

October 5, 2017

Dear Friends and Family of the Diocese of Eau Claire,

We will hold our Diocesan Convention this year on November 10 and 11. This Friday night and Saturday schedule is identical to those of the past few years. Christ Church Cathedral in Eau Claire is hosting this year's Convention. All events will be at the Church. The Cathedral is especially pleased to be our host this year, for it has just installed an elevator that will give much easier access to the Great Hall upstairs.

Our Convention speaker and leader will be The Right Reverend Susan Goff who is Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia. The main pastoral concern of your clergy in the past year has centered around the current American political scene. People of sometimes opposing views have had difficulty working together. Meanwhile, the Church has a long history of people being united to live true to the Gospel in spite of political conflicts. My hope is that this Convention will equip our delegates as never before with skills to work in the midst of contention to help people gain renewed respect and appreciation of each other. I believe Susan will provide excellent insights and understandings that we can take home and share with others.

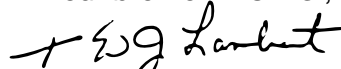
At the closing Eucharist on Saturday, I will be installing Fr. George Stamm as Honorary Canon of the Cathedral. I ask that he focus on the needs of our bi-vocational clergy. George has been in the Diocese of Eau Claire since 1968. He has been actively involved with the Cathedral in one way or another throughout his tenure. George will also be our preacher. He has worked with many veterans in helping them find sobriety. It is fitting that George will be installed as Canon and be our preacher on Veterans' Day.

You will find in correspondence from me and others details regarding Convention that involve hotels, banquet, registration, agenda, budget, and other matters. I hope that you will attend one of the pre-Convention hearings prior to Convention. This is the place to ask questions and learn about the budget, any resolutions, and about those running for elected positions. In short, attending the pre-Convention hearings is how you go to Convention informed. Here is the pre-Convention schedule:

Saturday, October 21 @ 10 am: St. Alban's Church in Spooner
Saturday, November 4 @ 10 am: Christ Church in LaCrosse
Saturday, November 4 @ 4 pm: Grace Church in Menomonie

I wish you all God's blessings as you prepare for Convention, and I look forward to seeing you at the Cathedral. With my love and best wishes, I am,

Your brother in Christ,



William Jay Lambert
Bishop of Eau Claire