

Minutes of the 137th Convention of The Episcopal Church in Colorado

Thursday, October 3: Opening Eucharist

The Opening Eucharist was held at 7:00 pm at St Luke's, Fort Collins. The Rt. Rev. Kimberly Lucas was celebrant, and the Rev. Krista Dias was Minister of Ceremonies.

Bishop Kym acknowledged that the land on which we met is the traditional territory of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute Nations, and that we recognize the Indigenous people who once lived on this land and support the resilience and strength of their descendants living among us today. We also acknowledge our complicity in the egregious acts of colonization, boarding schools, and genocide that have caused lasting intergenerational trauma. That we commit to support the groups that are working toward healing in relationships with Indigenous people, and further commit to learn the truth of the past and present, to reckon with our role in the harms caused, and to stand in solidarity with our Indigenous kin as we seek an equitable future together.

A dessert reception was held in the parish hall after the Eucharist.

Friday, October 4: General Session #1

At 10:00 am, The Daughters of the King led Morning Prayer.

At 10:20 am, Bishop Kym called the Convention to order and noted that the delegations from Cortez, Durango, and Pagosa Springs had all travelled over 300 miles to get to the Convention.

Appointment of Officers

Bishop Kym appointed the following persons:

Br. Scott Michael Pomerenk BSG	Secretary
Mr. Lawrence R. Hitt II (Larry)	Parliamentarian
The Rev. Deacon Jack Karn	Assistant Secretary
Mrs. AliceMarie Slaven-Emond	Committee to Approve Minutes
The Rev. Tim Backus	Committee to Approve Minutes
Canon Mike Orr	Consultant, Committee to Approve Minutes
The Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis	Chair, Committee for Conduct of Nominations and Conduct of Elections
The Rev. Deacon Robert Franken	Vice Chair, Committee for Conduct of Nominations and Conduct of Elections
Chancellor Larry Hitt	Consultant, Committee for Conduct of Nominations and Conduct of Elections
The Rev. Wendy Huber	Chair, Committee for Legislation and Resolutions
Sharon Caulfield	Vice-Chair, Committee for Legislation and Resolutions

Chancellor Larry Hitt

Consultant, Committee for Legislation and
Resolutions

Declaration of a Quorum

Br. Scott Michael declared that the Convention had reached a quorum.

Rules of Convention

Chancellor Hitt gave his Report on the Adoption of the Rules of Convention, highlighting important aspects. The Convention voted to adopt the Rules.

Agenda for Convention

Br. Scott Michael moved the Agenda for Convention, which the Convention voted to accept.

Certification of Minutes for the 136th Convention

Br. Scott Michael reported that the Committee to Approve Minutes for the 136th Convention had reviewed and approved those minutes; he submitted the minutes, and the Chair received them.

Declaration of Organization of the Convention

Bishop Kym declared that the 137th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Colorado was organized for business.

Report of Committee on Conduct of Nominations and Conduct of Elections

The Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis reported that the Convention would be using VPOLL for electronic voting. She reported that the winner of the practice vote for favorite native tree in Colorado was the Quaking Aspen.

Keynote Speaker

Bishop Kym introduced the Keynote Speaker for Convention, The Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, 15th Bishop of Maryland. Bishop Schofield-Broadbent spoke on “Approaching the God of Imagination”.

A video of St. Luke’s, Fort Collins, was shown.

Standing Committee Nominees Introduction & Vote

The Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis announced the nominees for Regional Representatives to the Standing Committee:

Clergy Nominees:

The Rev. Chris Ditzenberger, representative to the High Plains Region, to a term
expiring 2027.

The Rev. Matthew Frey, representative to the Northwest Region, to a term
expiring 2027

Lay Nominee:

Mr. William (Chip) Page, St. Matthew's, Grand Junction, lay representative, to the
Southwest Region, to a term expiring 2027.

The Convention voted by acclamation to elect the nominees.

Bishop Kym thanked the Standing Committee members who had completed their terms of service:

The Rev. Kate Bradsen, St. Stephen's Aurora, Vice President & Clergy representative,
High Plains Region

The Rev. Catie Greene, Clergy Representative, Northwest Region

The Convention broke for lunch and regional gatherings

General Session #2

Keynote Part 2

Bishop Schofield-Broadbent spoke on "Challenging Magical Thinking and Old Narratives".

A video of St. Peter's of the Valley, Basalt, was shown.

Introductions and New Appointments

Bishop Kym announced the appointment of the Rev. Deacon Gary Darress to the Commission on
Ministry, and gave thanks for all who serve on that Commission.

Bishop Kym announced the appointment of the following persons to the Board of Examining
Chaplains:

Dr. Michael Boney

The Rev. Dr. Austin Leininger

Bishop Kym also thanked the members of the board who have completed their service:

The Rev. Jeffrey Nelson

Linda Neuman

The Rev. Deacon Nadine Pope

The Rev. Dr. Lyndon Shakespeare

Bishop Kym thanked the deacons who serve on the Diaconal Council and noted that there are no new appointments to that Council this year.

The Rev. Mary Kate Rejouis announced the nominees for the Disciplinary Board:

Amy Evans, St. John the Baptist, Breckenridge
The Rev. Steve Hood, St. Matthew's, Grand Junction

The Convention voted by acclamation to elect the nominees.

Bishop Kym thanked those who have completed their terms on the Disciplinary Board:

Andy Folkerth as Chair, continuing on the Board
The Rev. Amy Lythgoe, St. Luke's, Denver- [On 9/10/2025 this was discovered to be **incorrect**. The Rev. Amy Lythgoe did not intend to conclude being a part of the Disciplinary Board, has continued being an active member of the Board, and therefore is a current Board member.]

Proposed Resolution #1

The Rev. Wendy Huber introduced the legislative process and announced the first Resolution to be considered, "On Reducing and Preventing Gun Violence." Chancellor Hitt reminded the Convention of the rules pertaining to this proposed legislation. Bishop Kym gave an extra exhortation to the Convention to debate with kindness, respect, and prayer. She then led the room in a brief prayer.

The Rev. Deacon Gary Darress introduced the resolution. There was discussion. The Rev. Brooks Keith proposed an amendment, which was defeated after some discussion. After further discussion, a voice vote was held, and the resolution was adopted.

General Convention Deputation

The General Convention Deputation, led by Co-Chairs Chuck Theobald, Erica Pomerenk, and The Rev. Brian Winter, presented its report to the Convention, highlighting key legislation and events from the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church.

The Convention took a break.

General Session #3

Electronic Revote for Resolution #1

Due to some concerns expressed during the break, the Chair and Parliamentarian decided to call an electronic vote to confirm the voice vote on Resolution #1. Mother Mary Kate facilitated the vote on VPOLL.

The vote confirmed that the resolution was adopted.

Keynote Part 3

Bishop Schofield-Broadbent spoke on “When Things Go Sideways”.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment (first reading)

The Rev. Wendy Huber announced the proposed Constitutional Amendment. Chancellor Hitt noted that the vote would need to pass by a majority of both orders, and then be considered again at next year’s Convention to pass.

The Rev. Deacon Robert Franken introduced the Amendment; discussion followed. Mother Mary Kate facilitated the electronic vote, and the Amendment passed this its first reading; it will be considered again at the 138th Convention.

Proposed Resolution #2

The Rev. Wendy Huber announced the second proposed resolution, “Resolution to Study Amendments to the Canons of the Diocese of Colorado to Facilitate Associate Membership of Laity in More than One Congregation.”

The Rev. Jeremy Lucas, St. Paul’s, Steamboat Springs, introduced the resolution; discussion followed.

The Resolution was adopted.

Final Moments of the Evening

Bishop Kym thanked Bishop Schofield-Broadbent for her inspirational talks and valuable teachings, and presented her with a gift as a token of appreciation and a memento of her time with them in Colorado.

The congregation of St. Paul in Fort Collins led evening prayer.

Bishop Kym closed the session with a final prayer.

Saturday 5 October: General Session #4

The Deacons of the Diocese led Morning Prayer at 9:00 am.

Bishop’s Address

Bishop Kym addressed the Convention, discussing how we are both lay-led and clergy-supported, and how we all need each other to do the work of God together, allowing the light of Christ to shine through our lives.

Youth Council Report

Bishop Kym introduced the Youth Council, 6 teenagers who represent the Episcopal youth of Colorado. The Youth introduced themselves and talked about their experiences.

Treasurer's Report and 2025 Diocesan Budget

Bishop Kym introduced Treasurer Nancy Jones, who made her report on the proposed Diocesan Budget which had been posted to the Virtual Binder.

There was time for questions and discussion, and the Convention voted to approve the budget. Bishop Kym thanked the Treasurer, Standing Committee, Finance Committee, and Office of the Bishop Staff for their work in drafting the Diocesan budget.

Bishop's Cross

Bishop Kym awarded the Bishop's Cross to Bill Oliver and Kimberly Hubbs.

Commissioning of Those Appointed or Elected

Through a brief liturgy, Bishop Kym commissioned all who had been appointed or elected to diocesan offices, commissions, or committees.

Prayers and Remarks of Thanksgiving

Bishop Kym gave thanks for various groups:

- The Standing Committee
- The Staff of the Office of the Bishop
- Clergy who have retired this year
- Clergy who have died this year

A video memorializing deceased clergy was shown, naming the following:

- The Rev. Dr. Jerome Berryman, Priest
- The Rev. Paul Brisbane, Priest
- The Rev. Jessie Cannady, Deacon
- The Rev. Sandy Grundy, Priest
- The Rev. Jack Muller, Priest

The Rev. Janice Windsor, Deacon
The Rev. Twyla Zittle, Priest

Bishop Kym welcomed clergy who are new to Colorado or who have accepted new calls.

Bishop Kym gave thanks for newly ordained clergy, and postulants and candidates for ordination.

Courtesy Resolutions

In a prerecorded video, the Rev. Wendy Huber read courtesy resolutions.

Adjournment

Bishop Kym closed the Convention with a blessing. After a motion and vote to adjourn, the 137th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Colorado was adjourned at 10:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Br. Scott Michael Pomerenk BSG