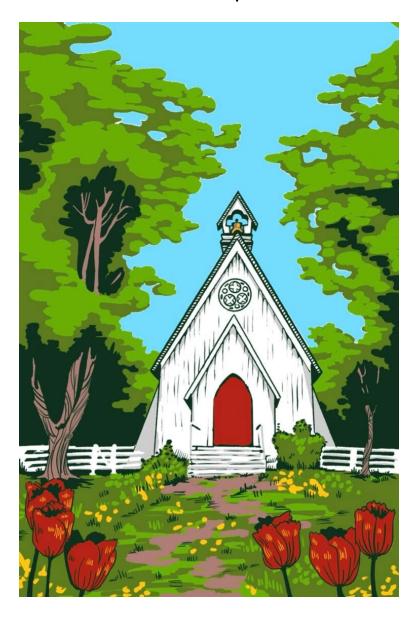
The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon PRE-CONVENTION JOURNAL

The Right Reverend Patrick Bell Bishop



54th ANNUAL CONVENTION
October 16-20, 2024
Online and in Cove, Oregon

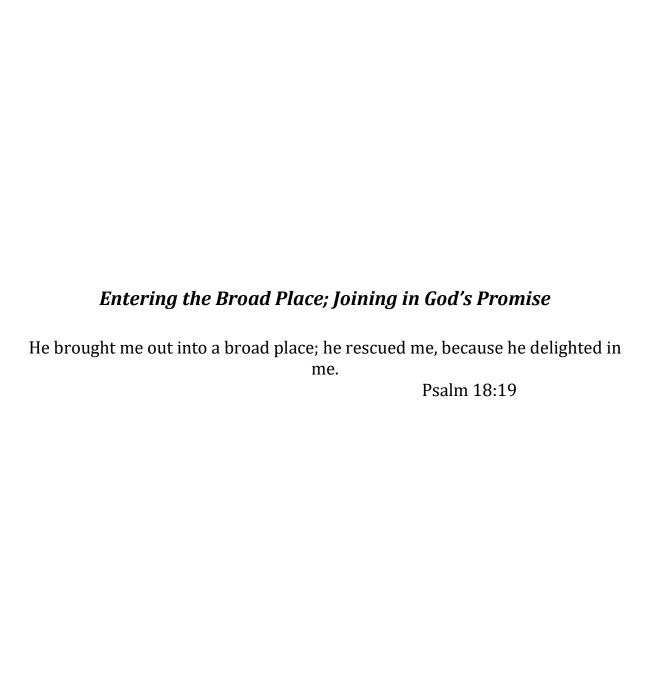


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A Greeting from The Bishop

WELCOME ALL TO OUR 2024 DIOCESAN CONVENTION!

As you read through the pages of this pre-convention journal, I invite you to do two things: inform yourself of the past year's ministry efforts and hope of Diocesan bodies, and then to begin joining us in the dream for our future, a future holding promise and opportunity, embracing the uncertainty which always comes with the new.

We will be holding on to both as we meet at Ascension School under the theme of "Entering the Broad Place: Joining in God's Promise". This year's Convention will be especially promising as we celebrate our 100 years of ministry at Ascension, and kick off a major capital campaign to ensure the future of that ministry within Eastern Oregon. So we will look back while looking forward.

In support of our looking forward, we will focus on how we can support, further develop, and playfully imagine vital and growing ministries within each of our communities. God has made a promise to lead us into life changing ministry, and we want to explore how to do such - together.

I so look forward to seeing you all in that thin place apart we call Ascension School, where we will join with voices from the past, present, and future in singing the Cove Hymn,

"We would be building, for the years to come On firm foundations....."

Faithfully,

+ Patrick

Welcome Our Keynote Speaker



The Rev. Thomas Brackett

The Rev. Tom Brackett serves on the Presiding Bishop's staff as the Missioner for New Church Starts and Missional Initiatives for the Episcopal Church in 17 countries. He consults with Bishops and their teams, putting him in the unique position to host conversations about the future of healthy communities among us. As both priest and Executive Coach.

Tom companions these leaders to celebrate their successes and to strategically explore the new possibilities ahead of them. Colleagues describe him as a compassionate and inspiring presence, making every voice heard and important in both the discovery and discernment process. One of Tom's passions is hosting strategic conversations and creating the safe space needed for people to share their stories of recent encounters with hope and possibility.



54th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon

October 16-20, 2024

Entering the Broad Place; Joining in God's Promise

Draft Schedules

Virtual Meetings

Virtual Meetings

Wednesday, October 16

5:00 pmEastern Oregon Episcopal Foundation Annual Meeting5:30 pmEastern Oregon Episcopal Foundation Trustees' Meeting

6:00 pm First Reading of the Budget

Thursday, October 17

6:00 pm Business Meeting I

- Consent Calendar
- Budget
- Elections

In-Person Meetings

Friday, October 18, 2024

4:00 – 6:00 pm Registration Founders Hall Front Porch 6:00 – 8:00 pm Bishop's Address Coe-Kerr Building

Compline

Saturday, October 19, 2024

7:30 am Registration Founders Hall Front Porch 8:00 – 8:45 am Business Session II: Coe-Kerr Building

• If needed

8:45 am **Break** *Coe-Kerr Building*

9:00-11:45 am Faithful Innovation Session 1

11:45 pm Noonday Prayer w/Necrology Coe-Kerr Building

12:00 pm **Lunch** Founders Hall

1:00-2:45 pm Faithful Innovation Session 2

2:45 pm Break

3:00-5:00 pm **Workshops**

5:30pm Ascension School Birthday Party

Social Time

- Banquet
- Campaign Launch
- Ascension Banner
- Bishop's Crosses
- Entertainment

Sunday, October 20, 2024

9:15 am Eucharist Rehearsal Coe-Kerr Building

Clergy vesting, preparation for Eucharist in Coe Kerr Building

9:30 am Clergy picture Coe-Kerr Building

10:00 am Convention Eucharist

UTO Ingathering

*Display tables*Kimsey Commons Dining Room

Convention Committee Appointments

Nominations Committee: Task: to recruit and encourage candidates for open positions on Diocesan Council and Standing Committee, with a focus on encouraging representation from each region of the Diocese. This committee is made up of outgoing members of Diocesan Council and Standing Committee:

The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake Joel Bigelow Betty Palmer Angela Pursel The Rev. Ray Jeff Spreier

Resolutions Committee: Task: to evaluate resolutions and present them to the Convention, with recommendations for action, or, in some cases to return them to their makers. The Committee does not have to address the resolutions that are introduced with various reports. The Committee also prepares Courtesy Resolutions. The Committee may respond to the Bishop's Address, proposing action by Convention and the Diocese in the form of recommendations or resolutions, as appropriate.

Time and Place of Future Diocesan Convention:

Ontario, Oregon Central Oregon Columbia River Gorge October 17-19, 2025 October 16-18, 2026

2025 Budgets

The budgets will be sent separately this year. Please look for them in your inboxes.

Current Members Standing Committee and Diocesan Council

STANDING COMMITTEE:

Class of 2024:

Layperson: Joel Bigelow Baker City
Cleric: The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake Baker City

Class of 2025:

Layperson: Ellen Nesbitt Enterprise
Cleric: The Rev. Kelly Mahon Hood River

Class of 2026:

Layperson: Barbara Reynolds Mayo Sisters
Cleric: The Rev. Liz Cahill Pendleton

DIOCESAN COUNCIL:

Pendleton

Class of 2024:

Layperson:Angela PurselHermistonLayperson:Betty PalmerBaker CityCleric:The Rev. Ray Jeff SpreierPrineville

Class of 2025:

Layperson:Cory BradshawSistersLayperson:David KosarHood RiverCleric:The Rev. Pamela MillerThe Dalles

Class of 2026:

Layperson:Beth SpellCanyon CityLayperson:Holly HendricksSunriverCleric:The Rev. Roy GreenSunriver

Ex Officio: The Rev. Charlotte Wells, Secretary of Convention Pendleton Ex Officio: Patty Olson-Lindsey, Treasurer Cove

^{**}Members whose names are in *italics* are eligible for re-election, but they are not necessarily standing for election; see candidate roster on page 17.

Standing Committee

MEMBERSHIP: Three clerical and three lay members; one each elected to 3-year term.

DUTIES: In addition to serving on the Diocesan Council (see below), the Standing Committee normally meets separately to conduct business that is specifically theirs in connection with the Council meeting, and on call of the Bishop or President, if necessary.

RESPONSIBILITIES of the Standing Committee include:

- 1. Approval of each transaction involving the sale, mortgaging, or encumbrance of church-owned real estate, which leads to a review of any construction or transfer of real property of any church in the Diocese.
- 2. Consent to the election of Bishops anywhere in the Church, which leads to concern for the structures and distribution of authority in the Church.
- 3. Consent to certification of Canonical Requirements met for Ordination to the Diaconate or the Priesthood, which leads to a concern for the Ministry generally throughout the Church.
- 4. Serve as a Council of Advice for the Bishop in such matters as the Bishop may choose to bring before the Committee; and, rarely, of matters which the Diocese, through the Standing Committee, wishes to bring before the Bishop.
- 5. Serve as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in the case of prolonged absence or disability of the Diocesan, if there be no other Bishop to whom authority has been temporarily given.
- 6. Serve as the Diocesan Review Committee in cases of Title IV Presentments.

Diocesan Council

MEMBERSHIP: Members of the Standing Committee, together with three clerical and six lay members; and ex-officio members: The Bishop, the Treasurer, the Secretary of Convention, and the Chair of the Finance Committee.

MEETINGS: The Diocesan Council meets four to six times per year; the meeting times are usually Friday afternoon or evening through Saturday at 3 pm.

RESPONSIBILITIES of the Diocesan Council include:

- 1. To be a body whose primary purpose is to carry out the program and policies adopted by the Diocesan Convention, and to have general oversight of the work of the Diocese.
- 2. To exercise all the powers of the Diocesan Convention, not expressly reserved to the Convention, between meetings thereof: setting goals, priorities, strategy, and program policy, overall, and for designating the appropriate bodies to implement them.
- 3. To be responsible for the financial stewardship of the Diocese in budgetary matters, including grants to local congregations and proposal of financial assessments to Convention.
- 4. To build ongoing evaluation of program, structure, and policy, and of its own functioning.
- 5. To provide support services to units and churches.
- 6. To provide effective management procedures for coordinating this work.
- 7. To develop a network of two-way communication among: Convention and Bishop Diocesan Council-- planning or coordinating areas -- congregations.

To Be Elected At 2024 Convention

To be elected to **STANDING COMMITTEE**:

Class of 2027 1 Cleric (3-year term)
Class of 2027 1 Lay Member (3-year term)

To be elected to **DIOCESAN COUNCIL:**

Class of 2027 1 Cleric (priest or deacon) (3-year term)
Class of 2027 2 Lay Members (3-year term)

<u>Candidates:</u>

Laypersons: Clergy:

Kathy Thew – Diocesan Council Rev. Ray Jeff Spreier – Standing Committee

Angela Pursel – Standing Committee Rev. Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones -Diocesan Council

Betty Palmer -Diocesan Council



Name: Kathy J. Thew	
Address: PO Box 185, Echol, OR 97826	
Congregation: St. John's Hermiston	
Phone: <u>541-910-0771</u> Email: <u>kjsewist@coveoregon.com</u>	
Candidate for: [circle office for which you are a candidate]	
DIOCESAN COUNCIL (3-Year Term)	STANDING COMMITTEE (3-Year Term
	•••

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please give a brief history of your background (personal history, family, occupation):

I have been married to Priest Richard Thew for 56 years. We were married at Ascension Chapel, and I then joined him at the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge, MA for his final 2 years of education and training. We served St. Thomas, Canyon City following seminary.

We have 3 adult children and 6 grandchildren. We lived in Cove until 2017 when we moved to Echol to avoid traveling over the Blue Mountains and Cabbage Hill.

I worked at Claudson's sewing store in La Grande for more than 35 years as a retail clerk in addition to teaching classes for children and adults. I have been a 4-H leader, Fair Judge, and am currently teaching my grand-daughters to sew.

I am a Good Shepherd Hospital Auxiliary member and Secretary. I volunteer at the Hospital Gift Shop.

Please describe your experience within the Episcopal Church and what you would offer to the position you seek:

I became an Episcopalian when I married Richard. We have delivered Clergy Supply services all over the Diocese with our children in tow, and sometimes Richard's mother. I previously served a total of 16 years on the COM, in 2 different terms. I chaired the Discernment Committee at St. John's, Hermiston from 2021-22 which resulted in a Postulant candidate enrolled at CDSP.

I chaired and coordinated the development and creation of the Memorial Garden at Ascension School, located at the south side of the Ascension Chapel.

I am currently an active member of St. John's in Hermiston where we join with Grace and Mercy Lutheran Congregation in regular services. I have known and worked with 6 bishops in the Diocese of Eastern Oregon. I am looking forward to being involved in the future life and developments of the Diocese of Eastern Oregon.



Name:	The Rev. Ray J	eff Spreier			
Address:	_1555 NE Meis	ter Place, Bend, (OR 97701		
Congrega	ition:	St. Andrew's, Pr	<u>ineville</u>		
Phone: <u>5</u>	41-948-9977	_Email:	_revrayjeff@icloud.com_		
	e for: <i>[circle of</i> N COUNCIL (3-		ou are a candidate]	STANDING COM	1MITTEE (3-Year Term)
DIOCESA	TO COONCIL (5	rear renny	CANDIDATE INFORM		(5 Teal Territy

Please give a brief history of your background (personal history, family, occupation):

Born and raised in Southern California. UC Irvine graduate (Russian and physics), with later studies in economics and theology. Move to Klamath Falls in 1983, and then to Bend in 1987. A life blessed with diverse experiences and many lessons learned. Early years were spent in the defense and intelligence communities. Middle years saw senior executive positions with a cable internet MSO and a regional financial institution. Now serving as bi-vocational clergy, earning a living as a fleet telemetry and radio specialist for a construction materials company. Blessed by three generations of family in Central Oregon: 2 children, 1 hanai daughter, five grandchildren, plus siblings, nephews, nieces, and their families. FCC ham radio operator and active in supporting emergency preparedness and continuity of our communication efforts for the tri-county region and Oregon Health Authority region 7. Passionate about amateur astronomy and enjoy introducing people to the splendor and majesty of the observable universe. Past lecturer and volunteer at Sunriver Observatory. Currently working with the City of Prineville to develop the Barnes Butte observatory site.

Please describe your experience within the Episcopal Church and what you would offer to the position you seek:

I discovered the Episcopal Church upon moving to Klamath Falls in 1983 as a member of St. Paul's. My early volunteer work supporting computer networking efforts in the Diocese blessed me with the opportunity to truly get to the parishes, communities, and personalities throughout the Diocese. Moved to Bend in 1987 and started attending Trinity. Became very involved in Lay Ministry and Lay Preaching, filling in among the ECCO congregations as needed. Attended the High Desert School of Ministry in Bend from 1989-1990. General Ordination exams in 2010. Began attending St. Andrew's shortly thereafter and serving as part of a mutual ministry team. Ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop Bell in 2019, and to the Priesthood in 2020. Member of the Society of Ordained Scientists since 2010. Former newsletter editor for the ECUSA Committee on Science, Technology, and Faith. Current member of Diocesan Council. I believe in a theology of ministry that seeks to encourage, support, and create the space for every person to exercise their Godgiven gifts in service to others. As part of any team entrusted with oversight, I hope to draw on my life experiences, and those of other members of the team, to seek solutions that serve all of God's people.



Name: Angela Pursel		
Address: 705 E View D	rive, Hermiston, OR 97838	
Congregation:	St. John's Hermiston	
Phone: 541-561-0841	Email:apursel@westendradiogroup.com	
Candidate for: [circle o	ffice for which you are a candidate]	
DIOCESAN COUNCIL ((3-Year Term)	DING COMMITTEE (3-Year Term)

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please give a brief history of your background (personal history, family, occupation):

I have lived in Hermiston, Oregon for the past 23 years. I have been married to my husband Cody for 32 years, and we have raised our two daughters, Alexis and Melani, in the Episcopal church. Alexis is currently studying to receive her Master of Divinity with the goal of serving as an Episcopal priest. I have been in the radio business since college and along with Cody own KOHU & KQFM Radio. In addition, Alexis and I own The Next Chapter Bookstore in Hermiston. My very favorite title of all is Mimi to our wonderful grandchildren, 5-year-old Zoey, and 3-year-old CJ.

Please describe your experience within the Episcopal Church and what you would offer to the position you seek:

I joined the Episcopal church in my early 20s and felt welcomed from the first moment. I cherish all that I have learned and how I have grown in my faith. I have served as a youth group leader and on the vestry at Church of the Redeemer in Pendleton, as well as two terms on the vestry at St. John's, one of those as Senior Warden. I am currently finishing my first term as a Diocesan Council member, and it has been a privilege to serve. I believe my background in business offers a unique perspective, and I hope that by continuing to serve I can offer some consistency during an important time.



Name:	Betty Palmer	
Address:	42250 Washington Gulch Road, Baker City, OR 97824	
Congrega	ation: <u>St. Stephen's, Baker City</u>	
Phone: 5	41-519-7912 Email: goodenb@gmail.con	1
Candidat	e for: [circle office for which you are a candidate]	
DIOCES	AN COUNCIL (3-Year Term)	STANDING COMMITTEE (3-Year Term)
_	2441212477	447.04

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please give a brief history of your background (personal history, family, occupation):

Raised on an Eastern Oregon cattle ranch; split my college years between Eugene, Portland and La Grande. Experienced a variety of churches throughout those years. I earned my BA in Elementary Ed, master's in education plus Oregon Continuing Administrative License, taught for 14 years: upper elementary, middle school and a smattering of HS German . My administrative career includes 10 years of principalships at the elementary and middle school level plus 6 years as Assistant Superintendent of Baker School District. In retirement, I have served as interim superintendent and mentored principals and superintendents across the Eastern Oregon region. I am married to Rob Palmer; we own a landscaping/nursery business in Baker City. Our blended family includes five children and 11 grandchildren, and a black lab named Rookie. I enjoy gardening, hiking, kayaking, skiing, traveling, spending time at the beach – regular stuff!

Please describe your experience within the Episcopal Church and what you would offer to the position you seek:

My husband is a lifelong Episcopalian; my Christian path has included influences from other denominations. I began attending St. Stephens after we married in 1999 and have settled in happily there. I currently serve as Senior Warden and share pulpit duties once a month. My administrative background provides many areas of "crossover" that assist me in understanding the ins and outs of diocesan governance and decision making. I have served one term on Diocesan Council, and look forward to continuing my involvement, should that opportunity be extended.



Name:	The Rev. Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones	
Address:	1213 SE Teakwood Drive, Bend, OR 97702	
Congrega	tion: <u>Trinity, Bend</u>	
Phone: 5	41-382-5545 Email: rector@trinitybend.org	
Candidate	e for: [circle office for which you are a candidate]	
DIOCES	AN COUNCIL (3-Year Term)	STANDING COMMITTEE (3-Year Term)

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please give a brief history of your background (personal history, family, occupation):

A native of the Mississippi Delta and a cradle Episcopalian, Elizabeth grew up in the Deep South, where she has served as a clergy for 25 years in three Dioceses. She attended the University of the South, Sewanee, TN for undergrad (C'90) and Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, TX for seminary (C'99). She and her husband Butch met on the MS Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina, where she served as rector of Christ Church, Bay St. Louis and he served as Director of Mission on the Bay, a disaster relief and recovery volunteer camp for youth. Elizabeth, Butch and their three children, William (12), Liza Lane (10) and Colton (9), along with a friend/nanny Sarah Irby, moved to Bend at the end of August, where she serves as rector of Trinity

Please describe your experience within the Episcopal Church and what you would offer to the position you seek:

Having served in churches of all sizes and flavors across three Dioceses -- Mississippi, Arkansas and Alabama -- and in Diocesan roles in each diocese, Elizabeth brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from another swath of God's creation. Elizabeth has served on Executive Council (similar to Diocesan Council), Standing Committee, Disciplinary Committee and as a Deputy to General Convention in the Diocese of MS. In addition to three years on the frontlines of Disaster Relief and Recovery, Elizabeth has participated in multiple Medical Mission Trips and Building Mission Trips to Honduras and has some "rusty" fluency in speaking Spanish. Elizabeth has a passion for ministries to children, youth and young adults. She grew up attending Camp Bratton Green in MS and has been involved in leadership roles with Diocesan Camps and Conference Centers in Mississippi and Arkansas. She served as a college chaplain straight out of seminary at Mississippi State University and helped to develop Young Adult Ministries in MS, including Vocare, a spiritual retreat for Young Adults, and a Young Adult Exchange with the Diocese of York, England. And she has worked to encourage and support the growth of children's ministries in churches she has served, including involvement with "Catechesis of the Good Shepherd," "Godly Play," and "Weaving God's Promises." Elizabeth has engaged

in a network for clergy entitled "Gathering for Leaders," as well as "Invite, Welcome, Connect," and is excited about working together to create pathways for entrance into the Episcopal community, nurturing our current communicants and discovering ways to share the love of God in Christ in real and tangible ways in our various communities with folks of all ages and stages of life.

2024 Convention Appointments and Nominations OFFICERS OF THE DIOCESE

(Bishop's Appointments)

Chancellor:

Secretary of Convention: The Rev. Charlotte Wells 2022-2025 Treasurer of the Diocese: Patty Olson-Lindsey 2022-2025

TO BE ELECTED BY CONVENTION:

ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINARY BOARD (Bishop's Nominees)

Class of 2026 The Rev. Sean Rogers

The Rev. Pamela Miller

(Previously Elected)

Class 2026 Diane Groff

Nancy Condron

The Rev. Taylor Clark

Class of 2025 The Rev. Jan Kozak

The Rev. Ann Marie Hardin Barbara Reynolds-Mayo

TO BE CONFIRMED BY CONVENTION:

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY:

Class of 2027 Arlene Ulman

The Rev. Katy Nesbitt

Clergy Vacancy

(Current members previously confirmed)

Class of 2025 Dale Hilding

The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake

Marty Nyman

Class of 2026 Prudi Sherman

The Rev. Joyce Atchley

PROGRAMMATIC AND TASK ASSIGNMENTS:

SECRETARY OF CONVENTION: The Rev. Charlotte Wells

ASSISTANT. SECRETARY OF CONVENTION: Lisa Boquist

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The Finance Committee is a working committee of Diocesan Council

Patty Olson-Lindsey, Treasurer of the Diocese (ex officio)

Jerry Frazier, Sec/Treasurer, Eastern Oregon Episcopal Foundation (ex-officio) Amy Jayne, Executive Director, Ascension School Camp and Conference Center

Diocesan Council LiaisonBetty PalmerBaker CityClass of 2023Dianne BarnesPendletonClass of 2024Alexis McCarthyHermistonClass of 2026Julie ReynoldsThe Dalles

EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR (ERD):

Judy Warren Bend

Convention Committee

Class of 2025: Prudi Sherman

Class of 2023: Sarah Hardin Pendleton

Flossie Keeler Pendleton Bill Brisson Bend

Class of 2024: Sean Rogers Ontario

The Rev. Kelly Mahon Hood River

Reports To Convention

Archives/Historiographer Project Report

Historiographer's Report 2024

Since the last Diocesan Convention in Pendleton, this historiographer has been busy. The new archives room was completed at Ascension in April 2024, and the archives collection was moved from The Dalles in the first week of June. Again, with the help of Verna B., we completed the pack-up and listing of the remaining materials, and I coordinated the mover pickup from The Dalles. They delivered everything safe and sound and mostly in the order they should reside at Cove. A week later, I drove to Ascension to see if everything was in order, and I brought the last few odd and fragile pieces to be secured. Lisa Boquist and I will be coordinating any future archive requests as I am not resident in Cove.

The second priority keeping this historiographer busy: I completed the book *Mission and Ministry in Eastern Oregon Country Second Edition* in late spring. Again, this is a self-published book that is greatly expanded from the first version. I attempted to bring all congregations up to date in the 21st century and included the histories of closed churches, too. The one-page Appendix from the first version is now three and a half pages describing every small mission community visited and recorded in our records. Copies are available by contacting me at dngeorgia@gmail.com. I will try to make them available at convention, too.

Because the archives were moving, I scanned more materials, especially information needed to complete the book listed above. Now I am archiving as many digital files as possible that I have gathered to keep for future use. Additionally, I have made some progress in updating the archive website as another resource for people to use to learn about the Diocese of Eastern Oregon history. The website continues to be available at www.history-episdioeo.weebly.com.

People from around the diocese and elsewhere continue to rely on our archives for their questions about the past related to the Episcopal Church. This year I fielded questions from a person who was baptized in Condon. Yes, we did have Episcopal services in Condon. I also replied to Hermiston's congregation, and a request from St. Andrew's in Burns who are planning for a celebration in 2029. I have provided material for St. James' in Milton-Freewater for their upcoming book in 2025 and will be assisting another celebration at St. Mark's, Hood River for their 2025 celebration. The most unusual request came from Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). They were producing a brief show on Oregon Field Guide. They had encountered an old photo of ours in Cove and wanted permission to use it. We gave permission but unfortunately it didn't make it to the broadcast. But the interest in our history was there!

Yes, interest in the history of the Episcopal Church in Eastern Oregon remains, and now the records we have managed to collect are stored appropriately. With the move finished, we need to look to the future use and maintenance of these records. Since I am not an onsite archivist now, future help will be needed. I will continue planning to make our collection more digital for ongoing access. If you have an interest in the history and archives of our diocese, please contact me as we look to the future, but maintain and inform us of our past of the Episcopal Church in Eastern Oregon. --Georgia Giacobbe



A Place Apart to connect with God's sacred mystery, celebrating the dignity, diversity, and oneness of all creation.

Ascension School Report

Summer Camp & Program Update

Record numbers yet again! We welcomed nearly 200 campers this summer. As we ramp up for 2025, you can expect robust recruiting efforts as we look to expand our support staff (volunteer) program. More than ever, young people need care, attention, love, and joy! This was deeply apparent at camp this summer. Our young adult staff also needs us more than ever. Are you interested in volunteering? Contact Megan — megan@coveascensionschool.com. We were able to provide over \$16,000 in Ascension School camp scholarships to 40 campers. In addition to that, local parishes provided 85 campers with scholarships. The need is great - you are responding with profound generosity! Thank you!

In 2024, we celebrated our first Easter Sunrise service and welcomed nearly 30 folks from our community. We are looking forward to exploring how we might deepen our spiritual presence in Cove and continue to invite our Diocesan community throughout the year.

The Unbroken Circle Capital Campaign

As our community celebrates 100 years of ministry, we are moving into the future with hope and gratitude knowing we have the gift and responsibility of stewarding this beautiful Place Apart. It truly is an honor. This is the spiritual center of the Diocese and a safe space of formation and fun for children and youth from diverse backgrounds and situations. It's a gathering place for the people of Cove, eastern Oregon, and from around the world. Together, we can ensure another 100 years of connection in Cove.

Nearly five years ago, the Ascension School Advisory Board set out to develop a strategic plan to help guide our program, facility, and financial decision-making. This resulted in several recommended projects for a capital campaign. To be sure we are moving forward responsibly, we sought professional guidance and conducted a feasibility study, from which two key priorities emerged:

- 1. We need an onsite pool to serve both our camping ministry and our neighbors in Cove.
- 2. An endowment is critical to supporting both the pool and our ministry operations for years to come.

The study delivered great news – with a bit of a stretch, our dreams are financially possible. The campaign begins in the Cove community at the annual Cherry Fair and will formally launch in the Diocese at Convention. We invite you to join in the celebration of Ascension School with generosity and joy as we bring this vision of continued connection and sustainability to life. *Help*

us build a pool, keep it filled, and continue our ministry to extend the circle, unbroken for those who will in turn extend its embrace.

Facility & Grounds:

- We are continuing to mitigate the heat waves that come each summer. Air conditioning has been added to all the cabins and now Founders Hall! Thank you to the Gray Family Foundation for their support. These grants are made possible because we are a full-service Outdoor School provider for the State of Oregon.
- The shop and archives are complete be sure to check it out at Convention 2024. We are still working on consolidating all our sheds and cleaning out years of accumulation.

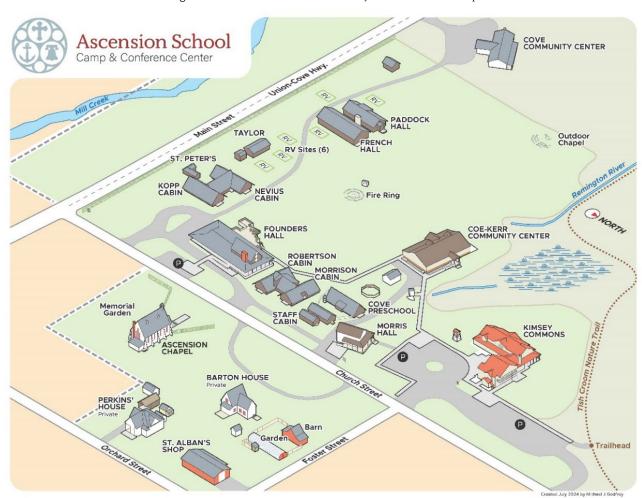
 Organization in progress!
- We have acquired what was formerly the Sportsman Club building and are now operating
 it as a community center. Local folks and Cove nonprofits can rent for events and
 gatherings and the Cove Community Association is using it as their hub for operations.
 The Sportsman Club continues to use the space without the trap shooting activities.

Our Advisory Board:

Makenzie Dyer - Chair Amy Tensen Aaron Tenson Karley Witten George Nairns Charlie Hammerich Rev. Kelly Mahon Sean Kimsey Cindy Feibert

Our Staff:

Amy Jayne – Executive Director Megan Cox – Program Director Nate Cogsdale – Operations Manager Janette Roberts – Kitchen Manager Julie Witten – Assistant Kitchen Manager Jason Jayne – Facility/Grounds Specialist Randy Witten – Facility/Grounds Specialist Amy Arnold - Housekeeper



Bisbee Fund Ministry Partnership Grant- St. Patrick's, Enterprise

Our grant application said we would host a Friday camp during the summer weeks and hire instructors to teach the kids natural resource and indigenous lifeways lessons.

However. My life changed May 14 when Dad broke his hip and spent two months in hospitals and rehabilitation, most of that time in Walla Walla 100 miles away. He is now permanently in Walla Walla, at the best, memory care facility. So, as you can imagine, My focus has been on my parents these past two and a half months.

However, I will tell you what St. Patrick Church did with some of the Bisbee money to promote Creation Care Youth Education in our community.

Every summer on the last Friday in June for more than 20 years Wallowa Resources, a local nonprofit, has hosted the Watershed Festival at the Wallowa County Fairgrounds (now Woodlands and Watershed Festival to include Maxville Heritage Trust, a nonprofit that recognizes African American logging history). St. Pat's hosted a booth this year and was a sponsor of the event. We spent some of the Bisbee money on cardboard flowerpots, soil, sunflower seeds for planting and sunflower seeds for snacking, as well as watercolor paints. Visitors to our booth painted their little flowerpots and planted seeds and learned that sunflowers are good sources of food for pollinators and for humans.

We have a lot of the granted Bisbee funds leftover, and I plan to hire the outside instructors I had planned for the summer to come work with our youth this fall. We meet weekly on Wednesdays, but we can adjust special activity time to Fridays (we don't have school on Friday) or Saturdays.

Bisbee Fund Ministry Partnership Grant- Caretakers of the Land



CARETAKERS OF THE LAND

Awna waqishwisha taxwusna shukwat Now we are bringing the knowledge of Indian Hemp back to life Caretakers of the Land has spent portions of the last 15 years rebuilding relationship with and learning more about Native Perennial, "Dogbane" Hemp, Appocynum Cannabinum. This is the most important fiber plant for the Original People of the Mid-Columbia River Basin and is used for everything from string and ropes, fishing nets and line, root gathering bags, clothing, medicines, and more. The knowledge has nearly gone dormant with the CTUIR Community and we have been working to bring this practice back into our regular lives. More in depth information can be found in the application to this grant so I will save you from having to read a novel here in the report!

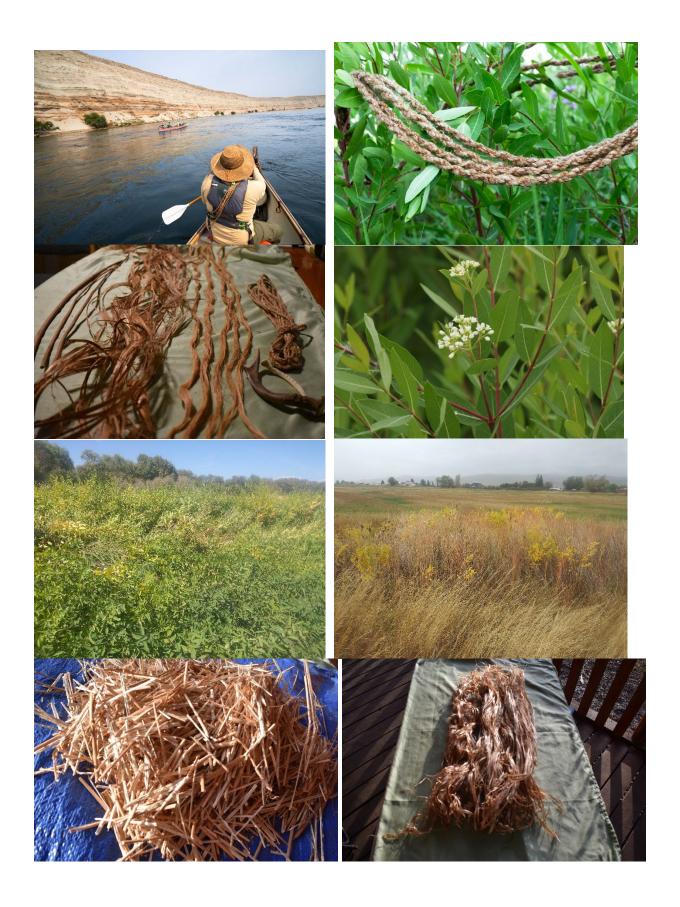
The Bisbee grant has given us the opportunity to go even deeper with this plant since Fall of 2023. During this grant period we have accomplished goals such as:

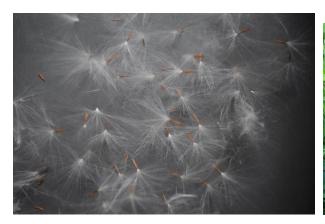
- Monitored and gathered stalks and seeds from 5 known locations
- Located, documented and gathered stalks and seeds from 3 new locations
- Observed and documented many stands along the Lower Snake River, educated several programs and organizations, learned of another LSR village site from tribal elders named after this plant, where native hemp manufacturing was a staple economy, and planted seeds in disturbed areas at Ancestral village sites.
- Taught 3 cordage workshops and spent the summer teaching cordage to tribal youth at CTUIR Culture Camp series
- Collaborated with Plantworks Native Plant Nursery to propagate seedlings
- Transplanted several root cuttings into our restoration site
- Networked and Collaborated with other Dogbane Hemp gatherers and craftspeople located in other neighboring tribal communities
- Educated several programs and organizations working in our watersheds about this plant, it's uses and ecological services, and the need to preserve and protect it
- Made progress on more larger scale craft projects

During the remainder of the Fall 2024 season, we plan to transplant our seedlings into the restoration site and share them with other grassroots tribal organizations, gathering more stalks, continuing our work with CTUIR by doing excursions to gather and workshops to process and create items, as well as refining our personal practice and progressing/finishing some projects in the works such as root bags and an info document.

This is just the beginning and we look forward to the continued reawakening and reacknowledging of such a crucial plant ally and calling upon their help to guide us into the future! The literal and figurative seeds planted during this year of refined focus on our work with this plant will surely grow and redisperse themselves throughout our homelands and beyond.

Photos included:













Bisbee Fund Ministry Partnership Grant -Family Kitchen, Bend



Greetings from the very busy kitchen here on the Trinity Episcopal Church campus. Family Kitchen, now in its 38th year, finished the calendar year 2023 having served 215,296 meals to our neighbors in need. After many years of fiscal sponsorship by Trinity Episcopal Church, Family Kitchen recently became an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit (Tax ID #93-4777187). The welcomed Bisbee Grant funds were used to help us pay for insulated meal delivery bags of various sizes and types. This was critical, as delivering meals to our community partners is an important and growing part of our organization's services. In addition to serving 8 meals per week on the Trinity campus in Bend, and one per week in the town of Sisters, Family Kitchen also

- Bend Lighthouse Shelter – 3 meals a day

delivers fresh to-go meals to the following partner organizations:

- Stepping Stone Shelter daily
- COVO Camp Check-ins 3x/week
- Redmond Collective's Aid Event 1x/week
- Peace Kitchen Outreach 1x/week
- Home deliveries 2x/week
- Low-income housing 3x/week
- Additional camp deliveries 1-3x/week

In 2024, we also opened a kitchen in Redmond, Oregon, and began delivering 350 meals per week from our Redmond kitchen to Jericho Table, Oasis Village, Redmond Collective, and Jefferson County Hive.

We thank you for your support, both in the form of funding and in the form of prayers for our organization.

Sincerely,
Susan Massey
Treasurer, Family Kitchen
susan.massey@familykitchen.org
541-760-5677

Caretakers of the Land



A Summary of Mid-Columbia River Basin cultural and natural lifeway revitalization activities

Bobby Fossek

Caretakers of the Land is now fully engaged in the year-round and total restoration and revitalization of the cultural/natural seasonal round lifeways and habitats particular to the Mid-Columbia River Basin and the Original People. The ability to give full attention to this work has allowed us to deepen many existing and new relationships, human and non-human alike, while greatly improving in many of the skills and lifeways we have been practicing and sharing annually. We are living and holding a vision for a future that honors the dignity and sanctity of the natural laws, each other, and the living lands and waters that give us life, and where any socio-economic venture is rooted in these values. We are carrying on a legacy left to us by our Ancestors and Elders, to reawaken our languages and lifeways and to return to seasonally guided movements, carried by our feet, canoes, and horses, on trails, rivers, and lakes lit up by our many natural foods, medicines, and materials that make up a "healthy ecosystem". Since the 2023 Convention, our activities are outlined seasonally as follows:

Fall 2023

- Cedar Root Gathering excursions and Weaving workshops with CTUIR DCFS Family Engagement Program
- Native Hemp Fiber Gathering (Sponsored in part by the Bisbee Foundation Grant)
- Cultural Prescribed Burn and Social Land Tending at Ascension School Restoration Site
- Hide Collection, Processing, and Preservation

Winter 2023-2024

- Weaving and crafting workshops (Teaching and Attending)
- Personal practice and refinement of crafts
- Willow gathering
- Planning and Strategizing
- Hide work
- Rest, Recovery, Rejuvenation
- Buckskin camp

Spring 2024

- Attended other First Foods Feasts
- Root Gathering Camps and Excursions
- Attended and assisted with efforts to bring Wallowa country descendants home to gather foods and medicines
- Attended a ceremony of remembrance of our Elder's efforts to restore our Mid-Columbia and Lower Snake River Village sites, to hear testimonies from living hereditary leaders, and to share our efforts and perspective, which took place at a significant meeting area of the many Walla Walla, Palus, Cayuse and neighboring bands at the Snake and Columbia River confluence, now called, Sacagawea Park.
- Lower Snake River Healing Canoe Journey and Encampment with Palus Led Non-Profit, Xhimstonik.
- Instructed at Ascension Outdoor School Programs
- Featured speaker in one of Oregon Humanity's series of conversations centered around fear and belonging in relativity to land, plants, and animals.

Summer 2024

- Cultural Instructors for the CTUIR After School Education Program's 2024 youth culture camp series. Our area of focus was teaching Tule Mats, Native Hemp Cordage and Crafts, Herbal Teas, Canoeing, Fishing, Camas Digging, and Dried Root and Berry Cookies.
- Camas Camps/Excursions
- Intertribal Social Networking
- Summer Food Gathering Camps and Excursions
- Huckleberry Camp with Palus Led Non-Profit, Xhimstonik, at a significant encampment site of the Walla Walla, Cayuse and Palus.
- Served as a bowman and skipper during a 54 mile canoe trip through the Hanford Reach stretch of the Columbia River, taking along WSU Professors of hydrology, and Ph.D.
 Students whose area of focus is working with water and ecosystems in the Columbia River Basin.
- Tule Gathering Camp with CTUIR Family Engagement Program as well as a collective of Nez Perce Tribal members who are constructing a tule longhouse.

Fall 2024

- Canoe Camp at Umatilla Village areas on the Columbia River Focused on habitat monitoring and restoration with the 7 Waters Canoe Family.
- Cedar Gathering and Weaving with CTUIR Family Engagement Program
- Social Land Tending Week
- Instructing at Ascension Outdoor Schools
- Native Hemp Gathering and Processing

Winter 2023

Plan and strategize for long term sustainability for Caretakers programming

- Craft workshops and classes
- Personal practice and refinement of crafts and skills
- Rest, Restore, Rejuvenate
- Material plant gathering (Willow, Native Hemp, Etc)

As with many non-profit organizations, Caretakers of the Land is looking ahead at ways to become financially sustainable. We greatly appreciate the support of the Episcopal Diocese and the Ascension School in incubating this organization and are looking forward to what lies ahead. This level of support has given us the time and resources to give ourselves fully to revitalizing these ancient ways of life and putting our ancestral legacy of traditional ecological knowledge into regular practice. This dedication has put us into critical leadership roles in the healing and strengthening of the original people and places we inhabit throughout the Columbia River Basin.

Chaplains to the Retired Clergy and Spouse

Diocese of Eastern Oregon Convention Report 2024

Since the last diocesan convention, we have attended the Province VIII meeting of Chaplains at Bishop's Ranch outside of Healdsburg, CA. We also attended the Provincial Coordinators meeting in New York City. We are happy to report that we retired as Coordinators of Province VIII at the Bishop's Ranch meeting. A lovely couple from the Diocese of Arizona was elected to become the new Provincial Coordinators.

In The Diocese of Eastern Oregon, we sent 48 birthday cards to our retirees and spouses, made 90 phone calls and met with 15 people in small groups, made 12 home and hospital visits and attended 2 clergy funerals.

We are happy to share what we have learned about Elder Abuse and Scamming of older adults.

We report to Bishop Pat Bell, whenever we know of someone who needs extra pastoral care. We appreciate it when people from parishes throughout the diocese notify us when they know of a retired deacon, priest or spouse who needs extra pastoral care. If possible, we visit that person or call them and offer prayers. We have talked with the bishop about improving the notification process to the chaplains upon the death of any retired clergy or spouse.

The Rev. Celine A Burke
Dick Burke
Bishop's Chaplains to the Retired Clergy and Spouses of Eastern Oregon.

Commission on Ministry

The function of the Commission on Ministry is to advise and assist the Bishop in the implementation of Title III of The Episcopal Church Canons. The two main focuses of Title III are the ministry of all baptized persons and recruitment, discernment, and formation for ordained ministry. In 2023, COM composed a letter to Diocesan Council requesting consideration for funding for a diocesan resource person for congregational development and leadership training. That letter was presented to the Diocesan Council at the leadership retreat, November 17-19, 2023, at Ascension School. We look forward to the possibilities that EDEO's new Canon might bring as a resource; the training offerings of the Faithful Innovation Commission are also a hopeful resource for congregational and leadership development.

A primary task of COM is to shepherd aspirants for ordination through the ordination process. The process requires interviews prior to admission to Postulancy, Candidacy, and prior to ordination. Though much COM business can be accomplished via Zoom meetings, COM members have agreed to an informal policy of having in-person Postulancy and Candidacy interviews. COM met in person August 2023, and were well represented at the leadership meetings in November, 2023 and April 12-14, 2024. Meetings were held via Zoom on Feb. 5, 2024, and July 16, 2024. At the February meeting, certification was given for Joann Dickson, indicating she has met all the requirements for ordination to the Priesthood. She will be ordained as soon as she has been called to a parish. In July, certification was given that Amy Jayne has met all requirements for ordination to the priesthood. She will be ordained for the diocese on September 28. Other people in EDEO's ordination process are Alexis McCarthy, postulant, Hermiston (attending CDSP) and Kelly Peterson, aspirant, Bend.

Diane Adams resigned as Chair at the July meeting. Marty Nyman was affirmed as the Chair of COM for 2024-25.

2023-24 members of COM are: Diane Adams, The Rev. Mary Anne Gard, Marty Nyman, The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake, The Rev. Joyce Atchley, Prudi Sherman, Dale Hilding, and Bishop Patrick Bell. Diane Adams' and Mary Ann Gard's terms end with Convention. Bishop Bell will reappoint and appoint new members to the Commission at Convention. EDEO Canons specify a minimum membership of 5 lay members and 4 clergy members (excluding the Bishop). Please contact Bishop Bell, Lisa Boquist, or Marty Nyman if you are interested in serving on this Commission. Respectfully submitted, Diane Adams, Past-Chair

Cursillo

Cursillo Community of Eastern Oregon held its first Cursillo 50 years ago in 1974, with support from the Cursillo Community of the Diocese of Spokane. We have seen many changes over the years; from holding Cursillo in area churches, sleeping on pews, an all-men's weekend and all-women's weekend to having the comforts of Ascension School Cabins, the additions of Kimsey Commons & Coe Kerr, to holding co-ed weekends and becoming one of the first ecumenical Cursillo communities.

Currently we hold a Cursillo weekend every other year, offering a retreat, training or work weekend in the off years. This spring we had a workday and cleaned out our storage shed and built a storage rack to hold the totes that store our supplies. A wonderful improvement to ease retrieving of supplies when needed and providing better space inside our 'Tish Croom' storage shed.

We remain connected with frequent ZOOM meetings, a private Facebook page and constant contact. A Grand Ultreya and annual meeting took place in September, in Bend; hosted by our Sisters and Brothers in Central Oregon. Plans included breaking bread together, election of new officers, some lively fellowship, music, fun skits and an encouraging message.

Looking ahead to the announcement for <u>Cursillo #51 Core Team</u>, and plans for a Cursillo Weekend at Ascension School, **May 2-5, 2025**. Folks who want to learn more about how to be a follower of Jesus are encouraged to explore the world of Cursillo by visiting our table during convention or calling me at 541-571-6519.

Please visit our 'What is Cursillo' Table, we have 100 gifts in honor of Ascension School Camp and Conference Center and 50 pieces of Palanca in honor of Cursillo Community of Eastern Oregon. Follow the rainbows.....you'll find us there.

A Sister in Christ, George Nairns



Cursillo is an ecumenical community of faith, love and hope, that supports and energies individuals in our search for discovery and renewal in Christ.

Mission Statement of CCEO 2017

Diocesan Council Report

The first meeting of the year and a brainstorming retreat was held Nov. 17-19,2023 at Ascension School Cove, Oregon. In addition to members of Standing Committee and Diocesan Council, invited guests were representatives from the Ascension School Advisory Board, Cursillo, Commission on Ministry, Eastern Oregon Episcopal Foundation, Truth and Conciliation Commission, Faithful Innovation Commission, as well as the Transition Officer and the Camp Director.

The purpose of having additional voices at our meeting was to enhance the exploration and conversations on the future of the Episcopate in our diocese. Four models were presented and discussed.

New members of the Diocesan Council, the Rev. Roy Green and Holly Hendricks, were introduced. Megan Cox and Nate Cogsdale were introduced as the new Program and Operation directors at Ascension School.

The Rev. Kelly Mahon presented the Standing Committee Report. Jan Uffelman was appointed to replace the late Terry Rahmsdorff as a General Convention Delegate. Patty Lindsey was appointed to serve as alternate.

Reports given were the Bishop's Report, the Financial Report, Ascension School Master Plan, Faithful Innovation Commission, Truth and Conciliation, Commission on Ministry, as well as a presentation by The Rev. Kelly Mahon on Episcopate Models and EDEO.

The members of council and the invited guests divided into small groups and discussed the four models. More information can be found in the minutes online.

An online meeting was held on February 12, 2024.

Kelly gave the Standing Committee Report with updates on the Klamath fall and Sumpter properties and the Letter of agreement with Bishop Patrick as he transitions from diocesan Bishop to assisting Bishop.

Other reports made were the Bishop's Report, Ascension School Report, Bisbee Grant Committee and an update on Diocesan Council, General Convention Delegation and Commission on Ministry vacancies.

Bisbee Grants were approved for Caretakers of the Land education program, St. Patrick's, Enterprise Friday Camp, Family Kitchen Bend and St. Matthew's Ontario for a day shelter for homeless.

Diocesan Council met again at Ascension School in Cove on April 12-14, 2024. Council and invited guests were present, those guests included representatives from the Vandersall Collective. Kelly presented the Standing Committee Report with information on the structure of the new agreement with bishop Patrick, the election of the Rev. Liz Cahil to fill the vacancy on Standing Committee, and updates on the properties in Klamath Falls and Sumpter.

Patty Lindsey presented the Financia Report. Bishop Patrick that Patty will be stepping down as diocesan Treasurer at Convention and David Kosar will step in to fill that role.

The Rev. Pamela Miller was elected to fill the Diocesan Council vacancy.

Reports given were the Convention Report, the Bishop's Report, and the Capital Campaign Update,

The bulk of the weekend was spent in discussion of a possible new model for the Episcopate in our diocese. Extensive notes are available in the minutes posted online.

An online meeting was held June 6, 2024. Amy Jayne gave a report on the results from the feasibility study prepared by the Vandersall Collective, next steps in the process, a proposed budget and the solicitation phase of the campaign. Council voted to hire Vandersall collective for the Solicitation Phase of the campaign. A power Point Presentation is available with the minutes for this meeting online.

An email vote was held on July 3, 2024, to approve the opening of an account at Banner Bank for the 2024 Ascension School Capital Campaign income and expenses.

The meeting scheduled for August 9-10 was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum. A online meeting will be held August 20, 2024 to have an update from Ascension School on the campaign, camp report and grant news. We will also have a financial Report, Standing Committee Report, convention Committee Report, Team Episcopate Report, and Bishop's Report. We will have an online meeting in September to discuss the budget for the new year.

Minutes with more detailed information are available at

Minutes with more detailed information are available at https://edeo.org/about/.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Spell, Co-Chair Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon Diocesan Council

Eastern Oregon Episcopal Foundation

Re: Report on Activities during 2023 for the 2024 Pre-Convention Journal

The Board of Trustees during 2023 were:

Bishop Pat Bell Najaria Esty Julie A. Reynolds (resigned)

Joel BigelowLaurance KerrDave KeelerJerry FrazierPatti KnollmanPat Brim-Williams

Steve Grasty (appointed)

During 2023 the Trustees held four (4) meetings during which they reviewed grant and loan requests, monitored the invested funds held at State Street Global Advisors and administered by the Episcopal Church Foundation, and initiated a review of the operating documents of the Foundation. The results of those discussions follow:

Two grants were approved for a total of \$13,096.

There were no loan requests to consider in 2023.

The 12/31/2023 financials are attached to this report. Note that 2023 was a wheat year on the Duncan Farm but the wheat was not sold and income reported until 2024.

Operating document review: The Constitution, Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws,
Grant and Loan Policies were examined in detail with discussions that
were extended into 2024 since numerous areas of the documents were found
needing alterations in order to meet existing operating practices.

At the Annual Meeting of the Foundation Committee via Zoom on 10/17/2023 a quorum was not present. However, the meeting proceeded with Notes, not Minutes, kept for approval consideration at a future meeting of the Committee. The Notes revealed the following actions were discussed:

- a. Recommendation for Patti Knollman and Steve Grasty be appointed to the Trustee Class of 2027. (Bishop Bell made the appointments as recommended.)
- b. Recommendation that Dave Keeler be appointed Vice Chair and Jerry Frazier be appointed Secretary/Treasurer. (The trustees affirmed these positions at a subsequent meeting.)
- c. Recommendation to approve the EDEO Grant Request of \$3,096 for the Retired Clergy Medical Insurance that appears in the 2024 EDEO 2024 budget. (The trustees approved the grant request at a subsequent meeting.)

A report of 2024 activities will be available at the Annual Meeting updated to that date.

Jerry Frazier, Secretary/Treasurer

EASTERN OREGON EPISCOPAL FOUNDATION Balance Sheet December 31, 2023

<u>ASSETS</u>		General Fund	EDEO Fund	As	scension Fund		TOTAL
BMO Bank Checking State Street Global Advisors Duncan Farm Trust Property	\$ \$ \$	33,523 573,026 252,000	\$ 3,309	\$	(474)	\$ \$ \$	36,358 573,026 252,000
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	858,550	\$ 3,309	\$	(474)	\$	861,385
LIABILITIES	\$	General Fund	\$ EDEO Fund	<u>A</u> :	scension Fund	\$	<u>TOTAL</u>
NET ASSETS	\$	858,550	\$ 3,309	\$	(474)	\$	861,385

Faithful Innovation Commission

To all the people in the Diocese of Eastern Oregon:

Many of you may not know why the Faithful Innovation Commission was formed in 2023, so let me give you a brief summary on how our commission got started, what we have been doing in the last year, and what to expect in the future.

First, before I dive into the facts, let me ask you a few questions. Do you know the neighbor who lives next door to you? Do you know the neighbors who surround your church? If your neighbors needed help of any kind, would they reach out to you? The answers to these three questions will vary from location to location, but they are the bedrock of our Faithful Innovation focus for the Diocese of Eastern Oregon. The Faithful Innovation Commission is here to help our diocese explore ways to bring the presence of God into our neighborhoods. Some churches might call this evangelism, but I lean into what the Gospel of Matthew called it, "Good news."

How did Faithful Innovation get its start? It all began back in 2017, when 3 people, Joyce Atchley, Joann Dickson and Marilyn Roth attended a faithful innovation training session offered through Luther Seminary in Minnesota. Over time the three of us began to explore ways on how to connect church people with their neighbors. The Covid pandemic took place in 2020, just when strong thought was being given to forming an evangelism commission for our diocese. While we adapted the Faithful Innovation curriculum to fit our Eastern Oregon parishes, The Genesis II program led by Tom Brackett, one of our convention presenters, complements our approach with its emphasis on sharing stories.

What have we been doing in the last year? Faithful Innovation Commission was formed in the Fall of 2022 with 3 members: Joyce Atchley, Joann Dickson, and Marilyn Roth. Katy Nesbitt was added in June 2023, with Sean Rogers coming on board in September 2023. Margaret Green was part of our commission for a season during 2024, but she has recently decided to step down. Our commission is ready to begin the process to offer training for churches within our diocese. A curriculum has been designed to bring to your church if you would like help in establishing a Faithful Innovation committee. More will be shared on how to do this during our diocesan convention this fall.

What next steps will our Faithful Innovation be taking? As a commission it has taken time to get organized, to understand how we want to move forward with our teaching model, and how to stay engaged with the process of sharing the 'good news', knowing that much of what we plan will be designed by you, the church. Each church will be provided help in moving forward with our curriculum in the beginning, but if we, the commission have a hope, it is that eventually 5-6

churches will want to join the national church's effort on the Genesis II project. The Faithful Innovation Commission does realize that there may be churches in our diocese who do not want to participate with our in-house project, and that's ok, we, as a commission, are waiting to gain an invitation into your space. But as we wait, we will also be making contact with the leadership of each church, to ask permission to present our project during a church service.

I know what I am sharing about the Faithful Innovation Commission may seem vague, but Jesus did not outline a plan either when it came to sharing the good news of the Kingdom. Jesus merely told his followers to go out two by two to share the good news. Our commission hopes to speak to many of you at our fall commission and, as I stated earlier, we will strive to bring our training to your church.

Please contact anyone on the commission if you have further interest or questions.

Shalom be upon you,

Rev. Marilyn Roth, Chairperson for the Faithful Innovation Commission

Rev. Deacon Joyce Atchley <u>deaconatchley@gmail.com</u> 541-270-5903

Rev. Deacon Joann Dickson joanndickson313@gmail.com 541-219-0573

Rev. Katy Nesbitt <u>katynesbitt@hotmail.com</u> 541-263-0126

Rev. Sean Rogers sean@seanrogers.org 208-353-6135

Rev. Marilyn Roth, Chairperson Marilyn.roth60@gmail.com 541-980-9291

General Convention Report

Every three years the Episcopal Church throughout the world gathers to discuss and promote resolutions, as well as to enact legislation, that reflect our theology and our aspirations. This meeting, known as General Convention, is a body formed to mirror the government of the United States, a deliberate choice as the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America came in to being at the same time. There are two houses – the House of Bishops (like the Senate) and the House of Deputies (the House of Representatives) – and each House debates separately, votes separately, and then presents the results to the other House to be affirmed or denied.

At the next level down are the provinces, made up of all the dioceses according to geography; there are 9 provinces and the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon belongs to Province 8. The provinces meet potentially to share resources, and to prepare for the upcoming General Convention. At the diocesan level, we meet once a year for the same purposes as General Convention, "to discuss and promote resolutions, as well as to enact legislation, that reflect our theology and our aspirations."

One of the important decisions we make at Diocesan Convention is the choice and election of our deputies to General Convention.

At General Convention, the corporate worship was stupendous, conducted in various languages and styles, capped by the Revival that featured a wonderful jazz band and singers. At the revival, outgoing Presiding Bishop Michael Curry gave a rousing sermon, matched in style and step by his interpreter. We were also impressed by the way in which the elections for Presiding Bishop and for the President and Vice-President of the House of Deputies were conducted, with forums beforehand for people to meet the candidates.

There were 3 Wisconsin dioceses that now have become one, as well as the merger of 2 Michigan dioceses, a great celebration for reunifying!

Other highlights had to do with our Indigenous siblings. Navajoland has become a Missionary Diocese, able to control their own pathways. There was a Talking Circle of Indigenous elders, who presented their own violation and heartbreak as survivors of the Boarding School system. We were reminded that September 30 is Orange Shirt Day, which remembers those children who were removed from their families and tribes, often forcibly, and put in that system.

And there was the Official Youth Presence, the selected representatives of our rising generation.

There were so many things that happened at this past General Convention that it was hard to settle on only a few to highlight. For a full understanding of the time we spent, we recommend that you access the Summary of Actions (generalconvention.org/summary-of-actions). There are also videos of the proceedings at episcopalchurch.org/video.

Your deputies for General Convention are Helen Keefe, David Kosar, Barbara Reynolds Mayo, and Jan Uffelman as lay deputies, and Ann Marie Hardin+, Marilyn Roth+, and Charlotte Wells+ as clergy deputies. Of course, Bishop Pat Bell is our bishop in the House of Bishops, and we would be very remiss not to mention our "GenCon Mom", Lisa Boquist.

Standing Committee Report

The Standing Committee of this diocese has been particularly busy in 2023-2024 with our normal duties, in addition to designing and implementing the new model of a "Shared Episcopate" with Bishop Pat and Diocesan Council.

After convention 2023 we welcomed Rev. Liz Cahill to our cohort for a three-year term.

In late October 2023, our friend Terry Rahmsdorff died after a brief illness. He will be remembered fondly for his decades of service to this diocese in a number of capacities. I am particularly grateful for the way he modeled leadership for me during our time together on Standing Committee.

Joel Bigelow of St. Stephen's Baker City accepted Bp. Pat's invitation to fill the position left by Terry, and was affirmed as a member of this body in February

A word about the transition to Pat's New Role... As was mentioned above, this has been an eventful year for Standing Committee. On April 16th the following statement was disseminated by Beth Spell, Bishop Pat and myself:

To the Congregations and Parishioners of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon:

As many of you may have heard, our bishop, Patrick Bell, recently celebrated his 72nd birthday. According to the Canons of the Episcopal Church he had to resign within three months of his birthday. With the guidance and blessing of the National Church, the leaders of our Diocese have designed a plan which allows us to re-hire Patrick Bell as our Assisting Bishop.

Most of the changes involved in this transition will occur at the administrative level. The Standing Committee will now have the Ecclesiastical Authority and will work in tandem with the Bishop on those matters that require that level of decision making. There is also a plan developed to redistribute some of the duties of our Diocesan Staff, to make sure that we are able to continue to serve our parishes in a supportive and loving manner.

For the most part, there will be very little difference in the parishes 'relationship with the bishop. There will still be visitations, confirmations, ordinations, consultations and all those duties we currently associate with the office of the Bishop.

Rest assured that your Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, Diocesan Staff and Bishop Bell will be working diligently to smooth a path into the future that will allow us to be flexible and responsive to our changing needs in a changing world.

We will be setting forth more information as we move forward in this new phase of our life as a diocese.

"Rev. Kelly Mahon, President of Standing Committee Beth Spell, Co-chair of Diocesan Council The Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell, Assisting Bishop Of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon and Co-Chair of Diocesan Council

After Bishop Pat resigned (per the canons), Standing Committee drafted Bishop Pat's current letter of agreement on behalf of the diocese. We are several months into the new model of a Shared Episcopate. We will continue to dialogue and be in reflection about this transition's efficacy and our needs as a diocese.

The former campus of St. Paul's Klamath Falls is still for sale, and we are in regular contact with our realtor there. We haven't received any substantive offers for the property commensurate with its value to date. There are some interested parties, but that's about it. We are happy to share that the undeveloped lot in Klamath Falls is under contract for a sale pending permitting.

We accepted the recommendations from The COM for Amy Jayne's ordination to the transitional diaconate and priesthood.

Meetings

Nov. 3&4 2023 - With Diocesan Council

Nov. 17, 2023 Feb. 12, 2024 Apr. 3, 2024

Apr. 12&13, 2024 - With Diocesan Council

Apr. 24, 2024 Aug. 6 2024 Aug. 12, 2024

We were invited to consent to the election of bishops of:

Massachusetts Olympia West Texas Rochester Mississippi Nevada California

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. P. Kelly Mahon Chairperson of Standing Committee 2023-24

Truth and Conciliation Commission

Report to the 54th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Eastern Oregon October 18-20, 2024, in Cove

Your commission members this year have been:

The Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell, Bishop; The Rev. Amy Jayne, Ascension School; The Rev. Jan Kozak, Madras United Methodist Church; Barbara Reynolds Mayo, Transfiguration, Sisters; Beth Spell, St. Thomas, Canyon City; The Rev. Charlotte Wells, Redeemer, Pendleton Sarah Augustine has continued to serve as our consultant; EDEO joined the Coalition Repair Network in 2023. Additional partners are Bobby Fossek and Brosnan Spencer, founders of Caretakers of the Land, as well as Jolene and Louis Pitt, Person of Color (POC) leadership of WeX Community Outreach, a grassroots organization promoting racial equity.

In 2024, the Commission has continued to build our relationship with Sarah, Jolene, and Louis. As a direct result of Sarah's leadership during Convention, 2023, we established a TCC Liaisons working group. Both the Liaisons and the TCC Commission met nearly every month via zoom.

In February, TCC applied for a Becoming Beloved Community Grant and were granted \$8,500 to build on the initial work done by Jolene in establishing WeX's Trails project, for which the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon (EDEO) independently granted WeX \$15,000. The Trails Project intends to establish two new WeX Community Building groups, one in Central/Eastern Oregon and the other in the Spokane, WA area. These groups will also be comprised of POC and White Allies, learning about the Doctrine of Discovery (DoD) and its ongoing negative impacts; the DoD continues to encourage racist practices and systemic oppression of Indigenous people and communities. WeX uses the textbook Journeys of Race, Color, and Culture and, in 2025, will use The Land is Not Empty, Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery by Sarah Augustine to guide its study. Both TCC and WeX White allies work to recognize and understand how our White lens impacts our world view.

Bishop Pat attended the Salmon People gathering in Washington state and Oak Flat in Arizona to be with Apache Stronghold at their sacred site. Amy, on behalf of TCC, is working on action steps, and is composing a letter to The Episcopal Church (TEC) naming EDEO's complicity during the Indian Boarding School era when there were boarding schools in our Diocese. In late June, Pat attended the Coalition's to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery's (The Coalition) Annual Gathering in Minnesota to continue to demonstrate EDEO's support of their vital work. Also in June, Beth and Jan attended Pi Ume Sha, the powwow on the Warm Springs reservation, followed by dinner at Jolene and Louis' home, an honor.

At General Convention, EDEO sponsored the Coalition's booth, which Charlotte helped staff, talking with Convention attendees about the DoD and the Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) and TEC's Boarding School Healing work among Indigenous people.

Some of us have attended monthly Indigenous Episcopal Roundtable zoom meetings. The intent of this group is to influence legislation around Indigenous issues, such as the establishment of a National Boarding School Commission to investigate, document, and make public their findings.

While this has been a growing year for those who engaged, it is now time for all of us in the Diocese to follow the late Senator John Lewis' advice: GET BUSY and make GOOD TROUBLE.

The TCC will retreat together to Cove on September 30 – October 1 to develop our plan to do these things ourselves on your behalf in 2025.

Submitted by Jan Kozak on behalf of the Truth and Conciliation Commission.

Statistical Reports

Diocese of Eastern Oregon	stern Oregon	Financial S	l Statistics of Congregations and Mis Year in parentheses is last year of filing if not 2023	ongregatio last year of fili	Financial Statistics of Congregations and Missions Year in parentheses is last year of filing if not 2023	s			
				REVENUE				EXPENSE	Î
Oity	Congregation	& Pledge	Plate Pledge Income	Operating Revenue	Total Revenue	Operating Expense	To the Diocese	Outreach & Development	Total Expense
Baker City	St Stephens Episcopal Church		53,383	75,550	130,227	75,550	16,973	26,170	102,165
Bend	Trinity Episcopal Church		464,449	499,497	1,203,349	574,578	112,347	793,898	1,431,876
Bonanza	St Barnabas Episcopal Church		6,634	6,634	6,634	11,281	1,117	365	11,281
Burns	St Andrews Episcopal Church		193,000	427,000	429,733	271,340	37,490	0	271,340
Canyon City	St Thomas Episcopal Church		20,353	23,041	46,849	20,627	4,604	5,212	31,279
Enterprise	St Patricks Episcopal Church		14,760	18,760	28,531	15,105	3,021	8,000	23,105
Heppner	All Saints Memorial Epis Church		113,887	113,887	113,887	53,689	5,448	6,286	59,975
Hermiston	St Johns Episcopal Church		56,454	56,454	79,562	43,262	12,215	20,785	62,977
Hood River	St Marks Episcopal Church		155,954	182,360	256,046	171,544	37,894	14,647	247,903
La Grande	St Peters Episcopal Church		40,494	49,275	49,275	40,263	13,792	0	40,263
Lakeview	St Lukes Episcopal Church (2021)		9,780	9,780	10,355	7,819	1,168	0	7,819
Madras	St Marks Episcopal Church (2021)		2,324	2,324	2,324	454	0	454	454
Milton Freewater	St James Episcopal Church		17,507	27,062	30,223	24,252	3,490	2,788	26,566
Ontario	St Matthews Episcopal Church		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pendleton	Church of the Redeemer		155,218	157,684	186,543	157,690	34,375	23,442	186,549
Prineville	St Andrews Episcopal Church		30,323	30,323	33,050	25,883	7,065	2,400	28,610
Redmond	St Albans Episcopal Church (2022)		13,695	13,695	15,338	62,439	36,572	2,400	62,439
Sisters	Church of the Transfiguration		267,307	275,166	275,166	239,691	66,156	6,523	262,514
Sunriver	All Saints of the Cascades		263,546	307,311	645,138	324,538	14,338	665,011	968,624
The Dalles	St Pauls Episcopal Church		111,579	230,502	253,160	214,301	46,688	23,612	239,978
		Total 1.	,990,647	2,506,305	3,795,390	2,334,306	454,753	1,601,993	4,065,717

Confirmed or Received - BAPTISMS -Under 16 Years 16 yrs and Older Sunday Eucharists 19 Average Sunday Attendance 30 64 38 16 12 11 23 15 10 Vital Statistics of Congregations and Missions Year in parentheses is last year of filing if not 2023 Communicants in Good Standing 663713 Active Members 37 13 14 95 78 91 26 12 140 St Albans Episcopal Church (2022) St Marks Episcopal Church (2021) St Lukes Episcopal Church (2021) All Saints Memorial Epis Church St Matthews Episcopal Church St Barnabas Episcopal Church St Stephens Episcopal Church St Andrews Episcopal Church St Andrews Episcopal Church Church of the Transfiguration St Thomas Episcopal Church St Patricks Episcopal Church St Marks Episcopal Church St James Episcopal Church St Johns Episcopal Church St Peters Episcopal Church St Pauls Episcopal Church All Saints of the Cascades Trinity Episcopal Church Church of the Redeemer Diocese of Eastern Oregon Congregation Milton Freewater Canyon City Hood River Hermiston Baker City Enterprise La Grande Pendleton The Dalles Heppner Lakeview Prineville Redmond Sunriver Bonanza Madras Ontario Sisters Burns Bend

1,424

1,675

Total

Clergy

The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon

Bishop:	<u>Diocesan Assignment</u>
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The Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell Bishop

Canonically Resident Priests:

03-09-95	*Daniel W. Gardner	Greenwood, Arkansas
03-23-96	Charles R. Barnes	St. John's, Hermiston
11-18-03	*Mary R. Lujan	Non-parochial, Hood River
11-19-06	Aletha G. Bonebrake	Diocesan Council and COM, Baker City
02-04-09	Roy D. Green	Diocesan Council, Sunriver
02-24-11	*Kenneth V. King, Jr.	Johnstown, PA
05-28-14	Marilyn Roth	Transition Minister, The Dalles
12-11-15	Charlotte Wells	Church of the Redeemer, Pendleton
11-17-18	P. Kelly Mahon	St. Mark's, Hood River
07-30-19	Ann Marie Hardin	St. James', Milton Freewater
09-24-19	MaryAnne Gard	COM, Sunriver
10-10-20	Ray Jeff Spreier	St. Andrew's, Prineville
08-21-21	Katy Nesbitt	St. Patrick's, Enterprise
07-23-22	Taylor Clark	St. Stephen's, Baker City
03-26-22	Sean Rogers	St. Matthew's, Ontario
10-22-23	Pamela Miller	St. Paul's, The Dalles
11-10-23	Elizabeth Cahill	Church of the Redeemer, Pendleton
06-06-24	Wendy Cliff	Non-Parochial, Bend
09-01-24	Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones	Trinity, Bend
09-28-24	Amy Jayne	Ascension School, Cove
10-26-24	Joann Dickson	Hopeful Saints, Heppner

ELCA/Presbyterian Clergy serving Episcopal parishes

07-01-11	Matthew Littau	St. Andrew's Episcopal + Peace Lutheran, Burns
03-01-24	Lillian Stahlberg	Church of the Transfiguration, Sisters
09-01-24	Kally Elliot	Sunriver Christian Fellowship, Sunriver

Canonically Resident Deacons:Diocesan Assignment05-01-02Janet L. WarnerSt. John's, Hermiston11-09-17Joyce AtchleySt. Thomas, Canyon City

Retired canonically resident clergy

(Entitled to seat and voice in Convention, in accordance with Diocesan Canons)

01-17-70	Richard H. Thew	St. Patrick's, Enterprise	priest
08-03-75	Lawrence E. Fredrick	Sunnyvale, CA	priest
10-15-86	Gary J. Young	Hood River, OR	priest
03-15-92	Carol A. Parker	Prineville, OR	priest
05-22-94	Janet C. Schiering	Hood River, OR	priest
04-22-95	Stephen P. Uffelman	Prineville, OR	priest
06-10-98	Richard E. Attebury	Moscow, ID	priest
10-11-98	Carol J. McClelland	Vancouver, WA	deacon
08-10-99	Wilma M. Hoffer	Bend, OR	deacon
09-26-99	John W. Gilsdorf	Athena, OR	priest
11-30-99	Serita V. Smith-Allen	Hood River, OR	priest
02-17-01	Anne Scissons	Albany, OR	priest
01-06-02	Connie Boone	Cutting, CA	deacon
06-05-03	Mikel McClain	Portland, OR	priest
06-16-03	Sarah M. Stanton	Lacey, WA	priest
07-16-03	Richard S. Landrith	Lakeview, OR	priest
06-10-06	Roger L. Fairfield	Sisters, OR	deacon
06-24-06	Martha Cornue Hurlburt	Walla Walla, WA	priest
01-05-08	Gaye Hauk Lawson	Trinity, Bend	deacon
10-22-08	Charles Christopher	Silverton, Oregon	priest
03-19-11	Dan Lediard	Kennewick, WA	priest
05-23-11	Kathryn Macek	Colorado Springs, CO	priest
12-05-11	Georgia Giacobbe	The Dalles, OR	deacon
09-23-15	John Nesbitt	Enterprise, OR	priest
03-22-16	Richard (Red) Stevens	The Dalles, OR	priest
09-09-16	Lee Kiefer	Redmond, OR	canon
06-10-06	Rebecca Lanham Hendricks	Milton-Freewater, OR	priest
09-21-85	James D. Mosier	Ontario, OR	priest
05-19-16	Willa Goodfellow	Sisters, OR	priest
05-01-02	Janet M. Kozak	Madras, OR	priest
05-19-09	John "Jack" Erskine	Sisters, OR	priest
11-19-14	Jed Holdorph	Trinity, Bend	priest
09-16-97	Nancy Sargent Green	Sunriver , OR	Honorary Canon
08-10-21	Linda Hale	La Grande, OR	priest
06-06-15	John Collins	Albuquerque, NM	priest
06-16-99	Jean S. Cupp	Pendleton, OR	deacon

Dates are of canonical residency in the Diocese of Eastern Oregon.

^{*} Asterisk beside the names on pages denotes those canonically resident clergy, in accordance with Diocesan Canons, who are **not** qualified clerical delegates, entitled to seat, voice and vote in Convention. According to Diocesan Canon V.6, "All canonically resident clergy, of whatever Order, who have a regular diocesan or congregational assignment, and are in good standing, and who are performing the duties of their office, and who are not under ecclesiastical discipline, have the right to seat, voice and vote in the Convention. Retired clergy, canonically resident in the Diocese, shall be entitled to seat and voice, but no vote in Convention."