



Diocese of Western Michigan

The Right Reverend Robert R. Gepert, D.D., Bishop

Episcopal Center

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CALL TO CONVENTION

The 136th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western Michigan
Park Place Hotel, Traverse City – April 23-24, 2010

Date: January 14, 2010
Subject: Diocesan Convention
From: Mary McGuire, Secretary of Convention *MM*
To: Clergy of the Diocese and Elected Delegates

In accordance with the Canons of the Diocese of Western Michigan (Title I, Canon 2, Section 3), you are hereby notified of the 136th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Western Michigan, which will be held in Traverse City, Michigan on Friday April 23-Saturday April 24, 2010 the Right Reverend Robert R. Gepert presiding.

THEME

"Living into Wholeness: Inviting and Welcoming Others into our Midst"

The focus of this convention will be on strengthening our partnership relationships with the Diocese of the Dominican Republic, the Diocese of Michigan, and the Diocese of Eastern Michigan, and on becoming inviting and welcoming communities of faith, locally.

LOCATION

The Convention will be held at the Park Place Hotel, Traverse City, Michigan. Convention convenes at 10:00 am Friday.

ALL MAILINGS

To conserve resources, we are putting all mailings up on the Diocesan Website www.edwm.org. Please pass this information along to your delegates when you elect them. If you do not have access to a computer, check with a relative, someone from your parish or your parish office. It is our hope that this will facilitate more efficient Convention process.

ALL FORMS

All forms are to be filled out online this year and submitted to the Diocesan Office by the due date. Please read the instructions on each form carefully. The forms can all be accessed from the Diocesan website, at <http://www.edwm.org/diocese/convention/2010/index.htm> They include:

- Nominations (deadline Feb. 13)
- Resolutions (deadline Feb. 13)
- Convention Registration (deadline Mar. 1)
- Vestry membership (deadline Feb. 1) – under elective offices
- Delegates Form (deadline Feb. 1)
- Vendor and Exhibitor Application (deadline April 10)

REGISTRATION

The diocese is unable to underwrite the cost of convention; therefore the registration fee reflects the actual cost of convention for delegates, alternates, and visitors. **Registration** forms must be filled out on-line for **each person** (including spouses/partners). Parish delegates, alternates and parish clergy are to pay as a unit and send in one check. Guests and people not associated with a parish you will be paying individually. You will not be officially registered until payment is received. Registration and payment are due **March 1, 2010**. There will be a \$10.00 charge for each late registration and if you register after this date paper work and meals may not be available.

ACCOMMODATIONS

It will be the responsibility of each parish to make its own accommodation arrangements. A block of rooms is being held at the Park Place Hotel at a discounted rate of \$89.95 plus tax and local assessment fees. This special price is available only until March 22, after which the prevailing rate will be charged. Please contact the hotel directly for room reservations (231) 946-5000, www.park-place-hotel.com.

CHILDCARE

Child care will be provided for preschool age children of Delegates and Alternates during the business sessions. Please check the box on the registration form to reserve child care. Parents of children will need to provide their own snacks, bottles, bottle warmer, toys, and blankets. Deadline for requesting childcare is **March 1, 2010**.

RESOLUTIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Must be submitted to the diocesan office by **February 13**.

I look forward to seeing you at convention.