



The Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

6 November 2025

MEMORANDUM TO: Clergy and Senior Wardens in Charge of Congregations without Clergy

FROM: Bishop Kendrick

REFERENCE: 55th Annual Diocesan Convention – “**Let There Be Light**”
February 27-28, 2026
Hilton Pensacola Beach
Hosted by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Gulf Breeze, Florida

This is the initial pre-convention packet for the 2026 Diocesan Convention, set for the dates and place shown above. Included in this packet, you’ll find information and instructions for completing all necessary Convention forms; we ask that you submit them to the Diocesan office by the dates provided. **Please note and meet the key deadlines to ensure timely confirmation and communication.**

Members of St. Francis have already been busy preparing to host our convention. Hotel accommodations can be found on the Convention website at www.diocgc.org/2026-diocesan-convention. A block of rooms has been reserved at our convention hotel. There are several nearby hotel options available at various price points for those seeking more economical rates – those rooms have not been reserved.

The convention website will be the place to find the most up-to-date details, schedule, forms, registration, and other related information. A Convention Study Material packet containing the preliminary budget, any submitted resolutions, and any other pertinent information will be emailed to all delegates two weeks prior to the start of the convention. **There will be only one Pre-Convention Meeting via Zoom, Sunday, February 1, 2026, from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm CT.** The meeting will also be recorded for later viewing. Details for access via Zoom will be posted later.

Online registration will open on December 2, 2025. Churches are asked to register all clergy, lay, and alternate delegates at one time.

The theme for our 2026 Diocesan Convention is “**Let There Be Light.**” Together, we will explore how our lives are called to shine as lights for God, including through our care for God’s creation. As in past years, our goal is to offer a convention that goes beyond fulfilling a canonical requirement or conducting church business. This gathering is a sacred opportunity to come together as the people of God—to celebrate God’s work among us and to be inspired and challenged for the ministry ahead.

During our time together, we will hear from guest speakers who will challenge and encourage us, engage in workshops designed to equip us for ministry, and join in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

JRK/jdr
Enclosures

OVER →

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT the SCHEDULE of CONVENTION

Thursday, February 26, 2026

- Budget Hearing and any Convention Committee meetings will be held via Zoom. Time to be determined.

Friday, February 27, 2026

- Exhibits will be open
- Business Session I will be organized for business
- Keynote speakers
- Workshops will be held Friday afternoon
- An Evening Social is planned

Saturday, February 28, 2026

- Business Session II will be organized for the remaining business
- Speaker and conversation
- Business Session
- Closing Service
- Standing Committee will meet briefly, immediately following the close of Convention