

Proceedings of the 131st Annual Convention The Episcopal Church in Colorado

**October 26-27, 2018
St. John's Cathedral
Denver, Colorado**

Friday Afternoon, October 26, 2018

General Session # 1

The Right Rev. Robert J. O'Neill called the 131st Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado to order at 1:00pm on Friday, October 26, 2018 at St. John's Cathedral in Denver, Colorado. The Bishop welcomed all to the convention, thanking them for their leadership and care for the Episcopal Church in Colorado.

The assembled delegation stood and joined in singing hymn #400 - All Creatures of Our God & King.

Bishop O'Neill led the convention in prayer.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things are made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Bishop O'Neill proceeded with his welcome of the delegates by announcing that the annual convention of The Episcopal Church in Colorado was abbreviated significantly in order that the bulk of our time together be devoted to the election of a new diocesan bishop.

Before that process of the election began, the Bishop led the delegation in the task of organizing ourselves formally for the 131st Annual Convention of this diocese.

Appointment of Convention Officers

With no objections, the Bishop appointed Rick Parker to be Secretary of Convention. With no objections, the Bishop appointed the Diocesan Chancellor, Lawrence R. Hitt II (Larry) as Parliamentarian of Convention. With no objections, the following persons were appointed to fill the Committees of Convention: Mrs. Irene Kornelly as Assistant Secretary of Convention; the Rev. Nancey Bookstein, Jim Wolfe and Mike Orr for the Committee to Approve Minutes for this Convention; the Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis as Chair of the Committee for Nominations and for the Conduct of Elections; the Rev. Wendy Huber as Chair to the Committee for Legislation and Resolutions with Larry Hitt as a consultant.

The Bishop called upon the Secretary of Convention for a report concerning a Quorum and Credentials of delegates. The secretary reported that a Quorum was present of both the Clergy and Lay Orders for this Convention.

Bishop O'Neill called on the Secretary for a report on the Agenda for the Convention. The secretary moved that the agenda be accepted as printed. The agenda was approved with no objections.

The Bishop called on the Secretary for a report on the Certification of the Minutes of the 130th Convention which were posted on the Diocesan Convention web page. The secretary reported that the committee to approve the minutes of the 130th Convention reviewed and approved the minutes of last year's convention. The minutes were submitted and received by the Bishop with no objections.

Bishop O'Neill called on the Parliamentarian for a report on the Proposed Rules of Convention, which were posted on the Diocesan Convention web page. Chancellor Lawrence (Larry) R. Hitt, II summarized the rules and then the Bishop requested a motion to adopt the Rules of Convention. The Rules of Convention were adopted.

The Bishop declared that the 131st Convention of the Diocese of Colorado was organized for Business.

The afternoon continued with two brief updates on two different ministries among us.

The first was an update on the work regarding disaster preparedness in our diocese, and for that purpose the Bishop recognized the Reverend Carl Andrews and Mr. Hill Grimmett.

Rev. Carl Andrews presented his report on disaster preparedness and the role played by the Diocese in the recovery from these disasters. Rev. Andrews urged all members to prepare for these disasters – flood, fires and tornados. Each church should have a disaster plan. Disaster plans need to be kept fresh and practiced.

The Bishop recognized the Reverend Peter Munson to share with the delegates an innovative and unique ministry that he is embracing.

Video #1: 6 Million Steps

Rev. Munson's ministry is to walk across the country, speak to people along the way and raise money for children and youth organizations in Colorado, including the Episcopal Diocese in Colorado. You can follow Rev. Munson by following his website and Facebook page 6 Million Steps. You can also help him by finding places for him to stay along his walk and places for him to speak. Lastly, Rev. Munson is always looking for dollars for his ministry. All of us are called to step out in faith.

Bishop O'Neill wrapped up our time together in prayer, and expressed his hope that today's work was begun in prayer and would conclude with an evening offering of wilderness worship, we will move our hearts and minds into that place of peace that will ground us all for tomorrow's election.

Be still and prepare for worship.

Would you please stand.

Worship

Opening Acclamation

Bishop: We bow before your presence,
People: You who are common to us all.
Bishop: The Three who are Love:
People: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Bishop: The God of love is with us.
People: The Spirit of love is in us.
Bishop: Blessed be the Holy Spirit,
All: The breath of God in all.

Bishop: Let us pray. (*silence*)

Eternal God, you create us by your power and redeem us by your love: Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that as we give ourselves in love and service to one another and to you, we may reflect your nature here on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn 661

Georgetown

They cast their nets in Galilee,
Just off the hills of brown,
Such happy, simple fisherfolk,
Before the Lord came down.

Contented, peaceful fishermen,
Before they ever knew,
The peace of God that filled their hearts,
Brimful, and broken too.

Young John who trimmed the flapping sail,
Homeless, in Patmos died.
Peter, who hauled the teeming net,
Head-down was crucified.

The peace of God, it is no peace,
But strife closed in the sod.
Yet let us pray for but one thing—
The marvelous peace of God.

Reading: Matthew 4:18 - 22

“As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.”

Reflection: Bishop O’Neill

On the spiritual life and remembering who we really are. Let go of the past and follow Him. Let go of all things in our lives that weigh us down and follow Him.

Music for personal reflection and prayer was provided by Sally Neal and Jim Fittz.

Hymn: 490

I want to walk as a child of the light;
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world;
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all;
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God;
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God;
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father.

Refrain

I’m looking for the coming of Christ;

I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

Collect

Bishop: Let us pray.

God, our desire, whose coming we look for, but whose arrival is unexpected. Make us urgent on this great day to greet you, and open yourself to our longing that we may be known by you through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Bishop: O Gracious God:

All: Calm us to wait for the gift of Christ.
Cleanse us to prepare the way for Christ.
Teach us to contemplate the wonder of Christ.
Touch us to know the presence of Christ.
Anoint us to bear the life of Christ. Amen.

Welcome & Introductions:

The Bishop welcomed and introduced some special guests, Bishop Herb Donovan and his wife Mary.

The Rt. Rev. Herb Donovan

The Rt. Rev Herb Donovan & his wife Mary moved to Colorado just a year ago from New York to be closer to two daughters and their families. They now are regular worshippers at St. Timothy's, Centennial. A native of Virginia, Herb was educated there, then ordained and served in Wyoming before returning East to serve in Kentucky and New Jersey. Consecrated Bishop in Arkansas, he served there until moving to New York to become Vicar of Trinity Wall Street and Assistant Bishop of NY. He also served as Provisional Bishop in New Jersey and Chicago, and as Anglican Observer at the United Nations.

Bishop O'Neill also welcomed both the clergy who are new to the diocese and the clergy who are newly ordained. Mr. Bob Morse, President of the Standing Committee, introduced the new clergy.

New Clergy to the Episcopal Church in Colorado

The Rev. Louise (Weezie) Blanchard

The Rev. Louise (Weezie) Blanchard has been called to serve as the new rector at Church of the Ascension, Denver. She most recently served as the rector of St. Mary's, Goochland in Richmond, Virginia.

The Rev. Kate Bradsen

The Rev. Kate Bradsen moved here from Tucson where she served three different communities over 13 years. She is now serving as rector of St. Stephen's, Aurora. She loves Colorado and feels blessed to a diverse Church.

The Rev. Broderick Greer

The Rev Broderick Greer was born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas. Prior to being called as canon for liturgy and young adults at St. John's Cathedral, he was associate rector of Grace St. Luke's Episcopal Church and School in Memphis, Tennessee.

The Rev. Julia "Sierra" Reyes

Before beginning her tenure as rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Denver, the Rev. Sierra Reyes was the associate rector of Christ Church in Savannah, Georgia. In the Diocese of Georgia, she was active in diocesan leadership serving on the Commission on Ministry, as an Examining Chaplain and as a lay and clergy deputy to General Convention.

The Rev. Susan Reimer

The Rev. Susan Reimer was ordained as a Deacon in the Diocese of Fond du Lac, and served at All Saints Episcopal Church in Appleton, Wisconsin until she retired and moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico. In Albuquerque, she served at St. Michael & All Angels church. She relocated to Loveland, Colorado in 2017, and now serves at All Saints church in Loveland.

The Rev. Shelley Ryan

The Rev. Shelley Ryan is a graduate of the Sewanee School of Theology. Prior to coming to Colorado, she served as the associate rector at St. Luke's in Anchorage, Kentucky. She is excited to have been called to serve as rector of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in Aurora.

The Rev. Jennifer Shadle

The Rev. Jennifer Shadle was ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop O'Neill in 2016 and has recently completed a two-year curacy at St. John's Episcopal Church and School in McAllen, Texas. She is now delighted to be serving as Partnership Vicar to the congregations of St. Andrew's/Holy Cross in La Junta and St. Paul's in Lamar.

The Rev. Laura Stephenson

The Rev. Laura Stephenson is a native Coloradoan growing up on the front range, and now serving at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Grand Junction. She is ordained through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Formerly she worked as a missionary to Indonesia and chaplain in North Denver.

Bishop O'Neill recognized the Reverend Jeremiah Williamson, Chair of the Commission on Ministry, to introduce the newly ordained clergy.

Rev. Williamson introduced the newly ordained clergy to the Episcopal Church in Colorado.

Ordained to the Priesthood

The Rev. Jan Head

Jan Head was raised up by Church of the Holy Nativity, Grand Junction. She received her MDiv from the University of the South, Sewanee, TN and Iliff. Jan is a Hospice Chaplain at HopeWest Hospice in Grand Junction. Jan also serves as Curate at Church of the Nativity in Grand Junction and provides Supply Clergy services on the Western Slope.

Ordained to the Diaconate

Camie Dewey

Camie was ordained a Transitional Deacon and was raised up by St. Matthew's, Grand Junction. Camie is in her last year at the Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, TX.

Melissa Kean

Melissa, ordained a Transitional Deacon, was raised up by St. Michael the Archangel, Colorado Springs. Melissa is in her last year at the University of the South, Sewanee, TN.

Tory Moir

Tory was ordained a Transitional Deacon and was raised up by St. Thomas, Denver. Tory earned her MDiv from Iliff in 2017.

Quinn Wilhelm

Quinn was raised up by Christ Church, Denver where he has been a member for over 20 years. Quinn serves as a Chaplain with the Jefferson County Sheriff Department.

Report on General Convention

Bishop O'Neill recognized Mr. Larry Hitt and the Rev. Kim Seidman, -co-chairs of Colorado's deputation to the Church's General Convention in Austin, Texas, who presented a report.

Larry Hitt introduced the deputation to the General Convention, both clergy and laity and thanked Bishop O'Neill for his assistance to the deputation prior to and during the convention.

Resolutions:

Immigration reform and encouragement for the Episcopal Church to become more welcoming to immigrants and consider being sanctuary churches.

Racial reconciliation and racism

Harassment and violence

Reconciliation for sexual abuse and domestic abuse

Seek justice and restoration

Readmission of the Diocese of Cuba to the Episcopal Church

A task force was established to look at the Book of Common Prayer

- More inclusive language
- Acknowledgement of the diverse culture of the church including translations into the official languages of the church
- Marriage of same sex couples
- Changes to the church calendar

Many members of the Colorado delegation were elected to task forces and committees of the national church.

Video #2: Church of the Ascension, Denver

The church is my family and my world. The depth of spirituality within the church.

Report of the Committee on Nominations & Elections

Standing Committee Regional Representatives

The Bishop recognized the Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis, Chair of the Committee of Nominations and of Conduct of Elections to report on the nominees for regional representatives to the Standing Committee.

The Nominees for Regional Representatives to the Standing Committee are:

The Rev. Kim Seidman, rector of Holy Comforter, Broomfield, nominated by her region to serve as clergy representative, Front Range Region, to a term expiring 2021.

The Rev. Terry McGugan rector of Christ Church, Denver, nominated by his region to serve as clergy representative, High Plains Region, to a term expiring 2021.

Ken Rogers, member of St. Patrick's, Pagosa Springs, nominated by his region to serve as lay representative, Southwest Region, to a term expiring 2021.

The nominees were elected without opposition.

The Bishop thanked the retiring members:

Erin Smith, Southwest Lay representative

The Rev. Mike McManus, Front Range, Clergy representative

The Rev. Rejouis continued with her report on elections for disciplinary board members:

Disciplinary Board

The nominees for a full term on the Disciplinary Board to expire December 31, 2021, (3 years only) are:

Mr. Rick Parker was nominated for a second term and will serve as chair.

The Rev. Bill Stanton was nominated for a first term.

These people were elected to the Disciplinary Board by acclamation.

Rev. Rejouis thanked retiring member the Rev. Bonnie Spencer.

The Bishop made new appointments to two committees and gave thanks for those who completed their terms.

Commission on Ministry

Thank you to the departing members:

1. The Rev. Cammie Houpt
2. The Rev. Rich Munsell
3. The Rev. Ali Lufkin

The new appointments to the Commission on Ministry are:

1. The Rev. Reagan Humber
2. The Rev. Katie Pearson

3. The Rev. Emily Lukanich
4. Jessica Cox

Board of Examining Chaplains

Thank you to the following who have served on the Board of Examining Chaplains

The Rev. Nancy Angle

The Rev. Susan Greenwood

The new appointments are:

Cyndy McRae

Janna Everett

The Rev. Rich Paul

The Bishop recognized the Chancellor, Mr. Larry Hitt, to report on the Special Election Rules for the Convention

The rules were available to the delegates on the website. Mr. Hitt walked the delegates through the rules and Canons of the Episcopal Church in Colorado for the election of a Bishop. The rules had been previously approved by the Standing Committee.

The Rules were adopted unanimously.

Video #3: Christ's Church, Castle Rock

A community to explore spirituality, community of growth, community of love, community of outreach into the wider area, a church for a changing world.

The Bishop made announcements about the Saturday morning ballot pickup of ballots for the election of the new Bishop and said that Eucharist would begin at 9:00 AM. Box lunches will be available on Saturday at 12:10 PM.

Afternoon Break - 3:10 PM – 3:40 PM

A brief break was taken. Refreshments were available in the tent on the West Lawn. General Session #2 will begin at 3:40 PM.

Friday Afternoon - October 26, 2018

GENERAL SESSION # 2 (3:40 – 5:00 PM)

Bishop O'Neill welcomed the delegates back to Session #2 of the Convention. He asked that all stand and join him in singing hymn #296, "We Know that Christ is Raised and Dies No More."

The Bishop announced the death of Rev. Thomas Keating and asked for a moment of remembrance and prayer.

The Bishop recognized Charles Thompson, the Treasurer of the Diocese, to present the Treasurer's report

Report on Diocesan 2017 Financial Statements and Proposed 2019 Budget

Financial Reports of 2017 and Vote

Mr. Thompson reported the good news on the financial report for 2017. The Diocese is financially healthy. A grant from the Colorado Trust of over \$500K was received and good earnings on investments contributed to the financial health of the Diocese.

2019 budget is fiscally sound. The Colorado Trust grant will be used for development with the ECLA and the Episcopal Church in Colorado.

The Bishop announced that there were two pieces of business to conduct at this time, the first of which was the reception of the Audited Financial Reports of 2017, notice of which was emailed to all delegates and posted on

the Diocesan Website. He asked for a motion to receive the Audited Financial Reports of 2017. A motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion was approved.

The second order of business was the approval of the 2019 budget. The proposed 2019 Budget was posted on the Diocesan website and was discussed at the Budget hearing. A motion to adopt the proposed budget for 2019 was made and seconded. There was no further discussion of the motion and it was approved.

St. Martha's Episcopal Church in Westminster was preparing for their final service in the church on All Saint's Day. The community at large has been well served by this church as has the faithful members.

Video #4 – Cathedral Ridge

The Video showed children's and youth camps at Cathedral Ridge, the reactions of the campers, how lives were changed, friendships made, and fun was had by all.

Explanation of Election

The Bishop recognized the Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis for the purpose of providing further details on the election of the new bishop.

Ballots for the election will be available at the Office of the Bishop and are to be picked up between 7:00 and 8:45. Please do not lose them. Voting will be by clergy or laity. Please mark the ballots with pencil in envelope. Clergy and laity must be concurrent on the results of the election, ie. Clergy and laity must agree to election.

Rev. Rejouis thanked the individuals on the election committee who are not voting members for their work in putting this election together.

Reflection on Our Journey in Ministry Together

The Bishop recognized Mr. Jay Swope and the Rev. Elizabeth Randall.

Jay introduced Bishop O'Neill's family and outlined his early work at St. John's Cathedral. After 10 years he left Colorado and went to serve in Massachusetts. In 2003 he returned to Colorado to become the Bishop of the Diocese of Colorado.

A video was shown that provided reflections from various clergy and laity within Colorado and Massachusetts expressing thanks and appreciation for his leadership as our Bishop in the Diocese.

Rev. Brooks Keith presented an opportunity to contribute to the building of cabins at Cathedral Ridge in honor of Bishop O'Neill. Rev. Keith also invited congregations to contribute to a travel fund for Bishop O'Neill and his wife, Ginger, to be used in their retirement.

A video from the Bishop was presented expressing his thankfulness to all churches, programs and individual members of the Diocese for their work within the church to further the life of the church and the presence of Jesus Christ in Colorado and the world. The Colorado Diocese is a large and diverse Diocese, but we must continue to work as one in love to continue the work of the Church.

Rev. Elizabeth Randall continued with the tributes to Bishop O'Neill.

Wilderness Worship

Broderick Greer introduced the Wilderness Worship.

Reception

A reception was held in the tents on the West Lawn following worship.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 27, 2018

Eucharist & Bishop Election (9:00am – 12:10 pm)

The Liturgy of the word began at 9:00 am. There was a pause in the liturgy following the sermon for the election of the 11th Bishop for the Diocese of Colorado.

Bishop O'Neill recognized the Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis who provided the following instructions for the delegates on the balloting process:

- a. Where the ballots are found in each envelope.
- b. Clergy/lay designation is on each ballot.
- c. Ballot number is marked on each ballot.
- d. The ballot is to be marked with the enclosed pencil.
- e. If you make a mistake, erasures are allowed.
- f. The ballots will be collected by pages in every aisle throughout the Cathedral.

The following format will be followed for each ballot

- a. Announce the beginning of ballot number _____.
- b. Announce any changes in the list of nominees, if appropriate.
- c. 5 minutes of prayer & silence to begin.
- d. Mark the ballots by laity and clergy.
- e. Announce the close of ballots.
- f. Pages will collect ballots.
- g. While the ballots are being counted-please stay near your seat unless you must use the facilities.
- h. The Election Judges will bring in the results to the Bishop and Parliamentarian. Following their review, the Rt. Rev. Bishop O'Neill will announce the results of the ballot.
- i. Pause for reflection on the ballot results.

There are 297 clergy present in the Diocese and only 169 are present at today's election. Over 75% of laity 309 of 318 are present.

The balloting process will continue as needed for ballots #1-#3 up to about 12:10pm.

First ballot began at 9:35AM and was declared closed at 9:40 am.

Musical reflections were presented by The Cathedral Choir and Jim Fittz and Sally Neel during the break. The delegates sang Hymn #516, “Come Down, O Love Divine” and Hymn #513, “Like the Murmur of Dove’s Song”.

Prayers were offered by Bishop O’Neill for the victims of the shooting at a Jewish Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Rev Mary Kate Rejouis announced the results of the first ballot at 10:10 am

Total Votes cast: 169 clergy and 308 laity

Needed to elect a new Bishop: clergy 113, 206 laity

Rev. Kym Lucas: 82 clergy, 203 laity

Rev. Canon Ruth Woodliff Stanley: 87 clergy, 105 laity

Voided ballots: 3 clergy, 2 laity

Second Ballot was declared open at 10:13 AM and closed at 10:18 am.

Chancellor Larry Hitt announced that the votes cast information was incorrect for the first ballot, therefore the second ballot was declared invalid.

The delegates sang Hymn # 517 “How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place”.

A break for 10 minutes was declared.

Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis explained the results of the first ballot. She also indicated that the number of votes cast for each ballot may change. Several clarifying questions were asked by those present.

Ballot 3 was declared open at 10:57 am and was declared closed at 11:02 am.

Musical reflections were presented by The Cathedral Choir and Jim Fittz and Sally Neel.

Prayers were offered by Bishop O’Neill.

The delegates sang hymn #686: “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”.

Saturday, Oct 27 Eucharist & Bishop Election

The Bishop thanked the musicians.

Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis presented the results of ballot 3 to Bishop O'Neill and announced that after ballot 4 was taken there will be a break for lunch.

Total ballots cast:169 clergy;309 laity
Votes needed to elect a new Bishop:113 clergy;207 laity
Votes for Rev. Kym Lucas:95 clergy;225 laity
Votes for Rev. Canon Ruth Woodliff Stanley:74 Clergy;84 laity
Votes voided:1 clergy; 2 laity

Ballot 4 was declared open at 11:32 AM and declared closed at 11:38 AM

The Bishop announced a break for lunch until 12:34 pm when the results for Ballot # 4 will be announced. Box lunches were available in the tent on the west lawn.

Following the lunch break, the delegates sang Hymn #525, "The Church's One Foundation".

St. John's Cathedral Choir presented a musical reflection.

The results of Ballot 4 were presented by Chancellor Hitt and the Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis to Bishop O'Neill.

Bishop O'Neill led us in prayer and announced that a new bishop was elected.

Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis presented the results.

Total ballots cast:173 clergy;306 laity
Votes needed to elect a new Bishop: 116 clergy;205 laity
Votes for Rev. Kym Lucas: 124 clergy; 237 laity
Votes for Rev. Canon Ruth Woodliff Stanley:49 Clergy;69 laity
Votes voided: 1 clergy; 1 laity

Rev. Canon Ruth Woodliff Stanley spoke to the delegates and welcomed Rev. Kym Lucas as the 11th Bishop of Colorado. Rev. Canon Ruth asked that we all support her in her ministry in Colorado.

Saturday, Oct 27 Eucharist & Bishop Election

The Liturgy of the Word continued with Nicene Creed. The Canonical Testimonials were signed by all voting delegates during Holy Communion.

Closing/Adjournment

Bishop: Is there a motion to adjourn this convention?

Bishop: Is there a second?

All in favor, please signify by saying “aye”

Bishop: The Diocesan Convention of 2018 stands adjourned.