

Title: The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes

Submitted by: The Constitution and Canons Committee

Whereas, The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan and the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan meeting at a duly called Joint Special Convention on March 16, 2024, in accordance with Article V and Canon I.10.1 of The Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, approved a Joint Agreement of Union to form a new diocese, The Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, the Joint Agreement of Union was submitted to and ratified by the 81st General Convention of the Episcopal Church (Canon I.10.1), meeting in Louisville Kentucky, on June 28, 2024; and

Whereas, the Working Group on Constitution and Canons, tasked by the Joint Standing Committee as part of the Transition Plan following ratification and appointed to serve as the Constitution and Canons Committee, has completed the charge given to them to “create further opportunities for feedback on the draft Constitution and Canons included in the Agreement of Union” and to “consider input received through these and previously held feedback sessions and finalize the Constitution and Canons to be presented for adoption at this Primary Convention”; and

Whereas, the Constitution and Canons Committee, with gratitude to all who participated in the process of developing these materials, submits the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes for adoption at this Primary Convention;

Be it Resolved, that this Primary Convention adopt the proposed Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes; and be it further

Resolved, that upon adoption, and in accordance with Canon I.10.4 of the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, the Convention Secretary shall “lay before the Executive Council certified copies of the Constitution adopted at its Primary Convention”; and be it further

Resolved, that as a means of assisting and honoring the legacy dioceses’ ministries, communities, and partnerships that will receive special designation by these new Canons, especially but not limited to Camp Chickagami, The Academy, Episcopal Youth Camp, AuSable Inclusion Center, Plainsong Farm, and seasonal chapels, the Constitution and Canons Committee in conversation and consultation with those entities, will make recommendations to the Ecclesiastical Authority, Diocesan Council, and Standing Committee regarding their initial designation; and be it further

Resolved, that the Constitution & Canons Committee through acknowledging the breadth of Congregations of this new diocese, continuing conversation with other Episcopal dioceses, and exploring best practices and the canonical support required by them, revise and submit to its Second Diocesan Convention for adoption, substitution for Canons I.7 through I.8 of the proposed Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes.