

**The Minutes of the One-Hundred Ninth Annual Convention
of the Diocese of Northern Indiana at Howe Military School,
October 26-27, 2007**

The Convention began with the Eucharist at 6 PM, Friday evening, at All Saints' Chapel, celebrated by The Rt. Rev'd Edward S. Little II. The Rt. Rev'd Lloyd Allen, Bishop of Honduras, was the preacher. His address was a call to make good on the great commission, as he brought greetings from our companion diocese. After the Eucharist, the company proceeded to the mess hall for an excellent banquet and music provided by "Oblates of Blues," a Notre Dame blues band led by The Rev'd Hugh Page.

The convention was officially called to order on Saturday morning at Bouton Auditorium at 0924, with an opening Prayer by Bishop Little. Bishop Allen, chaplain to the convention, presented his first meditation.

Roll Call and Organization of the Convention.

After a few preliminary remarks and announcements by the Bishop, the secretary proceeded to call the roll. The results were as follows:

Clergy Registered: 45; Present: 38

Laity Registered: 101; Present: 94

These results being posted, the Bishop declared the convention open and organized for business.

Adoption of the Rules of Order

It was pointed out that the rules of order continue from convention to convention unless there are changes. There being none, the bishop advised that the posted rules continued in force.

Presentation of Pages

Chaplain David Yaw now presented the pages for convention, who were cadets of the HMS.

Certification of the Minutes

The Bishop announced that the minutes of the 108th Annual Convention have been certified as correct.

Election and Appointment of Convention Officers

At the Bishop's nomination, The Rev'd Canon John Schramm was approved to continue as the Secretary of Convention and Mrs. Sharon Katona to continue as the Diocesan Treasurer.

Diocesan Council

The Bishop called attention to those council members who were newly elected at the deanery meetings this year.

Elkhart Deanery:	The Rev'd Larry Biller; Ms Katherine Craig
Michigan City Deanery:	The Rev'd Dcn Aune Strom; Ms Peggy Guardiola
Wabash Valley Deanery:	The Rev'd Richard Lightsey; Mr Bill Munn
South Bend Deanery:	The Rev'd Susan Haynes to an unexpired term

Introductions

The Bishop then introduced those sitting at the high table: Sharon Katona, Treasurer; Dan Pfeifer, Chancellor; Suzeanne Silla, Canon to the Ordinary; Joe Weaver, Parliamentarian; John Schramm, Secretary; and Jon Adamson, Secretary to the Bishop.

Clergy New to the Diocese

Next were introduced those clergy who were new to the diocese since the last convention: Daniel Layden, St Alban's, Dan Martins, St Anne's; John Houghton, ordained: The Hill School, PA; Jesse Abell, ordained: Zionsville, IN; Jason Shelby, ordained: St Martin's School, LA; Jonathan Melton, ordained: Boerne, TX; Deacon Aune Strom, ordained, St Andrew's, Michigan City.

Courtesy Seating for Non-Resident Clergy Serving Congregations

The following were offered seat and voice with their parish delegations: The Rev'd Spencer Thiel, St Christopher, Crown Point; John Lohmann, in charge at St Andrew's Valparaiso; Wally Griesmeyer, supply priest.

Vocations and Seminarians

The Rev'd Henry Randolph, Vocations Director, was introduced and mention was made of all seminarians. Aaron and Rachel Evans, St John's, Elkhart; Sean Maloney, Cathedral, and Julie Handschumacher, Gethsemane; Greg Wilde, St Paul's, Mishawaka: all at Sewanee; Marion Carpenter, St Anne, Warsaw; Tom Haynes, St Thomas, Plymouth; and Michael Fulk, St Alban; Clark Miller, Trinity, Logansport; Joseph Bean, St John's, Bristol—all preparing locally in the diocese.

Moving Clergy

Mention was further made of clergy who have left this diocese for other assignments: Martin Yabroff, Olympia; Patrick Ormos, West Texas; Jamie Jones, South East Florida; Eugene Kohlbecker, retired; David Seger, retired; soon to leave: Lyn Hutton, Virginia; Barb Schmitz, chaplain at Cornell.

Faithful Departed

Prayers were offered for those departed this life the past year, especially Rudith Sheridan, wife of former Bishop William C. R. Sheridan.

Report on Nominations

Standing Committee

In both orders it is necessary to elect one member to serve a three-year term.

Clerical nominee: The Rev'd James Warnock, Gethsemane, Marion

Lay nominee: Ms Cynthia Guzzo, St David's, Elkhart

Both were declared elected since there were no other nominations.

Clerical Member of Ecclesiastical Trial Court

It is necessary to elect one presbyter to a three-year term

Nominee: The Rev'd John Meyer, St Francis, Chesterton

The election was declared since there were no other nominees.

General Convention Deputies

It is necessary to elect four persons from each order for the convention of 2009

Clerical Nominees:

The Rev'd Bennett Jones

The Rev'd Richard Lightsey

The Rev'd Daniel Martins

The Rev'd Henry Randolph

These were declared elected since there were no other nominees.

Lay nominees:

Pamela Barnes Harris--elected

Nancy Moody--elected

Charlotte Strowhorn--elected

Christopher Wells--elected

Scott DeWayne Wright--alt

(from the floor): Tim Skimina--alt

The vote was taken for the lay deputation and the results of that vote, returned later, are indicated above.

Ratification of Foundation Directors

Canon Suzanne Silla and Nancy Noecker to three-year terms

Ratification of Greater Cathedral Chapter

The Rev'd Larry Biller and Ted Kimball
 It was moved that all of these persons be ratified by convention. The motion was seconded and approved.

Welcome by Dr Duane VanOrden, Superintendent, HMS

The superintendent welcomed the convention to the grounds of HMS and remembered his own time as a cadet under Fr Minnix in the 1970's.

Convention paused for a ten-minute break and then reconvened to hear:

The Bishop's Address

(This address is posted elsewhere)

Before prayers and luncheon recess, election results were announced for GC deputies (see above).

Noonday Prayers and Commissioning of Newly Elected

Prayers for mid-day were read according to the Book of Common Prayer and concluded with a service of commissioning for those newly elected to diocesan office.

Convention recessed for lunch at 1210.

Convention reconvened at 1325 in order to hear:

The Second Meditation

By Bishop Allen.

Consideration of Resolutions

Only one resolution was filed: the renewal of the companion relationship between Northern Indiana and Honduras. The resolution passed unanimously. (See "resolutions" for the text)

Incidental Announcements

Indiana day at the national cathedral will be a Sunday in June, 2008.

Tim Skimina has information about the MDG's for each delegation—available after the closure.

Greetings

From The Rev'd Rich Towers, Director of Admissions at Seabury-Western.

Treasurer's Report

There were no questions of Sharon Katona, diocesan treasurer, and the treasurer's report was approved as printed.

Budget

The Rev'd Ben Jones offered a video presentation on the ministry of the diocese using pictures submitted by parishes. Then he presented a visual graphical presentation of the budget for 2008. The Rev'd Richard Kallenberg presented the budget for the finance committee (and thus the budget was moved and seconded by the committee) and was available to answer questions on the budget as chairman. The vote to approve the 2008 budget took place and it passed unanimously.

Presentation on Congregational Development

Canon Suzeanne Silla explained some of the principles of Church Development program which developed out of the work of the Order of the Ascension in the mid 1980's.

Episcopal Church Women

Charlotte Strowhorn of the ECW now came to make a presentation both for the ECW and a new camping program—a camp for the children of prisoners. First of all, she presented the bishop with a check for his discretionary fund from the ECW. Then Charlotte presented Jacquy Shellenbarger from the Diocese of Northern Michigan, a leader in this Episcopal Church project. General Convention asked that 10 more camps of this type be established in the next triennium. There is a tremendous need for family care for children of parents in prison. Bishop Little said that there would be a special Sunday for contributions for this camp.

Closing Announcements, Prayers and Adjournment

The Rev'd David Ottsen rose to a point of personal privilege and wanted to have convention commend The Rev'd Richard Kallenberg for his finance committee work on the eve of his retirement. He plans to stay in the area and continue his finance committee work.

Tim Skimina then spoke to a point of personal privilege—showing a large cross put together with popsicle sticks, each representing a child who died around the world of a preventable disease while convention was at lunch.

The Bishop's address will be on the Diocesan web site later this day.

Bishop Allen then told convention about the Anglican Agency for the Development of Honduras (La Agencia Anglicana para el desarrollo de Honduras—AanglidesH). Another program is Siempre Unidos, which works with aids victims for employment and treatment.

Bishop Little offered a final prayer and blessing at 1517. There being no more business for convention, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev'd Canon John E. Schramm
Secretary to Convention

