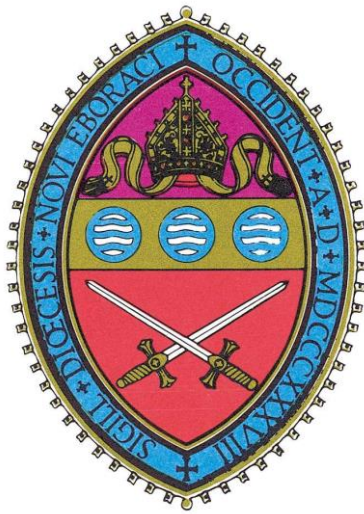


JOURNAL
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN NEW YORK
OCTOBER 30 AND 31, 2015



Held at: The Chautauqua Suites, Mayville, NY

Hosted by Southern Erie Deanery

JOURNAL'S ELECTRONIC FORMAT

By resolution of the 171st Annual Convention (2008), the Journal of the Convention is now 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 179th 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 179th Convention of this Diocese shall be held on Friday and Saturday, October 28th and 29th, 2016, at the Conference and Event Center in Niagara Falls, New York.

R. William Franklin, Bishop
October 21, 2015

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.

Journal, Part One: Proceedings of the Convention

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AT THE CHAUTAUQUA SUITES,
MAYVILLE, NEW YORK

Friday, October 30, 2015

REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES AND OPEN HEARINGS

Members began to register at 9:00 a.m.

MEETINGS: 9:30 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.

Budget Hearing: Between 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., Diocesan Council Members, assisted by the Budget Committee, provided information and led discussion of the proposed 2016 Diocesan Budget.

Constitution and Canons Hearing: Between 10:20 a.m. to 11:05 a.m., the Constitution and Canons Committee Members provided information and led discussion regarding the resolution to be brought before this Convention.

General Convention Deputation: Between 11:10 a.m. to 11:55 a.m., Deputies to the 2015 General Convention discussed the recently held General Convention.

Lunch was served in the Banquet Rooms from noon until 1 p.m.

ORGANIZATION AND FIRST LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Friday, October 30, 2015 – 1:15 p.m. Banquet Room

CALL TO ORDER – The Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin, Eleventh Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York, called to order the One Hundred Seventy-Eighth Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America in the Diocese of Western New York on the day, place, and time appointed.

OPENING PRAYERS – The Bishop led the opening prayer.

HEAD TABLE – The Bishop presided as President of Convention. Seated with the Bishop on the platform were: The Rev. Vicki Zust, Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, also serving as timekeeper; James Fanning, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese; Cheryl Fisher, Esq., Assistant Chancellor; Mr. Robert Matson, Treasurer of the Diocese and Mr. Howard Gondree, Secretary of the Diocese.

REPORT ON CREDENTIALS – The Very Rev. Colleen O'Connor reported on behalf of the Credentials Committee. The credentials of all congregations present were in order except 3 churches with issues, some spanning two years:

St. Mary's, Salamanca; St. John's, Ellicottville; Christ Church, Albion

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Convention resolved that any lay representatives from the congregations with credentials issues may be seated as guests, but without voice and vote.

CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM – Mr. Howard F. Gondree, Secretary of the Convention, reported that 56 clergy and 124 lay members of convention representing 50 congregations had registered prior to the call to order of Convention, with registration still continuing for late arrivals, and that there was a quorum. The Bishop then announced that the Convention was organized.

ELECTION OF A SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES – The Bishop called upon the Chair of the Committee on the Dispatch of Business for nominations for Secretary of the Diocese and Convention. The Rev. Vicki Züst nominated Mr. Howard F. Gondree. There being no further nominations, he was declared elected. The following were then appointed by the Secretary to serve as Assistant Secretaries of Convention: Mrs. Marjorie Gingell, Assistant for Registration, and The Rev. John Paul Boyer, Assistant Parliamentarian.

APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS AND TELLERS – The Bishop appointed Ms. Nancy Boncore as Chief Teller. Ms. Susan Broad, Ms. Jana Hunt, Ms. Wygenia Miles, Ms. Elizabeth Schascheck and Ms. Paula Stockman were appointed to serve as assistant tellers, and Ms. Boncore was empowered to appoint additional assistant tellers as needed.

AGENDA DOCUMENT 1 – The Bishop recognized The Rev. Vicki Züst, Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business. She moved that the Agenda be adopted. Motion carried.

DOCUMENT 1

178th Annual Convention Agenda October 30-31, 2015

Friday, October 30

9:00 – 12:00 Registration (Entrance to Banquet Room)
9:30 – 10:15 Hearing: Budget Hearing (Room 2-3)
10:20 – 11:05 Hearing: Constitution and Canons (Room 2-3)
11:10 – 11:55 Hearing: General Convention (Room 2-3)
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch – pre-sale only (Banquet Room)
1:15 Organization and First Legislative Session (Banquet Room)
Opening Prayer
Call to Order and Organization
Report on Credentials
Action on delinquent congregations
Certification of Quorum
Announcement of Organization
Election of Secretary and appointment of assistant secretaries
Appointment of Inspectors and Tellers
Report on Dispatch of Business
Agenda
Courtesy Seats
Greeting from Host Deanery
Introduction of New and Retiring Clergy
Report of Constitution and Canons Committee

Nominations

Report on Elections to Diocesan Council (if canonical revision fails to get 2/3 majority)

Appointment of Deans

Report of Nominating Committee

Nominations from the floor

Seconding speeches

Voting procedures and first ballot

2:15

Bishop's Address

3:00

World Café Discussion

4:15

Appointment of Committees

Consent for COM

Report of Elections Committee and Second ballot if necessary

Prayers

5:00

Reception (Exhibition Hall); Twelve Step Group (Room 4)

6:30

Banquet (Banquet Room)

Saturday, October 31

7:00

Breakfast – pre-sale only (Olive's Restaurant)

8:00

Registration (Entrance to Banquet Room)

9:00

Eucharist (Banquet Room)

10:30

Keynote Address and Questions (Banquet Room)

11:30

Break

11:40

Report of the Elections Committee

Table Conversations

12:05

Prayers and Lunch (Banquet Room)

1:15

Second Legislative Session (Banquet Room)

Receipt of Regular Annual Reports

Report of the Ministry Center Board

Report on Eaton Camp

Report of the Episcopal Partnership for Mission and Outreach

1:30

Proposed Budget for 2016 (time certain)

General Convention Report

Receipt by Title of Business not previously submitted

Discussion of Business not previously submitted

Follow up on matters from the 177th Convention

Other Business

Closing Resolutions

Celebration of and Prayers for the Presiding Bishop-elect

COURTESY SEATS – The Committee on Dispatch of Business then moved DOCUMENT 2, which was seconded and adopted.

DOCUMENT 2

Courtesy Seats

Resolved, that the following persons – members of the Clergy resident or licensed in the Diocese by not meeting the conditions of Article III, Section (2) of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Western New York – be granted the courtesy of seat and voice in the 178th Convention of the Diocese of Western New York.

John Birdsall
Robert Duerr
Richard Elberfeld
Carole Grant-White
Carolyn Lumbard
Ann Markle

And be it further resolved, that the 178th Convention of the Diocese of Western New York extend floor privileges and voice to all lay persons not otherwise serving as delegates who were/are

Deputies or Alternate Deputies to General Convention
Trustees of the Diocese
Members of the Standing Committee
Members of the Diocesan Council
Assistant Secretaries of the Diocese
Assistant Treasurers of the Diocese
Youth Delegates Kayli Christ, Ruth Palmer and Ben Thiesen
Chairs of the Resolution, Nominating and Constitution and Canons Committees
Episcopal Partnership for Mission and Outreach Board Members

There being no discussion, the measure was voted upon and approved.

GREETING FROM THE HOST DEANERY – The Very Rev. Gary Schindler brought greetings from the Southern Erie Deanery. The loose offering at the Convention Eucharist offering will be designated for human and pet food pantries sponsored by the Episcopal Congregations of the Southern Erie Deanery. The Rev. Ann Tillman made a presentation from the Southern Erie Deanery – a gift to the Bishop celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta and of Scotland and Samuel Seabury – an English and a Scottish duck, respectively.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW & RETIRING CLERGY

Bishop Franklin announced the following clergy changes:

NEW CLERGY AND CLERGY CHANGES

The following clergy have retired since the last Convention:

The Rev. Glen Fuller
The Rev. Isaac Ihiasota

The following people have been ordained to the vocational diaconate since the last Convention:

The Rev. Deacon Martha Farone
The Rev. Deacon Lillian Davis-Wilson

The following clergy have come into the Diocese since the last Convention:

The Rev. Matthew Lincoln, Rector of Trinity, Buffalo

NECROLOGY

The following clergy have died since the last Convention:

The Rev. James Birney
The Rev. Kirk Katner
The Rev. Ben Moss

Also this summer, The Rt. Rev. David Bowman, ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Western New York, died. There will be a Memorial Service in honor of the life of Bishop Bowman on Saturday, November 21st at St. Paul's Cathedral at 11:00 a.m.

REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND CANONS COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business reported on the procedures and Rules of Order for debate.

The Very Rev. Earle King, Chair of the Constitution and Canons Committee, reported for the committee. He first referred the Convention to the version of the document proposed by the Diocesan Council and approved by the Constitution and Canons Committee for inclusion in the Convention Documents (formerly referred to as the Red Book) distributed electronically for consideration by this Convention.

DOCUMENT 3

Resolution to Amend Canon 9, Section 2, Subsections 1 and 2
Direct Election of Diocesan Council
(as published in the Convention Documents)

- 1 Be it resolved that Canon 9, Section 2, Subsections 1 & 2 of the Canons of the Diocese of
- 2 Western New York be amended as follows:
- 3 §2. Diocesan Council
- 4 (1) The Diocesan Council shall be composed of the following:
- 5 (a) The Bishop of Western New York; the Bishop Coadjutor if there be one; the
- 6 Bishop Suffragan or Bishops Suffragan if there be such; the President of the
- 7 Standing Committee if there ~~is~~ be no bishop Bishop Diocesan.
- 8 (b) ~~One Clerical Member and one Lay Member from each deanery, each elected~~
- 9 ~~for a term of two years. Election shall take place at a deanery council meeting.~~
- 10 ~~Each year one person shall be elected from each deanery, alternating between~~

11 ~~lay and ordained. Results of such election shall be reported to the Secretary of~~
12 ~~the Diocese and announced and confirmed by the next Annual Convention of~~
13 ~~the Diocese. Six (6) Lay Members and three (3) Clerical Members, of which~~
14 ~~two Lay Members and one Clerical Member will be elected by Diocesan~~
15 ~~Convention each year for a term of three (3) years. No person elected under~~
16 ~~this paragraph may serve more than two (2) consecutive elected terms.~~

17 (c) To ensure diversity and that all voices, especially those of the youth, are
18 heard by Diocesan Council the Bishop may appoint up to three (3) additional
19 members to the Council for a term of one (1) year. No person will be appointed
20 for more than two (2) consecutive years.

21 (2) Eligibility, Elections, Vacancies

22 (a) Except for appointed Lay Members under the age of 21, each ~~Each~~ Lay
23 Member of the Diocesan Council shall be an adult confirmed communicant in
24 good standing of a parish or mission ~~in the electing deanery of the Diocese of~~
25 Western New York. Each Lay Member, and shall be familiar with the
26 administration and finances of the congregation of which he or she is a
27 member. Each Clerical Member shall be canonically resident in this Diocese,
28 ~~and serving in the electing deanery. A member of Diocesan Council, upon~~
29 ~~completion of one two (2) year term, is eligible for re-election or~~
30 ~~reappointment to a second two (2) year term. No member of the Council,~~
31 ~~having served two full terms, or four (4) years total, whichever occurs first in~~
32 ~~one's tenure, shall be eligible to serve as a member of the Council until the~~
33 ~~expiration of one convention year.~~

34 (b) The term of office of members of Diocesan Council shall commence the first
35 day of November of the year of election, and end on the 31st day of October of
36 the year in which the term expires.

37 (c) In the event of death, disability, or resignation of a member of Council, the
38 Bishop will appoint a member to serve until the subsequent Diocesan
39 Convention, at which time a replacement will be elected. ~~or removal from a~~
40 ~~deanery of the Clerical or Lay Member elected from that deanery, the Dean or~~
41 ~~Council of that deanery shall certify that fact to the Secretaries of the Diocese~~
42 ~~and Diocesan Council, whereupon the Deanery Council shall convene to elect~~
43 ~~a new representative of the appropriate order who shall become a member of~~

44 ~~Diocesan Council in place and stead of such Member.~~ The Secretaries of the
45 Diocese and Diocesan Council shall be notified of the ~~election~~ appointment.
46 (d) The Diocesan Convention at which this canon is adopted (“Adopting
47 Convention”) will elect nine (9) members for staggered terms: three (3) for 3
48 year terms (2 lay; 1 cleric), three (3) for 2 year terms (2 lay; 1 cleric), and three
49 (3) for 1 year terms (2 lay; 1 cleric). In determining placement, those with the
50 most votes will be elected to the three-year terms, those with the second most
51 votes will be elected to the two-year terms, and so forth. Those serving on
52 Diocesan Council immediately prior to the Adopting 2015 Diocesan
53 Convention are all eligible to seek election to Diocesan Council at the Adopting
54 2015 Diocesan Convention, and, if elected, to serve up to two consecutive terms
55 as directed in Canon 9.2.(1)(b).

Explanation

It has become clear over the last several years that the Diocesan Council is too large. It has also become clear that the Deaneries are not the most effective way that congregations are connecting with each other.

The simplest solution to both of these issues is to move to a direct election of the Diocesan Council by the Convention. It allows for a smaller Council. Because Council membership will not be directly tied to the deanery structure, it will also allow for more flexible structures to connect congregations.

Council will now be made up of 9 members, 6 lay and 3 clergy to be elected by the Convention. The Bishop will have 3 appointments each year to address issues of geographic, racial, gender, age and area of expertise that may not be represented by the elected members. The Bishop’s appointments will be for one year.

In future years the Convention will elect 3 members of Council for 3 year terms each year (2 lay; 1 clergy).

REPORT OF DOCUMENT 3

The Very Rev. Earle King, Chair of the Committee on Constitutions and Canons, continued the Report for the committee by commenting that the Committee had consulted with the Diocesan Council having heard and reacted to comments made at the hearing earlier in the day. The Convention Documents Book or published version is offered now by the following amendment relating to line 19, with the amendment italicized:

- (c) To ensure diversity and that all voices, especially those of the youth, are heard by Diocesan Council the Bishop may appoint up to three (3) additional members to the Council for a term of one (1) year. Each person appointed must be at least 16 years of age, baptized, and a member of a parish or mission in this Diocese. No person will be appointed for more than two (2) consecutive years.

The Very Rev. Earle King then moved Document 3, as so amended by the Diocesan Council and approved by the Constitution and Canons Committee.

Mr. Carl Otis, Vice President of Diocesan Council, then spoke on behalf of the Diocesan Council as the proposer of the resolution.

Discussion followed:

The Rev. Ellen Brauza spoke in support. She said she has experienced two versions of Diocesan Council that have not worked. She said she believed the Council has real work to do, and it needs to be efficient to get that work done. The Rev. John Paul Boyer also rose in support. His experience, when elected to the Council, was not favorable. When his term ended he had not the slightest desire to serve again. For that reason he believes the current resolution is in the best interests of the church.

There being no further speakers, debate was then closed and a vote was taken by orders. The resolution passed in both orders by more than 2/3 vote in each order. Consequently, the canonical change becomes immediately effective without the action of another Convention and the election which will take place later at this convention will be for members of the Diocesan Council to seats according to the Canon 9, as amended by this Convention.

DOCUMENT 3 – AS ENACTED

Resolution to Amend Canon 9, Section 2, Subsections 1 and 2 Direct Election of Diocesan Council

Be it resolved that Canon 9, Section 2, Subsections 1 & 2 of the Canons of the Diocese of Western New York be amended as follows:

§2. Diocesan Council

(1) The Diocesan Council shall be composed of the following:

- (a) The Bishop of Western New York; the Bishop Coadjutor if there be one; the Bishop Suffragan or Bishops Suffragans if there be such; the President of the Standing Committee if there be no Bishop Diocesan.
- (b) Six (6) Lay Members and three (3) Clerical Members, of which two Lay Members and one Clerical Member will be elected by Diocesan Convention each year for a term of three (3) years. No person elected under this paragraph may serve more than two (2) consecutive elected terms.
- (c) To ensure diversity and that all voices, especially those of the youth, are heard by Diocesan Council the Bishop may appoint up to three (3) additional members to the Council for a term of one (1) year. Each person appointed must be at least 16 years of

age, baptized, and a member of a parish or mission in this Diocese. No person will be appointed for more than two (2) consecutive years.

(2) Eligibility, Elections, Vacancies

- (a) Except for appointed Lay Members under the age of 21, each Lay Member of the Diocesan Council shall be an adult confirmed communicant in good standing of a parish or mission of the Diocese of Western New York, and shall be familiar with the administration and finances of the congregation of which he or she is a member. Each Clerical Member shall be canonically resident in this Diocese.
- (b) The term of office of members of Diocesan Council shall commence the first day of November of the year of election, and end on the 31st day of October of the year in which the term expires.
- (c) In the event of death, disability, or resignation of a member of Council, the Bishop will appoint a member to serve until the subsequent Diocesan Convention, at which time a replacement will be elected. The Secretaries of the Diocese and Diocesan Council shall be notified of the appointment.
- (d) The Diocesan Convention at which this canon is adopted (“Adopting Convention”) will elect nine (9) member for staggered terms: three (3) for 3 year terms (2 lay; 1 cleric), three (3) for 2 year terms (2 lay; 1 cleric), and three (3) for 1 year terms (2 lay; 1 cleric). In determining placement, those with the most votes will be elected to the three-year terms, those with the second most votes will be elected to the two-year terms, and so forth. Those serving on Diocesan Council immediately prior to the Adopting Convention are all eligible to seek election to Diocesan Council at the Adopting Convention, and, if elected, to serve up to two consecutive terms as directed in Canon 9.2.(1)(b).

APPOINTMENT OF DEANS

The Bishop announced that he will appoint the following as deans:

Central Erie Deanery	The Very Rev. Gloria Payne-Carter
Chautauqua Deanery	The Very Rev. Thomas Broad, Acting Dean
Cattaraugus Deanery	The Very Rev. Thomas Broad, Acting Dean
Eastern Erie Deanery	The Very Rev. Barbara Price
Genesee Region Deanery	The Very Rev. Colleen O’Connor
Niagara Deanery	announced later as The Very Rev. Earle C. King, Jr.
Northern Erie Deanery	The Very Rev. Earle C. King, Jr.
Southern Erie Deanery	The Very Rev. Gary Schindler

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DISPATCH OF BUSINESS

The Rev. Vicki Zust was recognized to describe the procedures involved in Nominations and Seconding Speeches.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The Ven. Thomas Tripp thanked the Nominating Committee for its work and then reviewed Document 4.

For the Standing Committee (one cleric for a 4-year term): The Rev. Ellen Brauza.

For the Standing Committee (one lay person for a 4-year term): Ms. Beverly A. Fortune; Ms. Donna Leney.

For Trustees of the Diocese (two lay persons for a 3-year term): The Hon. Rose H. Sconiers; Ms. Elizabeth A. Greno; Mr. William Pictor; Mr. Charles B. Ohl, Jr.

For Diocesan Council (one cleric for a 3-year term; one cleric for a 2-year term; one cleric for a 1-year term): The Very Rev. Colleen O'Connor; The Rev. Kim Rossi; The Very Rev. Gloria E. E. Payne-Carter; The Rev. Ann Tillman.

For Diocesan Council (two lay persons for a 3-year term; two lay persons for a 2-year term; two lay persons for a 1-year term): Ms. Cheri Maytum-Krull, Mr. Wayne A. Blassingame; Ms. Elisabeth Brauza; Mr. Carl E. Otis; Mr. Brian Miller.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE. The Rev. Alison Martin reported for the Standing Committee its nominations for the Disciplinary Board (which is Document 5).

For Disciplinary Board (one cleric for a 3-year term): The Rev. Kim Rossi

For Disciplinary Board (one lay person for a 3-year term): Ms. Elizabeth Killian

The Bishop then called for Nominations from the Floor.

For the Standing Committee: no nominations were received and nominations closed.

For Trustee: no nominations were received; nominations were closed.

For Diocesan Council in the Clerical and Lay Orders: no nominations; nominations were closed.

Seconding speeches were then declared in order for contested positions.

Upon the conclusion of seconding speeches, the Rev. Vicki Zust, as Chair of the Dispatch of Business, noted that there are three position in which the number of persons nominated do not exceed the number to be elected. Those positions are:

Standing Committee, clerical order
Disciplinary Board, both orders

The Secretary was instructed to cast a single ballot with respect to uncontested elections as noted. Elected at this time were: The Rev. Ellen Brauza, to the Standing Committee for a 4-year term; The Rev. Kim Rossi and Ms. Elizabeth Killian to the Disciplinary Board for a 3-year term.

VOTING PROCEDURES AND THE FIRST BALLOT – Ms. Nancy Boncore gave voting instructions on behalf of the Elections Committee. Tellers then collected the cast ballots. When the balloting was finished the Bishop announced a recess.

RECESS

The Bishop reconvened the Convention after the Recess.

THE BISHOP’S ADDRESS

The Bishop made his annual address to the Convention. The full text is found in Part 2 of the Journal of the Convention – Documents.

WORLD CAFÉ DISCUSSION

This discussion used the World Café model of conversation, which many had used in the Be Not Afraid Conversations or the Take Heart Conversations.

Round 1 – Will you persevere in resisting evil and whenever you fall into sin repent and return to the Lord?

- Where do we see evil in our world?
- Of what do our congregations need to repent?

Participants then moved to another table.

Round 2 – Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

- How do we proclaim the Good News of God in Christ outside our walls?
- How do we equip our members to do this?

Participants then moved to another table.

Round 3 – Will you seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

- Who do our congregations serve?
- How do we expand the places where we serve Christ?

Notes from the table discussions were assembled by “post-it notes” for later report. See Part 2: Documents.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The Bishop then called the attention of the Convention to Document 6, listing appointments to certain committees and commissions of the diocese. Only appointments to the Commission on Ministry require the approval of the Convention.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Bishop’s Appointments to the Commission on Ministry were approved.

DOCUMENT 6
Appointment of Committees

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (Canon 15, Section 2) (6 clergy, 6 lay)

The Rev. Terry Bull (2021)	Ms. Andrea Szymanski (2021)
The Rev. Deacon Leann McConchie (2020)	Mr. Larry Mazuchowski (2020)
The Very Rev. Gloria Payne-Carter (2019)	Mr. Jim Holton (2019)
The Rev. Cindy Sever (2018)	Mrs. Diane Dworak (2018)
The Rev. Cathy Dempsey-Sims (2017)	Ms. Catherine Way (2017)
The Rev. Deacon Cathy Smith (2016)	Mr. Richard Few (2016)

CONSTITUTION AND CANONS (Canon 15, Section 3)

The Rev. Thomas Mitchell (2019)	Mr. E. J. Gryzwna (2019)
The Rev. Joseph Kozlowski (2018)	Mr. Arthur Russ, Jr. (2018)
The Very Rev. Earle King, Chair (2017)	Ms. Cheryl Fisher (2017)
The Rev. Russell A. Newbert (2016)	Ms. Alexandra Tamutus (2016)

DISCIPLINARY BOARD

The Rev. Kim Rossi (2018)	Ms. Elizabeth Killian (2018)
The Rev. Thomas Mitchell (2017)	Mr. Thomas Farley (2017)
The Rev. Judith Lee (2016)	Mrs. Andrea Adema, Chair (2016)
The Rev. Alison Martin (2016)	The Rev. Allen W. Farabee, Intake Officer
Mr. Patrick Maloney, Church Attorney	

DISPATCH OF BUSINESS (Canon 15, Section 5)

The Rev. Vicki Zust, Chair	Ms. Lorraine Hapeman
The Very Rev. Colleen O'Connor	Ms. Alice Brown
Mr. Howard Gondree, Ex-Officio	

ANTI-RACISM & DIVERSITY COMMISSION

The Very Rev. Gloria Payne-Carter, President	Dr. Walter Holland
Mr. Wayne A. Blassingame	Dr. James L. Jackson
The Rev. Ellen Brauza	The Rev. Deacon Leann McConchie
The Rev. Harry T. Grace	The Hon. Rose Sconiers

COMMISSION ON COMPENSATION

Ms. Barbara Northan, Chair	Ms. Judy Elliott
Mr. Howard Gondree, Ex-Officio	The Rev. Jerre Feagin

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Ms. Elizabeth Brauza	Ms. Cris Hicks
Ms. Alice Brown	Mr. Michael John
The Rev. Cathy Dempsey-Sims	The Rev. Sean Leonard
The Rev. Jerre Feagin	The Hon. Rose Sconiers
Ms. Lorraine Hapeman	The Rev. Vicki Zust

COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Ms. Nancy Boncore, Chair
Mr. Douglas Bowden
Ms. Susan Broad
Ms. Jana Hunt

Ms. Wygenia Miles
Ms. Dorothy Pope
Ms. Elizabeth Schascheck
Ms. Paula Stockman

ENDOWMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Nan Clarkson
Mrs. Marjorie Gingell
Mrs. Carol Grieco
Dr. Reid Heffner
Mrs. Elle Heffner
Mr. Frederic Houston
Mr. Thomas Lunt

The Rev. Thomas Mitchell
Mr. Ernest Montgomery
Mr. Lawrence Moss
Mr. Howard Gondree
Ms. Eleanor Drury, Consultant
Ms. Alice Brown, Staff

JOINT BOARD OF EXAMINING CHAPLAINS, WNY Members

The Rev. Rocky Dworak
The Rev. Luke Fodor

The Rev. Vicki Zust

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Robert Matson
Ms. Judy Elliott
Mr. Carl Otis
Mr. Howard Gondree, Consultant

The Rev. Russell A. Newbert
Mr. Robert Firestine
The Rev. Pete Dempsey-Sims
Ms. Maria Manocchio, Staff

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Rev. Deacon Thomas Tripp, Chair
The Rev. Sare Anuszkiewicz

Mrs. Dorothy Pope
Ms. Josephine Robbins

EPISCOPAL PARTNERSHIP FOR MISSION & OUTREACH

Mr. Scott VanPletzen-Rands
Ms. Elisabeth Brauza

Mr. David Crowther
Mr. Joseph Spino

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Ms. Elisabeth Brauza
The Rev. Harry Grace
Mr. Graham Millar
Mr. Jason Miller

The Rev. Bonnie Morris
Sandra O'Loughlin, Esq.
Ms. Jennifer Pierce

WORSHIP COMMISSION

The Rev. Cathy Dempsey-Sims, Chair
Mr. Alex Benestelli
The Rev. John Paul Boyer
The Rev. Ellen Brauza
The Rev. Thomas Broad
The Rev. Virginia Carr
Ms. Ann Dutton
The Rev. Robert Duerr
The Rev. Penny Foster

The Rev. Deacon Kim Greene
The Very Rev. Earle King
Mr. David Mathewson
The Rev. Russell Newbert
Mr. Benjamin Phillips
The Very Rev. Barbara Price
Ms. Abbie Rockwood
Mr. Jonathan Scarozza
The Rev. Ann Tillman

REPORT OF ELECTION COMMITTEE ON THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST BALLOT

Ms. Nancy Boncore reported on the result of the elections. Individual ballots were cast for the various positions. The total number of ballots presented were 193 with 26 invalid and 1 blank. Thus a total of 166 ballots yielded a requirement of 83 votes to elect:

Standing Committee in the Lay Order:

Ms. Beverly Fortune (Elected), 126 votes; Ms. Donna Leney, 34 votes

Trustees in the Lay Order:

The Hon. Rose H. Sconiers (Elected), 120 votes; Ms. Elizabeth Greno, 67 votes;
Mr. William Pictor (Elected), 84 votes; Mr. Charles B. Ohl, Jr., 43 votes

Diocesan Council in the Clerical Order:

The Very Rev. Colleen O'Connor (Elected, 2-year term), 40 votes;
The Rev. Kim Rossi (Elected, 1-year term), 37 votes;
The Very Rev. Gloria Payne-Carter (Elected, 3-year term), 54 votes;
The Rev. Ann Tillman, 35 votes

Diocesan Council in the Lay Order:

Ms. Cheri Krull (Elected, 2-year term), 53 votes;
Mr. Wayne A. Blassingame (Elected, 3-year term), 85 votes;
Ms. Elisabeth Brauza (Elected, 3-year term), 86 votes;
Mr. Carl E. Otis (Elected, 2-year term), 57 votes;
Mr. Brian Miller (Elected, 1-year term), 27 votes

RECEPTION

BANQUET (Banquet Room)

At the banquet, Dr. Robert Franklin, the speaker at Convention the next day, was introduced to those present. Dr. Franklin is Director of the Religion Department at the Chautauqua Institution and Professor of Moral Leadership at Emory University.

The Bishop recognized the Youth Delegation, and in particular Mr. Ben Thiesen, who has served as Youth Representative on the Diocesan Council.

At the banquet the Bishop presented twelve Web of Grace Awards. The awards were given to people and congregations who have helped to build and strengthen the Web of Grace. These awards celebrate our connection with one another within the church and the connection of the church with our community.

Individual awardees were:

Ms. Judy Elliott
Ms. Marjorie Gingell
The Very Rev. Earle King
The Very Rev. Judith Lee
Ms. Barbara Northan
The Very Rev. Colleen O'Connor
The Very Rev. Gloria Payne-Carter
Dr. Alfred Price
Ms. Catherine Way

Congregations given this award were:

Ascension and Good Shepherd, Buffalo
St. Mark's and All Saints', Buffalo
St. Simon's, Buffalo

After the banquet, various games were offered. Halloween Trivia was held in the Bar. Ghost bowling was held in the Reception area, and a Duck Scavenger Hunt was held throughout the hotel. Pumpkin decorating and card games took place in Room 4.

AT THE CHAUTAUQUA SUITES,
MAYVILLE, NEW YORK

Saturday, October 31, 2015

Breakfast in Olive's Restaurant was offered on a pre-sale only basis, served starting at 7:00 a.m.

8:00 a.m. Registration began.
9:00 a.m. Eucharist (Banquet Room)

THE CONVENTION EUCHARIST

An offering of \$1,196.00 was received, to be used to benefit the human and pet Food Pantries of the Southern Erie Deanery. (The practice we are following is that the Annual Convention's offering is dedicated to benefit a project in each of the deaneries on a rotation basis, partnering with the work of the church in that deanery.)

UNITED THANK OFFERING INGATHERING AND PRAYERS

During the Eucharist, the United Thank Offering Litany of Thanksgiving was followed by the UTO Ingathering. The total ingathering was \$15,801.45

KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

Dr. Franklin spoke about striving for justice and peace and respecting the dignity of every human being.

BREAK

TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Justice Rose Sconiers led this discussion. Pictures of people were shown, together with a short video on the church as a reconciling community. Participants were then asked to identify which persons did which jobs, an exercise in Implicit Bias. Then table members were asked two questions:

1. How would you welcome the people?
2. How would you include them?

PRAYERS AND LUNCH

SECOND LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Saturday, October 31 – 1:15 p.m. Banquet Room

RECEIPT OF REGULAR ANNUAL REPORTS

The Secretary was then recognized and requested that the reports of the Canonical Bodies, Commissions and Committees of the Diocese received by the Secretary be received by Convention and reported in the Journal of this Convention. Without objection, it was so ordered. These reports are found in Part 2 of the Journal of the Convention.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY CENTER BOARD – Convention received a report from the Rev. Catherine Dempsy-Sims, Chair of the Diocesan Ministry Center Board. She reviewed the accomplishments of successfully converting the building from parish use to use as the Diocesan Center. Recently it was recommended that the Board be now dissolved and instead there be an advisory board known as the Properties Committee of the DMC, which will focus on maintenance issues rather than marketing or fundraising. She also reported that in October the three canonical bodies – Diocesan Council, Trustees, and Standing Committee – approved the dissolution of the Diocesan Ministry Center Board. This change will not affect users of the center.

REPORT ON THE EATON CAMP – The Rev. Sare Anuszkiewicz provided a report about Eaton Summer Reading Program, augmented by photographs from the camp. She read a picture book and described how lives had been changed for the children who attended and learned to love to read and the missionaries who came to Buffalo to serve.

REPORT OF THE EPISCOPAL PARTNERSHIP FOR MISSION AND OUTREACH – This report was a video. The Partnership connects the dots. Convention members were asked to look for the Lent campaign. The written report is in Part 2 of the Journal – Documents.

REPORT OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2016 – The Diocesan Council’s budget report was delivered by Mr. Robert Matson, Treasurer of the Diocese. He explained the process. He indicated that 2016 is the last year of a three-year transition period during which the “fair share” can be elected instead of the full share. He then asked Mr. Jim Isaac to speak on the Full Share Process and the work after this Convention of the Full Share Committee.

Mr. Isaac commented that the Full Share is not about money. It is to celebrate ministries – the ministries of the congregations and the ministry of the diocese. The process was on a flyer in the convention documents and included in Part 2 of the Journal.

The first step in the Full Share process is a conversation with a goal to hear, understand and respect the congregation’s story. The Diocese wishes to offer help, if needed, and to further the conversation. Step two will be an invitation of the Full Share Committee to the congregation so it can see what is going on, and help move everyone forward to implementing the full share. Congregations who receive an invitation to a conversation were encouraged to accept.

The 2016 Operating Budget resolutions were then moved and seconded. The Budget itself is in Part 2 of the Journal.

The Treasurer then moved the Budget Resolutions which motion was seconded.

DOCUMENT 7

2016 Budget Resolutions

- 1 **Resolved** that the Budget for the Program and Expenses of the Episcopal Church in the
- 2 Diocese of Western New York in 2016, as proposed by the Diocesan Council and annexed
- 3 to this resolution, is hereby adopted by this Convention; *and be it further*

- 4 **Resolved** that parish Vestries and mission Councils, in making the pledge required by
- 5 Article III.3(3) of the Constitution of the Diocese, shall also provide, in writing, an
- 6 explanation for the level of the pledge.

Debate on the 2015 Operating budget then commenced.

The Rev. Tom Broad asked which budget lines would be affected when implementing the new staff positions the Bishop announced at the convention. The Treasurer identified the following lines:

Line 65400	First 1/3 Program Leadership	\$42,500	
Line 66750	Communications Personnel	\$42,500	
Line 62222	COM Confidential Clerk	\$ 4,000	
Line 65403	First 1/3 Ministry (part of \$13,000)	\$ 3,000	
Line 66250	Journeys Production & Mailing	\$12,000	
Line 66501	Communications Officer – expenses	<u>\$ 1,000</u>	
Total current budget line items			\$105,000

The Rev. Harry Grace spoke as to the formulation of the budget. He indicated that line 65106 involving Anti-Racism was in the finalized budget for \$1,500 but as a result of meeting with the Finance Committee it has been increased to \$5,569 in this year’s budget. The \$1,500 funding developed a training program. The increased funding will provide increased programming. He urged people who wanted funding to talk to the Committee.

The Very Rev. Earle King asked if full share amounts have been published. The answer was that the diocesan web site has them, but each congregation can calculate its own based on the parochial report it filed.

There was a follow up question as to compensation.

Mr. Gary Winters from St. Peter’s, Niagara Falls had difficulty getting information on the numbers. The process was explained.

The Rev. Joanne Coury Frake asked about account 78936, Episcopal Partnership. This line represents reimbursement expected to be used for services rendered by the diocese for the benefit of The Episcopal Partnership for Mission and Outreach (for accounting, supplies, etc.) No amount is budgeted for 2016.

There were no further questions or comments. The budget resolution was then carried by voice vote.

GENERAL CONVENTION REPORT

Resolutions adopted at the General Convention were then reported to the Convention. Constitutional Amendments of the Episcopal Church which will come for a second reading to the General Convention in 2018 were:

- B011 – to amend Article II.7
- D003 – to amend Article V
- D008 – to amend Article I

These are on the web site of the General Convention.

Four important resolutions became the subject of table conversations:

A044 Maintain the Centrality of The Eucharist

A158 Task Force to Review and Revise Policy on substance abuse, addiction and recovery

B005 Quality Public Education for All – endorses congregational action

C048 Increase the Minimum Wage

Delegates were encouraged to go to tables assigned to discuss the resolution in which they were most interested. Information was gathered for subsequent distribution.

Delegates were told that questions from the discussions can be directed to a Council member or to the Diocesan office after the Convention.

CHANGE OF CHAIR

The Bishop moved that Convention authorize The Very Rev. Earle King to serve as Chair of the Convention for the balance of the session so the Bishop could depart for Washington to attend the Installation of the Presiding Bishop.

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Because there were no resolutions submitted that required action, this report was not made.

DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS NOT PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED

No resolutions were offered that had not previously been submitted.

FOLLOWUP ON MATTERS FROM THE 177TH ANNUAL CONVENTION – The Secretary reported that there were no such items.

RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION – The Rev. Vicki Zust, on behalf of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, moved the resolutions of Appreciation, which were adopted.

DOCUMENT 8

Appreciations

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 178th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western New York expresses its appreciation to Ms. Darci Rudny and the staff at the Chautauqua Suites Hotel for their hospitality and assistance during this convention.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 178th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western New York expresses its appreciation for the congregations, clergy, representatives and people of the Southern Erie Deanery and the Very Rev. Gary Schindler, their dean for serving as hosts for the Convention.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 178th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western New York expresses its appreciation to Dr. Robert Franklin for addressing us and directs the Secretary to send him a note of appreciation.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 178th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western New York expresses its appreciation to those responsible for planning the worship of the Convention and to Ms. Debi Overton for providing music, and to Ms. Sonja Slother for designing the convention logo.

RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION MINUTES – The Rev. Vicki Zust, on behalf of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, moved the resolution establishing the Committee on Convention Minutes, which was adopted.

DOCUMENT 9

Authorizing Committee on Convention Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 178th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western New York authorize the Committee on Convention Minutes to read and approve the minutes of the 178th Annual Convention before they are incorporated into the Journal of the Convention and that the required copies of the Journal be transmitted in accord with the Canons of this diocese.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CONVENTION EXPENSES – The Rev. Vicki Zust, on behalf of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, moved the resolution authorizing payment of convention expenses, which was adopted.

DOCUMENT 10

Authorization of Payment of Expenses

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer of the Diocese of Western New York be directed to pay all expenses incidental to the 178th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western New York.

RESOLUTION ON ADJOURNMENT – The Rev. Vicki Zust, on behalf of the Committee on Dispatch of Business, moved the resolution on adjournment, which was adopted.

DOCUMENT 11

Resolution on Adjournment

BE IT RESOLVED, that following prayers for the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop-elect of the Episcopal Church, this 178th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western New York be adjourned *sine die*.

A video segment was shown in which the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry spoke about Holy Eucharist.

PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT – The Very Rev. Earle King prayed for the Presiding Bishop-Elect, blessed those present and declared the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

All present were dismissed by The Ven. Tom Tripp.

These minutes were prepared and are respectfully submitted by the Secretary of the Convention.
Howard F. Gondree, Esq.

This record of the proceedings was read and approved by the Committee on Convention Minutes:

The Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin
James S. Fanning, Jr., Esq.
Cheryl Fisher, Esq.

The Very Rev. Earle C. King, Jr.
The Hon. Rose H. Sconiers
The Rev. Vicki Zust