



# THE DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA

*“They that go down to the sea in ships, and occupy their business in great waters:  
These beheld the works of the LORD and his wonders in the deep.”  
Psalm 107:23-24*



### **234th Annual Diocesan Convention November 21-23, 2024**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina will be hosted by the Southern Deanery at the Sonesta Resort, on Hilton Head Island, November 21-23, 2024. Amidst the tempests of our lives, and recalling the Jesus who calmed the storm and called his disciples to “put out into deep waters,” (Luke 5:4), we hope that this Convention will be an opportunity for each of us to deepen our relationship with God and one another. Thus we take our theme from Psalm 107: “Wonders in the Deep.”

We are delighted to have two very special guest speakers to accompany us in this endeavor. Our new Presiding Bishop-elect, the Right Reverend Sean Rowe, will be with us Thursday evening to preach at our Opening Eucharist. Our keynote speaker this year is the Reverend Canon Mpho Tutu van Furth.



The Right Reverend Sean Rowe was elected and confirmed the 28th presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church on June 26 for a nine-year term beginning Nov. 1. Rowe, 49, was ordained bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania in 2007 and became bishop provisional of Western New York in 2019. From 2014 to 2018, he served as bishop provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem. Born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, Bishop Rowe earned a Ph.D. in organizational learning and leadership and is known for his research and work on organizational learning and adaptive performance in the church. Rowe is married to Carly Rowe, a Christian educator; they have a daughter named Lauren.

The Reverend Canon Mpho Tutu van Furth is an Episcopal priest, an artist, an author, an accomplished public speaker and retreat facilitator. She has had many roles in nonprofit leadership. She was the founding executive director of the Desmond & Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation. She continues to work for environmental justice, human rights and equal access to opportunity for all people without regard to race, class or gender. With her wife, Marceline, she has established and is Executive Director of the Tutu Teach Foundation to enhance access to opportunity for women and girls. Canon Tutu van Furth and her wife live in the Netherlands. They have four children and two grandchildren.

Diocesan Convention this year presents opportunities to do the necessary yearly work for our diocese and to gather the Episcopal community of the Lowcountry at our annual “family reunion.” This year’s format continues in an expanded model, including worship, workshops, business, and fellowship.

**Two Pre-Convention Meetings** (formerly known as Deanery Meetings) will be held prior to Convention. These meetings will include all clergy, delegates, and alternates for the Convention, as well as other interested members of the diocese. Attendance at one of these meetings is important for all delegates, as they are an opportunity for discussion of proposed resolutions, the 2025 budget, and an introduction of nominees for diocesan offices.

**This year, all pre-convention meetings will be held online. You are welcome to attend the one that is most convenient for you.**

Wednesday, October 23 at 11 am

Monday, October 28 at 6:30 pm

### ***Preliminary Schedule of Convention***

Thursday, November 21

1:00 pm	Registration opens at Sonesta Resort
3:00 pm	Call to Order followed by Plenary Session
5:30 pm	Opening Eucharist at All Saints, Hilton Head Island with Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe
7:00 pm	Reception (heavy hors d'oeuvres)

Friday, November 22

8:00 am	Registration continues
9:00 am	Morning Prayer followed by Plenary Session
12:00 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm	Workshops
2:15 pm	Plenary Session
5:00 pm	Reception and Dinner

Saturday, November 23

8:00 am	Registration continues
9:00 am	Morning Prayer followed by Plenary Session
12:00 pm	Convention adjourns

### ***Elections at Convention***

The Convention will hold elections for the following positions:

- Standing Committee: 2 lay members and 2 clergy members (3-year terms);
- Diocesan Council: 2 lay members and 2 clergy members (3-year terms);
- Trustee of the Diocese of South Carolina: 1 lay member and 1 clergy member (6-year terms);
- University of the South: Sewanee Board of Trustees: 1 clergy member (3-year term).

All nominations must have the approval of the person being nominated, and be received by the Secretary of Convention by **Wednesday, September 25, 2024**, in order to be included in pre-convention materials. Nominators must be members of the Convention (lay delegates or members of the clergy). A Notice of Election and Nomination Form will be available online on our [234th Annual Diocesan Convention webpage](#).

### ***Resolutions***

Members of the Diocese are invited to submit resolutions for consideration at the Convention. Please follow the format and guidelines described in the Notice of Submittal of Resolutions. All resolutions are to be received by the Secretary of Convention no later than **Wednesday, September 25, 2024**, in order to be included in pre-convention materials.

Resolutions affecting the Constitution and Canons are to be submitted to the Committee on Constitutions and Canons, and received by **September 25, 2024**. All may be submitted to [convention@episcopalchurchsc.org](mailto:convention@episcopalchurchsc.org).

### ***Registration Procedures***

Each Parish and Mission is asked to register online, and register all their lay and clergy delegates and alternates at the same time. Clergy who are not directly affiliated with a delegation and visitors may register individually. The Online Registration Link can be found on the 234<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Convention webpage at this link: [episcopalchurchsc.org/234thdiocesanconvention](https://episcopalchurchsc.org/234thdiocesanconvention).

The cost of registration is \$200 per person, which includes the Thursday reception, and Friday lunch and dinner. Payment may be made online or sent to the Diocesan Office by mail. There is no fee for those attending the Thursday night Eucharist only. Late registrations after the deadline will be an additional \$20 per person.

***Registration for delegates must be received no later than October 18 and for all visitors by November 8.***

All canonically-resident clergy serving in a parish are expected to attend the annual diocesan convention. If an unforeseen urgent parish or family event prevents you from attending, please write a letter to Bishop Ruth Woodliff-Stanley and send it to Betsy Pritchard at [bpritchard@episcopalchurchsc.org](mailto:bpritchard@episcopalchurchsc.org).

## *Hotel Accommodations and Guest Lodging*

Clergy and delegates are responsible for making their own arrangements for lodging, if needed. Rooms have been reserved at the convention hotel, Sonesta Resort. Rooms can be reserved online before October 26 [here](#).

If you need financial assistance, please contact the Diocesan Office.

We look forward to seeing you at Convention in November.

Peace in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Woodliff-Stanley". The signature begins with a small cross symbol.

The Right Reverend Ruth Woodliff-Stanley  
Bishop

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane Wilson".

Diane Wilson  
Secretary of Convention