

I have been elected as a deputy to General Convention 80 which will be held in Baltimore Maryland July 5 - 15, 2022. This convention was supposed to convene last summer but due to covid it was postponed.

I have been assigned the task of being vice chair of the House of Deputies Committee #19 -Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations. We have a corresponding House of Bishops Committee # 19. The two committees began meeting jointly in November 2021 by zoom. The joint committee is comprised of Bishops, clergy and lay members from several different countries and time zones.

As I understand it we are required to receive and propose resolutions between the Episcopal Church and other churches outside the Anglican communion, as well as other religions. Our work covers interchurch cooperation, unity and interreligious dialogue, and action.

I wanted to share that I have had to attend required trainings for the House of Deputies legislative committee chairs and vice chairs and deputies. This included becoming proficient at using Microsoft teams.

I have also been attending Eastern Michigan and Western Michigan joint convention 80 delegation team meetings on zoom and learning to use the app *slack* for communication purposes. We were also required to attend in person the March 4th & 5th *Anti -Racism Training* in Grand Rapids prior to going to convention 80. I have brought back 3 books for St. Paul's on this theme. (Will share during vestry meeting).

There are many sub groups organizing to support various issues. I have joined a sub group DHP - Denominational Health Plan Reform. This group is requesting a review of the costs and benefits of the church Health insurance plans. Depending on the geographical area the costs of church insurance can be exorbitant while other insurance companies provide similar or better services for less premium amounts. We want equity in costs or to ask the church to help underwrite the costs so that churches can afford to hire the staff they need. We are putting together a resolution - not yet complete.

I am also a member of the *Deputies of Color* group which uses the *band app* to communicate. We meet in Baltimore Maryland the first weekend of May. This group is comprised of black, latino, indigenous, etc. There are many resolutions coming from this group. There continues to be many meetings discussing the Episocopal church's historical mistreatment of people of color and it's benefit from slavery and the use of lands that belonged to Native Americans.

All of the above mentioned groups are having regular meetings and have assigned tasks to me as a participant. I hope you will understand when I say "my cup runneth over."

I look forward to giving you my undivided attention after July 15th!

D. Elizabeth Jordan Ph.D.

