**89th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire**

Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire, Wisconsin - Host Congregation

November 10th-11th, 2017

**FRIDAY, November 10**

**4:00 -- 6:00 pm** Registration and Check-in – Christ Church Cathedral

510 S. Farwell Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701

**6:00 - 6:20 Vespers** The Rt. Rev’s William Jay Lambert III, Celebrant

**6:20 - 6:35 Plenary Session**

1. **Call to Order in Christ Church Cathedral Nave**

Convention called to order by The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby, Dispatch of

Business. The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert, 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire, having offered an opening prayer to close the Vespers Service.

2. **Election of Secretary**

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

**3.** The Secretary appointed Rev. Charles Carter as Assistant Secretary.

**4**. **Credentials Committee Report**: Ms. Pam Grey, CC Cathedral. 40 clergy are eligible to vote, 22 present. Laity: 48 deputies are allowed and eligible to vote, there are 30 deputies present. A majority of laity and clergy are present. In a Vote by Orders: Clergy needs a vote of 12 or greater, Laity: 16 or greater.

**5**. **Welcome by Christ Church Cathedral:**

The Very Rev. Michael Greene, welcomed Convention to Eau Claire. The parish is honored to have Convention in Eau Claire and is thankful for the opportunity to serve the clergy, deputies and guests of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

**6. Appointments:**

* 1. Dispatch of Business: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert **Proposed the Very Rev. Scott Kirby to Convention. Response: Yes.**
  2. Parliamentarian: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert **Proposed Mr. Jim** **Pelish to Convention. Response: Yes.**
  3. Council of Advice: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert **Proposed Mr. Jim** **Pelish and the President of the Standing Committee and the Vice President of the Executive Council. 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.

**Rev.. George Stamm MOVED to accept the Rules of Order. Rev. Tony Ring Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.**

**Rev. Russ Tate MOVED to accept the Agenda. Mr. Ben Anderson Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.**

**8. Minutes of the 88th Diocesan Convention:**

The Very Rev. Scott Kirby Presented the Minutes of the 88th Diocesan Convention.

**Mr. James Glasser MOVED to accept the Minutes as presented. Mr. Ben Anderson Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.**

**9. Convention Recesses:**

Convention adjourned at 6:28 pm (social hour) to 9:30 a.m., Saturday, November 11th, 2017, the Great Hall of Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire.

Following the Dinner, the Rt. Rev. Susan Goff, Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia offered a presentation on the following:

**Diocesan Theme Presentation: *“Being a Christian in the 21st Century: An Exploration in Four Songs”***

**The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff:**

Bp. Goff began her presentation by having the assembled group stand and sing “Jesus Loves the Little Children,” which she then used as a launching point for talking about the nature of race relationships in the modern Church. She discussed the fact that, though many of us grew up knowing that song to be a fact about the inclusive nature of our faith, as adults we know that humanity is intrinsically tribal. She further noted that our tribal nature helps us to better understand ourselves, but also provides a ground for being suspicious of strangers and outsiders. She noted that our inherent draw to tribal mentalities has become very difficult in light of globalization, as it has become much more dangerous to be aggressively suspicious of other tribes. She called the Church to follow the example of Christ as he worked to break down tribal lines and defy traditional understandings of members of other groups, using the particular example of the Canaanite woman in Chapter 15 of the Gospel of Matthew.

After some small group discussion, Bp. Goff presented a second song, “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know,” which she used to begin to discuss the difficult concept of self-doubt in faith. She noted that for her, and many, the Collect for Purity rings true for everyone except ourselves. She noted that this tune and this prayer must be learned not just as an example of God’s general forgiveness, but can actually be used as individually based, self-reflective prayers of reassurance and that that same concept must be renewed for the sake of whole parishes that may be struggling to see their own value in the midst of decline in membership and attendance. Numbers aside, she noted, these concepts of Jesus’ inclusive love should be held in our individual and corporate hearts to embolden our sense of value in God’s larger Church. After having the assembled group stand and repeat these songs, Bp. Goff closed her presentation for the evening to be resumed the following morning.

**SATURDAY, November 11th**

**7:00-8:00 a.m.,** Registration Continues at Christ Church Cathedral.

**Diocesan Theme Presentation: *“Being a Christian in the 21st Century: An Exploration in Four Songs”***

**The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff:**

Bp. Goff resumed her presentation from the previous evening by having the assembled group stand and sing the round “God is Love/ The Love Round” which she noted is a perfect example of our call to draw others into relationship with God. She noted the story of the Pharisees testing Jesus on the primacy of individual laws, in which Jesus noted that the Love of God is intrinsically tied to the need to love our neighbors and how all other laws are connected not simply to our relationship with God, but also our relationship with each other. She suggested understanding this concept visually by imagining a vertical line to understand our relationship with God and a n horizontal line to represent our relationship with each other. She noted that when we combine the two lines, we find ourselves “at the heart of the Cross.” She further noted that in the midst of the current political climate, it is imperative that the church understand its role in bridging the horizontal space between people to bring them together “at the heart of the Cross.”

After some small group discussion, Bp. Goff presented the final song of her presentation, “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” which she noted how the plethora of verses different people add to the tune are indicative of God’s character as the Creator of All in Genesis, which show that God’s Creative powers were undeniable; He could not *not* create. She further noted the rhythmic poetry of the Creation Story which is broken on the fifth day to include the vast hordes of animals (which, she added, were created before humanity) and that they were blessed to be fruitful. She further stated that some scholars read the next passages to suggest that the ‘dominion’ that humanity is to exercise over all things, is nuanced to mean “skilled mastery” more than a ‘violent authority’ over creatures and creation. She noted the artistry that is necessary to “master the craft of being human.” She related the story of her time at the House of Bishops meeting in Alaska and how the native people of the area exhibited that same mindset in maintaining the delicate balance between dominion and dominance within their surroundings. She noted that this balance, in light of concerns about Climate change, is the general duty of humanity, and the specific obligation of the Church as given by God in the Creation Story.

Bp. Goff concluded her presentation by returning to the Four Songs and reminding us that “Jesus Loves the Little Children,” “Jesus Loves Me,” “God is Love,” and He calls us to Love all the creation, the Whole of which he has “In His Hands.”

**9:15 AM Convention Reconvenes at Christ Church Cathedral.**

The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert, III opened the session by acknowledging each member of convention who has served in the Armed Forces. He continued by recognizing individuals who have served on various mission and leadership groups. He concluded his opening remarks with prayer.

**10. Seat and Eligibility Report by Credentials Committee**:

Ms. Deb Lorenze, Christ Church Cathedral. 40 clergy are eligible to vote, 27 present. Laity: 48 deputies are allowed and eligible to vote, there are 35 deputies present. A majority of laity and clergy are present. In a Vote by Orders: Clergy needs a vote of 14 or greater, Laity: 18 or greater.

**Roll Call:**

**Clergy Present at Call to Order**: Rev. Patrick Augustine, Rev. Peter Augustine, Rev. Irene McDaniel, Rev. Kathleen Charles, Rev. William Radant, Very Rev. Scott Kirby, Rev. Tony Ring, Rev. Eleanor Michaud, Rev. Guy Usher, Rev. Art Hancock, Rev. Canon Aaron Zook, Rev. Charles Carter, Rev. Steven Burns, Rev. David Bauer, Rev. James Lorenze, Rev. Jackie Broughton, Very Rev. Michael Greene, Ven. Jo Glasser, Rev. Robert Hoekstra, Rev. Marlene Hogue, Rev. Tanya Scheff, Rev. Mary Rezin, Rev. Rose Ruthy, Rev. Russ Tate, Rev. Steve Russell, Rev. Bob Rosolowski.

**Bishops Present**: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert.

**Laity Present:** Art Carpenter, Ron Davis, Claire Fliess, Teri Gage Taylor, Ericka Gullerud, Bonita Aude, Kathie Kurchinski, Gregg Westigard, Evelyn Usher, Diane Bilderback, Debra Lorenze, Ron Hall, Sarah Letke, Monte Lewis, C. R. Hackworthy, David Schultz, James Glasser, Garrett Conover, Tim Donahue, Lee Donahue, Carla Corbin, Lora Stefanski, Merrie Jo Chamberlain, Ken Johnson, Martha Brandley, Dick Rueckl, , Diane Anders, Liz Archibald, Suzanne Funck, Jim Pelish, Jeno Love, Jan Isensee, Carol Rohde, Dan Durand, Jean Neste, Ron Neste, Nancy Sanoski, Cynthia Martz, Darrel Sanders, Sherry Koel.

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

**11. Elections for Diocesan Leadership Positions:**

For all positions that had only one nominee, Convention voted in favor of election for each by Voice Vote. All individuals who ran unopposed were unanimously elected.

**Rev. George Stamm** **MOVED to elect all nominees for unopposed election. Second. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.**

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

**Uncontested Elections:**

Standing Committee:

Clergy: Guy Usher+

Lay*:* Jeane Neste

Executive Council:

Lay: Evelyn Usher

Matthew Chromey

COM:

Clergy: Kathy Charles+

Dn. Steven Russell

Lay: Nancy Firth

Secretary:

Aaron Zook+

Treasurer:

Bob Weathers

Trustees:

Lynn Fowler

Bob Weathers

Ecclesiastical Disciplinary Board:

Clergy: Kathy Charles+

Lay: Lora Stefanski

**Contested Elections:**

Executive Council:

Clergy:Dn. Marlene Hogue

**12. Trustees of the Diocese of Eau Claire:**

**Presentation of 2017 Financial Reports and 2018 Budget**- Bob Weathers presented the report. All clergy and deputies received this report and the accompanying Budget Proposal in Advance. The Budget for 2018 is based on apportionment asking of 10%. Mr. Weathers pointed particularly to the budgetary implications of late Parochial Reports and the importance of making Apportionment payments in a timely manner. He noted a particular emphasis in the Budget for funding youth activities.

**Ms. Lee Donahue MOVED ACCEPTANCE of the 2018 budget. Rev. George StammSecond. Unanimous “Yes” voice vote. So moved.**

**13. 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 responses to the questions raised within Bishop Lambert’s Address. Bp. Lambert asked individuals to stand and share their thoughts on the role of the parish in the society of the community in which they reside. He and Bp. Goff responded to specific comments and questions from delegates and visitors.

**14. Resolutions:**

Very Rev’d H. Scott Kirby, on behalf of the Standing Committee, presented

**Resolution 2017-1**:

*Be it resolved, in recognition of the limited remaining Term of Service of the Rt. Rev’d William Jay Lambert, III, VIth Bishop of Eau Claire, that the 89th Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire does charge the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eau Claire to appoint suitable individuals to serve as a Strategic Planning Committee for the Search for the VIIth Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire.*

*Be it further resolved that the Strategic Planning Committee shall be composed of six members of the Diocese of Eau Claire and shall represent equal members of both the Lay and Clerical Orders of the Diocese of Eau Claire.*

*Be it further resolved that the Strategic Planning Committee shall appoint members to comprise the Search Committee for the VIIth Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire, as well as a Transition Committee for the VIIth Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire no later than June 15th, 2018. Each of the three committees together shall prepare and present to the 90th Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire a suitable plan and budget for conducting the Search for the VIIth Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire.*

Very Rev’d Michael Greene proposed an amendment to the Resolution that the third paragraph read as follows:

“*Be it further resolved that the Strategic Planning Committee shall ~~appoint~~* oversee and conduct a proper Diocesan-wide Election to populate *members to comprise the Search Committee for the VIIth Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire, as well as a Transition Committee for the VIIth Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire no later than June 15th, 2018. Each of the three committees together shall prepare and present to the 90th Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire a suitable plan and budget for conducting the Search for the VIIth Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire.”*

**Resolution 2017-1** was **Unanimously** accepted by **Voice Vote** as **amended. So Moved.**

**15. Advance Reports by Title:**

No Advance Reports were presented from the floor.

**16. 2017 Clergy Changes**

* + - The **Reverend** **Derek Washington** was Release and Removed from Holy Orders on Tuesday, **February 14th, 2017**.
    - The **Reverend** **Michael Newago** was ordained as a Priest at St. Andrew’s, Ashland on Monday, **May 1st, 2017**.
    - The **Reverend** **Michael Newago** was named Priest in Charge at St. Andrew’s, Ashland and Christ Church, Bayfield on Monday, **May 1st, 2017**.
    - Mr. **Charles Carter** was ordained as a Transitional Deacon at Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire on Saturday, **August 12th, 2017**.
    - The **Reverend** **Michael Newago** transferred his Letters Dimissory from the Diocese of Eau Claire to the Diocese of Springfield on **August 30th, 2017.**
    - The **Reverend Charles Carter** was named Deacon in Charge at St. Mary’s, Tomah on Friday, **September 1st, 2017**.
    - The **Reverend Tanya Scheff** transferred her Letters Dimissory from the Diocese of Northern Indiana to the Diocese of Eau Claire on **September 6th, 2017.**
    - The **Reverend Tanya Scheff** was named Priest in Charge at St. Andrew’s, Ashland and Christ Church, Bayfield **October 1st, 2017.**
    - Ms. **Barb Manzo** was ordained as a Vocational Deacon at Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire on Saturday, **October 28th, 2017**.
    - Mr. **Russ Tate** was ordained as a Vocational Deacon at Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire on Saturday, **October 28th, 2017**.

**17. Bishop’s Appointments**

**Commission on Ministry**

*Clergy:* The Venerable Jo Glasser

*Lay:* Dr. Paul Chase

Ms. Mary Ellen Filkins

Ms. Evelyn Usher

**Bishop’s Council of Advice**

President of the Standing Committee

Vice-President of the Executive Council

**Camps and Conferences**

Ms. Alex Lorenz

Mr. William Broughton

**Chancellor**

Mr. James Pelish

**Constitutions and Canons/Resolutions**

Bishop (ex officio)

Chancellor (ex officio)

The Reverend Guy Usher

The Reverend Canon Aaron Zook

Mr. Bill Smith

**Convention Dispatch of Business**

The Very Reverend Scott Kirby

**Family Retreat Board and Cursillo Secretariat**

Ms. Ellen Allison

Ms. Alice Brown

Ms. Jany Chumas

Mr. Ron Hall

Ms. Cinders Pogalz

Ms. Debra Lorenze

**Ecumenical Officer**

The Reverend Steven Burns

**Episcopal Relief and Development**

Ms. Alice Brown

**Examining Chaplains**

Bishop

The Reverend Canon Bruce Gardner

The Very Reverend Michael Greene

The Very Reverend Scott Kirby

**Liturgy and Worship**

The Reverend Canon Bruce Gardner

The Very Reverend Michael Greene

The Very Reverend Scott Kirby

The Reverend Canon Aaron Zook

**Nominating Committee**

President of the Standing Committee

Vice-President of the Executive Council

Canon to the Ordinary

**United Thank Offering (UTO)**

Ms. Anita Olds

**Wisconsin Council of Churches**

Bishop

The Reverend Steven Burns

Mrs. Susan Burns

**18**. **Advance Reports**

Dispatch of Business Called attention to the Advanced Reports with no call for approval.

**19. Resolutions of Courtesy**

Presented by The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby

**RESOLUTIONS of COURTESY**

November 11, 2017

Be it resolved, that the 89th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire extend our appreciation to the Dean, Deb Lorenze, Becky Van Es, Deb Christianson, Christa Cates, and numerous volunteers, and the clergy of Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire, Wisconsin whose singular efforts and diligence provided for the business, worship, and dining arrangements for this Convention;

Be it further resolved, that this 89th Convention recognize the Reverend

Canon 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 89th 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 89th Convention send our greetings and best wishes to the Rt. Reverend William Wantland, the Rt. Reverend Keith and Mrs. Suzie Whitmore, the Rt. Reverend Edwin and Mrs. Ira Leidel, Mrs. May Ruth Lambert, 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 89th Convention send greetings to the Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop, the Right Reverend Chad Gandiya, and the Reverend Gay Jennings, President of the House of Deputies;

Be it further resolved, that this 89th Convention express our thanks to the Rt. Reverend Susan Goff for her presence and teaching at this convention, and the Reverend George Stamm for his sermon at the convention Eucharist;

Be it further resolved, that this 89th 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 the Bishop Lambert’s Pastoral Address to this 89th Convention be published or read in all congregations of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

Respectfully Submitted by,

The Very Reverend H. Scott Kirby

Dispatch of Business for the 89th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire   
Dean Emeritus, Christ Church Cathedral

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

**20. Invitation to 2018 Convention**

2018 Convention invitation extended by The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby, Priest-in-Charge of Grace Church, Rice Lake. Date to be determined. 2019 invitation was not yet extended.

**Invitation accepted.**

**11:15 AM Rt. Rev. Jay Lambert announced the completion of Convention business and asked for a motion to adjourn the 89th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.**

**Rev. George Stamm MOVED to close Convention. Second. Voice Vote. Unanimous. So Moved.**

**Bishop Lambert led the Doxology and dismissed the 88th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.**

**The Holy Eucharist followed at 12:00 PM at Christ Church Cathedral. The Rev. George Stamm preached and was installed as Canon to the Retired Clergy. The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert celebrated and Ven. Jo Glasser served as Deacon. The Offering from the service was given to St. Marc’s Medical Clinic, Jeanette, Haiti.**

**Following the Eucharist, lunch was served at Christ Church Cathedral, Eau Claire.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**The Rev. Canon Aaron Zook**

**Secretary of the 89th Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire**

**Minutes Reviewed by:**

**The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert**