Grand Rapids (107 Votes)

3rd: The Rev. Derek Quinn, St. Paul's, Elk Rapids and Grace, Traverse City (93 Votes)

4th: The Rev. Kay Houck, Emmanuel, Petoskey (90 Votes)

1st Clergy Alternate: The Rev. Anne Schnaare, Grace, Grand Rapids (89 votes)

2nd Clergy Alternate: The Rev. Dr. Jared Cramer, St. John's, Grand Haven (85 votes)

Bishop Singh reported that, per the canons, the following people were elected to serve three-year terms on Diocesan Council at their respective regional pre-convention meetings. The elections were confirmed by Convention.

For the Northern Region

Lara Raisanen, St. John's, Mount Pleasant

For the Central Region

Martha Porter - Grace, Grand Rapids

The Rev. Alicia Hager - Grace, Holland

For the Southern Region

Sharon Reed - St. Paul's, St. Joseph

Bishop Singh thanked the following people who completed their terms on the Commission on Ministry.

The Rev. Jim Enelow, St. Augustine, Benton Harbor, Nancy Foster, St. Mary's, Cadillac, The Rev. Jan Gockerman, St. Mark's, Grand Rapids, and The Rev. Diane Stier, St. John's, Mt. Pleasant.

Bishop Singh appointed The Rev. Karen Kelly, The Rev. Cindy Nawrocki, St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids and The Rev. Jim Perra, Grace, Traverse City to the Commission on Ministry.

Bishop Singh introduced clergy new to the diocese.

The Rev Dan Buchin, Priest-in-Charge, Holy Spirit, Belmont

The Rev. David Blank, Interim Rector, St. David's Lansing

The Rev. Alicia Hager, Assistant Clergy, Grace, Holland

The Rev. Mark Hazen Kelley, Deacon, St. John's, Grand Haven

The Rev. Trish Harris, Deacon, St. Thomas, Battle Creek

The Rev. James L. Mitchell, Deacon, St. Mark's, Newaygo

The Rev. Alex Quick, Assisting Clergy, St. Andrew's Grand Rapids

The Rev. Derek J. Quinn, Deacon/Priest-in-Charge, St Paul's, Elk Rapids; Associate Rector, Grace, Traverse City

The Rev. Anne Schnaare, Rector, Grace, Grand Rapids

The Rev. Jim Steen, Interim Rector, Epiphany, South Haven

Bishop Singh shared the names of the clergy who retired or announced their retirement.

The Rev. Cynthia Caruso, St. Augustine's, Benton Harbor

The Rev. Diane Pike, Rector, Southwest Michigan Episcopal Covenant

The Rev. Linnea Stiffler, Emmanuel Hastings

Our departed brother, the Rev. John Kirkman, St. John's, Ionia

Bishop Singh shared those individuals in the formation process.

Postulants For Priesthood

Barrett Lee, St. Luke's, Kalamazoo

Matt Roney, Grace, Traverse City

Anne Marie Warner, St. Luke's, Kalamazoo

Postulants for Diaconate

Linda Scheerer, St. Gregory's, Muskegon

Jennifer Frechette, Church of the Mediator, Harbert

The Rev. Cramer, Treasure, presented the 2023 Diocesan Operating Budget and it was approved.

The Rev. Canon Alan James made announcements.

Bishop Singh declared the Convention of the Diocese of Western Michigan was in recess until 11:00 am when we met in a joint session with the Dioceses of Eastern Michigan.

Joint Business Meeting

Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 11:00 am

Bishop Singh called the joint session of the Diocese of Eastern and Western Michigan Convention back to order.

Grace Gray, Trinity, Bay City, and youth delegate from Eastern Michigan to lead an opening prayer.

McKenzie Knill, Director of Children, Youth, and Young Adult formation for both dioceses and Executive Director of Camp Chickagami in the Diocese of Eastern Michigan shared about the camp ministries in both dioceses.

Ellen McVey, St. John's, Midland and Bill Fleener, St. David's, Lansing, chairs of our two dioceses' General Convention deputations reported on the actions of General Convention.

The Rev. Canon Dr. Tracie Little, Canon to the Ordinary in Eastern Michigan, The Rev. Canon Dr. Val Fargo, and the Rev. Liz Kinsey, spoke about the Academy for Vocational Leadership and discernment for ordination as deacon or priest in our two dioceses.

The Rev. Donna McNeil (Canterbury, Michigan State) and the Rev. Matt Lukens (Canterbury House, Univ. Michigan) discussed campus ministry at Michigan State and at University of Michigan, Episcopal-

Lutheran All Together Ministry Community serving: Henry Ford University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, and Wayne State University.

Canon Katie Forsyth, Canon for Evangelism and Networking, Nancy Foster of St. Mary's, Cadillac; the Rev. BJ Heyboer (High-boar) of St. Mark's, Newaygo; Barb Ilkka of St. John's, Saginaw; the Rev. Radha Kaminski of St. Andrew's, Big Rapids and St. Mary's, Cadillac; the Rev. Canon Dr. Tracie Little of our diocesan staff; and the Rev. Nancy Mayhew of St. Alban's, Bay City shared about the College for Congregational Development

The William J. Spaid Diocesan Service Award was presented to Dave Croal, St. Marks Coldwater, The Rev. Randall Warren, St. Luke's Kalamazoo, and Joanie Smith, Grace, Holland.

The Bill Gordon Award for Service was presented to Janet Huff-Worvie, St. John-the-Baptist Episcopal Church, Otter Lake, The Rev. Brian Chace, retired, the Rev. Canon Michael Spencer, and The Very Reverend Judy Boli, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Saginaw.

The Swords into Plowshares Award was presented to Dr. Elizabeth Jordan, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Flint, the Reverend Bill McClure, Trinity Episcopal Church, Alpena, The Rev. Love Parish, Plainsong Farm, Rockford, Carole Redwine, St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, and Vicki Shroeder, All Saints, Saugatuck.

the Making All Things New Award was presented to Bill Fleener, Jr., St. David's Episcopal Church, Lansing, the Rev. Canon Jodi Baron, Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis, and Gary Grinn, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Gladwin.

Bishop Singh Recognized his staff.

- The Rev. Canon Valerie Ambrose, Canon Missioner for Western Michigan's Central Region
- Catherine Cameron-Heldt, Western Michigan Diocesan Office Administrator
- Canon Katie Forsyth, Canon for Evangelism and Networking for the dioceses
- The Reverend Canon Anne Hallmark, Canon Missioner for Western Michigan's Northern Region
- The Reverend Canon Alan James, Canon Missioner for Western Michigan's Southern Region
- McKenzie Knill, Director for Children, Youth, and Young Adult Formation for the dioceses and Executive Director of Camp Chickagami
- Angela Krueger, Eastern Michigan Bishop's Assistant
- The Rev. Canon Dr. Tracie Little, Eastern Michigan Canon to the Ordinary
- Tammy Mazure, Western Michigan Chief Financial Officer and Benefits Administrator
- Sara Philo, Eastern Michigan Chief Financial Officer and Benefits Administrator

And those who have moved on, though served us faithfully and generously during the last two years of pandemic and suspension:

- The Reverend Doctor Valerie Fargo, former Director of Eastern Michigan's Coppage-Gordon School for Ministry
- The Reverend Canon Michael Spencer, former Canon to the Ordinary for Eastern Michigan
- The Reverend Canon Bill Spaid, former Canon to the Ordinary and Canon Missioner for Western Michigan

The Rev, Nancy Mayhew and Anne Davidson presented the courtesy resolutions, and they were received with applause.

Resolved that this 28th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the 148th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan express gratitude to The Rt. Rev. Prince Singh for his service and support to our dioceses during this past year.

Resolved that this 28th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the 148th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan express gratitude to the Liturgy Task Force: The Rev. Pam Lenartowicz, The Rev. Canon Anne Hallmark, The Rev. Lewis Crusoe, and The Rev. Dr. Randall Warren for their coordination of worship for this convention, and for those assisting in the Eucharist: the Very Rev. Lewis D. Crusoe, Master of Ceremonies; the Right Rev. Prince G. Singh, Ordaining Bishop; The Venerable Linda Crane, Deacon of the Word; the Venerable Beth Drew, Deacon of the Table; The Rev. Dr. Randall R. Warren, Cantor; Dr. Elizabeth Jordan and The Rev. Canon C. Anne Hallmark, Lectors; Stephen Rumler, Music Director; Agol Anei, Erynn Ford, Paige Ravellette and Colette Reed, Acolytes; David Hawley-Lowry, Altar Guild; The Rev. B.J. Heyboer for baking the altar bread used in the Eucharist; the following being ordained: Joseph Kennedy, The Rev. Derek Quinn, and The Rev. Alicia Hager; and The Rev. Shadrack Owuor being received from the Anglican Church of Kenya.

Resolved that this 28th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the 148th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan send greetings to Ira Leidel, wife of the late Rt. Rev. Edwin M. Leidel, Jr., first Bishop of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan; the Rt. Rev. S. Todd Ousley, second Bishop of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan, and his wife, Ann; the Rt. Rev. Wayne M. Hougland, Jr, ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Western Michigan (resigned) and Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan (resigned), and his wife Dana; the Rt. Rev. Robert R. Gepert, eighth Bishop of the Diocese of Western Michigan and his wife, Anne; and the Rt. Rev. Edward L. Lee, Jr., seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Western Michigan and his wife, Kathryn.

Resolved that this 28th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the 148th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan send greetings to the Rt. Rev. Bonnie A. Perry, 11th Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan; the Rt. Rev. Rayford Ray, Bishop of the Diocese of Northern Michigan; and the Rt. Rev. J. Moisés Quezada Moto, Obispo de la Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana.

Resolved that this 28th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the 148th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan send greetings to the Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, Bishop of the Northwest Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA; The Rev. Dr. Donald P. Kreiss, Bishop of the SouthEast Michigan Synod of the ELCA, and The Rev. Katherine A. Finegan, Bishop of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA.

Resolved that this 28th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the 148th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan extend greetings to the Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.

Resolved that this 28th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the 148th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan send greetings to The Most Rev. Dr. Justin Welby, and prayers for his ministry and leadership with our Communion.

Bishop Singh announced that the fourth joint convention, the 29th Convention of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan, and the 149th Convention of the Diocese of Western Michigan will be held at the Horizons Conference Center, Saginaw, MI on Oct 27-28, 2023.

Bishop Singh moved to adjourn this 28th Convention of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan and 148th Convention of the Diocese of Western Michigan it was seconded and passed by a voice vote.