

92nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire

Zoom Webinar System, Diocesan Offices, Eau Claire, Wisconsin
November 14th, 2020

Saturday, November 14

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 called to order by The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby, Dispatch of Business. The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert, 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Eau Claire, having offered an opening prayer. Fr. Kirby reminded the Convention that all voting for the 92nd 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.

2. Credentials Committee Report: Cn. Aaron Zook, Convention Secretary. 39 clergy are eligible to vote, 28 present. Laity: 44 deputies are allowed and eligible to vote, there are 44 deputies present. A majority of laity and clergy are present. In a Vote by Orders: Clergy needs a vote of 15 or greater, Laity: 23 or greater. Further, 49 votes denotes a super-majority.

Roll Call:

Clergy Present at Call to Order: Rev. Peter Augustine, Rev. Dave Bauer, Rev. Steven Burns, Rev. Charles Carter, Rev. Kathleen Charles, Rev. William Radant, Very Rev. Scott Kirby, Rev. Catherine Kuschel, Rev. Philip Morgan, Rev. Bill Power, Rev. Tony Ring, Rev. Steve Russell, Rev. Canon Tanya Scheff, Rev. Canon George Stamm, Rev. Guy Usher, Rev. Canon Aaron Zook, Rev. James Lorenze, Ven. Jo Glasser, Rev. Ken Van Es, Rev. Marlene Hogue, Rev. Mary Rezin, Rev. Rose Ruthy, Rev. Meghan Farr, Rev. Ellie Michaud, Rev. Barb Manzo, Rev. Joe McConohy, Rev. Jackie Broughton.

Bishops Present: The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert.

Clergy Present with No Vote: The Rev. John Rasmus, The Rev. Benjamin Thomas, The Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter.

Laity Present at Call to Order: Ron Davis, Linda Georgeson, Irma Oster, Erika Gullerud, Bonita Aude, Kathie Kurshinsky, Phil Grece, Lynda Grece, Roger Rosolowski, Evelyn Usher, Ron Hall, Pam Gray, Elaine Ellenson, Tom Dew, Rick Herdrich, Gretchen Herdrich, Martin Frank, Marybeth Frank, Garrett Conover, Debbie Conover, Tim Donahue, Lee Donahue, Carla Corbin, Lora Stefanski, Roger Grant, Kenneth Johnson, Ann Quigley, Pat Kell, Martha Brandley,

Paul Davidson, Merrie Jo Chamberlain, Diane Anders, Liz Archibald, jim Pelish, Suzanne Funck, Edie McDougal, Jim Glasser, Robin Neilson, Dan Durand, Jean Neste, Ron Neste, Ben Anderson, Petra Anderson, Alice Brown, Brenda Rezin.

Laity Present with No Vote: Mrs. May Ruth Lambert.

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: 65 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: 69 in favor, 0 against. So moved.

6. Presentation of Resolutions and Voting:

Resolution 2020-1:

MOTION by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for **Resolution 2020-1.**

Resolution 2020-1

Be it resolved, in recognition of the difficulties experienced in determining the appropriate model of Episcopal Oversight following the retirement of the Rt. Rev'd William Jay Lambert, III, VIth Bishop of Eau Claire, that the 92nd Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire does call for the election of a Bishop Provisional for the Diocese of Eau Claire to guide the diocese in determining the future of the position in relationship to the health and ministry of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

Voting Results: 69 in favor, 0 against. Super-majority achieved. So moved.

Resolution 2020-2:

MOTION by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for **Resolution 2020-2.**

Resolution 2020-2

Be it resolved that the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eau Claire, in consultation with the Transition Committee and the Executive Council, nominate the Rt. Rev'd Matthew Gunter, Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Fond du Lac, to serve as Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of Eau

Claire for a period of no more than 24 months under a Letter of Agreement to be drawn by the Standing Committee and approved by the Executive Council.

Voting Results: Lay Order: 42 in favor, 2 against; Clergy Order: 25 in favor, 0 against. So moved.

Following the results of **Resolutions 2020-1 and 2020-2**, The Rt. Rev'd Matthew Gunter was contacted and addressed the Convention with sentiments of thanks and hope for our common future ministries.

7. Presentation of 2020 Financial Reports and Acceptance of 2021 Draft Budget:

MOTION by The Very Rev. Scott Kirby to call a vote for the **2020 Financial Reports and 2021 Draft Budget** as presented at the Pre-Convention Hearings.

2020 Financial Reports

2021 Draft Budget

Voting Results: 67 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

Meghan Farr+

1 clergy for two year term

Guy Usher+

1 lay person for three year term

Ms. Jean Neste

Executive Council:

1 clergy for three year term

Dn. Marlene Hogue+

2 lay persons for three year terms

Mr. Garrett Conover

Ms. Evelyn Usher

COM:

1 Deacon for two year term

Dn. Steven Russell

1 lay persons for two year term

Ms. Debbie Conover

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

Mr. Drew Lorenz

Mr. C.R. Hackworthy

Ecclesiastical Disciplinary Board:

2 clergy for three year term

Kathy Charles+

Ellie Michaud+

1 lay person for three year term

Ms. Lora Stefanski

Leadership Appointments:

Commission on Ministry

Clergy

The Reverend Deacon Jo Glasser

Lay

Dr. Paul Chase

Ms. Mary Ellen Filkins

Ms. Evelyn Usher

Bishop's Council of Advice

President of the Standing Committee

Vice-President of the Executive Council

Camps and Conferences

The Reverend Marlene Hogue

Mr. William Broughton

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 Reverend Canon Aaron Zook

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: 68 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 Meghan Farr** transferred her Letters Dimissory from the Diocese of Central Florida to the Diocese of Eau Claire on **August 9th, 2020**.
- The **Reverend Joe McConohy** was ordained as a Deacon at Grace Church, Menomonie on Tuesday, **October 6th, 2020**.
- The **Reverend Meghan Farr** was installed as Priest-in-charge of the Northern Highlands Benefice at Grace Church, Rice Lake on **October 8th, 2020**.
- The **Reverend Joe Scheff** was ordained as a Deacon at Christ Church Chequamegon Bay, in Bayfield on Friday, **October 9th, 2020**.

- The **Reverend Larry Edson** was granted Release and Removal from Ordained Ministry by the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eau Claire on **March 14th, 2020**.

Necrology

The Very Rev'd Canon Steven Peay; Honorary Canon Theologian for Evangelism, Diocese of Eau Claire

The Rev'd Beatrice "Bebe" Dwyer; Deacon, Diocese of Eau Claire

Mrs. Lynn Fowler; Trustee; Grace Church, Rice Lake

The Rev'd Robert and Mrs. Bonnie Rosolowski; Deacon, Holy Trinity, Conrath

The Rev'd Lawrence Edson; Parish Priest, Diocese of Eau Claire

Resolutions of Courtesy

Be it resolved, that the 92nd 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 92nd 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 92nd 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, 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 92nd 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 92nd 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 Lambert's Pastoral Address to this 92nd Convention be published or read in all congregations of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

Voting Results: 67 in favor, 0 against. So moved.

10. Bishop Lambert's Address:

The Bishop's Address was presented on the screen during which Bp. Lambert read the address to the Convention, which was met with several comments of appreciation and agreement. Bp. Lambert noted several pivotal moments during his tenure with the Diocese as well as acknowledging several individuals with whom he has worked more closely.

11. Invitation to 2021 Convention:

2021 Convention invitation extended by The Rev. Meghan Farr, Priest-in-Charge of the Northern Highland Benefice. Date to be determined. 2022 invitation was not yet extended.

Invitation accepted.

12. Call for Diocesan Lessons & Carols Service:

The Rev'd Benjamin Thomas, Interim Dean of Christ Church Cathedral introduced his intent to work with Cn. Aaron Zook to construct and develop a Diocesan-wide Virtual Lessons & Carols Service. He noted that clergy and laity would be invited participate in various portions of the service and that a call to volunteer would be sent out following Convention.

13. Noonday Prayer:

The Very Reverend H. Scott Kirby led a service for Noonday Prayer and Rt. Rev'd William Jay Lambert, III offered a meditation on the future of the Diocese of Eau Claire as well as our shared and mutual ministries within the diocese, especially in this period of time in which the COVID-19 Pandemic is altering the way we gather and work.

14. Convention Adjourns:

10:37 a.m. The Very Rev. H. Scott Kirby announced the completion of Convention business and asked for a motion to adjourn the 92nd Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

Rev. Guy Usher MOVED to close Convention. Second. So Moved.

The Rt. Rev. William Jay Lambert, III gave the Convention and the Diocese a final Episcopal Blessing noting that in doing so, he was setting down the 'virtual crosier,' beginning the process of his formal departure from the Diocese of Eau Claire. The Venerable Jo Glasser dismissed the 92nd Convention of the Diocese of Eau Claire.

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