

Greetings Delegates, Alternates, and Ex-Officio members of Diocesan Convention,

Thank you for agreeing to be a part of this important work of our diocese. In the coming weeks, you will have the opportunity to

- attend an orientation meeting online,
- watch the Budget presentation and attend the Budget Hearing
- attend the Justice in Banking webinar
- attend the “Meet the Candidates” forum online
- attend the in-person convention on Friday and Saturday, February 7th and 8th, at St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church (training and forum) and the Episcopal School of Knoxville (worship and business)

In this email, we highlight key actionable items. To ensure the security and integrity of our online meetings, we require registration for each meeting. When it is convenient to you, please take a moment to register for each of the following meetings and hearings. Upon registering for each meeting, you will receive a unique link just for you. Please keep the email or copy the link to your preferred calendar app where you can find it on that day. Please do not share meeting or registration links with others. We will send a meeting reminder with your link a few hours before each meeting. Each meeting will be recorded.

The RSVP for Childcare, Lunch, and Accessibility is due Monday, January 27. Please see the details below.

Should anyone in your delegation find that they are not receiving our emails after checking the spam/junk folders, please contact Bro. Andrew at amorehead@dioet.org for assistance.

Delegation Orientation – 7:00 PM Eastern, Wednesday, January 29, on Zoom

All delegation members are invited to meet, practice voting, and receive orientation to the business being considered at this year’s convention, including candidates for elected positions, resolutions for consideration, and the consent agenda. Well-informed and prepared delegates are critical to the efficient flow of business on Saturday morning. This meeting will be recorded, and **all delegates are requested to familiarize themselves with the information**

presented at this meeting before attending convention.

[Click here to REGISTER for the Delegation Orientation Meeting.](#)

Justice in Banking Webinar - 7:00 PM Eastern, Monday, February 3, on Zoom

Join Bishop Brian Cole, Kim Wilson Owen and Rick Roach (authors of [Resolution 2023-08 “Justice in Banking”](#)), Adam Hughes (organizer for Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment), and Mary Hirt (Policy Specialist in Community and Economic Development at the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank) for a session on the new diocesan [Justice in Banking and Investing Guidelines Policy](#). This webinar is being offered as a way for all East Tennessee Episcopalians to engage with the new policy ahead of the in-person forum at St. Elizabeth’s on Friday, February 7. Participants will have a clear understanding of the issues around justice in banking and options for action steps with their local parishes, understand what is happening in financial institutions and the nature of the harm done, be empowered with concrete, workable, and accessible action steps to help parishes identify financial institutions that engage in best practices in just banking, and be able to share information about just banking issues with their fellow parishioners.

[Click here to REGISTER for the Justice in Banking webinar.](#)

Meet the Nominees - 7:00 PM Eastern, Tuesday, February 4, on Zoom

Join members of the Elections Committee for a special session to meet the nominees for elected positions at the convention. Learn more about where the candidates are from, which community they belong to, and what their hopes are for engaging and participating in diocesan work on their respective bodies.

[Click here to REGISTER for the Meet the Nominees session.](#)

Budget Hearing – 12:00 PM Eastern, Wednesday, February 5, on Zoom

The Budget Hearing will take place prior to the in-person portion of the convention. The budget presentation recording will be available beginning Wednesday, January 29, in both your inbox, and at www.dioceseconvention.org. We will play the presentation 30 minutes prior to the hearing.

[Click here to REGISTER for the Budget Hearing](#)

Safe Church Training - 12:00 PM Eastern, Friday, February 7, St. Elizabeth’s, Farragut

All parochial clergy, church staff, and delegates are required to be in compliance and current with their Safe Church requirements by Saturday, February 8, 2025. To help with this, the diocese will offer in-person training from 12:00-4:00 PM on Friday, February 7th at St.

Elizabeth's Episcopal Church. 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 2025. 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 or 865-966-2110.

[Click here to register for the training.](#)

Justice in Banking Forum - 2:00 PM Eastern, Friday, February 7, St. Elizabeth's, Farragut

Come for the in-person Justice in Banking forum at St. Elizabeth's, beginning at 2:00 pm in the nave. You'll have a chance to hear more about the new Justice in Banking and Investment Guidelines, best practices, and resources. No RSVP is required. All are welcome!

RSVP for Childcare, Lunch, and Accessibility on Saturday, February 8, In Person at the Episcopal School, Knoxville

In preparing for our time together on Saturday, we need to know the number of delegates, alternates, ex-officio members, and visitors who wish to have lunch, who need childcare, or may have accessibility needs. The deadline is Monday, January 27.

[Click here to register your options for Saturday.](#)

Lastly, this email assists us in troubleshooting email addresses from the certification form. Should you find that a fellow delegate is not receiving emails, please contact Bro. Andrew at amorehead@dioet.org or call 865-966-2110 for further assistance.

Blessings,

Bro. Andrew Aelred Morehead, OC
Missioner for Communications and Evangelism,
Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee

