

# JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND ARRANGEMENTS

## Membership

The Rev. Canon Dr. Michael Barlowe, <i>Chair</i>	California, VIII	2021
The Rev. Devon Anderson	Minnesota, VI	2021
Mr. N. Kurt Barnes	New York, II	2021
The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce	Los Angeles, VIII	2021
The Most Rev. Michael Curry	North Carolina, IV	2021
The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs	Michigan, V	2021
The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves	North Carolina, IV	2021
The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings	Ohio, V	2021
Mr. Bryan Krislock	Olympia, VIII	2021
Mr. Ryan Kusumoto	Hawaii, VIII	2021
Ms. Karen Patterson	Southwest Florida, IV	2021
The Hon. Byron Rushing	Massachusetts, I	2021
The Rev. Canon Scott Slater	Maryland, III	2021
The Rt. Rev. Eugene Sutton	Maryland, III	2021
Ms. Patricia Wellnitz	Nebraska, VI	2021

## Mandate

### JOINT RULES VI. 16

(a) There shall be a Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements for the General Convention, which shall have responsibility between Conventions for the matters indicated by its title. The Committee shall be composed, ex officio, of the Executive Officer of the General Convention, the Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and Chairs of the Committee on the Dispatch of Business of the two Houses, the Treasurer of the General Convention, the President and First Vice-President of the Episcopal Church Women, the General Convention Manager and one Presbyter or Deacon and one Lay Person appointed by the President of the House of Deputies. In the case of a General Convention for which a meeting site has been selected, the Committee shall also include the

Bishop and the General Chairman of Arrangements of the local Committee of the Dioceses in which that General Convention shall be held.

**(b)** It shall be the duty of the Committee to consult with the Presidents of the two Houses, the Chairs of the Joint and Standing Committees and Commissions, Boards and Agencies of the General Convention, the Executive Council, and such other representative bodies as it may deem necessary, in the study and determination, prior to any meeting of the General Convention, of the arrangements for, and the nature of, the Agenda thereof, to be recommended by it to the General Convention for such meeting.

**(c)** It shall be the further duty of the Committee to take such action as may be provided by Canon for the selection of sites for meetings of the General Convention.

**(d)** The Committee shall have an Executive Committee composed of the Presidents of the two Houses, the Chair of the Committee, the Executive Officer of the General Convention, the Treasurer of the General Convention, and the General Convention Manager.

## Summary of Work

The Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements began the triennium with the usual preparations for the next General Convention, scheduled to take place in July 2021. When the pandemic hit in March 2020, the committee had to change its focus and do scenario planning, taking into account many factors, primarily the health and safety of the attendees.

Four meetings were held before March 2020. The committee held its first meeting in Baltimore, Maryland (site of the 80th General Convention) on January 30-31, 2019. At the meeting, the 79th General Convention was reviewed and potential improvements were discussed. Subcommittees were formed to work on particular aspects of convention:

- GC Children's Program
- Scheduling/Design
- Worship
- ECW Triennial and other gatherings
- Finances
- Theme
- Communications

At subsequent meetings, these subcommittees reported on their progress. A draft schedule was approved and a theme “Walking The Way of Love – The Jesus Movement” was proposed and adopted.

The Executive Committee of the Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements visited the three finalist sites for the 81st General Convention and recommended Louisville in the Diocese of Kentucky. Required approvals from the Presiding Officers of each House, the Presidents of each Province and the Executive Council were obtained. The committee received information about possible sites for the 82nd General Convention and made recommendations based on cost, location, desire of the diocese to host the event, and availability of volunteers. Finalist sites are recommended to General Convention through a resolution.

Beginning in June 2020, the committee met regularly to receive updates on government-imposed restrictions due to the pandemic, and to consider options. Factors considered were contractual obligations, financial implications and safety of participants. The committee discussed the option of a virtual convention and what that would look like. The Chair (GC Secretary Michael Barlowe) met with Baltimore city officials and reported back to the committee. The Presiding Officers convened a small group to offer scenarios. The conclusion of these discussions and investigations was to postpone the convention, and Canon Barlowe and the General Convention staff were asked to work with the Baltimore city officials to mitigate financial loss and reschedule the convention.

In November 2020, the committee met and recommended to the Presiding Officers that the 80th General Convention be rescheduled for July 7-July 14, 2022, with at least an 8 legislative day convention. Consent of the Executive Council was sought and received.

The subcommittees will be reconvened to adjust the schedule for the new dates, and other work continued after the deadline of this report.

## Proposed resolutions

### **A001 Site for 82nd General Convention**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_ concurring, That the following sites be considered for the 82nd General Convention (2027): Phoenix, Arizona (Diocese of Arizona); Orlando, Florida (Diocese of Central Florida); Charlotte, North Carolina (Diocese of North Carolina); Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (Diocese of Pittsburgh); and San Juan, Puerto Rico (Diocese of Puerto Rico).

### **A002 General Convention Daily Agenda**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 80th General Convention function through the following activities:

1. Formal legislative sessions of the two Houses;
2. Joint session for presentation of proposed budget
3. Meetings of the legislative committees of the two Houses; and
4. Open Hearings to be conducted, as needed, by all legislative committees