

BUSINESS SUMMARY OF THE 168TH CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MINNESOTA

NOVEMBER 14-15, 2025
MAYO CIVIC CENTER
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

“The hope that is within us”

ELECTIONS

Standing Committee *(3-year terms)*

Lay

John Gappa
Minnie Steele

Clergy

Jon Spinillo
Dana Strande

Commission on Ministry

Lay

Mary Dragich *(3-year term)*

Clergy

Dave McEachron *(3-year term)*
Lisa White Smith *(2-year term)*

Trustees

3-year terms

Beth Royalty
Steve Schaitberger
Heather Worthington

Filling out 2-year term

Dan White

General Convention 2027 Deputies

Lay Deputies

Heidi Kim
Minnie Steele
Katie Madsen
Liza Anderson

Lay Alternates

Olivia Morin-Swanson
David Niles
Christopher Johnson

Clergy Deputies

Cody Maynus
Margaret Thor
Ramona Scarpace
Christy Stang

Clergy Alternates

Chelsea Stanton
Rick Swenson

CONSENT CALENDER: CANONICAL ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND CONFIRMATIONS

Secretary of Convention (Canon 209.1)

Ms. Karen Olson

Treasurer (Canon 309.1)

The Rev. Christopher Rogers

Chancellors (Canon 306.1)

Chancellor (*Interim*) – Ms. Sally Johnson

Vice Chancellors – Ms. Rebecca Bernhard, Mr. Graham Kerr van der Leeuw

Disciplinary Board (Canon 405(d)) – *For a three-year term ending at 2028 Convention*

Ms. Kerry Childe, Mr. Terry Heyl, The Rev. Cindy Hillger, The Rev. Lisa White Smith,
The Rev. Lisa Wiens-Heinsohn

Commission on Ministry

(Canon 113.5.a) *Chair, for second two-year term, ending 2026*

The Rev. Margaret Thor

(Canon 113.4.b) *Bishop Appointments – For three-year terms, ending 2028*

Ms. Cathy Rude, The Rev. Mary Anderson

Council (Canon 219.2) *Vice-Chair*

The Rev. Jennifer McNally

2026 FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF MISSION

ADOPTED

CANONICAL AMENDMENTS

- **Revision to Canon 113**, removing redundancies and providing greater clarity around expectations to govern general membership and ex-officio members of the Commission on Ministry. These changes remove references to outdated and non-existent committees, and clarify expectations for how members will be selected and serve.

PASSED

- **Repeal and delete in its entirety Canon 611**, because the subject of when clergy are required to resign is fully covered in the churchwide Canons, and putting anything in ECMN Canons risks it being inconsistent with the churchwide canons.

PASSED

RESOLUTIONS

[Dignity: Not Hate, Not Mass Deportation, Not Silence](#)

PASSED AS AMENDED

[Becoming a Sanctuary Church](#)

PASSED AS AMENDED

STORIES

- The Rev. Patricia Benson, Deacon at St. Paul's, Duluth
- Cyara Carabarin Carretero: Casa Maria at St. Nicholas, Richfield
- Randy Pastorius: Christ Church, Red Wing

AWARDS

Lay Canon Award presented to Jay Nord and Heather Worthington
Bishop Whipple Cross presented to Jim Huber

OTHER

Guest Preacher at the Eucharist: Bishop Regina Hassanally, ELCA-SE Synod
Eucharist Offering designated for Casa Maria, Richfield
Guest Presenter for Saturday, November 15: The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot, Bishop of Iowa

ORDINATIONS, TRANSITIONS, MILESTONES, CLERGY NECROLOGY

Ordained Priest in 2025

Nathan Black
Matthew Roberts
Beth Rose

30-Year Priesthood Anniversary in 2025

Mary Rowe
Wanda Copeland

50-Year Priesthood Anniversary in 2025

Grant Abbott

65-Year Priesthood Anniversary in 2025

Ben Scott

Letters Dimissory Received to ECMN in the past year

Robert (R.C.) Laird
Matthew Roberts

Congregations Closed

Church of the Redeemer, Cannon Falls

Clergy Released and Removed from Ordained Ministry

Philip Schaffner

Clergy Necrology

Barbara von Haaren
Rick Todd
Anthony Morley
Melanie Mattsen

Karen Olson, Secretary of Convention
Report prepared by Susan Barksdale