"But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." --Ephesians 4:15-16

Dear Siblings in Christ,

ΛΟΛΕΝ

In the waters of Holy Baptism, we are lovingly knit together into one Body, joined in friendship with Christ Jesus and with one another. Week after week, in both quiet rural churches and bustling city parishes, we gather to be fed and formed by the Body and Blood of our salvation. It is in this gathering—so full of diversity, beauty, and grace—that we begin to see more clearly God's wild and wondrous dream for creation: that we might become, together, the living image of Christ in the world.

Each of us—every person and every community—is a unique and irreplaceable thread in the great tapestry of God's boundless love. This love knows no boundaries and no limits, and through it, we are woven more deeply into communion with one another.

Our lives are inseparably tied to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And each year, as the household of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri, we come together to renew and deepen the bonds of affection that unite us, to strengthen one another, and to be equipped for loving service in the world.

This year, I invite you to join me for our 186th Diocesan Convention, "Woven Together," November 13–15, 2025. In a spirit of renewal and connection, we will gather in a new way: virtually for our business sessions, and in person for a joyful new Ministry Fair and Convention Eucharist.

Delegates are required to participate in both the virtual and in-person gatherings, but the entire diocesan household is warmly welcomed to come and share in the in-person Ministry Fair. This new method of gathering will be a space of celebration, storytelling, learning, and discovery as we rejoice in the many ways the Holy Spirit is moving among us.

Together, we will listen to the Spirit, share the stories of our lives and ministries, and continue being shaped into a people of resurrection, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ with boldness and joy.

Please keep an eye on the diocesan website, the Proclaim newsletter, and parish mailings for important information about resolutions, nominations, and all things Convention.

I can't wait to be with you as we gather from every corner of our diocese to be woven even more deeply into God's dream of love.

May God's blessing be upon you, dwell within you, and shine through you always.

Yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson XI Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

Schedule **DRAFT**

Thursday: Business (virtual)

• 4-5 pm Registration on Zoom

WOVEN

- 5 pm Call to order
- 8 pm Adjournment
- Nominations from the floor very early on
- Built-in breaks

Friday: Backup Business (virtual)

- Back up, only if needed
- 5 pm 8 pm
 - Registration 5-6 pm on Zoom

Saturday: Ministry Fair and Eucharist

- 7:30 a.m. Registration (Vendors encouraged to set up on Friday night)
- 8:00 a.m. Check-in & Breakfast Ministry booths & Vendors
- 9:00 a.m. Plenary Gathering: Convention Speaker?
- 9:45 a.m. Break Ministry booths & Vendors
- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Photo*/ #iamdiomo booth??
- 10:30 a.m. Convention Eucharist
- 12:00 p.m.. "Free-range" Lunch & Ministry Booths & Vendors
- 1:15 p.m. Workshops
- 2:00 p.m. Break
- 2:15 p.m. Workshops
- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:15 p.m. Closing Plenary Gathering (Bishop's medals)
- 4:00 p.m. Adjournment