

General Convention: What is it?

Every three years elected representatives from each of the more than 100 domestic and overseas dioceses - bishops, priests/deacons, and lay members - gather together.

This summer in Austin, Texas, from July 5 to 13, members of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies will meet at the 79th General Convention to do the work of the wider church: determine the policies, priorities, and budget for the next three years. Issues such as prayer book revision, church governance, social justice, and care of creation will be considered. All resolutions may be reviewed by topic [here](#).



Episcopal Church Women will also meet from July 5 to 11 for their [Triennial gathering](#). Click here for GC [schedules](#).

Who will represent the Diocese of Maine?

At our Diocese of Maine convention in 2016 four lay deputies and four clerical deputies as well as alternates were elected to represent Maine. In addition to Bishop Steve Lane and the eight deputies, the first alternates in each order will attend.



Lay Deputies

Liz Hall, Christ Church, Gardiner, chair of the deputation

Elizabeth Ring, St. Bartholomew's, Yarmouth

serving on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations Committee

Richard Rozene, St. Ann's, Windham
serving on Congregational and Diocesan Vitality Committee

John Hennessy, St. Luke's, Portland
serving on Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance
First Lay Alternate

Mark Spahr, St. Patrick's, Brewer

Clerical Deputies

Nina Pooley, St. Bartholomew's, Yarmouth
serving on Churchwide Leadership Committee

Mary Lee Wile, St. Paul's, Brunswick
serving on Privilege and Courtesy Committee

Calvin Sanborn, St. George's, York Harbor

Ben Shambaugh, St. Luke's, Portland
serving on Prayerbook, Liturgy, and Music Committee

First Clerical Alternate

Maria Hoecker, St. Columba's, Boothbay Harbor

and, of course, **Bishop Steve Lane** is a member of the House of Bishops and will serve (for the third time!) as the *Vice-chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance*.

Ways to participate and stay up-to-date

Sign up for a daily GC update delivered to your email inbox beginning July 4 and ending July 14.

(Please note: Subscribers to *The Dio Log* will NOT automatically receive the GC update.)

[Sign up for news from GC](#)

Direct link to sign up page: www.tinyurl.com/Maineupdate



Each morning you'll receive a news summary and links to the **Maine Deputy of the Day post**, Bishop Steve's daily video update, photo albums, additional news coverage, and more.

Visit our diocesan news blog, *The New Northeast*, directly at www.newnortheast.me. All the information published in the daily update may be found on the blog.

More social media: Follow the hashtag **#gc79** on any social media platform for posts from people across the church.

Facebook: Join the [Mainers in Austin Facebook group](#) at for real-time updates and photos from, well, Mainers in Austin. Look for lots of cross-posting our our [diocesan page](#) as well.

Twitter: Follow the Diocese of Maine's [@episcopalmaine](#) and Bishop Steve Lane's [@bishop_maine](#) Twitter accounts for updates.

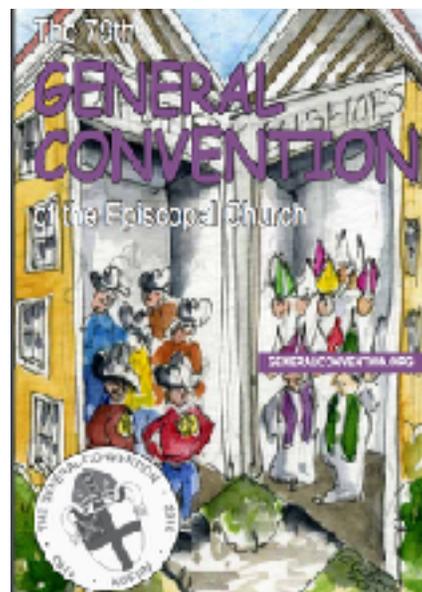
Instagram: Photos and commentary from your Maine deputation on the new diocesan Instagram. Check it out [@episcopal_maine](#)

Other news sources: [Episcopal News Service](#) and [House of Deputies News](#) will report on all things GC.

Live-streams: The House of Bishops and the House of Deputies and all worship services will be live-streamed on the [GC Media Hub](#).

Here's a helpful [graphic](#), presented in several formats, created by the Episcopal Church in Connecticut showing how a resolution moves through GC.

For a big picture (with fun illustrations) download this [20-page booklet](#) explaining GC from the Diocese of Texas.



www.generalconvention.org