



The Church in

Hiawathaland

News for and about the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan

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receive + repent + reconcile + restore 74th General Convention: Challenges and Opportunities

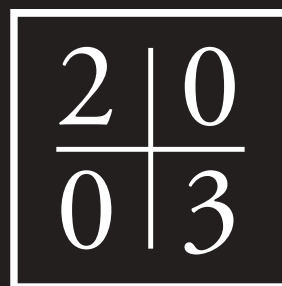
Rise Thew Forrester

Preparations for General Convention and Triennial, to be held in Minneapolis July 30 through August 8, continue in Northern Michigan and across the Episcopal Church. Committees, commissions, interest groups and businesses will converge upon the new Minneapolis Convention Center to address issues from budgets to liturgy, from sexuality to open communion, evangelism to direct ordination.

Each diocese sends eight Deputies, four ordained, four non-ordained, to participate in the House of Deputies. Bishops deliberate in the House of Bishops; legislation, resolutions and other actions must pass both Houses. Jim Kelsey, Bishop of Northern Michigan, will be attending, along with non-ordained Deputies Arlene Gordanier (Chair of the Northern Michigan deputation), Marcia Pruner, Dick Graybill, and Kai Carrigan. Ordained Deputies are Rayford Ray, Bonnie Turner, Kevin Thew Forrester, and Mark Engle. Marion Luckey will be there for United Thank Offering

The Triennial meeting of the Episcopal Church Women will take place concurrently with General Convention, and delegates from Northern Michigan include Joyce Menard, Pam Nygaard, Maria Maniaci, and Barbara Kell. Linda Vollwerth will be attending for the National Altar Guild

Kelsey is a member of the Standing Commission on Ministry Development, which is proposing revisions to Title III, the canons regarding ministry. The proposed change attracting the most attention leading up to General Convention is direct ordination, in which those called



E N G A G E
G O D ' S
M I S S I O N

to be priests are not ordained as "transitional deacons" before their ordination as a priest. Kelsey wrote an essay in favor of this change for the *Living Church* magazine, and you can read it on our website at www.dionomi.org, and scroll down to "Mutual Ministry Update."

The topic that is likely to draw the attention of the general news media, and a good deal of energy at Convention, is the area of sexuality. A resolution proposing the development of a rite for blessing same-sex unions is expected to be proposed, as well as other related resolutions. A development that will add more complexity to these issues is the recent election of Gene Robinson to be Bishop of New Hampshire. Whenever someone is elected to be bishop within 120 days of a General Convention,

there are votes taken in the House of Deputies and in the House of Bishops to affirm consent to the election. It is usually a pro forma exercise; this case will be anything but, since Robinson is an openly gay priest, living in a committed relationship with a man for the past 13 years. As you might imagine, there are many passionate opinions about this and related issues across the church.

Jim Kelsey, responding to Robinson's election, said, "I can assure you that there is no ambivalence in my mind, or in my heart. I have known Gene as a friend and colleague since the mid-seventies, when he first came to New Hampshire and I served in Vermont. I can tell you that I have never met a person who is more clearly gifted and prepared to serve as bishop in this church. I rejoiced when he was elected, and I am eager to add my vote to those who will be consenting to his election in Minneapolis."

In other matters coming to General Convention, the Standing Commission on Music & Liturgy (of which Marcia Pruner is a member) is proposing that we replace the lectionary which is printed in the back of the Book of Common Prayer with the Revised Common Lectionary, which has been developed by many different denominations world-wide. This past year, Holy Trinity Church in Iron Mountain has been using the RCL on a trial basis.

Another topic which is bound to receive a lot of attention at General Convention is what is called "Open Communion". It has become widespread practice in many Episcopal Churches to invite everyone present to receive communion, and since the canons of the church are clear about restricting reception of communion to those who are baptized, there are some who are recommending that a Commission be set up to figure out how to enforce the canons in this area. There are others who would like to see the canons changed, to officially allow for more open communion. Kelsey suggests that this one may be "a bit of a sleeper," not getting much attention beforehand, but generating more energy as General Convention gets down to business.

General Convention 2000 made a commitment to evangelism and Continued on Page B

Visit the diocesan website at www.dionomi.org

DEADLINES

September Issue
Tuesday, August 12

October Issue
Tuesday, September 9

100 Years of Worship and Ministry in DeTour Village!

The people of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in DeTour Village invite you to celebrate with them the Centennial of their ministry and mission.

Sunday, July 20

Centennial Celebration Worship, 2:00pm Eastern

Reception to follow.

Mission and Ministry in Minneapolis

Continued from Front page

mission called 20/20, a plan to double church membership by the year 2020. There are numerous resolutions and budget issues regarding this initiative, a thread found throughout much of Convention's work.

It has been noted that the last time General Convention met in Minneapolis (1976), the Church authorized the revision of the Book of Common Prayer, and opened the way for the ordination of women as priests and bishops. Reflecting on this, Rayford Ray, Deputy, said "I think it could be life-changing for the institution and for individuals. I expect it to be challenging for us as a church."

Given the passions that abound in the challenges and opportunities of this General Convention, the planners have

wrapped the schedule in prayer and Bible study.

News and local coverage of General Convention will make full use of the technology now available to us, and reports will be available daily on the internet. To find out more, both before the Convention begins and during, go to www.episcopalchurch.org/gc/gc2003. You will be able to get updates on just about anything you would want to know about the 74th General Convention of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America. Our own Deputies will be checking in, so keep an eye on our website, www.dionomi.org and on UPChat. (This article was drawn from UPChat reports available on our website, the Episcopal News Service, and from the June issue of Episcopal Life.)



Jim Kelsey, Bishop, and award recipient Barry Ziegler of WDBC/WYKX Radio in Escanaba.

Media Excellence: It's Good News

Press Release

The sixth annual Good News Awards luncheon was held on Tuesday, June 3, 2003. The Good News Awards are sponsored by the Judicatory Heads of the Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Methodist, Episcopal and Catholic Churches in this region. The Good News Awards are designed to honor works of excellence in broadcasting and print, which serve viewers, listeners and readers through the positive, creative treatment of concerns to the people of Upper Michigan.

The main criterion upon which entries are judged is their ability to uplift and nourish the human spirit. Entries should affirm the dignity of people and recognize and uphold universally recognized human values such as community, creativity, tolerance, justice, compassion, perseverance, truth, faith and the dedication to excellence.

The sponsoring religious bodies

uphold these values. However, the Good News Awards are not limited to any particular religious creed or to material of an obvious religious nature. They seek to honor radio, television and newspaper productions that touch the hearts and minds of all people of good will, emphasizing our commonality as brothers and sisters.

Transitions Deaths

Edwin Thomas Williams
Trinity, Houghton

Stewardship All Year Round - Part 4 of 6

Stewards Empowering Ministry

Uzziah R. Steigwards

Who of us does not know the starving ministry? That is the idea or initiative that may have started out with enthusiasm, but which soon withers on the vine for lack of nourishment. Of course, some ministries pass from the scene because they are no longer needed. Their withering is a kind of seeding for new ministries to come. But there are the other ministries, much needed, but undernourished. The practice of Stewardship is a way to pass along vital nourishment to struggling ministries. Every ministry I know has its Ugly Duckling phase, some awkward transition in its life. But if it is a Swan in the making, a Steward is surely needed. Stewards keep ministries fed until they emerge as the Swan you are sure lurks inside of it.

The foundation of empowered ministry is stewardship, that unconditional offering of a part of your means for God's purposes. I like to think of the use of God's time and treasure as a sort of investment strategy. There are ongoing initiatives, important ministries, which by our investment can move to the next level in their development. There is a story I have heard told about a food pantry in a Midwestern town begun as a cooperative ministry of the local congregations. Over the years, this ministry faithfully fed those who, through no fault of their own, fell into desperate straits. It happened, one winter day, that one of the intake workers noticed that the folks coming for food had need of warm clothing. While there was space at the center, a little money and construction help was needed to provide clothes racks and dressing rooms. For an investment of \$250.00 got the center into the clothing business. Over the years, that ministry has grown into one of the centers of food, clothing and shelter in one of the Midwest's major metropolitan areas. It took only a small gift to move the center to its next level.

"I can make a difference!" That is the ultimate empowerment of the steward. Through the careful management of your gifts, you can see the impact of your generosity on the world around you. Over the years, you can begin to see that the world would be a meaner and more inhospitable place, were it not for your generosity. And there is nothing more reassuring than that!

A steward has a powerful impact on her world. We make good investments in the fabric of our communities.

Advertising the Church

"...You are Welcome"

The Evangelism & Communications Committees have developed and produced a new television ad to run on TV6, inviting people to join us in the Episcopal Church in the U.P. This is a follow-up to the advertising begun this spring on both TV6 and public radio WNMU. Here is the text of the new ad:

When I was baptized, I vowed to respect the dignity of every human being. It's a promise all Episcopalians reaffirm for themselves when anyone is baptized. It's what we mean when we say "the Episcopal Church Welcomes You". Everybody is welcome. You are welcome. There's an Episcopal Church near you. Come and see us. We look forward to knowing you. Visit our website or give us a call.

As these words are being said,

pictures are shown of Episcopalians from throughout the diocese.

The Evangelism and Communications Committees would like to invite you and your congregation to do the following: 1) discuss amongst yourselves how your congregation can become welcoming! Since we are telling everyone who watches the ad that they are welcome to join us, how can we be sure that everyone of our congregations truly are hospitable to everyone who walks in the door? What can you and others in your congregation do to make sure everyone feels warmly greeted? 2) consider contributing financially to our "ad fund", so we can continue to show these ads over the coming weeks and months. We have a fund which started off at about \$5000 - and has now dwindled to about \$1000. we could use donations to keep the ads running!

Thanks! And let us know of ideas you have for new ads we might produce in the future.

THE CHURCH IN HIAWATHALAND

Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan

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Jane Cislucis, Bob Foster, Val Gonzalez Murphy, Jim Kelsey, Claudia Nadeau, Marcia Pruner, Barbara Susan, Rise Thew Forrester

Deadline: the fifth of the preceding month

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Diocesan Calendar

All Times Eastern

JULY 2003

June 29-Jul 4	Senior Camp		Page Center
6-12	Camp New Day U.P.		Page Center
13-19	Camp New Day U.P.		Camp Michigamme
20	Centennial		St Stephen's, DeTour Village
22	Trust Association	10:30 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
26	Budget Planning	10:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
28-Aug 9	General Convention		Minneapolis

AUGUST 2003

1-9	General Convention		Minneapolis
3-9	Camp New Day U.P.		Presbytery Point, Michigamme
23	Commission on Ministry		
23	Children's Ministry Wkshop	10:00 am	Ludington Park, Escanaba

SEPT 2003

6	Diocesan Council	10:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
9-11	Rectors/Missioners		Page Center
12	South Central Region	6:00 pm	St Stephen's, Escanaba
13	Evangelism	10:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
13	Sexual Boundaries Wkshop	9:00 am	St Stephen's, Escanaba
17	Justice/Peace/Child Advocacy	3:00 pm	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
19-20	LifeCycles		
19-21	Happening		
26-27	ECW Fall Retreat		Page Center
27	Commission on Ministry	10:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette

OCTOBER 2003

1	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	10:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
7-9	Michigan-wide Clergy Gathering		Mackinac Island
17-19	Annual Convention		The Terrace, Gladstone
25	ECW Board	10:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette

To have meetings included, call 1-800-236-0087

NAAD Seeks Healing of Nations in Servant Leadership

James A. Kelsey

The Biennial Conference for the North American Association for the Diaconate (NAAD) was held in Toronto June 13-15. Attending from our diocese were Jim Kelsey, Bishop, Maria Maniaci (veteran deacon from Gladstone), Dan Creten (a new deacon from Escanaba), and Jan Fritsche (a deacon-in-formation from Iron River). The theme of the Conference was "Healing the Nations: Working for Justice as Servant Leaders". The theme was selected almost two years ago, shortly after September 11th. At that time, it was clear that international relations were falling apart, and we were headed towards a violent response to the attack we had suffered. It was an expression of hope that by the time this conference would occur, we would be past the initial violent response, and we could look ahead to the "healing of the nations" as the old hymn puts it.

The main speakers included Jim Cruickshank, retired bishop of what was once the Anglican Diocese of Cariboo. That diocese no longer exists, because it was forced out of existence as a result of lawsuits over abuse in the native residential schools in the last century. The people of that diocese have offered a remarkable example of spiritual depth and courage, acknowledging past institutional responsibility and seeking healing and reconciliation in every way possible, even while letting go of the existence of their own beloved diocese. Jim Cruickshank is truly amazing in his ability to articulate this whole process, using biblical and theological language that brings the heart of our faith to life with unmistakable power. This was indeed a message about the healing of nations, between one culture and another who have caused one another tremendous suffering.

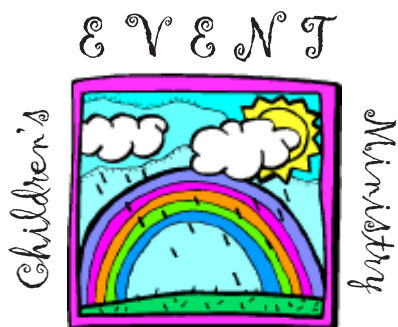
Another speaker was Andrew Wesley, himself an Aboriginal priest of the Anglican Church. He told the same story from the inside out - since he was himself a student of the residential schools many years ago. He told the Cree legend of four brothers whose father had died many years before. The youngest brother went on a personal quest and found the remains of his father. He returned home and told his other brothers, all of whom traveled to the place where the bones lay scattered. One brother gathered the bones and used his special gifts to add sinews and flesh. Another brother bestowed the gift of breath. Another gave the gift of movement. And thus their father was brought back to life. They returned home to the village to much rejoicing. At the end of the festivities, the father announced that he would give a special blessing to the son who had given the most valuable gift. Each of the sons hoped it would be he who received the honor: the one who gave flesh, the one who gave breath, and the one who gave movement. But in the end, it was the youngest son who received the honor because, it was he who had remembered his father and who left the village on the quest to find his father's

remains. Andrew Wesley explained that the most important gift needed for the healing of the nations is that of remembering the truth of what has happened, and to begin the journey to seek for reconciliation.

Another principle speaker was Jim Wallis, the editor of *Sojourners* magazine, who helped us confront and reflect upon the consequences of our national foreign policies, which have introduced the innovation of pre-emptive, unilateral, and interminable warfare (moving against one nation after another). He suggested that the prophet for national security is Micah - who envisioned both the pounding of spears into plow-shares, and also that every person would sit under his own vine and fig tree, and not be afraid any more. It is fear, Wallis claims, which is the basis of such a violent and aggressive foreign policy. He reminded us that our September 11th experience of random violence coming into our world without warning, taking the lives of people we love, is not new for people in most parts of the world. In this way, we have been brought into the life experience of most of the rest of the human race, and how we choose to respond to that new reality will in fact define who we are and who we choose to become. Claims to take responsibility to remove our vulnerability and our fear are, in fact, idolatrous: it is God, and God's Way of Peace & Justice-making that we should be relying upon. Jim Wallis challenges the church to be not the masters of the state, not the servants of the state, but the conscience of the state (Martin Luther King Jr.). Our vocation, as the Church, should be to bring a religious and moral dimension to the public decisions that are being made by our government in the political and economic realm. All of this has to do with how we will take leadership in the healing of the nations, working for justice as servant leaders.

The conference was especially graced by the musical leadership of Dr. Horace Boyer - a marvelous African-American musician who was instrumental in developing "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (our supplemental hymnal which has brought back into our midst marvelous music of that tradition). He used tremendous humor, teaching, and, of course, musical leadership to move us and inspire us.

I was once again deeply moved and inspired to be in the midst of about 100 deacons from all over the United States and Canada. It renewed my commitment to the role and contributions of the Diaconate throughout our church, and it brings me back to the diocese more committed than ever to envision and to work for the ordination of deacons in every one of our congregations in the U.P. The next NAAD Biennial Conference will be in Atlanta, Georgia in 2005. I hope we'll have more U.P. participants then.



Saturday, August 23rd
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. EST
Ludington Park, Escanaba

Rain site: St. Stephen's Church, Escanaba
Sponsored by the congregations
of the South Central Region

Games, crafts, singing and stories
all about "Creation"
Please bring a bag lunch.
Drinks provided.

Questions?
Call the South Central Regional Office
877-219-6375
or Bonnie Turner, 715-582-3581
Please send in your registration
by August 18!

*Don't miss this time of
 fun and fellowship!*

Advocacy Committee Added to Diocesan Website

Rayford Ray

The Justice & Peace/Children's Advocacy Webpage is now on our diocesan website. You can access that site by going to www.dionomi.org and scroll down to Ministries and Mission.

This Justice & Peace/Children's Advocacy Committee page is designed as a resource to help Episcopal congregations, groups, and individuals in the Diocese of Northern Michigan, explore ways they can use their gifts in collaboration with others (locally and worldwide), to be advocates for justice and peace in the name of Christ. We share in the vision of Jubilee 2000, which seeks the transformation of God's creation through peaceful cooperation of all Christians (indeed, all persons of goodwill) as we bear witness to our Baptismal Covenant in our homes, workplaces, and neighborhoods. Our mission is to build a just and peaceful global community. This webpage is one vital way of living into our vision and mission in this diocese of building a just and peaceful global community.

ERD's Fair Trade coffee helps save lives

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is launching *Bishops Blend*, a premium line of certified Fair Trade, dark roasted coffees from Central America and Indonesia. Through the sale of *Bishops Blend*, Episcopal Relief and Development will be able to further its mission of responding to the needs of the poor, hungry, homeless, and sick worldwide.

In addition to supporting Episcopal Relief and Development's ministry, *Bishops Blend* is certified Fair Trade, organic, and shade grown. This ensures that coffee farmers are being paid a fair living wage and gain access to affordable credit.

Episcopal Relief and Development is working with Pura Vida Coffee to sell *Bishops Blend* throughout the Episcopal Church.

The product line will include three blends: *Bishops Blend*, *Bishops Blend Decaf*, and *Bishops Cinnamon Spice*. Individuals, dioceses, parishes, and other organizations can order *Bishops Blend* on a regular basis or purchase the

coffee at wholesale prices for church fundraisers. Shipping is free on the first order. To learn more about ordering this great coffee, visit www.er-d.org or call *Bishops Blend* customer service representatives at Pura Vida Coffee (877) 469-1431.

Episcopal Relief and Development is a compassionate response of the Episcopal Church to human suffering in the world. Episcopal Relief and Development provides emergency assistance in times of disaster, rebuilds devastated communities after the immediate crisis is over, and offers long-term solutions to help people sustain safer, healthier, and more productive lives.

Pura Vida Coffee is a Seattle-based company committed to partnering with organizations like Episcopal Relief and Development. One hundred percent of its net profits benefit at-risk children and families in coffee-growing countries. (Press Release)

Thank You!

Many of you have already responded to the Church in Hiawathaland funds appeal in June. Thank you for your support of our diocesan newspaper. The total was over \$1800 in the first week after the appeal went out, as we went to press. And...

If you haven't yet sent in your donation, please do! You may send it to: Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan, 131 E. Ridge Street, Marquette, MI 49855.

Page Center Workday Preps for the Season



Jim and Mary Kelsey sweep the roof of the Lodge.

The Page Center Workday was May 24, and 14 people showed up to begin getting the buildings and grounds ready for summer youth camps. The Operations Board, led by Jim Martindale, met the night before. Prospective members of the Page Center Board of Directors will meet and learn more about the Page Center vision as the camping season begins, on June 21.



Jim Martindale cleans those cabins from top to bottom!



Bobby Cislucyis does much of the repair work at Page Center.



Ginny Peacock and Lu Swetz discuss how to wake up the dishwasher from its long winter nap.

Around the Diocese...

The **people of the Diocese of Northern Michigan** contributed \$11,265 to Episcopal Relief and Development in support of their ministry in 2002. Total contributions received by ERD was almost \$5.9 million. Joyce Hogg, of ERD expressed her thanks to our diocese and to Gail Baravetto, Diocesan Coordinator for ERD.

Holy Eucharist is being celebrated on Saturdays, 5:30pm at **St. Matthias, Pickford**, beginning in May. All are welcome, they say, especially Early Sunday Golfers!

A **Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training Workshop** will take place at St. Stephen's Church in Escanaba on Saturday, September 13th. The workshop will begin at 9:00am and end by 3:00pm. Carol Clark will facilitate the workshop. If you are planning to come please call Rayford Ray at by calling the Regional office 906-786-7970 or email him at rayford.ray@ecunet.org

Living Stones, the organization of dioceses committed to ministry of all the baptized has asked **Tom Ray**, retired Bishop of Northern Michigan, to be the Ministry Development keynoter at the 2004 conference in California. Living Stones currently has 23 partner dioceses, with Idaho, Maine, Connecticut, and Southern Ohio, as the most recent members.