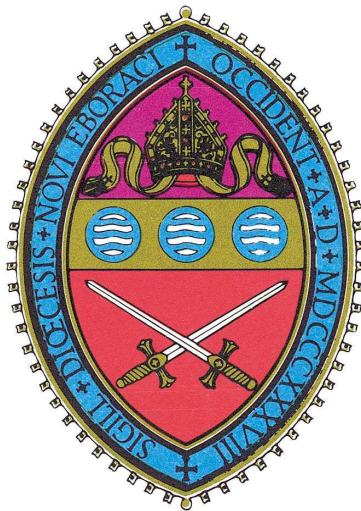


JOURNAL
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 6 AND 7, 2020



Convention held via ZOOM

Due to emergency pandemic restrictions on gatherings

JOURNAL'S ELECTRONIC FORMAT

By resolution of the 171st Annual Convention (2008), the Journal is published primarily in electronic form and is available on the web site of the Diocese at www.episcopalwny.org

The Journal consists of Part 1: The Proceedings of the Convention and Part 2: The Documents of the Convention.

NOTICE OF THE 184th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK

To all Clergy and to the Clerk of the Vestry or Clerk of the Advisory Council of vacant cures:

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 3 of Canon 2 of the Canons of this Diocese, that the 181st Convention of this Diocese shall be held on Friday and Saturday, October 25th and 26th, xxxxx, at ?????????????????.

The Rt. Rev. Sean W. Rowe
October 28, 2018

THE MISSION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK

Diocesan Council Statement

The Episcopal Diocese of Western New York accepts Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, proclaims Him to be the Head of this Diocese, and claims it to be the mission of this Diocese to live and proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Friday, November 6th, 2020

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, November 7th, 2020

SESSION ONE:

**DIOCESAN CONVENTION
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESES OF WESTERN NEW YORK
AND NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
9:30 AM**

Worship Service

Opening Hymn: Crown him with Many Crowns

Collect for Social Justice

Readings: Luke 24: 14-16; Mark 16: 1-6

Participants: Officiant: The Rev. Twila Smith; Reflection: The Rev. Canon Dempsey-Sims; Voice of the People: The Rev. Jason Shank; Presenter: The Rt. Rev Sean Rowe; Music: Craig and Jill Dressler.

Honored by the Bishop for their distinguished service to the dioceses:

Alfred D. Price, designated Canon Architect. Martha Ishman, designated Canon.

The Presiding Bishop.

The Presiding Bishop addressed the Convention by video.

Convention address

Bishop Sean Rowe

Mission Strategy Advisory Group Report (MSAG)

Craig Dressler and Twila Smith, co-chairs

MSAG is seeking to explore avenues for ministry by the partner dioceses. First, it is researching and assessing the work that is already going on. It then seeks to discern possible iterations; and finally, to make recommendations in a report to be issued in 2021

Report from the Commission to Dismantle Racism and Discrimination

The Rev. Matthew Lincoln and the Hon. Rose Sconiers, co-chairs

Members of the commission reported on work done and future plans.

The Commission is urging the adoption the Pledge of Faith and Action against Racial Injustice. It is recommending a series of conversations around adaptive change to accomplish beloved community. A video from the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center.

Instructions for the Rest of the Day

Bishop Rowe asked everyone to immediately click on the link for the business session. This is necessary to establish the quorum. This is the video equivalent of stopping to pick up your credentials.

SESSION TWO: JOINT BUSINESS MEETING

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESES OF WESTERN NEW YORK AND NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA 11:15 AM

Organization of Convention

Verification of Quorums by Secretaries of each Convention

WNY: Howard Gondree, Secretary of the Diocese of Western New York, certified the presence of quorum.

NWP: Adam Trembley, Secretary of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania, certified the presence of a quorum

Providing Seat and voice to certain non-members of Convention

The Credentials Committee recommended persons to be entitled to seat and voice but no vote.

Motion to offer seat and voice:

(get names)

A vote was taken by poll. 100% approved seat and voice.

Update on changes in clergy of both dioceses:

Obtain text.

Election of a Secretary for the diocese of WNY:

Howard Gondree was nominated. A vote was taken by poll. Resolution passed.

Appointments

The Hon Rose Sconiers provided reported the appointments for WNY

Matthew Scott provided the appointments for NWPA:

Cheryl Fischer, Chancellor, provided

James Steadman, Chancellor, provided

Resolution with respect to Northwestern Penna for a convention by electronic means.

Chancellor spoke to the resolution.

Motion carried.

Resolution with respect to Western New York for a convention by electronic means.

Chancellor spoke to the resolution

Motion carried.

Adoption of Rules of Order for an online convention.

Adam Trambley reported the proposed rules of order for both conventions.

A poll was taken and the motion carried..

Resolutions Placed Before Conventions

The Consent Calendar

The consent calendar was moved and seconded. A vote was taken by poll. Motion carried.

Resolution: Framing the Journey to Beloved Community. (NY-E/PA-E)

Matthew Scott reported on the resolution.

The Hon. Rose Sconiers spoke to the resolution.

A poll was taken and the motion carried.

Resolution: Visibility of the Union of Black Episcopalians (NY-F/PA-F)

Matthew Scott reported the resolution

Who discussed?

A poll was taken and the motion carried.

The presidential election results were announced. Bishop offered a prayer for the nation.

Resolution: Forming a Joint Commission to Dismantle Racism and Discrimination (NY-G/PA-G)

Matthew Scott reported the resolution

Stacy Burcell spoke to the resolution.

Matthew Lincoln also spoke in favor and expanding the commission to both dioceses.

A poll was taken and the motion carried.

Nominations by the Bishop, to be elected by both Conventions:

Joint Commission to Dismantle Racism and Discrimination

Get names

Joint Commission on Ministry

Get names

Joint Board of Examining Chaplains

Get names

A poll will be taken as a whole to elect the bishop's nominees to the joint commissions.

Nominees approved.

This concluded the business of the Joint Session. The separate business of each diocese will be considered in separate sessions.

***SESSION THREE: CONVENTION
BUSINESS MEETING FOR THE DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK***

Welcome by the Bishop at 1PM.

Prayer by Deacon Lillian Davis-Wilson.

Orientation for Convention in the use of Zoom.

Announcement of Judge of Election Wendy Palmer

Offices and Nominations

Diocesan Council: Stanlawski, Reid Heffner

D. C Clergy: James Clement

Staning Lay Updeck

Standing Committee Clergy Kim Rossi

Trustees Robert Matson
Karen Gengo

There were no additional nominees.

The chair then asked for motion to declare them elected by acclamation. A poll was taken and the nominated persons were elected.

Elections

Resolutions Placed Before Convention

Resolution: (NY-A) Diocesan Budget for 2021

Wende Palmer, Diocesan Treasurer moved the budget and spoke to it.

Discussion followed. Ellen Brauza asked about the full share asking is going down. Maria indicated the lower amount is based on reported income.

The chair then asked for a poll and the budget was approved

Resolution: (NY-B) Amendments to Canons

Earle King, Chair of the Constitutions and Canon's Committee presented the proposed amendments.. These simply refer to punctuations and grammar. Each must be voted upon by orders.

There was a single poll, but separate sections for clergy and lay on each measure. There were separate sections; every voter had to vote in both sections. One section was for clergy yes or no (or to designate you were lay); the other section was yes or no (or to designate you were clergy). It was unanimous in both orders.

Resolution: (NY-C) Amendments to Canon 9.2

Earle King indicated the initial population of the Council was no longer needed and should be stricken. The poll requires 2/3 in each order. The poll passed in both orders.

Resolution: (NY-D) Discipline of a Priest or Deacon

Earle King moved this and spoke to it. This is a result of a meeting of chancellors to form a regional disciplinary board.

The remaining part of the canon is kept in place so that if the regional disciplinary board is eliminated, we still have a structure in place without a further amendment.

The initial composition was no longer necessary and is eliminated.

The new arrangements become effective in January 2021.

A poll was taken and passed by more than 2/3 vote in both orders.

Nominations to the Disciplinary Committee

Nominated were Hon Rose Sconiers, The Rev. Alison Martin, The Very Rev. Colleen O-Connor.

Rose Sconiers was elected by acclamation. A poll was taken with respect to the clergy.

The clergy are for unexpired term, and a poll later determined which clergy gets the longer term. The Very Rev. Colleen O'Connor received the longer term.

Appointments of Deans

Constitution and Canons

Commission on Compensation

Dispatch of Business

Resolutions Committee

A call was made for further business before adjournment.

The Bishop thanked the staff for adapting to the conditions.

A motion for adjournment was made seconded and adopted; the session was adjourned at 1:40pm.