

# **93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire**

Zoom Webinar System, Diocesan Offices, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## **Saturday, November 13**

Registration and Check-in – Zoom Webinar System

**8:30-9:00 a.m.**, Registration Convenes via Zoom.

**9:15 a.m. Plenary Session, Convention Convenes**

### **1. Call to Order**

Convention opened by The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby, Dispatch of Business. The Rt. Rev. Matthew Alan Gunter, Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of Eau Claire, led Convention with Morning Prayer. Following MP, the Rt. Rev. Matthew Alan Gunter called the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire to order. Fr. Kirby reminded the Convention that all voting for the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual will occur through the Zoom Webinar system and involve documents that have been disseminated before Convention, made available on the Diocesan Website, and discussed in length at the Pre-Convention Hearings. He further reminded Convention that each vote will be announced verbally and presented virtually before each vote.

### **1b. Morning Prayer:**

The Right Reverend Matthew Alan Gunter led the service for Morning Prayer with the aid of volunteer lectors.

- 2. Credentials Committee Report:** Cn. Aaron Zook, Convention Secretary. 35 clergy are eligible to vote, 21 present. Laity: 42 deputies are allowed and eligible to vote, there are 41 deputies present. A majority of laity and clergy are present. In a Vote by Orders: Clergy needs a vote of 18 or greater, Laity: 22 or greater. Further, 40 votes denotes a super-majority.

### **Roll Call:**

**Clergy Present at Call to Order:** Rev. Peter Augustine, Rev. David Bauer, Rev. Jackie Broughton, Rev. Steven Burns, Rev. Meghan Farr, Rev. Catherine Kuschel, Rev. Canon Aaron Zook, Rev. Kathleen Charles, Rev. Eleanor Michaud, Rev. Phillip Morgan, Rev. Guy Usher, Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby, Ven. Dr. JoAnne Glasser, Rev. Marlene Hogue, Rev. James Lorenze, Rev. Joe McConohy, Rev. Bill Power, Rev. Mary Rezin Rev. Steven Russell, and Rev. Rose Ruthy.

**Bishops Present:** The Rt. Rev. Matthew Alan Gunter.

**Clergy Present with No Vote:** None.

**Laity Present at Call to Order:** Suzanne Funk , Jim Pelish, Dan Durand, Robin Neilson, Jean Neste, Ron Neste, Carla Corbin, Tim Donahue, Lee Donahue, Lora Stefanski, Roger Grant,

Kathie Kurshinsk, Bonita Aude, Erika Gullerud, Nicole Barkley, Petra Anderson, Ben Anderson, Barbara Buswell, Jenö Love, Mary Blanchard, Helene Jensen, Garrett Conover, Mary Beth Frank, Liz Archibald, Diane Anders, Martha Brandly, Darrell Sanders, Alice Brown, Carol Morgan, Paul Davidson, Lynda Grece, Phil Grece, Nancy Osgood, Terry Koporetz, Rick Herdrich, Gretchen Herdrich, Linda Georgeson, Ron Davis, Mike Carlson, Elaine Ellenson, Linda Hauert, and Matt Chromey.

**Laity Present with No Vote: None.**

**3. Consent Agenda #1:**

**MOTION** by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for Consent Agenda #1.

**Consent Agenda #1: Officers of Convention**

**Secretary of Convention:** The Rev'd Canon Aaron Zook

**Dispatch of Business:** The Very Rev'd H. Scott Kirby

**Parliamentarian:** Mr. Jim Pelish

**Council of Advice:** Secretary, Dispatch, Parliamentarian, The Rev'd Guy Usher,  
Mr. Tim Donahue

**Voting Results: 55 in favor, 0 against. So moved.**

**4. Appointment of Assistant Secretary**

The Secretary appointed Rev. Guy Usher as Assistant Secretary.

**5. Consent Agenda #2:**

**MOTION** by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for Consent Agenda #2.

**Consent Agenda #2: 92nd Convention Business Documents**

**Rules of Order**

**92nd Convention Agenda**

**91st Convention Minutes**

**Voting Results: 54 in favor, 0 against. So moved.**

**6. Presentation of Resolutions and Voting:**

**None:**

**7. Presentation of 2021 Financial Reports and Acceptance of 2022 Draft Budget:**

**MOTION** by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for the **2021 Financial Reports and 2021 Draft Budget** as presented at the Pre-Convention Hearings.

**2021 Financial Reports**

**2022 Draft Budget**

**Voting Results: 57 in favor, 0 against. So moved.**

**8. Consent Agenda #3:**

**MOTION** by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for Consent Agenda #3.

**Consent Agenda #3: Leadership Elections & Appointments**

**Leadership Elections:**

**Standing Committee:**

*1 clergy for three year term*

Stephen Burns+

*1 lay person for three year term*

Ms. Carla Corbin

**Executive Council:**

*1 clergy for three year term*

Philip Morgan+

*2 lay persons for three year terms*

Mr. Paul Chase

Ms. Lynda Grece

**COM:**

*1 Priest for two year term*

Kathy Charles+

*1 lay persons for two year term*

Ms. Nancy Firth

**Secretary:**

*1 person for 1one year term*

Aaron Zook+

**Treasurer:**

*1 person for 1one year term*

Bob Weathers

**Trustees:**

*2 people, clergy or lay for two year term*

Dn. Ken Van Es

Ms. Sue Misun

**Ecclesiastical Disciplinary Board:**

*1 clergy for three year term*

Bruce Gardner+

*1 lay person for three year term*

Ms. Carla Corbin

**Leadership Appointments:**

**Commission on Ministry**

*Clergy*  
Vacant

*Lay*  
Dr. Paul Chase  
Ms. Mary Ellen Filkins  
Ms. Evelyn Usher

**Bishop's Council of Advice**

Secretary of Convention  
Dispatch of Business  
Parliamentarian  
President of the Standing Committee  
Vice-President of the Executive Council

**Camps and Conferences**

Vacant

**Chancellor**

Mr. James Pelish

**Constitutions and Canons/Resolutions**

Bishop (ex officio)  
Chancellor (ex officio)  
The Reverend Guy Usher  
The Reverend Canon Aaron Zook  
Mr. Bill Smith

**Convention Dispatch of Business**

The Very Reverend H. Scott Kirby

**Ecumenical Officer**

The Reverend Steven Burns

**Episcopal Relief and Development**

Ms. Alice Brown

**Examining Chaplains**

Bishop  
The Reverend Canon Bruce Gardner  
The Reverend Canon Aaron Zook  
The Very Reverend Scott Kirby

### **Liturgy and Worship**

The Reverend Canon Bruce Gardner  
The Very Reverend Scott Kirby  
The Reverend Canon Aaron Zook

### **Nominating Committee**

President of the Standing Committee  
Vice-President of the Executive Council  
Canon to the Ordinary

### **United Thank Offering (UTO)**

Ms. Anita Olds

### **Wisconsin Council of Churches**

Bishop

**Voting Results: 54 in favor, 0 against. So moved.**

## **9. Consent Agenda #4:**

**MOTION** by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for Consent Agenda #4.

### **Consent Agenda #4: Advance Reports by Title**

#### **Annual Committee Reports**

#### **Clergy Changes**

- The **Reverend Charles Carter** was granted Release and Removal from Ordained Ministry by the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eau Claire on **November 30th, 2020**.
- The **Right Reverend William Jay Lambert III** retired from active ministerial service and from his position as the 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire on **November 30th, 2020**.
- The **Reverend Guy Usher** resigned his position as Rector of St. Paul's, Hudson on, **December 31st, 2020**.
- The **Right Reverend Matthew Alan Gunter** began his service as the Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of Eau Claire on **January 1st, 2021**.
- The **Reverend Canon Tanya Scheff** relocated from the Diocese of Eau Claire to the Diocese of Florida on **October 10th, 2021**.
- The **Reverend Joe Scheff** relocated from the Diocese of Eau Claire to the Diocese of Florida on **October 10th, 2021**.

### **Necrology**

*The Rev'd Gary R. Blumer;*  
*Mrs. Heather Roberts Kirby; Christ Church Cathedral, St. Simeon's,*  
*Lafayette;*  
*Mrs. Edith Jeanette "Edie" O'Conner; St. Simeon's, Lafayette;*  
*Mrs. Donna Vierbicher Roehrich; Christ Church Cathedral;*

### **Resolutions of Courtesy**

**Be it resolved,** that the 93rd Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire extend our appreciation to the Reverend Canon Aaron Zook, and Mr. Robert Weathers whose time and efforts provided the detailed materials dispersed to the delegates of this Convention;

**Be it further resolved,** that this 93rd Convention express our grateful thanks to all those who have served on Virus Taskforce Committee, other diocesan committees and commissions, and the many others who have served the diocese in this past year.

**Be it further resolved,** that this 93rd Convention send our greetings and best wishes to the Rt. Reverend William Wantland, the Rt. Reverend Keith and Mrs. Suzie Whitmore, the Rt. Reverend Edwin and Mrs. Ira Leidel, the Rt. Reverend William Jay and Mrs. May Ruth Lambert, and to all the retired clergy, spouses, and widows of clergy who have served this diocese, but were unable to attend.

**Be it further resolved,** that this 93rd Convention send greetings to the Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop, and the Reverend Gay Jennings, President of the House of Deputies;

**Be it further resolved,** that this 93rd Convention send greetings to the bishops and people of the Dioceses of Fond du Lac and Milwaukee wishing them God's richest blessings in this coming year;

**And be it further resolved,** that the Bishop Gunter's Pastoral Address to this 93rd Convention be published or read in all congregations of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

**Voting Results: 53 in favor, 0 against. So moved.**

### **10. Bishop Gunter's Address:**

The Bishop's Address was presented on the screen while Bp. Gunter read the address to the Convention, which was met with several comments of appreciation and agreement. Bp. Gunter noted that during his first months serving the Diocese he has felt a vibrant spirit despite the realities of the pandemic and our polarized society, particularly pointing to our particular position to provide hope in the midst of the current "pandemic of loneliness." He also introduced the Trialogue discussions between the Diocese of Eau Claire, the Diocese of Fond du Lac, and the Diocese of Milwaukee.

### **11. Breakout Rooms & Small Group Discussion on the Trialogue:**

At this time, the 93rd Convention was broken into Small Groups to discuss their questions and concerns surrounding the Trialogue discussion and the potential ramifications for parishes. The groups were led by volunteers using a list of questions focused on the needs of our parishes for future ministry. The Breakout Groups met for 20 minutes. Following the small group discussions, Bp. Gunter called Convention back to order and opened the floor for comments, asking each group leader to share highlights of their groups' discussions.

**12. Invitation to 2022 Convention:**

2022 Convention invitation extended by The Rev. Meghan Farr, Priest-in-Charge of the Northern Highland Benefice. Date to be determined. 2023 invitation was extended by Ms. Carla Corbin of Christ Church, La Crosse.

**Invitation accepted.**

**13. Convention Adjourns:**

**11:33 a.m. The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby announced the completion of Convention business and asked for a motion to adjourn the 93rd Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.**

**Mr. Tim Donahue MOVED to close Convention. Second. So Moved.**

**The Rt. Rev. Matthew Alan Gunter gave the Convention and the Diocese a final Blessing and dismissed the 92nd Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
The Rev. Canon Aaron Zook  
*Secretary of the Diocese of Eau Claire***