



Journal of the 110th Annual Convention

Held in Nice, France and via Zoom

October 21–23, 2021

The Convocation of **Episcopal Churches in Europe**

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in the Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer

Thursday, October 21, 2021: First Session of the Convention

1. Opening Prayer and Call to Order

The Rt. Rev. Mark D.W. Edington, Bishop in Charge, Chair of the Convention, called the 110th Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe to order and read an opening prayer.

2. Appointment of Recording Secretary and Parliamentarian

The Chair moved that The Rev. Deacon Richard Cole, Geneva, be appointed Recording Secretary, and that The Venerable Walter Baer, Archdeacon, be appointed Parliamentarian. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

3. Organization of Convention

The Chair called on the Secretary of Convention, The Rev. Deacon Richard Cole. The Secretary moved that the list of registered and canonically resident clergy and list of registered delegates as found in Appendices III and IV of the Delegates' Packet be certified with the privileges indicated. There being no objection, the lists were certified.

The Secretary certified that a quorum of both clergy and lay delegates were seated or logged into the web conference.

The Chair moved adoption of the Special Rule of Order.

Special Rule of Order for the 2021 Annual Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe Proposed by The Bishop and The Council of Advice

The Convention,

- A. Taking in view the circumstances of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic under which the annual Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe for the year 2020 was held as a virtual gathering;
- B. Cognizant that the effect of this pandemic continues to endanger public health, bringing necessary restrictions on travel, movement, and public gatherings throughout Europe, and is likely to extend into the future;
- C. Recognizing the requirement of its canons to conduct its Convention annually; Resolves as follows:

D. That the Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe, together with the annual Assemblée Générale of the Association 1901 "Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe" may, at the determination of the Council of Advice, the bishop concurring, be conducted in a hybrid format involving both in-person and virtual participation by delegates and qualified members of the clergy; and

E. That the 2021 Convention and Assemblée Générale will be held in such a manner; and

F. That the Convention approves the use of an online voting system, as determined by the Council of Advice, as the means of casting votes by certified delegates and canonically resident clergy as may be required during the course of Convention; and

G. That the vote to approve Financial Report for 2020, and to approve the Proposed Budget for 2022, shall be conducted in the context of the meeting of the Assemblée générale and shall suffice for the requirement of Canon 10, Section 3; and

H. That the Convention shall be conducted in accord with the following Special Rule of Order:

1. Login information. The Secretary of Convention shall send by e-mail to every member, at least 3 days before each meeting, the time of the meeting, the URL and codes necessary to connect to the Internet meeting service, and, as an alternative and backup to the audio connection included within the Internet service, the phone number and access code(s) the member needs to participate aurally by telephone. The Corresponding Secretary shall also include a copy of, or a link to, these rules.

2. Login time. The Secretary shall schedule Internet meeting service availability to begin at least 15 minutes before the start of each meeting.

3. Signing in and out. Members participating virtually shall identify themselves as required to sign into the Internet meeting service, and shall maintain Internet and audio access throughout the meeting whenever present, but shall sign out upon any departure before adjournment. 9. | Delegates' Packet | Annual Convention 2021

4. Quorum calls. The presence of a quorum shall be established by the tally of logged-in users as reported by the voting software. Thereafter, the continued presence of a quorum shall be determined by the online list of participating members.

5. Technical requirements and malfunctions. Each member participating virtually is responsible for their own audio and Internet connections; no action shall be

invalidated on the grounds that the loss of, or poor quality of, a member's individual connection prevented participation in the meeting.

6. Forced disconnections. The Chair may cause or direct the disconnection or muting of a member's connection if it is causing undue interference with the meeting. The Chair's decision to do so, which is subject to an undebatable appeal that can be made by any member, shall be announced during the meeting and recorded in the minutes.

7. Assignment of the floor. A member accorded voice in the Convention and participating virtually in the meeting shall indicate a desire to speak to a matter on the floor by using the "Raise Hand" function (or its functional equivalent) in the web conferencing platform. The moderator will monitor the speaker queue, and the Chair will call on members in the order in which their requests were logged. When a member has the floor, they will be unmuted.

8. Motions submitted in writing. A member intending to make a main motion, to offer an amendment, or to propose instructions to a committee, shall, before or after being recognized, post the motion in writing to an online area designated by the Recording Secretary for this purpose, preceded by the member's name. Use of the online area designated by the Recording Secretary for this purpose shall be restricted to posting the text of intended motions.

9. Display of motions. The Recording Secretary shall designate an online area exclusively for the display of the immediately pending question and other relevant pending questions (such as the main motion, or the pertinent part of the main motion, when an amendment to it is immediately pending); and, to the extent feasible, the Recording Secretary, or any assistants appointed by him or her for this purpose, shall cause such questions, or any other documents that are currently before the meeting for action or information, to be displayed therein until disposed of.

10. Voting

a. Elections. Elections for offices in the Convocation shall be taken by a suitable anonymous voting feature or platform. Delegates will receive a unique code that will serve as their password to the platform. Lay Delegates and Clerical Delegates will be given distinct links to use in order to cast their votes.

b. Business of the Convention. Votes on matters of business shall be taken by means of the polling platform chosen by the Council of Advice, unless a different method is ordered by the Chair. All delegates, both those present and those participating virtually, will use the same platform for voting. The chair's announcement of the voting result shall include the number of members voting on each side of the question and the number, if any, who explicitly respond to acknowledge their presence without casting a vote. Business may also be conducted by unanimous consent.

Voting on resolutions shall be taken by means of the polling platform chosen by the Council of Advice. The proposer of a motion may speak to the motion for not more than two minutes. Those speaking to the motion may not speak for more than one minute. Debate on each resolution will not exceed six minutes. The Chair has the discretion to propose that a resolution on a matter other than the Constitution and Canons be adopted by unanimous consent.

11. Video display. The Chair, the Secretary, or their assistants shall cause a video of the Chair to be displayed throughout the meeting, and shall also cause display of the video of the member currently recognized to speak or report.

12. Nominations from the floor. Any persons who have not been nominated through the Nominating Committee or the Secretary of Convention may be nominated for office in written form, completed and submitted to the Secretary no later than one week prior to the opening of Convention, accompanied by a confirmation of the nominee's willingness to serve.

(Adapted from Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, Twelfth Edition)

The Council of Advice voted to set this Rule of Order before the Convention, with the concurrence of the Bishop, by e-mail vote on October 5, 2021.

After questions, the Special Rule was adopted unanimously.

The Secretary moved adoption of the Revised Agenda as distributed in the Delegates' Packet. There being no objection, the Agenda was adopted.

The Secretary moved adoption of the report of the Committee on Privilege (The Rev. Dorothee Hahn, Vienna, and Ms. Fiona White, Waterloo), being the list of alternate delegates accorded seat and voice, the list of licensed and visiting clergy accorded seat and voice, and the lists of guests of the Convention, as found in Appendix I of the Delegates' Packet. There being no objection, the report of the Committee on Privilege was adopted.

4. Report of the Secretary of Convention

a. Communications received

The Convention received greetings via video from the Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Michael Curry:

"To the clergy and people of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe:

Greetings to you as you gather for the 110th Convention of the Convocation. Your theme of "Listening in Prayer, Responding in Faith" beautifully and creatively expresses the Episcopal charism of living the Jesus-centered Way of Love in the uniquely challenging context of post-Christendom Europe, and I am grateful to the God who gives all good gifts that you have been so richly blessed with

an abundance of joy and a delight in your remarkable diversity as you witness to the possibility of Anglican discipleship in Europe. The reports provided by all of the various ministry groups in the Convocation vividly show the vitality and engagement of your work and ministry. Living as you do under conditions very different from those familiar to the rest of our church, you are an example of the breadth of our possibilities as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement. I hold you and Bishop Edington in my prayers always, and send along my best wishes for a fruitful and prayerful gathering.

Faithfully in Christ,

The Most Reverend Michael Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate"

The Chair moved appointment of the Committee to Respond to the Conversation: Ms. Gabrielle Conforti, Waterloo; Ms. Janet Day-Strehlow, Munich; The Rev. Canon Nat Katz, Paris; The Rev. Stephen McPeck, Frankfurt; and Ms. Anita Urassa, Geneva. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The Secretary reported that the Convention had received reports from the following bodies:

- Committee on Nominations
- Committee on Mission Congregations (COMC)
- Commission on the Ministry of the Baptized (COMB)
- European Institute for Christian Studies (EICS)
- Commission on Ministry with Children and Youth
- Safeguarding Officer
- Task Force on Migrants and Refugees
- Task Force on Ministry to Youth and Children
- Task Force on Climate and Creation Care
- Task Force on Racism, Reconciliation and Beloved Community
- Treasurer of the Convocation
- Bishop's Discretionary Fund

b. Approval of the 2020 Convention Journal

The Secretary moved adoption of the 2020 Convention Journal. There being no

objection, the Journal was adopted.

5. Report of the Committee on Nominations (The Rev. Deacon Richard Cole, Geneva; Mrs. Carole Ducastel, Waterloo; The Rev. Chris Easthill, Wiesbaden)

a. Nominations from the floor

There were no nominations from the floor.

b. Election for Members of the Council of Advice (elect two in each order)

The Committee presented the following nominees:

Lay order: Mr. John Adams, Wiesbaden; Mrs. Debbie Groby, Geneva; Mrs. Lois Stuckenbruck, Munich

Clergy order: The Rev. Richard Easterling, Florence; The Rev. Sunny Hallanan, Waterloo

c. Election for Members of the Disciplinary Board (elect two in each order)

The Committee presented the following nominees:

Lay order: Mrs. Felicity Handford, Waterloo; Mr. Patrice Huguenin, Geneva

Clergy order: The Rev. Chris Easthill, Wiesbaden; The Rev. Mary Ellen Dolan, Hungary

d. Election of Observers to the Synod of the Diocese in Europe (Church of England) (elect one in each order)

Lay order: Mr. George Battrick, Munich; The Rev. Scott Moore, Weimar

6. Consideration of Resolutions

The Rev. Chris Easthill, President of the Council of Advice, presented on its behalf three resolutions.

Resolution 2021-1: To Amend Article VII of the Constitution of the Convocation

Proposed by the Council of Advice

The Convention,

Following the approval of Resolution 2020-1 at the 2020 Annual Convention,

Resolves as follows:

That in Article VII of the Constitution the word "Presbyters" be replaced by "Clergy," so that it would read as follows:

ARTICLE VII. OF THE COUNCIL OF ADVICE

The Council of Advice, elected in accordance with Title I, Canon 15, Section 9, of the General Canons, shall consist of four Presbyters Clergy canonically resident in the Convocation, and four Laity, resident in the Convocation. Initially, two Presbyters Clergy and two Laity shall be elected to serve for one year, and two members in each Order shall be elected to serve for two years. Thereafter, two members in each Order shall be elected at each Annual Convention to serve for two years. Any member who may have been elected for two consecutive terms shall be ineligible for re-election at the Annual Convention at which that term expires. The Council shall have authority to fill vacancies in its own membership. Members shall serve until their successors are elected and accept election.

Explanation: As previously stated, Article VII contradicts both CECE Canon 3 and Canon I.15.9 of the General Canons, which stipulates that the Council of Advice shall consist "of four Clergy and four Lay Persons." By stipulating "Presbyters" in its own Constitution, a limitation not envisaged by the General Canons, the Constitution of the Convocation effectively disenfranchises members of the order of deacons. This is the second reading of this amendment that was approved by a majority of each Order at the 2020 Annual Convention. If now approved, by a majority of each Order, voting separately and by ballot, it shall become a part of the Constitution of the Convention.

The Council of Advice voted to set this resolution before the Convention, with the concurrence of the Bishop, at its meetings on September 4, 2020 and September 3, 2021.

Moved and seconded, the Resolution was adopted unanimously by each Order.

Resolution 2021-2: Welcome the Mission épiscopale francophone de la Résurrection as a Mission of the Convocation

Proposed by the Council of Advice

The Convention,

Acknowledging the work of the Committee on Mission Congregations, the Council of Advice, the Bishop, representatives of the Francophone Mission and the leadership of the Cathedral, leading to its establishment as a mission of the Convocation in accordance with the provisions of Canon 23, Section 1 (2),

Resolves as follows:

1. That this Convention congratulate the Francophone community as it enters into a formal relationship with the Convocation through its Covenant of Mission, and

2. That this Convention welcome the representatives of the Francophone Mission to Convention, with seat and voice but not vote, in accordance with the stipulations of Canon 23, Section 3.

The Council of Advice voted to set this resolution before the Convention, with the concurrence of the Bishop, by e-mail vote on September 24, 2021.

Moved and seconded, the Resolution was adopted unanimously. The Mission's delegates, The Reverend Jean Dumond Chavanne and Ms. Laurence Moachon, were then officially seated and greeted with applause by the Convention.

Resolution 2021-3: To Amend Canon 2 (OF THE CONVENTION) of the Canons of the Convocation

Proposed by the Council of Advice

The Convention,

Noting that the ability to hold the 2020 annual Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe as a virtual gathering was dependent on a special provision in French law;

Cognizant that not only is the Covid-19 pandemic likely to extend into the future, but that future public health and order events may also bring restrictions on travel, movement, and public gatherings;

Persuaded of the need for flexibility in the form by which the Convention is conducted;

Resolves as follows:

1. That in Canon 2, Section 3 (The Call of Convention) of the Constitution and Canons the words "by mail" be deleted.

2. That in Canon 2, Section 4 (Organizing the Convention) a new subsection (7) be added with the following text: "With the approval of the Bishop, the Council of Advice may determine in what form the Convention is to be conducted, whether as an in-person meeting, an online meeting, or in a hybrid format involving both in-person and virtual participation by Lay Delegates and Clergy entitled to seats and votes."

Explanation: The deletion of "by mail" in 2.3 removes any doubt that the Call of Convention can happen electronically. The new subsection (7) grants the Council of Advice with the Bishop the ability to react to public health and order situations by choosing the form by which Convention meets. As permitted by Canon 21, this amendment, reported upon by the Council of Advice, will take immediate effect.

The Council of Advice voted to set this resolution before the Convention, with the concurrence of the Bishop, by e-mail vote on October 5, 2021.

Moved and seconded, the Resolution was adopted unanimously.

Friday, October 22: Second Session of the Convention

7. Report on the Election

After Morning Prayer with the Bishop's Address, the Secretary read out the results of the previous day's ballots:

Council of Advice (elect two in each order)

Lay order: Mrs. Debbie Groby, Geneva; Mrs. Lois Stuckenbruck, Munich

Clergy order: The Rev. Richard Easterling, Florence; The Rev. Sunny Hallanan, Waterloo

Disciplinary Board (elect two in each order)

Lay order: Mrs. Felicity Handford, Waterloo; Mr. Patrice Huguenin, Geneva

Clergy order: The Rev. Chris Easthill, Wiesbaden; The Rev. Mary Ellen Dolan, Hungary

Observers to the Synod of the Diocese in Europe (Church of England) (elect one in each order)

Lay order: Mr. George Battrick, Munich; The Rev. Scott Moore, Weimar

8. Listening Session

Convention then broke out into small groups for the duration of the morning. Each of the nine breakout groups, both on-site and virtual, were tasked with discussing and responding to the following three questions.

- 1) What are your short-range ambitions for the Convocation that could be accomplished by the next Convention?
- 2) What is the difference that the Episcopal Church in Europe is not making now but could make by 2024?
- 3) What's your most outrageous, long-term, blue-sky ambition for the Episcopal Church in Europe? How do you think God is hoping our church will change the world?

Friday, October 22: Third Session of the Convention

After lunch, the afternoon session was devoted to an address by The Most Reverend Ian Ernest, Director of the Anglican Centre in Rome and Personal Representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Holy See. This was followed by an open discussion between the Archbishop and Convention participants, who had the opportunity to ask a wide range of questions.

Participants then enjoyed some free time before re-gathering for Evening Prayer at Holy Trinity Church, with The Reverend Peter Jackson as officiant. The Very Reverend Lucinda Laird, Paris, was the preacher via video.

Saturday, October 23: Fourth Session of the Convention

The morning session began with Morning Prayer with The Reverend Mark Barwick, Strasbourg, as officiant, and The Reverend Christopher Easthill, Wiesbaden, as the preacher.

9. Presentation of the 2020 Financial Report and the Proposed Budget for 2022

Mr. Denis Le Moullac, Strasbourg, Treasurer of the Convocation, began by saying that despite it being a bad year in general for the world with the pandemic, financial crisis, etc., 2020 had actually been a good year for the Convocation's finances thanks to the generosity of the DFMS. This had softened the impact of the necessary transfer, for tax purposes, of the Rowthorn Fund off the balance sheet to the BFP. Grants from the Fund could, of course, still be requested for its purposes, i.e. youth work and missions. A similar step had been taken with the Trust Fund 1145, meaning that the Convocation was no longer the owner of that fund, with all the tax implications, but rather its beneficiary. By end-Sept. 2021, the Convocation already had a surplus of €85,000, and a sizable operating surplus was expected for end-2021.

After the Treasurer's presentation, the Bishop reminded Convention of its dual roles, not only as Convention but also, after its recess, of the Assemblée générale of the Association 1901 of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe. That body had to approve the financial results of 2020 as well as the proposed 2022 budget.

The Treasurer emphasized that the pandemic was not over and there was volatility. The 5% reduction in congregation assessments would continue in 2022. The change in Trust Fund 1145 did not affect the Convocation's operating budget, but it did affect where the Convocation's resources came from, i.e. now in the form of grants. Our operations were resuming, committees and commissions were meeting, but our income was still uncertain. He said the Finance Committee

recommended great prudence and extremely conservative actions. One major expense in the coming year was General Convention. Expenses in 2022 for GC should be less given its shorter duration and venue in Baltimore.

The various task forces would receive modest resources, and there was significant growth in the children and youth budget, especially for the new shared role of Convocation Coordinator by Gregory Stark and Katie Osweiler. The Bishop was always working hard to solicit grants, gifts and donations for the Convocation's work, and it was reasonable to expect that would continue.

The budget must be balanced between revenue and expenses. It was felt that a fraction of the reserves accumulated during 2020 should be drawn on to put the operating budget back on a normal track.

After discussion, Convention was briefly recessed in order to convene the Assemblée générale of the Association 1901 of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe.

10. Assemblée générale of the Association 1901 of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe

a. Approval of newly elected Bureau (The Council of Advice)

The Bishop moved approval of the newly elected Bureau: The Reverend Richard Easterling, Florence; The Reverend Mary Haddad, Paris; The Reverend Sunny Hallanan, Waterloo; The Reverend Michael Rusk, Geneva; Mr. David Case, Munich; Mrs. Debbie Groby, Geneva; Mrs. Lois Stuckenbruck, Munich; and Mr. Vincenzo Racana, Rome. Seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

b. Approval of 2020 financial report

The Bishop moved approval of this audited report. Seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

c. Approval of 2022 budget as presented

The Bishop moved approval of the 2022 budget as presented in the Delegates' Packet. Seconded, it was approved unanimously.

d. Adjournment

There being no other business, the Assemblée générale of the Association 1901 of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe was recessed, and the Convention was reconvened.

11. Report of The Council of Advice

The Reverend Christopher Easthill, Wiesbaden, outgoing President of the Council, presented his report, which was canonically obligatory. He began by introducing

the other members of the outgoing Council: Mr. John Adams, Wiesbaden; Mr. David Case, Munich; The Reverend Deacon Richard Cole, Geneva; Mrs. Carole Ducastel, Waterloo; The Reverend Mary Haddad, Paris; Mr. Vincenzo Racana, Rome; The Reverend Michael Rusk, Geneva.

The Council's functions were those of a diocese's Council of Advice, Standing Committee and Diocesan Council. It advised the Bishop on policy, cared for him and held him accountable. It also had fiduciary and financial responsibilities, as well as organizational and administrative tasks.

Council had met eight times in the past year, but only once physically, in Nice right before Convention. This trend would most likely continue, even in the post-pandemic world

Among the work of Council in the past year: structuring the listening process decided at Convention; supervising the work of the task forces (ministry initiatives); looking at the surveys they had carried out; keeping track of the reopening process; approval of grants; proposing the 2022 budget as presented by the Finance Committee; keeping in touch with the congregations and committees via the CoA liaisons; dealing with legal and tax issues, especially the new obligation under French law that would add to financial reporting requirements at the very least; copyrighting the Convocation's brand name and logo; updating the charter of the Whalon Fund; formulating a Convocation digital archives policy; revising its own Rules of Order; and approving a new Convocation travel policy.

Council had also dissolved the Milan mission, accepted the Mission épiscopale francophone as a new mission, consented to six new bishop elections and approved the reception of one priest.

From the Convocation, Council needed prayers, active communication, implementation of resolutions, the willingness to commit at all levels and a search for new leadership in Convocation positions.

The Bishop said that the Council had been an indispensable partner during the pandemic, and he thanked each of its members.

Saturday, October 23: Fifth Session of the Convention

12. Report of the Committee on Resolutions

With the assistance of the Committee to Respond to the Conversation (see item 4 above for the list of its members), the Committee on Resolutions (The Venerable Walter Baer, Paris; The Reverend Deacon Richard Cole, Geneva; Ms. Anne Swardson, Paris) presented their report, noting that the three resolutions presented

by the Council of Advice had already been moved, debated and approved (see item 6 above).

Resolution 2021–4: Memorial to the 80th General Convention regarding the ongoing ecumenical conversations between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria

Proposed by TEC-ELKB dialogue committee members, The Venerable Walter Baer and The Reverend Christopher Easthill

The Convention resolves as follows:

That this 2021 Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe thank the 79th General Convention for its action approving and commending the ongoing ecumenical conversations between The Episcopal Church (TEC) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Bayern – ELKB), as reflected in General Convention action:

“Resolution 2018–C059 Commend Dialogue with the Evangelical Church in Bavaria Resolved,

That the 79th General Convention approve and commend the existing relationship between the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe (Convocation) and the Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Bayern (ELKB) (Evangelical Church in Bavaria); and be it further Resolved,

That the 79th General Convention approve and commend the process of exploring deeper relations and the dialogue toward full communion between The Episcopal Church and the ELKB.”

That this 2021 Convention of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe approve and commend the ongoing dialogue toward full communion between TEC and ELKB and the work of the General Convention Task Force to Coordinate Ecumenical & Interreligious Work, encouraging the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church to move toward a full communion relationship between the ELKB and TEC by adopting the document “Sharing the Gifts of Communion.”

Explanation: The 2017 Convocation Convention commended this dialogue, with the subsequent action of the 2018 General Convention, cited in this resolution. Since 2018 considerable work has been done and a draft agreement between TEC and ELKB has been completed and will be presented to General Convention of TEC and to the Landessynode of the ELKB, both in 2022. Participants in the conversations are ecumenical officers from TEC and ELKB, clergy representatives from each church, and the Convocation Bishop and an Oberkirchenrat. Other participants include representatives from the ecumenical office of the Anglican Communion, the Church of England, the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland

(EKD), the German Committee of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). The dialogue was initiated by a 2013 meeting between then Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts-Schori, and Landesbischof Heinrich Bedford-Strohm. It is also in response to Anglican Consultative Council resolution 16, commending a closer relationship between Anglicans and Lutherans globally. It is also in the spirit of Called to Common Mission, the full communion agreement between TEC and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, which went into effect in 2001. In practice, the current relationship between the Convocation and the ELKB is similar to the relationship expressed by the Meissen Agreement between the Church of England and the EKD, although TEC is not a party to that agreement. A preliminary meeting involving stakeholders took place in Munich in 2014. The working group made up of the parties listed above has met multiple times: 2015 in New York City (Episcopal Church headquarters), 2016 in Tutzing, Germany, 2017 in Paris (American Cathedral), 2018 in Augsburg, Germany, and many times online. A draft agreement was completed in 2020, which will be presented to the General Convention in 2022 by the General Convention Task Force to Coordinate Ecumenical & Interreligious Work.

Resolution 2021-5: Adoption of the Convocation's Covenant to Care of Creation

Proposed by the Ministry Initiative on Climate Care and Creation

The Convention resolves as follows:

1. That the Convocation take note of the "Episcopal Covenant to Care of Creation," promulgated by The Episcopal Church;
2. That, in response to the Covenant's recommendation, the Convocation's ministry initiative for Climate and Creation Care be identified as the Convocation's representative in the "Creation Care Diocesan Cohorts" program, by which leaders and activists leading our conversation about the Christian commitment to care for God's creation are in mutually supportive connection;
3. That, promoted by the Covenant's invitation, the Convocation adapt the language of the Covenant to our own context in ministry by adopting the following revised version as our own statement (changes are in italics):

COVENANT TO CARE OF CREATION

In Jesus, God so loved the *whole* world. We follow Jesus, so we love the world God loves. Concerned about the global climate emergency, drawing from a range of approaches for our diverse contexts, we commit to form and restore loving, liberating, life-giving relationships with all of Creation. **LOVING FORMATION:** For

God's sake, we will grow our love for the Earth and all of life through preaching, teaching, storytelling and prayer.

- We will work to *tell our own story*, using social media (#EpiscopalCreation) and story-sharing resources
- *We will explore online formation and learning opportunities, and support youth involvement in these activities*
- *We will participate in the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation on September 1 of each year*
- *We will commend to our worship leaders the use of online creation resources for preaching and liturgy. We will organize pilgrimages and hands-on engagement with nature*

LIBERATING ADVOCACY: For God's sake, standing alongside marginalized, vulnerable peoples, we will advocate and act to repair Creation and seek the liberation and flourishing of all people.

- *We will encourage and facilitate the use of carbon trackers in all of our worship communities and in the places where our members make choices about energy use*
- *We will perform energy audits and set energy consumption goals in our communities*
- *We will reduce energy consumption and waste, put in place programs to recycle what we can, and advocate for access to recycling in our communities •*
- We will use carbon offsets for Convocation travel*
- *We will responsibly steward ministry-owned lands*

LIFE-GIVING CONSERVATION: For God's sake, we will adopt practical ways of reducing our climate impact and living more humbly and gently on Earth as individuals, households, congregations, institutions and dioceses.

- *We call on the European Institute of Christian Studies to search out and share resources for learning more about environmental racism, eco- and environmental justice*
- *We will work to support developing societies find a path toward a just transition to sustainable economic development, and to build global climate resilience with partner groups*

On behalf of the Chair of the Task Force, Susan Pinnells and Michael Rusk moved this resolution and urged each Parish to appoint a climate care officer. They noted the presence of Ms. Dawn Baity, member of the Presiding Bishop's delegation to

COP 26. It was all about raising awareness of what each of us could do on a daily basis at work, at home and at church.

Seconded, the resolution was approved unanimously.

Resolution 2021-6: Welcoming of Migrants and Refugees

Proposed by the Ministry Initiative on Migrants and Refugees

The Convention,

Following the approval of a series of resolutions at the 2020 Convention for the Convocation and its parishes and missions to design new priorities and actions building solidarity, community, witness and welcome,

Resolves as follows:

1. That the Convocation and each Parish and Mission reaffirm their commitments to continue to implement our 2020 Resolutions on Migrants and Refugees (Resolutions 2020 6-14), and to update the Convocation's Welcoming Officers on their future plans by December 31, 2021.
2. That, in addition, each Parish and Mission find ways, within its specific context and partnerships, to offer safety and support to our Afghan brothers and sisters, whether as asylum-seekers in Europe or as evacuees in need of resettlement.

Explanation: The Convocation's 2020 Convention adopted a series of resolutions for the upcoming years. The Task Force's Report "For a Church on the Move" was published in November 2020 and sent to all parishes and missions for their reflection on its examples and recommendations (Resolution 2020-6:1). Parishes and missions have been given an additional year to design their own new priorities and actions (Resolution 2020-6:2), given that subsequent COVID waves and lockdowns have delayed church reopening. Congregations will be able to provide additional information in their Parochial Reports (Resolution 2020-13).

There being no one present from this Ministry Initiative, the Bishop read the resolution to Convention. **Seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.**

Resolution 2021-7: Actions to be taken before the 2022 Convention

Proposed by the Committee to Respond to the Conversation

The Convention,

Following the challenging address to Convention by Bishop Mark and the in-depth

and enthusiastic conversations of the discussion groups at this 2021 Convention, inviting us to articulate our ambitions for the future of the Convocation,

Resolves:

1. That the Bishop and Council of Advice call the Convocation to continue and strengthen the ministry of listening to voices within the Convocation, and expand it to include voices beyond the walls of our church including the wider Christian community, interfaith partners and secular society.
2. That the Bishop and Council of Advice appoint a committee to carefully collate the data gleaned from the breakout groups, and publish and disseminate it at the guidance of the Communications Committee and tech team.
3. That the Bishop and Council of Advice continue to support the four existing ~~task forces~~ ministry initiatives, and the other committees and commissions in discerning and defining specific actions from the 2021 Convention breakout group conversations to implement within their areas. We call on the aforementioned groups to report back to the 2022 Convention.
4. That the Bishop and Council of Advice convene learning opportunities for entities and groups within the Convocation to define together what "missional church" means for CECE.

Seconded, the motion was then opened for discussion. Chris Easthill proposed replacing "task forces" by "ministry initiatives". The amendment being approved, the question was then called. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

Resolution 2021-8: Actions to be taken before the 2024 General Convention

Proposed by the Committee to Respond to the Conversation

The Convention,

Following the challenging address to Convention by Bishop Mark and the in-depth and enthusiastic conversations of the discussion groups at this 2021 Convention, inviting us to articulate our ambitions for the future of the Convocation,

Resolves:

1. That the Council of Advice initiate a process of discerning and positively articulating the identity of the CECE including the shift from a primarily English-speaking church to a multicultural, multilingual church.

2. That the Bishop engage in conversations that lead to clarification of our Anglican identity in relation to the Church of England and Anglican Communion, respectively, and keep the Convocation informed and report progress made to the 2024 Convention.

3. That the Bishop, Archdeacon, Council of Advice and Committee on Mission Congregations refine the process of identifying and accepting new mission congregations based on the newly defined understanding of missional church.

Seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

Resolution 2021-9: Actions to be taken within the next ten years

Proposed by the Committee to Respond to the Conversation

The Convention,

Following the challenging address to Convention by Bishop Mark and the in-depth and enthusiastic conversations of the discussion groups at this 2021 Convention, inviting us to articulate our ambitions for the future of the Convocation,

Resolves:

1. That the Bishop and Council of Advice appoint a strategic planning committee by the 2022 Convention based on information gathered through the listening and learning process, to guide us in living out the promise of being a missional church by 2031.

Seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

Explanation:

The address of Bishop Edington and the nine breakout groups presented overarching themes that consistently fell into three major categories: relationships within CECE, relationships between CECE and other churches, and relationships between CECE and society. The input reflected the many issues, concerns, aspirations and dreams carried by those present that point to a vibrant future for CECE.

Resolution 2021-10: Resolutions of Courtesy

Proposed by the Resolutions Committee: The Venerable Walter Baer, The Reverend Deacon Richard Cole and Ms. Anne Swardson

Resolved, that the Convocation express its:

- special greetings to the Most Rev. Michael Curry, the Presiding Bishop and Primate, and to the Rev. Dr. Gay Jennings, the President of the House of Deputies
- greetings to The Rt. Rev. Robert Innes, the Church of England's Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe, and best wishes for his upcoming sabbatical
- warm thanks to The Rev. Peter Jackson, Mr. Joseph Voelker and the entire Convention organizing team from the Church of the Holy Trinity, Nice, Diocese in Europe, for all their hard work both last year and this year
- best wishes and prayers for a speedy recovery to Mrs. Carole Ducastel, Waterloo, retiring member of the Council of Advice; to Ms. Lizzie Sandlin, daughter of The Rev. Allan Sandlin and Mrs. Gretchen Nagy; and to The Rev. Susan Carter, Clermont-Ferrand
- condolences to Ms. Deirdre Tincker, Munich, on the death of her husband, and to Mr. Stephen Squire, Paris, on the death of his father
- warm welcome to new clergy: The Rev. Robert Vukovic, Karlsruhe; The Rev. Dan Morrow, Church of the Ascension, Munich, and his wife Teresa; and The Rev. Gregory Stark, Convocation Youth Co-Coordinator
- warm welcome to Ms. Dawn Baity, Missioner for Climate and Creation Care and member of the Presiding Bishop's Delegation to the COP 26 Conference
- congratulations to The Rev. Gregory Stark and The Rev. Katie Osweiler on their appointment as Convocation Youth Co-Coordinators
- deep gratitude to Ms. Maleah Rios and Ms. Audrey Shankles for making this year's hybrid Convention possible through their mastery of different and complicated technology platforms, for their loving attention to detail, and for their invariable calm and good humor
- thanks to Canon Sophie Plé, Convocation Administrator, for her preparation of the financial reports, and for her dedication and hard work in the Bishop's Office throughout the year
- deep thanks and appreciation to The Most Rev. Ian Ernest, Personal Representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Holy See and Director of the Anglican Centre, Rome, for his inspiring and challenging presentation, and a warm welcome to his wife Kamla
- deep gratitude to the Board of Foreign Parishes, and the boards for St. James, Florence, and St. Paul's Within the Walls, Rome, for their continuing generous assistance to the Convocation and its congregations
- special welcome to all delegates and alternates attending the Convention for

the first time

- congratulations to the Mission épiscopale francophone de la Résurrection, Paris, on its admission as a mission of the Convocation, and a warm welcome to the Reverend Jean Dumond Chavanne and Ms. Laurence Moachon
- appreciation to Mr. John Adam, the Rev. Deacon Richard Cole, Ms. Carole Ducastel and the Rev. Chris Easthill, who have just completed their service to the Council of Advice, with special thanks to Chris for his wise leadership as its President
- special thanks to the Committee to Respond to the Conversation, for its careful consideration of the matters raised in the Bishop's vision for the Convocation's future mission and the input from the various discussion groups
- deep gratitude to the Council of Advice for its hard work and dedication
- special thanks to the Convocation Treasurer, Mr. Denis Le Moullac, and the Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Helena Mbele-Mbong, for their dedicated work in managing and reporting on Convocation finances
- deep gratitude to the Convocation Choir for enriching our music during worship
- appreciation for the hard work of the many elected and appointed individuals at Convocation level who continue to vision and strengthen the reality of our ministry in Europe, and who encourage and support us as we travel along the Way
- deep gratitude to our Bishop, The Right Rev. Mark D.W. Edington, in the third year of his faithful leadership of our Convocation, appreciation for his thoughtful, innovative and effective chairmanship of Convention, and for inspiring and challenging us in his address.

Proposed as a packet, these resolutions were approved unanimously.

13. Adjournment of Convention

The Convention gratefully accepted the offer by the people of Christ Church, Clermont-Ferrand, to host the 2022 Convention of the Convocation. After a prayer, the Bishop adjourned Convention *sine die*.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Deacon Richard Cole
Secretary of Convention

Appendix I: The Bishop's Address

Our Coming In and Our Going Out

October 22, 2021 • Address to the 110th Convention

Nice, France

Text: Isaiah 48:20: "Go out from Babylon, flee from Chaldea; declare this with a shout of joy, proclaim it, send it forth to the end of the earth: 'The Lord has redeemed his servant Jacob!'"

It's daunting to realize that this is already the third time I have had the privilege of speaking to our Convention; and the occasions on which I've done so have been three very different occasions. Two years ago in Geneva, none of us could have imagined that we wouldn't be able to gather the following year; and last year, when we met entirely on line, we could not have imagined that this year our Convention would be a mirror of what our church has become and will remain, a hybrid gathering of people who are far off and people who are near.

The canons of our church say that among the obligations of a bishop is to make a report to the Annual Meeting of the Convention on the state of the church since the last Annual Meeting.

In some respects that is a straightforward task, because as it happens each year the statistical office of the Episcopal Church releases its annual report on attendance and membership across the whole church.

But of course, nothing was straightforward last year. What the report shows is actually quite good news; in the crazy year of 2020, our average Sunday attendance across the Convocation was only down 1.7 percent, and our membership was down 1.4 percent.

Now, the way we calculated those numbers changed dramatically in March of last year, and we're still not quite sure how to collect attendance figures for Zoom church.

But even so, everyone across the whole Episcopal Church had the same challenge and had to apply the same rules; and it turns out that we compare really favorably to the rest of the church. Certainly one of the reasons for that has to be that the vaccinations made faster progress in Europe than in the United States.

So is that the state of the church? No, I don't think so.

There's another story to tell—a story about the resilience of our congregations, the creativity and devotion of our clergy, the green shoots of new missions in places as far apart as Georgia, Paris, and Germany.

There's a story to tell about what we've learned about ourselves and about each other from spending a year listening more intently to our experience of racism and discrimination, and a story about spending an hour in conversation with new friends and fellow disciples once a week over a bowl of soup.

So yes, we have come through difficult times. And yes, we have challenges ahead. But let's start here: We're okay. We made it through. The pandemic isn't over, and there may be more hard times ahead, but we're okay—and now we know what do to if the virus surges again.

Still, we know that's not the whole story, too. We are not the church we were before all this happened. Maybe one of God's purposes in all of this was to teach us not only that the church needed to change, but that we weren't the church we thought we were, either.

I think the full story of the state of the church has to offer an account, a vision, of what all of this has prepared us for. The state we're in is not supposed to be the state we stay in, not ever; and especially now, after we've been through, we've been prepared for something. But just what, exactly?

Well, I believe we've been being readied for two things.

The prophet Isaiah had seen his people evicted from the Holy Land and taken into exile in a faraway country—in Babylon. Their time away from normal wasn't eighteen months; it was nearly a hundred

years. A hundred years of being shut out from their usual places and their usual patterns of worship. And, like us, they adjusted pretty quickly to their new normal—maybe too quickly.

Because for at least the last part of Isaiah's career as a prophet, there's no longer a reason for them to be in Babylon. Isaiah's prophetic message to them is that it's time to get up, pack up, and get back to Israel—to end the exile and start rebuilding.

It takes some convincing. That's one of the reasons Isaiah goes on for sixty-six chapters. The people of Israel have gotten used to being in exile. They have new patterns of life, new practices for worship. They're comfortable. They're not exactly eager to leave.

But they must. They must because where Israel belongs is Israel, not exile. They must because it is time to rebuild the temple, that place where God had chosen to dwell among them. They can't do that working from home. It's time to end the exile. It's time to go back.

That's part of the state of our church today. Our exile is over. Our time of returning has come. We made it through; we survived our ordeal. But now we have to go back where we belong. We have to get up, pack up, and get moving—back to our communities, back into our gatherings.

Of course, when we do this, one of the things we have to bring with us is the new hybrid church we made in exile. We have to keep reaching out to the people who found an open door in Zoom that they had never found in our buildings.

We already know that what we're going back to isn't going to be the same. And that's true not just because of Zoom, and the members of our communities who are now part of the "church virtual."

It's true because the pandemic accelerated a trend that was already in place, one that is calling us to a different way of thinking about church. The state of our church is both returning—and renewing.

For more than a hundred years, really from the time the Episcopal Church began gathering communities in Europe, our model for how the church worked was something scholars call an "attractional" model. We built beautiful churches, and we filled them beautiful things and beautiful music. We put a sign outside and an Episcopal flag somewhere to tell people who we were and what was inside.

And that was our whole plan. That was all the plan we needed. Just that was enough to tell the people who were looking for us where to find us; and, of course, we simply knew that they were looking for us.

That wasn't just us. Pretty much every church since the nineteenth century has been built on an attractional model of ministry. We build it, and they will come. All we have to do is open the door and wait.

We love the attractional model. We love it because it affirms us. People come to us; we are what they're seeking. It's like hosting a party; we clean the house and prepare for the guests, and then, well, they just come.

Theologically, the attractional church says to the world: "come and see." But if you want to see, of course, you have to come. What the church does—our worship, our service, our education—is basically like a concert or a show; you come to the place where it is, and experience it.

The attractional model worked for a long time. It worked because the culture outside the church and the culture inside the church was basically the same culture. You could move from outside to inside easily; it was familiar, it made sense.

But that isn't true anymore. When people make the move from the culture we live in now to the language, the expectations, the practices inside the church, it's bewildering. We've tried to make the transition easier by doing things like modernizing our language and expanding the cultural horizons of the traditions we include in our worship.

But in the end, that doesn't really bridge the gap. Because the culture of the community of faith is a culture of belief; and belief itself is a foreign idea to the culture outside our doors.

So maybe we're being called to imagine a different model of ministry. Maybe instead of basing our model on attracting people in to listen to us—we have to go out to listen to them. Instead of relying

on the attractational, maybe it's time for us to be missional. Or, to use a word that goes down a little smoother among Anglicans, incarnational.

Instead of a church built on attracting people inside, it's a church going outside to meet the world, and to imagine that the world has something to teach us about what God needs the church to do.

One writer has put it this way: A missional / incarnational church makes the shift from "come and see" to "go and be." To be the church—the church named after Jesus, who spent his whole ministry on the road and out among the people—means to be with the people God calls us to love, and once we are with them, to listen to them.

We've spent all this past year learning how to listen better. To listen to our own stories, to listen to each other—because that is at least one of the ways we hear the voice of God.

But there's something more to this than simply learning a technique. Because a missional church, an incarnational church, must be—must be—a listening church first of all.

We can be taught this by from a witness very close to the heart of our church in Europe, Dietrich Bonhoeffer. In his brilliant little work about Christian community, *Life Together*, Bonhoeffer wrote this:

"The first service that one owes to others in the fellowship consists in listening to them. Just as love of God begins with listening to God's Word, so the beginning of love for our sisters and brothers in the church is learning to listen to them...."

So it is God's work that we do for them when we learn to listen to them. Christians, especially ministers, so often think they must always contribute something when they are in the company of others, that this is the one service they have to render. They forget that listening can be a greater service than speaking.

Many people are looking for an ear that will listen. They do not find it among Christians, because these Christians are talking where they should be listening. But the one who can no longer listen to a sister or a brother will soon no longer be listening to God either; that one will be doing nothing but prattling in the presence of God, too."

So what is the state of our church?

The state of our church is returning, returning to the communities we have made, returning to our companionships with each other, in order to prepare and sustain each other for the work God is calling us to do.

And then the state of our church must be one of renewal—renewing our sense of God's call in mission, renewing our willingness to venture out among the people God loves and who are waiting for us to listen to what they have to say—to teach us about their struggles to find space for the sacred in their lives. Renewing our purpose by listening to the longings of people around us, people longing for a way to hear about God in the terms of their own language and culture.

Throughout our history our understanding of mission has taken different forms, not all of them good. Mission has meant crusade and conquest, colonialism and conversion. It has also meant compassion and education, activism and advocacy.

A missional church today must not be a captive of the culture, but a companion to those caught in culture's limitations. It must go out among the people who believe they don't believe, because the only way we can walk with them and listen is if we go where they are, and stop presuming that it's their task to come in and listen to us.

We can still have the beautiful things we've created, and that have been our path to a deeper relationship with God. But we have to remember that the gospel's purpose isn't just comfort—it's redemption. And in these past months, God has been teaching us that the people Christ came to save probably aren't going to come in among us looking for those answers; we, just like Jesus, are going to have to go out to them.

So let us return. Let us be renewed by the love and the support we know in these communities. Let us listen constantly in prayer—prayer that springs not from a longing to change God's mind, but to open

our hearts. And then—let us dare to venture back into the world, to listen to the needs of people held captive by our cynical culture, and to walk as companions with the least, the last, and the lost. Amen.



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