



## In This Edition

In this edition of the Convention Newsletter:

- **Upcoming Deadlines** for hotel reservations, certification, registration, nominations, and resolutions
- **Safe Church, Safe Communities** in-person training opportunity JUST IN TIME for clergy, church staff, and convention delegates to meet requirements by deadline
- **General Schedule of Convention** with the delegate orientation, presentations, hearings, and other events
- **Youth Delegate Applications** and references
- **Memorials** for Convention Eucharist

**The Diocesan Office will be closed for Christmas and New Year's Holidays from December 23-January 1.**



## Hotel Information

**The deadline for hotel reservations is fast approaching. Don't let it slip past you! Hotel reservations are due Monday, January 1, 2024.** We have room blocks at three area hotels: the Marriott Courtyard in Cedar Bluff, the Marriott SpringHill Suites in Turkey Creek, and the Hampton Inn by Campbell Station Road.

[Learn More](#)



## Certification and Registration

The **deadline of Friday, December 15, 2023, for Certification has passed.** We are making space for late submissions. **The cutoff for last minute submissions and changes is before Saturday, January 6, 2024.** Make sure you follow the instructions precisely. If you did not complete your certification by Friday, December 15, and you are receiving a copy of this email, please retain a copy of this email to distribute to your delegates if they have not received it directly as we cannot guarantee that they will receive it.

Registration may be completed at any time as your parish will register the delegates by the total number of clergy and lay delegates not by specific persons. Visitors may register at any time.

[Certification](#)

[Registration](#)

[Visitors](#)



## Nominations

Nominations for elected positions at the 40th annual convention in 2024 are now open! We are excited to announce openings in elected diocesan leadership for Bishop and Council, Standing Committee, Disciplinary Board, and University of the South Trustee.

Nominations may be made only by the Bishop, Clerical and Lay Delegates, Vestries, and any other person authorized by Canon. [See Rule 8.01.](#) **Nominations are due by Saturday, January 6, 2024.** All nominees are invited to submit photo, detailed biography, and reasons for seeking the position to the respective diocesan office (no word limit). This information will be posted on the [convention website](#). Nominees are also invited to submit an abbreviated 100-word informational profile to be included in convention materials. Additionally, all nominees will be invited to participate in a breakout session during convention to meet and answer questions from delegates and visitors. **For further assistance with nominations after January 6th, please email the Nominations Committee at [nominations@dioet.org](mailto:nominations@dioet.org).**

Head to our [convention website](#) to see each of the open positions, descriptions of each group, and to nominate yourself or someone for these positions.

[Learn More](#)



## Resolutions

The Diocese of East Tennessee remains committed to providing time and space for healthy and productive dialogue embodied in the resolutions process. We welcome resolutions from the community for the purpose of creating a unified voice in the diocese. Please note the following information as a helpful guide as we prepare for the 40th Annual Convention.

### When is deadline for submitting resolutions?

Proposed resolutions must be received at Diocesan House **no later than January 6, 2023**, to be posted on our convention website and included in convention packet. Resolutions proposed after January 6, will be made from the floor of convention with a requirement of a 2/3rds vote from the convention to be considered immediately.

### How does one write a resolution?

Learn more with the 2024 Resolution Guide!

[Learn More](#)



## Safe Church Training

**All parochial clergy, church staff, and delegates** are required to be in compliance and current with their Safe Church requirements **by February 10, 2024**. To help with this, the diocese will offer **in-person training at 1:00-4:00 pm Friday, February 9th at St. John's Cathedral**. This just-in-time opportunity is before the Convention Eucharist. Training can also be completed online any time before the deadline.

This training is for clergy, staff, and convention delegates who still need to complete their course requirements. Additional public in-person opportunities will be offered in 2024.

Compliance must meet our diocesan standards. If someone has moved from a different diocese where they were required to take fewer courses, they must complete the missing work. If someone completed the "old" courses that met the Diocese of East Tennessee standards at the time of training, then they are considered to be compliant until the 3-year expiration date of their most recent certification.

If you have any questions contact your Parish Safe Church Coordinator or Emily Kirk, Diocesan Parish Support Specialist and Safe Church Administrator at [ekirk@dioet.org](mailto:ekirk@dioet.org) or 865-966-2110.

[Register Here](#)



## Schedule

We are pleased to announce the 2024 schedule for Diocesan Convention. While your diocesan leadership continues to plan offerings for workshops and our Ministry Open House, you can register for hearings, the session to meet the nominees, and see the general schedule of events.

[Learn More](#)



## Youth Delegate Applications

Each year, three youth delegates are permitted seat and voice (no vote) at diocesan convention. If you have a youth who would be interested in attending this year's convention as a youth delegate, review the requirements and forms on the ETNyouth website. **Please make sure to have applications in by Saturday, January 6, 2024.**

[Learn More](#)



## Memorials

Our time together at diocesan convention celebrates the broad life of East Tennessee Episcopalians from Bristol to South Pittsburg. Part of our tradition at convention is to remember those who have died within our East Tennessee family since our last diocesan convention. Please email any names of those who have died within our parishes to Bro. Andrew by the end of day on **Saturday, January 6, 2024.**

[Email Bro. Andrew](#)



## Workshops

Your diocesan leadership has been developing a robust lineup of workshops for before, during, and following convention.

For all Episcopalians in East Tennessee, not just convention delegates, **Workshops** via Zoom leading up to convention will include:

- PAROCHIAL REPORTS – How to complete them and why they matter
- DIOET.ORG – Diocesan website content and resources you probably didn't know are available
- OUR NEWEST PARISH – The story of how two parishes have emerged as one in Kingsport

In the morning prior to the open of convention business, and during a lunch break in convention business, delegates and visitors can join in one of several **Workshops** at the Episcopal School of Knoxville (ESK)

- ALLYSHIP – Working together for minoritized racial groups
- ANTI-BIAS – Addressing biases with respect to gender and sexuality
- EMBRACING EVANGELISM – Simple practices in our context
- LAY LEADERSHIP – Practical and adaptive skills for wardens, vestry members, and other parish lay leaders
- LIMINALITY & END OF LIFE – Palliative, hospice, and pastoral care
- THE WORK I'M MEANT TO DO – Discernment and social justice
- WALKING PILGRIMAGE – Stories from recent Camino de Santiago pilgrims

More details coming!

In addition to, and as an alternative to workshops, convention delegates and visitors will be able to visit a Ministry Open House. Visit with representatives, ask questions, and procure materials from various groups, including, but not limited to: Alexian Village, Episcopal Relief & Development, Education for Ministry, Evangelism Working Group, FORMA, Grace Point Camp & Retreat Center, Justice Knox, Morning Point Memory Care, Tennessee Interfaith Power & Light, and Young Adult Service Corps.



## Convention Website and Resources

This year we continue to utilize our diocesan convention website as the main hub for information regarding the annual convention. This is a great resource of information regarding upcoming diocesan convention and referencing previous years.

[Certification](#)

[Communications Archive](#)

[Convention Blog \(Articles\)](#)

[Delegate Profile](#)

Livestream for [Business Meeting](#) and [Convention Eucharist](#)

[Nominations](#)

[Registration](#)

[Rules of Order](#)

[Schedule](#)

Sent to: [editor@dioet.org](mailto:editor@dioet.org)

[Unsubscribe](#)

The Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee, 814 Episcopal School Way, Knoxville, TN 37932, United States