



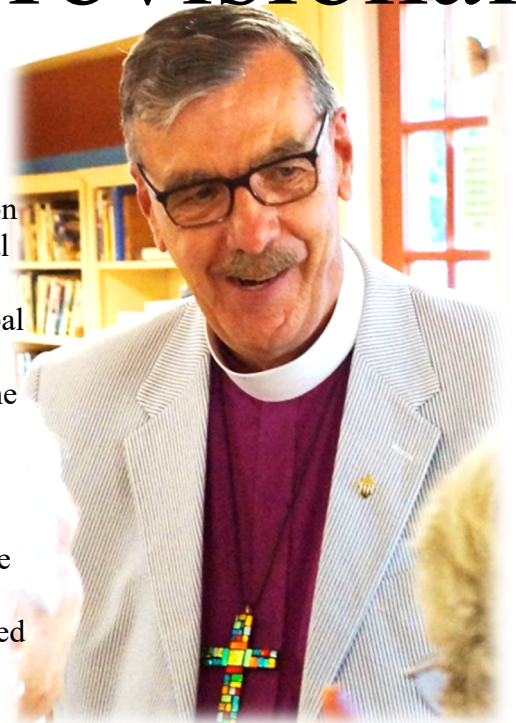
# The Sheaf

January 2021

## Bishop Thomas Ely - To Become Bishop Provisional

### Special Convention Called

The Standing Committee in Consultation with the Diocesan Council has called for a Special Convention of the Diocese according to Canon 2: Section 1 (d). The purpose of the Convention is to receive the nomination of The Rt. Rev. Tom Ely to become the (Transitional) Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of North Dakota. The Convention shall follow the rules proscribed for the Election of a Bishop in both the Diocesan and Episcopal Church Canons. A majority of Clergy and Lay votes, voting by Order, will constitute the election of Bishop Ely. As the Diocese is following the process for a Provisional Bishop, no other nominations will be in order.



### The Convention Will Be Virtual

All Clergy and Lay Delegates Registered for the 2020 Convention will be the Delegates to this Convention, unless they have been replaced by the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Congregation. A Congregation is encouraged to have the complete number of Delegates present for this Special Convention.

**The date of the Special Convention shall be February 6, 2021.**

**It shall convene at 10:00 am and will retire again by noon.**

**It shall consist of the vote for the Bishop Provisional and a worship service.**

**No other business can be conducted at this Convention.**

This Virtual Convention will not have clusters meeting together. Each delegate is asked to have their own device in order to be in attendance and to vote. Advance arrangements can be made for those delegates that do not have access to a computer or smart phone of their own. Please contact Canon Hal Weidman to make other arrangements.  
*(see center fold of the Sheaf for more on this story)*

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## Standing Committee & Diocesan Council & (2020-2021)

### **Bishop Provisional (Nominated)**

The Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Ely  
34 Blueberry Circle  
Newfane, VT 05345  
bishop@ndepiscopal.org  
802-233-5729

### **Vice President of Council**

The Rev Deacon John **Anderson**—2021  
2916 13th Ave S  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
**(East Region)**

### **Secretary of Council**

Quinn **Palmer**—2023  
5770 Amber Valley Pkwy  
Fargo, ND 58104  
angelicphoenix@gmail.com  
**(East Region)**

### **Treasurer**

Charlotte **Peterson**  
petersoncl@ameritech.net

### **Chancellor**

Leo **Wilking**  
1115 8th St S  
Fargo, ND 58103  
[leowilking@hotmail.com](mailto:leowilking@hotmail.com)

### **The President of the Standing Committee**

The Rev John **Floberg**—2022  
820 W Central Ave Bismarck, ND 58501  
[jffloberg@gmail.com](mailto:jffloberg@gmail.com)

### **Secretary of the Standing Committee**

Dr. Amy **Phillips**—2023  
1420 3rd Ave S Fargo, ND 58103  
[kaphillip@gmail.com](mailto:kaphillip@gmail.com)

The Rev Deacon Terry **Overbo**—2023  
1345 12th Ave S Fargo, ND 58103  
[terry.l.overbo@gmail.com](mailto:terry.l.overbo@gmail.com)

Dr. Christie **Iverson**—2022  
5956 Lariat Loop Bismarck, ND 58503  
[christieiverson@icloud.com](mailto:christieiverson@icloud.com)

The Very Rev Mark **Strobel**—2021  
3600 25th Street South Fargo, ND 58104  
[markstrobel@gmail.com](mailto:markstrobel@gmail.com)

Robert **Fox**—2021  
3205 E Calgary Ave #307 Bismarck, ND 58503  
[rfox@uttc.edu](mailto:rfox@uttc.edu)

### **West Region Representatives**

The Rev Deacon Angela  
**Goodhouse Maui**—2023  
P.O. Box 289  
Fort Yates, ND 58538  
[agoodhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:agoodhouse@yahoo.com)

Margaret **Zaharia**—2022  
4600 Hwy S, Lot 33  
Minot, ND 58701  
[pmz@srt.com](mailto:pmz@srt.com)

Tammy **Enockson**—2021  
424 20th Ave SW  
Washburn, ND 58577  
[ilovemycoffee@hotmail.com](mailto:ilovemycoffee@hotmail.com)

Joshua **Floberg**—2023  
820 W Central Ave  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
[jcfloberg@gmail.com](mailto:jcfloberg@gmail.com)

Mary Ann **Henry**—2022  
3150 BIA Rd 8  
Dunseith, ND 58329  
No Email Address

Elaine **McLaughlin**—2021  
6927 8th Ave  
Cannon Ball, ND 58528  
[ebravebull@hotmail.com](mailto:ebravebull@hotmail.com)

### **East Region Representatives**

The Rev Larry **Thiele**—2023  
P.O. Box 134  
Tokio, ND 58379  
[ltthiele05@gmail.com](mailto:ltthiele05@gmail.com)

Dan **Rice**—2022  
1420 3rd Ave S  
Fargo, ND 58103  
[danielroyrice@gmail.com](mailto:danielroyrice@gmail.com)

Quinn **Palmer** - 2023

The Rev. Dn. John **Anderson** - 2021

Donna **Pettit**—2022  
3220 King Place  
Grand Forks, ND 58201  
[dlpettit@gra.midco.net](mailto:dlpettit@gra.midco.net)

Peter **Mading**--2021  
1909 13th 1/2 Street South Apt. #2  
Fargo, ND 58103  
[meymading@gmail.com](mailto:meymading@gmail.com)

## NDEF Grant Cycle Announced

The North Dakota Episcopal Foundation is accepting grant applications for the next cycle of grants, to be disbursed in early April 2021. The application deadline is March 1, 2021. The stated priorities for NDEF grants are evangelism, theological education, youth ministry, campus ministry, mission outside the Diocese, and Sudanese ministry. However, the NDEF board of trustees has interpreted the guidelines broadly and funded grants related to feeding the homeless, enhanced music during services, advertising, etc. To obtain a copy of the grant application and grant guidelines, go to the NDEF home page at the "Ministries" tab on the Diocesan web site, [ndepiscopal.org](http://ndepiscopal.org)

## United Thank Offering

*The Rev. Dn. Sloane Floberg, Diocesan UTO Representative*

Some things run in the family. For me, it's been the Episcopal Church. Mostly running around in and out of the youth ministry field, continuing education out at Richardton Abby, commission on ministry and now the United Thank Offering.

A number of years ago, I was honored to walk across the stage at General Convention in California to represent and present North Dakota's United Thank Offering check to the National UTO organization. While waiting in line, I heard the amounts other diocese were giving so I decided to open North Dakota's check to see how much we gave. I'm not going to lie-I was somewhat embarrassed. We as a diocese had been blessed with so many grants from the UTO for so many years and all we could scrounge up as a diocese was what looked like the equivalent of the change that sits in my small basket on top of the dryer that my oldest son will check each and every time he visits.

You may say, "Well Sloane, why don't YOU fill those blue boxes with your dryer money?" I would tell you, "You know what? You're absolutely right. I am just as guilty for not filling my blue box with how thankful I am each and every day." Life gets busy and other things take precedence. I get it. How about we change that? I'm ready to say right now that if you are thankful for every month you have been alive during this season of COVID, how about you donate ONE DOLLAR per month since COVID hit? Sounds simple enough. Let's take it up another notch. If you are

thankful for your life and miss gathering in person as a congregation, how about you donate TWO DOLLARS for every month since COVID? If each of us does this, we as a diocese could give back to a wonderful organization who gives to communities and congregations in need who then become a blessing for their community.

If you would like to do this, simply fill your blue box, canning jar or Blue Bonnet container (I know you have saved) with your thankfulness and when the time for the UTO ingathering is upon us, each congregation can send their total amounts in. Because I know you all love a good competitive game, the congregation who tallies up the most offering will receive a surprise thank you from yours truly. If there are no amounts to be had from anyone when the spring ingathering occurs, I guess people either don't read the Sheaf, are not thankful to be alive or care about being face to face with people in their church, want to give up a couple of Starbucks, or have given already 10% of their earnings to the church or other charity. Prove me wrong. Let's prove this North Dakota nice to an organization that has given so much to our diocese. May God continue to bless you and your family by keeping you safe and healthy this new year!

If your church is interested in a little competition, please mail your UTO Ingathering and Memorial Gift and Trust Fund checks to:

The Episcopal Diocese of ND 3600 25<sup>th</sup> St S, Fargo, ND. 58104 - by May 31st, 2021  
or:

United Thank Offering DFMS - Protestant Episcopal Church US PO BOX 958983 St Louis,  
MO 63195

To Donate Online, please visit: [unitedthankoffering.com/give/](http://unitedthankoffering.com/give/)

## Rose M. Raymond - Obituary

Rose M. Raymond, 92, of Grand Forks, died Tuesday, December 29.

Rose Marie Schone was born on August 6, 1928, the daughter of Fred and Esther (Glissendorf) Schone in Mitchell, SD. She was raised on the family farm near White Lake, SD where she completed her primary schooling and graduated from high school in 1946. Rose attended and graduated from Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell. While in college, she met her future husband, Arthur Raymond. They were married April 28, 1950 in Mitchell. The couple lived in Mitchell and Williston, ND before coming to

Grand Forks.

After the hard work of raising five active children, Rose worked at the University of North Dakota in the Office of Research and Program Development. Rose was a very active member and volunteer at St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Grand Forks. She also enjoyed the time she spent with her many friends at Tuesday Bible Study Group, Thursday Music Club, Book Club, and Home Delivered Meals. She and Art enjoyed asquare dancing for a number of years. They also held UND hockey season tickets for many years and Rose remained a dedicated fan. She also stayed busy attending many of her grand-

children's extracurricular activities, both in and out of town.

Survivors include her sons, Dr. Arthur Raymond, Jr., Belcourt, ND, Eric Raymond, Grand Forks, Mark Raymond, Grand Forks; daughters, Mary (Steve) Murray, West Fargo, ND, Rebekah Raymond, Burnsville, MN; grandchildren, Arthur III, Laura, Dustin, Leah, Sean, Bridgett, and Drew; and eight great grandchildren.

Rose was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Arthur Raymond; son, Stuart Raymond; granddaughter, Jodi Raymond; siblings, brothers, Charles Schone, Ted Schone, and twin sister Mary Lou (Schone) Sherwood.

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## Dr. John Baird - Former Cass County Coroner Receives Award

Members of the American Medical Association (AMA) have recently named former Cass County Coroner Dr. John Baird a recipient of the 2021 AMA Award for Outstanding Government Service in the category of Career Public Servant at the State Level.

The awards, presented to local, state and federal career and elected government officials, were established by the AMA in 1989 and are truly one of the most prestigious forms of recognition for outstanding public service in the advancement of public health. The awards are presented by the AMA upon the recommendation of an independent panel of judges.

Dr. John Baird became the Cass County Coroner in the 1980's during a time when there wasn't a state medical examiner yet. After 37 years on the job, he has collected a wealth of knowledge and experience with forensic cases

while pushing for growth in the field. Dr. Baird was instrumental in updating state laws regarding the Forensic Examiner's office by drafting the language and taking the lead on getting it through legislation. As a result, North Dakota Century Code 23-01-05.5 was amended.

Other accomplishments throughout Dr. Baird's illustrious career include being a North Dakota Health Officer since the early 2000's until his retirement in September, being the North Dakota Medical Expert for the National Tuberculosis Center, being an active member of World Organizations of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians, and being named the program director with the University of North Dakota Family Medicine Residency, which was the first

federally qualified healthcare center in North Dakota.

Dr. Baird was also an integral part of getting Narcan, a drug used to reverse the effects of opioid overdoses, distributed throughout the community and in all Cass County middle and high schools. He also coordinated evacuation efforts to find safe and proper transportation for numerous nursing homes and assisted living centers throughout the 2009 flood.

Under normal circumstances, sans a pandemic; Dr. Baird would be invited to a gala banquet in February at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, DC where the Officers of the AMA would recognize each recipient and present an award. However, this year a special video presentation of the awards will be shared on the AMA website.

# St. Peter's Episcopal Church Open for Business!

*Submitted by George Abdilnour*

After almost a year to the day, St. Peter's Episcopal Church was able to open its doors once again. In late summer of 2019, increased rainfall, along with a broken sprinkler head and a rise in the water table caused water to seep into the ductwork within the church. When the heat was turned on in October, the water within the ductwork caused an increase in the humidity within the church. The humidity was as high as 85%.



The out-of-control humidity caused severe mold growth within the front foyer, office and in the stairwell. An analysis of the air quality within the church showed mold spores up to 100 times the safe limit. With such dangerously high mold spore levels, St. Peter's was forced to close its doors until the problem could be resolved and the church deemed safe to reenter.



Cleaning the church proved to be a daunting undertaking, at very high cost. Through the Diocese, insurance companies and through the generous donations of some of our parishioners, St. Peter's was able to come up with the \$46,000 needed.

Cleaning the church was a massive undertaking. A crew of 12 worked tirelessly for a month to scrub and clean the walls, carpeting, clean the pews, launder the linens, repaint contaminated and damaged surfaces and remove the spores through a sophisticated air filtration system. The final testing revealed that the air inside the church was cleaner than the air outside.

Pastor Nicole Martin and the congregation of Shepherd's Table graciously opened their church to us, to allow us to provide services.

However, several challenges remain. Closing the church for a year meant that most of our congregation had left to attend services elsewhere. Efforts are underway to bring our flock home again. God willing, we will be together in worship once again.

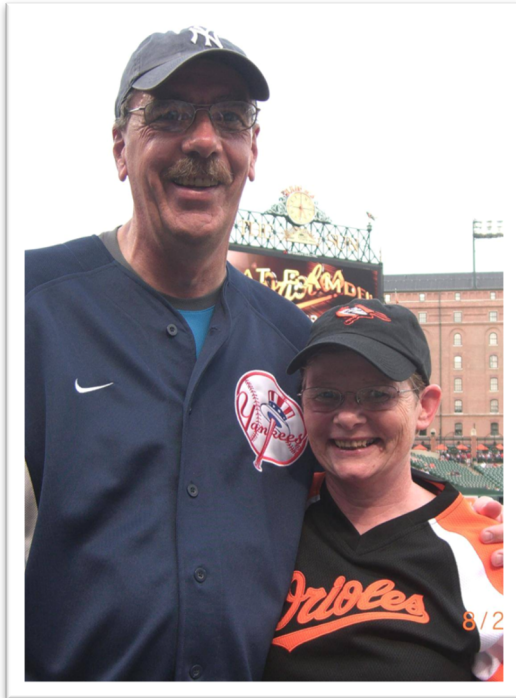
St. Peter's is still without a full-time pastor and so the search continues. St. Peter's, like other churches, are caught in a catch-22. We need to bring people into the church so we can support having a full-time priest, but we can't bring them back without a priest.

The Diocese has made the decision to sell the rectory, however, the mold that attacked it's church reared its ugly head there as well. Mold was found in the basement and after an inspection, several burst pipes were found to have caused mold inside the walls. As a result, the drywall had to be cut out to remove the mold. Fortunately though, the work is well underway to ready the rectory for the market.

God has brought us through many challenges, and many more remain but He seems to have big plans for St. Peter's. Through faith and perseverance, great things can happen when we walk with Him.

*Pictures showing the extent of mold growth on the walls and draperies in the church office. All surfaces were cleaned, sterilized and treated with several coats of antimicrobial sealant. Damaged surfaces were also repaired and repainted.*

# The Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely - Nominated to



*Bishop Thomas Ely and  
Martha ANN Ely  
34 Blueberry Circle  
Newfane, VT 05435  
bishop@ndepiscopal.org*

## *Bishop Thomas Ely Beginning on January 4, 2021*

*Rebecca Wilson, Canticle Commiunications*

To hear Bishop Thomas Ely tell it, the Holy Spirit talks like a baseball coach.

Last fall, Ely, a lifelong New York Yankees fan, was finishing his first year of retirement after more than 18 years as bishop of Vermont when he says the Spirit prompted him to “get off the bench and into the game” in the Diocese of North Dakota.

The command came shortly after Bishop Todd Ousley, who serves on Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s staff, asked Ely to interview for the new position of bishop provisional. His initial surprise turned to intense interest as he read the report of the Diocesan Discernment Task Force (DDTF), approved by diocesan convention in October.

“I’m a person who tries to be open to the working of the Holy Spirit, even when she confuses me with unexpected invitations,” Ely said in an Epiphany video greeting to the diocese. “As I prayed about this and talked with members of the interview team, my discernment became clear.”

In December, the Standing Committee asked Ely to begin serving as assisting bishop on January 4. On February 6, he will be the only nominee on the ballot at a special convention called solely for the purpose of electing a bishop provisional. Once he has been elected to that role—which the DDTF report calls “transitional bishop provisional”—he will serve as the diocese’s ecclesiastical authority just as a traditional bishop would do. Ely’s work, however, will be different from that of any other bishop who has served North Dakota.

# become the Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of North Dakota

“This looks like a traditional hierarchal model, but the DDTF was very clear—they want bottom-up leadership, circular leadership, and Tom Ely is on board with that,” said Leo Wilking, diocesan chancellor.

Robert Fox, a member of the Standing Committee from St. Paul’s, White Shield, also welcomes what he calls Ely’s “willingness to work with everybody on an equal basis,” a mindset that he says is consistent with traditional native spirituality.

“Everything is in circles, and no one is better than anyone else,” he said.

“Bishop Ely will be a coach to the diocese,” said John Baird, the chair of the DDTF and a member of St. Stephen’s, Fargo. “The number one thing we [the members of the DDTF] really noticed is that we need to be focusing on the congregations. We are really happy with Tom’s approach and how he will help with that.”

In interviews, Baird said, Ely “was listening, and he was helpful, and he was wanting to know people. He was not selling himself, really, but more so talking about his hope to help us and to help others. He’s a great fit for us.”

Fox agrees, citing the need for reconciliation and understanding about native congregations on the part of non-natives. Native congregations are growing, he says, and he hopes that Ely’s leadership will help people understand that traditional native spiritual practices and Christian beliefs go hand-in-hand for many native Episcopalians.

“We’re still praying to only one God—we’re just using different names,” Fox, a spiritual leader in the Arikara tribe.

Born and raised in Connecticut, Bishop Ely was ordained a priest in 1980. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Western Connecticut State University and a master of divinity from the School of Theology at the University of the South. Before becoming bishop of Vermont in 2001, he served as a missionary in two regional ministry clusters in Connecticut and as director of youth ministries for the Diocese of Connecticut and as executive director of its diocesan camp.

In 1976, he married Martha Ann Wiggins, called Ann. They have two grown daughters, Katherine and Jennifer, who work in education, and four grandchildren, including teenagers Charlie and Ronia, seven-year-old foster child Clayton, and four-year-old Madelyn. “Being grandpa to these four is one of my favorite ministries!” Ely said.

In retirement, the Elys live in Newfane, Vermont, in the state’s southeastern corner, where Bishop Ely has had more time to pursue his love of golf, biking and theatre. During the pandemic, he has been featured in a series of video productions at the Hooker-Dunham Theater in Brattleboro, where next week he will perform selections from Mark Twain’s “The Diaries of Adam and Eve.” Another pastime—listening to audiobooks—he expects to take up in earnest as he drives around the Diocese of North Dakota visiting congregations.

Even before in-person work becomes possible, one of Ely’s first tasks will be to hire a full-time diocesan minister, whose job will be supporting congregations, lay leaders, and clergy in their ministry. Together, Ely and the new diocesan minister will hire a full-time administrator. Once the pandemic eases, Ely will spend one week each month in North Dakota, working with the leaders to discern the diocese’s future. His initial term is for three years, with the option to extend up to two additional years.

Although electing a bishop provisional is new for North Dakota, Wilking feels confident in the process by which the diocese is calling Ely. Bishop Ousley in the Presiding Bishop’s office provided him with a template for the process used by the Diocese of Milwaukee, where Bishop Jeffrey Lee will begin serving as bishop provisional this spring. Mary Kostel, Presiding Bishop Curry’s chancellor, provided guidance about how to conduct the election in keeping with the canons of the diocese and Title III, Canon 13 of the Canons of the Episcopal Church. That canon requires that the convention, not just the Standing Committee, choose Ely as bishop provisional. As a result, Wilking says, the clergy and delegates who met for the diocese’s 50<sup>th</sup> annual convention in October will meet again via Zoom next month.

“This is a transition for the entire diocese, not just for the office of the bishop,” Ely said of the upcoming election. “I’m not coming in to provide maintenance, but instead to engage transformational work and possibility. I look forward to our journey together.”

A&E Productions, the firm that helped produce October’s online convention, will also assist with the electing convention, ensuring that clergy and delegates can participate online. Find more information about the convention on page 1 of this issue of *The Sheaf* and on the diocesan website.

# 50<sup>th</sup> Convention Conducted Online

On the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Episcopal Church in North Dakota since having achieved Diocesan Status held its convention virtually. Many congregations met in their own buildings with face masks and the delegates having a double arm's length from others in the room. The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota was functioning to the highest degree possible in the midst of a global pandemic. So there were no banquets or Eucharists at this Convention. But still prayers were said, the Presiding Bishop offered a greeting that became our Convention Sermon, the President of the House of Deputies, The Rev. Gay Jennings, popped in with a greeting for the Diocesan Anniversary as well, as did the Bishops of South Dakota and Minnesota and Fr. George Slanger.

Technology provided the means by which the Diocese could most safely conduct the needed business of setting the DDTF Report's Resolution (with amendment) as the way forward for these next few years. As a result, the Standing Committee has named an Interview Committee, Chaired by Dr. Christie Iverson. They have been charged with vetting a candidate to be the Transitional Provisional Bishop for the Diocese. Following that a Diocesan Minister will be named. In addition, there is funding for a full-time equivalent for Administration, some funding for Youth Ministry and expectation that the work of Reconciliation will be engaged throughout the Diocese.

A full-time equivalent position for Administration means that there is the work and the resources to hire a full-time person to do it, or to hire two or more people to work in a complimentary way with those resources. It is likely that Hagga Kommer will remain doing the diocesan books while someone else takes on other administrative work that involve communications, organization and other aspects of Diocesan support.

The Convention determined to follow the direction of the Diocesan Discernment Task Force (DDTF) as they envisioned a series of steps in diocesan reorganization and transformation. The guiding principle in its reorganization is congregational support and development. The Convention passed several courtesy resolutions as well as the Proposed Budget for 2021 along with the DDTF Resolution. It elected members to the Standing Committee and by Region it elected members to the Diocesan Council. Among the Courtesy Resolutions was one to thank Dionne and Shawn Nelson of St. George's for their efforts to secure the equipment for many of our congregations to be able to go online and stream audio and video on large screen TVs. The funds for these units came from a grant written by Canon Hal Weidman to the Diocese of Texas.

***Instead of a top down approach in which a diocese is supported by its Congregations, the Diocese of North Dakota envisions an emphasis of the Diocese supporting the Congregations that make up the Diocese.***

“ ”

***The guiding principle in its reorganization is congregational support and development.***

## Continuing Education Offer

### **Preaching Year B—Epiphany**

On Jan. 13, from 3–4:30 p.m. CST, hosts Teresa Fry Brown and William Brosend welcome Tom Long, Bandy Professor of Preaching, emeritus, to the ongoing conversation about preaching in Year B. Together they will cover the Sundays in Epiphany. Registration is free but required in advance of the webinar. [https://sewanee.edu/zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_KfqBj52oS0qxdJ3F4wWtg](https://sewanee.edu/zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KfqBj52oS0qxdJ3F4wWtg)



# DIOCESAN CONVENTION ELECTION RESULTS

*Report of the Convention prepared by Canon Hal Weidman*

Delegates in attendance were 21 of 22 possible clergy delegates and 72 of 103 possible lay delegates.

Six out of six Standing Committee members and eight of twelve Council members were present.

Fourteen congregations were represented by lay delegates out of nineteen.

Sixteen congregations were represented by clergy and/or lay delegates out of nineteen.

Ex officio members present were Bishop Keith Whitmore, assisting Bishop; Charlotte Peterson, Treasure; and Leo Wilking, Chancellor. The Rev'd Thad Bennett was a guest of the convention.

Elections to various diocesan positions were held during the Diocese's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention held "virtually" October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

On Ballot #1, Carmine Goodhouse was elected **Secretary of the Convention**.

Ballot #2 was used to elect **Diocesan Treasurer**, Charlotte Peterson, who was serving by appointment.

Ballot #3 was for the election of **Alternate Deputies to the Episcopal Church's General Convention**. Chaska Moore in the lay order and The Rev'd Deacon John Anderson in the clergy order were elected. They will join the Deputies to General Convention who were elected at the 49<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Convention. The Deputies are, in the Lay Order, John Baird, Joshua Floberg, Carmine Goodhouse, and Charlotte Peterson. Clergy order deputies are: The Rev'd John Floberg. The Rev'd Robert Hoekstra, The Rev'd Mary Johnson, and The Rev'd Canon Hal Weidman.

*At the time of diocesan convention General Convention was planned for Baltimore, Maryland during July of 2021. Since diocesan convention, the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church approved the House of Deputies' decision to reschedule General Convention to July in 2022, also in Baltimore.*

Deacon Terry Overbo was elected on Ballot #4 to the **Standing Committee**.

Amy Phillips was elected to the **Standing Committee** on Ballot #5.

Members on the **North Dakota Episcopal Foundation** were elected on Ballot #6. Dr John Baird and The Rev'd Bart Davis were elected to serve.

On Ballot #7, The Rev'd Elsie Magnus was elected so serve on the **North Dakota Foundation for Ministry in Higher Education**.

Quinn Palmer and The Rev'd Larry Thiele were elected to take seats on **Diocesan Council from the east region** on Ballot #8. Current Council members fare: The Rev'd Deacon John Anderson, Peter Mading, Donna Pettit, and Dan Rice.

Ballot #9, the last ballot of elections, was used for electing **west region seats on Diocesan Council**. Joshua Floberg and The Rev'd Deacon Angela Goodhouse-Mauai were elected to 3-year terms, while Tammy Enockson was elected to serve for a one-year term.

Congratulations to all elected to serve and all who put their name into serve.

## COURTESY RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED AT 2020 DIOCESAN CONVENTION

In recognition of **St Sylvan's, Dunseith**, our longest and oldest continuing worshipping community. They began worshipping together in 1865, or at the latest, 1868, with the Blessed Enmegawboh coming to them from Minnesota after Rising Sun had approached Bishop Whipple for a priest to be sent to them.

In thanksgiving for the life of **Herb Wilson**, an Episcopalian through and through. He led services at St David's, New Town which met in a nursing home. He attended both his own Episcopal church and his wife's United Church of Christ church over the years.

In recognition of **Fr Duane Fox**, our longest continuing priest serving in North Dakota.

Whereas **Charlotte Peterson** has spent untold hours and immeasurable energy in overseeing Diocesan finances as a volunteer; be it resolved, this 50th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese North Dakota extends to her our sincere and well-deserved gratitude for her competent and thorough guidance.

In appreciation for the work of the **Diocesan Discernment Task Force, the Standing Committee, and the Diocesan Council** during this time of transition. Their tireless energy and active listening skills through the many interviews and meetings they held is praiseworthy and esteemed. This convention wholeheartedly thanks them for their wisdom, faith, and grace.

Greetings to the **Diocese of Texas**, our companion in mission. We cherish our relationship with the good people of Texas as we both further the transformative love of God the Father through his Son Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In appreciation for **Shawn and Dionne Nelson's** work in transforming our vision of remote-meeting capability to a reality. This Spring remote meeting capability for our congregations was only a vision as we applied to the Diocese of Texas for a mission grant. The Nelsons' sense of urgency was notable as the COVID-19 pandemic increased the need for our congregations to meet remotely for convention. Their work, much of it technical in nature, was accomplished joyfully, passionately and in time for making this unique way of meeting for convention a reality. They have brought great credit upon themselves and the Diocese.

In appreciation and remembrance of **Bishop Andy Fairfield**. His many years and selfless service to the Diocese and to his Lord is missed. We are so grateful to have had him as our leader of the Diocese Of North Dakota. We also send our condolences to our beloved friend Sally.

In thanksgiving for and in recognition of the **former Bishops of the Dakota territory**: Before statehood, Missionary Bishop Robert Harper Clarkson (1865-1883)—Bishop of Nebraska and the Dakotas. Missionary Bishop William Hobart Hare (1873-1884) sent to the Lakota/Dakota people.

In thanksgiving for and in recognition of the **former Bishops of the Diocese of North Dakota**:

William D. Walker (1883–1896)  
Samuel Cook Edsall (1899–1901)  
Cameron Mann (1902–1913)  
John Poyntz Tyler (1914–1931)  
Frederick B. Bartlett (1931–1935)  
Douglas H. Atwill (1937–1951)

Richard R. Emery (1951–1964)  
George T. Masuda (1965–1979)  
Harold A. Hopkins, Jr. (1980–1988)  
Andrew H. Fairfield (1989–2003)  
Michael G. Smith (2004-2019)

## Diocesan Committees

The ministry of the Episcopal Church in North Dakota is assisted by Committees and Commissions. Some of them are formed by the Diocesan Council or the Standing Committee while others are mandated to be in place by Canons of the Episcopal Church. A Canon is a rule that is passed by a Diocesan Convention or by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church that directs or controls the way that certain things are done within the Church.

Those committees identified with an “\*” are ones that are mandated or expected that the Diocese will have named. The remaining are not required but are helpful for the common good of the Diocese. Members of the Diocese are encouraged to volunteer to be considered for appointment to these committees. Some have particular groups from within the diocese that are being represented. Others are somewhat more ad hoc in their composition.

It is expected that the next issue of *The Sheaf* will have the names of those that have accepted appointment to these groups along with contact information for their Chair.

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### Commission on Ministry\*

Chair: The Rev. Harvey Henderson: The Rev. Bart Davis, The Rev. Jamie Parsley, The Rev. Dn. John Anderson, The Rev. Dn. Sloane Floberg, Donna Pettit, Joanne Lassiter, Elaine McLaughlin

### Commission on Youth Ministry

Chair: Joshua Floberg, Erika Morland, Robert Fox, Don Henderson (members TBD)

### Congregational Development

Co-Chair: Tammy Enockson & Donna Pettit (members TBD)

### Canons\*

Chair: Leo Wilking: Peter Mading, The Very Rev. Mark Strobel, The Rev. Harvey Henderson, The Rev. Canon Hal Weidman, Carmine Goodhouse

### Finance Committee\*

Chair: Charlotte Peterson: Andrea Stomberg, John Baird, Dan Rice, Robert Fox, The Rev. John Floberg, The Rev. Bart Davis

### Grants

Chair: The Rev. Bart Davis: with a member from EFMHE, NDEF, The Haiti Project, The United Thank Offering, Episcopal Relief and Development, NDCIM

### North Dakota Council on Indian Ministries\*

Chair: Elaine McLaughlin: Vice Chair: The Rev. Larry Thiele: Secretary/Treasurer: Carmine Goodhouse: Supervising Clergy: The Rev. Duane Fox, The Rev. Paul Zaharia, The Rev. John Floberg

### Personnel\*

Chair: Sandra Holbrook: The Rev. Robert Hoekstra, Amy Phillips, Joyce Tello, Carmine Goodhouse and David Lokudu

### Reconciliation\*

Chair: The Rev. Larry Thiele, Christie Iverson, Carmen Goodhouse, Fern Pokorny, Robert Fox, Wes Fox, Amy Phillips, Hellen Lodu

### Title IV\*

John Baird, The Rev. Dn. Beth Lipp, The Rev. Mary Johnson, The Rev. Dn. John Anderson and Donna Pettit

**Transition:** Larry Thiele, Sandy Holbrook, Carmen Goodhouse, Elaine McLaughlin, Mark Strobel, Peter Mading, Harvey Henderson

### UTO Coordinator\*

Chair: The Rev. Dn. Sloane Floberg



## *The Sheaf*

Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota  
3600 South 25th Street  
Fargo, ND 58104-6861

## Diocesan Calendar – *God Giveth The Increase*

### **January**

- 4 - Bishop Thomas Ely's first day*
- 6 - Feast of the Epiphany*
- 9 - Diocesan Council Zoom Call with Bishop Ely*
- 24 - Bishop Whitmore at Gethsemane Cathedral & St. John the Divine*
- 31 - Assisting Bishop Whitmore's last day*

### **February**

- 6 - Diocesan Special Convention for the Election of the Bishop Provisional*

### **March**

- 5 & 6 - Diocesan Council (Location TBD)*
- 28 - Palm Sunday*

### **April**

- 2 - Good Friday*
- 4 - Easter Sunday*

### **May**

### **June**

- 24 to 27 - Niobrara Convocation on Standing Rock (tentative)*