

Call to the 186th Convention of the
Episcopal Diocese of Michigan
October 23/24, 2020

April 27, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At our annual convention in October 2019, in accordance with Canon 1.2.1 of the Diocese of Michigan, members of convention approved that our 2020 convention would take place October 23, 24, 2020 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Michigan.

Many changes have taken place in our world since that vote occurred. Restrictions on gatherings and social distancing have changed the way that we connect as a community, and we have yet to learn how these guidelines will look in October. Additionally, the state of Michigan has selected the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi as the site of an auxiliary field hospital to assist in the care of COVID19 patients. Therefore, there is no guarantee that the facility will be available for our use this October.

Article IV of the Constitution of the Diocese of Michigan contains the following provision:

. . . if the Ecclesiastical Authority, acting with the advice and consent of the Diocesan Council, determines that there is sufficient cause to change time or place determined by the preceding Annual Convention, the Annual Convention shall be held at the time and place determined by the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, has determined in consultation with Diocesan Council, that we will continue to plan for our convention to take place the weekend of October 23/24, 2020. A Convention Planning Committee is currently working with members of the bishop's staff to consider a continuum of options on how our gathering will take place, keeping in mind all logistical contingencies. This committee will also work with our chancellor and parliamentarian to make sure that arrangements are made to conduct all usual business of our annual convention, including all agenda items that are required by the Constitution and Canons of our diocese. Information regarding proposed resolutions, canonical changes, nominations for diocesan office and other official convention business will be shared in accordance with our customary timeline. Therefore,

**We are asking that our clergy and lay delegates continue to hold
October 23 and 24, 2020
For the 186th Convention of the Diocese of Michigan.**

Please be in touch with me at wrhamlin@juno.com or with Canon Jo Ann Hardy, jhardy@edomi.org (313.833.4422) as questions arise. We will keep you informed as plans develop and look forward to hearing from you.

Blessings to you and your family.

The Rev. Dr. W. Richard Hamlin,
Secretary of Convention