

South Dakota Episcopal

ChurchNews



May 2004

The Episcopal Church in South Dakota is called to be a sacred circle of love, prayer, and service gathered around the gospel

House of Bishops proposes a plan for Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight

By Jan Nunley and Matthew Davies [ENS]

After two and a half days of intensive conversation and prayer, the Episcopal Church's House of Bishops released a plan for dealing with conflict between bishops and congregations entitled "Caring For All The Churches: A Response of the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church to an expressed need of the Church."

The three-page document, crafted during the March 19-25 Spring retreat of the bishops at Camp Allen, Texas, stresses what **Bishop Charles Jenkins** of Louisiana, president of the Presiding Bishop's Council of Advice, called "generous accommodation" to "those in the church who find themselves in distress because of the actions of the 74th General Convention." [The document in its entirety is located on the diocesan website www.diocesesd.org on the Message Board]



It outlines a plan for what is called "Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight." The process begins with a bishop and congregation meeting together "with a consultant, if needed, to find ways to work together." If that is not successful, the next step is to implement a plan for delegated oversight. Congregational leadership "may seek from their diocesan bishop (or the

diocesan bishop may suggest) a conference regarding the appropriateness and conditions for Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight" and "the bishop may appoint another bishop to provide pastoral oversight" for the congregation. If conflict remains, "there may then be an appeal to the bishop who is president or vice-president of the ECUSA province in which the congregation is geographically located, for help in seeking a resolution." But such an appeal cannot take place without notification of the diocesan bishop.

The provincial bishop involved may request two other bishops "representative of the divergent views in this church" to consult and recommend a course of action. Any visiting bishop "shall be a member in good standing in this Church," and all plans for oversight should be "for the purpose of reconciliation" and "for a stated period of time with regular reviews." Regular reports to the Presiding Bishop, the Council of Advice, and the House of Bishops are expected.

Costly work of reconciliation

Presiding Bishop Frank T. Griswold issued a statement praising the bishops for their work:

"I could not possibly be more proud of our bishops, who with great care and deliberation sought to articulate our shared ministry

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The Diocese of South Dakota



Statement of Ownership South Dakota Episcopal

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Greetings in the Name of Our Lord:

Since our Convention in September, I have had the opportunity to visit a number of congregations and engage in the dialogue recommended at our Convention. For the most part the conversations were good exchanges of ideas and concerns, and some recommendations were forthcoming. I am scheduled to continue the dialog until the Convention in September, 2004 and am considering a different way of doing our business then, that will include some basic teaching on the Episcopal tradition. More will be forthcoming on the work of our Convention in the ChurchNews.

At a Clergy gathering on Feb 10-11 at Trinity, Pierre, we began some discussions with the clergy about the issue of Biblical interpretation and the whole issue of human sexuality. While I found the discussion stimulating and informative, my perception is that there was a fair amount of confusion about the purpose of the Clergy gathering. One of the things that I have heard is that someone will be traveling around the diocese to every congregation to see if their union can be blessed by the local clergy. I believe that is someone's misconception of the purpose of the meeting. If anyone has been told that would be happening, please contact me and tell me from whom you heard

that incorrect information. That sort of rumor is not particularly helpful in dealing with such a complex issue as human sexuality. I am appalled that a member of the clergy would circulate such a rumor!

The House of Bishops met at Camp Allen near Houston, Texas on March 19-23. One of the major discussions concerned the issue of Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight for those of the church who are unhappy with the actions of the Minneapolis Convention. This Pastoral Oversight is limited to those congregations that are dealing with the whole issue of human sexuality. There is an article in this edition of the CN about oversight. I draw your attention to this because it has been promoted by two clergy in the diocese as a way to have another Bishop of the church to make visitations in the diocese. It should be noted that Pastoral Oversight will be only for those who are at odds over General Convention action, and not because you like or dislike the sitting Bishop. As I receive more information concerning this plan, I will put in place the process that we will be using to provide such oversight.

I have been in contact with the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, and have agreed to attend and be the Celebrant on December 12, 2004, South Dakota Day at the National Cathedral. Ordinarily, the day honoring a particular State or Diocese includes an opportunity for some folks from the Diocese to attend and be present as well. While the Diocese does not have the funds to cover travel for a group to this event, my hope would be that some folks will want to take the opportunity to visit Washington on December 12 and be present at the service that day. I understand that our Congressional dele-

(Continued on page 3)

- ? Change of address
? Subscription—\$5/yr.
? Cancellation
? Donation

Change of Address?

You can help the Diocese of South Dakota save money in postage due. Use this form to give us your new address BEFORE you move.

name

address

address

date



Bishop's Page . . .

(Continued from page 2)

gation will be invited as well as others who may be from South Dakota. I will be inviting some clergy to attend and participate with me at the service. The Dean of the Calvary Cathedral and I have been discussing the possibility of coordination of a Youth Group or Rite 13 or J2A visit to the National Cathedral on South Dakota Day. It appears that this year may not be the right time, but we continue to explore possibilities.

And finally, I have received information that the Diocese will not be eligible for further grants from the National Church if Parochial Reports are not completed. If you have not filed the required Parochial Report by now, it will be due by May 15, 2004. I expect all congregations to complete their Parochial Reports and have them submitted to the office in a timely manner.

Bishop Creighton Robertson

“Vocatus atque non vocatus deus aderit...”
(Bidden or not bidden, God is present)

South Dakota inspires best-selling author's thriller

By Bill Harlan,
Rapid City Journal Staff Writer

A new best-selling thriller novel is set in two locations – the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., and the Homestake gold mine in Lead, SD.

Brad Meltzer's *The Zero Game* debuted at #3 on the New York Times best-seller list in January. Five weeks later, it's #9. Meltzer has had five books published,

and all of them have been best-sellers. His books include *The Tenth Justice* and *The Millionaires*.

Here's the New York Times best-seller blurb for Meltzer's latest book: “A seemingly harmless game played by congressional staff members leads to murderous intrigue.” The “harmless game” involves betting on legislation, and it also leads 8,000 feet underground to the bottom of a gold mine in the Black Hills. “I will say, without a question, the scene I'm getting the most e-mails, phone calls, and reactions from at signings is that mining scene,” Meltzer said.

Meltzer changed *Homestake* to “Homestead” and he changed Lead to “Leed.” He also fictionalized some of the geography of the Black Hills and part of the layout of the mine itself. Still, it's clear where he got his material. *Homestake*, after all, is the only 8,000-foot-deep mine in North America. It's also the only gold mine in North America being considered as a site for a proposed underground physics laboratory.

In fact, it was a story in the Washington Post about the Homestake underground lab proposal that got Meltzer interested in the mine. South Dakota Sen. Tom Daschle had introduced legislation to help Homestake owner Barrick Gold Corp. transfer the mine to federal ownership.

Meltzer learned that physicists use deep labs to study subatomic particles called neutrinos. Political intrigue and neutrino science are familiar bedfellows in South Dakota, but Meltzer thought the odd combination might provide an unusual framework for a thriller. “People are always fascinated by what they don't know,” he said.

Readers do seem to be responding to the epic, 100-page chase Meltzer set deep in the “Homestead” mine. “They say to me,
(Continued on page 4)



South Dakota
News



Meltzer book . . .

(Continued from page 3)

‘That is the scariest thing you’ve ever written.’”

Meltzer is a meticulous researcher. He talked his way into the attic of the White House and into the tunnels below Disney World for previous books, and he was equally determined to get underground at Homestake. He got his wish in the nick of time. Last summer, Barrick turned off the underground pumps, and now the mine is slowly filling with water. Two years ago, however, when Meltzer was researching the book, the mine was dry and in working order.

His guide for two day-long tours was (Deacon) **Tom Regan** of Lead – a long-time Homestake miner who has worked at the mine as a consultant for Barrick since 2000. Regan took Meltzer all the way to the 8,000-foot level, where the rock temperature is 135 degrees.

“That was part of the research, to sit in that darkness and get it right,” Meltzer said.

He meant that part about the darkness literally. “I’ll never forget that moment. Tom looked at me and said, ‘Are you ready?’” Both men turned off their headlamps – something every experienced Homestake miner has done at one time or another, just to see the weird effects the mind and the nervous system produce in total darkness.

Now those effects are in the book, along with the pungent aroma of the underground “red wagon.” (Ask someone from Lead.)

Tom Regan, who knows Homestake as well as anybody in Lead, has been impressed by Meltzer’s attention to detail. “I think he really captures a sense of the depth and heat,” he said. Meltzer is just as

complimentary about Regan. “He was the one I wanted to please,” he said. Meltzer repaid Regan by putting him in the book, as the mayor of “Leed.”

Meltzer even ended up speaking to a Lead Kiwanis Club dinner. “That wouldn’t happen in Washington, D.C.,” he said. “The people in Lead were the nicest people I’ve met anywhere doing research.”

Regan said he also recognized a couple of other characters in the book. “I don’t want to name names,” he said, “but I saw one the other day, and I recommended he read the book because he’s in there – or parts of him.”

Emmanuel Church, Rapid City, completes installation of a new pipe organ

For the congregation of **Emmanuel Episcopal Church** in Rapid City, the Lenten season of self-denial had a new meaning as the congregation gave up their organ for Lent.

Following Ash Wednesday services an organ building crew, led by **David Salmen** of Wessington Springs, removed the pipe organ that had led worship since the early 1940’s with many pipes of the organ dating to life in an earlier theater organ. Once the organ had been removed with about 250 pipes carefully salvaged for reuse in the new instrument, reconstruction of the organ chamber area began. Walls were insulated and re-plastered to provide a more stable environment for the new organ. The tone opening was also enlarged to provide greater tonal egress from the organ chamber.

On March 16 the new Salmen pipe organ was delivered and unloaded at Emmanuel Church. An installation crew from South Dakota, Wyoming, and Colorado began

(Continued on page 5)



Organ . . .

(Continued from page 4)

the task of assembling the organ in its new home. Within eight days the physical installation of the organ was complete, and the painstaking process of tonal regulation began. It is in this phase of the organ's completion that its beauty of sound is realized when the organ is married acoustically to work with the sanctuary. Each of the organ's nearly 1200 pipes was regulated for proper speech, pitch, color, power, and blend.

With the procession of palms and loud hosannas on Palm Sunday, the new organ began its role of leading the Emmanuel congregation in worship. With the many diverse services of Holy Week and Easter the organ's voice was heard in great variety in its new home. The visual design of the organ complements the existing reredos and contains the pipes of the Great organ. The tonal design of the organ is of an Anglican flavor to have the flexibility necessary to lead and accompany the great diversity and wealth found in Episcopal church music.

The Salmen organ at Emmanuel will be featured on Wednesday, May 26, in a dedicatory concert by organist Dr. John Weaver of New York City. Dr. Weaver, longtime organist and choirmaster at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in NYC, serves as head of the organ department at the Julliard School of Music and has recently retired from a similar position at the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia. Joining Dr. Weaver in the evening's performance will be his wife Marianne, flutist. Admission to the concert will be by reserved tickets only. Tickets may be reserved by calling the Emmanuel Church office at 605-342-0909.

Organ builder David Salmen served as organist/choirmaster at Grace Church, Huron from 1983-1999. David also built the organ at Grace Church. The Salmen residence near Wessington Springs is home to the

largest pipe organ in South Dakota and is frequently opened to the public for concerts, silent movies, and Evensong.

by David Salmen



St. John the Baptist, Crow Creek holds Easter Egg Hunt



photos submitted
by Lana Steele, Sr.
Warden

Children of St. John's at Crow Creek gathered for the 3rd annual Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, April 4. Competition was fierce, as prizes included a big stuffed rabbit (won by Tulaire Bird), \$20 (Tory Big Eagle), and a new bike (Jazz Traversie), as well as other toys and candy.



Ede Magedanz and June Comstock of St. Agnes Guild, Christ Church, Milbank, donate \$1,000 from their pecan sale to Susan Hurst, administrator of the Northeast South Dakota Healthcare Foundation

photo from *Grant County Review*

Women of Christ Church, Milbank donate to hospital fund

The nine women of St. Agnes Guild at **Christ Church, Milbank** sold pounds and pounds of pecans last fall, raising \$1000 which they donated to the Milbank Area Hospital Fund Drive. The hospital is being purchased with donations and benefit programs from the Catholic Sisters who were going to close the hospital.

The women of Christ Church also report having had a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (each member attending brought guests), and holding a service each Wednesday evening in Lent, preceded by and soup and bread supper. Guests were brought to these services, as well.

St. Paul's, Brookings to start a knitting ministry

Deacon **Judy Petersen** has called the women of **St. Paul's, Brookings**, to explore a knitting ministry. The women will meet once a month for prayer and

knitting. The object is to knit shawls (and/or lap robes) for people with cancer, or troubles, or loss in their lives with the idea that when they wrap themselves in the shawl they also wrap themselves in the prayers that were said for them as the shawl was knitted.

St. Andrew's, Rapid City continues and begins outreach ministries

St. Andrew's, Rapid City, has served meals at the Cornerstone Mission on a monthly basis for over 20 years. 145 – 150 homeless people each month have eaten the St. Andrew's Goulash and rate it in the top 5 meals served at the Mission. The people of St. Andrew's are seeking a new name (“more gourmet-sounding”) for the goulash, but won't alter the recipe. Why mess with a sure thing?

St. Andrew's is also partnering with Love, Inc. in Rapid City to help provide toiletry and personal hygiene items for persons unable to obtain them. Those in need might have lost a job, are escaping an abusive relationship, or are homeless. This ministry should be up and running by June.



Deacon **Caroline I. Jones** (born April 1, 1934) died on March 7, 2004. She was ordained a deacon in 1994. There was a funeral service for her at St. Matthew's, Rapid City on March 9 and a funeral/committal service at Christ Church, Ft. Thompson on March 11.

The Rev. Jim Pearson first got to know Caroline when she returned to Ft. Thompson after the death of her husband. “I soon



came to admire her," said Fr. Jim, "for her determination to become a deacon, gathering strength from the spirit of her husband. I don't know of anyone who didn't like Carol—such an easy manner, good sense of humor, a ready smile, and a commitment to the church...One of her special gifts for ministry was

pastoral calling...most everyone could feel comfortable around her and was blessed by her visit."

Ken Owens, 74, died April 2, 2004, at Rapid City Regional Hospital. Kenneth Owens was born April 24, 1929 in Grenville, SD. He attended St. Elizabeth's School and graduated from Wakpala High School.

Major Owens was a 30-year Veteran of the U.S. Army. He served in both the Korean & Vietnam wars. He was commissioned in the Army Reserve, served as an Officer in Vietnam and was awarded the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Army Commendation medal.

Post retirement, he was active in the Episcopal Church in Minneapolis and in St. Paul, MN. He and Grace moved to Rapid City in 1988 where he continued to serve the Church. He was a Senior Catechist and served on the Standing Committee and Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of South Dakota and on numerous other boards and committees of the local and National churches.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Grace Hoffman Owens; daughter, Patricia; three sisters; and a host of nieces and nephews. Ken was preceded in death by his parents, 2 sisters, and 3 brothers.

The funeral service was held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on April 5, followed by interment at the Black Hills National Cemetery. A memorial has been established and donations may be made to the Niobrara Council for Native American Ministerial Training.

Published in the Rapid City Journal on 4/4/2004.

Albert Thomas, Santee Mission Senior Catechist and long-time member of Holy Faith Church, died on April 11. Funeral services were held at Our Most Merciful Savior Church in Santee on April 15.

John Estes, Senior Catechist at Christ Church, Ft. Thompson, died on April 15. Services were tentatively scheduled (at the time this went to the printers) for April 19.

Welcome back!

The diocese welcomes back **Fr. Lyle Martin**. After nearly 3 years of ministry in Blair, Nebraska, Fr. Lyle retired on February 1 and moved to his home state of South Dakota.

A late-comer to ordained ministry, Lyle entered seminary at the age of 62. He was a deacon for 2 years and has been a priest for 14 years.

For almost 7 years he worked on an Indian reservation in SD. His concern for the poverty of his area prompted him to work with the Salvation Army and to establish thrift stores in Winner, SD and Sidney, NE. Today, the Winner store generates \$60,000 a year for the community, while the Nebraska store generates \$70,000. In Blair, NE he organized the Joseph's Coat thrift store which is off to a good start.

But above all else, Fr. Lyle has helped provide spiritual guidance and counseling when needed. "I love to visit with people," he told the Blair *Progress*. "I don't seem to ever get tired of people. My favorite hangout in Blair is the Blair Maple and the Legion Club. My ministry in Sidney was in Harvey's Bar. We had five funerals and two weddings in there. I like to go where the people are."

He has moved to Sturgis to be near his children and grandchildren. Although retired, he noted that there was a Veterans Administration Hospital a short distance from his new home. "There's a lot of veterans out there...and they really need to tell somebody (what they went through)."

He also hopes to write a book about religion during his retirement—a book that focuses on how simple religion is—as well as travel and supply area churches as needed. And "I understand there's not a thrift shop in Sturgis."

*Excerpts from the Blair Progress,
February 27, 2004*



Niobrara School for Ministry

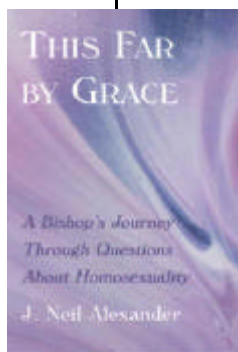
Niobrara School for Ministry Summer Seminary to study Scripture

The Niobrara School for Ministry Summer Seminary will convene at Black Hills State University on Sunday evening, June 6, 2004 and conclude by Friday afternoon, June 11.

The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Wright, Associate Professor of Old Testament at the School of Theology, University of the South, Seawanee, TN, will be this year's instructor. She will be facilitating a discussion on Scripture, focusing more on the New Testament, particularly the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

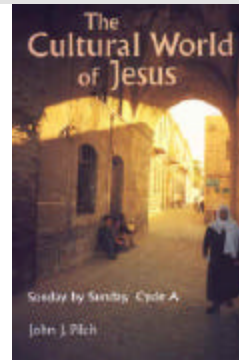
The title for Summer Seminary is **Listening to Balaam's Ass: Breaking Open the Word of God**. Dr. Wright says "In the Bible the word of God never 'comes' to someone, rather it 'happens' to a person. Through a combination of study, worship, reflection, practice, and fellowship, this year's Summer Seminary will go deeply into biblical texts in the hope and expectation that God's living word will 'happen' to us as well. We will focus primarily on the gospels of Matthew and Luke."

Three texts will be required, two of which are lectionary studies and the other a personal reflection by the Bishop of Atlanta written in the wake of 2003 General Convention. The cost for the three books is \$40.00 which includes shipping. Dr. Wright will also bring some handouts and materials to be used for our work together.



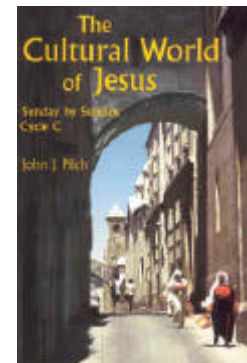
The texts are:

This Far by Grace
by The Rt. Rev. Neil Alexander



The Cultural World of Jesus: Sunday by Sunday, Cycle C and Cycle A

John Pilch, Editor



One note: The lectionary texts, published by Liturgical Press, follow the Roman Catholic lectionary cycle which is essentially the same as that which we follow, with a few variations.

A registration form is found on the next page of the *ChurchNews*. Deadline is May 1, 2004

Niobrara Summer Seminary provides an opportunity for continuing education for all clergy and others who are interested in quality theological education.

Graduate Credit

For those who would welcome graduate credit, an application is being made to Augustana College for students in the Niobrara School for Ministry to receive graduate credit for Ministry Weekends and Summer Seminary. There will be one credit for Ministry Weekends; two credits for Summer Seminary. If you are interested in receiving graduate credit, please let me know.

In addition, ITTI (Indigenous Theological Training Institute) will offer scholarships to the Niobrara School for Ministry for all native students. There is an application form available at the Diocesan Office.

Contact The Rev. Canon Karen Hall at 605-338-9751.



NIOBRARA SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY
SUMMER SESSION

Listening to Balaam's Ass: Breaking Open the Word of God

Instructor: The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Wright
Associate Professor of Old Testament
School of Theology, University of the South
Sewanee, Tennessee

June 6-11, 2004

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Congregation _____

Fee to be included *with* Registration Form (Required of all participants)
_____ \$40.00 This fee covers the cost of the textbooks plus shipping and handling

Fees due into the Diocesan office *before* attending Summer Seminary

_____ Room and Board: \$200.00

_____ Meals only: \$125.00

Total fees to be paid *including* registration fees \$_____

I would like to share a room with _____

I have the following dietary needs:

I have the following physical needs (i.e. no stairs, medication, medical condition). Please explain.

Please send the registration form and registration fee to:
The Rev. Canon Karen E. Hall
Diocese of South Dakota
500 S. Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814



132nd NIOBRARA CONVOCAATION (2004)

"One Generation shall praise your works to another" Psalm 145:4

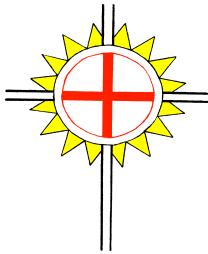
June 24-27, 2004

Pow-wow Grounds
at the Ft. Randall Casino/Hotel

Local motel listings

Ft Randall Casino Hotel	605-487-7871
Pickstown: Fort Randall Inn	605-487-7801
Dakota Inn	605-487-7404
Wagner: Super 8	605-384-5464
Sleepy Pine	605-384-5936
Lake Andes: River Hills	605-487-7680

Camping facilities are available at the pow-wow grounds on a first come, first served basis. The state camp grounds need a state parks sticker to use the camp grounds and cabins. For more information call 1-800-710-2267.



SOME DIOCESAN CONVENTION PRELIMINARIES

At the 2004 Diocesan Convention, the following positions and offices will be open for election:

General Convention Deputies for 2006 General Convention in Columbus, 6/13-21
Diocesan Treasurer
Secretary of Convention
Registrar
Standing Committee
Trial Court
Province VI Deputies

A nomination form is found on page 11 of this issue of *ChurchNews*.

Pre-Convention Deanery Meetings:

Central & Northwest Deaneries

August 28 Trinity, Pierre (4 pm)

Eastern & Northeast Deaneries

August 29 St. Paul's, Brookings (4 pm)

Rosebud & Pine Ridge Deaneries

Sept 11 Trinity, Mission (4 pm)

Black Hills Deanery

Sept 12 St. Luke's, Hot Springs (2 pm)

Deadlines:

According to Resolution #003 (adopted at the 2003 convention) the deadline for submission of resolutions by vestries, diocesan committees, individual delegates, organizations, or agencies of the church to be received in the Diocesan Office is no later than 60 days prior to convention. That date is

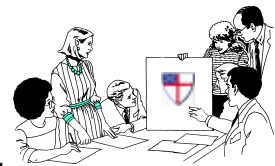
July 26, 2004.

Exhibitors wanted for Diocesan Convention

Do you have a ministry/interest/skill you would like to share with the diocese, or know someone who would?

Exhibit space is available at the Ramkota Inn in Pierre during the Diocesan Convention.

The unwritten policy is that exhibits be of ministries or interests appropriate to the Episcopal Church. Items may be sold at the table.



If interested, or if you have questions, contact the Diocesan Office.

Convention Dates: September 24-26, 2004 in Pierre.



2004 Nomination Form

Please use this form to submit nominations for positions which will appear on the ballot at the September 2004 Annual Diocesan Convention. Positions are listed and described on the back. According to the Convention Rules of Order, prior to August 1 nominations may be submitted to the diocesan office only by Region Deanery Assemblies, the Niobrara Convocation, or a certified convention delegate.

Please fill in all areas, and return the form to

Diocesan Office
500 S. Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814

Name of person nominated: _____

Address: _____

e-mail: _____

Telephone: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Congregation/City: _____

Position nominated for: _____

Nominated by: _____

(Signature)

Has this person accepted nomination? Yes _____ No _____

Yes, I accept this nomination: _____

(Signature)

Please send the candidate's brief biographical information and a recent photo. Background information should include information that demonstrates the skills, experience and commitment the nominee would bring to this position.

Return nomination form by August 5 to be included in convention mailings and *ChurchNews*.
(Nominations are accepted until Saturday morning of Convention.)

(Positions are listed on the back of this form, page 12 of the ChurchNews)



Diocesan Treasurer, 3 year term

Secretary of Convention, 3 year term

Records proceedings of Annual and Special Diocesan Conventions, as well as conducts certain correspondence between diocese and national church as per national canon.

Registrar/Historiographer, 3 year term

General Convention Deputies for 2006 General Convention in Columbus (June 13-21, 2006)

4 Clergy Deputies, canonically resident in the Diocese

4 Lay Deputies, confirmed adult communicants

Alternates

General Convention Deputies are a continuing Convention committee for a 3 year term, in addition to the 2-week commitment in June, 2006.

Standing Committee

1 Presbyter to fill 4 year term (term expires 2008)

1 Lay person to fill 4 year term (term expires 2008)

When there is a Bishop in charge of the Diocese, the Standing Committee shall be the Bishop's Council of Advice. When the Diocese is without a Bishop or the Bishop is unable to act as such, then the Standing Committee of the diocese shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority as provided by the General Convention Constitution and Canons. The Standing Committee also plays a major part in the recommendation of persons to continue in the ordination process. The Standing Committee consists of eight members made up of four canonically resident presbyters and four confirmed adult communicants of this Church in good standing. Election shall be made by the diocesan convention for a term of four years, and members shall be entitled to election for two terms. The Standing Committee meets approximately 4 times a year, or as needed.

Province VI Deputy

1 Clergy (presbyter or deacon) to fill 3 year term (term expires 2007)

1 Clergy for 2 year unexpired term (term expires 2006)

1 Lay person to fill 3 year term (term expires 2007)

Alternates

Each Province has a Synod consisting of a House of Bishops and a House of Deputies which meet on a regular basis (generally yearly around the Province) for the purpose of organizing and carrying out the responsibilities of the Province. The Provincial Synod can enact ordinances for its own regulation, elect judges of the Provincial Court of Review, perform such duties as may be committed to it by the General Convention, and deal with other matters within the Province, as directed and limited by Canon. At the Annual Diocesan Convention there shall be elected one clerical and one lay deputy and one clerical and one lay alternate to the Provincial Synod for a term of three years.

Trial Court

1 Presbyter for 5 year term (term expires 2009)

Trial Court is an elected body consisting of five members (3 presbyters and 2 lay persons) for terms of five years for the trial of any priest or deacon subject to its jurisdiction. The Trial Court shall be governed by the Rules of Procedure set forth in Appendix A to the General Convention Title IV and by Federal Rules of Evidence.



Advocacy group evaluates state legislative action

Inez Harris (Christ Church, Yankton) is a member of the Advocacy group that works with the Association of Christian Churches (of which the Episcopal Church is a member) during the South Dakota Legislature, supporting issues that affect hunger issues, the poor, children, etc. Anyone can be a part of this group, she says, which was formed about five years ago. **Cathy Brechtelsbauer** keeps the group informed during the session and they respond when necessary to the various legislators in Pierre. “And it does make a difference in what happens sometimes; however, it seems the legislators are reluctant to REALLY consider the needs of the poor, the underpaid,” says Harris.

She sent to *ChurchNews* a report on the final outcome of what happened in Pierre for the benefit of the needy and children.

3/16/04 RESULTS

The legislature ended yesterday. How did kids fare?

For children vulnerable to the ill effects of hunger, poverty, and violence, there was a mixed bag of results.

GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS:

????SB182 passed and will end punishment by death for juvenile offenders.

????Childcare task force, SB117, passed. A new taskforce will study and report to the legislature issues on improving quality of childcare.

????Also passed: HB1049 will make a more careful definition of payday loans, so that all such loans are included in the law.

????TANF: The Appropriations Committee included a 1.5% cost-of-living adjustment for TANF in the budget bill, SB195. It will add an average \$5/month to the TANF

payments and will leave the maximum TANF payment at 38% of the poverty level. [TANF= Temporary Assistance for Needy Families]

????Some children will get more food from the one food tax bill that passed – those who have family income low enough, they don't get full food stamps, and their parents know about the program and are willing and able to do paperwork four times a year.

????CHIP, free health care for children, maintained at current levels.

BAD NEWS FOR KIDS:

????Lots of other children will continue to miss the food or other basic necessities that they lose because of the tax on food and utilities in South Dakota. All SEVEN bills that would end or reduce the food tax were defeated. [It is interesting that the legislature refused to raise its 20% cap on reserves for school districts. Meanwhile, with no such cap, our state government has over \$830 million in various reserve-type accounts. – Compare to our \$963 million state general fund.]

????Children whose parents earn only minimum wage (still \$5.15) or close to it will miss out on life's basics, or time with their parents (who are working multiple jobs), or both. The bill to raise minimum wage failed.

????Video lottery remains. The bill failed, but it had a problematic revenue source.

????Unemployment insurance keeps the same restrictions and low benefits. (no bill)

????Without the provisions of HB1239, which was defeated, families will continue as before to lose their cars to the short-term loan companies that take car titles as collateral for a small loan.

(Continued on page 14)



**Women's
News**



Advocacy Issues . . .

(Continued from page 13)

- ????The maximum TANF payment remains only 38% of the poverty level. (Federal funds are available for higher payments.)
- ????Some children still don't have health coverage. CHIP was maintained but not expanded. (no bill on this)

WHAT TO DO?

- ????The whole Legislature will be elected in November. Ask all candidates for state legislature:
 - What is your plan for ending poverty?
 - Will you vote to raise minimum wage?
 - What is your plan to end the tax on food?
- ????Write letters to editors calling for changes that will help to end hunger, poverty and violence.
- ????For info on food tax: www.endthefoodtax.org
- ????Gather signatures on petitions to end the food tax, and urge people to vote YES in November.

Thank you for all your contacts to decision-makers and for your prayers. We hope you recognize the value of your participation and will continue to speak up for those who need voices.

Sincerely,
Cathy Brechtelsbauer
for the Advocacy Project

Anglican women meet in New York

By Mary Beth Diss, editor of the *Episcopal New Yorker*.

A group of Anglican women (including **Ramona Shields-Burroughs**, Calvary Cathedral) taking part in the annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW) assembled March 7 on the grounds of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, where the Episcopal Diocese of New York hosted a gathering of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) representatives to speak of their future goals as a united body and their individual work in ministering to women and

children throughout the world.

Phoebe Griswold, lead Anglican delegate to the UNCSW and wife of Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold, explained that the UN Commission would be focusing on two issues: the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality and women's equal participation in conflict prevention and peace-building.

Griswold explained that the Anglican Communion is participating in the UNCSW as a faith-based organization that says "we believe that all humanity is made in the image of God and that we are called to embody Christ's reconciling love in the world and strive for peace and justice for all people."

She added that she hopes the work of women in the Communion can continue. "We are listening to the voice of the spirit in this work for the future possibilities of an international Anglican Women's Network."

Speakers included

- ? Archdeacon Taimalelagi Fagamalama Tuatagaloa-Matalavea, Anglican Observer to the United Nations, under whose auspices the ACC delegates have gathered;
- ? Jane Williams, theologian, lecturer, author and wife of Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, keynote speaker on peace;
- ? Jenny Te Paa, the Ahorangi/Dean of Te Rau Kahikatea and constituent of St. John's Theological College in Auckland, New Zealand, working with migrant workers, as well as with women who are victims of domestic violence and other injustices;
- ? Jyotsna Rani Patro, President of the Women's Fellowship for Christian Service and the All India Council of Christian Women (Unit IV), working with women in the Indian subcontinent;
- ? Nema Aluku, an HIV/AIDS programme coordinator with the Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa, describing the harrowing situation facing Africans;
- ? Clair Malik, Director of the Deaf Unit at El Malek el Saleh in Cairo, Egypt, "reaching the unreached," including refugees; and
- ? Margaret Rose, Director of Women's Ministries for the Episcopal Church of the United States, speaking of needing peacemakers because of the wars the USA makes.



National Altar Guild Association offers support and more

THE NATIONAL ALTAR GUILD IS A DIVERSE MINISTRY.

Our members are men, women, all ethnic groups, all ages – people from all walks of life. We encompass all degrees of ceremonial worship and interpretations of theology within the Church. We offer to the Church many individual gifts and talents such as needle arts, flower arranging, writing, speaking, and teaching.

THE NATIONAL ALTAR GUILD IS A UNIFIED MINISTRY.

Even in its diversity, we share the common task of caring and providing for the altars, sanctuaries, and other worship centers.

ONGOING MINISTRIES INCLUDE:

- ? Publishing a quarterly newsletter, the *Epistle*, which is mailed to members.
- ? Making stoles and appointments for Chaplains who serve under the Bishop of the Armed Forces.
- ? Keeping an extensive collection of books on subjects related to altar guild interests – needle arts, flower arranging, liturgy, history, and practices which is housed in the collection at Nashotah House and available to anyone through inter-library loan. www.nashotah.edu
- ? Providing the program for our triennial meeting during General Convention and soliciting items of ecclesiastical art to be displayed in our art exhibit.
- ? Maintaining a Sacristy Shop for members with items designed specifically for the National Altar Guild

such as aprons, tote bags, cincture starter kits, and purificator stamps.

- ? Providing Board Members as speakers for programs and workshops.

THIS MINISTRY IS OUR LORD'S CALL TO SERVE HIM.

As the ways to prepare worship space grow and change, the NAGA is responding by offering services to all who need information and support in this ministry.



OUR PURPOSE since 1927 is to

- ? unite altar guilds, encouraging and deepening the spiritual life of all members.
- ? represent altar guild ministry at all levels of the church.
- ? assist in the continuing organization of diocesan and provincial altar guilds.
- ? provide information, resources, and communication.
- ? support the national church in meeting ecclesiastical and mission needs related to altar guild ministry.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to become an active part of NAGA. Areas of interest for volunteers include

- ? writing articles for the *Epistle*.
- ? making stoles for the chaplains of the Armed Forces.
- ? knitting scarves and other small items for the Christmas-at-Sea ministry.
- ? contributing suggestions and project ideas.
- ? conducting programs, workshops, or demonstrations.
- ? serving as liaison between your parish or diocese and the National Altar Guild Association.



TO THE WOMEN IN ALL MISSIONS AND PARISHES in the Episcopal Church in South Dakota:

Greetings! Many thanks to those of you who so faithfully take care of the In-gatherings in your own churches!

Year after year our Diocese is blessed by UTO grants. At the 2003 Triennial in Minneapolis it was announced that South Dakota will receive \$35,000 to construct a director's house at TEC, and \$20,000 to install rest rooms in Hot Springs at St. Luke's Church and Parish House. For a complete UTO record for our Diocese last year, with your parish or mission total, watch reports in the *ChurchNews*. Last year giving was up about 22% and we had 9 more churches participating. South Dakota contributed \$7,352.04! Congratulations to all who worked so hard to make that happen.

Work with your parish priest to schedule your Spring and Fall In-gatherings around Ascension Day and All Saint's Day. Prepare the congregation by passing out Blue Boxes and envelopes during announcements. Tell your people about the wonderful things their gifts provide. You may have picked up supplies at the ECW table at Convention, but you can order on-line at www.episcopalparishservices.org (just type in UTO), or by writing to

United Thank Offering
Episcopal Church USA
815 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10017-4594

I find that the easiest way to order supplies is to telephone Episcopal Parish Services, where Tammy and Mardy are most helpful and waiting for our calls. That number is 1-800-903-5544. You pay for shipping, and you can get everything else for a nominal fee, but remember that

UTO BOXES ARE FREE!

Mail your in-gathering offerings to Mary Armin in the Diocesan office at 500 South

Main in Sioux Falls, SD 57104 as soon as possible, so we can put the gifts right to work. Do not hesitate to call me for anything else.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Campbell

UTO Coordinator for the Diocese of SD
625 West Main Street
Lead, SD 57754
605-722-5687
balnamoon@rushmore.com

The 2004 Episcopal Church Annual is now available

The *Episcopal Church Annual*, the most complete standard reference book available on the Episcopal Church, has been updated for 2004 and is now available from Morehouse Publishing.

With origins back to the mid-1880s *The Episcopal Church Annual* is a highly regarded and indispensable source of information for reaching key people and organizations within the Episcopal Church. The 2004 edition of the Annual is a special General Convention edition that features names and contact information for the current members of the standing committees and commissions of the new Triennial.

The Red Book also contains the names and address of Episcopal bishops, deacons, and priests; biographies of recently consecrated bishops; detailed contact information for the churches and dioceses of the worldwide Anglican Communion, including phone numbers, e-mail, and website addresses; current statistics on the Episcopal Church; and detailed information on hundreds of Episcopal agencies and organizations.

The 2004 Episcopal Church Annual is available for \$34.95 from bookstores or from Morehouse Publishing. To order from Morehouse call (800) 877-0012 (in the U.S. and Canada) or e-mail: [morehouse @ morehousegroup.com](mailto:morehouse@morehousegroup.com).



Diocesan Calendar

Bishop's visitation dates in bold letters

MAY

- May 1 Central Deanery Meeting, St. John's,
Crow Creek
- May 2 Pine Ridge Mission**
- May 7-8 TEC Board Meeting, Chamberlain
- May 9 Standing Rock Mission, Little Eagle**
- May 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Jun/Jul issue)
- May 14-15 Lay Readers Training, Pierre
- May 16 All Angels, Spearfish**
- May 23 Emmanuel, Rapid City**
- May 30 Christ Church, Yankton**

JUNE

- June 6 Trinity, Watertown**
- June 6-11 Niobrara Summer School,
Black Hills State University
- June 13 Christ, Lead/St. John's, Deadwood**
- June 20 St. Andrew's, Rapid City**
- June 25-27 Niobrara Convocation, Ft. Randall
Casino/Hotel Pow-wow Grounds

JULY

- July 9-10 Diocesan Council, Sioux Falls
- July 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Aug issue)
- July 11 St. James, Belle Fourche**
- July 15-17 Province VI Synod, Bozeman, MT
- July 25 St. Paul's, Vermillion**
- July 26 Deadline to submit Resolutions
for Diocesan Convention

AUGUST

- Aug 6-7 Ministry Weekend
- Aug 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Sep/Oct issue)
- Aug 19-21 EFM Mentor Training, Sioux Falls
- Aug 28 Central/Northwest Deaneries Pre-
Convention Meeting, Pierre
- Aug 29 Eastern/Northeastern Deaneries Pre-
Convention Meeting, Brookings

SEPTEMBER

- Sep 9-11 Commission on Ministry meets
- Sep 11 Rosebud/Pine Ridge Deaneries Pre-
Convention Meeting, Mission
- Sep 12 Black Hills Deanery Pre-Convention
Meeting, Hot Springs
- Sep 12 St. Matthew's, Rapid City**
- Sep 19 St. Luke's, Hot Springs**
- Sept 23-24 Clergy Conference, Pierre
- Sep 24 Diocesan Council, Pierre
- Sep 24 Standing Committee, Pierre
- Sep 24-26 Diocesan Convention, Pierre

OCTOBER

- Oct 3 Rosebud Mission**
- Oct 10 Sisseton Mission**
- Oct 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Nov issue)
- Oct 22-24 Happening #17, Rapid City
- Oct 24 Crow Creek/Lower Brule**
- Oct 31 Christ Church, Chamberlain**

NOVEMBER

- Nov 7 Cheyenne River Mission**
- Nov 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Dec/Jan issue)
- Nov 12-13 Ministry Weekend
- Nov 14 Christ Church, Milbank**

DECEMBER

- Dec 3-4 Mega Mtg (SC/COM/DC), Sioux Falls
- Dec 5 St. Mary's, Mitchell**
- Dec 6-8 Bishops of Small Dioceses meet
- Dec 12 South Dakota Day at National Cathedral

2006

- June 19 Election of the new Presiding Bishop
- Nov 4 Installation of 26th Presiding Bishop at
the National Cathedral, Washington, DC



Episcopal Oversight . . .

(Continued from page 1)

of reconciliation in ways that are generous toward those who feel themselves in some sense alienated from our common life.

“The honesty and generosity of spirit that have prevailed throughout this meeting make it clear that we as bishops, regardless of our several points of view, are deeply committed to the costly work of reconciliation, not only within the church but for the sake of the world.

“We are moving beyond winning and losing. Together we are coming to a new place of mutual discovery and trust.”

“This is more of a plea for reconciliation, for mutual respect, for dignity, for making room for one another,” said Jenkins by phone from Camp Allen. “It is not a change in our polity, or in the constitution and canons of the church, but a recognition of our brokenness. It is bishops taking the lead in seeking reconciliation.”

Finding a way forward

The difficult issue, Jenkins said, was whether the document would use the term “pastoral care” or “oversight” to describe the relationship between a dissenting congregation and the visiting bishop. In the end, the decision was to use the term “oversight,” defined carefully in the document to exclude the conferring of jurisdiction on anyone but the diocesan bishop:

“In our Episcopal Church polity, ‘oversight’ does not confer ‘jurisdiction.’ We are aware of current examples of the delegation of pastoral oversight in the gracious accommodations which have occurred in some dioceses.

“As we together commit to a process for Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight, we also recognize the constitutional and canonical authority of bishops and the integrity of diocesan boundaries. We are in accord with the statement of the primates: ‘Whilst we affirm the teaching of successive Lambeth Conferences that bishops must respect the autonomy and territorial integrity of dioceses and provinces

other than their own, we call on the provinces concerned to make adequate provision for episcopal oversight of dissenting minorities within their own area of pastoral care in consultation with the Archbishop of Canterbury on behalf of the Primates.’”

“By the use of the word ‘oversight’ we are working within the constitution and canons and this would be a welcome sign,” Jenkins said.

But the plan itself “has no canonical or constitutional standing,” Jenkins emphasized. “It is finding a way forward.”

According to Jenkins, the plan asks congregations and bishops to sit down together despite what he called “failures and abuses of trust in the past,” and to make themselves vulnerable to one another, respect one another, make room for one another, and to find a way forward in the midst of disagreement.

“It came at some price for many,” he added. “It’s going to cause a lot of work for some people, and in some places it will obviously be misunderstood. But we’re not going to eliminate, as [Britain’s Chief Rabbi] Jonathan Sachs says, ‘the dignity of difference.’”

Positive atmosphere

The bishop of New York, **Mark Sisk**, who chairs the planning committee of the House of Bishops, said that the atmosphere was a good one and that people had worked hard to produce a process that was fair. “The bishops are very serious about their responsibilities as pastors and there is a real desire to reach out to the folks in our Church who feel displaced,” he said. “It was also important to say something that would be helpful to the Anglican Communion.”



Sisk added that, although the vote was not unanimous, an overwhelming majority of the bishops voted in favor of adopting the plan.

Continuing the theme of global reconciliation, the bishops are welcoming three primates from other provinces of the Anglican Communion to join them

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Episcopal Oversight . . .

(Continued from page 18)

in prayer and Bible study, and to look at how communion is manifest in relationships in mission.

The three visitors – the Most Rev. Martin Barahona, Primate of Central America; the Most Rev. Joseph B. Marona, Archbishop of the Sudan; and the Most Rev. Sir Ellison Pogo, Bishop of Central Melanesia and Archbishop of Melanesia – come from very different parts of the world, each with their own share of socio-political anxieties. They will help to facilitate the bishops' study of global reconciliation.

– The Rev. Jan Nunley is deputy director of Episcopal News Service. Matthew Davies is staff writer of Episcopal News Service.

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Bishops issue a Communiqué from the meeting at Camp Allen

During these days of Lent we, your bishops, gathered for our Spring meeting in order to reflect together on our common ministry in the service of the gospel. We write now to share with you some sense of the fruits of these days. Within a framework of the Daily Office and Eucharist, and our daily Bible study of the Letter to the Ephesians, we explored the meaning of our ministry in relationship to our call to serve before God “day and night in the ministry of reconciliation,” as the ordination liturgy for a bishop tells us.

Tensions within our church have invited us to explore more fully the mutual forbearance and respect that only the Spirit can give. We believe that only by being present to one another in a stance of truthfulness and faithfulness can we be available to God's reconciling love. As we are willing to do the costly work of being together across difference we can create the trust that is essential if we are to serve you in a ministry of care for all the churches.

We have labored over these last months, and more intensively over the days of our meeting, to develop a plan to attend to the pastoral needs of those who

feel themselves disaffected or alienated from their bishop because of decisions of the 74th General Convention. The plan, entitled “Caring for All the Churches,” is consistent with the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church and our ministry as chief pastors. After listening to many voices within our church and around the Anglican Communion we believe we have found a way forward. It is our earnest prayer and expectation that this plan will meet the expressed needs for delegated episcopal pastoral oversight called for at this time in the life of our church.

We are committed to caring for all of our people, regardless of their differing points of view. We are also deeply aware that the ministry we share as bishops exists solely for the well being of all God's people. Therefore, we pledge ourselves to working together with generosity of spirit in order that the church might live the fullness of the gospel for the sake of the world.

Our further work on global reconciliation reminded us of the larger world for which Christ died, lives again, and brought us back again to the question of mission. Here, we were reminded by one of our presenters, Willis Jenkins of the Standing Commission on World Mission, that “mission can be a practice of actively engaging with what our differences mean, and it is a way of reconciliation for both church and world.”

We were blessed by the presence of Archbishop Martin Barahona, Primate of Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America, Archbishop Joseph Marona, Primate of the Sudan, and Archbishop Ellison Pogo, Primate of Melanesia. The presence of these three primates from other parts of our Communion sharpened our focus and made us acutely aware of the vastly different contexts in which brother and sister Anglicans seek to proclaim and live the gospel. They spoke of celebrations and struggles in the midst of poverty, war, and disease.

As well, the words of the Rt. Rev. Edward Neufville, the Bishop of Liberia, brought before us the struggles of his war-torn country and the continuing effort of the church there to be a source of peace and reconciliation. We also offered prayers for and sent greetings to our brothers and sisters in Haiti, who are living through a time of social and

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Diocesan Council

HO B Communiqué . . .

(Continued from page 19)

political violence and upheaval.

The efforts toward reconciliation on the part of our brothers and their churches brought to life for us the words of Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. We are inspired and humbled by their witness as they strive "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:2).

We came away from our days together strengthened, challenged, and committed anew to God's mission in the world which is, as our Prayer Book tells us, "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ."

May we, your bishops, and all who are members of Christ's risen body, be renewed in this mission as we live these days of Lent and come with joy to celebrate the Paschal Feast.

— released through ENS (*Episcopal News Service*) March 24, 2004

DIOCESAN COUNCIL MINUTES March 26-27, 2004 Sioux Falls, South Dakota

PRESENT: Bishop Creighton Robertson; Chancellor Steve Sanford, Treasurer Chuck Bahnson, The Rev. Phil Allen, The Rev. Jeff Barnes, The Rev. David Cameron, Don Eagle, The Rev. David Hussey, Jean Lacher, Pat LeBeau, The Rev. Jim Pearson

ABSENT: Sandy Hammer, The Rev. Cordelia Red Owl

ALSO PRESENT: Randy Barnhardt, Mary Armin, N. Bev Tucker, The Rev.

Canon Karen Hall, Sherry Maule

The meeting was called to order by Bishop Robertson at 2:30 pm on March 26, 2004.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the December 5, 2003 meeting were accepted as submitted.

2. INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT/MINUTES

A copy of the minutes of the last Investment Committee were reviewed. This committee keeps looking for ways to increase the return of the Diocesan investments while decreasing risk. To that end they voted on February 24, 2004 to move \$1.5 million currently in Money Market Funds at First National Bank to American Balanced Funds, pending Diocesan Council approval. The latter fund has produced 2-7% better than the former over the past 1-10 years, and has lower fees. For the total invested endowment of \$5 million, each percentage point amounts to about \$50,000. Chuck related that the Budget & Finance Committee had approved the Investment Committee's decision, and he wanted the Diocesan Council also to be aware of the decision and to feel comfortable with it before any money was moved.

After a brief discussion of the topic at hand, the motion to approve the minutes and decision of the Investment Committee was duly passed.

3. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Administrator Randy Barnhardt presented the Balance Sheets and Income & Expense Statements for the Diocese of South Dakota, the Chapter of Calvary Cathedral, and Restricted Funds as of December 31, 2003. He noted a few items that warranted comment (e.g., General Convention expenses, since these occur only every 3 years) and answered questions.

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Diocesan Council . . .

(Continued from page 20)

4. 2004 BUDGETS

The Chapter of Calvary Cathedral ended 2003 with a \$3,678 surplus. For 2004 the Diocese proposes taking 5.5% from investments, though this entire amount may not be necessary due to positions open in the diocese.

The Diocese of South Dakota ended 2003 with a \$691 surplus. For the 2004 budget the Administrator had to pull \$11,000 from the Chapter surplus to balance, due to the 5% cut in the block grant from National Church, the ~25% increase in medical insurance premiums, and the decreased pledges from diocesan congregations. Besides using surplus money, adjustments were made in open positions which won't be filled by the middle of 2004 and by reducing the Diocesan pledge to the National Church (giving a tithe of 10% instead of the asked for 21%). The reduction in pledge is a financial decision only, dictated by the needs of the budget. The National Church's Treasurer's Office is well aware of the financial situation in South Dakota dictating this cut.

The motion to approve the financial reports and the 2004 budgets was duly passed.

5. COST OF LIVING POLICY

A draft proposed policy on Cost of Living Increases was reviewed. Chuck Bahnsen advised that the policy is a work in progress as it needs to include the South Dakota standard upon which the increase will be based. Action on the policy was deferred.

6. INSURANCE RIDER

North Central Church Insurers provided a quote for an insurance rider covering employee disciplinary repercussions. A \$1 million policy would have a \$8,210 premium with \$5,000 deductible. Chuck advised that the Budget & Review Committee recommended not adding this rider to our policy as it is too expensive, and our umbrella liability policy should cover this if necessary. The motion to accept the recommendation of the Budget & Review Committee was duly passed.

7. CONVENTION EVALUATIONS & PLACE OF NEXT CONVENTION

Council members reviewed the results of the 2003 Convention Evaluation with an eye toward making a decision on where to hold Annual Convention in 2007 when our 5-year contract with the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre expires. Though there are some good reasons for moving the place of convention around the state, there is still the factor of travel (miles and time involved) which seems to be favorably resolved by meeting in Pierre. The motion to move forward to negotiate with the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre for another 5 years was duly passed.

8. SOUTH DAKOTA CHURCHNEWS

At the last Council meeting, the newsletter editor was directed to research possible cost savings by offering the option of the *ChurchNews* on the website, thereby reducing printing costs. Mary Armin reported that cutting print publication by 1000 issues (or by about 1/3) would save the diocese approximately \$100 per issue (\$800/year) in printing costs. The two issues of *ChurchNews* published since the last Council meeting have been put on the website and a clear notice included in each issue announcing that fact and asking for feedback on preferences (print version, website, e-mail). The *ChurchNews* webpage received 100-150 visits in two months, and the office received four responses. The editor was directed to keep the publication in print as before and to keep including it on the website.

9. OTHER REPORTS

(a) The Rev. Canon Karen Hall (Deployment Officer/Canon Missioner) reported on the various stages of the search processes around the diocese:

?????Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls, is interviewing one candidate that weekend and conducting a telephone interview with another.

?????Trinity, Pierre, has completed telephone interviews with seven applicants and will narrow the search to three.

?????St. Mark's, Aberdeen, has delayed the start of their search until 2005. Karen will begin Mutual Ministry discernment with them.

?????Trinity, Watertown, is just starting the process.

?????Pine Ridge Regional Missioner position has

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Diocesan Council . . .

(Continued from page 21)

been submitted to the Clergy Deployment Office for publication.

?????Positions open(ing) on the Rosebud and Standing Rock are still in the talking stages.

Mutual Ministry formation is also continuing at St. James in Belle Fourche and at St. Luke's in Hot Springs. A Regional Missioner will be needed in the Black Hills area in the near future. Mutual Ministry discernment is also underway to various extents in Madison, Flandreau, and Martin.

There are five Ministry Weekends scheduled for 2004 as well as Summer Seminary in June. Four individuals are awaiting ordination this year.

(b) Treasurer Chuck Bahnson moved that Vicki Trefz, a member of Calvary Cathedral and business manager at one of the Sioux Falls hospitals, be approved as a signatory on Diocesan checking accounts. Not only is she a capable business person, but she is local. This will be important to efficient Diocesan operations once he (Chuck) is no longer Treasurer. The motion was duly passed.

(c) Steve Sanford, Chancellor, spoke to Constitution and Canons revisions. He will make the revisions he deems necessary and present them to the revision committee between now and Convention. Amendments should be ready for consideration at the next convention.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Diocesan Council went into Executive Session from 4:10 pm to approximately 4:45 pm on March 26, 2004 .

11. REPORT OF TEC BOARD

Jean Lacher, Chair of the TEC Board, summarized briefly the work of the Board to date and the type of material to be reported on Saturday morning with the Board present. The main report was postponed until Saturday morning.

The meeting of Diocesan Council was adjourned at 5:10 pm on Friday, March 26 and reconvened at 8:35 am on Saturday, March 27.

12. PRESENTATION BY TEC BOARD AND DISCUSSION

Present from the TEC Board were Jean Lacher (Chair), Chelsea Tripp, Jane Hill, Holly Huisken, and the Rev. Bill Hibbert.

The Council had previously received a packet from the Board with updated or revised hiring and camp policies, by-laws, employee applications, table of organization, etc. Jean Lacher made opening remarks and acknowledged that, while much work had been accomplished, it was a work in progress and just a start. Good policies have been in place and have worked for years and years. There was a concern, however, that recently TEC was not all we would want it to be and that it needed study and improvement. In working toward that improvement, it was the consensus that the physical, spiritual and emotional safety of campers should be a key focus. The Board and the Council engaged in an extended discussion.

Despite some unanswered questions and unresolved issues, the TEC Board as a whole was willing to go ahead with a summer camp program. Holly Huisken spelled out the steps taken, pending, or able to be completed in time to have a regular summer session, barring unforeseen glitches. Work of the board would continue throughout the summer and year with the aim of having everything corrected, tightened, revised, or whatever is needed for a new and better TEC in 2005.

The TEC Board was dismissed at 10:45 am and the Council, after hearing the recommendation of the Board, addressed the decisions to be made.

Confidence was expressed in Holly's abilities, especially. The discussions centered principally on whether it was feasible to have camp this summer and also to devote sufficient time, energy and resources worthy of TEC toward studying its improvement. The Chancellor posed the following questions: "Are we afraid to pause long enough to study all available resources to make TEC better? Are we afraid to change? Are we afraid to pause long enough to see if we need to change?" Some Council members believed that not having a summer program at TEC would give the message that the Diocese was very serious about dealing with issues and

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Diocesan Council . . .

(Continued from page 22)

making changes. There was a desire that TEC not be just “good enough” for our youth, but greatly improved. Others believed that we could still provide the summer program while at the same time working on the necessary changes, etc. The risk of potential issues at camp would be minimal since the interim leadership is aware of recent history and would be extra vigilant. The Bishop reminded the Council that alternate camping experiences at other sites were possibly available for this summer.

Steve Sanford made a motion that we not have a camping experience at TEC this summer, to give the site a rest for one year only, and to take the financial resources the diocese would devote for a year’s youth camp experience at TEC and transfer it to a study of how youth camp experience at TEC can be improved. This study would include the use of outside resources. David Hussey seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about whether there was enough time to get a camp season up and running, if all programs at TEC be cancelled this year or just the youth camp experience, and some other options. The question was called, and the motion passed 7 to 2 in favor. This decision will be conveyed to the Diocese through a pastoral letter which will also be included in the *ChurchNews* and on the website. The message will reflect the rationale behind the decision, stressing that it is not an action *against* TEC but *for* the best possible TEC.

Jeff Barnes made a motion that the TEC facility rest totally, that no program be held there until the facility is reopened in the spring of 2005. David Hussey seconded the motion. This motion failed on a vote of 2 to 6.

David Cameron moved to ask the TEC Board to meet with the Diocesan Administrator (Randy Barnhardt), make a recommendation for on-going use of the facility, and report to the Council in September, meanwhile putting a moratorium on the use of the facilities until that September meeting. The motion was seconded by David Hussey and duly passed on a vote of 7 to 2.

(additional articles on TEC can be found on pages

24-25 of this issue of the *ChurchNews*.)

13. BISHOP’S REPORT

Bishop Robertson reported that he has arranged with Bishop Arthur E. Walmsley (retired bishop of Connecticut) to assist him from the middle of May to the middle of July. (*ed. note: This arrangement has changed somewhat since this report.*) Ordinations will take place in the fall this year, not the spring. His surgery is still unscheduled, and certain visitations and other obligations may have to be rescheduled around that, whenever it is finalized.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Submitted by Mary Armin
Recording Secretary



Annual St. Mary’s School Reunion

This year’s reunion of the Graduates, Former Students, and Teachers of St. Mary’s Episcopal School for Indian Girls will be held on Saturday, June 26 at Christ Episcopal Church in Yankton, South Dakota beginning at 9:00 am.

Details may be obtained by contacting:

Dr. Kenyon Cull at
605-665-3871



TEC News

Bishop Robertson writes about TEC

Dear Friends in Christ:

At the Diocesan Convention in Pierre in September, 2003, I reported to you that the Director of the Thunderhead Episcopal Center had resigned effective October 1, 2003. Prior to that resignation I had several conversations with the Director about TEC, the camping program, the methods used in running such an enterprise, and a number of other personal issues. It was becoming clear to me that the focus and ministry of TEC needed to change, if our camping program was to be successful and offer a God-filled program to the youth of our Diocese.

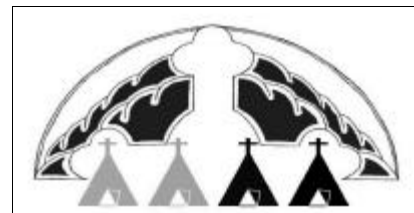
Prior to our Convention I was informed by numerous folks about several matters of concern surrounding TEC, the administration of TEC, the staffing, the camping procedures, discipline issues, and finances. Several parents talked with me about things that happened at TEC that need to be changed. At the Diocesan Council meeting prior to the Convention, it was decided to appoint a TEC Board to review all policies and procedures for the Thunderhead Episcopal Center. That Board was appointed and asked to begin the long process of reviewing the available policies and procedures surrounding the operation of our TEC program. The Diocesan Council also decided to cancel the winter snowmobiling program and to include in the work of the TEC Board the winter use of the facility.

I indicated at Convention that there was a possibility that we might not have a camping program in the summer of 2004, depending on the amount of work the TEC Board has done and needs to do before opening our camping facility for public use. The TEC Board met with the Diocesan Council at the regular council meeting on March 27 and reported on the work that had been done. The TEC Board

is to be commended for the tremendous amount of work that had been accomplished. The Diocesan Council is greatly appreciative of their dedication to our camping facility and youth program.

The Diocesan Council has also been made aware of more than one legal issue that surround our efforts to run, finance, maintain, and staff a youth camping facility such as TEC. After hearing the TEC Board, engaging in discussion, reviewing past difficulties, reviewing camp statistics, and consulting with the Chancellor on legal issues, it was decided by Council that we would not have a camping program for the summer of 2004; that the land would rest for a time in order to restructure and refocus our TEC efforts.

Instead, the funds pledged by the Diocese in support of TEC would be used to update the facility, and to provide for some consulting fees which will enable us to restructure our camping program to meet the needs of our youth in terms of spirituality, Bible focus, emphasis on Christian living, program development, and living out our Baptismal Covenant.



Thunderhead Episcopal Center exists to provide an emotionally, physically, and spiritually safe place in which to nurture a relationship with Jesus Christ and with Christ's people.

The Diocesan Council asked the TEC Board to come to our September, 2004 meeting with some recommendations on the use of the TEC facility beyond September, 2004.

(Continued on page 25)



Bishop's TEC letter . . .

(Continued from page 24)

While I know that the closing of TEC for one year is a disappointment for many, the Council is very optimistic that we will be able to open in 2005 with a renewed emphasis on the spiritual welfare of our youth. It needs to be said that this interim period of time will be used to further strengthen our camping program, placing in effect new policies for the use of the facility and procedures for hiring of personnel. The Council wants to be clear that this is a temporary closing, not a complete closing of the facility. It is expected that TEC will return to use in 2005 under new management, new camping policies, new hiring policies, and new program for our youth during the summer season.

While many of our Junior and Senior students, who were planning on participating in the TEC program again this coming summer, will not be able to do that, my hope is that you will be able to participate in a different way when TEC is reopened again. Perhaps a special camping time can be arranged for those who missed TEC this summer. I think the Council would advocate with the TEC Board for such an opportunity.

I have received letters from some young folks who wanted the facility to remain open, and expressed their reasons for their opinion. I have heard your pleas and shared them with others on the Council, and in the deliberations of Council all of your comments were considered.

With the decision made not to have a youth camping program for this summer, I would ask that all who have a special place in their heart for TEC and our camping program to support the work of the TEC Board. The work that they must do will be demanding and hard work, putting together a system and program that will best meet the needs of our youth, protecting our youth and providing a safe place for them to experience God

in their lives, while making the best use of our TEC facility. If any would like to volunteer to help the TEC Board in their work, please contact them through the Diocesan Office. If anyone has comments on the actions of Council, please contact me at the Diocesan Office.

+Cruik

TEC Board Report

by Jean Lacher, Chair

Thunderhead Episcopal Center exists to provide an emotionally, physically, and spiritually safe place in which to nurture a relationship with Jesus Christ and with Christ's people.

The TEC Board met with Diocesan Council on Saturday, March 27th and spent four hours discussing TEC! The Council had received a packet of material from the TEC Board with revised and updated hiring and camp policies, TEC By-Laws, camper and staff applications, transportation guidelines, safety issues, etc. This manual is a work in progress and will be for quite some time. There are 15 essential areas of camp management that have been developed by the American Camping Association. We will use these to guide us as we continue to work toward making the TEC camping experience the best it can be.

There was a long discussion over what the TEC Board had already done, and we were asked if the TEC Board felt they were ready and able to put together a 2004 summer camping experience given the short time before camp would start. The answer was a qualified yes - if we could get the needed staff and no unforeseen glitches developed, then we felt we could go ahead for the summer.

At this point the TEC Board members were excused and I "switched hats" to be a Diocesan

(Continued on page 31)



Haiti needs help

Thursday, March 18, 2004

By Nan Cobbey [ENS/Episcopal Life]

The Episcopal Church of Haiti – more than 100,000 strong, the largest diocese in ECUSA – has never needed its brothers and sisters more than it does today. The political turmoil disrupting the impoverished Caribbean nation since December has drastically reduced the society's ability to function. The Episcopal Church and its members are suffering more than ever before and are counting on their partnerships with the Episcopal Church in the United States to come to their aid.

Twenty priests and leaders from around the diocese gathered in Port-au-Prince this week to tell Episcopal Life what they are experiencing in their communities. Some told of being accosted by gangs, of being robbed, of violence, shootings and mayhem in their towns and villages, of threats against school children, of parents so fearful they keep their children home from school and have been doing so since December.

They told of public hospitals closed, of medicines unavailable or sold at exorbitant prices, of food shortages, of transport and travel made impossible by road blocks and gun-wielding thugs intent on disruption and destruction in their frustration either for or against the now-deposed president.

“Help us,” was their plea, “Help us long-term.” They praised the Episcopal Church and their companions in dioceses across the country for their generosity and support. They thanked the church for sending someone to listen and to carry back their stories.

Several priests, one of them the Rev. Elie-Jean Charles, chaplain at St. Vincent's School for the Handicapped and communications officer for the diocese, were blunt: “Send money.” Others told of their anguish at being unable to meet the needs of parishioners who have no resources at all. The church, they said, is the first place people will turn in their desperation. “I have nothing left to give,” said one young priest, clearly hurting. Many asked for prayers, for accompaniment, for long-term commitment helping Haiti rebuild.

Food prices climb

Food prices have risen drastically in recent weeks. Escalating gasoline prices and gas shortages add to the difficulty in transporting food. Savings and loan institutions that had promised high interest rates to attract families' savings have gone bust, closing their doors just as Haitians desperately need their meager savings. Many families had invested all that their relatives had sent from the United States, according to Madame Nicole Magloire, director of St. Vincent's School.

At Holy Cross Hospital in Leogane, the director, Dr. Jack Guy LaFontant, must shorten stays so he can accommodate the tremendous number that appear at his doors. Government-run hospitals in the capital have closed or are severely overburdened. The result is that the poor have no options. Private hospitals will not accept them. The church-run hospital in Leogane, a joint venture of the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches, has as its mission to serve the poor. LaFontant is trying desperately to do that but he is running out of not just medicine but fuel to keep the generators running.

To help:

Contact the Diocese of Haiti at 509-257-1624; 509-256-4120; epihaiti@hotmail.com. The bishop (address him as Monsignor Zache Duracin) and other members of the staff speak English,

Or earmark contributions “Haitian Relief” and send to: Episcopal Relief and Development
815 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10017
800-334-7626 (ext. 5129)

Or visit www.er-d.org where parish bulletin inserts on the Haitian crisis are also available.



– Nan M. Cobbey is associate editor of Episcopal Life, the national newspaper of the Episcopal Church.

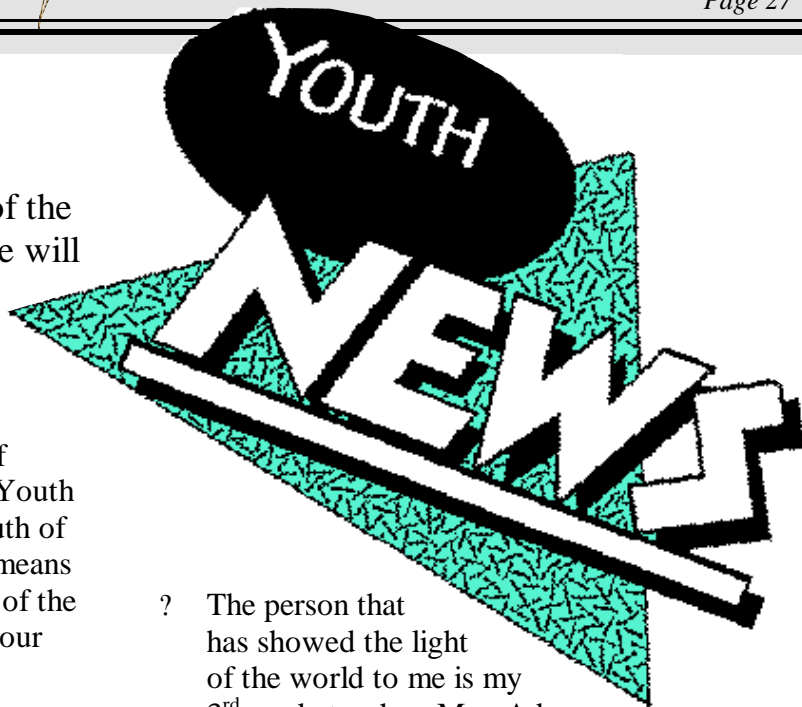
Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12 NRSV)

In the February 2004 issue of *ChurchNews* Tim Harmon, Youth Coordinator, challenged the youth of the diocese to consider what it means when it says "Jesus is the Light of the World" and what that means in our lives.

The middle school youth of Church of All Angels in Spearfish took the challenge to heart, and shared the results of their discussions with us.

What are the ways Jesus is a light in our lives?

- ? My Dad is my light, because whenever I'm in a sad state, my Dad makes me happy. He tells me to believe in myself and sometimes when he talks to me, I think he's trying to say that there is hope. My Dad always loves and cares for me. –Nikki
- ? My Stepdad showed me the light. He helped me through hard times and never gave up on me and he is very supporting. –Andrew
- ? My grandma is a great example of being the light. She always puts others ahead of herself and she always encourages people to believe in everything. Also, she never puts anyone down and she loves everyone around her. –Jessica



- ? The person that has showed the light of the world to me is my 3rd grade teacher. Mrs. Adams was so sweet. She showed everyone that you need to be yourself, not what somebody else wants you to be. –Kristina
- ? A person in my life that has shown what it is to be the light of Jesus Christ is Kathy Christensen. She was my 4th grade teacher. She made the kids feel like they were worth something—not just ignorant kids that they were attempting to educate. She accepted everyone. She never tried to manipulate us or change us at all. –Emily

All Angels Episcopal Church Middle School Youth Group – Spearfish, SD

Way
Truth
Light



*Grace
Happens*

TREES OF MY YOUTH

by the Rev. Fred Jessett

As I write this the plum tree in my back yard is blooming. Its pink blossoms and sweet fragrance take my mind back to some trees of my youth.

We lived in Everett for most of my grade and junior high school years. There was a two block stretch of flowering plum trees lining the sidewalk on north Rucker Avenue, my usual way home from both grade school and junior high. I walked those blocks countless times.



Every spring that line of plum trees (actually back then I thought they were cherries) covered the sidewalk with a thick canopy of pink blossoms and filled the air with their sweet scent. For a couple of weeks each spring it was a magical place to walk.

I was not a particularly sensitive kid, but I remember how much I anticipated walking under the beauty and fragrance of those trees. There were a lot of things in those years that I worried about, and growing up was the biggest one. I liked childhood and I wanted to stay there.

I also liked school and didn't ever want to graduate. I didn't think I'd grow up to be very competent or successful as an adult. Adulthood looked scary. You had to be good at a lot of things, and I wasn't good at anything, except school and riding a bike. I had almost no self-confidence.

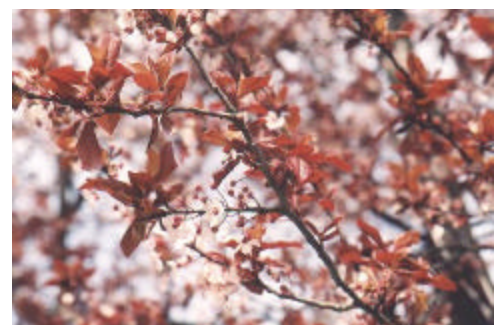
I remember those feelings. I also remember that when I walked under the blooming trees those feelings were drowned out by something else. It was something I couldn't have put into words then. It felt like a kind of deep joy that there was something or someone tremendously good running the world. I couldn't have said, "Those trees tell me that beauty is the truth about the world," but that's about what I felt.

I don't remember connecting those feelings with what I was learning about God in Sunday School and church, but maybe I did. What I do remember is that as I walked two blocks under those magic flowering trees the world was good and I felt everything was possible for me.

I know now those were grace-filled moments. They were blessings that I didn't understand, but they brought a gift of joy and confidence that made a difference. Even if it was just for that short time, I felt I could succeed.

I bet most of us can look back in our lives and find moments like that, moments with flowers, or pets, or friends when the sense of the goodness of God's creation flooded us – moments when grace happened. Maybe those moments still happen. It's worth keeping our eyes and ears (and noses) open for God's gracious gifts.

? Fred Jessett 2004





Congregations in the Diocese are asked and/or required each year to submit certain reports to the Diocesan Office. Each report is important for many reasons.

We are very grateful to the many churches who have managed to find the time necessary to get these reports in. This status report is meant as a gentle reminder to those congregations who may have forgotten to file their reports.

Reports received as of April 13, 2004

2004 Reports Status						
	X = report received					
#	Church Name	City	Parochial Reports	Delegates	Officers	Lay Ministers
1	St. Mark's	Aberdeen			X	X
2	St. James'	Belle Fourche	X	X	X	X
3	St. Paul's	Brookings			X	
4	St. John's	Deadwood				
5	Grace Church	Huron	X			
6	Christ Church	Lead			X	
7	St. Mary's	Mitchell	X	X	X	
8	St. James'	Mobridge	X	X	X	X
9	Trinity	Pierre	X		X	
10	Emmanuel	Rapid City	X	X	X	
11	St. Andrew's	Rapid City	X	X	X	
12	Calvary Cathedral	Sioux Falls	X	X	X	
13	Good Shepherd	Sioux Falls	X	X	X	
14	All Angels	Spearfish	X	X	X	X
15	St. Thomas'	Sturgis	X	X	X	X
16	Trinity	Watertown	X	X	X	X
17	Trinity	Winner	X	X	X	
18	Christ Church	Yankton	X	X	X	
19	St. Andrew's	Bonesteel	X			
20	Christ Church	Chamberlain	X	X	X	X
21	St. Stephen's	DeSmet	X	X	X	X
22	St. Mary's & OBR	Flandreau	X		X	X
23	St. Peter's	Ft. Pierre	X		X	
24	Christ Church	Gettysburg	X		X	
25	Incarnation	Gregory	X		X	
26	St. Luke's	Hot Springs	X		X	
27	St. Peter's	Lake Andes	X			
29	Grace Church	Madison			X	
30	St. Katharine's	Martin	X	X	X	X
31	Christ Church	Milbank	X	X	X	X
32	St. Matthew's	Rapid City	X		X	
33	Holy Apostles	Sioux Falls	X	X	X	X
34	Gethsemane	Sisseton				
35	St. Paul's	Vermillion				
36	St. Mary's	Webster	X	X	X	X



		2004 Reports Status				
	X = report received	Parochial Reports	Delegates	Officers	Lay Ministers	
#	Church Name	City				
38	St. John's	Eagle Butte	X			
39	Ascension	Blackfoot		X		
40	Emmanuel	White Horse	X	X		
41	St. Andrew's	Cherry Creek		X		
42	St. James'	Bear Creek		X		
43	St. Luke's	Iron Lightning				
44	St. Mary's	Promise				
45	St. Peter's	Thunder Butte				
46	St. Philip's	Dupree		X		
47	St. Stephen's	Red Scaffold				
48	St. Thomas'	On The Tree		X		
49	Christ Church	Ft. Thompson	X	X	X	
50	St. John the Baptist	Crow Creek		X		
51	Holy Comforter	Lower Brule	X	X	X	
53	Holy Cross	Pine Ridge				
54	Advent	Calico	X			
55	Christ Church	Red Shirt Table				
56	Epiphany	Wolf Creek	X			
57	Messiah	Wounded Knee				
58	St. Alban's	Porcupine				
59	St. Andrew's	Wakpamni Lake	X	X		
61	St. John's	Oglala	X			
62	St. Julia's	Porcupine				
64	St. Michael's	Batesland	X	X		
65	St. Peter's	Oglala				
66	St. Thomas'	Manderson				
67	Gethsemane	Wamblee	X			
68	Inestimable Gift	Allen				

		2004 Reports Status				
	X = report received	Parochial Reports	Delegates	Officers	Lay Ministers	
#	Church Name	City				
69	Mediator	Kyle	X	X		
70	St. Barnabas	Kyle	X	X		
71	St. Timothy's	Potato Creek	X	X		
72	Bad Wound Station	Martin				
74	Church of Jesus	Rosebud	X	X	X	
75	Trinity	Mission	X	X	X	
76	Calvary	Okreek	X	X		
78	Grace Church	Soldier Creek	X	X	X	
79	Holy Innocents	Parmelee	X	X	X	
80	St. Paul's	Norris	X	X	X	
81	St. Thomas'	Corn Creek	X	X	X	
82	Holy Spirit	Ideal	X	X		
83	Blessed Redeemer	Howe Creek				
84	OMMS	Santee				
85	St. John's	Brown's Valley				
86	St. Luke's	Veblen				
87	St. James'	Enemy Swim				
88	St. Mary's	Old Agency				
89	Good Shepherd	Little Oak Creek			X	
91	St. Elizabeth's	Wakpala		X	X	
92	St. John's	Bullhead			X	
93	St. Paul's	Little Eagle	X	X	X	
94	St. Peter's	McLaughlin	X	X	X	
95	Holy Spirit	Firesteel			X	
97	St. Philip's	Lake Andes	X			
98	Woniya Wakan	Wagner	X			
99	All Saints	Herrick	X			

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TEC Board Report . . .

(Continued from page 25)

san Council member. The Council continued their discussion on what they had heard and what decisions needed to be made – could we have a summer camping experience and at the same time work to improve the whole experience of TEC? The Chancellor directed the discussion around questions such as: “Are we afraid to pause long enough to study all possibilities to make TEC better?” The phrase “Marry in haste, repent at leisure” was used several times. We need to take time to really look at what is best for our camp. There was a great desire that TEC not be just “good enough,” but that TEC be the “best it can be” for our young people of the Diocese.

Several motions came out of the discussions: these are recorded in the Diocesan Council meeting on page 23 of *ChurchNews*.

Diocesan Council and the TEC Board look at all of this as a great opportunity to work to improve the summer camping experience for our youth. The TEC Board will continue to work throughout the summer (our next meeting is May 7-8 in Chamberlain) and report to Diocesan Council at their meeting at Diocesan Convention at the end of September. We do plan to reopen the summer camping program in 2005!!!

In my seven years as a member of Diocesan Council, we have never spent so much time discussing

any single topic as we did talking about TEC. The decision not to have a summer camp in 2004 was not made lightly; a lot of thought and prayer went into it. We know many people are disappointed by the decision, but we hope they will realize how great an opportunity this is to make TEC so much better an experience for our young people. Please continue to keep the TEC Board in your prayers as we continue our work. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please share then with any member of the TEC Board. We will keep you updated through the *South Dakota ChurchNews* as we go through the year.

Jean Lacher
Chair, TEC Board



Thunderhead Episcopal Center exists to provide an emotionally, physically, and spiritually safe place in which to nurture a relationship with Jesus Christ and with Christ's people.

Have you discovered *Speaking of Faith* on Public Radio?

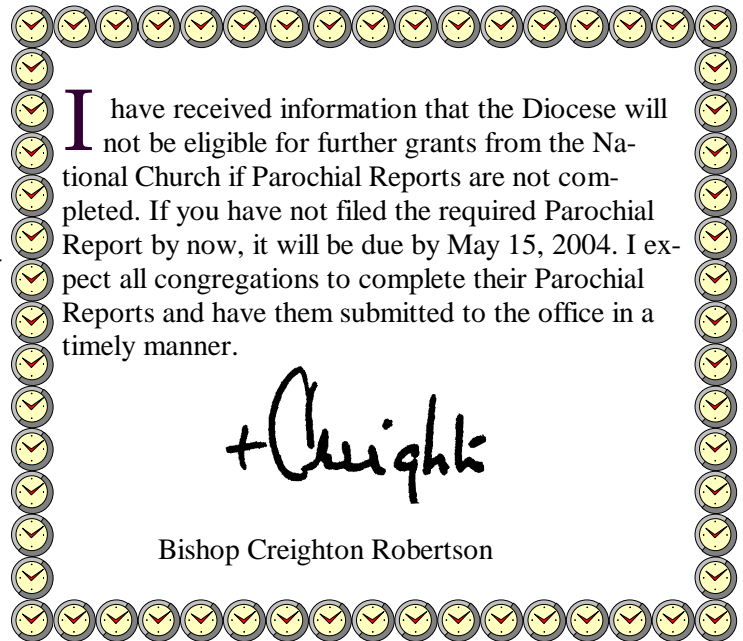
Each week the Minnesota Public Radio show, hosted by Krista Tippett—journalist and theologian—focuses on a different theme of faith, asking writers, thinkers, and theologians to discuss how religion shapes everyday life.

Recent programs include *The Jewish Roots of the Christian Story*, *Science and Being*, *The Freelance Monotheism of Karen Armstrong*, *Christianity and Violence*, and *The Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*.

Speaking of Faith is a one-hour show produced by Minnesota Public Radio, distributed nationally by Public Radio International (PRI), and broadcast weekly on most of the stations that carry it. East-river, it airs at 8:00 pm on Fridays and 1:00 pm on Sundays over FM stations 88.5 (Appleton) and 91.1 (St. Paul). Check the local listings in your area.

**Deadline for
June /July ISSUE:
May 10, 2004**

www.diocesed.org



I have received information that the Diocese will not be eligible for further grants from the National Church if Parochial Reports are not completed. If you have not filed the required Parochial Report by now, it will be due by May 15, 2004. I expect all congregations to complete their Parochial Reports and have them submitted to the office in a timely manner.

+Creight

Bishop Creighton Robertson

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