



206TH ANNUAL CONVENTION UPDATE

You are receiving this email update because you are one of the following: a clergy person in the Diocese of North Carolina entitled to seat and voice at Convention, an elected delegate from a congregation or an alternate delegate. Please do not unsubscribe from these emails. You will not receive the information you need if you unsubscribe.

NOVEMBER CONVENTION IS MOVING ONLINE

Due to concerns around gathering in the current COVID environment, as a safety precaution the 206th Annual Convention has been restructured.

Convention will meet **online** on Saturday, November 20, 2021 to conduct business including elections, consideration of resolutions, adoption of the 2022 Mission and Ministry Budget, and adoption of the 2023 Fair Share percentage.

On a weekend in late winter or early spring 2022 (date to be announced soon), we will gather in-person for interactive sessions as we launch the Mission Strategy and celebrate the work happening around the Diocese.

ABOUT THE NOVEMBER MEETING

There will be no registration and no fee to participate. The Diocese will notify each member of the clergy and each lay delegate, **by email**, of the procedures to access Convention and to cast ballots over the Internet. **All subsequent notices about Convention will be issued by email, not by U.S. mail.** Therefore it is imperative that:

- Clergy notify Ms. Elizabeth Dawkins, Executive Assistant to the Bishop Diocesan, of any change in email address,
- Any change in the email addresses of your lay delegation be submitted to the Diocese [using this form](#),
- All clergy and lay delegates **read and inwardly digest the emails** you receive about Convention, and
- **You take care that emails from the Diocese are not captured by your “spam filter.”** In most cases, when we investigate failure of an email from the Diocese to arrive, it was mistakenly classified as spam.

The Supplemental Rules of Order for Use of Teleconferencing at a Convention that were adopted by the 205th “Parking Lot” Annual Convention will be in effect. To access Convention and to cast ballots, you will need either a computer connected to the Internet or a smartphone on which you install the necessary applications. There will be no “dial-in”

telephone access. If you do not have such a device or reliable Internet access, please notify me no later than October 31 and we will help you think through your options.

We anticipate a morning session and an afternoon session. Pending a detailed description of the day's agenda, we ask you to reserve your full day from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

What is not changing:

- Budget webinars will be held as usual.
- Convocations will meet as usual.
- Youth delegates and campus ministry delegates will be elected as usual.
- The Rule III process in regards to churches that did not file a timely parochial report or a timely audit remains the same.
- The deadline to submit nominations for Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, and Trustees of the University of the South remains noon, October 11. The mechanism to submit nominations by the deadline remains the same. [Submit a nomination](#). (More information is available below.)
- The deadline to submit resolutions remains at noon, October 11. The mechanism to submit resolutions by the deadline remains the same. [Email resolutions to Chuck Till](#), secretary of Convention. (More information is available below.)
- The canonical requirement to be current on payment of Fair Share in order to retain voting rights at Convention is still in effect.
- Worship will be fundamental to Convention.
- Legislative committees will conduct hearings.
- The usual parliamentary process, such as motions to amend, will be followed.
- Convention will be live-streamed to the public at large. However, this is a non-interactive, one-way stream. Clergy and lay delegates will use a different system to enter the Convention.

At this time, no decision on “late nominations” and “late resolutions” submitted after the October 11 deadline has been reached. **We urge you to submit everything by the deadline**, including any resolutions to be submitted from our Diocese to next year's General Convention.

ABOUT THE SPECIAL CONVENTION IN EARLY 2022

The Bishop Diocesan will call a Special Convention to launch the Mission Strategy and for certain other purposes. It will be held at the Benton Center in Winston-Salem. We anticipate it will begin on Friday evening and conclude Saturday by early afternoon. COVID-19 protocols will be followed. All lay delegates elected for the 206th Convention will be credentialed for the Special Convention, except as vestries fill vacancies. Further information about the Special Convention will be sent when it becomes available.

SUBSEQUENT COMMUNICATIONS

As soon as additional details are available, we will send them by email and post them to the Annual Convention page of the diocesan website. Meanwhile, I am happy to answer your questions. Please contact me, Chuck Till, [by email](#) or by calling (919) 834-7474, entering extension 5416, and leaving a voicemail.

BUDGET WEBINARS

Four live webinars will be provided on the tentative Mission and Ministry budget of the Diocese for 2022 as developed by Diocesan Council and the staff of the Diocese. All

members of Convention are urged to attend a webinar.

- Sunday, October 3, 3 p.m., via Zoom: [Register](#)
- Tuesday, October 5, 7 p.m., via Zoom: [Register](#)

Comments to Diocesan Council about the tentative budget should be submitted no later than Friday, October 15. Diocesan Council will adopt a budget for recommendation to Convention at its October 21 meeting. You may [submit comments and questions](#) about the budget to Diocesan Council.

CONVOCATION MEETINGS

Deans of the seven Convocations will schedule meetings of Convocations during the period October 18-28. Dates, times, and locations of Convocation meetings will be posted to the website of the Diocese and publicized in Please Note.

At this time, the following convocations have scheduled their meetings:

- October 18, 7 p.m., [via Zoom](#): Durham Convocation
- October 19, 5:30 p.m., [via Zoom](#): Winston-Salem Convocation
- October 21, 7 p.m., via Zoom: Raleigh Convocation
- October 26, 6 p.m., [via Zoom](#): Charlotte Convocation
- October 28, 7 p.m., via Zoom: Sandhills Convocation

Contact your clergyperson or the dean of your convocation if the Zoom link is not included above and you have not received it through other means.

ELECTIONS

The following positions will be filled by open election:

- Standing Committee - 2 Clergy (3 years), 1 Lay (3 years)
- Diocesan Council - 2 Clergy (3 years), 3 Lay (3 years)
- Trustee, University of the South - 1 Clergy (2 years 10 months, to fill a vacancy [the 205th "Parking Lot" Convention did not fill this position]), 1 Lay (3 years)

The principal functions of the Standing Committee are (1) to consent to the election and consecration of bishops throughout The Episcopal Church, (2) to approve candidates for Holy Orders at each stage of the ordination process beginning with admission to candidacy, (3) to consent to the sale or encumbrance of real property by any church or diocesan institution, (4) to act as a council of advice to the Bishop, and (5) to act as the Ecclesiastical Authority in extraordinary circumstances.

The Diocesan Council is responsible for the development and implementation of the Diocesan program and budget. Between Diocesan Conventions, the Council functions much like the vestry of a church, establishing policies, planning the work of the Diocese, and overseeing its administration and finances.

The University of the South, located in Sewanee, Tennessee, is governed by the Episcopal dioceses of Province IV (the southeastern U.S.) Each diocese elects two lay persons and one member of the clergy to the University's Board of Trustees. The Trustees meet once each year for two days. Between annual meetings, trustees serve the University by promoting its mission, encouraging enrollment, and supporting it financially.

Current membership of the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council, as well as the current Trustees of the University of the South, may be found on the website of the Diocese.

Please note the following:

- Nominators must be members of the clergy in the Diocese or lay communicants in

good standing of a church of the Diocese. A lay person need not be confirmed or a delegate of Convention to submit a nomination.

- Consent of the nominee is required.
- Nominees for Standing Committee and Diocesan Council in the clergy order must be entitled to seat in Convention.
- Nominees for Standing Committee and Diocesan Council in the lay order must be confirmed adult communicants in good standing who are enrolled at a church in the Diocese.
- Persons desiring to nominate for re-election individuals whose terms on Standing Committee or Diocesan Council will end on December 31, 2021 should heed the [Constitution and Canons of the Diocese](#) (Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution and Canon 15, Section 1 respectively).

The deadline for nominations to be received at Diocesan House is 12:00 noon, Monday, October 11. Nominations are submitted through an online form found on the website of the Diocese. The names of persons nominated by the deadline will be included in Convention materials. Shortly after the deadline has passed, the online form will be disabled and its link removed from the website of the Diocese.

Detailed rules for nominations and elections are found in Rule of Order XXII. The Constitution, Canons, and Rules of Order are posted on the diocesan website.

Elections at Convention will be conducted electronically. Read the revised Handbook or watch the pre-Convention webinar from the Secretary for further information.

[Submit a nomination](#)

RESOLUTIONS

Members of the clergy entitled to seat at Convention, lay delegates to Convention, constitutional or canonical officers, and constitutional or canonical bodies may submit resolutions for consideration by Convention.

Authors must phrase resolutions in such a way that Convention can resolve the question by a direct Yes or No vote. “Whereas” clauses are not allowed. An explanation clearly marked “Comment” may be appended to the text for the convenience of Convention; it will be included in Convention materials, but it will not be debated or published as part of the final resolution if adopted. The Secretary may contact authors to propose edits for clarity or consistent style.

Canon 12 prescribes special procedures to amend the Constitution, Canons of the Diocese, or Rules of Order of Convention. Authors of such resolutions are urged to consult the Chancellor of the Diocese, [Mr. Edward L. Embree, III](#), prior to submitting them.

Send resolutions in plaintext or Microsoft Word format by email to the Secretary of Convention. Each resolution submitted on time will be posted on the website of the Diocese shortly after the Secretary has assigned it a descriptive title and a number.

The deadline to submit resolutions is 12 noon, Monday, October 11. The Secretary will return without action any resolution received after the deadline.

Detailed rules for introduction and consideration of resolutions are found in Rules of Order IV(a) and (b), XXIII(a), and XXIV. The Constitution, Canons, and Rules of Order are posted on the website of the Diocese.

**Submit a
resolution**

Yours in Christ,
Charles L. Till
[Secretary of the Convention](#)

Find Convention Resources