

Title **Intention To Become a Constituent Diocese of the University of the South**

Proposer **The Rev. Warren Swenson**

1. RESOLVED: that the 134th Annual Convention of the Diocese of West Missouri
2. express its desire to become a Constituent Diocese of the University of the South,
3. familiarly known as Sewanee, and be it further,
- 4.
5. RESOLVED: that the Bishop of West Missouri shall appoint a liaison from the Diocese
6. to facilitate conversations between the Diocese and the University until such time as
7. the Diocese may vote on entering into a constituent relationship, and be it further,
- 8.
9. RESOLVED: that a copy of this resolution be sent to the following officers of the
10. University: the Rt. Rev. Jake Owensby, Chancellor; Dr. Robert Pearigen, Vice-
11. Chancellor and President; Mr. Jay Fisher, Secretary of the Board of Trustees; and the
12. Rev. Casey Perkins, Director of Church Relations.

Explanation

The University of the South, familiarly known as Sewanee, was founded in 1858 by several dioceses of the Episcopal Church and was intended to be owned and governed by the Church. The Diocese of West Missouri benefits greatly from the work of the University. Many of our high school students have gone on to attend its College of Arts & Sciences, many of our clergy have been formed at its School of Theology, and a significant percentage of the Diocese has participated in Education for Ministry (EfM), a ministry of the University.

Becoming a Constituent Diocese would allow us representation on the University's Board of Trustees, giving us a say in the governance of an institution with which we are already in a relationship.

Should this resolution pass, it would be incumbent upon the University's Board of Trustees to decide to extend an invitation to our Diocese to enter into a constituent relationship. Diocesan contributions from constituent dioceses to Sewanee range widely, currently from \$0 - \$20,000, the average being \$3,000. This resolution would have no budgetary impact on the 2024-2025 Plan for Ministry.
