

Courtesy Resolution 1

Honoring the “Philadelphia 11”

RESOLVED, That the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont express its admiration and gratitude for the courage, faith, and leadership of the 11 women deacons who on July 29, 1974, presented themselves to be ordained priests, and also remember with thanks the three bishops who ordained them. In the face of both institutional inertia and active resistance, these powerful leaders moved the General Convention of 1976 to affirm the ordination of women not only as deacons, but also as priests and bishop. We are thankful for their brave actions and the rich ministries that have flowed from them.

EXPLANATION

Historically women had participated in the life of The Episcopal Church in many ways, including education, fundraising, altar guild work, justice work, and care for people in the community. Many other positions, especially leadership roles, were forbidden by canon law or traditional practice. Many will remember when girls could not serve as acolytes, vestry members were all male, and women were not to speak in public services.

A wave of activism and hope in the 1960s and ‘70s affected the Church as well as the broader society. Finally, in 1969 the General Convention allowed women to read in worship and administer the chalice. In 1970, women who had been serving as “Deaconesses” were recognized as members of the order of Deacons, and women Deputies were seated. In 1973 a resolution to allow the ordination of women was rejected a second time, setting the scene for more challenging advocacy. Thus, eleven women Deacons and three retired or resigned Bishops met at the Church of the Advocate in Philadelphia, and those women were made priests. This urgent action finally moved the General Convention of 1976 to “regularize” their ordinations and open all orders of ordination to women. The Episcopal Church has since benefited greatly from the hard work and many gifts of the women who have served in Holy Orders.

[*The Philadelphia Eleven*](#), a film telling the story of these women will be shown Dec. 10th, at 2 p.m. at St. Paul’s Church, White River Junction. For information call Jane Carroll at 603-322-3213.

The women ordained July 29, 1974: Merrill Bittner, Alla Bozarth-Campbell, Alison Cheek, Emily Hewitt, Carter Heyward, Suzanne Hiatt, Marie Moorefield, Jeannette Piccard, Betty Schiess, Katrina Swanson, and Nancy Wittig.

The ordaining Bishops: Daniel Corrigan, retired bishop suffragan of Colorado; Robert L. DeWitt, recently resigned Bishop of Pennsylvania; and Edward R. Welles, retired Bishop of West Missouri. A fourth bishop, José Antonio Ramos, Bishop of Costa Rica, was also present at the service in support of the women being ordained, but did not act as an ordaining bishop.

RESOLUTION SPONSORS: The Rev. Jean Jersey, the Rev. Janet Brown, the Rev. Diane Root
For information, contact the Rev. Diane Root, 603-298-7597

Courtesy Resolution 2

Honoring the Memory of the Reverend Jane N. Garrett

RESOLVED, That the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont give thanks for the ministry and life of the Rev. Jane Garrett, long-time priest of this diocese, who died October 12, 2023. As the fourth woman ordained to the priesthood in Vermont by Bishop Kerr in 1981, Jane served part-time as curate and assistant at St. Stephen's, Middlebury, from 1980-1995, while also continuing her 44-year career as an editor for Alfred A. Knopf. She was a passionate advocate for peace and justice, trail blazer for LGBTQI+ rights, friend to many, and mentor, in particular, to Vermont's General Convention deputies—all of which she did in a quiet and understated fashion. She loved the church, she loved her work, she loved her friends, and she loved Vermont. May we carry out Jane's rich legacy of love in our lives.

EXPLANATION

The Rev. Jane N. Garrett interwove her vocation of priest with that of editor of Pulitzer-prize winning and best-selling books. A November 3, 2023 [obituary in the New York Times](#) focuses on that aspect of her very rich life. Our resolution honors her life as priest of this diocese and her service to both Vermont and the larger church.

Jane was a tireless champion for peace and justice, and she loved the workings of The Episcopal Church. She served as a deputy from Vermont to The Episcopal Church General Convention, first in 1979 as a lay person and then as a priest at the five conventions from 1985-1997. In 1997, she was chair of the Vermont deputation. In 2000 and 2003, she served as chair of the Secretariat of the House of Deputies, the busy office that controls the flow of resolutions to the House during General Convention.

In 1991, during a debate in the House of Deputies on a resolution about human sexuality, Jane stood to remind her fellow deputies to be mindful that, in their comments about gay and lesbian Episcopalians, they were not talking about abstractions but about real people such as herself. She thus became the first deputy to “come out” publicly in that body. Her highly respected voice changed the tenor of debate in a room of over 800 deputies. As a consequence, she was appointed to a churchwide committee formed to address the questions raised by that resolution and report to the 1994 Convention.

Jane then served as co-chair from 1994-97 of the Episcopal Church's Committee for Dialogue on Human Sexuality. That group ensured publication in 1995 of a House of Bishops document, “Continuing the Dialogue,” for which Jane authored a study guide. As part of the dialogue process, Jane organized a forum for our 1995 Diocesan Convention on the theological foundations and pastoral considerations involved in blessing the unions of same sex couples and ordination of individuals involved in such relationships.

Jane was a long-time member of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship and brought that commitment to peace-making to her work. She quietly reminded us in Vermont that to seek peace was not limited to Vermont but needed to embrace the world. She served on the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Peace from 1985-88 and chaired the commission from 1989-91. In 1990, Jane went to Israel and the occupied territories as a member of the commission. From

1998-2000, Jane was a member of the Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns.

Jane was also very involved in the Province One Synod, where she served as delegate from 2003-2004. And she chaired our Diocesan Resolutions Committee in 2005, 2006, and 2007.

Those who knew Jane Garrett remember her for her wisdom, her compassion, the depth of her concern for the marginalized, her quiet wit, and her grace.

Courtesy Resolution 3

Thanking the Rt. Rev. Shannon MacVean-Brown for her Convention Sermon and Convention Address

RESOLVED, That the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont thank Bishop Shannon MacVean-Brown for the insights offered and challenges given to us in both her sermon at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul on Saturday, November 4, and her address to our virtual business session on November 9, 2023. Over the last three years, she has asked us to reflect on the meaning of Matthew's story of Peter walking on the water, taking risks and moving closer to Jesus. She is now giving us much to ponder in how we "might see the life of our diocese through the lens of Peter's ministry in the time after he steps out of the boat." Recognizing that, "Sometimes, like Peter, we will just be kind of a hot mess," Bishop Shannon has faith that, "we will find ourselves drawing closer to Jesus and to all of God's people in our brave little state." Thank you Bishop, for your witness and leadership.

Courtesy Resolution 4

Thanking the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings for her Mission Leadership Report

RESOLVED, That the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont express its gratitude to the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings for her Mission Leadership Review, in which she clearly identifies our strengths, weaknesses and challenges as we move forward as a diocese. Her concise compilation of the information gained through interviews with 48 people—lay and ordained in all levels of leadership— provides a us map forward with which we can face our obstacles and threats and redouble our efforts to become Beloved Community through our structures, mission possibilities and partnerships.

Courtesy Resolution 5

Thanking the Reverend Canon Walter Brownridge

RESOLVED, That the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont give thanks for the ministry of the Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge, who has served us for the past three years as Canon to the Ordinary for Cultural Transformation and provided invaluable support to Bishop Shannon MacVean-Brown. Through his work as consultant to the Diocesan Commission on Ministry, his leadership of clergy gatherings, his preaching and visiting congregations, Canon Brownridge has shared with us his incredible breadth of knowledge and his connections throughout The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.

We congratulate Canon Walter on his recent installation as a Trustee of the University of the South, Sewanee, and we wish him, Christina, and their family all the best as they discern what new possibilities lie ahead for them as they continue to seek God's vision for the Beloved Community.

EXPLANATION

Canon Brownridge's work in racial reconciliation, creation care and stewardship, which are all interconnected, has led him to represent us in so many places that range from serving on the Board of Global Episcopal Mission Network (GEMN), the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) and the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on World Mission. He has led pilgrimages to Atlanta, Montgomery and Selma—pilgrimages that have deeply touched those Vermont Episcopalians who participated.

After the catastrophic July floods this summer, Canon Brownridge headed the Diocesan Disaster Relief Committee. In this capacity, he visited several congregations to bring solace and help connect their leaders with Episcopal Relief and Development.

We have greatly appreciated his encouraging us "to restore the Dream of God for all of us and the world." We will abide by his advice that "Cultural transformation is a 21st century way of describing our mission," and continue in the paths he has established for us.

Courtesy Resolution 6

Commending the “Divine Abundance & Inquiry: A Faithful Path” Planning Team

RESOLVED, That the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont commend the planning team for the November 4, 2023, session of Diocesan Convention at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, “Divine Abundance & Inquiry: a Faithful Path,” and give thanks for the elegant devotional, “Baptized for Abundance,” developed by the group and illustrated by Bishop Shannon MacVean-Brown, which was sent to all delegates for use in the 30 days surrounding Convention. Team members include: the Rev. Canon Susan Ohlidal, convener; the Rev. Bram Kranichfeld; the Rev. Jeremy Means-Koss; the Rev. Darcey Mercier; the Rev. Charlie Nichols; the Rev. Mary Taggart; and the Rev. adwoa Wilson.

EXPLANATION

Convened by Canon for Missional Vitality, the Rev. Susan Ohlidal, the team planned a day of programming led by Try-Tank founder, the Rev. Lorenzo Lebrija, embedded in a framework of worship that included a sermon by Bishop Shannon MacVean-Brown, Eucharist, the renewal of baptismal and ordination covenants, the consecration of holy oils, and a commissioning for mission. The team is grateful for the assistance of St. Paul’s Dean Greta Getlein with the liturgy and that of Canon Walter Brownridge for shepherding the Rev. Lorenzo Lebrija during his visit to Vermont.

“Baptized for Abundance: An In-Depth Daily Devotional,” is edited by the Rev. Dr. Pamela Lyons of Virginia Theological Seminary, with an introduction and illustrations by the Rt. Rev. Shannon MacVean-Brown. Diocese of Vermont clergy members, Bram Kranichfeld, Jeremy Means-Koss, Darcey Mercier, Mary Taggart, and adwoa Wilson, are responsible for the thoughtful daily questions and prayers.

Courtesy Resolution 7
Thanking the Reverend Lorenzo Lebrija

RESOLVED, That this 190th Convention of the Diocese of Vermont express its thanks to the Reverend Lorenzo Lebrija for his address on innovation and experimentation in the Church. We were inspired by his energy, enthusiasm, and expertise, and challenged by the questions “What brought you life today?” and “What took away life from you today?” Thanking him for the assurance that the Church of Jesus Christ will not die, we look to use his three-step system of generating, developing, and trying out ideas with curiosity, playfulness, and boldness, better to spread the Good News to each other and around Vermont. We send our prayers for the continued success of TryTank Experimental Lab.

Courtesy Resolution 8

Thanking the Reverend Kathleen Moore

RESOLVED, that the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont give thanks for the years of service that the Rev. Kathleen Moore has given to ensure clear communication across ever-changing and multiple platforms. We wish her all the best as she starts a new season of ministry as Associate Rector at St. John's Episcopal Church, Oakland, California, and will miss her cheerful smile and occasional visits by her kitties on Zoom calls. May she continue to open the "flaming Bible" and bring her infectious joy and love of God to all those whom she meets.

EXPLANATION

Kathleen has been a constant presence in communications for the diocese, ever since she gave a presentation at Diocesan Convention back in 2014 on how congregations can have effective websites. She has helped many develop websites and has encouraged the less computer-literate in how to navigate through various browsers and platforms, most recently Election Buddy and Zoom. She played a critical role in the formation of Green Mountain Abbey as the one who kept the online worship from getting bombed or interrupted. Throughout all her work as a member of Canticle Communications, she has been patient and compassionate.

Sponsored for ordination by St. James', Arlington, Vermont, where she was ordained deacon in August 2019, Kathleen earned a Master of Divinity degree at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in 2019, and was ordained to the priesthood in 2020. She served as seminarian intern at St. John's during her second and third years at CDSP (when she left, they had her open a "flaming Bible"). Kathleen has been a communications manager at Canticle Communications since 2014.

Kathleen is currently the President of the House of Deputies Julia Ayala Harris's representative on the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music. Her prior church-wide experience includes serving on the Task Force on Liturgical and Prayer Book Revision (2018-21) and the President of the House of Deputies Special Committee on Sexual Harassment and Exploitation (2018).

In her free time, Kathleen enjoys running, hiking, and spending time outside. She lives with her two cats, Gaston and Sherm, the latter of whom traveled to Oakland on his eighth cross-country voyage.

Courtesy Resolution 9
Standing in Solidarity with Those Affected by July 2023 Flooding in Vermont

RESOLVED, That this 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont stand in solidarity with those affected by the historic, catastrophic flooding throughout Vermont during July 2023.

We particularly offer our continued support to:

- Christ Church, Montpelier, where the sanctuary, undercroft, parish hall, and basement were all flooded;
- Mission Farm, Killington, where the orchard and septic pumps were damaged when the town culverts were plugged; and
- Brookhaven Treatment and Learning Center, which sustained significant damage to its campus, including the destruction of its sports pavilion;

and we encourage delegates here and all members of our diocese to donate to related recovery efforts as they are able.

Courtesy Resolution 10

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Consecration of the “New” Cathedral Church of St. Paul Building

RESOLVED, That this 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont joyfully join the members of the Cathedral Parish in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral building. The weekend of November 10, 11, and 12, will include a 50th Anniversary Concert celebrating the Vedder Van Dyck Memorial Organ, built by Karl Wilhelm; a panel of past clergy; a joyful reception; and a festive Eucharist on Sunday, with the President of The Episcopal Church’s House of Deputies, Julia Ayala Harris preaching. We offer thanks and wish the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, its clergy, staff, and people, Godspeed in the stewardship of the Cathedral building as a resource for the Diocese and the community for the future.

EXPLANATION

The Cathedral building rose out of the ashes of the old Cathedral, which burned in 1971, heralding a new kind of church architecture, connecting the inside of the sanctuary with the world outside, making it a city Cathedral, beckoning the Cathedral participants, and others in the community, to act inside and outside the Cathedral walls to bind up the wounds of the community, support the arts, and act for justice in the city of Burlington, the state of Vermont, our nation, and the world.

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul has served as the Cathedral for the Diocese of Vermont, since 1965, and in seven years hence, the Parish of St. Paul in Burlington will celebrate 200 years since its founding in 1830.

Courtesy Resolution 11 Commending Presiding Bishop Michael Curry for His Call to “Stop the killing.”

RESOLVED, That the 190th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont commend Presiding Bishop Michael Curry for his statement of November 7, 2023, in which he decries the deaths of more than 10,000 people in Gaza, including more than 4,000 children, and says, “The violence is horrific, and the geopolitics are complex, but my call to love is simple: Stop the killing. Stop all of it. Stop it today.” Stating that, “Every human child of God—Palestinian and Israeli—deserves safety and security,” Bishop Curry says that vengeance and retaliation are not the answer. “We are called to love, even and especially when it seems impossible,” he said, and love demands “that we need to stop the killing.” Further, Bishop Curry said, “Staying quiet in this moment would be a stain upon our souls and would deepen our complicity.”

EXPLANATION

Jewish, Christian and Muslim religious leaders have vociferously condemned the October 7 massacre of 1,400 civilians in Israel, the wounding of thousands, and the hostage-taking of over 200 by Hamas militants. Many of these leaders have also expressed growing alarm at the destruction and suffering experienced in Gaza and called for an end to the blockade and needless deaths of innocent civilians. This resolution highlights the latest of those calls by our own Presiding Bishop, who acknowledges the complexity of the situation but asks that, “As Episcopalians, we must call upon our leaders—President Biden, members of Congress, and others—to be unequivocal that we need to stop the killing. Today. This is clearly what love demands of us.”

Below are links to Bishop Curry’s statement and several other resources:

[Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s November 7, 2023 statement.](#)

[Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s October 17, 2023 statement](#) on the attack on the al-Ahli Anglican Hospital in Gaza

[Episcopal News Service article](#), November 7, 2023 with links to other statements by Bishop Curry, the Episcopal Church Executive Council, and others.

[Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations Resource Page](#), continually updated with the latest policy alerts and other links.

[ENS, Anglican Leaders Call for Global Support of Diocese of Jerusalem’s Ministries](#), October 24, 2023

[Religion News Service, Archbishop Welby, Patriarchs of Jerusalem Urge Ceasefire, Condemn Church Bombing](#), October 23, 2023

[Tikkun Statement, Urgent Action Israel/Palestine](#), October 30, 2023

[Website of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship Palestine Israel Network](#)

[Website of Jerusalem Peacebuilders](#); Executive Director Nicholas Porter served as interim priest at St. Mary’s in the Mountains, Wilmington, VT.

Episcopal Relief and Development, [Responding to Israel-Hamas War](#).

[Friends of Sabeel North America](#), A Christian Voice for Palestine