



## St. Augustine Episcopal Church

Rev. Meredyth Albright

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Dear St. Augustine's family;

Is a hot dog a sandwich?

Well, is it? Sandwiches are for turkey, cheese, clubs, etc. A hot dog, is apparently a category all of its own. Even though it has meat, bread and condiments.

That was the first resolution we voted on at General Convention on Sunday. It wasn't meant to be serious, but was the test run of the electronic devices we are using to vote on the resolutions we face. I want you to know that we spent more than an hour on that resolution. Some had to do with the technology, but much about whether a hot dog is a sandwich. And then, there was a second resolution proposed asking if "ketchup is put on a hot dog?"

Quite the debate ensued.

Whomever came up with the question for a humorous test run must have put a lot of thought into it.

As the deputation of almost 900 clergy and lay deputies and almost 200 bishops gather through Friday we will be discussing and debating a gazillion resolutions. Many of them will relate to how we think about theology, people, needs and diversity in all forms.

The hot dog/sandwich debate reminds us all that we can be different but be alike; that we may have different names for things, but they have commonalities.

That's the prayer that God has for us — that we look for our similarities, not our differences.

Faithfully,

*Meredyth+*

## **ECW happenings**

ECW will meet at noon on Monday, July 22. There will be a business meeting, and a potluck meal. Bring a dish to pass.

On Saturday, July 13, ECW will host a Christmas in July booth at the Hodag Farmers' Market from 8 a.m. to noon. Christmas items – some left from last winter, and some new, will be sold. For more information check with Barb Hagen or Donna Zimmerman.

## **Celebrate Diocese of Fond du Lac**

A celebration of the Diocese of Fond du Lac, its history and its people will be held on Saturday, July 27 at St. Paul's Cathedral. This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our diocese, as we reunify into the Diocese of Wisconsin; and to celebrate 150 years of the Diocese of Fond du Lac.

So that as many folks who want to attend are able to, St. Augustine's is renting a coach bus to get us there and back. (This bus is equipped with a bathroom, but we will make at least one stop each way.) Please sign up in the guild hall if you are interested in traveling together.

## **Changes, changes, changes**

People continue to ask what the reunification to the Diocese of Wisconsin means for us at St. Augustine's. It means we continue to carry out the ministries that we have always done in order to spread the word of Jesus and the will of God. We continue our mission of growing the love of Jesus in the community.

Many of the changes will be in diocesan structure and staffing. The changes in structure and staffing are intended to make more resources available to us in the form of people and resources as we continue our individual ministries and work together with other parishes to regionally spread the message of the kingdom.

Folks have wondered about the bishop's visitation schedule. Church canons indicate a bishop must visit a parish once every three years. When Bishop Matt was responsible only for the

Diocese of Fond du Lac he visited once a year. When he became provisional bishop for Eau Claire, he visited every 18 months. Now that he will be bishop of the Diocese of Wisconsin it means he will likely visit once every three years.

At this point, there will not be a central Diocese of Wisconsin office. The individual offices will continue to operate for a while. After that, employees will most likely work from their homes.

All three cathedrals will continue to be home to parishes, and will host services of the dioceses. Some of the more significant services, such as the Chrism Mass, may be held at more than one location, to make attendance at these services easier.

Rather than deaneries, the diocese will be divided into five regions. Twice a year, the bishop will spend a week in each region. At that time, he will visit churches, not just on Sundays, but during the week when ministry is knowingly happening.

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**SUNDAY:** Worship 9 a.m.

The Meeting ID: 812 8610 0297. Passcode: 94205

**To connect through video:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84626513503?pwd=TTVoVWxmbExJMGZVUnhCYWNCSnhxQT09>

**To connect by telephone:** 1-312-626-6799.

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### **Office Hours**

Office hours are generally 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Mother Meredyth is in the office during the office hours, as well as additional times. If you are planning to stop in to see her, please call first.