



Celebrating our history; creating our future

Convention marks our first century

This year's diocesan convention, to be held Oct. 10-12 in Baker City, will be the 38th annual convention of the Diocese of Eastern Oregon.

But the gathering of some 200 Episcopalians will celebrate a notable historic event: the first Convocation of the Missionary District of Eastern Oregon. That took place in Baker City 100 years ago, when newly-consecrated Bishop Robert Paddock arrived there to meet members of his new flock.

Guest presenter and preacher at convention is The Rt. Rev. Edmond Lee Browning, 24th presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church USA.

Hosted by St. Stephen's, Baker City, the convention will focus on history Friday evening, with a theatrical presentation on The Rev. Reuben Nevius. A botanist and a circuit riding priest, Nevius worked in eastern Oregon from 1873 to 1879. He designed and built churches and congregations, including in Baker City; Canyon City and Cove.

Friday night's liturgy will be excerpted from the 1892 Book of Common Prayer,

On Saturday and Sunday, the convention will address the present and the future.

Charlene Chase of St. Stephen's, head of the host committee, said the convention is planned with two themes: "history and green."

This year, convention will focus on Millennium Development Goal No. 7: ensure environmental sustainability. Each parish in the diocese is urged to create a way to gather money to address the glob-

al need for clean water and sanitation, and bring the funds for convention ingathering. The money collected will be sent to Episcopal Relief and Development for the MDG water project.

Convention-goers also are asked to bring their own water bottles and coffee mugs to use in Baker City, as a symbol of commitment to be good stewards of God's creation.

Convention meals will be served on biodegradable plates, with biodegradable flatware. "We're trying to be as green as we possibly can," Chase said.

Looking forward to the influx of visitors, St. Stephen's parishioners have worked this year to refurbish their historic church. The basement has been redone.

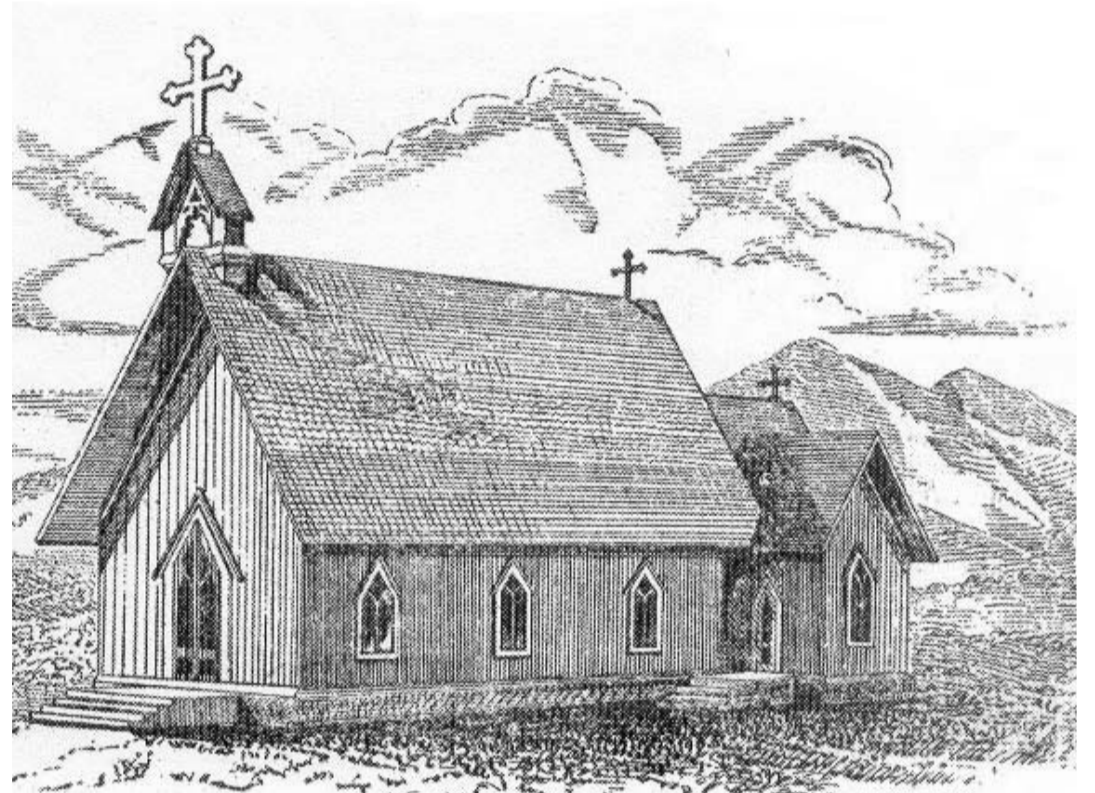
September 27, she said, was set aside as a "huge workday, to get the church in top order for the convention."

One recent job yielded a great surprise: cutting away large junipers growing next to the church, workers discovered St. Stephen's cornerstone, which history says was laid in 1873 during a great wind-storm.

Preparations for the convention, however, started well over a year ago. The whole parish has been involved. "We're small, we've got everybody working," Chase said.

The dress for the whole weekend is western casual.

As for the weather, October often is glorious, with chilly nights and sunny days. Chase is promising warm hospitality and making no weather guarantees.



Convention host: St. Stephen's, Baker City. Vintage woodcut shows the church, which was designed by The Rev. Reuben Nevius, in about 1875. The building, enlarged and remodeled, remains in use.

Convention salutes diocese's past, future

By Willis Moore

Here in Eastern Oregon we have tried to "re-view" our past during 2007 and 2008. There are unique features to our diocese, our churches, and our place...all worth re-viewing.

Diocesan Convention this October celebrates the 100th anniversary of the new Diocese of Eastern Oregon's first meeting with its new Bishop, Robert Paddock.

On Friday evening at Convention, we will worship according to the prayer book in use in 1908. The liturgy produced by Saints Alive! is a bit shorter than the historic text, but we shall join in this historical re-viewing from our past.

A Reader's Theater presentation following the Eucharist, written and directed by Lynne Burroughs of St Stephen's, will focus on The Rev. Dr. Reuben Denton Nevius's role in the Missionary District of Eastern Oregon. Nevius came from east of the Mississippi in the 1870s to be Dean of Trinity Cathedral in Portland, but when he resigned shortly after his arrival, Bishop Benjamin Wistar Morris asked Nevius to come to, live, build and preach in, Eastern Oregon.

Historical understanding of where we have been as churches, congregations, individuals, and as a Diocese, can help us re-new our desire to go forward.

The Diocese of Eastern Oregon is prepared to re-center on God's leadership and to create our future. We are first east Oregonians...some by birth and some by adoption. We are Christians, living in the strengths and challenges of our baptismal covenant and its promise "to seek Christ in all people."

We are Episcopalians by choice, perhaps by confirmation, and in practice. We uphold our liturgical forms of worship and our ecclesiastical form of church organization in a world of informality. We are part of a disparate fellowship called the worldwide Anglican Com-munion, which includes some 77 million folks worldwide. They strive, as we do, to re-center on God in the light and traditions of the Anglican Middle Way.

The question was posed at Convention 2007: Centennial! So what? The question for Convention 2008 could be, Centennial! Now what?"



Robert Paddock, first Bishop of Eastern Oregon

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News from EDEO Parishes

All Saints of the Cascades--Sunriver Christian Fellowship

Well-known liturgical composer Marty Haugen, whose works include the Holden Evening Prayer service, and The Rev. Susan Briehl, a Lutheran pastor, will present several workshops on "Worship as a way of life" at Sunriver Christian Fellowship November 21-23. There also will be a songfest, Grateful Hearts and Voices Will Arise, on Friday evening and a Sunday festival church service, when Briehl will preach and Haugen will lead the music.

Workshops on Saturday will explore music as an encounter with the Living Christ. More information is available at the church web site, www.sunriver-christianfellowship.org

St. Matthew's, Ontario

September 21 was The Rev. Anne Slakey's last Sunday at St. Matthew's, Ontario. Slakey, who has been priest there for four years, will serve two churches in the Diocese of Idaho. She will work half-time at St. James', Payette and one-quarter time at St. Luke's, Weiser.

The Rev. Canon Lee Keifer will work with the parish on transition plans.

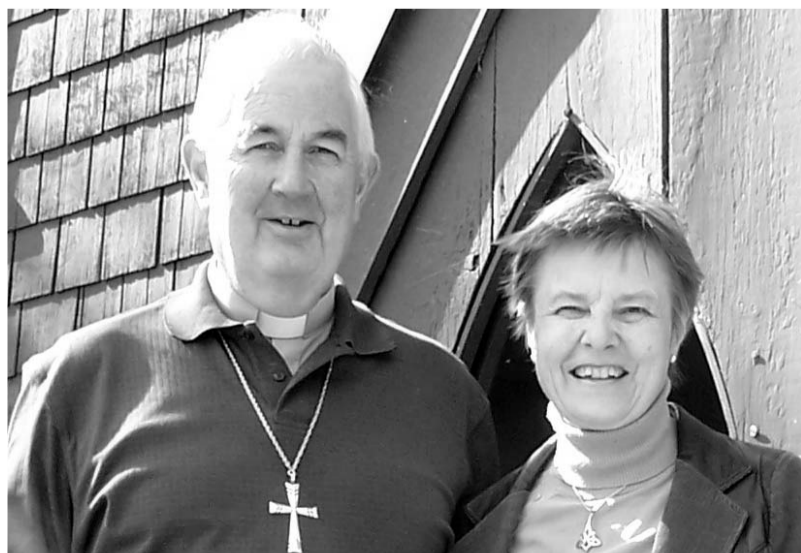
All Saints Episcopal & Hope Lutheran, Heppner

The Rev. Janis Johnson, who has been undergoing extensive therapy for balance problems, shared some good news with parishioners this month: her balance has improved greatly, so that she is has resumed full-time duties. "I am left with some restrictions but am very pleased with the gains that have been made," she wrote. She continues to go to Portland for vestibular rehabilitation-- "how many people get to be in a research program with NASA astronauts while getting better at the same time?" she wrote in the church newsletter, adding that her recovery truly is the result of prayer, "a 'gift', as the nurse reminds me. And, that is a gift that not everyone receives. I am very grateful."

St. Paul's, Klamath Falls

The Rev. Alison Dingley will become Priest in Charge at St. Paul's, Klamath Falls Nov. 1. She succeeds The Rev. Ivor Hughes, the Church of England priest who has been priest in charge at St. Paul's for two years. Dingley previously worked in this diocese at interim at St. Paul's, The Dalles.

Parishioners held a goodbye party for Ivor and Anthea Hughes Sept. 26. The Hughes will retire in England.



Ivor and Anthea Hughes: bound for retirement in England



The Rev. Mary Lujan laughs with St. Mark's parishioner Gloria Arnold.

St. Mark's, Hood River

Citing health issues, The Rev. Mary Lujan announced Sept. 14 that she is resigning as rector at St. Mark's, Hood River. Lujan, who lives in Hood River with her husband Ken Lujan, will celebrate her last service at the church on Sunday, Oct. 5.

Lujan, priest at St. Mark's for five years, grew up in the diocese. The daughter of G and Val Royes of Summerville, she is a former schoolteacher and a graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary.

St. Mark's has grown considerably during Lujan's tenure there. When she announced her resignation to parishioners on Sept. 14, Lujan joked that several priests had asked her to notify them if she ever left her rector's position there.

St. Paul's, The Dalles

September was a four potluck month at St. Paul's, The Dalles, with dinners on Sept. 9, 11, 16 and 18, where members of the parish had an opportunity to meet rector candidates.

St. Paul's has been without a priest since early this spring, when The Rev. Alison Dingley, interim for two years, left. At the beginning of summer, two candidates identified by the search process withdrew their candidacies, so the process had to start again.

"I am told that there is no reason why we could not be happy with the selection of any of them," Senior Warden John Mabrey wrote in the church newsletter.

Blessing of the animals is scheduled for St. Paul's 10 a.m. service on Oct. 5. The Rev. Rustin Kimsey will be celebrant.

St. Andrew's, Prineville

Discussion at a recent Vestry meeting included questions about "what our future looks like in regard to having a priest on staff or available for eucharist," according to vestry minutes published in the St. Andrew's Announcer. "Thought needs to be given to what we are going to do when our two retired priests are unable to serve. We were asked to consider what our future looks like and how to get there."

St. Peter's, La Grande

Tuesday Bible class at St. Peter's is looking at "The Acts of the Apostles: Glimpses of the early church," a 12-part study of the Book of Acts.

The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon, founded as the Missionary District of Oregon in 1907, became a diocese in 1970. It includes all of Oregon east of the Cascade Mountains as well as Klickitat County, Washington—some 69,000 square miles. There are 23 parishes and more than 2,600 Episcopalians in the diocese.

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The Episcopal Church, organized in 1789, is a community of 2.5 million members in 114 dioceses in North American and abroad.

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop

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The Anglican Communion is a global community of 70 million Anglicans in 37 member provinces around the world.

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

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Ice cream sundaes raise money for NetsForLife: St. Mark's parishioners (L to R) Ruth Tsu, Beth Hartwell, Michele Bouche and Macie Kingsley served ice cream at September First Friday in Hood River, a monthly downtown gallery walk. Customer is Josh Kingsley. NetsForLife furnishes insecticide-treated mosquito nets as a malaria preventive to residents of sub-Saharan Africa, where malaria kills 3,000 children a day. One million people die from the mosquito-borne disease annually.

Griswold leads Trinity lectures

Frank Griswold III, 25th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, USA, is one of the featured speakers in the 2008-09 lecture series at Trinity Cathedral's Center for Spirituality Development.

He will lead a lecture and workshop on Nov. 14-15.

Other speakers include Frederick Schmidt, author and former theologian at the National Cathedral, Oct. 24-25; Celtic Christianity scholar Herbert O'Driscoll, Feb. 6-7; author Diana Butler Bass, March 27-28; Islamic Studies professor Frederick M. Denny, April 17-18; and author and contemplative prayer student James Finley, May 15-16.

For tickets or more information about the events in Portland, call 503-478-1218, or go online to www.center-for-spiritual-development.org

Diocesan Calendar

Oct. 10 Diocesan Commission on Ministry, Baker City
Oct 10-12 38th Annual Diocesan Convention, Baker City
Oct 13 Diocesan office closed
Nov 14-16 Diocesan Council retreat, Ascension School

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Oct 5 For St. Alban's, Redmond
Oct 12 For our 100th Year Diocesan Convention
Oct 19 For All Saints of the Cascades, Sunriver Christian Fellowship
Oct 26 For St. Andrew's, Prineville
Nov 2 For those who have gone before us in forming and sustaining the church in Eastern Oregon
Nov 9 For Trinity, Bend
Nov 16 For Diocesan Council as they meet in their annual retreat
Nov. 23 For Church of the Transfiguration, Sisters
Nov 30 For the grace to respond to needs and concerns in each of our communities, as parishes of the Episcopal Church



Cami Warner, Heather Johnson, Beth Bigelow and Sue Richard, all members of St. Stephen's, Baker City, make hospitality plans for Diocesan Conventions, which St. Stephens is hosting Oct. 10-12. Photo by Charlene Chase

Bishop Kimsey shares Lambeth reflections

By the Rt. Rev. Rustin R. Kimsey
 Fifth Bishop of Eastern Oregon

When asked to comment on the Lambeth 2008 meeting I was a bit surprised as I was not eligible to attend, but our editor thought it might be helpful to hear from one who had been there before.

Gretchen and I represented Eastern Oregon in the Lambeth Meetings of 1988 and 1998, so I am game to give this a try.

The three week Lambeth is indeed a remarkable gathering. Our 72 million plus members of the Anglican Communion are the most diverse



group of Christians on the planet, so the impressive tapestry of bishops and spouses representing this diversity and the complex regions of earth and sea from which they come are impressive to know and to appreciate. Gretchen and I treasure the relationships formed and forged in intimate daily Bible study groups, committee meetings devoted to tough dialogue about tough matters, cultural celebrations, beautifully moving worship moments and simply being with people who know a common bond in Christ. So, we have been saddened and shaken by the ruptures within our Communion over difficult issues. Many bishops would not attend this Lambeth meeting because of them, and our own Episcopal Church has known divisions unthinkable a few

decades ago.

I have some modest thoughts about these conflicts. Among some of our leadership I fear there is a stronger stridency to be right than to be in Communion. I know in my heart there are moments of truth when unity must be given up for the sake of justice, but I also believe that without a deep resolve to stay together, any community....be it family or church or nation....will be dashed on the rocks of disagreement. As I have testified, from my view the heart and value of Lambeth is to be found in the intimate Bible study groups that prayed, studied and dialogued together, agreed and disagreed, struggled to apply God's Word and Will to our unique cultures and valued the witness to Christ each of us brought to our

people and to one another. We became friends....in Christ....and I firmly believe it is this friendship in Christ that is the essential bearer of God's grace rather than litmus-tests on doctrine or interpretations of Scripture which draw divisive lines in the sand.

Embracing a passion for unity does not mean we can neglect the serious differences that often emerge within Christian community, but when we honor one another, listen to one another, learn from one another, build trust between one another and shape a coherent mission for others, our differences will be defined by our friendship in Christ rather than by our need to be right. May God grant us grace and wisdom for such a journey.
 Rustin

Candidates seek diocesan offices

Diocesan Council: elect two lay, one clergy member; 3-year term

PolliAnne M. Grover St. Andrew's, Prineville

Occupation: retired comp claims adjuster

Position sought: lay member of Diocesan Council.

Parish activities: Member of Diocesan Council, 2005-2008; Senior Warden, St. Andrew's, 2003-2005; 2007- present; Junior Warden, St. Andrew's, 2002-2003; Vestry member, St. Andrew's, 2001; Vestry member for three years at Church of the Holy Cross, Edgewood, New Mexico.



Statement: After being on council during the transition from our prior episcopacy to interim, I look forward to participating in the upcoming transition with a provisional bishop.

The Rev. Deacon. Stephen L. Schafroth St. Paul's, The Dalles

Occupation: retired; worked for 20 years as a small business loan manager; taught business planning at Columbia Gorge Community College.

Position sought: clergy member of Diocesan Council.

Parish activities: ordained as a deacon by Bishop Rustin Kimsey in 1999 after being called by St. Paul's as part of our mutual ministry program, under what then was called Canon IX. Before ordination I served as Junior Warden, lay reader, eucharistic minister and eucharistic visitor. I am an EFM graduate and an EFM mentor; I have attended every diocesan convention since I was Junior Warden. I am currently serving as Ecumenical Officer of the diocese.

Statement: I believe that I offer experience with both the diocese and with business and organizational decision making.



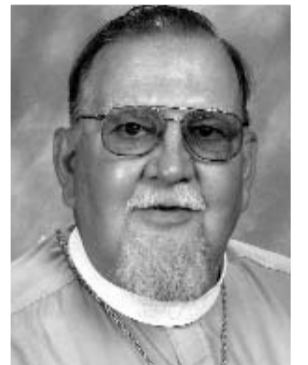
The Rev. Roger V. Williams St. Paul's, Nyssa

Occupation: priest at St. Paul's, retired U.S. Navy, retired public school teacher and administrator in Ontario and Nyssa.

Position sought: clergy member of Diocesan Council.

Parish activities: ordained deacon in March, 1995, ordained to the priesthood by Bp. Rustin Kimsey. I have served St. Paul's, Nyssa since then, first as deacon, then as priest. I also often provide Sunday services for St. Andrew's., Burns.

Statement: I was called to complete a term on Diocesan Council from 2003-2005. I was called to a second term in November, 2006. I would like to remain on Diocesan Council until we have completed the bishop search.



Standing Committee: elect one lay, one clergy member

The Rev. Alison M. Dingley

Occupation: effective Nov. 1, Priest in charge, St. Paul's, Klamath Falls

Position sought: clergy member, Standing Committee

Parish activities: I was ordained to the priesthood in 1978 in the Diocese of Minnesota; moved to Hawaii in 1983 and served four congregations; worked as a substance abuse counselor and program director, managed homeless shelters and an immigrant services agency. I was interim rector of St. Paul's, The Dalles from 2006 to spring 2008. General Convention deputy in 2000, alternate deputy in 2003 and 2006; member of the Hawaii Bishop's Search committee from 1995-1996. I served three terms on Diocesan Council in Hawaii and chaired the Resource Development Dept. (finance committee). After our bishop resigned under pressure in 1994, we had a debt of \$4 million to resolve; by the end of my term as chair the last of the debt was retired and the diocese was moving forward, ready to elect a new bishop.



Statement: I want to bring all I learned during that experience to this diocese, and to offer my gifts and skills to the Standing Committee during this time of transition.

George (G) Royes St. Peter's, La Grande

Occupation: retired farmer. I was raised on the farm near Summerville that my great-grandparents started in 1868, and worked there my entire career. In 1963 I married Valerie Eisiminger; we have three grown children, all of whom live in the diocese and attend Episcopal parishes.

Parish activities: Longtime member of St. Peter's, La Grande, where I have been a vestry member and served as Senior Warden twice, under three different priests. I have been a member of the Eastern Oregon Episcopal Foundation Board of Trustees for more than a decade. I was appointed this summer to fill a vacancy on Standing Committee.

Statement: I also have served 25 years on two separate school boards and have a good understanding of the budget process.



Budget is key Convention agenda item

In addition to electing members to the diocese's two governing bodies, delegates to Diocesan Convention will consider and adopt a 2009 budget.

The proposed budget is printed in the pre-Convention journal, and delegates are urged to discuss it with fellow parishioners before coming to Baker City.

At \$563,828, the 2009 budget is about \$9,000 more than 2008, but considerably lower than 2006, when the bottom line totalled \$619,872.

"The budget this year hopefully will become a 'driving force' to move you to renewing your commitment to the lively and vibrant future of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon," wrote Diocesan Treasurer Jerry Frazier in the introduction to the document. Referring to "the financial trek of the last several years," Frazier said Standing Committee and Diocesan Council see this as a time to "seize the opportunity to become 'our own diocese' through the revival of mutual ministry and mission actions."

Information on the positions to be filled:

Diocesan Council: Nine member body that oversees diocesan programs, creates the diocesan budget, sets goals and priorities, provides support to parishes and is responsible for the financial stewardship of the

Diocese. **Standing Committee:** Six member council of advice to the bishop that in the absence of a bishop has ecclesiastical authority regarding ordinations, clergy discipline and real property.