OPENING WORSHIP

- Bishop Prior’s address during the service was accompanied by an animated whiteboard presentation. He spoke of the many forms of faith communities and where the various elected bodies and other entities fall into the categories of Ministry, Mission, and Management; the four orders of ministry; the importance of forming partnerships and discerning and using our gifts; and the 2016 Mission Opportunity. He also presented a brief overview of what would happen during the evening, including business and reports from groups and organizations.

BUSINESS SESSION

Credentials Report: Lizanne Geno

- One bishop, 144 out of a possible 232 lay delegates, and 114 out of a possible 344 clergy delegates — a sufficient number to begin Convention. In addition, one out of two ELCA pastors serving Episcopal faith communities, plus visitors, volunteers, staff, alternates, and other guests were in attendance.

Adoption of Standing Rules of Order: Mary Brugger

- Moved, seconded, ADOPTED

Adoption of Convention Agenda: Mary Brugger

- Moved, seconded, ADOPTED

Privileges for non-delegates: The Rev. Rob Cavanna

- Motion that Convention provide seat to all visitors; seat and voice for clergy not canonically resident; and seat, voice, and vote for ELCA clergy serving in leadership positions in our faith communities
- Moved, seconded, PASSED

Basic Concepts of Parliamentary Procedure: The Rev. Mark Kelm, Parliamentarian

Nominations Report: Karen Olson, Secretary of Convention

- As there were no nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded to close nominations; PASSED
First Ballot: For Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry, Trustees

- It was noted that for the Commission on Ministry election in the clergy order, the top vote getter would be elected for a three-year term, and the second vote getter would be elected for a the available one-year term.

CONSENT AGENDA: George Ham

Canonical Elections, Appointments, and Confirmations

Secretary of Convention (Canon 209.1)
Ms. Karen Olson

Historiographer (Canon 307.2)
Mr. Arthur Finnell

Treasurer (Canon 309.1)
The Rev. Dr. Douglas Sparks

Chancellors (Canon 306.1)
Bishop’s Chancellor – Mr. Doug Franzen
Vice Chancellors – Mr. Todd Andrews, Ms. Sarah Armstrong, Ms. Rebecca Bernhard,
Mr. Robert Butterbrodt, Mr. Christopher Bowman, Mr. Walt Graff, Ms. Laura McKnight,
Mr. Robert Straughn

Disciplinary Board (Canon 405(d)) For a three-year term ending at 2018 Convention
Ms. Sue Grove, Mr. Jeffrey Evans, The Rev. Bill Van Oss, The Rev. Justin Chapman,
The Rev. Priscilla Gray

Council (Canon 219.2.a)
Vice Chair – Mr. Brian Ostenso

Commission on Ministry (Canon 113.5.a)
Chair – The Rev. Ramona Scarpace

Trustees (Trustees Bylaws, Article IV. Section 4.02)
Vice Chair – David Olson

Provincial Convention (Canon 217.1)
Clergy Delegate, per Province VI – The Rev. Michael Pipkin

St. Mark’s Cathedral Chapter (Constitution of the Cathedral, Article XIII,
Amended & Restated 12/19/13)
No Elections or Appointments required in 2015

Consent Agenda moved, seconded, PASSED

RESOLUTIONS

- Support for U.S. Commission on Indian Boarding Schools and Intergenerational Trauma

Resolved, the Episcopal Church in Minnesota joins the Minnesota Council on Indian Work in support of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition’s call on Congress to conduct hearings and to commission an investigation and report on the traumatic effects sustained by indigenous persons, families, and communities, as a result of the forcible removal of Native American children and their subsequent physical, psychological, and emotional abuse, pursuant to a Boarding School Policy of cultural assimilation, adopted and implemented with the help of the Christian churches, including the Episcopal Church, during the 19th and 20th centuries.

PASSED
• Preparing Gun Violence

Resolved, that the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, through its network of faith communities, commits to

• Work, pray, and act to prevent gun violence in our communities.
• Engage with people of other faith traditions in civil conversations to discern a common understanding of gun violence prevention.
• Work with local and national gun violence prevention groups.
• Advocate for the passage of common-sense gun violence prevention legislation both locally and nationally.

PASSED

CANONICAL CHANGES

Amendment of Property Canons (800-805)

• Chancellor Doug Franzen explained that these changes were intended to make this section more user friendly so that different faith communities would easily be able to find the canons appropriate to them.

PASSED

TRUSTEES

David Olson spoke on the activities of the Trustees and gave a report on the Pooled Investment Fund (PIF).

EPISCOPAL COMMONS: Rich Simons

Rich made a presentation on this project, a collaboration of St. Mark’s Cathedral, Episcopal Homes, and the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, involving the construction of a new building on the 1730 Clifton Place lot (current site of the ECMN offices), which will include apartments for independent senior citizens, offices for the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, and underground parking spaces for building residents and St. Mark’s Cathedral. A formal operating agreement is now under development.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF MISSION

The Rev. Dr. Doug Sparks, David Olson, and Brian Ostenso explained the narrative, summary, and detail of the proposed three-year Financial Statement of Mission (2016-2018).

ADOPTED
ELECTION RESULTS

Standing Committee

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<tr>
<th>Lay</th>
<th>Clergy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Laird</td>
<td>The Rev. John Dwyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Norman</td>
<td>The Rev. Georgia Hecock</td>
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<td>Rich Simons</td>
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Commission on Ministry

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lay</th>
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<tr>
<td>Laurel Steibler</td>
<td>The Rev. Georgia Steele (three-year term)</td>
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<td>The Rev. Harlan Strong (two-year term)</td>
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Trustees

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<tr>
<td>John Bahnemann</td>
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<td>Morris Goodwin</td>
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<td>David Holmberg</td>
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CLOSING WORSHIP

SOCIAL TIME

Gathering for innovative worship with a group of youth who had attended an event at South Side Abbey in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

CONVENTION EUCHARIST

Presider: The Rt. Rev. Brian N. Prior, IX Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota
Preacher: The Rev. Canon Sally Grover Bingham, President and Founder of Interfaith Power & Light
Musician: Jeff Kidder, Paul Johnson, Will Schulz, Mike Ferdinand, Peg Ferdinand
Offering designated for Interfaith Power & Light, split between national and Minnesota; $2,493.61 was received.

In her homily, The Rev. Sally Grover Bingham spoke of how climate change is a religious issue, as we are not loving our neighbors as ourselves, and noted that the poor are the most affected. She stated that we have lived for ourselves alone and not for the common good and the common home we all share, and it is time for a conversion. She quoted from the encyclical of Pope Francis on climate change, and added that religious leaders should be preaching and teaching about care of God’s creation every time they are in the pulpit.

BUSINESS SESSION

Each order approved ratified the other order’s elections of the previous day for Standing Committee, as required by canons.

MINISTRY

Bishop Prior announced that Fr. Denzel Carty had been added to the Episcopal resource Holy Women, Holy Men by action of General Convention in the summer of 2015. He thanked the people of Holy Trinity, St. Paul, for nominating him and the ECMN Convention for moving his name forward for this
honor in resolution passed at last year’s ECMN Convention.

TRANSITIONS, CLERGY CHANGES, MILESTONES

- Faith Communities who have called new leadership this past year: Rector or Priest in Charge
  St. Edward’s, Wayzata – The Rev. Jason Lucas
  St. Stephen’s, Edina – The Rev. Tom Cook
  St. Clement’s, St. Paul – The Rev. Joy Caires
  Trinity, Anoka – The Rev. Mary Phelps
  St. Andrew’s by the Lake, Duluth – The Rev. Marta Maddy
  Gethsemane, Minneapolis – The Rev. Phil Boelter
  Nativity, Burnsville – The Rev. Dana Strande

- Clergy received into the Episcopal Church in Minnesota by letters dimissory
  The Rev. Tom Gehlsen
  The Rev. Tom Cook

- Ordained as Priests
  The Rev. Reed Carlson
  The Rev. Debbie Dehler
  The Rev. Tom Garrison
  The Rev. Randy Johnson
  The Rev. David Mowers
  The Rev. Shannon Preston
  The Rev. Daniel Shoemake
  The Rev. Connie Sowah
  The Rev. Dana Strande
  The Rev. Jennifer Walding

- Ordained as Deacons
  The Rev. Caren Bedard Nor
  The Rev. Cassandra Cook-Quarry
  The Rev. Kathleen Edwards
  The Rev. Dawnlynn Greeney
  The Rev. Eunice Koch
  The Rev. Annie Lor
  The Rev. Lynn Sprick
  The Rev. Betty Strong
  The Rev. May Thao
  The Rev. Jennifer Walding
  The Rev. Darcy Valentine

- Ordained as Transitional Deacons
  The Rev. Cindi Brickson
  The Rev. Sherry Drysdale-Schruth
  The Rev. Craig Lemming
  The Rev. Cher Lor
  The Rev. Barbara Mathias
  The Rev. Anna Osteno Moore
  The Rev. Bao Moua
  The Rev. Jennifer McNally
  The Rev. Karen Polyard
  The Rev. Mary Rowan
  The Rev. Joyce Rush
  The Rev. Peter Thor
  The Rev. Thomas Thao
  The Rev. Beth Wanamaker
  The Rev. Lisa Wiens Heinsohn

- Ordained 30 years in the Episcopal Church: (ordained in 1985)
  The Rev. Bruce Henne
  The Rev. Susan Kruger
  The Rev. Laurie Skau
  The Rev. Doyle Turner
• Deceased Clergy
  The Rev. Cliff Crook  The Rev. Judy Conn
  The Rev. Ed Eilertsen  The Rev. Mary Frances Jones
  The Rev. Harry Kirkham  The Rev. Lee Doucette

Prayer of Thanksgiving

PRESENTATIONS

• School for Formation: Karen Olson, The Rev. Kate Bradtmiller, The Rev. Susan Daughtry
• ECMN Camping: Sarah Barnett, Sheila Foster
• General Convention 2015: The Rev. Devon Anderson, Jim Huber
  It was noted that elections would be held at the 2016 ECMN Convention for the deputation for the 2018 General Convention.

PRESENTATION OF WHIPPLE CROSS

Bishop Prior presented the Whipple Cross to Karen Olson, Missioner for Ministry and Secretary of Convention for the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.

BREAK

MISSION PRESENTATION
Amanda Ziebell-Finley, Steve Mullaney, Rachel Babbitt
  • Amanda highlighted Mission Area Work
  • Steve shared ideas about Transformation and Innovation
  • Missional Innovative Partnership Grant Update/2016 Launch

TABLE DISCUSSIONS
The following questions had been sent to delegates beforehand to discuss in their own faith communities before Convention. These were now discussed at the tables.
  1. What has been successful in your faith community this year?
  2. What does creation care mean in the context of your faith community and neighborhood?
  3. What is God’s big dream for your faith community over the next year?

LUNCH (table discussions continued)
WORKSHOPS, SESSION I

- Solar Power and Environmental Justice
- Stewardship through Better Rainwater Management
- Creation Care: Theological Context and Pastoral Practice
- Minnesota’s Changing Energy Landscape
- Energy Audits for Churches and Homes
- General Convention 2015 deputies
- Caring for All God’s Creation Engagement Fair (exhibits)

Transition between workshops

WORKSHOPS, SESSION II

- Creation Care and Social Justice: Exploring the Intersections
- Solar Power and Environmental Justice
- Native American Voices of Creation Care
- Energy Audits for Churches and Homes
- Community Gardens as Creation Care
- Caring for All God’s Creation Engagement Fair (exhibits)

SENDING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THANKS FROM BISHOP PRIOR

Thank-yous included:
- The Rev. Sally Grover Bingham from Interfaith Power & Light
- Our musicians – Jeff Kidder, Paul Johnson, Will Schulz, Mike Ferdinand, and Peg Ferdinand from Messiah, St. Paul
- The Rev. Jason Lucas and The Rev. Kate Bradtmiller for their assistance with worship planning
- The Episcopal Earthkeepers leadership team
- The many guests and presenters who helped us to learn more about addressing Engaging God’s Mission Through Engaging All God’s Creation
- Susan Barksdale for recording the written record
- Team of Missioners and excellent volunteers

ECMN CONVENTION 2016

The 159th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota will be held September 16-17, 2016, at Shattuck-St. Mary’s, Faribault.

ADJOURNMENT

Karen Olson, Secretary of Convention
Report prepared by Susan Barksdale