

Minutes

***Friday, February 9, 2007
Opening Session***

Call to Order

The Right Reverend Charles G. vonRosenberg, Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee, called the Twenty-Third Annual Convention to order at 1:13 p.m. Friday, February 9, 2007, at the Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Report of the Committee on Credentials - Quorum

The bishop called on the Rev. Harry Bahlow, chair of the Credentials Committee, to report registration: 44 clergy, 88 lay delegates, for a total of 132 delegates. There were 34 alternates and 106 others for a grand total of 272 in attendance. In accordance with Article V of the Constitution, there was a quorum present for the transaction of business.

The Liturgy of Welcome

Bishop vonRosenberg recognized Ms. Patricia Tanzer Askew, who introduced the liturgies for this convention and explained symbolism of the liturgical kite, a dove portraying the Holy Spirit. All joined in the Liturgy of Welcome.

Special Order of Business - Address of the Bishop

Bishop vonRosenberg invited the Rev. George Choyce, president of the Standing Committee, to take the chair of the convention while he gave his annual address, which is included in Section 4 of this Journal. The Bishop's Address was followed by table discussions centered around questions to encourage responses to the address.

First Millennium Moment

Eight Millennium Moments were held throughout convention to highlight the eight Millennium Development Goals. The bishop called on Ms. Linda Dietrich, chair of the diocesan Peace and Justice Committee, to introduce these presentations and the speaker for the First Millennium Moment, the Rev. Hendree Harrison. Hendree focused on the goal, "To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger."

Election of Officers

Bishop vonRosenberg placed into nomination the names of the following officers: The Rev. Canon Stephen Askew, Secretary; Rosemary Davenport and Laura Nichols, Assistant Secretaries; Don Sproles, Treasurer; Joseph Bacon and Merry Keyser, Assistant Treasurers; Sarah Sheppard, Esq., Chancellor; Thomas Peters, Esq., the Hon. Neil Thomas and the Hon. Marie Williams, Vice Chancellors; and Dr. Nelle Bellamy, Registrar.

All nominees were accepted by acclamation.

Appointment of Parliamentarians

Bishop vonRosenberg appointed Thomas Peters, Esq., as Parliamentarian and Sarah Sheppard as Assistant Parliamentarian.

Adoption of Rules of Order

Recognized by the bishop, Mr. Peters moved that the Rules of Order and the Order of Business be adopted by the convention. Mr. Peters pointed out the seat and voice are granted worshipping communities, but not vote.

**Motion carried
Rules of Order adopted**

Resolution of Invitation

The bishop called on The Rev. Bob Rizner, who moved the adoption of the following Resolution of Invitation:

Resolved, that all ordained ministers of this church who are not canonically resident in this diocese, but who officiate under license and who are in charge of congregations in the diocese, be given seats and voice in the deliberations of this convention; and

Resolved, that all ordained ministers of this church present in this city of Gatlinburg during the sessions of the convention, all postulants and candidates for holy orders in the diocese, and all ordained ministers of other communions present in Gatlinburg be cordially invited to seats upon the floor of convention.

**Motion carried
Resolution was adopted**

Introduction of New Clergy and Recognition of Seminarians

Bishop vonRosenberg introduced as new clergy to our diocese:

The Rev. Hendree Harrison, St. Paul, Athens

The Rev. Hal Hutchison, St. John, Johnson City

The Rev. Judith Whelchel, Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain.

The bishop recognized those newly ordained as priests in the diocese:

The Rev. Joe Minarik, St. Francis, Norris

The Rev. Bailey Norman, St. Stephen, Oak Ridge

The bishop recognized as newly ordained deacons in the diocese:

The Rev. Lani Hubbard, Good Shepherd, Knoxville

The Rev. Amy Morehous, Ascension, Knoxville

The bishop recognized the seminarians of the diocese:

Virginia Theological Seminary: Brett Backus, Peter Kanyi, Bob Leopold

Harvard Theological Seminary: Caroline Vogel

Postulants working toward the vocational diaconate were introduced.

Chris Harpster

Gordon Brewer

Ann Weeks

Brad Weeks

Introduction of Convention Co-Chairs

The bishop introduced the Convention co-chairs: The Rev. Scherry Fouke and the Rev. Martha Sterne. Convention attendees were instructed to write down questions for which they would like the presiding bishop's response at Saturday's question-and-answer session with her.

Introduction of Special Guests

Bishop vonRosenberg introduced the Right Reverend Creighton Robertson, bishop of our companion diocese of South Dakota, and his wife, Ms. Ann Robertson. Also introduced were the Right Reverend William Sanders, first bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee, and his wife, Ms. Marlin Sanders.

Appointment of Convention Committees

The bishop appointed the following Convention Committees:

On Credentials:

The Rev. Harry Bahlow, chair

Mr. Bruce Ragan

The Rev. Janice Robbins

On Elections: Ms. Monty Ross, chair
The Rev. George Choyce
Mr. Phillip Harris
The Rev. Jay Mills
The Rev. Thom Rasnick
Dr. Bob Strimer
The Rev. Maggie Zeller

On General Resolutions: Mr. Tom Ladd, chair
Mr. Bill Farnham
The Rev. Betty Latham
The Rev. Lee Schaefer

The bishop next appointed members to the following committees:

On Memorials, Greetings and Resolutions of Appreciation:
The Rev. Kathryn Mathewson, chair
Dr. Tupper Morehead

On Constitution and Canons: The Hon. Marie Williams, chair

Terms expiring 2008: The Hon. Marie Williams
The Rev. Gary Callahan
The Rev. Dr. Richard Brown

Terms expiring 2009: The Hon. Neil Thomas
The Rev. Craig Kallio

Terms expiring 2010: The Rev. Gene Smitherman
Edward Boehm, Esq.

The Church Pension Fund Committee:

Ms. Mary Berl
Tom Hale, Esq.
Mr. Don Sproles
The Rev. Al Minor
The Rev. SuZanne Seavey

DuBose Conference Center Board of Directors: (no unexpired terms)

Elections to Boards and Commissions

Bishop vonRosenberg made the following nominations for the Commission on Ministry to serve three-year terms:

Mrs. Jeanette Cureton, the Rev. David Garrett, Ms. Adair Murdoch, the Rev. Kay Reynolds, and the Rev. Janice Robbins to serve three year terms ending 2010; the Rev. Hendree Harrison to fill the unexpired term of the Rev. Chris Chase, ending Feb. 2008.

All nominations were accepted by acclamation

The bishop made the following nominations for the Episcopal Endowment Corporation for a three-year term:
Ms. Ann Lamb

Nomination was accepted by acclamation

The bishop made the following nominations for the Grace Point Board of Managers for three-year terms ending February 2010: Mr. Jerry Askew, Ms. Jeanne Claire Jones, Mr. Mike Keene, Ms. Sonya Minarik. Then to increase the overall size of the board, the bishop nominated Mr. Ben Alford for the term ending February 2009 and the Rev. Ben Nelson for the term ending February 2008.

All nominations were accepted by acclamation

Second Millennium Moment

Bishop vonRosenberg recognized the Rev. Lou Garcia, who spoke on the Second Millennium Goal, "To achieve universal primary education for children." Lou reflected on the work done by Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain on St. John the Evangelist School in Petit Harpon, Haiti.

Report of the Committee on General Resolutions

Dr. Tom Ladd, chair of the Committee on General Resolutions, was recognized by the bishop. Dr. Ladd presented the committee report following the preconvention hearing and moved Resolution 3, Water Quality Resolution, recommending adoption.

Text of Resolution 3

Resolved, that this Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee urge every parish to envision itself not only within its parish boundaries, but take steps to see itself within the watershed in which it is placed (see the map generated for St. Peter's Parish in Chattanooga).

Resolved, that all congregations be urged to distribute the good practices brochures on water quality to its parishioners and raise awareness on this issue (see example from www.tennesseewaterworks.com), and furthermore, be it resolved that all future construction by the Diocese would examine the environmental and water quality impact of impervious surfaces and surfacing and would examine and weigh alternatives.

**Motion carried,
Resolution adopted**

Dr. Ladd reported that there was much debate on Resolution 4, Renewing Our Commitment to Nuclear Disarmament by Opposing the Planned New Nuclear Weapons Plant in Our Diocese. He further stated that the committee had not yet formulated its recommendation to the convention and would bring its recommendation to the convention floor on Saturday.

Text of Resolution 4

Resolved, that the 23rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee voices its opposition to Complex 2030, a new nuclear facility proposed by the U.S. Department of Energy for construction in Oak Ridge; and be it further

Resolved, that the convention opposes the construction by the United States of such facilities here or anywhere else; and be it further

Resolved, that the convention requests the bishop to convey to our elected representatives and to appropriate officials of the Department of Energy our opposition to Complex 2030.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Don Sproles, treasurer for the diocese, was called on by Bishop vonRosenberg. Mr. Sproles reviewed the Treasurer's Report for 2006. On behalf of the Bishop and Council, Mr. Sproles moved Resolution 1, recommending adoption.

Text of Resolution 1

WHEREAS, by its action the Twenty-Second Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee convened in Chattanooga on Saturday, February 4, 2006, and approved a budget for The Diocese; and

WHEREAS, in the wisdom of the Bishop and Council, certain items of the Budget were exceeded but the total expenditures were less than the budgeted total; and WHEREAS, by Canon 2, Sec. 2 (a), it is necessary for the Convention to approve budgets; and

WHEREAS, the budget as approved in its February 2006 Convention was \$1,706,736.00; and

WHEREAS, the actual disbursements were \$1,648,375.93; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer's Financial Statements reflect all detailed records of disbursements over and under the budget recited herein by reference, reflect the best judgment and good offices of the Bishop and Council and Treasurer in performing under said budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that all of the acts and actions of the Bishop and Council in authorizing disbursements in excess of line items in the 2006 budget as approved by their various actions during 2006, be and are hereby ratified by this Convention as authorized and approved.

**Motioned carried
Resolution 1 adopted**

Mr. Sproles submitted a revised proposed budget for 2007 with the explanation that voluntary commitments have not been as high as anticipated. A second budget hearing will be held on Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m.

Reports of the Officers, Boards, Commissions and Committees

Appalachian Ministry Resource Team Report

Bishop vonRosenberg called on Mr. Bill Fryar, chair of the Appalachian Ministry Resource Team. Mr. Fryar introduced the team members and gave a PowerPoint presentation. The full report is included in Section 6 of this Journal.

Commission on Ministry Report

The Rev. Suzanne Smitherman was recognized by the bishop as president of the Commission on Ministry. The Rev. Smitherman gave a summary of the activity of the Commission on Ministry during the past year (included in Section 6 of this Journal). She emphasized especially the process and timetable for those who may wish to enter the discernment process.

Companion Diocese Committee Report

Bishop vonRosenberg called on the Rev. Jocelyn Bell who reported on the work of the Companion Diocese Committee. The Rev. Bell reported that unfortunately the Rev. Marion Rectenwald, her counterpart in South Dakota, was unable to be present for this convention, but sends her greetings. However, together they are working to foster the relationship between the two dioceses and the companion parishes.

Constitution and Canons Committee Report

Bishop vonRosenberg next recognized the Honorable Marie Williams, chair of the Constitution and Canons Committee. Judge Williams reported that no new changes are proposed at this time for the constitution and canons. A number of items have been discussed. The committee is still wrestling with the issue of whether worshiping communities should be given vote in addition to seat and voice at convention.

Ministry Development Report

Mr. Rick Govan was called on by Bishop vonRosenberg. Mr. Govan announced that this spring a ministry conference will be co-hosted by the diocesan Office of Ministry Development and St. John's Cathedral, featuring John and Caroline Westerhoff as speakers. The theme of the conference will be "Living into Our Baptism." Mr. Govan also reported on the work he is doing with parishes and the development of lay ministry. Thirteen parishioners are currently involved in training for licensed lay ministry. (A full report is included in Section 6 of this Journal).

Third Millennium Moment

The bishop recognized Ms. Lynn Schmissrauter to speak to the Third Millennium Goal, "To promote gender equality and empower women." Ms. Schmissrauter, along with Ms. Jocelyn Willis and the Rev. Margaret Marshall, presented the work of the Sanctuary in Chattanooga, a residential and training center for rehabilitating women's lives.

Standing Committee Report

The Rev. George Choyce, president of the Standing Committee, was called on by the bishop. The Rev. Choyce summarized the actions of the Standing Committee for the past year (report included in Section 6 of the Journal).

Stewardship Commission Report

Bishop vonRosenberg recognized the Rev. Joe Ballard and Mr. Herb Berl, who presented the report of the Stewardship Commission. The full report is included in Section 6 of this Journal.

Final Call for Resolutions

Bishop vonRosenberg made a final call for resolutions. No new resolutions were offered.

Youth Action Council Report

Mr. Alex Haralson was called on by the bishop. Mr. Haralson presented the work and activities of the youth of the diocese over the past year.

Presentation by ECSET

Bishop vonRosenberg called on Ms. Lisa McNeese and Ms. Rebecca Whelchel, who on behalf of the Episcopal Commission of South East Tennessee (ECSET) recognized the retirement and good work of the Rev. Lou Garcia as director of the Episcopal Metropolitan Ministries, an outreach ministry of ECSET. It was announced that the building which houses the Episcopal Metropolitan Ministries in Chattanooga has been named the Lou Garcia Ministries Center.

Announcements

Bishop vonRosenberg called on Canon Stephen Askew to read two proposed constitutional amendments as directed by the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church in resolutions A020 and A021, amending Article I.2 and Article III respectively. Canon Askew made several other procedural announcements for convention.

Invitation to Health Fair

The Rev. Lani Hubbard was recognized by Bishop vonRosenberg. The Rev. Hubbard issued an invitation to all convention participants to take part in the Health Fair between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., sponsored by the Episcopal Medical Trust.

Elections Committee

Bishop vonRosenberg called on Ms. Monty Ross, chair of the Elections Committee, to speak to the elections process and to introduce the nominees for the various positions to be filled at this convention.

Final Call for Nominations

The bishop made a final call for nominations. Mr. Oscar Brock was nominated by Mr. Brad Weeks for lay member representing the South East on Bishop and Council. Mr. John Palmer was nominated by the Rev. Harry Howard for lay member representing the Middle East on Bishop and Council. The Rev. Ben Nelson nominated Ms. Linda Nelson for lay trustee, the University of the South. The Rev. Carolyn Isley nominated Dr. Bob Strimer to fill an unexpired term of lay member representing Upper East on Bishop and Council. The Rev. Gary England nominated the Rev. Stephen Eichler for clergy member of Bishop and Council representing the South East area. Motion was made to close nominations, except for clergy members of Bishop and Council.

**Motion Carried
Nominations closed**

Liturgy for Healing

Bishop vonRosenberg called on the Rev. Taylor Dinsmore to lead the Liturgy for Healing.

Recess

Bishop vonRosenberg called convention into recess until 8:30 a.m., Saturday, February 10th.

Saturday, February 10, 2007

Before Convention reconvened the Budget Hearing was held.

Convention Reconvened

The Right Reverend Charles vonRosenberg called the convention back into session at 8:33 a.m.

Report of the Committee on Credentials

The bishop called on the Rev. Harry Bahlow, chair of the Credentials Committee, to report registration: 78 clergy, 135 lay delegates, for a total of 213 delegates. There were 42 alternates and 260 others for a grand total of 515 in attendance. In accordance with Article V of the Constitution, there was a quorum present for the transaction of business.

Liturgy for Morning

Bishop vonRosenberg called on the Rev. Taylor Dinsmore to introduce the Liturgy for Morning.

Fourth Millennium Moment

The bishop recognized Ms. Linda Dietrich, who introduced a video featuring the work of Harry and Patty Chase in the White Oak Community of Jellico. Their work is in keeping with the Fourth Millennium Goal, "To reduce child mortality."

Ratification of Resolution 2

Bishop vonRosenberg called for action on Resolution 2, moved by the Standing Committee.

Text of Resolution

RESOLVED, that all actions of the Standing Committee taken under provision of Title III, Canon 1: Real and Personal Property and reported to this Convention affecting title to and property of the Diocese of East Tennessee or its constituent congregations be approved and ratified and made the action of this 23rd Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee.

**Motion Carried
Resolution 2 adopted**

Elections

Ms. Monty Ross, chair of the Elections Committee, was called on by Bishop vonRosenberg to oversee the elections process. Ms. Ross moved that those who were unopposed be elected by acclamation as follows:

Bishop and Council

(3) Lay nominees

Dr. Bob Strimer, St. James, Greeneville – Upper East

Mr. John Palmer, Resurrection, Loudon – Middle East (unexpired term to 2008)

Mr. Oscar Brock, Lookout Mountain – South East

Ecclesiastical Trial Court nominees

Ms. Arline Caliger

Standing Committee

(1) Clergy nominee

The Rev. Cal Calhoun, Good Samaritan, Knoxville

**Motion carried
Elected by acclamation**

Ms. Ross then moved the following be elected by acclamation. The bishop called for final nominations for clergy on Bishop and Council. Motion made to close nominations and elect the following by acclamation.

Bishop and Council

(3) Clergy nominees

(Diocesan Canons stipulate that Bishop and Council members from the same parish cannot serve concurrently. For that reason, clergy members of Bishop and Council are nominated and elected after the vote for lay members.)

The Rev. Jay Mills, St. Paul, Kingsport – Upper East

The Rev. Harry Howard, St. Andrew, Maryville – Middle East

The Rev. Stephen Eichler, Christ, South Pittsburg – South East

**Motion carried
Elected by acclamation**

Elections were then held for the following contested positions:

Standing Committee

(1) Lay Member nominees

Mr. William Farnham, St. Andrew, Harriman

Mr. John Nagy, Resurrection, Loudon

Mr. Jim Shearouse, St. Alban, Hixson

Trustee, University of the South nominee (lay member)

Mr. Chris Cone, St. Andrew, Maryville

Ms. Linda Nelson, St. Paul, Chattanooga

Ms. Lee Phillips, St. John, Johnson City

Presentation and Adoption of the 2007 Budget

The Bishop called on Mr. Sproles, who made a motion for Convention to accept the diocesan budget for 2007, based on the received commitments from parishes. The budget is in Section 7 of this Journal. After brief discussion, the question was called.

**Motion carried
Budget 2007 was adopted**

Report of the Committee on General Resolutions

Dr. Tom Ladd was called on by the bishop to report on the work of the Committee on General Resolutions. Dr. Ladd addressed the committee's concerns with Resolution 4, Renewing Our Commitment to Nuclear Disarmament by Opposing the Planned New Nuclear Weapons Plant in Our Diocese, and stated that the committee recommends the resolution be rejected. After some debate, discussion was closed and the question was called.

**Motion carried
Resolution 4 was rejected**

Fifth Millennium Moment

Bishop vonRosenberg called on Ms. Martha Anderson and the Rev. David Garrett, who spoke on the Fifth Millennium Goal, "To improve maternal health." They addressed the work of Rural Medical Services in Cocke and Jefferson Counties.

Presiding Bishop's Address

Bishop vonRosenberg had the honor of introducing a special guest to this year's diocesan convention, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, who addressed the convention delegates and many guests. The complete text of her address can be found in Section 4 of this Journal. Following the presiding bishop's address, Canon Askew explained the process for a question-and-answer session with the presiding bishop, which was led by the convention co-chairs, the Rev. Scherry Fouke and the Rev. Martha Sterne.

Report of the Elections Committee

Ms. Monty Ross, chair of the Elections Committee, was called on by Bishop vonRosenberg. Ms. Ross reported the following elections:

Standing Committee, Lay Member: Mr. Jim Shearouse, St. Alban, Hixson
Trustee, University of the South, Lay Member: Mr. Chris Cone, St. Andrew,
Maryville

Report of the Chaplain to Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses

The Rev. Al Minor was called on by the bishop to give the report concerning retired clergy and surviving spouses. The Rev. Minor expressed that this is a ministry that is growing. The Rev. Peter Keese will be joining Perry Scruggs in this ministry as Al Minor steps down.

Sixth Millennium Moment

Bishop vonRosenberg recognized Mr. John Delozier, who spoke on the Sixth Millennium Goal, “To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and other diseases.” Mr. Delozier stated that the good news is that these diseases can be prevented and treated with global effort and funding.

Liturgy of Prayers for Peace and Justice

Ms. Patricia Tanzer Askew was recognized by the bishop to introduce the Liturgy of Prayers for Peace and Justice.

Recess

After announcements were made by Canon Askew, who concluded with a blessing for lunch, the bishop called for a recess of convention until 12:15 p.m. During lunch, the youth of the diocese met separately with the presiding bishop.

Saturday, February 10, 2007
Afternoon Session

Convention Reconvened

The Right Reverend Charles vonRosenberg called the convention back into session at 12:15 p.m.

Report of the Committee on Credentials

Bishop vonRosenberg called on the Rev. Janice Robbins to give a final report of the Committee on Credentials. The number registered was: 78 clergy, 135 lay, for a total of 213, with 42 alternates, 260 others, for a grand total of 515.

Seventh Millennium Moment

Mr. Mike Keene was called on by Bishop vonRosenberg to address the Seventh Millennium Goal, "To ensure environmental sustainability." Mr. Keene addressed the work and programs being carried out at Grace Point Camp and Retreat Center, which focus on this goal in particular.

Reports of the Officers, Boards, Commissions and Committees
(Continued)

Report of the Companion Diocese Committee

The Rev. Jocelyn Bell was called on by the bishop to report on the work being done with our Companion Diocese of South Dakota. The Rev. Bell announced the recipient of a quilt given away as a fund raiser. She called on Bishop Creighton Robertson to present the quilt in Lakota fashion. Bishop Robertson also was given a chance to speak to the convention. Bishop Robertson invited members of this diocese to visit South Dakota and presented gifts to Bishop vonRosenberg and Annie vonRosenberg. Bishop vonRosenberg announced a gift of a water buffalo to a developing country in honor of the Robertsons.

Report of the Grace Point Board

Mr. Mike Keene was called on by the bishop. With the help of some of the youth, a most entertaining report was given. Tribute was also given to the Rev. Bo Lewis upon his retirement as executive director of Grace Point since its beginning. A handmade ceramic baptismal font was presented in his honor, which will be placed in the new chapel at Grace Point. The Rev. Lewis expressed his appreciation and thanked those who helped make Grace Point possible.

Eighth Millennium Moment

Mr. Jake Hudson was recognized by Bishop vonRosenberg to address the Eighth Millennium Goal, "To create a global partnership for development." Mr. Hudson shared the experiences he and his parish have had building Habitat for Humanity houses in this country and in Nicaragua.

Report of the Committee on Memorials, Greetings, and Resolutions of Appreciation

The Rev. Kathryn Mathewson and Dr. Tupper Morehead were called on by the bishop. They moved the following resolutions and asked that they be adopted by acclamation.

Be it here resolved, that the 23rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee express its appreciation to those members of the Convention Arrangements Committee who labored to make this convention possible with their time and talents: the Rev. Scherry Fouke and the Rev. Martha Sterne who co-chaired this convention; also Jo Ann Dotson, Pat Pigmon, Kathryn Mitchell, Lena and George Giles, Patricia Tanzer Askew, Suzy Deierhoi, the Rev. Harry Howard and Nancy Howard, Ron Davis, Sarai Wender, and members of the diocesan staff; the Rev. Canon Stephen Askew, Laura Nichols, Mary Berl, Alex Haralson, Sharon Rasmussen, Rosemary Davenport, and for the help of Lynn Lazlo.

Be it here resolved, that your deep appreciation be expressed to those whose creative and faithful gifts contributed to meaningful and spirit-filled worship: for those participating in worship, the artists, musicians, deacons and readers, with special thanks to the youth band; Sandra Emond, the pianist; Libby Beasnett, who set up the Quiet Room; Nancy Olsen and the children of St. Andrew and All Saints who baked the bread; the children and parents of Episcopal School of Knoxville who gathered the offering; and the Rev. Taylor Dinsmore who was the Liturgy Assistant.

Be it here resolved, that we raise up those in thanksgiving whose voices have called us to follow Christ in the mission of the Church during the "Millennium Moments:" Linda Dietrich, the Rev. Hendree Harrison, the Rev. Lou Garcia, John DeLozier, Mike Keene, Lynn Schmissrauter, Jake Hudson, Harry and Patty Chase.

Be it here resolved, that our heartfelt gratitude be extended to those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes so that the convention be animated with beauty and celebration: Debbie Cone and Alex Haralson for the PowerPoint slides, Sandy Murphy for the flowers; Julia Clements, Fritz Massaquoi, Linda Minton, George Schollian, Jane and Jim Phillips for the convention booklets.

Be it here resolved, that we give high praise and thanks for the numerous individuals from the parishes of St. Andrew and All Saints who tirelessly and cheerfully volunteered their time and talents in support of this convention.

Be it here resolved, that we offer our joyful appreciation to those whose gifts entertained and enlivened the spirit-filled fellowship of this convention's festivities: Charlie Goan, the Don Hough Sextet, Jim Bruton, Ron Davis and the St. Andrew's Singing Nuns.

Be it resolved, that our hearty and affectionate gratitude be given to our bishop, The Rt. Rev. Charles vonRosenberg, for his skillful and peace-filled leadership in this diocese and in our Episcopal Church, and for the loving presence of Christ which he is to all of us; and to Annie vonRosenberg for her ministry of sincere compassion, companionship and dedicated devotion to all the people of this diocese.

Resolutions of Thanksgiving for Guests

Be it resolved, that we give praise for the faithful ministry of our special guests and thanksgiving for their gracious presence with us: The Rev. Canon Carl Gerdau, the Rt. Rev. and Mrs. Creighton Robertson, the Rt. Rev. and Mrs. William Sanders.

Be it resolved, that our profound and humble gratitude be given to the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, for the blessing of her inspiring presence among us; and be it further resolved, that this convention bid farewell to Bishop Jefferts Schori with a promise of our continual prayer that she may be a light of hope and reconciliation in the Anglican Communion, and especially as she gathers next week with her brother primates.

Affectionate Greetings

Be it resolved, that affectionate greetings be sent to the congregations and clergy of the Diocese of South Dakota, our Companion Diocese.

Be it resolved, that affectionate greetings and continued prayer be sent to our brothers and sisters in Christ in Mississippi and Louisiana as they continue their recovery efforts following the devastation of hurricane Katrina.

Be it resolved, that our fond greetings along with prayers for healing and agreeable health be sent to Mrs. Helen Vander Horst and Mrs. Ann Tharp, both of whom we hold in deep affection as cherished members of our diocesan family.

Approval of resolutions given by applause

Invitation to the 2008 Convention

Bishop vonRosenberg recognized the Rev. Jay Mills, who, on behalf of St. Paul, Kingsport, issued an invitation to host the 2008 convention in Gatlinburg. The bishop accepted the invitation.

Commissioning of Newly Elected and Liturgy of the Table

After Canon Askew made several announcements, Bishop vonRosenberg called on the Rev. Taylor Dinsmore to introduce the Liturgy of the Table. Those newly elected by this convention were commissioned. Convention was concluded with the Eucharist. Eucharistic bread was distributed for each parish to take home and share in the parish. The Rev. Amy Morehous gave the dismissal.

The twenty-third convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee was adjourned on the afternoon of Saturday, February, 10, 2007.

Attest:

The Rev. Canon Stephen Askew
Secretary to the Convention

The Rt. Rev. Charles G. vonRosenberg
Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee