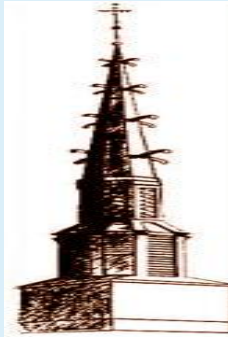


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The Steeple



July 3, 2024



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



The Episcopal Church Elects the New Presiding Bishop

By: The Office of Public Affairs

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, bishop of the Episcopal Dioceses of Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York, was elected and confirmed the 28th presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church on June 26 for a nine-year term beginning Nov. 1.

Rowe was chosen from among five nominees on the first ballot, with 89 votes out of 158 votes cast; 82 votes were needed to elect. Following his election by the House of Bishops, the House of Deputies confirmed the election, with 778 votes for, 43 votes against.

Election voting results in the House of Bishops by ballot, with names listed alphabetically, were as follows:

The Rt. Rev. Scott Barker: 24

The Rt. Rev. DeDe Duncan-Probe: 9

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez: 17

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe: 89

The Rt. Rev. Robert Wright: 19

Rowe, 49, was ordained bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania in 2007 and became bishop provisional of Western New York in 2019. From 2014 to 2018, he served as bishop provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem.

Born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, Rowe earned a bachelor's degree in history from Grove City College, a master of divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary, and a doctorate in organizational learning and leadership from Gannon University.

Rowe was the youngest Episcopal priest in the U.S. when he was ordained in 2000 at age 24, and he was the youngest member of the House of Bishops when he was ordained and consecrated at age 32.

Known for his research and work on organizational learning and adaptive performance in the church, Rowe serves as parliamentarian for the House of Bishops and the Episcopal Church Executive Council; chair of the Episcopal Church Building Fund; and as a member of the Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, and Constitution and Canons. He also serves on the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. In 2018, he became the first bishop to serve on the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church.

Rowe is married to Carly Rowe, a Christian educator; they have a daughter named Lauren.

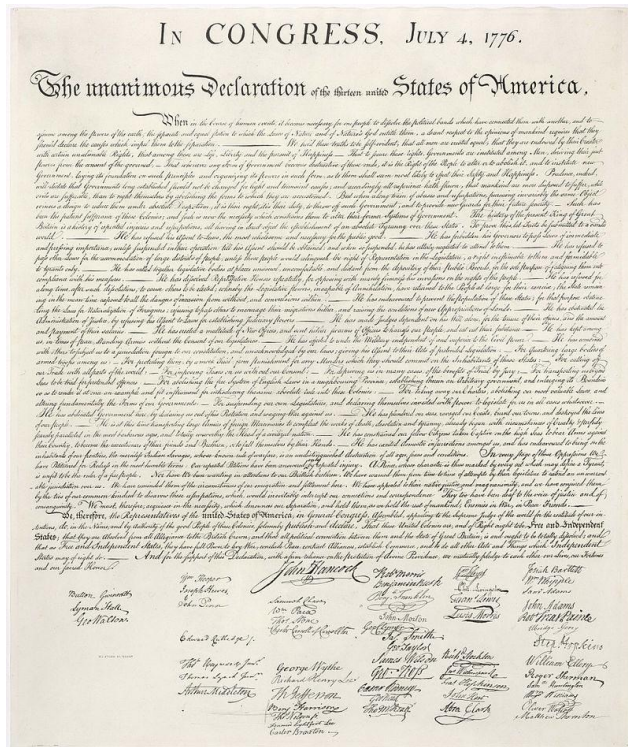
As the new presiding bishop-elect, Rowe will preach at General Convention's June 28 closing Eucharist service at 8:30 a.m. ET. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will preside. The service will be livestreamed on the General Convention Media Hub.

The presiding bishop takes office on Nov. 1. Details about the transition and celebration will be announced after General Convention.

Theologian's Corner: Independence Day

On July 4th we commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 - a legal holiday in the United States. The 1785 General Convention directed that a service be drawn up for this day, and "That the said form of prayer be used in this Church, on the fourth of July, forever."

The Proposed Book of 1786 contained "A Form of Prayer and Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the inestimable Blessings of Religious and Civil Liberty" to be used on the Fourth of July. The presiding officer, William White, was opposed to the service since many of the clergy had been Loyalists and were against the Revolution. The General Convention of 1789 supported White, and the service was withdrawn



from the 1789 BCP.

Nevertheless, propers for this day were published in the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, although it was not a major feast. The 1979 Book of Common Prayer, however, lists Independence Day as one of the “Other Major Feasts,” and provides a collect for the day (pp. 190, 242). Eucharistic propers are provided as well as propers for the Daily Office. The collect “For the Nation” may be substituted for the collect for the day. Therefore, let us pray:

For the Nation

Lord God Almighty, who hast made all the peoples of the earth for thy glory, to serve thee in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with thy gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please pray for: Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, Ben Baker, Diana Farris, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, David Swindell, Norma Perrier, Connie Finch, Peggy Kauffman, Tony Clapper, Tim, Shania Smith, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Jim Brooks, Luke Karel, Miriam Petrovich, Lynette Beebe, Nancy & Joe Norton, Jack Smith, Danny Clem, David McAtee, Shawn, Nancy Bradford, Stephanie Gallegos, Pat Sare, Jim Carroll, Sherri & Steve Linn, Jack Stoecker, Ben Stoecker, Chuck McCarty, Bob Baughman, Jean Mason, Margie Lambert, Estelle Sams, Ron Adams, Brian Jones, Adam Thomas, and Eileen Leigh.

Please add the following to your prayers this Sixth Week after Pentecost
St Crispin’s Conference Center, Wewoka Barrido Otonal Work Project, Diocese of
Uruguay

At Luke’s Place : July 4th – July 10th, 2024

July 4th YD2NYC Send off, 3:30am, Metcalf
Green Country Morning Prayer, 1pm, GCV
July 7th Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8am, Chapel
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am

Concern's current needs are: canned fruit, 18 oz peanut butter, flour, Spam, tuna, paper or plastic grocery bags and egg cartons. We also need volunteers for the summer. Please call 918-336-4693 and talk to Melody.

Concern appreciates your continued support.

Birthdays and Anniversaries, July 7th – July 13th, 2024

Birthdays



Dolores McCreary (7/8)
Emily Almy (7/11)

Anniversaries



Tom & Keeli Droege (7/7)

If your or a loved one's name doesn't appear on the list, please email or call the office, and we will add your birthday or anniversary!



YD SEND OFF! Please Join Us!!!

Our kids and sponsors will be rising early (or maybe never go to bed the day before) for their trip to New York City. If you are in town and have the heart to rise early with them, meet in Metcalf around 3:30- 3:45am, July 4th, and we will surround them with prayer and send them on their way. We will have orange juice and coffee, doughnuts and pastry available. The NYC folks will depart St Luke's at 4am for the airport in Tulsa to begin their adventure. I♥NYC!

General Convention 2024 is over and we have a new Presiding Bishop-elect!

81st General Convention wraps up in Louisville

BY ENS STAFF

Posted Jun 28, 2024



Louisville, Kentucky, the state's largest city, hosted the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church June 23-28, 2024. Photo: David Paulsen/Episcopal News Service

[Episcopal News Service – Louisville, Kentucky] The triennial Episcopal family reunion, worship extravaganza and legislative session that is General Convention was back in full force during its meeting here after the pandemic had pared down the previous gathering.

This year's June 20-28 convention, six legislative days that began June 23 with three days of events before, was shorter than most past conventions, where legislative sessions typically spanned eight days or longer.



Presiding Bishop-elect Sean Rowe is flanked by 26th Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and 27th Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Photo: Randall A. Gornowich

The 80th General Convention, on the other hand, was postponed from 2021 to 2022 because of the pandemic, was [shorted to just four days](#) and had limited face-to-face engagement. That gathering also implemented other health precautions, such as daily testing, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

This week's 81st General Convention was not without an appearance by COVID-19. Enough participants came down with the virus that some others wore masks and a nearby pharmacy reportedly ran out of Paxlovid, the antiviral used to treat the virus.

General Convention, as the church's primary governing body, splits its authority between the House of Bishops and House of Deputies. The two houses handled 390 resolutions, many passing via daily, sometimes massive, [consent calendars](#).

While in Louisville, the convention elected the Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe to be its the 28th presiding bishop, reelected Julia Ayala Harris as House of Deputies president, elected the Rev. Steve Pankey

as deputies' vice president, passed a \$143 million budget for the next triennium, approved a constitutional change to clearly define the Book of Common Prayer, reexamined its clergy disciplinary canons while agreeing to consider how lay leaders might be disciplined for wrongdoing, and supported changes in the structures of seven of its dioceses.



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and House of Deputies President Julia Ayala Harris oversaw three joint meetings of their two houses during the June 23-28 General Convention. Photo: Scott Gunn

Outside the legislative chambers, several events brought together bishops, deputies and visitors to mingle, socialize, pray, worship and advocate. Convention continued the church's public witness against [gun violence](#) and hosted a panel discussion on the church's role in [Indigenous boarding schools](#). Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's last signature revival [service](#) at the KFC Yum! Center drew a crowd of more than 2,000 people who heard him urge everyone to "choose love because love can save us."

Bishop Sean W. Rowe was elected presiding bishop



The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe was elected The Episcopal Church's 28th presiding bishop on June 26, 2024, during the 81st General Convention held in Louisville, Kentucky. Photo: Office of Public Affairs

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, bishop diocesan of Northwest Pennsylvania and bishop provisional of Western New York, was elected June 26 on the first ballot by the House of Bishops to serve as the 28th presiding bishop. His election was confirmed by the House of Deputies.

Rowe's election was announced by House of Deputies President Julia Ayala Harris on the house's afternoon session, and the deputies confirmed that act with a nearly unanimous majority, 95% in favor.

He will begin his nine-year term as the public face and voice of The Episcopal Church and its chief pastor on Nov. 1, succeeding Curry, whose last day is Oct. 31.

The traditional elaborate installation service at Washington National Cathedral will not occur as originally announced. Instead, a simpler rite will take place Nov. 2 in the small chapel at the Church Center in New York. Rowe [said](#) he has "decided to begin this ministry in a new way." The service will be livestreamed, and simultaneous interpretation will be available in multiple languages to ensure churchwide access.

To win, Rowe needed at least 82 votes from the 158 bishops who cast handwritten ballots. He received 89 votes, while Nebraska Bishop J. Scott Barker received 24, Atlanta Bishop Robert Wright received 19, Pennsylvania Bishop Daniel G.P. Gutiérrez received 17 and Central New York Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe received 9.

Rowe becomes the youngest bishop ever elected to serve as the church's presiding bishop and the second youngest overall since the first, William White, who was 41 when his first of two terms began in 1789.

Complete ENS coverage is [here](#).

House of Deputies elections



House of Deputies President Julia Ayala Harris addresses the House of Deputies June 25 after her election to a second term as president. Photo: Scott Gunn

House of Deputies President Julia Ayala Harris was [reelected](#) June 25, winning decisively on the first ballot and fending off challenges from the Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton, the deputies' vice president, and Zena Link, a former Executive Council member.

Ayala Harris received 521 votes out of the 829 certified deputies on the floor for the election. Link placed second with 241 votes and Taber-Hamilton a distant third with 64. An election on that ballot required 414 votes.

The election was unusual for featuring an incumbent House of Deputies president facing a challenge. A sitting president has only faced a challenger once in modern history. That was in 2003 when the Very Rev. George L. W. Werner was reelected after being [challenged](#) by Louie Crew, lay deputy from Newark.

Unlike the presiding bishop, who is elected to head the House of Bishops for a nine-year term, the House of Deputies president is elected to a term that spans from one General Convention to the next – typically three years – and can be reelected for two additional terms.

Taber-Hamilton did not run for reelection as vice president.

The Rev. Steve Pankey, a deputy from the Diocese of Kentucky, was [elected](#) to that post from a slate of four candidates. The others were the Rev. John Floberg, a North Dakota deputy and priest at St. Luke's, Fort Yates, Church of the Cross, Selfridge and St. James', Cannon Ball; the Rev. Charles Graves IV, a campus missionary and deputy from the Diocese of Texas; and the Rev. Ruth Meyers, a Diocese of California deputy and professor at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley.

Episcopal Church Canons require that the two positions be held by leaders from different orders, clergy and lay, so the outcome of the presidential election determines who is eligible on the ballot for vice president.



Calling New Layreaders!

We could use a few more layreaders during the 10:30am service. If this ministry speaks to you, please talk with Jeff Birk or Penny Williams or any of the layeaders serving now. You will be trained and join the schedule on rotation when you feel confident to serve. It's

a blessed service to read the Scriptures and to serve at God's table. Please consider joining our ranks.

PACK THE BACKPACKS

BINGO

Join us for a fun filled evening of bingo, friends, and excitement!! we'll have 50/50 games, regular bingo, yummy food, and great baskets and gift cards to win! Help us raise funds for school supplies while having a great time!

PRIZES | FOOD | FUN

July 20th

doors open 5:30pm
main games start 6pm
tickets \$12

St. Luke's
Episcopal Church
8th and Dewey



www.packthebackpacks.org

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