



THE DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA

235th Annual Diocesan Convention Notice of Elections

The following positions will be filled by election at the 235th Annual Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina:

Body	Positions	Term
Standing Committee	2 Clergy, 2 Lay	3 years
Deputy, 82nd General Convention (2027)	4 Clergy Deputies, 4 Clergy Alternates 4 Lay Deputies, 4 Lay Alternates	2 years
Trustee, University of the South	1 Lay	3 years

The nomination deadline is Tuesday, October 7, 2025. Nomination forms may be submitted [at this link](#) or by email to convention@episcopalchurchsc.org. Nominees will be asked to submit a high-quality photograph. Nominees for Standing Committee must be confirmed, adult communicants in good standing in this diocese or members of the clergy who are canonically resident in this diocese. Nominators must be members of the Convention (lay delegates or members of the clergy) and the consent of the nominee is required.

A note about Diocesan Council: The Constitution & Canons Committee, in consultation with the Bishop, members of the Council, and the regional deans, are considering a proposal to amend the canons this year so that 1) each regional dean will serve as a non-voting member of Council; and 2) two voting members will be elected by deanery convocations—one lay person and one clergy. Should this amendment pass, the 235th Annual Convention will not elect members of Diocesan Council. An informal poll of delegates will be conducted during the preconvention meetings. If there is no clear consensus in favor of the proposal at that time, the Nominations Committee will work to recruit nominees willing to be nominated for Council from the floor of the convention and stand for election should the amendment fail.

Below, you will find the current membership of the bodies listed in the above chart. Sitting members of the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council who are completing a full term are not eligible for immediate re-election to their current committee. They are identified below by an asterisk (*).

The Standing Committee

<i>Term Expires Fall 2025</i>	<i>Term Expires Fall 2026</i>	<i>Term Expires Fall 2027</i>
The Rev. Michael Bye*	The Rev. William Coyne	The Rev. Ricardo Bailey
The Very Rev. Dr. Michael Shaffer*	The Rev. Cn. Wilmot Merchant	The Rev. Denise Trogdon
Veronica Hinkson*	Vermelle Simmons	Peter Gaillard
Larry Watt*	Rick Stall	Diane Wilson

The Standing Committee is comprised of six clergy and six lay members. The Standing Committee's responsibilities are: 1) Act as the Standing Committee of the diocese in accordance with the requirements of the Constitutions and Canons of The Episcopal Church, The Constitution of this Diocese (Article IX), and

its Canons, including giving consents to Episcopal elections elsewhere in TEC; 2) Act as a Council of advice to the Bishop; and 3) Act as Ecclesiastical Authority in absence of the Bishop.

Commitment: Committee members are expected, at the minimum, to be available for a 3-hour meeting, including travel, once a month, with additional meetings/preparation as requested. Those who are elected are to be responsive to email and committed to making the work of the Standing Committee a priority. Meetings are usually held in Charleston or virtually, and occasionally around the diocese.

Trustees of the University of the South

<i>Term: July 2023-June 2026</i>	<i>Term: July 2024-June 2027</i>	<i>Term: July 2025-June 2028</i>
Laura Marshall	Jean McDowell Martin	The Very Rev. Joseph Smith

The University of the South, located in Sewanee, Tennessee, is owned by the Episcopal dioceses of the southeast, each of which elects two lay persons and one member of the clergy to its Board of Trustees. The Trustees meet once each year for two days. Between annual meetings, trustees serve the University by promoting its mission, encouraging enrollment, and supporting it financially.

Time commitment: Two days per year at Sewanee for the annual meeting. Other meetings/calls as requested. The term that is to be elected at this November 2025 Convention will be July 2026-June 2029.

Deputies and Alternates to the 82nd General Convention

Each diocese of The Episcopal Church is entitled to four clergy and four lay deputies at the triennial meetings of the General Convention. The Clerical Deputies are priests canonically resident in the Diocese, and the Lay Deputies are confirmed, adult communicants of the Church in the Diocese. Deputies serve any number of terms. The 82nd General Convention will be held July 3-July 8, 2027 in Phoenix, Arizona. Deputies should be able to give up their professional and family obligations for this time to serve and should be prepared for full days at the Convention - normally 7:30 am- 10:00 pm as well as the two-day Province IV Synod meetings. There is a great deal of reading and preparation beforehand, and a detailed process of reporting back to the Diocese afterward. Deputies should be organized, faithful, and dedicated leaders, able to vote according to both their informed conscience and their sense of the will of the diocese as a whole. There will be some diocesan funds available to offset the costs, but additional funds may need to be identified from local parishes and individuals.

Members of the Nominating Committee by Deanery

Canon 8.2. The ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese shall appoint, at least sixty (60) days before the convening of each annual Convention, a nominating committee comprised of one (1) priest and one (1) layperson from each deanery and shall designate the chairman of the committee.