The Episcopal Diocese of SOUTH CAROLINA

236th Annual Diocesan Convention
October 29-31, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina will be hosted by St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center in partnership with St. John's Episcopal Church, Johns Island, and Bishop Gadsden's Seafields community, October 29-31, 2026.

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

Two Preconvention 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 2027 budget, and an introduction of nominees for diocesan offices.

All preconvention meetings will be held online. You are welcome to attend the one that is most convenient for you. A Zoom link will be available on the Convention website at episcopalchurchsc.org/236thdiocesanconvention.

Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, October 14 at 10:00 am

Meet the Nominees: A "Meet the Nominees" session has been scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 6:00 pm on Zoom. The meeting will be an opportunity for delegates to learn more about the candidates running in the convention elections. A Zoom link will be available on the Convention website.

Preliminary Schedule of Convention

Thursday, October 29 - **St. John's Episcopal Church**

12:00 pm Registration opens
2:00 pm Call to Order followed by Plenary Session
4:00 pm Opening Eucharist
5:15 pm Reception

Friday, October 30 - **St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center**

8:00 am Registration continues on porch of Susanna's House
9:00 am Morning Formation
10:00 am Plenary Session
Keynote Address
12:00 pm Lunch
1:20 pm Workshops
2:30 pm Plenary Session
5:30 pm Festive Reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres at **Seafields** by Bishop Gadsden

Saturday, October 31 - **St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center**

8:00 am Registration continues
9:00 am Morning Prayer followed by Plenary Session and Panel Discussion
12:00 pm Convention adjourns
Bag lunch provided

Elections at Convention

The Convention will hold elections for the following positions:

- Standing Committee: 2 lay members and 2 clergy members (3-year terms); 1 lay member (term ending in 2028)
- General Convention Deputies: 2 lay alternates and 4 Clergy Alternates (The 82nd General Convention will take place July 3-July 8, 2027 in Phoenix, Arizona.)
- Trustee of the Diocese of South Carolina: 1 lay member and 1 clergy member (6-year terms)
- Trustee, Sewanee: University of the South: 1 lay member (3-year term)

A note about Diocesan Council: With the amendment to the The Constitution & Canons passed at Convention last year, the two seats per deanery (at least one of which must be a lay person) will be elected by deanery convocations.

All nominations must have the approval of the person being nominated, and be received by the Secretary of Convention by **Wednesday, September 30, 2026** in order to be included in pre-convention materials. A Notice of Election and Nomination Form is available online on our Convention webpage. The nomination form requires the nominator to include a picture of the nominee and the nominee's personal statement.

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 found on the Convention webpage.. All resolutions are to be received by the Secretary of Convention by emailing them to convention@episcopalchurchsc.org no later than **Wednesday, September 30, 2026** in order to be included in pre-convention materials. Resolutions affecting the Constitution and Canons will be submitted to the Committee on Constitutions and Canons and should be received by the same date.

Lay Delegation Certification Form

Each Parish and Mission must provide the delegate and alternate names and emails elected at a meeting of the congregation as representatives to the Convention. Parishes are entitled to elect four (4) delegates and two (2) alternates. Missions are entitled to elect two (2) delegates and two (2) alternates. The Lay Delegation Certification Form must be submitted by the priest or lay person in charge of a congregation no later than **Wednesday, September 30, 2026.** This form is available here.

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 convention webpage at this link: 236th Diocesan Convention.

The cost of registration is $125 per person for delegates, which includes the Thursday reception, Friday lunch, Friday reception (heavy hors d'oeuvres) and Saturday bag lunch. 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. The cost of registration for visitors is $80.

Registration for delegates must be received no later than September 30 and for all visitors by October 17.

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.

Hotel Accommodations and Guest Lodging

Clergy and delegates are responsible for making their own arrangements for lodging, if needed. 35 lodge rooms at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center are available on a first-come, first-

served basis. Each room has two beds for a rate of $250 per room. The Doubletree by Hilton Charleston Riverview at 84 Ripley Point Drive, Charleston, SC 29407 is offering special conference rates for our group for reservations booked by October 8th. Reservation links are available on the Convention webpage.

We also encourage delegations to explore house rentals (via vrbo.com or airbnb.com) in the nearby Seabrook and Kiawah Island developments as a viable option for lodging.

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

We look forward to seeing you at Convention in October.

Peace in Christ,



The Right Reverend Ruth Woodliff-Stanley
Bishop



Diane Wilson
Secretary of Convention