Welcome to our annual convention. It’s our chance to work together, play together and pray together.

Some of our convention delegates have attended 15 ... 20 ... 30 or more conventions. Others are here for the first time. Whether you’re a seasoned delegate or a new one, we’re glad you’re here to help do the work of the diocese, meet your fellow Episcopalians from all around the diocese, and get to know the breadth and depth of what it means to be an Episcopalian in Southwest Florida.

We join together for continuing education, a celebration of ministries, worship, and the business of the diocese. Thank you, delegates, for your gift of time and attention to these important matters.

The workshops on Friday offer you the chance to learn new skills that you can take home to your congregation, and to get a view of what’s going on in the wider Episcopal Church. Thanks to all our presenters -- those from within our diocese, and our guests from across the church -- for sharing their knowledge with us and inspiring us with fresh ideas.

The Ministry Fair highlights the mission and ministry that go on around the diocese. There’s no better opportunity to get new ideas, develop resources, and strengthen the web of relationships that ties us together as a diocese.

Our theme this year, “Mercy in Mission: Healing a Hurting World,” acknowledges the 75th anniversary of Episcopal Relief and Development. Abagail Nelson, ERD’s senior vice president/programs, is our guest preacher at the opening worship on Friday evening. Be sure you take time to view the anniversary traveling photo exhibit, which will be on display throughout the convention.

Pick up your convention button at the registration tables and make the most of our time together.

See you at convention!

Judy Stark
Convention Planning Chair