

# Minutes of the 148<sup>th</sup> Episcopal Diocesan Convention of Long Island

November 14-15, 2014

Friday - November 14, 2014

11:30am – 1:30 pm - Registration

1:30 pm- Convention gathers and begins with the opening hymn. The blessing of water and the renewal of baptismal vows follow as the Bishop processes into the ballroom while asperging the convention assembly with Holy Water. The Bishop then proceeds to the altar, concludes with the collect of the day and the assembly is seated thereafter.

Organizing of Convention- General housekeeping rules are discussed and an agenda of the day's schedule is outlined by Reverend Karen Davis-Lawson, secretary of Convention. A brief video is played about building community and coming together through church gatherings such as book clubs that allow for friendship and the vital discussion of important issues in society such as race. This video focused on an Episcopal book club in Brooklyn that read books that dealt with the issue of race. As exemplified in the video, book clubs within the churches allow for unity and spiritual vitality within a community. Elections to Diocesan Boards and Bodies - four elections took place for the following positions:

1. Board of the Mercer School of Theology  
(2 positions filled)
2. Board of the Episcopal Community Services  
(2 positions filled)
3. Disciplinary Board (Clergy Order)  
(1 position filled)
4. Disciplinary Board (Lay Order)  
(2 positions filled)

15 minute break

Guest Speaker Presentation- The guest speaker was the Reverend Michael Battle who currently serves as the Interim Dean of the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His presentation focused on analyzing the theme for the convention which was, "Walk in Love as Christ Loved Us." He spoke primarily about love and how love is a substance that functions in many ways. He proclaimed that love is trinitarian in nature and encompasses the concepts of community, compassion, and change. After talking about the power of love in one's life and community, the convention assembly broke up into groups and answered discussion questions with each other for 30 minutes. One of the discussion questions was, "How does your church community cultivate community, compassion and change?"

5:30 pm – Evening Prayer

6:00 pm – Convention in Recess

7:30 pm- 11:00 pm- Convention Banquet

Saturday, November 15, 2014

7:30 am- Registration

9:00 am – Holy Eucharist

A gospel choir performed and the entire room of clergy and laity collectively and passionately sang songs of praise.

Bishop's Address- The Bishop's address summarized the latest progress, updates, and happenings throughout the Diocese over the past year. He listed churches that have closed over the last year and how the closing of several parishes have given way to new opportunities for church communities. As explained by Bishop Provenzano, the Church of the Redeemer, located one block from the Barclays Center, was sold this year for 19.7 million dollars. Bishop Provenzano announced, "In the years to come the investment income will be used to fund ministry. Each year, half of all investment income is allocated for use in Brooklyn & Queens and the other half will be used for ministry development across the rest of the diocese. Best estimates are that, on average, the investment will produce eight-hundred thousand to a million dollars, annually, that will be used each year for ministry development as part of the legacy of the Church of the Redeemer. The Trustees have also established a small fund from the proceeds to assist parishes with small loans and grants for building-related projects which will be available in 2015. Before any money is distributed or used for any purpose within the Diocese of Long Island, we will practice good and faithful stewardship." Bishop Provenzano also said "soon after January 1, 2015, the Diocese of Long Island will tithe the 19.7 million dollars to ministry and work internationally, nationally, and locally." This means that 1.97 million dollars will be given away by the Trustees as a tithe of the proceeds of the sale of Church of the Redeemer. 1.97 million dollars will be donated to Episcopal dioceses including those in Haiti, Sierra Leone and Liberia in Africa.

The Bishop then discussed the Strategic Visioning Process that has three parts that has been implemented over the last few years.

1. The creation of Episcopal Ministries of Long Island - Episcopal Ministries of Long Island will encompass the combined work of Episcopal Charities and Episcopal Community Services and result in the creation of a shared or continuing board and a process by which the raising of funds will go directly to programs whose oversight is accomplished by the same faithful individuals.

2. Structures for the support of ministry- employing the use of various forms of direct electronic communication, and where transportation around the diocese is not an obstacle, the strategic plan recommended more flexible structures to support the development of local ministry plans which would be more focused on deaneries and the local parish community.
3. Bettering the Cathedral- A third initiative of the strategic visioning process was to enhance the ministry of the Cathedral in the life of the diocese.

15 minute break

Report on Bishop’s Address - Delivered by The Rev. Canon John E. Madden who was pleased and fully satisfied with the Bishop’s remarks. Later in the convention, Reverend Madden was honored by the Bishop for over 50 years of service to the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island. Presentation on Episcopal Ministries - The Assistant Bishop of Long Island, Bishop Chilton Knudsen, presented to the convention assembly about the challenges and problems in the diocese that need “truth telling.” As explained by Bishop Knudsen, Episcopal Ministries has been implemented and designed to assist churches in ministry outreach. Bishop Knudsen stressed that the diocese wants to get involved at the local level because “we serve better as a united body.” The job for the diocese is to be present for local parishes for “support, philanthropy, fundraising and benevolence.”

Presentation of 2015 Ministry Plan and Vote- The Ministry Plan (Diocesan Budget) vote passed.

Noonday Prayer

12:30 pm – Lunch

1:45 pm - Honoring of new ministries and anniversaries Canonical Appointments/Changes were announced by Bishop Provenzano

Vote of Resolutions and Propositions - Proposition 1 was to amend the language of Article II, section (c) because the original wording often led to confusion. This motion was passed.

Resolution 1 was the proposed 2015 ministry plan that seeks to support the ongoing mission of our Diocese by once again focusing financial resources on mission initiatives. This motion was passed.

Resolution 2 was to raise the awareness of racism and work toward its eradication. This motion passed

Resolution 3 was to advocate awareness, education, prayers and support for those affected by the Ebola disease. This motion passed.

Resolution 4 was financial assistance, support and prayer for Long island’s child refugees seeking safe haven from their war torn countries. This motion was passed.

2:30 pm - Evening Prayer

3:00 pm - Convention Adjourns

Respectfully submitted by  
Elaine Cash, Convention Delegate  
November 19, 2014



## Parish Family News

### Congratulations!

Day Haven Adult Services in Port Jefferson last month honored our own parishioner Virginia Cash, LMSW at their annual Neighborhood of Caring Breakfast, for her tireless support of family caregivers with those suffering from Dementia. Congratulations Virginia and we thank God for your indefatigable advocacy for those in our community giving long-term care to their loved ones.

## Thank You All

*Dear Cn. Richard, Fr. Farrell and friends,*

*Thank you for your prayers, cards, gifts and being with me to celebrate my 100th birthday at my house on November 7, 2014.*

*Blessings,*

*Blanche Davis*





## We are Stewards of God's Love Gratitude is the Heart of Thanksgiving And The Cornerstone of Stewardship



All is gift for those who see life with the eyes of faith. God gives us our existence and talents, our time and our treasure, our family and friends.

The joy of stewardship is found in gratitude. When we respond with grateful hearts, our perspective, attitudes, and behaviors are transformed.

**To give as stewards is to give with thanks.**

As a grateful congregation we open ourselves up to seeing how all God's gifts can be utilized to strengthen the mission of the church of Jesus Christ in the world.

### Five Actions of Gratitude

Gratitude is more than a feeling or a practice of etiquette. We practice gratitude in five ways:



- Say Thanks in Gratefulness.
- Give Back in Service.
- Make Welcome in Hospitality.
- Honor Others in Recognition of their contributions and place in God's Kingdom
- Create Goodness through God's Call to Make a Difference That Matters

It's natural to thank God when things seem to turn out the way we had hoped, when disaster is averted, when life seems filled with abundance. Harder, perhaps, is the ability to thank God for being present to us in times of struggle, seeming failure, illness and death. But, in the heart of the Christian steward, the memory of God's presence is a comfort and a gift all its own.

If we take time to reflect on our lives, we often discover that what we were most grateful for was a gift which we struggled to receive. What came to us in the form of hardship has in hindsight revealed itself as gift. This is why each day's struggles and trials should be met with a heartfelt "thank you."

**The Stewardship Committee thanks God for each of the members of Caroline Church, as well as for the beautiful building and community in which we reside. We are thankful for every estimate of giving received and those yet to come.**

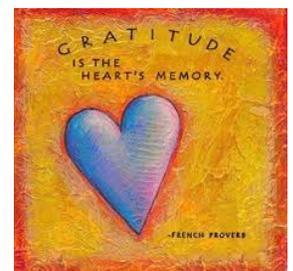
**Finally, we are grateful for the year-long stewardship journey that has enabled us to grow in our faith and trust that God is caring for each of us.**

### For What and Whom are you Grateful?

We are grateful for your continued support of Caroline Church. We pray that that support will include an increase in your Estimate of Giving for 2015.

**Blessings!**

*Claire Mis*



### References:

[http://www.ajdiocese.org/documents/PDFs/Bishop\\_Morneau\\_Theology\\_of\\_Stew.pdf](http://www.ajdiocese.org/documents/PDFs/Bishop_Morneau_Theology_of_Stew.pdf)  
<http://catholicstewardship.com/general/151-gratitude-the-heart-of-thanksgiving>  
<http://edbrenegar.typepad.com/StewardshipofGratitudeWorkshopforCongregations-DrEdBrenegar.pdf>

## Buildings & Grounds

### Lions & Tigers & Lady Bugs (Oh My!)

If you are a regular parishioner at Caroline Church, you have likely seen a lady bug or two during services. But it's unlikely you have been a witness to what Linda and I saw in late October. While planting bulbs along the walkways we witnessed a lady bug swarm. Tens of thousands covered (mainly) the bell tower and balance of the building. Apparently this type of swarm occurs on a warm day following the first frost. They are seeking shelter for the winter. They do not cause any direct damage in the building they find, nor do they eat/breed in there. Donna is working diligently to vacuum those that die and drop into the occupied areas. Their pheromones do produce a slightly odd scent. We are looking into whether it is worthwhile to try to exterminate those that are in the steeple and attic.

Otherwise it's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas, with the weather turning cold and just a few fall plantings still showing color. But spring bulbs are in the ground and hopefully they will not be covered with as much snow as last winter. The sprinklers are blown out for the season. Soon the Advent wreath and the crèche will be coming out of storage. The Christmas Fair is upon us. Please help out and patronize this event, which benefits our community outreach.

### Capital Projects

Over the past several years there has been much discussion about what to do with the Rookery and, more recently, what to do with the Carriage Shed. Apparently there is some misunderstanding about how those projects would be funded. It is important to understand that these projects have nothing to do with your pledge dollars. Unless you specify otherwise (which is unusual) your pledge contributions go into the **Operating Fund**. That fund pays the salaries, utilities, office supplies and other day to day operation expenses. This is separate and distinct from accounts such as the **Building Fund** and **Churchyard Fund**. The source of monies in those funds are bequests and contributions made over many years. The **Churchyard Fund** came mostly from the Melville Family as an endowment to both maintain the grounds and provide for an occasional project such as the fencing work done several years ago. Any work done on the Carriage Shed would come from the **Churchyard Fund**. Any contributions toward restoring the Carriage Shed would be passed through the **Churchyard Fund**.

Virtually all the monies presently in the **Building Fund** came from a bequest made to Caroline Church from the Estate of Olga Weinert, which the Vestry chose to put into

the **Building Fund** (as it had been depleted after the Rectory renovation). Any work on the Rookery would come from the **Building Fund**.

So, in summary, your pledge dollars are used for the day to day operation of the church. Capital projects are not funded from those pledges, but rather from monies set aside for those specific purposes.

Chris Haring, Chair  
Buildings and Grounds



## Immigration Reform

Immigration relief is back in the headlines. Here's what you can do to be part of the movement! The elections are over, and the results spell trouble for federal immigration reform, but it appears the President is finally prepared to act by providing relief for millions of undocumented immigrants living in the shadows of Congress' inaction. Meanwhile, some 2,500 Central American refugee children fleeing violence and poverty are here on Long Island in need of basic human rights protections. They are victims of our broken immigration laws and they need your support.

If you want to see some immigration reform within our country, here's what you can do now on behalf of the refugee children:

1. Pray for God's grace and guidance to be upon all our elected officials to decide legislation with a charitable and open heart to the most vulnerable of our population.
2. Plan to attend the December 9th LI Jobs with Justice (JwJ) Human Rights Day Labor-Faith Prayer Brunch (at Mercy First 525 Convent Road, Syosset from 10 to 12 Noon) honoring Mercy First, a Syosset charity that gave shelter to the refugee children despite local opposition.
3. Become a faith sponsor of the Human Rights Day Labor-Faith Prayer Brunch, thereby helping JwJ to continue advocating for immigrants. Details on the brunch and sponsorship can be found by contacting Anita Halasz at [ahalasz.lijwj@gmail.com](mailto:ahalasz.lijwj@gmail.com) or 631-348-1170 x. 304.
4. Be prepared to raise our voices and share our resources for immigrant justice.

## Warden's Corner

*"The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."* Matthew 9:37-38 NLT

The above is unabashedly inspired by a recent newsletter from Deerfoot Lodge; the verses really struck home. As we approach this season of giving we have seen many examples of the harvest and the workers. Claire and the Stewardship Committee: working long and hard all year, culminated by the financial stewardship portion and two dinners. Janet and Ginny: bringing in ladies from around Long Island to attend a Women of Faith Simulcast. Lindsay: her constant show of time and dedication to our youth group. Virginia Cash's leadership of the Caring for the Caregivers group. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew's successful Barn Sale to benefit outreach throughout the area. The upcoming Christmas Fair, spearheaded by the ECW Morning Branch. The hard work of the Historic and Cultural Artifacts Committee. Office Angels. Adult Ed Committee. The year round work performed by the Altar Guild. These are just a few examples.

But there is so much more that we can do, and we need more workers in the field. Few would disagree that children are the key to our church's future. Our new Director of Children's Ministries, Debbie Felber, could use some help with the Christmas Pageant, nursery, pianists at the children's service and other upcoming events. If you are the parent of current or past Sunday school members, consider lending a helping hand. We are still seeking one or two people to sell gift cards each Sunday. We are seeking **everyone** to buy those gift cards. Our deficit would be cut in half if every family bought \$100 in gift cards each week—which they could then use to buy \$100 of groceries at King Kullen, Wild by Nature or Stop & Shop. Be an usher, an EM, an acolyte, or a choir member. Volunteering in the above generally involves a commitment of just an hour or two a month. And it provides a fellowship opportunity that creates lifelong friendships.

Want a bigger challenge? Consider some of our organizations and committees, which may involve the same or larger commitment as those in the above paragraph. Volunteer to complete a project around the church or the grounds. Or—(shudder!)—the Vestry. We will be seeking people to fill several openings. It is certainly a commitment, but that commitment need not be overwhelming. And the rewards are out of this world.

Chris Haring  
Junior Warden



## ECW (EB) members and all women of Caroline Church

Help is needed for the Men's and Boys Communion Breakfast on Saturday, December 13th. A few extra hands are needed to set up, serve and clean up at the breakfast. If you can spare a few hours between 7:30 and 10:00 am on the 13th, please call Terry Russell at 631-509-1722 or tandlrussell@aol.com. You will be rewarded when the men serve the women at the annual Women's Breakfast in the new year!



## Liturgical Calendar

### October

**Funerals:** Anthony Alongi  
Arthur Gilmore

**Baptisms:** Preston Schneider  
Katherine Schneider

### November

**Funerals:** Beverly Palamara  
Elaine Kaldor



We would like to remember in prayer,  
those who are serving in the  
Armed Forces.

Michael Cardamone, Adam Fullerton,  
Roy Raguso, Mike Hanna, Kevin O'Donahue  
Kevin LoRusso, Melanie Gonzalez, Don Gonzalez.

**May God protect them, bless them,  
and bring them home soon.**

Lindsay Porter and Bunny Russell are both sopranos singing in JS Bach's Christmas Oratorio with professional soloists, and full orchestra provided by graduate student musicians from Stony Brook University.

A must see for the Holidays!



**Long Island Symphonic Choral Association**

**Thomas Schmidt, Conductor**

**Robert Price, Assistant Conductor**

present

**J.S. BACH**

# **Christmas Oratorio**

With full orchestra and soloists

**Saturday, December 13, 2014, 8 pm**

**St. James Roman Catholic Church**

**Route 25A, Setauket, New York**

General Admission \$25

Seniors \$20

Students free

Tickets available at

**Angelic Music, Inc. One**

**221 Main Street, Port Jefferson**

&

**Angelic Music, Inc. Two**

**238 Route 25A, E. Setauket**

**And At The Door**

**For Information call 751-2743 or 941-9431**





# DECEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1 8:00 AM HOST: 3V Clergy Breakfast  4:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:45 PM 'Explore the Word' Bible study 7:30 PM Home Bible Study in Upper Room of Parish House	2 10:00 AM ECW (MB) meets in MCS building  3:30 PM Soup Kitchen at CCUM	3  <b>6:00 PM ADVENT Pot Luck Supper</b>	4 Brotherhood set up tables for Fair 10:30 AM Pastoral Team to Sunrise Asst. 12:00 PM H.E & Healing Service 7:00 PM Sr. Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM Sue N. use parish house/quartet	5 ECW Ladies Set up for Christmas Fair  6:00 PM Confirmation Class in lower parish house 7:30 PM OSL Healing Service	6 9:30 AM <b>CHRISTMAS FAIR</b>	
<b>7 ADVENT 2</b>  8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am Services <b>YOUTH SUNDAY</b> 9:30 AM Joyful Noise Choir 11:15 AM CYC Brunch at Fratelli's	8  3:30 PM Staff Xmas Luncheon at Pita House  7:30 PM Home Bible Study in Upper Room of Parish House	9 10:00 AM ECW (MB) meets in MCS building  3:30 PM Soup Kitchen at CCUM	10  7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	11 10:00 AM Three Village Homemakers 10:30 AM Pastoral Team to Woodhaven  12:00 PM H.E & Healing Service  7:00 PM Sr. Choir rehearsal	12  5:00 PM wedding rehearsal  7:00 PM Sue N. use parish house/quartet	13 8:00 AM MEN'S CORPORATE COMMUNION BREAKFAST 9:30 AM Caring for Caregivers Support Group in Parish House 1:00 PM WEDDING: Kelly	
<b>14 ADVENT 3</b>  8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am Services 11:00 AM Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal  4:00 PM Youth Group Meets in the 'Cave'	15 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Home Bible Study Xmas Dinner at the Johnsons 6:45 PM 20s/30s Group meet at All Souls' Rectory for Pot Luck Supper 6:45 PM 'Explore the Word' Bible study	16 <i>Fr. Farrell Birthday</i> 10:00 AM ECW (MB) meets in MCS building	17  7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	18 10:30 AM Pastoral Team to PJ Health  12:00 PM H.E & Healing Service  7:00 PM Sr. Choir rehearsal	19 <b>DEADLINE FOR THE CARILLON</b>  7:30 PM No. Shore Ultreya  7:30 PM OSL Meeting in Parish House	20	
<b>21 ADVENT 4</b>  8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am Services 9:30 AM Joyful Noise Choir <b>9:30 AM Pageant</b> 11:00 AM Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal 12:00 PM ALTAR GUILD LUNCHEON 12:45 PM DECORATE THE ALTAR FOR CHRISTMAS 4:00 PM Youth Group Meets in the 'Cave'	22  4:00 PM Staff Meeting  7:30 PM Home Bible Study in Upper Room of Parish House	23 10:00 AM ECW (MB) meets in MCS building  10:30 AM Pastoral Team to Jeffersons Ferry	24 <b>CHRISTMAS EVE OFFICE CLOSED</b>  5:00 PM H.E. Children's Service  8:00 PM H.E. w/ Adult Choir  10:00 PM H.E. w/ Adult Choir	25 <b>CHRISTMAS DAY / OFFICE CLOSED</b>  10:00 AM Holy Eucharist w/Hymns	26 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	27 9:30 AM Caring for Caregivers Support Group in Parish House	
28 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am Services No Sunday School Classes today 10:45 AM Teachers Meeting 11:00 AM Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal 4:00 PM Youth Group Meets in the 'Cave'	29  4:00 PM Staff Meeting  6:45 PM 'Explore the Word' Bible study  7:30 PM Home Bible Study in Upper Room of Parish House	30 10:00 AM ECW (MB) meets in MCS building	31 9:30 AM Collate the Carillon				

