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THE 45TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF WEST TENNESSEE

NOVEMBER 20-21, 2026
ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CONVENTION FEEDBACK SURVEY:

Order of Business

Friday, Nov. 20

6:00 p.m.	Choral Evensong *Sermon: The Rev. Canon Whitney Rice, Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of Missouri and Bishop-Elect of the Diocese of Kansas*
7:30 p.m.	Reception

Saturday, Nov. 21

8:00 a.m.	Registration opens
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
9:15 a.m.	Opening Remarks + Welcome
9:30 a.m.	Call to Order
9:45 a.m.	Keynote Address *The Rev. Canon Whitney Rice, Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of Missouri and Bishop-Elect of the Diocese of Kansas*
10:30 a.m.	Diocesan Staff, Pages, Seminarians, New Clergy, and Clergy Transitions
11:00 a.m.	St. Columba Presentation *Mr. Matthew Arehart, Executive Director*
11:15 a.m.	Barth House Presentation *The Rev. Dr. Dorothy White, Campus Missioner &* *Mrs. Maggie Schaumleffel, Director of Ministries*
11:30 a.m.	Budget Presentation *Mr. Josh Shipley, Finance Committee Chair*
11:50 a.m.	Noonday Prayer
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist *The Rt. Rev. Phoebe Roaf, Celebrant and Preacher*
2:00 p.m.	Afternoon Session Begins *Admission of St. Constance Episcopal Church*
3:00 p.m.	Report of the Strategic Visioning Transformation Team *The Rev. Sarah Cowan, President of the Standing Committee*
3:30 p.m.	Elections and Confirmation of Bishop's Appointees
3:50 p.m.	Closing Remarks
4:00 p.m.	Adjournment

Please note:
Times listed are approximate and may shift slightly to accommodate the flow of presentations and discussions. We appreciate your flexibility.

In Memoriam

We remember those people who offered leadership
in The Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee
and have died since the Forty-Fourth Convention.

The Rt. Rev. Frank Cerveny

The Honorable Jon Phipps McCalla

Dr. Mary Mason Rainey McCalla

Mr. Clifford David Pierce, Jr.

(Other names may be added silently or aloud.)

Father of all, we pray to you for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them.

May their souls and the souls of all the departed,

through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Minutes of the 44th Annual Meeting of the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025
CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

THE RT. REV. PHOEBE A. ROAF,
FOURTH BISHOP OF WEST TENNESSEE, PRESIDING

THE HON. STEPHEN ANDERSON,
SECRETARY TO THE CONVENTION

THE HON. SCOTT HAIGHT,
PARLIAMENTARIAN

Call to Order

Bishop Phoebe A. Roaf called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. The Hon. Scott Haight was appointed Parliamentarian. Mr. Steve Anderson was appointed Secretary of the Diocese. Canon Alisa Kelly was appointed Secretary of Elections.

The Reverend Scott Walters greeted and welcomed attendees to the convention, reviewed the new layout and logistics of the venue and invited everyone to attend the upcoming Lenten Preaching Series and explore the art collection of Calvary.

Certification of Quorum

Bishop Phoebe A. Roaf declared a quorum present.

Order of Business

The Order of Business was moved by Bishop Phoebe A. Roaf and was unanimously approved.

Explanation of the expectations and procedures for attendance, voting, conducting business, and getting help was given.

Adoption of the 2024 Diocesan Convention Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes of the 2024 Diocesan Convention.

Keynote Address, Part 1: When Trust Is Not Enough

The Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger offered advice basing leadership in vulnerable discovery, and relational transformation in order to actuate mission.

Presentation of Resolutions

MISSION STRATEGY FOR A CHANGING DIOCESE
Proposer: The Rev. Sarah Cowan
Endorsed by: The Ven. Hester Mathes and the Rev. Donna Gerold
Passed with 98% approval

Whereas The Episcopal Church honors the understanding of a parish as encompassing not only the church building but also the places and people within its geographic radius; and

Whereas as Episcopalians, we honor the concept of a "cure of souls" such that the church is called to care for and build relationships with all who fall within a parish's geographic footprint, and is furthermore not limited to presence on Sunday morning; and

Whereas we believe the Holy Spirit to be working in and through the potential merging of five Episcopal faith communities within Shelby County; and

Whereas this merger will impact the number of faith communities in the diocese and the Episcopal presence in under-served, lower-income communities in north and south Memphis; and

Whereas the diocesan faith communities outside of Shelby County face numerous challenges due to changing demographics and finances that call for the continuation of diocesan attention that is focused and thoughtful; and

Whereas in the midst of these challenges and realities, a mission strategy for the diocese could guide decision makers in embracing opportunities for strategic growth as well as racial and socio-economic diversity; and

Whereas the laity, clergy, bishop, and diocesan staff have both an opportunity and a duty at a time such as this to fully engage in discerning and implementing a vision and strategy for God's mission of presence in the Diocese of West Tennessee; be it therefore

RESOLVED that this 44th Diocesan Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee supports having the Standing Committee and Bishop & Council discern and develop a mission strategy for the Diocese, with the input of lay and clergypersons from throughout the Diocese, and that a report of progress and recommendations be given at the 2026 Diocesan Convention.

DEACON PARTICIPATION IN CHURCH PENSION GROUP (CPG)

Proposer: The Rev. Deacon Gerri Endicott
Endorsed by: The Ven. Hester Mathes and the Rev. Deacon Debbie McCanless
Passed with 98% approval

Deacons in The Episcopal Church generally serve in their faith community positions with little or no remuneration and fund their own ministries.

The Church Pension Group ("CPG") has now determined that if deacons were paid even a nominal amount, those deacons would be eligible for access to the benefits provided by CPG. While those benefits would not include pension income commensurate with retirees from full-time employment, participation would provide valuable resources throughout a deacon's ministry and into retirement. This would be especially attractive to younger people exploring the Diaconate. Nominal remuneration opens the opportunity for eligible deacons to participate in CPG programs of interest. Many dioceses across The Episcopal Church have implemented nominal deacon compensation in the years since CPG made this determination.

The Church Pension Group ("CPG") provides resources for clergy and lay employees of faith communities in The Episcopal Church, particularly retirement benefits. One of the resources is CREDO, a program that helps both active and retired clergy pension plan participants by presenting a holistic approach to wellness for mind, body, spirit, and heart. Participants examine and evaluate their health and wellness from the spiritual, vocational, physical and emotional health and financial points of view. CPG also provides pension and retirement savings plans, health benefits, and educational services. One must be a contributor to the Church Pension Fund to access these benefits.

> Be it resolved, that the 44th Convention of the Diocese of West Tennessee requires each faith community that is financially compensating a deacon to offer the required contribution of 18% of that compensation to the Church Pension Group (CPG) on behalf of the deacon; and be it
>
> Further resolved, that all other active deacons who are not financially compensated be offered at least $100 a month from the faith community they are serving as remuneration, and that each such faith community also offer to make the required contribution to CPG on behalf of the deacon; and be it
>
> Further resolved, that Bishop and Council consider covering an eligible deacon who experiences a gap in assignment to a faith community, provided the deacon remains canonically resident and in good standing; and be it
>
> Further resolved, that this resolution go into effect as of January 1, 2027, but faith communities are encouraged to begin this practice in 2026; and be it Further Resolved, that this resolution does not apply to any deacon who has reached mandatory retirement age (currently 72) as of the time of implementation.

CLARIFYING LANGUAGE IN CANONS 7 & 11

Proposer: The Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons
Endorsed by: The Rev. Canon Rob Courtney and the Rev. Jonathan Chesney
Passed with 98% approval

> Whereas there is some ambiguity around whether people serving an unfulfilled term on the Standing Committee and the Commission on Ministry can immediately be elected to a full term, and
>
> Whereas Canon 9, Sec. 6 regarding Bishop & Council is very clear, "In the event of a vacancy occurring during a term, the next Annual Convention shall elect a person to fill the unexpired term but the Council may fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next Annual Convention. A member shall be ineligible for reelection for one year after completion of any term of two years or more," and
>
> Whereas consistency and clarity on this matter in Canons 7 and 11 mirroring Canon 9, Sec. 6 would be beneficial,
>
> Proposed Resolutions: Resolved, that the language, "A member shall be ineligible for reelection for one year after completion of any term of two years or more" shall replace the current language of Canon 7, Sec. 1(b).

ENHANCING THE ROLE OF STANDING COMMITTEE IN CANON 15

Proposer: The Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons
Endorsed by: The Rev. Canon Rob Courtney and the Rev. Sarah Cowan
Passed with 95% approval

Whereas it is common practice across dioceses of The Episcopal Church to have either the Bishop and the Standing Committee, or the Bishop, Diocesan Council, and the Standing Committee approve the conveyance or encumbrance of any real property held by the Diocese or congregations of the Diocese, and

Whereas The Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee requires the Standing Committee to approve only the conveyance or encumbrance of any real property that has been dedicated, consecrated, or used for Divine Worship, and Whereas this arrangement can be procedurally confusing when it arises, and

Whereas it would be beneficial to the collegial relationship between Bishop & Council and the Standing Committee to eliminate this confusion.

Resolved, that the language in Canon 15, Sec. 3(a) is revised to state as follows: "(a) If title to real property is vested in the Diocese in its corporate capacity, it may not be alienated, conveyed, transferred, encumbered, mortgaged, assigned, or leased without the prior consent of either (i) the Annual Convention or(ii) both the Council and the Standing Committee."

Resolved, that the language in Canon 15, Sec. 3(b) is revised to state as follows:
(b) If title to real property is vested in any Faith Community, it may be alienated, conveyed, transferred, encumbered, mortgaged, assigned or leased by action of the Parish Vestry or Mission Council, provided that prior consent has been given by either (i) the Annual Convention or (ii) both the Council and the Standing Committee.

Resolved, that Canon 15, Sec. 3(c) (*In addition to the foregoing, if the real property has been dedicated, or consecrated, or used for services of Divine Worship, the consent of the Bishop and of the Standing Committee shall also be required.*) be deleted in its entirety.

Resolved, that Canon 15, Sec. 3(d) be redesignated as section 3(c) and is revised to state as follows: "*(c) In any case referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) of this Section 3, if for sufficient cause the Bishop determines that consent cannot await the next meeting of either (i) the Annual Convention or (ii) both the Council and the Standing Committee, the Bishop may, with the advice of the Chancellor, give consent to the proposed action, but shall also make report thereof to the next meeting of the Council and the Standing Committee.*"

Resolved, that Canon 15, Sec 3(e) be designated as Section 3(d).

REPORT ON WTN 2024-2: STREAMLINING DIOCESAN GOVERNANCE

Presented by: The Rev. Christian Senyoni

Resolution WTN 2024-2: "Streamlining Diocesan Governance" from the 43rd Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee (EDWTN) directed the Committee on Constitution & Canons (CCC) "to consult with other chancellors and bishops in other dioceses of The Episcopal Church on the advisability and practicality of combining the Standing Committee and Bishop & Council into a single body," and "that the Standing Committee and Bishop & Council engage in joint conversations with the Committee on Constitution and Canons regarding" the same.

After completing its consultations, conversations, and study, the CCC does not recommend combining the two bodies.

The complete Study Report is included in this publication on page 37.

Video Presentation

A video about the Community of St. Mary, Southern Province, produced by Education for Ministry, was screened to the Convention. The video may be accessed on YouTube through the QR code:

Diocesan Presentations

Pastor Michael Douglas, Interim Executive Director of St. Columba Episcopal Conference and Retreat Center, provided a report.

Ms. Maggie Schaumleffel, Director of Ministries at Barth House Episcopal Center, provided a report.

Staff Transitions

Bishop Phoebe Roaf recognized the attending Diocese of West Tennessee staff members, two pages, five seminarians, and clergy who have transitioned into or outside of the Diocese.

Seminarians and clergy transitions are included in this publication on page 10.

Noonday Prayer

Noonday Prayer was lead by Mr. Christian Man.

A video produced by the Diocese in close collaboration with All Saints', Emmanuel (Memphis), Good Shepherd, Holy Trinity, and St. Joseph's Episcopal Churches was screened. The video announced the ongoing discernment among these congregations—often referred to as the "New Wineskins" group—as they explore the possibility of merging into a new, shared faith community. This discernment process, initiated by the congregations themselves and facilitated by diocesan leadership, arises from years of collaborative ministry, shared Holy Week services, and changing congregational realities.



Lunch

The Convention broke for lunch for one hour. Optional lunchhour presentations from Calvary Episcopal Church's Welcome Inn, the West Tennessee Addiction & Recovery Commission, and Moms Demand Actions were conducted throughout the grounds of Calvary.

2026 Budget and Clergy Minimum Compensation Package Approval

Mr. Josh Shipley presented the 2026 Proposed Diocesan budget and the 2026 Clergy Minimum Compensation Package. The motion to approve the budget was unanimously approved. The motion to approve the compensation package was unanimously approved.

Keynote Address, Part 2: The Problem for Pleasers

The Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger offered advice basing leadership in vulnerable discovery, and relational transformation in order to actuate mission.

Necrology

A necrology was read naming those who have died since the 43rd Diocesan Convention. Those are included in this publication on page 10.

Elections and Confirmation of Bishop's Appointees

A motion was made to accept by acclamation the candidates for the uncontested vacancies listed below. The motion was carried by voice vote.

(a) Standing Committee–Clergy (3-year term): The Rev. Katherine Bush (Calvary, Memphis)
(b) Standing Committee–Lay (3-year term) Mr. John Planchon, (St. George's, Germantown)
(c) Bishop and Council–Clergy (4-year term): The Rev. Amanda McGriff (Nonparochial)
(d) Bishop and Council–Lay (4-year term): Mr. William Webb (Good Shepherd, Memphis)
(e) Disciplinary Board–Clergy (3-year term): The Rev. Sandy Webb (Holy Communion, Memphis)
(f) Trustee, University of the South–Lay (3-year term): Mr. Dalton Lyon (Calvary, Memphis)
(g) General Convention Deputy–Clergy: The Rev. Gerri Endicott (Holy Apostles, Collierville)
(h) General Convention Deputy–Clergy: The Rev. Donna Gerold (St. John's, Memphis)
(i) General Convention Deputy–Clergy: The Rev. Lisa McIndoo (Holy Apostles, Collierville)
(j) General Convention Deputy–Clergy: The Rev. Ollie Rencher (Grace-St. Luke's, Memphis)
(k) General Convention Deputy–Lay: Ms. Robyn Banks (Calvary, Memphis)
(l) General Convention Deputy–Lay: The Hon. Scott Haight (St. Mary's, Dyersburg)
(m) General Convention Deputy–Lay: Ms. Cynthia McCarty (Holy Apostles, Collierville)

Bishop's Remarks

In her address, Bishop Phoebe Roaf reflected on a year shaped by sabbatical, global engagement within the Anglican Communion, and deep gratitude for diocesan staff and leaders who sustained the work of the church in her absence. She highlighted the success of the Small Church Conference, the continued impact of Do Good & Share Ministry Grants, growth in youth leadership through the Diocesan Youth Council, and ongoing support for those discerning ordained ministry.

Bishop's Cross Award

The Rt. Rev. Phoebe A. Roaf announced that the Hon. Andy Cobb, retiring Chancellor of the Diocese of West Tennessee, was the recipient of the 2025 Bishop's Cross Award. Mr. Cobb received the award at the Opening Eucharist the previous evening.

Announcement of the 45th Diocesan Convention

The Rt. Rev. Phoebe A. Roaf invited the Rev. Jesse Perkins, Rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, to the floor. Rev. Perkins announced that the 45th annual Diocesan Convention will take place November 21-22, 2026 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Jackson, Tennessee.

Courtesy Resolutions

The Very Rev. Noah Campbell, Interim Dean of St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, presented the following courtesy resolutions:

> Whereas, the clergy and lay delegates of the faith communities and ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee, attending the 44th annual convention at Calvary Episcopal Church, Memphis, Tennessee, on this day, the 15th of November, 2025 are commissioned to abide as One Church, founded upon One Lord, One Faith, and One Baptism, and with special gratitude for the faithful leadership of our bishop The Right Reverend Phoebe Roaf; now therefore be it
>
> Resolved, that sincere thanks be given to Rev. Scott Walters, Rector of Calvary Episcopal Church, as well as Calvary's staff and volunteer team, for opening their beautifully renovated and historic space for prayer, sacrament, and the councils of the Church; and be it further
>
> Resolved, that sincere thanks be given to our sibling in the faith, key-note speaker, and gifted storyteller Rev. Tod Bolsinger; and be it further
>
> Resolved, that a special offering of thanksgiving be offered to Mr. Andy Cobb upon his retirement as diocesan chancellor after years of wise counsel and good heart; and be it further
>
> Resolved, that this resolution be incorporated in the minutes of the 44th annual convention of the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee.

Adjournment

Bishop Phoebe Roaf adjourned the Convention at 3:00 p.m.

Elected and Appointed Officials

ELECTED BY 2026 CONVENTION

Secretary to the Convention:	The Honorable Stephen Anderson
Treasurer of the Diocese:	Mrs. Elizabeth Smith

Standing Committee (Elected for a 3-year term, not eligible for re-election for one year)

For term expiring at the end of 2029:	Clergy: _____ Lay: _____
For term expiring at the end of 2028:	Clergy: The Rev. Katherine Bush Lay: Mr. John Planchon, Sr.
For term expiring at the end of 2027:	Clergy: The Rev. Jesse Perkins Lay: Mr. Christian Man

Bishop and Council (Elected for a 4-year term, not eligible for re-election after serving a term of two years or more)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2030:	Clergy: _____ Lay: _____

Elected and Appointed Officials

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2029:	Clergy: The Rev. Amanda McGriff Lay: Mr. Bill Webb
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:	Clergy: The Very Rev. Noah Campbell Lay: Ms. Martha Webb
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2027:	Clergy: The Rev. Deacon Pam Evans Lay: Ms. Ebet Peeples

Trustees, University of the South (Trustee terms begin on July 1 the year following their election and end on June 30, 2030 three years later)

For term expiring on June 30, 2030	Clergy: _____
For term expiring on June 30, 2029:	Lay: Dr. C. Dalton Lyon
For term expiring on June 30, 2028:	Lay: Mr. George Clarke
For term expiring on June 30, 2027:	Clergy: The Rev. Canon Rob Courtney

Elected and Appointed Officials

Disciplinary Board (Elected for a 3-year term. No canonical term limits)

For term expiring on December 31, 2029	Clergy: _____ Clergy: _____ Lay: _____
For term expiring on December 31, 2028:	Clergy: The Rev. Sandy Webb Lay: _____
For term expiring on December 31, 2027:	Clergy: The Rev. Laura Gettys Lay: Mr. Brooks Terry

Cathedral Committee (Elected for a 2-year term. Not eligible for re-election for a year after serving 2-year term)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:	Clergy: _____ Lay: _____

NOMINATED BY THE COUNCIL AND ELECTED BY CONVENTION

West Tennessee Endowment Corporation (Elected for 3-year term, not eligible for re-election for one year after serving for two terms)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2029:	Mr. John Hughey Ms. Gina Miles _____

Elected and Appointed Officials

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:	Mr. Richard Friary Ms. Lisa Jehl Mr. Matt Sights III
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2027:	The Rev. Paul McLain Mr. Joshua Shipley

NOMINATED BY THE BISHOP AND CONFIRMED BY CONVENTION

Commission on Ministry (A 4-year term, may not be re-appointed for one year after serving one term)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2030:	Clergy: The Rev. Christina Salzer Lay: Dr. Daniel Pigg
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2029:	Clergy: The Rev. Wesley Rowell Lay: Dr. Bruce Watson
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:	Clergy: The Rev. Deacon Debbie McCanless Lay: Ms. Nancy Boatwright
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2027:	Clergy: The Rev. Jeff Marx Lay: Ms. Jane Slatery

Church Home (Appointed to a 3-year term, ineligible for re-appointment after serving 2 terms)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2029:	Clergy: The Rev. Eyleen Farmer Lay: Ms. Susan Kenny
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:	Clergy: The Rev. Jesse Perkins Lay: Ms. Elizabeth Warren

Elected and Appointed Officials

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2027:	Clergy: The Rev. Deacon Jessica Abell Lay: Ms. Nancy Boatwright
Chancellor of the Diocese	The Honorable Scott Haight
Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese	The Honorable Stephen Anderson
Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese	The Honorable Michael Marshall

APPOINTMENTS BY THE BISHOP

(not subject to the actions of the Convention)

Finance Committee (No member may serve more than 2 consecutive 3-year terms)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2029:	Mr. Joel Smith The Rev. Sandy Webb
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:	Ms. Elizabeth Smith The Rev. Deacon Gerri Endicott
For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2027:	Mr. Greg Kost Mr. Joshua Shipley Mr. Michael Synk

Elected and Appointed Officials

Becoming Beloved Community Commission (3-year terms)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2029:

Mr. Swazoo Claybon
Ms. Rachel Craig
Mr. Adrian Hernandez
Mr. Donavon Hughes

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:

Ms. Katy Leopard
Dr. David Maxson
Ms. Lee Nix
Mr. John Welcher

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2027:

Ms. Dawn Currica
The Rev. Deacon Gerri Endicott
Ms. Cynthia McCarty
Ms. Candace Walsh

St. Columba Episcopal Camp and Retreat Center (3-year terms)

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2029:

The Rev. Deacon Gerri Endicott
Ms. Natalie Meagle
Mr. Steven Quach
Ms. Kenyetta Thompson

For term expiring upon adjournment of Convention 2028:

Ms. Debbie Campbell
Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines
Ms. Keating Lowery
Mr. Cliff Sulcer

Elected and Appointed Officials

For term expiring upon adjournment Convention 2027:

The Rev. Deacon Debbie McCanless
Ms. Chapman Morrow
Ms. Allison Pace
Mr. David Visinsky

Standing Committee on Constitutions and Canons (3-year terms)

For term expiring at the end of Convention 2029: The Honorable M. Anderson Cobb

For term expiring at the end of Convention 2028: The Honorable Louise Biedenharn
The Honorable Brad Trammell

For term expiring at the end of Convention 2027: The Rev. Christian Senyoni
Ms. Candace McRae Walsh

Cathedral Committee (2-year terms)

For term expiring at the end of Convention 2028: The Rev. Ollie Rencher
Mr. Bill Webb

Parliamentarian The Honorable Scott Haight

Church Attorney The Honorable Albert Harvey

Nominations

NOMINATION FOR
STANDING COMMITTEE
CLERGY MEMBER - 2029

The Rev. Chris Robinson (St. George's, Germantown)

Nominated by:
The Rev. Rob Courtney
Canon to the Ordinary

Ordained in 2010, The Rev. Chris Robinson has served as chaplain to the University of Mississippi and rector of two parishes before accepting the call to serve as rector of St. George's. Chris has served on the Executive Committee (roughly equivalent to Bishop & Council) in the Diocese of Mississippi for two terms and on the Disciplinary Board for one term. He is a graduate of Millsaps College and Virgina Theological Seminary.

NOMINATION FOR
STANDING COMMITTEE
LAY MEMBER - 2029

Dr. Ann- Marie Motley (St. Constance, Memphis)

Nominated by:
Dr. Jeane Chapman
St. Constance

Ann- Marie Motley became a member of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in 1997, which is the year she was married at the Church. She served as a vestry member at Holy Trinity Church from 2014 and continued on the vestry for many years. Her leadership responsibilities began in 2023 when she began serving as the senior warden at Holy Trinity Church until the recent merger. Now, she is happy to say that she is continuing as senior warden at St. Constance Episcopal Church.

NOMINATION FOR
BISHOP AND COUNCIL
CLERGY MEMBER - 2030

The Rev. Sarah Cowan (Church of the Holy Communion, Memphis)

Nominated by:
The Rev. Rob Courtney
Canon to the Ordinary

The Rev. Sarah Cowan serves as Senior Associate Rector at Church of the Holy Communion (Memphis), having previously held the post of Associate Rector and Minister of Communications. Her previous ministry experience includes a shared position between St. Mary's Cathedral and Barth House, the college ministry in the Diocese of West Tennessee. She currently serves as President of the Standing Committee and on the Planning Team for the Small Church Initiative. She earned her Master's of Divinity degree from Virginia Theological Seminary in 2021 and was ordained to priestly orders in 2022. Prior to following her call into ordained ministry, she was active in several Episcopal parishes, serving as a youth group lay leader, vestry member, Sunday School teacher, and Happening Steering Committee Chair (2007-2009). Professionally, she was the Director of Communications for 19 years at St. George's Independent School. Sarah is originally from San Diego, where she grew up singing in the youth choir at St. Peter's Episcopal Church and working summers at Camp Stevens, an Episcopal camp and conference center located in the mountains outside of San Diego. She holds an undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley, with a major in history and a minor in religious studies.

NOMINATION FOR
BISHOP & COUNCIL
LAY MEMBER - 2030

Ms. Andrea Hazelhurst (St. Luke's, Jackson)

Nominated by:
The Rev. Rob Courtney
Canon to the Ordinary

Andrea Hazlehurst has been part of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Jackson since 1986 and was baptized and became a member of the parish in 1990. She is currently in her third term on the vestry and has served St. Luke's in a wide variety of ministries throughout her years there. Her service has included participation in Episcopal Church Women and ministry as a Lay

Eucharistic Minister, along with many other roles in the day-to-day life and work of the parish. Andrea has accompanied St. Luke's through challenging seasons as well as its present period of growth and renewed energy. She describes watching and participating in that growth as a particularly meaningful part of her life in the parish.

NOMINATION FOR
UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
CLERGY MEMBER - 2030

The Rev. Deacon Gerri Endicott (Church of the Holy Apostles, Collierville)

Nominated by:
Ms. Nancy Smith
Church of the Holy Apostles

The Reverend Gerri Endicott is a lifelong Episcopalian and West Tennessee native. Ordained to the Diaconate in 2018, she was the first West Tennessee clergyperson formed at The University of the South at Sewanee's School of Theology ACTS (Alternative Clergy Training at Sewanee) Program. She has served as Deacon at Church of the Holy Apostles since December 2020. Currently serving the diocese as a member of the Finance Committee, the Becoming Beloved Community Commission and the board of St. Columba Camp and Retreat Center. Gerri is a former member of Bishop and Council and the Commission on Ministry. On a denominational basis, she is a director on the board of The Fund for the Diaconate, where she is currently serving as Chaplain and Grants Chair. In July 2027 she will travel to Phoenix, AZ as a three-time member of the West Tennessee deputation to General Convention

NOMINATION FOR
UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
CLERGY MEMBER - 2030

The Rev. Terry Street (St. Philip Episcopal Church)

Nominated by:
The Rev. Christian Senyoni
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

The Reverend Terry Street is a graduate of The University of the South School of Theology, completing its three-year residential program in 2006. While at Sewanee, he was elected Seminary Student President by the student body and served in several leadership roles,

including Student Coordinator of the Community Action Committee and staff therapist at the University Counseling Center. He continues to support both the University and the School of Theology. Ordained in the Diocese of West Tennessee, Terry has served in a variety of ministries, including Associate at St. John's Episcopal Church, Priest Chaplain for Barth House and College Ministries, and member of Bishop and Council, the Commission on Ministry, and the Cathedral

Committee. He has served as Rector of St. Philip Episcopal Church for the past eighteen years. Prior to ordained ministry, Terry served on the faculty and staff of the University of Memphis, including the Department of Sociology and the Center for the Study of Higher Education. He also served as Adjunct Faculty in Psychology and Sociology at the Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

NOMINATION FOR
CATHEDRAL COMMITTEE
LAY MEMBER - 2028

Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines (St. Anne's, Millington)

Nominated by:
The Rev. Sandy Webb
Church of the Holy Communion

Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines brings decades of leadership and service to The Episcopal Church at the parish, diocesan, and churchwide levels. She currently serves on the Board of St. Columba Episcopal Conference Center and was a member of the search committee for its Executive Director. From 2021 to 2024, she served as Secretary to The Episcopal Church's Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. She has also helped coordinate major churchwide events, serving as co-chair for the visit of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry to the Diocese of Western Massachusetts in 2018 and for the visit of the Bishop of Ghana in 2016.

A longtime deputy and leader in diocesan governance, Deborah served as a delegate to the Diocese of Western Massachusetts Convention for three decades and as a Deputy to General Convention from 1991 to 2012. During that time, she co-chaired the Joint Committee on the Church Pension Fund and contributed to numerous churchwide initiatives. Her service includes leadership as Chair of the Liberian Covenant Committee, Trustee of the Church Pension Fund, member of the Church Pension Fund's Socially Responsible Investment Committee, and member of the search committee that selected a new Church Pension Fund CEO.

Deborah has also made significant contributions to the Church's worship and advocacy ministries. She served on the editorial committee for the Lift Every Voice and Sing II Hymnal,

was National President of the Union of Black Episcopalians from 1982 to 1988 and was a founding member and convenor of The Episcopal Church's Black Women's Task Force

NOMINATION FOR
CATHEDRAL COMMITTEE
CLERGY MEMBER - 2028

The Rev. Silas Engstrom (St. Mary's, Dyersburg)

Nominated by:
Mr. Scott Haight
St. Mary's, Dyersburg

The Reverend Silas Engstrom serves as Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Dyersburg and previously served in the Diocese of West Missouri as Assisting Priest at St. James, Springfield, and part-time Priest at St. Alban's, Bolivar. He received his M.Div. from Virginia Theological Seminary and completed CPE in Fredericksburg. During his ministry, Silas has helped organize shared ministries and events involving multiple congregations. He is passionate about bringing churches together for worship, fellowship, and shared ministry, and would be grateful to serve on the Cathedral Committee.

NOMINATION FOR
DISCIPLINARY BOARD
CLERGY MEMBER - 2029

The Rev. Deacon Drew Woodruff (St. Constance, Memphis; St Thomas, Somerville; Christ Church, Brownsville)

Nominated by:
The Rev. Deacon Kathy McGregor
St. Mary's Cathedral

Prior to ordination in 2007, the Reverend Deacon Drew Woodruff served in numerous lay leadership roles at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, including Acolyte Warden, Verger, and the poptop food ministry, which he established nearly 30 years ago. Now retired from full-time

ministry, Drew and his wife, Maureen, help stock blessing boxes outside St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Southaven, Mississippi, and St. Thomas in Somerville. Drew earned his Master of

Theological Studies from Memphis Theological Seminary in 2005, graduating with honors. He worked for 38 years as an industrial salesman at Nexair.

NOMINATION FOR
DISCIPLINARY BOARD
LAY MEMBER - 2029

Dr. Patricia Easley (Grace Episcopal Church, Paris)

Nominated by:
Mr. Bo Griffey
Grace Episcopal Church, Paris

Dr. Easley has served Grace and the Diocese of West Tennessee in many ways through the years. She acts as intercessor, lector, music steward and serves as the secretary on the vestry. Dr. Easley was the recipient of two "Do Good and Share" grants and continues to chair the mobile "Loaves and Fishes" ministry supplying food, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies and other necessities to residents of a neighboring community. She is currently finishing up a three-year term on Bishop and Council and has served for two years on the Small Church Conference leadership team. She is also currently a member of the diocesan strategic planning discernment committee. Dr. Easley is in her final stages of discernment for the Daughters of the King.

NOMINATION FOR
DISCIPLINARY BOARD
CLERGY MEMBER - 2029

The Rev. Jessica Abell (Grace- St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Memphis)

Nominated by:
The Rev. Rob Courtney
Canon to the Ordinary

Rev. Jessica Abell served as the Chaplain at St. George's Independent School for 19 years. She now serves as the Chaplain at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School. She was ordained to the Diaconate in May of 2021. She also serves as a Deacon at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church one Sunday a month.

THE CONVENTION OF

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WEST TENNESSEE

WTN 2026-1, RULES OF ORDER 2026

I. Miscellaneous Provisions

1.01 Unless serving as a Delegate at the Convention, the Secretary, Assistant Secretary or Secretaries, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer(s), Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor(s), lay members of the Standing Committee and of the Bishop and Council, Chair of the Finance Committee, President of The West Tennessee Endowment Corporation, Executive Director of St. Columba Episcopal Camp and Retreat Center, members of the staff of the Diocese designated by the Bishop, the Heads of Schools in the Diocese that are members of the National Association of Episcopal Schools, and clergy not canonically resident in the Diocese who are licensed to officiate in the Diocese shall be admitted to seats upon the floor of the Convention, with all privileges except the right to vote, as set forth in Diocesan Canon I.6. The Convention may grant the right to seat and/or voice to any other person by Dispatch of Business resolution.

1.02 Canonically resident Clergy who are not disqualified by Article IV of the Diocesan Constitution and Lay Delegates are collectively referred to as Voting Members in these Rules. A Lay Delegate who is replaced by an Alternate shall be considered an Alternate after being replaced.

1.03 Participation in the Convention via electronic means may be permitted at the discretion of the Bishop, subject to the provisions of Diocesan Canon 24.3(b).

1.04 Any hearings contemplated by the Diocesan Canons or these Rules of Order may be held prior to the first day of the Convention at the discretion of the Bishop so long as notice of the hearings is communicated to the members of the Diocese.

1.05 During balloting, the Convention may take up other business which may be temporarily suspended by the Bishop for the reports of tellers and additional ballots.

II. Committees

2.01 The Bishop shall appoint as needed the following Convention Committees:

(1) On Elections

(2) On Constitution and Canons

(3) On Resolutions

(4) On Memorials and Courtesy Resolutions

(5) Such other as the Bishop deems desirable or as may be ordered by the Convention

2.02 The Bishop shall appoint the Committee on Constitution and Canons and any other person or committee prescribed by the Canon or as otherwise required to be appointed by the Bishop without confirmation by the Convention or other body.

2.03 Such committees as are instructed by the Bishop shall convene in advance of the opening of Convention to consider matters referred to them.

2.04 Reports of all Committees shall be in writing. All reports recommending action by the Convention shall be accompanied by Resolutions for such action.

III. Resolutions

3.01 Resolutions are submitted as prescribed by Diocesan Canon 1.9, which provides that the Ecclesiastical Authority, any canonically resident member of the Clergy not disqualified by Article IV of the Constitution, any Lay Delegate, the Secretary, the Treasurer,

the Chancellor, any Vice-Chancellors, the Archivist, the Bishop and Council, the Standing Committee, the Committee on Constitution and Canons, Vestries, and Mission Councils may submit resolutions. Resolutions submitted by canonically resident members of the Clergy or by Lay Delegates must be endorsed by at least two other canonically resident members of the Clergy or Lay Delegates, all of whom must be from different Faith Communities.

3.02 (a) All resolutions to be presented to the Convention shall be submitted, in written form, to the Secretary no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the Convention. These pre-filed resolutions shall be distributed to the members of the Diocese via the method of electronically distributing information normally used by the Diocese and by posting the pre-filed resolutions on the Diocesan website no later than thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the upcoming Convention.

(b) Any resolution not submitted in accordance with paragraph (a) may be introduced to the Convention for consideration only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Convention.

(c) Nothing in this Rule shall prevent the Bishop from introducing new matters to the Convention for consideration or action through the Bishop's address to Convention; and nothing in this Rule shall prevent a Committee of Convention from introducing new matters to Convention through its majority report.

(d) The Bishop may refer any resolution to a committee for such action as it deems proper.

3.03 All resolutions and amendments proposed thereto shall be in writing and shall contain the name, parish or mission, and city of the proponent and, if proposed by a committee or other entity, it shall contain the name of the body, the date the resolution was authorized by the entity, and the name of the person authorized to submit the resolution.

3.04 The Bishop shall refer all resolutions to appropriate Convention Committees for consideration, recommendation and report to the Convention, provided, however, upon a

vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Voting Members present a resolution may be considered immediately.

3.05 Where two or more resolutions deal essentially with the same subject, they shall be referred to the same Convention Committee. The Committee shall make every effort to consolidate them or otherwise assure their compatibility and should also make every effort to obtain the concurrence of the proponents concerned.

3.06 Each Convention Committee to which a resolution has been referred, after providing for a public hearing thereon if appropriate, shall consider the form and substance of the resolution and in making its report shall recommend (a) for adoption, (b) for adoption with amendment, (c) for adoption of a substitute drafted by the Committee, (d) for rejection, with or without reasons, in which case the question shall be on the adoption of the resolution notwithstanding the recommendation of the Committee for rejection, (e) without recommendation, or (f) for discharge from further consideration because the subject matter has been included in another resolution, in which case the question shall be to discharge the Committee. After the motion to adopt or discharge has been seconded, the Committee Chairperson or other representative shall state the reasons for the Committee's recommendation. Thereafter, the proponent of the original resolution shall be recognized first if the proponent so desires. Amendments may be offered, including an amendment to substitute the proponent's original resolution for that recommended by the Committee. Proposed amendments to resolutions amending the Rules of Order, Constitution, or Canons must be submitted to the Chair of the Committee on Constitution and Canons in writing prior to time the Convention is called to order and must receive a majority vote to be approved. Any amendment to a resolution proposing an amendment to the Rules of Order, Constitution or Canons submitted after the Convention has been called to order must receive a two-thirds vote to allow the proposed amendment to be considered. The Committee on Constitution and Canons may, in its discretion determine that a proposed amendment to the Rules of Order, Constitution or Canons needs more time for consideration than is practical for the Convention and advise the Bishop that consideration of the proposed amendment should be taken up at the next Convention.

3.07 Any resolution which would require financial resources for its implementation, or any amendment to the diocesan budget as proposed, shall specify the source of any financial resources required for its implementation.

3.08 Unless otherwise required by the Constitution or Canons of The Episcopal Church or of the Diocese, by these Rules of Order or by Dispatch Resolution, a resolution must receive a majority of votes to become an action of the Convention. Voting shall be (i) in accordance with the Constitution of The Episcopal Church, the Canons of The Episcopal Church, the Constitution of the Diocese, the Canons of the Diocese, these Rules, and Roberts Rules of Order, including but not limited to requests for voting by orders, a count of the votes cast, or a roll call vote, and (ii) in the manner prescribed by the Bishop, including but not limited to voting by acclamation, voice vote, show of hands, standing, electronic vote or other reasonable means. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

IV. Motions in Order of Precedence

4.01 The following motions shall have priority in the order listed:

The Mover

- cannot interrupt a person who has the floor
- must be recognized, and
- the motion must be seconded.

They are subject to the following further rules:

(a) To Adjourn or to Recess

(1) Not debatable, if unqualified

(2) Not amendable

(3) Cannot be laid on table

(4) Majority vote

(5) The motion to adjourn shall always be in order, except that it shall not be offered when another person has the floor

(b) To Adjourn to Time Certain

(1) Debatable as to time

(2) Amendable as to the time

(3) Cannot be laid on table

(4) Majority vote

(c) To Lay on Table or To Table

(1) Not debatable

(2) Not amendable

(3) Cannot be laid on table

(4) Majority vote

(d) To Vote Immediately or at Time Certain, or to Extend Debate

(1) Not debatable

(2) Amendable, as to time, if a time specified

(3) Cannot be laid on table

(4) Two-thirds majority vote

(e) To Postpone to a Time Certain

(1) Debatable

(2) Amendable as to time

(3) May be laid on table

(4) Majority vote

(f) To Commit or Recommit to any Committee

(1) Debatable, except as to a Convention Committee

(2) Amendable as to the Committee to which to be sent

(3) May be laid on table

(4) Majority vote

(g) To Amend or To Substitute

(1) Amendments and Substitutes are debatable only when Main Question is being discussed

(2) One Amendment may be made to each independent or separable portion of a Resolution and the right to amend extends only to one Amendment of that Amendment and to a Substitute and one Amendment thereto

(3) A Substitute and its Amendment may be laid on table, but cannot be otherwise voted on until original matter is perfected

(4) Majority vote, except as provided in Rule 3.06

(5) Neither the Substitute nor its Amendment shall be voted on (except to lay on the table) until the original matter is perfected

V. Motions Without Order or Precedence

5.01 The following motions have no order of priority, but are subject to the following rules:

(a) Appeal from Decision of Chair

(1) Debatable

(2) Not amendable

(3) May be laid on table

(4) Majority vote; a tie vote sustains Chair's decision

(5) Must be made immediately after decision

(b) To take from Table

(1) Not debatable

(2) Not amendable

(3) Cannot be laid on table

(4) Majority vote

(c) To Recall from Committee

(1) Debatable

(2) Amendable

(3) May be laid on table

(4) Two-thirds majority vote

(d) To Create Special Order of Day for Particular Time

(1) Debatable

(2) Amendable as to time

(3) Cannot be laid on the table

(4) Two-thirds majority vote

(e) Call for Order of the Day

(1) Mover may interrupt a person who has the floor and is not required to be recognized or to have a second

(2) Not debatable

(3) Not Amendable

(4) Cannot be laid on table

(5) No vote required, but two-thirds majority vote is necessary to suspend general or special order

(f) To Suspend the Rules or Take Up Business Out of Order

(1) Debatable

(2) Not amendable

(3) Cannot be laid on table

(4) Two-thirds majority vote

(g) To Divide the Question

(1) Not debatable

(2) Can be amended

(3) Cannot be laid on table

(4) Majority vote, if vote required

(5) May be made even though another person has the floor

(6) If the Question under debate contains several distinct propositions, which are independent of each other, at the request of any person with vote the same shall be divided and a separate vote shall be taken, but the motion to strike out and to insert shall be divisible

(7) If the propositions relate to the same subject, and yet each part can stand alone, they may be divided only on a regular motion and vote

VI. Reconsideration

6.01 Neither a Question once determined, nor one of like import, shall again be brought before the Convention, except on motion to reconsider made by one who voted in the majority and seconded by another who voted in the majority.

6.02 Motions to reconsider are subject to the following further rules:

(1) Debatable when motion to be reconsidered is debatable

(2) Not amendable

(3) May be tabled

(4) Two-thirds majority vote

(5) No question can be twice considered unless it was materially amended after its first reconsideration

VII. Decorum and Debate

7.01 No member of the Clergy or Lay Delegate shall be absent from the Convention unless granted leave by the Bishop or replaced by an Alternate (if a Lay Delegate).

7.02 No Voting Member or attendee with voice pursuant to Rule 1.01 (Attendee with Voice) shall address the Convention or make any motion until after being recognized by the Bishop, except to make a parliamentary inquiry, a point of order.

7.03 When Voting Members or Attendees with Voice are about to speak, they shall address the Bishop, state their name and Faith Community or capacity in which attending, and confine the discussion strictly to the point of debate.

7.04 Except by leave of the Convention, no Voting Member or Attendee with Voice shall speak more than twice in the same debate nor longer than five (5) minutes at one time.

VIII. Voting

8.01 Nominations for Deputies to the General Convention, Standing Committee, members of the Bishop and Council, and Trustees of the University of the South which are in writing and contain the Nominee's name, parish or mission, and city and not more than one hundred fifty words (150) of biographical information including past and present service of the nominee to the Church at all levels must be received in the Diocesan office by the deadline set forth on the nomination form if they are to be included in the Convention brochure. Additional written nominations for these offices may be made in like manner by filing in accordance with the instructions set forth on the nomination form. All written nominations shall be communicated to the Voting Members at the Convention. All such nominations shall contain the name, parish or mission, and city of the nominator, who shall obtain the nominee's consent and willingness to serve prior to submitting the

nomination form. Nominations shall be made only as prescribed by Diocesan Canon 1.9. Nominations from the floor are not permitted.

8.02 The Bishop may request election by acclamation for any uncontested offices, and may request election of any or all such uncontested offices by acclamation together as a group. After any second ballot of any election, the ballot shall be shortened, if necessary, to have only two (2) more nominees remaining on the ballot than the number of vacancies to be filled. Balloting for offices will be done by electronic voting. In the event of a failure of the electronic voting system or other serious obstacle to its use as determined by the Bishop, paper ballots will be distributed or another appropriate method of voting approved by the Parliamentarian shall be used.

8.03 In elections of Deputies to the General Convention, members of the Bishop and Council, and members of the Standing Committee a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. In all other elections, a plurality of the of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. Alternates Deputies to the General Convention shall be determined by rank order of votes received in the round of balloting in which the fourth (4^{th}) Deputy of that Order is elected, ranking beginning with the person who received the next highest number of votes after the fourth Deputy.

8.04 In the event that there is a vacancy in more than one term for positions for any office for which a majority of votes is required to elect a nominee, and there are more nominees for one vacancy than are needed to fill the vacancy and no nominees for the other vacancy, a single ballot may be used in which all the nominees are voted upon. The nominee who first obtains a majority of the votes or who obtains a majority with the highest number in a single ballot will be elected to the vacancy with the longer term. The next nominee to obtain a majority of the votes will be elected to the vacancy with the shorter term.

8.05 Unless otherwise expressly provided, any rule requiring a two-thirds (2/3) majority shall be construed to mean the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Voting Members present and voting.

8.06 The Bishop will announce how many persons are to receive votes for a vacancy. Ballots for that election will not be counted if they do not show votes for the number of people announced by the Bishop.

8.07 A nominee may withdraw from an election at any time prior to the opening of a ballot by notifying the Bishop or Parliamentarian.

IX. Committee of the Whole

9.01 Whenever so ordered by a vote of a majority of the Voting Members present, the Convention may go into Committee of the Whole for the consideration of any matter.

X. Unanimous Consent

10.01 By unanimous consent, any action may be taken that is not in contravention of any provision of the Constitution or the Canons of the Diocese or The Episcopal Church.

XI. General Regulation

11.01 Except with the express permission of the Bishop or when otherwise ordered by majority vote of the Voting Members, no books, pamphlets or other printed matter may be distributed within the Convention Hall, or be placed on the seats or desks of the attendees; but this prohibition shall not apply to resolutions, reports, and other documents prepared or distributed by the Secretary (or designee of the Bishop) or to ballots for elections.

XII. Robert's Rules of Order

12.01 Except when in conflict with the Constitution or Canons, or any Rules herein contained, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the interpretation of these Rules and procedures to be followed.

XIII. Amendments

13.01 These Rules may be amended at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Voting Members present and the amendments will become effective immediately upon adoption by the Convention.

(As stated in Preamble A of the Canons of The Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee, "He, his, him shall mean and include she, her, hers." In addition, such pronouns shall also include "they, them, their" and similar pronouns. This inclusivity applies to the Rules of Order.)

JOINT RESOLUTION OF

BISHOP AND COUNCIL AND THE ST OF ANDING COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, having received and considered the Request for Approval of the Merger of Five Faith Communities and Application for Establishment of a New Faith Community submitted by All Saints Episcopal Church; the Wardens and Vestry of Emmanuel Episcopal Parish, Memphis, Tennessee, also known as Emmanuel Episcopal Church; Church of the Good Shepherd of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of West Tennessee; Holy Trintiy Episcopal Church; St. Joseph Episcopal Church; and the newly formed St. Constance Episcopal Church,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The merger and combination of the abovementioned Faith Communities into one Faith Community to be known as St. Constance Episcopal Church is hereby approved, subject confirmation from the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Tennessee that it does to not object to said merger and combination, and that said merger and combination shall be presented at the next convention of the Diocese for its approval; and

2. The application of St. Constance Episcopal Church to be established as a Faith Community in union with the Diocese and designated as a Parish under Canon 19 of Canons of the Diocese is satisfactory and complete, and said application shall be presented the to the next convention of the Diocese for its approval.

SO RESOLVED, this the 22nd day of October, 2026.

BISHOP AND COUNCIL

By: _____
Steve Anderson, Secretary

STANDING COMMITTEE

By: _____
The Rev. Sarah Cowan, President

APPROVAL BY ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY:

By: _____
The Rt. Rev. Phoebe A. Roaf

SPECIAL ACTIONS BY CONVENTION

WTN 2026-2, Admission of St. Constance Episcopal Church

Bishop and Council, the Standing Committee, and the Rt. Rev. Phoebe Roaf, as the Ecclesiastical Authority, have submitted a Joint Resolution to Convention, pursuant to Canon 19 of the Canons of the Diocese of West Tennessee (the Diocese), recommending that Convention take the following actions:

1. Approve the merger and combination of the following Missions of the Diocese: All Saints Episcopal Church; Emmanuel Episcopal Church (formerly known as "The Wardens and Vestry of Emmanuel Episcopal Parish, Memphis, Tennessee"); Church of the Good Shepherd of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of West Tennessee; Holy Trinity Episcopal Church; and St. Joseph Episcopal Church into a new Faith Community to be known as St. Constance Episcopal Church (subject to receipt of notice of no action by the Tennessee Attorney General's Office).

2. Consent to the establishment of St. Constance Episcopal Church as a Faith Community in union with the Diocese and designated as a Parish under Canon 19 of the Canons of the Diocese.