**WEBVTT** 

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:04.000

We're into our program.

00:00:04.000 --> 00:00:05.000

0kay.

00:00:05.000 --> 00:00:20.000

Welcome everyone to the February 12 monthly meeting of the creation care networks of province 4 and 5 Let us call us into this space.

00:00:20.000 --> 00:00:25.000

God to call us into this space. So we pray that, you give yourself to it.

00:00:25.000 --> 00:00:33.000

And, and that's, be present to each other in the next. 45 min or so.

00:00:33.000 --> 00:00:47.000

I just pray. Mysterious God whose imagination and desire embrace all. We seek to discern you in the interplay forces in the order and chaos of the universe.

00:00:47.000 --> 00:00:59.000

And then the complexities of every living system. Give us grace in this hour to honor your goodness. And what we know and in what we do not know.

00:00:59.000 --> 00:01:16.000

In the world of harmonies and its turbulence. And its promise and its change. For you're in through and beyond all that is when God made note to us in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit, our inspiration in God.

00:01:16.000 --> 00:01:17.000 Amen.

00:01:17.000 --> 00:01:24.000 Oh man. Alright, so. Yeah. I have.

00:01:24.000 --> 00:01:33.000

I think some thinking work to do together with Emily Hopkins who has agreed to be with us and lead us in this time of conversation about.

00:01:33.000 --> 00:01:49.000

Upcoming general convention. So. You know, I, Emily is the, network leader, for creation, care and province 8.

00:01:49.000 --> 00:01:50.000

Okay. Nice.

00:01:50.000 --> 00:01:58.000

So we've got province 4, 5. 3 and 8. And she's also then chair of the creation care carcass.

00:01:58.000 --> 00:02:03.000

Aimed at general convention. This summer, so. That she is here, I think, to kinda help us.

00:02:03.000 --> 00:02:15.000

Maybe gather our thoughts and intentions and potential our actions. To war the GC coming up.

00:02:15.000 --> 00:02:20.000

So with that, I guess I'll just turn that to Emily and let you take it.

00:02:20.000 --> 00:02:27.000

Thank you. Thanks, Jerry, for inviting me. To be here today. Can everybody hear me okay?

00:02:27.000 --> 00:02:32.000

My volume is okay. So thank you and it's great to hear all the wonderful things that you're doing.

00:02:32.000 --> 00:02:47.000

There in your provinces. I, I became, oh, and I wanted to say congratulations to any Kansas City fans that are there.

00:02:47.000 --> 00:02:48.000 Okay.

00:02:48.000 --> 00:02:58.000

I'm I'm near San Francisco, but I'm not really a football fan, but I know there was a game of some sort going on yesterday, so.

00:02:58.000 --> 00:03:05.000

Congratulations if you are a Chiefs fan. I I started getting involved in general convention.

00:03:05.000 --> 00:03:22.000

After I retired, which is now 10 years ago. And I, I joined the Citizens Climate Lobby, which advocates for a carbon fee and dividend policy at the national level.

00:03:22.000 --> 00:03:27.000

And because I'm somewhat active in my diocese, I thought, well, that's something that we should take to general convention.

00:03:27.000 --> 00:03:40.000

So I have a mentor and he showed me how to do that and I did that so I was a guest as the author of Resolution, what turned out to be resolution CO 2.

00:03:40.000 --> 00:03:50.000

It was massaged and managed and came out as carbon tax and it's on the books. So that's how I got started.

00:03:50.000 --> 00:04:06.000

Within my diocese of California. I have been. I subsequently ran and became an alternate to general convention and then we had kovat so I didn't go to Baltimore.

00:04:06.000 --> 00:04:14.000

And then I got elected as an alternate. Again, I'm L 6 for the Diocese of California.

00:04:14.000 --> 00:04:24.000

So my experience has really been pretty much just within Diocese of California and That's how I learned what I what I'm doing.

00:04:24.000 --> 00:04:33.000

I was asked to be the coordinator for the Province 8 Creation Care Network, which had gone very inactive during COVID.

00:04:33.000 --> 00:04:40.000

And so that was a great opportunity for me to reach out and speak to a number of people in our.

00:04:40.000 --> 00:04:49.000

Widespread province 8 and so I've been doing that for the past year and a half.

00:04:49.000 --> 00:04:54.000

And. Let's see. Oh, in 2,022 I authored another resolution which was not related to creation care.

00:04:54.000 --> 00:05:14.000

It was based on a position by the legal women voters to abolish a reform the Electoral Count act and that one also passed at convention, which I thought was very important to do.

00:05:14.000 --> 00:05:23.000

Before the next general election, which we're approaching now. How many folks have been to a general convention?

00:05:23.000 --> 00:05:34.000

How many of you have that experience? Just a few. Okay, yes. Well, general convention of the Episcopal Church happens supposed to happen

every 3 years.

00:05:34.000 --> 00:05:49.000

Kovat kind of threw a wrench into that. So instead of people who carry the work forward having a three-year period to do their work, which we talk refer to as the triennium.

 $00:05:49.000 \longrightarrow 00:05:54.000$ 

People now had to do their work in a two-year space of time. So it was the biennium.

00:05:54.000 --> 00:06:07.000

And so folks have been working very hard on task forces and commissions. And they, they publish a report back to general convention, which is known as blue books.

00:06:07.000 --> 00:06:19.000

And there is a. Task Force on Creation Care and the Environment, which it has been working for 2 years and their Blue Book Report is out.

00:06:19.000 --> 00:06:28.000

And I see that as kind of the. The founding document for, what we're going to take forward to general convention.

00:06:28.000 --> 00:06:39.000

They have a number of recommendations in there. And. As an alternate I am subscribed to the House of Deputies newsletter.

00:06:39.000 --> 00:06:54.000

So when that came out last December asking folks if they would like to join a caucus, which is a self-organized, kind of unofficial but self-organized body of lay and clergy people.

00:06:54.000 --> 00:07:07.000

For such things as deputies of color and I have friends who were in deputies of color caucus and there's the LGBTQ caucus and a couple of others that have been around for quite some time.

00:07:07.000 --> 00:07:17.000

And I asked as there was a caucus for creation care. And I asked a number of people and everybody said there wasn't, but there should be one.

00:07:17.000 --> 00:07:27.000

So I didn't, I didn't really get an official answer from the House of Deputies, but the next newsletter came out asking if people wanted to join the caucus.

00:07:27.000 --> 00:07:32.000

So I am now the convener of the creation care caucus and that's how it

happens.

00:07:32.000 --> 00:07:40.000

So we have deputies, alternates, and folks from. I think all but 2 provinces.

00:07:40.000 --> 00:07:52.000

We're now up to about 30 folks who have signed on to participate in our caucus. And.

00:07:52.000 --> 00:08:07.000

We, so we now I feel like we have critical mass because we will be operating at general convention under the prior and existing rules of order.

00:08:07.000 --> 00:08:23.000

For bringing resolutions to the floor and for pulling things off of consent calendar. And so if we have a certain number of deputies together that feel that something is going on consent that should come to the floor for debate, we would have the ability to do that.

00:08:23.000 --> 00:08:38.000

They are discussing changing some of the rules of order, but those will not be going into effect until the House votes and approves that on the first day of convention.

00:08:38.000 --> 00:08:50.000

So we will be operating under the previous rules. And since. I guess since. 2,018.

00:08:50.000 --> 00:08:53.000

So previously at general conventions, before I got involved in it, all of the work was done at conventions.

00:08:53.000 --> 00:09:23.000

They have legislative committees, they're about 20 committees that are focused on different areas. And they did all of their work at convention and convention was 8 or 10 days and they were long gruelling days and the committees did all their work at convention but now that we have Zoom, the committees meet virtually in advance before convention, which I on the one hand I think it's a little bit hard for the committees to get, they're usually about 20 people organized to be

00:09:28.000 --> 00:09:43.000

able to meet and discuss and do their business. But on the other hand, it's a great opportunity for them to have opened testimony have people speak to the committees on on issues and items of concern.

00:09:43.000 --> 00:09:53.000

From everywhere so we have an opportunity to speak to the legislative

committees that are the ones that work on resolutions.

00:09:53.000 --> 00:10:02.000

Resolutions are submitted to general convention either by interim bodies by task forces. Some have come in through diocese.

00:10:02.000 --> 00:10:08.000

Some of you probably have diocesan resolutions that are coming up to general convention that you've passed.

00:10:08.000 --> 00:10:30.000

They can come from a province and they can come from deputies. So the the committees are tasked with looking at all of that legislation and sometimes there's some duplication and they do the work of combining those and that's when they take input from people who are concerned, interested, or experts.

00:10:30.000 --> 00:10:44.000

And so that's one thing that I think our caucus will be able to do is to track the legislation that's going to general convention and support the ones that we feel are most important.

00:10:44.000 --> 00:10:54.000

And I'll just stop there. And see if there are any questions for me.

00:10:54.000 --> 00:11:02.000

And Jerry, if there are questions in the chat, maybe you could read them for everybody because I see their people who are not on screen.

00:11:02.000 --> 00:11:11.000

Right, and I haven't seen any, there was a question about next mentioned, but we've already answered that.

00:11:11.000 --> 00:11:17.000 Oh.

00:11:17.000 --> 00:11:18.000 Yeah.

00:11:18.000 --> 00:11:21.000

We've been throwing in some links. To general convention itself I have a question right off.

00:11:21.000 --> 00:11:22.000 Okay.

00:11:22.000 --> 00:11:23.000

I'm on that. I'm on that caucus, but I'm not a delegate nor an alternate.

00:11:23.000 --> 00:11:31.000

I'm not elected at all this year. I will be I'm in Louisville. That's the only reason.

 $00:11:31.000 \longrightarrow 00:11:41.000$ 

That I feel like I might be able to do something. So I guess my question to you, Emily, is, is their role are there roles for people who are not?

00:11:41.000 --> 00:11:50.000

Maybe not. You know. Don't have those roles, but they still could. Help.

00:11:50.000 --> 00:11:58.000

Yes, thank you. Thank you for that question. Yes, what you can do and So one thing that.

00:11:58.000 --> 00:12:12.000

My mentor suggested is one value of a caucus is for folks who may not be already engaged in general convention business may not have thought about it.

00:12:12.000 --> 00:12:18.000

Can join the caucus and learn how things work and possibly in the future become deputies or alternates.

00:12:18.000 --> 00:12:31.000

So that's a way to grow some participation in in the general body of the church. And as I mentioned, the committees will be taking testimony.

00:12:31.000 --> 00:12:42.000

So if people are, if someone is passionate about creation care, and they want to have input. The committees, the legislative committee and it's.

00:12:42.000 --> 00:12:52.000

15 and I think we have a legislative committee 15 chair on the call that's I see so  $\hdots$ 

00:12:52.000 --> 00:13:04.000

As a person, as an Episcopalian who is concerned about creation care, certainly you have the opportunity to speak to the committee and who is concerned about creation care.

00:13:04.000 --> 00:13:09.000

Certainly you have the opportunity to speak to the committee and advocate for who is concerned about creation care, certainly you have the opportunity to speak to the committee and advocate for resolutions that strike your heart.

00:13:09.000 --> 00:13:16.000

So Correct me if I'm wrong. You really love Paris. I think Parish, that's, that's what, what you would like to do.

00:13:16.000 --> 00:13:21.000

And maybe you would like to say a few words about that legislative committee.

00:13:21.000 --> 00:13:49.000

Why thank you. I do not have a prepared speech. But I came to the call because I was on this legislative committee, not the last general convention but the convention before and then I was active at the last general convention and so I knew that this was a new caucus and I'm so curious about what the caucus wants to do as the chair on the House of Deputy side for the committee.

00:13:49.000 --> 00:14:04.000

So I can say a little bit about my perspective. I'm a deputy from Western Michigan. And I, this will be probably my third general convention as a deputy.

00:14:04.000 --> 00:14:13.000

And my second working on a legislative committee. And the rules at the general convention are that as legislation is in the process of being finished and sent to the floor.

00:14:13.000 --> 00:14:20.000

Any Episcopalian is welcome to speak into that process. You don't have to be elected by your diocese.

00:14:20.000 --> 00:14:34.000

You don't have to be elect sent by anybody. You can, you know, simply as an Episcopalian that cares about the Stewardship of God's Earth.

00:14:34.000 --> 00:14:49.000

And has an interest in the legislation that general convention is passing. There are going to be public hearings on those pieces of legislation as they are being perfected, I think is what the language.

00:14:49.000 --> 00:14:58.000

And you are welcome to come and speak to them. I bet you're wondering how you would know when you could do that.

00:14:58.000 --> 00:15:10.000

So I would say, Here's where my timeline, my current timeline is. So far, so let me back up.

00:15:10.000 --> 00:15:32.000

Like again, I don't have a prepared speech here. House, the general

convention is a bicameral legislative body and what that means is that there are as the House of Deputies which is clergy and lay representatives from all of the 110 diocese and then there's the House of Bishops which are Episcopal representation.

00:15:32.000 --> 00:15:41.000

Because we are a bicameral body, any legislation that is going to get passed by the general convention has to get passed by both bodies.

00:15:41.000 --> 00:15:50.000

And what that also means, the way we handle this, I don't even, I don't know how the United States government handles this, but the way we handle it is our legislative committees are combined.

00:15:50.000 --> 00:16:01.000

So every legislative committee has a house of bishops component and a house of deputies component and we do all of our advanced deliberation together.

00:16:01.000 --> 00:16:09.000

And what that means is I serve as for this general convention the chair of the House of Deputies Committee.

00:16:09.000 --> 00:16:14.000

Bishop Kathleen Baskom. Is Kansas? Serves as thank you. Thank you everyone.

00:16:14.000 --> 00:16:17.000 Yes.

00:16:17.000 --> 00:16:18.000 Yeah.

00:16:18.000 --> 00:16:28.000

I know her but I I knew her when she was in Iowa. I actually met her when we were serving together on this legislative committee in 2018 and we were you know so anyway I I know she got elected bishop.

00:16:28.000 --> 00:16:40.000

I'm glad to know it's Kansas. Thank you for confirming that. So she and I have literally had 1 5 min conversation to figure out okay what's our plan and all we've done is have the 5 min conversation to say here's the next set of conversations we're going to have.

00:16:40.000 --> 00:16:51.000

We're going to put our heads together later this week. We're going to pull the officers of the committee together later this month.

00:16:51.000 --> 00:17:03.000

And after we do that, we'll be able to start to issue a schedule for

hearings. At this point, we don't even know all the legislation that will be coming to our legislative committee.

00:17:03.000 --> 00:17:11.000

What we do know is the 3 resolutions that are in the blue book report from the interim body.

00:17:11.000 --> 00:17:19.000

I would anticipate that we will be receiving more proposals for legislation. But at this point, we don't know what they are yet.

00:17:19.000 --> 00:17:28.000

Now I will go further and say there might be some of you on this call that would like to see general convention pass a particular piece of legislation.

00:17:28.000 --> 00:17:38.000

Your deputies or your bishop can propose that. I'm not a hundred per, like I said, it's not a prepared speech.

00:17:38.000 --> 00:17:56.000

I'm not sure what the deadline for that would be, but That would be the avenue through which and maybe, maybe Emily knows that would be at the avenue through which another piece of legislation or if you want the Episcopal Church to say something or do something.

00:17:56.000 --> 00:18:05.000

I will say, it's the Sometimes when we pass legislation, we do the thing that we say we're going to do.

00:18:05.000 --> 00:18:23.000

But when we don't pass the legislation, we definitely don't do the thing. And so working towards getting resolutions passed is, can be an effective step forward if your expectations passed is, it can be an effective step forward if your expectations are appropriate and you know that just because we say we're going to be an effective step forward if your expectations are appropriate and you know that just because we say we're going to do the thing doesn't

00:18:23.000 --> 00:18:30.000

mean but it does mean that we set an intent and we set a precedent and future generations then can build on it.

00:18:30.000 --> 00:18:36.000 So Was that, was that helpful?

00:18:36.000 --> 00:19:00.000

Thank you. And, Yes, I can tell you that there was a lot of discussion about changing the deadline for legislation to be before convention but as we will be operating under the previous rules of order,

legislation can be submitted up until it's either the first or second day of convention.

00:19:00.000 --> 00:19:01.000 Yeah.

00:19:01.000 --> 00:19:09.000

But ideally to help out the committees with all the work that they have to do. The earlier the better that resolutions can go in.

00:19:09.000 --> 00:19:19.000

Obviously that's the better. Most most dioceses, if not all, have already had their conventions, so there probably are diocesan resolutions that are coming up.

00:19:19.000 --> 00:19:28.000

And as she mentioned, the the task force has put some resolutions into their blue book report, which I could speak about.

00:19:28.000 --> 00:19:40.000

If people are interested. And The question came in, about how we will, how we'll work, the caucus will work with the committee.

00:19:40.000 --> 00:19:50.000

And I, and I think I've mentioned that. What you can do if you're not a delegate or if you're not a deputy or an alternate get to know your deputation.

00:19:50.000 --> 00:19:56.000

You get to know your deputation, you'll know what, what resolutions they may be putting forward.

00:19:56.000 --> 00:20:01.000

And, I would ideally I would love to have a person on the caucus who could be a liaison to each of the provinces.

 $00:20:01.000 \longrightarrow 00:20:30.000$ 

Each of the 8 provinces and I'm speaking to you Stephen Jones in in province 3 because I don't think we have anybody right now from province 3 and maybe even from every diocese because every diocese is different every diocese approaching creation care and I heard just wonderful things that you all are doing in your different provinces.

00:20:30.000 --> 00:20:43.000

To advance the work that you're doing. And I will mention that general convention. Resolutions that have.

00:20:43.000 --> 00:21:05.000

That are the direct advocacy to the US government go to the Office of Government Relations. And the Office of Government Relations is our

voice on Capitol Hill when the when the Episcopal Church takes a position on some issue, you know, such thing and they have a lot of issues that we are concerned with.

 $00:21:05.000 \longrightarrow 00:21:16.000$ 

They're the ones that advocate in Congress. So for example, with my my CO 2, carbon, carbon fee and dividend carbon tax resolution.

00:21:16.000 --> 00:21:33.000

Now, when there is something in Congress, when there is a bill in Congress that advances towards having putting a price on carbon, then our Office of Government Relations, the Episcopal Church can weigh in on on that particular piece of legislation.

00:21:33.000 --> 00:21:41.000

So that's just an example of how those are. Going forward. In and Jerry just interrupt me if there's a question that comes up in the chat or if you have another one.

00:21:41.000 --> 00:21:46.000

The Blue Book Report. Oh, go ahead.

00:21:46.000 --> 00:21:54.000

So Steve asked, I'm sorry. Steve asked if you can say more about the blue book and how to access it.

00:21:54.000 --> 00:21:57.000

So it's in the chat, but if you could Just tell us. Let me.

00:21:57.000 --> 00:22:10.000

Yes, yes. The blue book came out, I don't know, a couple weeks ago and it's it's not a very long read.

00:22:10.000 --> 00:22:20.000

It's and what they're urging is they're urging the church to fully recognize creation care as an important pillar of the Episcopal Church.

00:22:20.000 --> 00:22:39.000

There it used to be a commission which was a standing body. It was changed to a task force, which is an interim body, but we feel that it's so important it needs to return to the status of a commission with the funding attendant there too.

00:22:39.000 --> 00:22:50.000

And that's one of the things that they're requesting is specific funding to continue a standing commission on creation care and environmental racism.

00:22:50.000 --> 00:22:58.000

And that would also help to fund the Office of Creation Care Ministries of the Episcopal Church.

00:22:58.000 --> 00:23:15.000

So I think funding for those 2 work work bodies to move forward is very important. They listed 4 priorities in the blue book to define and accelerate an eco justice movement in the Episcopal Church.

00:23:15.000 --> 00:23:31.000

3 structures, processes, and institutional mechanisms including the eco justice and care of creation grant program and eco justice fellows, which you're probably familiar with some of those grants and fellows.

00:23:31.000 --> 00:23:38.000

Secondly, provide congregational and wider church liturgy, worship, and spiritual formation resources.

00:23:38.000 --> 00:23:51.000

And we had a speaker to our creation care caucus last month, Dr. Reuth Meyers, who is a co-chair of the Liturgy Create Liturgy Committee.

00:23:51.000 --> 00:24:00.000

And so we're going to be pursuing additional resources through. Official liturgy, I guess you might call it.

00:24:00.000 --> 00:24:08.000

So that's another thing. Expand storytelling and advocacy around eco justice, particularly using the the mapping tool.

00:24:08.000 --> 00:24:16.000

Responding to the church's call for carbon neutrality through net 0 grants, carbon offsets, and land.

00:24:16.000 --> 00:24:25.000

So that is an area again where funding is part of the request. So. That's just a quick summary of the Blue Book report.

00:24:25.000 --> 00:24:34.000

It talks about all the work that they did and what they're. Envisioning going forward.

00:24:34.000 --> 00:24:38.000

I think I think there's a link in the chat to that.

00:24:38.000 --> 00:24:41.000

There is. So is there by keeping up with those links? Cause those links are really helpful.

00:24:41.000 --> 00:24:54.000

They are taking to these places where this is we could share a screen about this but I'm not sure that's where the conversation is but if it If it needs to go there.

00:24:54.000 --> 00:24:57.000 We can actually show you those resolutions.

00:24:57.000 --> 00:25:20.000

So Steve, we do have another question. Now I just lost it. Oh, Steve Jones asked, what is needed to reinstate creation care to a standing committee at the provincial level?

00:25:20.000 --> 00:25:21.000 Yeah.

00:25:21.000 --> 00:25:25.000

Well, that would be. A provincial. Issue. The general convention recognizes the provinces.

00:25:25.000 --> 00:25:30.000 See you.

00:25:30.000 --> 00:25:37.000 As bodies that can. Lift up to. To the national level.

00:25:37.000 --> 00:25:41.000

Help me out if someone knows better than this, but I don't think it necessarily goes the other way.

00:25:41.000 --> 00:25:45.000

The provinces kind of run themselves. Is that right, Heather?

00:25:45.000 --> 00:25:47.000 Yes.

00:25:47.000 --> 00:25:48.000 And

00:25:48.000 --> 00:25:53.000

Yeah, I put I put in the thing. He just needs to reach out to Pam Cochran.

00:25:53.000 --> 00:25:54.000 Okay.

00:25:54.000 --> 00:25:55.000 Okay.

00:25:55.000 --> 00:26:01.000

That's up to province 3 then. That's why profits 4 has the creation,

the environmental justice network, province 5 has creation care, province 8 has whatever y'all are working on.

00:26:01.000 --> 00:26:04.000 But yeah, so call Pam about that.

00:26:04.000 --> 00:26:05.000 And I.

00:26:05.000 --> 00:26:12.000

But those are networks and not standing committees. So an interesting question would be. Yeah, at general convention, a resolution that says we call up on all provinces to create a standing committee for creation care.

00:26:12.000 --> 00:26:28.000

That's the kind of thing. Now, whether that would go anywhere or whether that should be done, I'm not saying, but that's the kind of relationship.

00:26:28.000 --> 00:26:35.000

The general convention has with some of these questions, right? You would, that would have to come from the top down rather than.

00:26:35.000 --> 00:26:36.000 Some of the direction.

00:26:36.000 --> 00:26:39.000 Yes. Oh, you can comment on that.

00:26:39.000 --> 00:26:55.000

My comment on that is there is a reporting relationship from every Diocese back to the general convention.

00:26:55.000 --> 00:26:56.000 Yes.

00:26:56.000 --> 00:26:57.000

I am not sure. That there is a reporting. Relationship from every province back to the general convention. Heather would you know the answer to that.

00:26:57.000 --> 00:27:00.000

What is the reporting relationship if any at

00:27:00.000 --> 00:27:04.000

Well, we are asked to file an annual report with Executive Council every year.

00:27:04.000 --> 00:27:08.000

And it goes to executive council. Okay, huh.

00:27:08.000 --> 00:27:09.000 So that so that is more of an

00:27:09.000 --> 00:27:19.000

That's a holdover. I can say even though we're recording this, it's a holdover from when general convention slash executive council used to give money to the provinces.

00:27:19.000 --> 00:27:25.000

So while they're still while they're not giving money anymore, they still ask for the report.

00:27:25.000 --> 00:27:26.000 Huh.

00:27:26.000 --> 00:27:42.000

Okay, so that so that's an example of a more internal facing piece of legislation that would go in and I'm not sure where that would go in but I that might be a change to constitution in Canons.

00:27:42.000 --> 00:27:50.000

Which is how you change things internally. People were, people are mostly kind of focused on outward reaching resolutions like, you know, carbon neutrality and net carbon neutrality and good news gardens and things like that.

00:27:50.000 --> 00:28:04.000

But internally, the relationships within the church are are governed by our constitution and canons is my understanding.

00:28:04.000 --> 00:28:16.000

And there is a committee on constitution and canons. And so I suppose if everybody said that every province or should have a creation care commission.

00:28:16.000 --> 00:28:21.000

That would happen. At least on paper.

00:28:21.000 --> 00:28:34.000

Well, and it would depend, there's a dispatch of business committee and this all feels very Byzantine but when you have a system that's slightly Byzantine it's good for there to be as much information, it's good for there to be as much information about it available as possible.

00:28:34.000 --> 00:28:48.000

And so dispatch of business decides which committee is going to consider your resolution first. So dispatch of business decides which

committee is going to consider your resolution first.

00:28:48.000 --> 00:28:57.000

So if there was a resolution proposed that was we're going to change the constitution and cans of the Episcopal Church about care of creation, it probably would not come to the body that I can the Constitution and can't.

00:28:57.000 --> 00:29:06.000

Constitution and canons. Yeah, that's one and 2. And I will also say that we have a member of our caucus that is on the just recently appointed to media on dispatch of business.

00:29:06.000 --> 00:29:11.000

We appointed to video and district business.

00:29:11.000 --> 00:29:12.000 I'm getting an echo, sorry.

00:29:12.000 --> 00:29:13.000 Nice.

00:29:13.000 --> 00:29:14.000 That's me.

00:29:14.000 --> 00:29:22.000

So I'm gonna break in just real quickly to say I see my role in this as managing the process.

00:29:22.000 --> 00:29:49.000

There it needs a process manager you know because there are people who want things to get done. And there are a lot of them and they have different perspectives and some of them have formal authority like the deputies and the bishops who are on the committee and some of them have informal influence like people who might go to your deputies and say, hey, would you submit this resolution because so far Just to sit an example.

00:29:49.000 --> 00:29:57.000

So far I don't see anything that directs the Office of Government Relations to prioritize climate change in their lobbying work.

00:29:57.000 --> 00:30:09.000

And I think that we should renew that. And you know, if your deputation were to take that on and a deputy were to submit that, then I would manage the process whereby hearings would be held.

00:30:09.000 --> 00:30:24.000

And that's There isn't in my view of the role of the chair is very much a process manager to ensure smooth and productive dialogue and

the outcome of getting every proposed resolution.

00:30:24.000 --> 00:30:31.000

Man, you know, like through the process. That's my goal is any resolution that comes to the committee for consideration.

00:30:31.000 --> 00:30:44.000

The committee considers it makes a decision about it holds hearings on it enables anybody to speak to it that they want to and makes a decision in a timely fashion prior to general convention so that it can be considered by the convention.

00:30:44.000 --> 00:30:53.000

That's my job. And so in that job, I don't have the responsibility to figure out what the Episcopal Church should do for for care creation.

00:30:53.000 --> 00:31:03.000

My job is to manage the process whereby the Episcopal Church figures out what it wants to do for care creation through this general convention.

00:31:03.000 --> 00:31:07.000 Thank you.

00:31:07.000 --> 00:31:20.000

Any other questions on that? Particular aspect. I will say that funding for creation care is noticeably less than for some other activities of the Episcopal Church.

00:31:20.000 --> 00:31:36.000

And one of the proposed resolutions is way to fund. Hello interest. Or possibly no interest, loans to diocese for creation care work.

00:31:36.000 --> 00:31:47.000

And that is something that our caucus is going to support. That is going to be interesting talking to the people who have the most money.

00:31:47.000 --> 00:31:57.000

And there's always. There's always debate between divest and investment in fossil fuel technology.

00:31:57.000 --> 00:32:09.000

So those are all resutions that have backgrounds and I will say that there is. Particularly helpful from the Office of Government Relation.

00:32:09.000 --> 00:32:37.000

They have formed an index of prior resolutions. So it's a good idea to look back and know the history of what it is that you're proposing, ideally you'll be carrying forward building on some prior resolutions, which I think in it's interesting to look back on resolutions and past

conventions talking about the environment and how they grew into.

00:32:37.000 --> 00:32:50.000

Into climate justice, sort of, you can see how the language has changed over over time. But, but the basic principles are kind of the same and it's helpful to go back and know what you're building on.

00:32:50.000 --> 00:33:02.000

The Office of Government Relations has a wonderful webinar on resolution. If you think you're interested in writing a resolution, I would encourage you to have a look at that.

00:33:02.000 --> 00:33:13.000

They just offered that earlier this month. For deputies and deputations. So many of your deputations already have resolutions ready to go.

00:33:13.000 --> 00:33:14.000

And again, I would encourage you to get to know your deputation, find out what their priorities are and.

00:33:14.000 --> 00:33:33.000

See if creation care is among them. And if not, perhaps have a conversation with them. Lift up your your needs and your and your priorities.

00:33:33.000 --> 00:33:39.000

Let me follow up on that one before we get to Edwards related question to that. So let's say somebody does.

00:33:39.000 --> 00:33:52.000

Somebody is in a diocese or or whatever and they there is no or no. Resolution related to Christian care that I think there should be, but the the ISIS isn't going to help them.

00:33:52.000 --> 00:33:59.000

So where can they get help? So You know, isn't the Caucasus job to help them?

00:33:59.000 --> 00:34:07.000

You know where can they turn Is it the provincial, you know, Heather and Jeanette?

00:34:07.000 --> 00:34:13.000 Is it our job to help them?

00:34:13.000 --> 00:34:14.000

That's a question. Where do they turn?

00:34:14.000 --> 00:34:21.000

Well, I, is, is that a question? Yeah. Well, I, okay. Well, I think, I think you answered.

00:34:21.000 --> 00:34:46.000

Both correctly, yes, I see the caucus as sort of a consortium of deputies and deputations if you raise an issue to the caucus they may say well I know that Illinois is is raising that up so that's that's one that we should support or province 8 and I will say province 8 and I will say province 8 and I will say province 8 is we do intend to

00:34:46.000 --> 00:34:55.000

write a, province 8. And I will say province 8 is, we do intend to write a memorial, which is not a resolution, but it's sort of like the, platform for the things that we support.

00:34:55.000 --> 00:35:08.000

Going forward that would cover resolutions from all sources that would say that we would support these, particularly these creation care and and creation justice matters.

00:35:08.000 --> 00:35:14.000

So yeah, and I think yes, I think that the provinces have a role as well.

00:35:14.000 --> 00:35:21.000

Heather is is that your understanding too?

00:35:21.000 --> 00:35:31.000

I see the I see the caucus as a big network focused on general convention. So we have folks from many different diocese, some of them have been much more active in creation care than others and we can all learn.

00:35:31.000 --> 00:35:58.000

From each other and support each other and having things go forward. So in your example, Jerry, if someone is in a diocese, and doesn't feel that they're getting the support that they want and they feel that that a general convention action would help them, then turn to the support that they want and they feel that a general convention, action would help them, then turn to the, turn to

00:35:58.000 --> 00:36:02.000

the caucus and it turn turn to your province and see if you can get some help there.

00:36:02.000 --> 00:36:11.000

And turning 2 means emailing you, emailing me, emailing Janet, emailing Stephen. Is that what that means?

00:36:11.000 --> 00:36:12.000 Yeah.

00:36:12.000 --> 00:36:13.000

Yeah, we're calling the, our creation care, green deputies caucus is meeting monthly.

00:36:13.000 --> 00:36:31.000

We're generally meeting on the second Wednesday of the month, but this month because it's Ash Wednesday, will be meeting on February, the 20 first.

00:36:31.000 --> 00:36:40.000

But otherwise it's the second Wednesday of the month we have a monthly meeting. And I just created a Facebook page for that.

00:36:40.000 --> 00:36:44.000

So I will put that into the chat as well.

00:36:44.000 --> 00:36:45.000 And be helpful.

00:36:45.000 --> 00:37:03.000

A quick clarification about. Provinces too right so we're sort of that weird in between thing right the church doesn't quite know what to do with the province so we're there we don't necessarily have any power except if you want to put forward a resolution to general convention, the chance to do that is through a provincial synod.

00:37:03.000 --> 00:37:17.000

I don't remember the deadline, but it's very soon if it has not yet passed. 90 days, it, if you were not a province or some other special exemption.

00:37:17.000 --> 00:37:24.000

And otherwise I just spend lots of time connecting people to people and people to resources. So if somebody contacts me and says, hey, I want to write a resolution, right?

00:37:24.000 --> 00:37:27.000

We have a Province 5. We have some people on the board who help people write resolutions.

00:37:27.000 --> 00:37:32.000

Edward is one of those people, right? Or if they want to get information, then I might pass them on.

00:37:32.000 --> 00:37:43.000

So just depending on what help people need, I can help them absolutely.

00:37:43.000 --> 00:37:45.000 Thank you.

00:37:45.000 --> 00:37:52.000 Deadline question is big, I think. So, and I'm not even clear.

00:37:52.000 --> 00:37:53.000 Yeah, go ahead. Yep.

00:37:53.000 --> 00:37:59.000

That's why Jerry, if I can break in and just say, I think that's why I would encourage you if if you are not a deputy.

00:37:59.000 --> 00:38:03.000

And you have an idea for a resolution or you want to be active in the process. To go through the caucus because my expectation would be that the caucus will be full of deputies.

00:38:03.000 --> 00:38:16.000

You know, some of whom want to get things done but not necessarily haven't figured out exactly what they want to get done.

00:38:16.000 --> 00:38:26.000

And it would be my expectation that the caucus meeting together will be a place to surface. Oh, here's what's here's what the legislation that's already in process.

00:38:26.000 --> 00:38:33.000

Here's the, well here's what we feel is missing. Okay, how can we work together to get that stuff that's missing to not be missing anymore?

00:38:33.000 --> 00:38:39.000

I think that would be the caucus. Am I right, Emily?

00:38:39.000 --> 00:38:40.000 Yeah.

00:38:40.000 --> 00:38:47.000

That sounds great. Yes. I knew it running a caucus, but there is somebody in the caucus who is experienced at running caucuses and she's on my planning team.

00:38:47.000 --> 00:38:51.000 So. Thank you for that.

00:38:51.000 --> 00:38:56.000

Yeah. And the purpose, I mean, I know, I repeat, well said area that. What we need is quality.

00:38:56.000 --> 00:39:06.000

We need quality resolutions. We don't need. You know, half thought out. Unrelated competing attempts.

00:39:06.000 --> 00:39:08.000 I beg you.

00:39:08.000 --> 00:39:10.000 Yeah.

00:39:10.000 --> 00:39:11.000 Yeah.

00:39:11.000 --> 00:39:18.000

And a cup And so, Emily, and we've talked about this also at caucus, there's one of our jobs I think is to focus in.

00:39:18.000 --> 00:39:29.000

Due to quality control and to coordinate and to you know target. Things. Edward has an excellent question on here, which is related to all of this.

00:39:29.000 --> 00:39:36.000

Just to you, Naria, please give us some idea how the community decides which resolutions it chooses to devote serious attention to.

00:39:36.000 --> 00:39:42.000

And does the committee receive far more as solutions and it can process in a particular way.

00:39:42.000 --> 00:39:47.000

I would say that the answer to the last question is probably up to you. But I'll start at the beginning.

00:39:47.000 --> 00:40:09.000

So one thing to remember is this committee it doesn't like it has been appointed. Or That's that means that there is a group of humans that know that they are on this committee I know precisely one human on this committee.

00:40:09.000 --> 00:40:21.000

So I don't know how the committee will behave. It will decide, you know, there will be people on the committee who will have ideas and decisions that they will share as part of the process.

00:40:21.000 --> 00:40:36.000

I cannot predict that in any way, shape or form. I will say that from my experience on the legislative committee to general conventions ago what we tend what we spend a lot of time on was resolutions that needed to be combined.

 $00:40:36.000 \longrightarrow 00:40:44.000$ 

Because, you get 2 different resolutions from 2 different parts of the church that they didn't know that the other one was doing it, then our job is to turn them into one coherent piece of legislation that can go forward into the floor.

00:40:44.000 --> 00:41:04.000

For general convention to vote up or down. You know, that's the kind of technical nerdy detail that the, and so if we don't do that, it doesn't get done and then general convention doesn't pass quality legislation.

00:41:04.000 --> 00:41:17.000

We did not, The other thing that we spent quite a bit of time on was when something came before the like a piece of legislation came to us.

00:41:17.000 --> 00:41:26.000

And then we learned through testimony from the church that it wasn't going to be effective in its current form.

00:41:26.000 --> 00:41:37.000

I'll speak for my own story. I proposed a piece of resolution, a resolution. Deal 5 3 in 2018 and it came before the legislative body that I turned out to be on.

00:41:37.000 --> 00:41:45.000

I did not know. Maybe I did. I can't remember. Anyway, we got we heard testimony that one of the resolved was impossible.

00:41:45.000 --> 00:42:05.000

Well, you know, you kind of don't want that. In your legislation. So we had to figure out, okay, well, the goal of this resolved is around, okay, well, the goal of this resolved is around church on property, but the means to that end we thought would work through church on property, but the means to that end we thought would work through church insurance, but church insurance is telling me that telling us no. So church insurance is telling me that telling us no.

00:42:05.000 --> 00:42:08.000

So what can we do? And so that kind of is more substantive conversation that the committee will have where it's kind of like, we've got problems to solve.

00:42:08.000 --> 00:42:23.000

We believe that this is the right outcome, but the people that wrote the resolutions didn't understand enough about reality that we now know because it's our job to hear from the church.

00:42:23.000 --> 00:42:30.000

So when, we get our list, we don't even have our whole list of resolutions yet that we have to process.

00:42:30.000 --> 00:42:39.000

When we get that and it will continue to be updated, I think Jerry. Somebody somebody said early is better.

00:42:39.000 --> 00:42:46.000

Early is really better. And here you will have a piece of information that I don't mind sharing.

00:42:46.000 --> 00:42:52.000

But but it's a little personal. My daughter is graduating from college on June 20 first.

00:42:52.000 --> 00:42:53.000

And so I asked the president of the House of Deputies, can I still be the chair?

00:42:53.000 --> 00:43:05.000

I don't think I can. There until June, the 20 s and she said as yeah, please try to get your legislation done ahead of time.

00:43:05.000 --> 00:43:12.000

So I am very, to getting our legislation done out of time and going to my daughter's college graduation.

00:43:12.000 --> 00:43:23.000

That if I can't we'll have a vice chair like if we need to do resolution review the day before when I'm in Toronto that my presence or absence is not going to slow up this committee.

00:43:23.000 --> 00:43:33.000

But it is my hope that we will start our hearing process fairly, shortly after the getting all of our resolutions.

00:43:33.000 --> 00:43:38.000

Just so we also give enough time to the church to think about these things, together and well.

00:43:38.000 --> 00:43:46.000

And we don't, we don't always have enough time when we start at general convention like in the old way.

00:43:46.000 --> 00:43:55.000

It was just a marathon of impossibility. So I like this new way. And I would say I don't know how to predict how many resolutions we will receive this time.

00:43:55.000 --> 00:44:10.000

I mean, we've never had a creation care caucus before. And I think that's an amazing and fabulous development for the life and health of the church and the life of the health of the world.

00:44:10.000 --> 00:44:22.000

And it may also be a development that generates 20 resolutions and that would be new you know so I that's I think those are my answers to the questions.

00:44:22.000 --> 00:44:34.000

Thank you. And I would like to say something also about the process, but first I want to call up the Jim put into the chat that he's found in the past.

00:44:34.000 --> 00:44:44.000

It's helpful to take general convention resolutions and used diocesan convention to point congregations toward frameworks and resources.

00:44:44.000 --> 00:44:49.000

So that's another way that it can come back down to the pews what we're doing in the diocese and and at general convention.

00:44:49.000 --> 00:45:12.000

But another another note on the process, the the legislative committees work hard to put forth. Perfect resolutions is the word for it, which may combine aspects of several resolutions and then those go up to the committee on dispatch and the committee on dispatch is the one that sets the agenda for convention.

00:45:12.000 --> 00:45:32.000

And according to the rules of order, the if there is something on a consent agenda, there's a certain number of deputies that are required if you want to pull that for discussion on the floor.

00:45:32.000 --> 00:45:43.000

I tend to view the consent calendar as my friend, but some people prefer to pull things off and have a discussion and a debate.

00:45:43.000 --> 00:45:52.000

And again, that is the role of the committee on dispatch of business. To organize debate on those.

00:45:52.000 --> 00:46:04.000

And that's something that our caucus will be involved in. Looking at the agendas, which I think they're going to be 2 agendas per day now to see what legislation is on there.

00:46:04.000 --> 00:46:05.000

What's coming up so that we have deputies who will speak in favor of resolutions that we support.

00:46:05.000 --> 00:46:35.000

As they come to the floor. So that's something at the actual convention. Other things that we're planning to do at convention is there will be a table that of creation care ministry, Phoebe and Melanie are gonna have a table and we of the caucus will be helping them at the table and they're also going to have a space for and I think there's going to be something like an

00:46:35.000 --> 00:46:38.000

eco grief chapel and that's something else that we can support. And we're planning, we, I think we, I think we've got a dedicated space.

00:46:38.000 --> 00:46:54.000

So that we'll have green deputies lunch caucus meetings so that we'll know what's coming up and what we'll be doing each day at convention and the next day.

00:46:54.000 --> 00:46:57.000

So that's that's what I envision for the caucus.

00:46:57.000 --> 00:46:58.000

Yeah, thank you. And we're at the top of the hour. Okay.

00:46:58.000 --> 00:47:07.000

And now I'll just, yeah, my one add is once we have a hearing schedule, that would be available to the whole church.

00:47:07.000 --> 00:47:18.000

Here are the meetings of the legislative committee. Here are the resolutions that will be that we're planning to consider at each of these meetings and here's how you can give testimony related to those resolutions.

00:47:18.000 --> 00:47:28.000

So that should all be, I would say within the next few weeks to 3 weeks maybe. A public to the church.

00:47:28.000 --> 00:47:29.000

Thanks very much. Thanks everybody.

00:47:29.000 --> 00:47:35.000

Yep. Very good. I hope you have found this. Not overwhelming.

00:47:35.000 --> 00:47:48.000

But I can't help it if you did. I completely understand. The other The question I would ask, but we don't time is to say, and this is all been about pretty much about resolutions.

00:47:48.000 --> 00:47:49.000

Hmm.

00:47:49.000 --> 00:47:54.000

What's the other world? Beyond resolutions. That convention can afford. Us opportunity to do.

00:47:54.000 --> 00:48:07.000

And, And can't do that now. We could have another meeting if you want. But you know what else beyond beyond red legislation?

00:48:07.000 --> 00:48:14.000

And that's just another I can only throw that out there because we're at 2 o'clock in their whatever clock top they are.

00:48:14.000 --> 00:48:26.000

For you all. Necessary comments or anything Everyone other than thanks, Emily, Nearia.

00:48:26.000 --> 00:48:32.000

Well, in particular, you too. And the rest of you for, showing up and caring.

00:48:32.000 --> 00:48:37.000

And. And I see a couple things, another monthly meeting on GC would be great. So we'll see how that goes.

00:48:37.000 --> 00:48:47.000

May will do that. Well, is that a question? I see your hand up. You are just saying, hey.

00:48:47.000 --> 00:48:49.000

That was a that was a clapping. Yeah.

00:48:49.000 --> 00:48:57.000

Excellent, excellent, very good. Alright everyone. Then blessings on you all go and piece a lot of them serve.

00:48:57.000 --> 00:49:00.000

Hello, and all creations. And may we, yeah.

00:49:00.000 --> 00:49:04.000

Thanks to God. Yeah.

00:49:04.000 --> 00:49:05.000

Bye everybody.

00:49:05.000 --> 00:49:08.000

Bye bye.

00:49:08.000 --> 00:49:13.000

And by the way, who's left? You can save chat.

00:49:13.000 --> 00:49:15.000

Okay, in the recording.

00:49:15.000 --> 00:49:20.000 And. AndI just did