

The Episcopal Church's 79th General Convention took place in July, 2018 in Austin, Texas. The deputation from the Diocese of Western Massachusetts included the following members:

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher (Bishop and Chair of the legislative committee on Stewardship and Socially Responsible Investing)

Lay Deputies:

Beth Baldwin (deputy and Dispatch of Business committee)

John Cheek (deputy and Prayer Book & Liturgy committee)

Zena Link (deputy and Program, Budget, and Finance committee)

Maggie Sweeney (deputy)

Phyllis Larson (alternate deputy and legislative aide)

Clergy Deputies:

Nancy Webb Stroud (deputy and Churchwide Leadership committee)

Tanya Wallace (deputation chair and legislative officer for Ministry committee)

Mac Murray (deputy and Credentials committee)

Cat Munz (deputy)

Laura Goodwin (alternate deputy and legislative aide)

Other Diocesan Members:

The Rev. Betsy Fisher

The Rev. Vicki Ix

Bishops and deputies attended to the business of the church, including its constitution, canons, programs, and budget. The time was infused with worship and fellowship as well as faithful witness. There was an Episcopal revival with some 3000 attendees, a listening session for women and other victims of sexual assault, a rally organized by Bishops United Against Gun Violence, and a vigil at the Hutto Detention Center. The gathered church addressed pressing issues including faithful responses to gun violence, liturgical innovation and possible revisions to the Book of Common Prayer, sexual assault and the #MeToo movement, and immigration reform. Among other memorable moments of celebration, the Diocese of Cuba was welcomed back as a diocese of The Episcopal Church. More details will be shared at Diocesan Convention, and will be posted on the convention website at conventionwma.com.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Tanya R. Wallace, Chair

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher, Bishop