

86th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire

St. Mary's Church, Tomah, Wisconsin - Host Congregation

November 7-7, 2014

FRIDAY, November 7

4:00 -- 6:00 pm Registration and Check-in – Cranberry Country Lodge

319 Wittig Road, Tomah, WI 54660

6:00 - 6:30 Plenary Session

1. Call to Order in Cranberry Lodge Ballroom

Convention called to order by The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby, Dispatch of Business. The Rt. Rev. James Adams opened with Prayer for Convention followed by brief opening remarks by the Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert, 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

2. Election of Secretary

MOTION by The Rev. Robert Hoekstra to nominate The Rev. Aaron Zook as Secretary of the Convention. **Second. Carried by acclamation without dissent. So moved.**

3. The Secretary appointed Rev. Kathy Charles as Assistant Secretary.

4. **Credentials Committee Report:** Ms. Kristen Hilliker, St. Mary's, Tomah. 33 clergy are eligible to vote, 23 present. Laity: 47 deputies are allowed and eligible to vote, there are 40 deputies present. A majority of laity and clergy are present. In a Vote by Orders: Clergy needs a vote of 17 or greater, Laity: 24 or greater.

5. Welcome by St. Mary's Church, Tomah:

The Rev. Kathy Charles, welcomed Convention to St. Mary's and the Cranberry Country Lodge. St. Mary's is honored to have Convention in Tomah and thankful for the opportunity to serve the clergy, deputies and guests of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

6. Appointments:

- a. Dispatch of Business: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert **Proposed the Very Rev. Scott Kirby to Convention. Response: Yes.**
- b. Parliamentarian and Council of Advice: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert **Proposed Mr. Jim Pelish to Convention. Response: Yes.**
- c. Council of Advice: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert **Proposed Mr. Jim Pelish and the Convocation Deans to Convention. Response: Yes**

7. Rules of Order, Acceptance of Agenda:

The Very Rev. Scott Kirby Presented the Rules of Order as well as the convention Agenda.

Jim Glasser MOVED to accept the Rules of Order. Rt. Rev. Jim Adams Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.

Rev. Art Hancock MOVED to accept the Agenda. Mr. Paul Chase Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.

8. Minutes of the 85th Diocesan Convention and the 2014 Special Convention:

The Very Rev. Scott Kirby Presented the Minutes of the 85th Diocesan Convention. **John Meacham MOVED to accept the Minutes as presented. Ms. Deb Lorenze Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.**

Very Rev. Scott Kirby Presented the Minutes of the 2014 Special Convention. **Mr. Paul Chase MOVED to accept the Minutes as presented. Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.**

9. Convention Recesses:

Convention adjourned at 6:12 pm (social hour) to 9:30 a.m., Saturday, November 8th, 2014, the Cranberry Ballroom of Cranberry Country Lodge, Tomah.

Following the Dinner, The Rt. Rev. John Howe, retired diocesan Bishop of Central Florida spoke on “Evangelism.”

Diocesan Theme Presentation: “Evangelism: The Essence of Our Calling”

Rt. Rev. John Howe:

Rt. Rev. John Howe spoke about Evangelism in terms of adjusting services to make them more “user friendly.” He further stated that the adjustment should not come in the form of removing portions of the service, but by explaining the historical nature of our traditions. He went on to say that Evangelism is “the Nature of Our Calling.” He defines the concept by saying (in quote of Archbishop Temple,) “Evangelism is the presentation of the claims of Christ in the power of the Spirit to a world in need by a Church in Love.” He further stated that Evangelism requires that the Christian “be ready always to answer for the Joy that is within you.”

He stated that those churches that are Evangelizing are growing and those who aren’t, aren’t. He noted that in war-torn Uganda, there are more Anglicans than there are Episcopalians in the U.S.A. He noted that Americans spend their time analyzing the Gospel rather than proclaiming it. He noted that Evangelism requires the Right Message and the Right Method, but equally important is that it be driven by the Right Motive.

He stated that the Right Method contains three aspects: (1) It is a matter of God’s command, as in the Great Commission of Matthew’s gospel; we go in and with Christ’s authority to make not converts, but disciples, based on the authority that Christ has already assumed. (2)

Sheer Gratitude; "If Christ be God and he died for me, no sacrifice he could ask would be too great." (3) How can I think of keeping to myself that which I have neither earned, nor inherited? In short, these motives are simplified as "Obedience, Gratitude and Compassion." He stated that he has a grandchild who never met his grandmother, but he expects that if she had, the grandmother would have given some precious trinket to the granddaughter. He wonders if the locket might have come from another grandmother, and by extension, through only 19 people from his granddaughter to Jesus. He asked, "What would have happened if one of those people had dropped that locket. Consider then, what has been delivered to you through 19 people from Jesus. You now hold the locket. Will you hoard it, or pass it joyfully on to extend the reach of Christ.

SATURDAY, November 8

7:00-8:00 a.m., Registration Continues at the Cranberry Country Lodge.

Diocesan Theme Presentation: “Evangelism: The Essence of Our Calling”

The Rt. Rev. John Howe:

Bp. Howe spoke again about Evangelism by first addressing the relationship between Jesus and the Samaritans. He particularly pointed to the story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well. He suggested that his conversation with that woman displays all the hallmarks of good Evangelism and, in turn, creates the first Evangelist to the Samaritans. Most Episcopalians, he noted, shy away from Evangelism because they think (1) they don't know enough about it to open the subject, and/or (2) they're afraid to offend people. The problem then, he stated is two-fold: content and style.

Content: There is no real summary of the Gospel, but we must develop an outline that we feel comfortable with. This becomes a 'road map' that allows for detours and sight-seeing, but ultimately shows the path from start to finish. He suggested that one version of such an outline would be “the Four Spiritual Laws,” by Bill Bright of Campus Crusade. Another version would be John Stott's, “Basic Christianity.” A third would be this “Sin, Law, Grace, Love, and Faith,” an outline presented by Marty Hays. Even in the Acts of the Apostles, he notes, every speech contains a seven-point outline of the Gospel. The purpose is not to say everything that could be said, but to briefly summarize what is essential for saving Faith. As John Bailey said, “Evangelism is just one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread.” He suggested his own, brief foundation begins with God's Holiness and Love, the first of which is God's essential nature which promotes the second as a representation. He further suggested that humanity was created for Fellowship with God, but has broken that Fellowship through Sin. In time, Jesus stands as a curative of the schism in that Fellowship and in turn, we must repent of our Sin and amend our lives in response to that Forgiveness and rejoin the Fellowship. He concluded his conversation about the content of the Gospel by suggesting that the Eucharistic Prayer 'A' found in the BCP as an outline or summary of the gospel that is not only comprehensive, but also a resource that is already well memorized by most Episcopalians.

Style: He began by reading a portion of 1 Timothy, stating that 'urgency' is the main stylistic attribute of Evangelism. “There are only two times we should evangelize: when it's convenient, and when it's not.” We must give people the opportunity to hear the Gospel. In other words, we must try to evangelize, but be sensitive to whether the hearer is ready/willing to hear it. He suggested these three principles: (1) find out where the person is, (2) treat them with respect, and (3) retain Jesus as the message even when the witness changes. This might come in the form of asking permission to tell your story, responding to a conversation with someone, by provoking interest with a stimulating comment, or by asking questions about someone's spirituality and offering your own summary of the Gospel. You might move from a 'field of interest' into a discussion of the spirituality that exists in a person to reopen conversation about their foundational understanding of the Faith.

Bp. Howe concluded his comments by telling the story of a woman who survived serious health issues and became determined to take every opportunity to share the gospel with everyone she

met. She would always begin by looking them in the eye and saying “God loves you and Jesus died for you.” She followed by inviting them to Church and over the years led an amazing amount of diverse people to the Church. Though not all of them converted, many did because of her brief comments and invitation. This is a simple act that all of us are capable of, and ultimately, called to do as Christians.

9:30 AM Convention Reconvenes at Cranberry Country Lodge.

The Rt. Rev. Jim Adams opened with prayer.

10. Waiving of Article IV, Section 5

Mr. Jim Pelish presented a resolution to waive Article IV, section 5 of the Constitution that calls for congregations that haven't paid full apportionment to be prohibited from voting.

Rev. George Stamm MOVED to waive Article IV, Section 5 of the Constitution. Rt. Rev. Jim Adams Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.

11. Seat and Eligibility Report by Credentials Committee:

Ms. Kristen Hilliker, St. Mary's, Tomah. 33 clergy are eligible to vote, 25 present. Laity: 48 deputies are allowed and eligible to vote, there are 44 deputies present. A majority of laity and clergy are present. In a Vote by Orders: Clergy needs a vote of 17 or greater, Laity: 25 or greater.

Roll Call:

Clergy Present at Call to Order: Very Rev. Patrick Augustine, Rev. Peter Augustine, Rev. Irene McDaniel, Rev. Georgia Agner, Rev. Kathleen Charles, Rev. Mary Rezin, Rev. William Radant, Very Rev. Scott Kirby, Rev. Tony Ring, Rev. Eleanor Michaud, Rev. George Stamm, Rev. Robert Hoekstra, Rev. Vernon Barber, Rev. Jo Glasser, Very Rev. Guy Usher, Very Rev. Art Hancock, Rev. Aaron Zook, Rev. Mark Ricker, Rev. Jaohn Rasmus, Rev. Steven Burns, Rev. James Lorenze, Rev. Janet Sterken, Rev. Jackie Broughton .

Bishops Present: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert, The Rt. Rev. James Adams.

Laity Present: Joyce Kabasa, Art Carpenter, Claire Fleiss, Irma Oster, Bonita Aude, Sandra Ricker, Gregg Westigard, Bob Rosolowski, Don Mataczynski, Ellen Allison, Jany Chumas, Deb Lorenze, Ron Hall, Diane Bilderback, Ellen Condon, Jackie Wyer, Mary Beth Frank, Martin Frank, Kristen Granberg, Jim Glasser , Merrie Jo Chamberlain, Lee Donahue, Carla Marcou, Lily Augustine, Edie Koporetz, Martha Brandly, Steve Russell, Ray Anderson, Patrick Kelley, Diane Anders, Liz Archibald, Eileen Yeakley, Paul Chase, Bridgett Kaesman, Jen Love, Carol Meacham, Carol Rohde, Jean Neste, Ron Neste, Ben Anderson, Petra Anderson, Alice Brown, Sandra Norwick

Rev. Tony Ring MOVED to accept the Report as presented. Rev. Ellie Michaud Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.

13. Elections for Diocesan Leadership Positions:

Dispatch of Business opened the floor for Nominations to Diocesan Elections. For all positions that had only one nominee, Convention voted in favor of election for each by Voice Vote. All individuals who ran unopposed be unanimously elected.

The Very Rev. Scott Kirby announced the results of the elections for Diocesan Leadership Positions as follows:

Standing Committee:

- *Vern Barber+
- *Drew Lorenz
- *Tim Donahue (two year)

Executive Council:

- *Dn. Charles Farrell
- Ron Hall
- Maureen Wood
- *Charlie Kell (two year)

COM:

- *Dn. Charles Farrell
- *Debbie Conover

Secretary:

- *Aaron Zook+

Treasurer:

- *Bob Weathers

Trustees:

- *Drew Lorenz
- *C. R. Hackworthy

Ecclesiastical Disciplinary Board:

- *Kathy Charles+
- *Lora Stefanski

*denotes an unopposed election.

14. Bishop Lambert's Address:

The Bishop's Address was disseminated after which Bp. Lambert read the address to the Convention, which was met with a loud ovation. Convention broke into small

groups to discuss the content and message of the Address. The floor was opened for comments and an initial meeting was formed and scheduled for a diocesan Mission Board, to be held on February 14th, 2015 at 10:00 am at Grace Church, Rice Lake with teleconference opportunities available.

15. Trustees of the Diocese of Eau Claire:

Presentation of 2014 Financial Reports and 2015 Budget- Bob Weathers presenting. All clergy and deputies received this report and the accompanying Budget Proposal in Advance. The Budget for 2015 is based on apportionment asking of 10%.

Rev. George Stamm MOVED ACCEPTANCE of the 2015 budget. Joyce Kabasa Second. Unanimous "Yes" voice vote. So moved.

12. Resolutions:

Resolution 2014-01

Mr. Jim Pelish presented Resolution 2014-01.

Be it Resolved that the Special Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire repeal and recreate Article IV, Section 5 to read:

No Deputy shall be allowed to vote in any session of any Convention or Special Convention, if the Congregation sending such deputy is not current in its apportionment payments for one year, without the prior consent of the Executive Council.

Carol Rohde MOVED to accept the Resolution. Rt. Rev. Jim Adams Second. Unanimous "Yes" voice vote by orders. So moved.

Resolution 2014-02

Mr. Jim Pelish presented Resolution 2014-02.

Be it Resolved that the Special Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire repeal and recreate Article IX, Section 1 to read:

The Corporation known as "The Trustees of The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Eau Claire" is hereby empowered and may take and hold title to all land and other property belonging to the Diocese except for current operating funds needed by the Diocese of Eau Claire, Inc., for the purposes and the manner hereinafter specified by the Canons of the Diocese. In addition, said Corporation is entrusted with, and shall have charge of all endowment funds of the Diocese now provided, with any addition that may accrue from any investment thereof. Said Corporation may for investment purposes only take charge of and manage endowment, trust, bequest and other monies belonging to any Congregation in the Diocese upon the approval of the Vestry of the Congregation placing the funds. Such funds shall be subject to management charges in the same manner as Diocesan endowment funds, and all net income earned on the same shall be remitted to the Congregation owning the same.

**Gregg Westgard MOVED to accept the Resolution. Tim Donahue Second.
Unanimous “Yes” voice vote by orders. So moved.**

Resolution 2014-03

Mr. Jim Pelish presented Resolution 2014-03.

Be it Resolved that the Special Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire repeal Article IX,
Section 6:

**Rev. George Stamm MOVED to accept the Resolution. Alice Brown Second.
Unanimous “Yes” voice vote by orders. So moved.**

16. Advance Reports:

Advance Reports Received by Title

- i. Commission on Ministry
- ii. Standing Committee
- iii. Executive Council
- iv. The Haiti Project
- v. Cursillo Secretariat
- vi. Examining Chaplains

17. 2014 Clergy Changes

- The Rev. **Charles Farrell** was ordained as a Vocational Deacon at Christ Church Cathedral on Friday, **December 21st, 2013**.
- The Rev. **Steven Burns** was ordained as a Transitional Deacon at St. Alban the Martyr in Superior on Saturday, **January 4th, 2014**.
- The Rev. **Vern Barber** resigned as Priest-in-Charge of Sts. Thomas and John in New Richmond.
- The Rev. **Ellie Michaud** resigned as Priest-in-Charge of Christ Church, Chippewa Falls.
- **Claire Fleiss** was named Lay-Person-in-Charge of Christ Church, Bayfield on **June 17th, 2014**.
- The Rev. **Jackie Broughton** was ordained Priest at Grace Church Menomonie on Saturday, **August 23rd, 2014**.
- The Rev. **Steven Burns** was ordained Priest at St. Alban the Martyr in Superior on Saturday, **September 13th, 2014**.

18. Bishop's Appointments

Assisting Bishop

The Rt. Rev. James Adams

Bishop's Council of Advice

Chancellor

Regional Deans

Camps & Conferences

Mr. Drew Lorenz

Chancellor

Mr. Jim Pelish

COM

The Rev. Jo Glasser

Dr. Paul Chase

Ms. Mary Ellen Filkins

Ms. Evelyn Usher

Constitution & Canons/Resolutions

The Bishop (*ex officio*)

Mr. Jim Pelish, Chancellor (*ex officio*)

The Rev. Guy Usher

The Rev. Aaron Zook

Mr. Bill Smith

The Rt. Rev. James Adams

Cursillo Secretariat

Ms. Cinders Pogalz, Convener

Ms. Ellen Allison

Ms. Alice Brown

Ms. Jany Chumas

Mr. Ron Hall

The Rev. Kathleen Charles

Ecumenical Relations

The Rev. Aaron Zook

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

Ms. Alice Brown

Examining Chaplains

The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby
The Very Rev. Michael Greene
The Rev. Canon Bruce N. Gardner

Historiographer

Ms. Heather Kirby

Liturgy & Worship

The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby
The Rev. Canon Bruce N. Gardner
The Very Rev. Michael Greene
The Rev. Aaron Zook

Nominating Committee

Regional Deans
Diocesan Administrator

Peace & Justice; Anti-racism

Mr. Michael Newago
The Rev. Peter Augustine

Wisconsin Council of Churches

The Bishop
The Rev. Aaron Zook
Ms. Carla Marcou

19. Advance Report Support Statements

Mr. John Meacham spoke to convention about the Diocese's connection to the Haiti Project, an outreach program of the diocese that works partially through the Diocese of Milwaukee. He made a further appeal to the convention for aid and support of all kinds for the missions of the Haiti Project.

Bp. Lambert spoke to convention about the Diocese Cursillo weekends and heartily commended the group and their work to any and all members of the Diocese. He asked for support for the group as well as asking for individuals to reflect on the possibility of attending a Cursillo Weekend this year.

Bp. Lambert then thanked a number of people who hold leadership positions in the Diocese for their continued service to him and to the Diocese of Eau Claire.

20. Resolutions of Courtesy

Presented by The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby

RESOLUTIONS of COURTESY

November 8, 2014

Be it resolved, that the 86th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire extend our appreciation to the members and clergy of St. Mary's Church, Tomah, Wisconsin whose singular efforts and diligence provided for the worship and meeting space and dining arrangements for this Convention;

Be it further resolved, that this 86th Convention recognize the Reverend Aaron Zook, and Mr. Robert Weathers whose time and efforts provided the detailed materials dispersed to the delegates of this Convention;

Be it further resolved, that this 86th Convention express our grateful thanks to all those who have served on diocesan committees and commissions and all others who have served the diocese in this past year.

Be it further resolved, that this 86th Convention send our greetings and best wishes to the Rt. Reverend William and Mrs. Jan Wantland, the Rt. Reverend Keith and Mrs. Suzie Whitmore, The Rt. Reverend Edwin and Mrs. Ira Leidel, and to all the retired clergy, spouses, and widows of clergy who have served this diocese, but were unable to attend.

Be it further resolved, that this 86th Convention send our prayers and greetings to those clergy and delegates who were unable to attend this Convention;

Be it further resolved, that this 86th Convention send greetings to the Most Reverend Katherine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, and the Reverend Gay Jennings, President of the House of Deputies;

Be it further resolved, that this 86th Convention express our thanks to the Rt. Reverend John Howe for his presence and teaching at this convention, and the Reverend Jim Arends, Bishop of the Lutheran Synod (ELCA) of La Crosse for his sermon and presence at the convention Eucharist;

Be it further resolved, that this 86th Convention send greetings to the bishops and people of the Dioceses of Fond du Lac and Milwaukee wishing them God's richest blessings in this coming year;

And be it further resolved, that Bishop Lambert's Pastoral Address to this 86th Convention be published or read in all the congregations of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

Respectfully Submitted by,

The Very Reverend H. Scott Kirby

Dispatch of Business for the 86th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire

Dean Emeritus, Christ Church Cathedral

The Resolutions of Courtesy were Unanimously accepted by Voice Vote. So Moved.

21. Invitation to 2015 Convention

2015 Convention invitation extended by The Rev. Jim Lorenze, Deacon of Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire. Date to be determined. **Invitation accepted.**

11:13 AM Rt. Rev. Jay Lambert announced the completion of Convention business and asked for a motion to adjourn the 85th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

Joyce Kabasa MOVED to close Convention. Second. Voice Vote. Unanimous. So Moved.

Bishop Adams gave a final blessing and dismissed the 86th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

The Holy Eucharist followed at 11:45 AM at St. Mary's Church, Tomah. The Rev. Jim Arends, of the La Crosse Synod of ELCA preached. The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert and the Rev. Kathy Charles concelebrated and Dn. Irene McDaniel and Dn. Mary Rezin served as Deacons. The Offering from the service was split between the Haiti Project.

Following the Eucharist, lunch was served at Cranberry Country Lodge, Hayward.

**Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Aaron Zook
Secretary of the 86th Convention**

**Minutes Reviewed by:
The Rev. Kathy Charles
The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert**