

**From:** Rustin Kimsey  
**To:** Katharine Jefferts Schori  
**Cc:** Charles Robertson  
**Sent:** Tue Mar 09 10:10:28 2010  
**Subject:** Navajoland

The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori  
The Episcopal Church Center

Dear Katharine:

I will not be at the House of Bishops meeting in March and I wanted to offer you and those attending my prayers for grace and wisdom during those days.

I am writing especially to thank you for your leadership and collaboration with the people of Navajoland over the past several months. I am aware the House of Bishops will be voting to affirm the process you put in motion and in particular the action of the Special Convocation of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland on October 17, 2009. On that day I was privileged to officiate at a Eucharist that housed prayerful focus on Scripture, appropriate reflections, the action of the Eucharist and balloting on two candidates....the one chosen to serve as your Canon in the short term and Bishop of Navajoland pending the action of the House of Bishops. Jim Leehan and David Bailey were the priests nominated for this position and David was the person named by the Navajo people to fill this role.

As impressed as I was by the will of the Navajo people on this day of decision, I was very aware that this is the first step in your vision of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland discerning and naming a Navajo person to be their bishop in the near future. My heart is grateful for this course of action and I am confident David will be very helpful in moving this hope toward reality, Indigenous episcopal leadership for the Navajo will be affirming of their giftedness and a strong statement to the Navajo nation as to the Episcopal Church's commitment to their people on the reservation and beyond. With these developments I know the Navajo people will step up and live more and more into their potential. They are a great people and you honor them in trusting their decisions in these matters.

If you wish to share these thoughts with other bishops please do so. This comes with gratitude for your life and ministry and good wishes for you and Richard.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Rustin R. Kimsey, Assisting Bishop for Alaska