



# Diocese of Southern Ohio

150th Convention

**NOVEMBER 22-23, 2024 - WILMINGTON, OHIO**

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# People of God in Southern Ohio,

In the eight months that I have been your bishop, I have had countless conversations – individually, in small groups, with leaders and clergy – about who God calls us to be and how God calls us to live. We have talked together and prayed together about this question of our core purpose as the Body of Christ that is the Church.

Sunday by Sunday, we gather together as the people of God. We make space, through our prayer and our worship, for God’s transformation. At the dismissal, we are sent out into the world, to do the work that God has given us to do. That pattern repeats itself in many contexts throughout our common life. It offers us a reliable reference point, a chance for clarity of purpose and perspective on who we are as Church.

That pattern, known as Gather-Transform-Send, serves as a core model for the College for Congregational Development. It is also the theme I have chosen for this year’s Diocesan Convention, November 22-23 at the Roberts Centre in Wilmington. As we begin to celebrate our 150th year as a diocese, I am grateful to return to our core purpose as the Body of Christ throughout Southern Ohio.

I invite you to take part in a series of workshops on Friday afternoon which will focus on our theme. We will be joined in workshops and in plenary by our keynote speaker, the Most Reverend Melissa Skelton. Friday evening includes the chance for fellowship over a banquet dinner. On Saturday, we’ll share together in prayer and the business and legislation of our common life as a diocese, concluding with Eucharist and my first convention address as your bishop.

I look forward to gathering with you as the Body of Christ across Southern Ohio. I give thanks for God’s work of transformation in our lives. I look with joy for the ways that Holy Spirit will send us out, to be salt and light and leaven to the world.

**Yours in Christ,**



**The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White**  
X Bishop of Southern Ohio

# Schedule

Beyond a canonically-required governance meeting, a diocesan convention is a time to gather the leaders of our communities together to build relationship across distance, to increase our capacity for mission and discipleship, and to celebrate our unique ministries.

Items marked with an asterisk will be livestreamed. This schedule is subject to change.

## FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 22nd

9:00 am	<b>Exhibitors set-up time</b> <i>Foyer</i>
Noon	<b>Check-in and Exhibits Open</b> <i>Ballrooms B &amp; C, Foyer</i>
1:00 pm	<b>Opening Plenary with Archbishop Skelton and Bishop White:</b> <i>A Bishop and an Archbishop Walk into a Ballroom</i> <i>Ballrooms B &amp; C</i> <b>Childcare Available</b> <i>Ballroom D; Open 1-5 pm</i>
2:00 pm	<b>Workshops I: Gather</b> <i>Come and See: Exploring How to Become a More Invitational Congregation - Hamilton</i> <i>Episcopal Church Welcomes You - Franklin</i> <i>Transformation Through Mission - Liberty</i>
3:00 pm	<b>Workshops II: Transform</b> <i>Transforming Your Congregation and Priestly Life - Hamilton</i> <i>Transforming Community Engagement - Franklin</i> <i>Transforming Christian Formation - Liberty</i>
4:00 pm	<b>Workshops III: Send</b> <i>Sent to Work Together - Hamilton</i> <i>Sent to Speak to the World - Franklin</i>
5:00 pm	<b>Social Gathering</b> <i>Cash bar with alcoholic and non-alcoholic options</i> <i>Ballroom A</i>
6:00 pm	<b>Banquet Dinner</b> <i>Ballroom A</i>

## SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 23rd

7:00 am	<b>Dais Meeting</b> <i>Ballrooms B &amp; C</i>
8:30 am	<b>Check-in and Exhibits Open</b> <i>Ballrooms B &amp; C, Foyer</i>
9:00 am	<b>Childcare Available</b> <i>Liberty Room; Open 9-5 pm</i>

## SATURDAY, CONTINUED

- 9:00 am, cont.**      **Morning Session\***  
*Ballrooms B & C*  
 Morning Prayer  
 Call to Order  
 Report from Nominations  
 Keynote Address with Archbishop Skelton
- 12:15 pm**        **Noonday Prayer,\* then Lunch with Table Conversations**  
*Buffet and Lunch - Ballroom A*  
*Deacons' Lunch - Franklin Room*  
*Clergy Spouse Lunch - Hamilton Room*
- 1:00 pm**         **Afternoon Session\***  
*Ballrooms B & C*  
 Resolutions  
 Amendments to the Constitution and Canons  
 Reports  
 Budget
- 4:00 pm**         **Eucharist and Bishop's Address\***  
*Ballroom D*
- After**             **Adjournment and Dismissal**

# Convention Center Map

### ALL WEEKEND

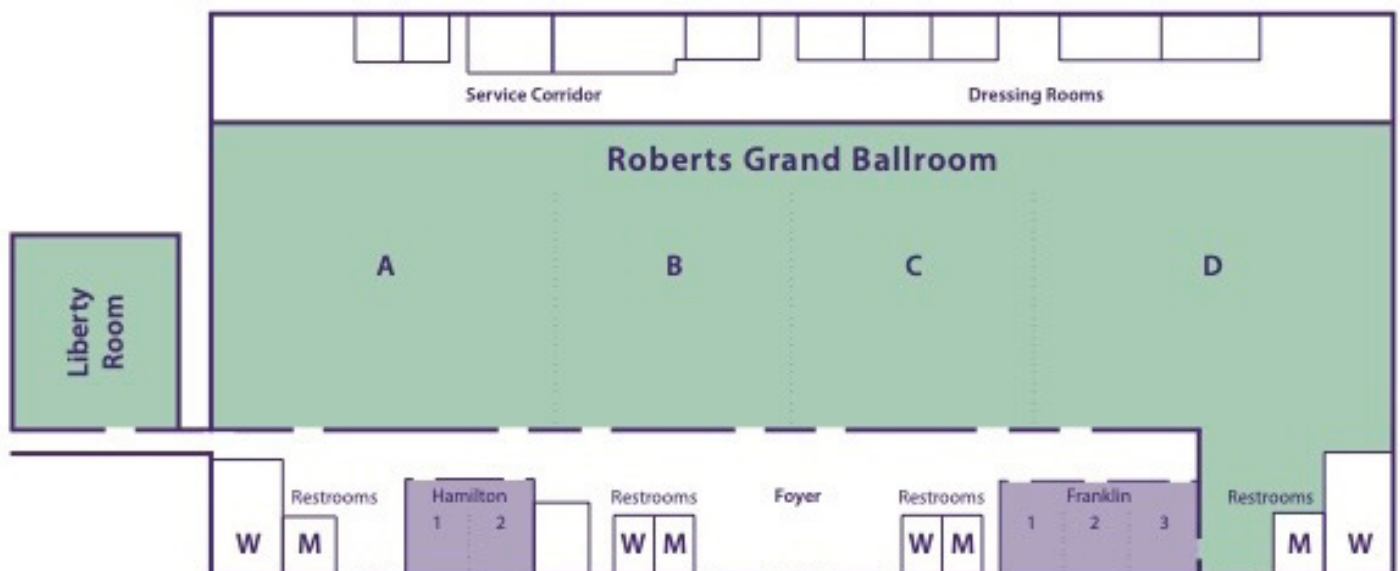
Ballroom A - Meals  
 Ballrooms B/C - Meeting  
 Foyer - Exhibit Hall

### FRIDAY

Liberty - Workshops  
 Hamilton - Workshops  
 Franklin - Workshops  
 Ballroom D - Childcare

### SATURDAY

Liberty - Childcare  
 Hamilton - Clergy Spouse lunch  
 Franklin - Deacons' Lunch  
 Ballroom D - Worship



# Our Mission & Priorities

*Over the last several months, our diocese has engaged in a series of listening sessions, feedback sessions, and other formal and informal conversations. We've studied, we've researched, we've charged an implementation team with taking our body's insights into action, co-creating a diocese that exists for a modern era, to support ministry at the local level, and to do so with integrity, transparency, and a focus on relationship.*

## **OUR MISSION**

**As the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, we embody the Gospel of Jesus Christ and share in God's transformation of our communities, with the Holy Spirit as our guide.**

## **OUR VALUES**

*As Episcopalians in Southern Ohio, we embrace these values as we live out our mission.*

### **INTEGRITY**

We are shaped by prayer and reflection, trusting the guidance of the Holy Spirit with mutual support and accountability. What we say, we mean, living honestly and faithfully.

### **RELATIONSHIP**

We welcome and celebrate the diversity of the whole human experience, seeking to build inclusive community. We serve one another as partners in ministry and acknowledge when we fall short, seeking justice and reconciliation.

### **LOVE**

We follow Jesus in the world, putting others before ourselves. We overcome fear with hope, estrangement with unity, guilt with forgiveness, and despair with joy, realizing God's Beloved Community.

## 2025 DIOCESAN PRIORITIES

*In the spring of 2024, our diocese began a discernment process focused on listening and dreaming for the future. With a goal of cultivating healthy systems and supporting innovative change for the future of the church, this process has resulted in the development of this vision for the future and the creation of a Mission Implementation Team.*

*Through conversations, discernment gatherings, surveys, and summits, the following list of priorities has risen to the top, and will receive intentional investment of time and resources throughout 2025.*

### **COMMUNITY**

We build clear and transparent connections for sharing and listening to one another.

### **EQUIPPING DISCIPLES**

We nurture lifelong faith.

### **EVANGELISM**

We invite our neighbors to share in the Good News.

### **FLOURISHING CONGREGATIONS**

We abundantly equip local ministry.

### **JUSTICE**

We seek healing and reconciliation toward becoming Beloved Community.

### **STEWARDSHIP**

We share God's gifts generously.

## **SAVE THE DATE: JULY 27-AUGUST 1, 2025**

### **COLLEGE FOR CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio will launch our College for Congregational Development (CCD) this summer at Procter Center. Please save the date, begin to assemble your congregational team, and plan to join us to grow community skills for the flourishing of our congregations.

# Our Keynote Speaker

*During the course of our 150th Convention, we will be joined by the Most. Rev. Melissa Skelton, retired archbishop of the Diocese of New Westminster in the Anglican Church of Canada.*

## **THE MOST REV. MELISSA SKELTON**

The Most Rev. Melissa Skelton was elected 9th Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster in the Anglican Church of Canada in 2013, where she served until her retirement in 2021. Most recently, she served about two years as bishop provisional in the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia.



Archbishop Skelton began her professional life in the corporate world, working as Vice President for Consumer Products and Community Engagement at Tom's of Maine and as Brand Manager at The Procter & Gamble Company, later joining academia as Vice President for Administration at The General Theological Seminary. Following her ordination, she served congregations in the Dioceses of Maine and Olympia, later joining the diocesan staff in Olympia as Canon for Congregational Development and Leadership.

During her time in Olympia, Archbishop Skelton launched the College for Congregational Development, a program and community of practitioners continuing to expand throughout the church. The Diocese of Southern Ohio will launch our CCD in the summer of 2025.

Archbishop Skelton holds an MA in English from the University of South Carolina, an MBA from the University of Chicago, and an M.Div. from Virginia Theological Seminary. She also completed a certificate in organization development from the NTL Institute for Applied Behavioral Science.

She resides in Washington State with her spouse, the Rev. Eric Stroo, a mental health counselor and deacon in The Episcopal Church. Between them, they have three children and five grandchildren.

# Workshops

The unique purpose and work of a congregation is to **gather** those called by God into Christ's body, the Church—a community of **transformation** of mind, heart, and action—and to **send** these same people into the world both to be and to act as God's loving and transforming presence.

Another way of saying this is that the purpose of a congregation is to be the body of Christ and, with God's help, to create and renew the Christian people who in turn create and renew a world that we believe both already is and is in the process of becoming God's own realm—a realm of forgiveness, reconciliation, courage, compassion, justice, peace, and hope.

We will begin our 150th Convention by exploring these three essential calls.

## **PLENARY: A Bishop and an Archbishop Walk into a Ballroom**

**THE RT. REV. KRISTIN UFFELMAN WHITE & THE MOST REV. MELISSA SKELTON**

1 PM - BALLROOMS B/C

Bishop White and Archbishop Melissa Skelton, founder of the College for Congregational Development, will talk about these three essential functions and the way that they can be found in a wide variety of congregations and contexts. Come with your stories and your questions.

## **GATHER: How do we invite, greet, orient, and incorporate others into our particular congregations?**

### **Come and See: Exploring How to Become a More Invitational Congregation**

**THE MOST REV. MELISSA SKELTON**

2 PM - Hamilton Room

In this workshop, Archbishop Melissa Skelton will lead participants through exploring, assessing, and identifying ways to improve the capacity of their congregation to invite people to “come and see” Christ Jesus as expressed in their congregation's life. What message is your congregation sending through the way it shows up in its neighborhood? What's the word of mouth on the congregation? What's being said through the website and social media about your congregation? What, if anything, are congregants doing to invite people to come to something your congregation is doing? We'll look at some of these areas and much, much more!

## The Episcopal Church Welcomes You!: Developing Your Newcomer Ministries to Make Sure That's True

**THE RT. REV. KRISTIN UFFELMAN WHITE**

2 PM - Franklin Room

Bishop Kristin White explores how we gather people new to our congregations and how we make sure that we are truly welcoming the stranger into our community. We'll look at these areas and consider opportunities to lower the threshold of our congregations toward building a sense of belonging.

### Transformation Through Mission

**SPENCER IZOR (ST. PAUL'S, DAYTON)**

**THE REV. GAYLAND TRIM (ALL SAINTS, NEW ALBANY)**

2 PM - Liberty Room

Spencer Izor and the Rev. Gayland Trim from the Mission Implementation Team will discuss opportunities for God's transformation as we redefine our diocesan mission in Southern Ohio.

## **TRANSFORM: How does this community feed me for my life beyond the church?**

### Transforming Christian Formation

**THE REV. JASON PRATI (ALL SAINTS, NEW ALBANY)**

3 PM - Liberty Room

The Rev. Jason Prati, rector of All Saints', New Albany, explores how the Alive program is transforming Christian formation for all ages at All Saints', and how that initiative is shaping the life of the congregation.

### Transforming Community Engagement

**KATHY DOANE & TONY NAGYGYOR (ALL SAINTS, PLEASANT RIDGE)**

3 PM - Franklin Room

Join Kathy Doane and Tony Nagygyor from All Saints, Cincinnati, for a workshop focused on parish transformation through community engagement. Over the past several years, All Saints has gone about the work of intentionally strengthening their relationships with community partners in the Pleasant Ridge area. During this time, they have seen both substantial congregational growth as well as a significant increase in their visibility and witness to the neighborhood. In addition to learning about All Saints' experience of transformation, they will lead an activity from the College for Congregational Development known as "neighborhood mapping." Through this exercise attendees will have the opportunity to assess their own individual parish contexts and begin to imagine ways of deepening engagement in the communities they love.

## **Transforming Your Congregation and Priestly Life**

### **CLERGY AND LAY LEADERS OF THE FOUR-POINT MODEL**

3 PM - Hamilton Room

This workshop will focus on a variety of areas related to the Four Church Model of the parishes in Circleville, Chillicothe, Lancaster and Logan. We will discuss the positive outcomes that have come from the experience: holistic clergy wellness and congregational health, vitality and creativity between the shared orders of ministry, building collaborative relationships within and between the churches, investing in a variety of clergy personalities and styles to build flexibility into parish life, and other positive aspects of the model. We will also discuss a variety of challenges we have encountered, including funding, staffing, systemic toxicity, and roadblocks to building relationships. The Four Church Model is an intentionally collaborative model that is focused on growing congregations, encouraging healthy systems, and maintaining healthy clergy for the long-term. Presenters will include clergy and laity who are part of the model.

**SEND: Where do your people go when they leave this place? Do you know?**

### **Sent to Work Together**

#### **LAY LEADERS FROM THE MIAMI VALLEY EPISCOPAL CLUSTER**

4 PM - Hamilton Room

Cindy Heffner, Meredith McGill, Ray Bransiter, and Bruce Miller, leaders of the Miami Valley Episcopal Cluster (Church of Our Saviour, Mechanicsburg, and Church of the Epiphany, Urbana) will share about the Life Together Partnership, an ecumenical collaboration comprising three denominations impacting the wider community and the lives of those affiliated with the participating congregations.

### **Sent to Speak to the World**

#### **THE REV. JED DEARING (TRINITY, COLUMBUS)**

4 PM - Franklin Room

Located across the street from the Ohio Statehouse, Trinity Church has a particular opportunity to offer a public witness to the world. The Rev. Jed Dearing, rector of Trinity, Columbus, discusses how the people of Trinity are living into that call.

### **Sent to Serve Others**

**(Cancelled)**

# Consent Agenda

The following items are included on our consent agenda which will be considered as the first voting item of our business session.

A consent agenda is a tool to streamline meeting procedures by collecting routine, non-controversial items into a group whereby all are passed with a single motion and vote. The Chair (bishop) will identify the items on the consent agenda, ask if any item should be removed, and then will proceed to a vote to adopt the consent agenda. Using parliamentary tools like this one help keep our meeting as efficient as possible.

## THE PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

The Rules of Order - view from the convention page of the website, or [at this link](#)

Agenda - See business meeting schedule, pages 4-5

### Granting Credentials

Article VI, Section I of the Constitution gives seat and voice to several named people, namely lay members of the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council, the lay deputies to General Convention, the lay trustees of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, the chancellor, the treasurer of the diocese, and the members of the Executive Board of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese. In addition to those already granted seat and voice by the Constitution, the Chair of the Committee on Credentials moves that this 150th Convention admit with seat and voice the lay members of diocesan staff, candidates for holy orders, sisters of the Community of the Transfiguration, Archbishop Melissa Skelton, and all non-canonically resident clergy licensed to officiate.

### Ratification of convention appointees:

Chair, Dispatch of Business	The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron
Convention Secretary	Canon Julie Murray
Recording Secretary	Sarah Beegle
Parliamentarian	Eric Landen (Calvary, Clifton)

### Ratification of the bishop's canonical appointees:

Treasurer	Nadya Richardson (St. Philip, Columbus)
Registrar & Historiographer	The Rev. Anne Warrington Wilson
Finance Committee	Members in confirmation process: Jeff Baldrige (St. Francis, Springboro)

Cynthia Bronson (St. Philip, Columbus)  
The Rev. Darren Elin (St. Thomas, Terrace Park)  
Clifton Fleimister (St. Anne's, Westerville)  
The Rev. Jane Gerdson (St. Barnabas, Montgomery)  
Patrick Hreachmack (St. Mark's, Columbus)  
Bill Ubbes (St. Patrick's, Lebanon)  
Nadya Richardson (St. Philip, Columbus; Chair)  
Bradley Sturm (Trinity, Columbus)  
Carolyn Wilmesherr (Christ Church, Glendale)  
Dot Yeager (St. Mark's, Columbus)

Examining Chaplains

*Members in confirmation process:*  
The Rev. Jackie Burns (St. Peter's, Delaware)  
The Rev. Mary Carson (St. James, Westwood)  
The Rev. Jean Cotting (Christ Church, Xenia)  
The Rev. Darren Elin (Chair; St. Thomas, Terrace Park)  
The Rev. Joanna Leiserson (Redeemer, Hyde Park)

Committee to Review  
the Minutes

1st Vice-Chair of Council: Kathy Mank  
President of Trustees: Jon Boss  
President of Standing Committee: The Rev. David  
Kendall-Sperry

Reception of Commission Reports - See pages 24-54

Approval of the minutes of the 149th Convention - view from the convention page of the website, or [\*\*at this link\*\*](#)

# Resolutions

Convention resolutions are one of the ways we do the practical work of ministry together and express our love in action. Resolutions may charge our collective body to a given action, to make a statement, to pass a budget, and more.

## **SOUTHERN OHIO PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS -**

*These resolutions have been proposed for consideration at our 150th Convention.*

**Page 15 - R2024-01:** Change canonical designation of Church of Our Saviour, Mechanicsburg from mission to parish

**Page 16 - R2024-02:** Change canonical designation of Church of the Epiphany, Urbana from mission to parish

**Page 17 - R2024-03:** Redefining Congregational Life Projects

**Page 18 - R2024-04:** Resolution to develop a diocesan plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030

## **GENERAL CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS -**

*These resolutions were approved by the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church in June 2024. Each diocese is required to provide notice of changes to the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church and to the Book of Common Prayer. The text of the resolutions can be found linked from [the convention page of our website](#).*

**A043:** Amend Constitution Article VIII regarding Clergy in Local Ecumenical Partnerships

**A116:** Marriage Rites for Inclusion in the Book of Common Prayer

**A224:** Amend Article X with clarifying amendments (post 2024-A072) (First reading)

**D049:** Increase by one the possible number of bishops suffragans in a Diocese (First reading)

## **JOIN US IN THANKING THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE -**

The Rev. Alice Connor - St. Timothy's, Anderson Township (Chair)

Gary Lubin - Church of the Redeemer, Hyde Park

Edward Lasseigne - St. Stephen's, Columbus

Darien McCoy - St. Stephen's, Columbus

Jim Heathcote - St. Mary's, Hillsboro

## **R2024-01: Change canonical designation of Church of Our Saviour, Mechanicsburg from mission to parish**

**Whereas**, Canon XVI section 17 states:

For Missions presently in union with the Convention, a change of designation from Mission to Parish shall be made by the Bishop upon recommendation of the Commission on Congregational Life, and

**Whereas**, the criteria for such a change, according to Canon XVI section 17 are as follows:

1. Celebration of public worship at least weekly.
2. Maintenance of an adequate level of ordained leadership as approved by the Commission on Congregational Life. Such leadership shall be compensated in accordance with the minimum Diocesan standards.
3. Payment of the Congregation's full annual Diocesan assessment
4. Servicing all legal debts of the Parish.
5. Twenty (20) or more persons aged 18 years or older from at least twenty separate households as members in good standing; and

**Whereas**, Church of Our Saviour, Mechanicsburg, has met all of the above requirements, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that Church of Our Saviour, Mechanicsburg be granted a change in status from Mission to Parish.

### **IMPACT**

Mission status exists to aid in the capacity-building of the gathered body in place. But the diocese is strengthened by more participation in the structure and governance process. By becoming a parish, by canonical status, the whole body is recognizing and affirming the work the Holy Spirit has been at work among the community and leaders.

### **PRESENTED BY**

Commission on Congregational Life  
The Rev. Michael Tigner, Chair

## **R2024-02: Change canonical designation of Church of the Epiphany, Urbana from mission to parish**

**Whereas**, Canon XVI section 17 states:

For Missions presently in union with the Convention, a change of designation from Mission to Parish shall be made by the Bishop upon recommendation of the Commission on Congregational Life, and

**Whereas**, the criteria for such a change, according to Canon XVI section 17 are as follows:

1. Celebration of public worship at least weekly.
2. Maintenance of an adequate level of ordained leadership as approved by the Commission on Congregational Life. Such leadership shall be compensated in accordance with the minimum Diocesan standards.
3. Payment of the Congregation's full annual Diocesan assessment
4. Servicing all legal debts of the Parish.
5. Twenty (20) or more persons aged 18 years or older from at least twenty separate households as members in good standing; and

**Whereas**, Church of the Epiphany, Urbana, has met all of the above requirements, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that Church of the Epiphany, Urbana, be granted a change in status from Mission to Parish.

### **IMPACT**

Mission status exists to aid in the capacity-building of the gathered body in place. But the diocese is strengthened by more participation in the structure and governance process. By becoming a parish, by canonical status, the whole body is recognizing and affirming the work the Holy Spirit has been at work among the community and leaders.

### **PRESENTED BY**

Commission on Congregational Life

The Rev. Michael Tigner (St. Andrew's, Pickerington and All Creation, Grove City), Chair

## **R2024-03: Redefining Congregational Life Projects**

**Whereas** there is a continuing need to financially support our existing Episcopal communities, and,

**Whereas** Canon XVI, section 22 authorizes the closed congregation fund to be used for Congregational Life projects; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that funds from the Closed Congregation Fund of the Diocese be used by the Church Foundation to fund matching new money grants for building repairs on our existing congregations; and be it further

**Resolved**, that R2023-01:Congregational Life Projects, be repealed.

### **EXPLANATION**

The use of closed congregation funds as required by Canon XVI, Section 22 states that all liquidated assets of a closed congregation shall be under the control of the Trustees of the diocese. This fund is known as the “closed congregation fund” and its expenditures are subject to the interpretation of what constitutes a “Congregational Life project.” Resolution 2023-01 allowed COCL to use the money in the Closed Congregation Fund for New Episcopal Communities. Since the diocese no longer has a missioner for new Episcopal communities on staff, there is little need for this.

The Church Foundation of the Diocese is an appropriate place to use these funds since they are charged with the properties of the diocese. The requests for grants in 2024 exceed \$1 million and far outweigh the amount of money allocated to the Church Foundation in the budget process. The use of these funds would support our existing Episcopal communities so they could maintain their current structures creating more attractive facilities for potential new members.

The distribution of these funds can only be done as a matching grant for new monies received. For example, if the Church Foundation was to award a \$50,000 grant from these funds, the congregation would need to raise in new matching donations of \$50,000. If the congregation raised less than the grant amount the awarded amount would equal the monies raised. This type of matching award causes the congregation to get personally involved in the restoration of their property. It can breathe new life into a congregation.

### **IMPACT**

This matching grant will have an impact on congregations creating a new sense of pride in the parish property. A parish that meets the fundraising goal will see new life be breathed back into it so that the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ can continue.

There is no financial impact to the diocesan budget. This resolution utilizes a designated fund of the diocese, which has been sitting around for years not being disbursed. It would have an impact to the monies sitting in the designated fund in that they would be used in our existing congregations for repair work.

### **PRESENTED BY**

The Rev. David Getreu (St. Philip’s, Circleville, St. Paul’s, Logan, St. John’s, Lancaster, and St. Paul’s, Logan)

## **R2024-04: Resolution to develop a diocesan plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030**

**Whereas** The Episcopal Church and The Church of England have set goals to reach net carbon neutrality by 2030; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Diocese of Southern Ohio commit to a goal of net carbon neutrality in its diocesan operations and the work of diocesan staff, standing commissions, interim bodies, and Diocesan Convention by 2030, through a combination of reducing emissions from travel, reducing energy use, increasing energy efficiency in buildings, installing and/or utilizing clean energy sources, and at last resort, purchasing offsets from duly investigated, responsible, and ethical partners. The goal as well as updates on progress toward that goal will be located prominently on the diocese's website as a key diocesan priority; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the 150th Convention create a policy for diocesan staff to take concrete actions to reduce fossil fuel emissions from travel by said groups, such as carpooling, online meetings, regional gatherings, etc. by June 1, 2025; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the 150th Convention direct diocesan staff to work with the Commission on Creation Care to draft a policy to offset one hundred percent of fossil fuel emissions from unavoidable travel by diocesan groups, either through an internal offset program or through purchase from duly investigated, responsible, and ethical partners, with appropriate accountability and oversight, and report on progress toward the goal by September 1, 2025; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the 150th Convention direct diocesan staff to develop a policy to prohibit the diocese from purchasing new fossil-fuel-powered appliances (HVAC, water-heaters, stoves), vehicles (utility vehicles, cars, vans, etc.), or equipment (lawn tools, etc.) for diocesan use (with diocesan properties) to replace fossil-fuel components once they reach the end of their lifespan but rather purchase electrified, zero-direct-emissions alternatives (when feasible or when appropriate options are available) by September 1, 2025; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the 150th Convention encourage diocesan parishes, schools, and other diocesan institutions to pursue their own goal of net carbon neutrality by 2030 through a combination of reducing emissions from travel, reducing energy use, increasing energy efficiency in buildings, and purchasing offsets from duly investigated, responsible, and ethical partners; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the 150th Convention direct diocesan staff to develop and share resources for parishes to commit to and work toward this goal, such as the online carbon tracker already created by the Diocese of California, as well as other online and print resources by November 1, 2025.

### **EXPLANATION**

The Diocese of Southern Ohio is deeply committed to living out its faith through action that promotes justice, compassion, and care for creation. Recognizing the urgent threat of climate change, we acknowledge the moral and spiritual imperative to address this

global crisis. This resolution draws inspiration from the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting warming to 1.5-2°C and the leadership of the Episcopal Church and the Church of England in setting targets for carbon neutrality 2030.

In response, this resolution calls on the diocese to set an ambitious goal of achieving net carbon neutrality in its operations by 2030. This resolution outlines a multifaceted strategy to reach this goal. It emphasizes reducing emissions from travel by promoting practices like carpooling, online meetings, and regional gatherings. It encourages increasing energy efficiency in buildings and transitioning to clean energy sources. The resolution underscores the importance of offsetting remaining emissions through partnerships with responsible and ethical organizations. It promotes the development of policies and resources to support these efforts, including a ban on purchasing new fossil fuel-powered equipment and encouraging the adoption of electrified alternatives.

Additionally, the resolution urges diocesan parishes, schools, and institutions to work towards their own carbon neutrality goals, providing a framework for congregation-based plans.

Progress towards this goal will be prominently reported on the diocese's website, underscoring its importance as a key diocesan priority and commitment to transparency and accountability.

This resolution is a significant step towards fulfilling the diocese's mission to care for God's creation and work for environmental justice. It reflects the diocese's recognition of the moral and spiritual imperative to address climate change and its commitment to being a leader in the Episcopal Church's efforts towards carbon neutrality. By prioritizing the health of the planet and future generations, the Diocese of Southern Ohio is modeling a path for other dioceses and faith communities to follow in responding to the climate crisis. The resolution demonstrates the power of faith-based action in driving meaningful change and highlights the critical role that religious institutions can play in addressing this global challenge.

It is important to acknowledge that each parish must consider the unique challenges and constraints of historic buildings when pursuing carbon neutrality. It's essential that we approach this goal in a way that is feasible, cost-effective, and mindful of the diverse needs within our diocese. Our technical experts agree it would be difficult to convert some parishes to 100% electric. However, keep in mind, that high-efficiency heat pumps are now available and provide heat down to zero degrees. There are also numerous other electric types of radiant heaters that are coming out and being used in Europe (they are a bit ahead of us).

The first thing to note is that this resolution prohibits "the purchase of new fossil-fuel-powered appliances (HVAC, water-heaters, stoves), vehicles (utility vehicles, cars, vans, etc.), or equipment (lawn tools, etc.) for diocesan use to replace fossil-fuel components once they reach the end of their lifespan but rather purchase electrified, zero-direct-emissions alternatives (when feasible or when appropriate options are available)". The key here would be that the policy would be for those properties and appliances that are controlled by the diocese, namely Procter Conference Center and Procter Farm in

London, Diocesan House at 412 Sycamore Street in Cincinnati, and the Latino Ministry Center at 11381 Hanover Road in Forest Park.

As stated earlier, there may be circumstances where it is not feasible to fully convert to electricity, and each parish is encouraged to “pursue their own goal of net carbon neutrality by 2030”. Of course, it would be our hope that every parish takes on that goal as their own but there is nothing binding parishes to that goal in this resolution.

The resolution’s intent is not to place an undue burden or prohibit upgrades that are genuinely incompatible with a parish’s specific circumstances. Rather, it encourages a shift towards the most environmentally friendly options whenever possible, while acknowledging that a complete prohibition may not always be practical.

## **REFERENCES**

The Diocese of Northern California, 2022 Diocesan Convention Resolution, Resolution to Further 2022 General Convention Resolution A087 Through the Development of Congregation-Based Plans to Achieve Carbon-Neutral Facilities and Operations By 2030. [https://www.norcalepiscopal.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/R1-2022\\_Climate\\_Neutral\\_2030.pdf](https://www.norcalepiscopal.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/R1-2022_Climate_Neutral_2030.pdf)

The Episcopal Church, 2022 General Convention, 2022-A087-Resolution to “Commit to Net Carbon Neutrality by 2030”. [https://episcopalarchives.org/cgi-bin/acts/acts\\_generate\\_pdf.pl?resolution=2022-A087](https://episcopalarchives.org/cgi-bin/acts/acts_generate_pdf.pl?resolution=2022-A087)

The Episcopal Church, 2024 General Convention, 2024-D050- Resolution to Complete the Journey to Net Carbon Neutrality by 2030. <https://www.vbinder.net/resolutions/711?house=HD&lang=en>

The Church of England (December 2, 2020). General Synod Sets 2030 Net Zero Carbon Target. <https://www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/news-and-statements/general-synod-sets-2030-net-zero-carbon-target>

## **IMPACT**

The overall impact of this resolution is for diocesan-controlled buildings to lead by example and eliminate, as much as possible, the emission of greenhouse gases into the environment. This will reduce the impact of climate change that most grievously impacts those least able to weather the storms, live through prolonged droughts, and survive extensive wildfires and sea level rise.

There will be a budget impact when this resolution is passed. The resolution specifically has the diocese study the means to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions, with the help of the Creation Care and Environmental Justice Commission, so that budgets can be adjusted, and the work can begin. The overall net cost impact and timing is difficult to estimate until the study is complete. Some actions listed will save money such as how we hold meetings, how we travel, possibly what equipment we purchase, etc. Some actions will increase cost such as buying carbon offsets until full carbon neutrality is achieved and possibly what equipment we purchase. We plan to propose the commitment for neutrality by convention 2025 either through Council or another resolution.

## **PRESENTED BY**

*The Creation Care and Environmental Justice Commission*

The Rev. Craig Foster, St. Stephen's – Columbus, Co-Chair

The Rev. Catherine Duffy, St. Patrick's – Dublin, Co-Chair

Kyle Vath, Church of the Advent – Walnut Hills, Primary Resolution Author, Diocesan Council

Ariel Miller, Ascension and Holy Trinity – Wyoming

Ken Wright, St. Simon of Cyrene – Lincoln Heights

Dana Carlson, Good Shepherd – Athens

Bill Ubbes, Holy Trinity – Oxford

David Thompson, Christ Church Cathedral

Megan Suttman, Church of the Advent – Walnut Hills,

Jacob Taylor, church of the Advent – Walnut Hills

The Rev. Warren Huestis, All Saints – Washington Courthouse and St. Mary's – Hillsboro, Diocesan Council

Jerusalem Greer, Staff Liaison

### *Supporters*

Mr. John Grate, Christ Church Cathedral, Delegate

The Rev. Brad Gough, Diocesan Resident, St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Brian Blayer, Canon for Mission & Outreach, Christ Church Cathedral

The Rev. Brooklin Taylor, Diocesan Resident, Holy Trinity-Cincinnati

The Rev. Daniel Carlson, Priest-In-Charge, Church of the Advent in Walnut Hills

The Rev. Gary Lubin, Deacon, The Episcopal Church of The Redeemer

David Burton, Good Shepherd – Athens, Sr Warden

Deb Hilliard, Good Shepherd – Athens, Jr Warden

Geoff Buckley, Good Shepherd – Athens, Delegate

Anne Walker, Good Shepherd – Athens, Delegate

The Rev. Brice Patterson, St. Stephen's – Columbus

The Rev. Karl Stevens, St. Stephen's – Columbus

Janet McNaughton, St. Stephen's – Columbus, Delegate

Nancy Sullivan, Church of Our Savior – Cincinnati, Diocesan Council

Emily Pfaff, Christ Church – Glendale

The Rev. Cameron O'Reilly, Christ Church – Glendale

Sister Diana Doncaster, C.T. and the Sisters of the Transfiguration

# Proposed Canonical Amendments

*The Committee on Constitution and Canons reviews and recommends to Convention proposals for changes to the diocese's Constitution and Canons.*

## **REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND CANONS**

The 2023 Convention referred to our Committee a proposal regarding how bishops are nominated and elected. Our discussion with the proposal's maker and others resulted in two amendments that our committee recommends for adoption. One concerns petition candidates, the other clarifies the rights of non-resident clergy who serve in Southern Ohio to participate at convention. The proposed amendments are below. Each would add wording rather than revise existing wording of a section.

Our current Canons are light on the procedures we use to elect a bishop. We propose to add a new section 10 to Canon III - to detail the way in which candidates are nominated and how the transition to a new bishop is handled. We trust that these procedures will not be required for many years and thought it best to review the highly successful experience of 2023 to provide guidance for future bishop searches well in advance of the need for that.

We received no other requests for consideration in 2024. I thank all those who participated in a robust discussion of bishop electing procedures and the members of our Committee for their work in 2024.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joseph J. Dehner, Committee Chair, Chancellor**

## **JOIN US IN THANKING THE CONSTITUTION & CANONS COMMITTEE -**

Joseph J. Dehner - Christ Church Cathedral (Chair, Chancellor)

Russell Rosler - St. Alban's, Bexley

Anne Warrington Wilson - Grace Church, College Hill

Wayne Sheppard - St. Stephen, Columbus

Eric Landen - Calvary, Clifton (Vice-Chancellor)

# PROPOSED CANONICAL AMENDMENTS

## Canon III – The Convention

*List of Clergy entitled to seats*

### Section 3.

#### NEW SENTENCE [TO FOLLOW THE EXISTING TEXT]

Clergy serving or residing within the Diocese who are not canonically resident in the Diocese shall be accorded seat and voice, but not vote, at all sessions, Annual and Special, of the Convention.

#### NEW SECTION [1]

*Bishop Nomination Process and Transition Committee*

### Section 10.

- (a) In the election of a Bishop, all candidates for Bishop must be nominated through either: (i) the Bishop Nominating Committee in respect of such election, as described in Section 10(c), or (ii) the petition process, as described in Section 10(d). No nominations for Bishop will be permitted from the floor of an electing convention. All nominees for Bishop are subject to the approval of the Standing Committee, in the discretion of the Standing Committee, whether nominated through the Bishop Nominating Committee or by petition.
- (b) All nominees for election as Bishop must, at a minimum, meet the qualifications for Bishop established by the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church and any additional qualifications established by the Standing Committee in advance of the appointment of the Bishop Nominating Committee in respect of such election.
- (c) When the need arises to elect a Bishop, the Standing Committee will establish, charge and appoint the members of an ad hoc Bishop Nominating Committee in respect of such election.
  - (i) The Bishop Nominating Committee will consist of a number of persons determined by the Standing Committee, but not fewer than 12, at least one-third of whom are members of the Clergy. In addition, the Bishop Nominating Committee shall include a non-voting chaplain. The members of the Bishop Nominating Committee will be selected and appointed by the Standing Committee following an application process open to all members of the Clergy and the laity of the Diocese. Members of the Bishop Nominating Committee will serve at the pleasure of the Standing Committee.
  - (ii) The Bishop Nominating Committee will be responsible for all of the following, in addition to any other matters as may be determined by the Standing Committee: composing the diocesan profile (after soliciting advice from the Clergy and the laity of the Diocese), making the diocesan profile available to potential candidates for the position of Bishop, receiving applications, discerning the candidates for Bishop who are likely to best serve the Diocese, and presenting a slate of qualified candidates for nomination and election at Convention. The Bishop Nominating Committee will provide periodic updates to the Standing Committee.
  - (iii) The Standing Committee will designate a member of the Bishop Nominating Committee

to serve as the chairperson of the Bishop Nominating Committee, with the authority to call, convene and conduct meetings of the Bishop Nominating Committee. The Bishop Nominating Committee may act by a majority of its members at a meeting or by a writing or writings signed by all of its members. Meetings of the Bishop Nominating Committee may be held in person or by means of any communications equipment that allows all persons participating in the meeting to contemporaneously communicate with each other, and participation in any such meeting by means of such communications equipment constitutes presence at the meeting. The Standing Committee may establish other rules, processes and procedures for the governance and the conduct of the affairs of the Bishop Nominating Committee.

- (d) When the need arises to elect a Bishop, the Standing Committee also will establish a process for petition nominees for Bishop in respect of such election.
  - (i) Each petition nominee must be co-nominated by at least (A) a number determined by the Standing Committee, but not fewer than six, of canonically resident Clergy who are, as of the time the completed petition is submitted to the Standing Committee, eligible to vote at the Convention, and (B) a number determined by the Standing Committee, but not fewer than six, of laity who are, as of the time the completed petition is submitted to the Standing Committee, delegates to the Convention and eligible to vote at the Convention. Not more than one of the required minimum number of nominators may be from the same congregation.
  - (ii) All petition nominees must meet the minimum qualifications for Bishop described in Section 10(b), as determined by the Standing Committee.
  - (iii) The Standing Committee may require such information from a petition candidate as it determines, including but not limited to, statements of interest, resumes, character references, and written responses to questions posed by the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee may seek the assistance of the Bishop Nominating Committee in the evaluation of any petition nominee.
  - (iv) An individual who applied through the Bishop Nominating Committee process but was not recommended for nomination by the Bishop Nominating Committee is disqualified from being a petition nominee.
- (e) The Standing Committee may establish rules, processes, procedures and timelines for the nomination of candidates in the election of a Bishop in addition to those set forth in this Section 10 but not inconsistent with the provisions of this Section 10.
- (f) The Standing Committee may establish, charge and appoint the members of a transition committee in anticipation of the arrival of a newly elected Bishop.

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[1] Note to Draft: A new definition of “Bishop Nominating Committee,” with reference to this Section 10, is to be added to the Canons. The Preliminary Canons would add this definition if the addition of Canon III.10 is approved: “**Bishop Nominating Committee:** The Committee described in Canon III.10.”

# Reports

*Throughout the year, people from across the diocese serve on various commissions, committees, and in other appointed roles, seeking to achieve the mission of the diocese and The Episcopal Church. On an annual basis, they report back to the convention about their ministries, impacts, and hopes for the future.*

## **CANONICAL REPORTING BODIES -**

Church Foundation Trustees  
Commission on Congregational Life  
Commission on Ministry  
Diocesan Council  
Finance Committee  
Standing Committee  
Trustees of the Diocese

## **OTHER REPORTING BODIES AND ROLES -**

Creation Care and Environmental Justice  
Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer  
Episcopal Community Ministries  
Episcopal Church Women  
Lawrence Home and Clergy Daughters  
Mission Share Oversight  
Procter Board of Advisors  
Reparations Task Force  
Sustainable Development Goals Grants  
Mission Implementation Team  
Taskforce on Regional Structures  
Province V Executive Board

## **THE 2025 BUDGET REPORT**

The extended report from the budget committee is available on our website, from the convention page or [via this link](#).

A description of the budget process is available [via this link](#).

The draft budget is available [via this link](#).

## **OTHER COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

*The following bodies did not submit a report by the deadline:*

Faith in Life Commission  
Episcopal Community Ministries - Update 11/20: [Link to report](#) on the website  
Minority Empowerment Initiative Trust

## CHURCH FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Sallie Schisler (St. Peter's, Gallipolis and Grace, Pomeroy), Chair

### **Regarding our mission and work -**

The Church Foundation was created in 1922 as a corporation to hold title to real estate and to manage, control, mortgage, and convey this property under the direction of the "Bishop and Chapter of the Diocese of Southern Ohio."

There are four directors and the Rev. Canon Sallie Schisler is acting president as a result of President John Gustafson's resignation earlier in the year.

The Church Foundation receives as its major source of revenue an allotment from the William Cooper Procter Endowment Fund annual income. The main purpose of this income is to award grants to congregations for emergency capital needs.

These grants must adhere to the criteria used for the William Cooper Procter Fund's grants. Church Foundation also:

- (a) Provides mortgages, usually for non-parochial housing, from the Wells Fund.
- (b) Performs long lasting repairs on diocesan-owned properties.

For 2024, Church Foundation was granted \$300,000 for emergency grants to congregations for physical plant needs.

In terms of accomplishments, the foundation studied the results of the church's facility evaluation, which resulted in discovering over \$14 million in immediate needs diocesan wide. Long term need is over \$32 million.

Declared grant making moratorium in May. Pending grant requests equal \$1 million+. Grant inquiries equal more than \$500,000. No new grants were made in 2024, due to the moratorium.

### **Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -**

The Church Foundation makes loans to parishes from the Wells Fund. Churches undergo a loan application process. After successful completion of the loan application, a loan may be granted by the Church Foundation. The bishop and Standing Committee approval are part of the process. Current outstanding balances on these loans, as of September 30, 2024 are reported below:

Holy Trinity, Kenwood	\$12,289
Trinity, Troy	\$22,960
St. Luke's Church, Granville	\$89,480
Christ Church, Ironton	\$83,754
St. Matthew's, Westerville	\$60,354
Holy Trinity, Kenwood	\$19,023
St. John's, Worthington	\$27,924
St. Barnabas, Montgomery	\$212,673
<b>Totals September 2024</b>	<b>\$528,457</b>

No New Loans were made in 2024.

412 Sycamore, Inc. loans incorporated into the Church Foundation loan portfolio:

All Saints, Pleasant Ridge	\$85,000
All Saints, Pleasant Ridge	\$61,169
St. Francis, Springboro	\$217,894
St. Andrew's, Pickerington	\$56,299
Good Samaritan, Amelia	\$188,862
St. Margaret's, Trotwood	\$895,000
<b>Total 412 Sycamore, Inc. Loans</b>	<b>\$1,504,224</b>

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

Members of the Nominating Committee work to recruit people to run for the foundation from across the diocese. Members of the foundation work directly with all churches seeking grants to ensure that the voice of every church making a request is heard from one end of the diocese to the other.

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

To continue to marshal our limited resources to maximize benefits and the physical and financial health of our properties across the congregations of the DSO.

We aspire to be true long-term partners with our congregations and their many historic and meaningful properties as best we can.

With the facility evaluations completed, we realize there will be more big-ticket grant requests than the Church Foundation can fund annually.

We will continue to show no favoritism or bias in our decisions and hope that congregants in the DSO understand that because of our limited resources, every request is met with serious inspections, honest debate and thoughtful questions leading to difficult final decisions.

The Church Foundation, an elected body of the diocese, assists parishes in maintaining their buildings by awarding grants primarily for one-time capital projects and/or emergency assistance for facility improvements.

The stewardship of church facilities ensures safe future worship/community outreach places.

***Our 2024 members -***

David McKenney - Calvary, Clifton (Liaison to the Procter Board of Advisors)

The Rev. Anne Warrington Wilson - Grace Church, Cincinnati

The Rev. Canon Sallie Schisler - St. Peter's, Gallipolis and Grace, Pomeroy (Chair)

***Ex-Officio***

The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - Canon to the Ordinary

Andrea Owens - Administrative Assistant

Nadya Richardson - St. Philip, Columbus (Diocesan Treasurer)

## **COMMISSION ON CONGREGATIONAL LIFE (COCL)**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Michael Tigner (St. Edward's, Whitehall and All Creation, Grove City), Chair*

### ***Regarding our mission and work -***

The Commission on Congregational Life is responsible for implementing the mission strategy for the diocese. The commission is charged with encouraging, supporting, evaluating, and seeking opportunities for development and growth for congregations throughout the diocese.

Working from our \$250,000 budget for the year, we awarded several grants to congregations to aid in their development and sustainability. We kept our commitments that we made to congregations in previous years through multi-year grants.

All year we have worked to clarify the identity and strategy for CoCL in light of Bishop White's arrival this year and attempted to identify areas where we could continue our work while a new diocesan strategy was in development. We developed a database to help track our efforts to support congregations directly through liaisons in an attempt to combine monetary funding and direct congregational support.

### ***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

We received 250,000 for 2024. Funds were used to award grants for congregational vitality projects around the diocese.

### ***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

CoCL receives nominations for clergy and laity from around the diocese. We try to seek members that allow the most voices to be heard and strive to advocate for marginalized communities whenever possible.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

CoCL has been paused by Bishop White for alignment with the diocesan mission that is under development.

### ***Our 2024 members -***

#### *Class of 2024*

Wendell Mulford - St. Paul's, Chillicothe

The Rev. Terri Thornton - Church of our Saviour, Cincinnati

Anne Shuff - Christ Church, Ironton (Commission Treasurer)

The Rev. Michael Tigner - St. Andrew's, Pickerington and All Creation, Grove City (Chair)

#### *Class of 2025*

The Rev. Canon Meredith Day Hearn - bishop's staff, formerly All Saints, Pleasant Ridge

Drew Abbott - Christ Church, Cathedral

Ron Brown Gray, resigned - All Saints, Pleasant Ridge

### *Class of 2026*

The Rev. Brian Blayer - Christ Church Cathedral

Dionne Clifton - St. Philip, Columbus

Paul Wyatt - St. Matthew's, Westerville

The Rev. Julie Fisher - Holy Trinity, Oxford

The Rev. Emmanuel Tuyishime - New Hope Church, Dayton

### *Staff Liaisons*

The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - Canon to the Ordinary

Andrea Owens - Administrative Assistant

The Rt. Rev. Kristin White - Bishop

## **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY**

*Respectfully submitted by Robin Holland (St. Philip, Columbus), Chair*

### ***Regarding our mission and work -***

The work of the Commission on Ministry (COM) is mandated by the canons of The Episcopal Church. The COM works on the selection and formation of those called to ordained ministry, assists in the discernment of those called to lay ministry, and advises the bishop about all of these ministry-related activities.

We engaged in the following formal meetings in 2024:

- Explorers Day at Procter - Jan 2024 - 24 “explorers” participated along with their respective clergy
- Spring Meeting - April 2024 - one postulant interviewed for postulancy for a different order, one postulant interviewed for candidacy
- April 2024 via Zoom - training for Parish Discernment Committees
- Fall Meeting Oct 2024- candidacy and ordination interviews - two postulants interviewed for candidacy
- Plan for upcoming January discernment internships interviews and February Explorers' Day

In addition to the meetings above:

- We received and responded to update letters from each postulant in the spring and again in the fall
- Outlined a clearer plan for the reception of orders for Roman Catholic priests
- Met with the Rev. Joseph Kovitch regarding supporting discernment for those interested in involvement with new communities
- Updated the ordination process resources on the diocesan website to include tools to support the new explorer process.

- Met several times on Zoom to draft questions for interviews and discuss other matters that may have arisen between meetings.

***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

Budget Group: 3 Ordained/Licensed Ministries  
 Ministry Center: 50 Commission on Ministry

50120 Contract Chaplain to Seminarians & mileage \$4,000  
 50280 Travel exp - Seminarians \$4,500  
 51120 Background Checks \$1,375  
 51160 Courses, Education, Testing \$500  
 51250 Hospitality & Fellowship \$16,368  
 51260 HR Services Psychological Eval \$9,250  
 51390 Office Expense \$500

Total Commission on Ministry \$36,493

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

Our goal continues to be to ensure that we fully represent the demographics of our diocese. We want each person who comes to us to feel that at least one member (hopefully more) on the Commission of Ministry represents them.

Each year we assess the makeup of our group and work to ensure that new appointments maintain that balance -- order of ministry, race, age, gender, and sexual orientation, as well as geography.

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

- To continue the work of the commission in helping discern and form those who feel called to ordained ministry.
- To continue implementing and refining the new process for the first two years of discernment for explorers.

The first phase of parish discernment was implemented in 2024. The second phase of internship discernment will be implemented in January 2025. This will provide a richer experience and more complete preparation for entering the diocesan process leading to ordination.

- To increase opportunities for discernment for those called to lay ministries.

A Lay Discernment Day at Procter Center is planned for April 5, 2025, in partnership with Listening Hearts, EFM, and the Formation Team.

***Our 2024 members -***

*Class of 2024:*

Barbara Bass - St. Margaret's, Trotwood

The Rev. Rowena MacGregor - St. Philip's, Circleville  
The Rev. Jason Prati - All Saints, New Albany  
The Rev. Stacy Sands - Christ Church, Glendale  
The Rev. Paul Scanlan - Retired  
Anne Shuff - Christ Church, Ironton

*Class of 2025:*

Jermaine Carew - St. Patrick's, Dublin  
Sr. Kathleen Crossman - St. Anne's, West Chester  
The Rev. Allison English - Calvary, Clifton  
Robin Holland - St. Philip. Columbus (Chair)  
The Rev. Craig Klein - St. Paul's, Chillicothe  
Chris Nelson - St. Paul's, Greenville  
The Rev. Christopher Slane - St. Andrew's, Evanston

*Class of 2026:*

Miriam McKenney - Calvary, Clifton; bishop's staff  
The Rev. Vicki Zust - St. Mark's, Columbus  
Lauren Faller - Christ Church, Fairborn  
Anne Cappelletti - St. Peter's, Gallipolis  
Mary Louise Thomas - St. James, Columbus  
The Rev. George Glazier - Trinity, London

## **THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

*Respectfully submitted by Anne Brack (Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming), Recording Secretary*

### **Regarding our mission and work -**

#### **Mission of the Commission According to Canon XII,**

“The Diocesan Council shall have charge of the coordination, development, and prosecution of the missionary, education, and social work of the Church, and of such other work as may be committed to it by the Diocesan Convention.”

### **Meetings in 2024**

The Council has met four times, with a retreat planned in December 2024 with the Trustees and Standing Committee. Three of the meetings were hosted at Procter Center with a hybrid option for non-voting members and members with health issues, and the June meeting was online only.

### **Accomplishments in 2024**

Council welcomed Bishop White, who chaired and offered remarks to each Council meeting, leading and teaching us inspired spiritual and leadership practices. Council welcomed Canon Jodi Baron and gave thanks for Canon John Johansson.

### **Alcohol Policy rollout**

Council approved a diocesan alcohol policy in an effort to be both practical and helpful.

It includes the expectation to provide equally attractive non-alcoholic beverages anytime alcohol is served at a diocesan function, with the intent to raise awareness, recognize that there are many reasons people choose not to drink, welcome and serve all of God's people, and uphold the law. It is posted on the website and has been distributed through diocesan communications.

### **Transparency and Decision Making**

At its May meeting, Council voted to begin publishing Diocesan Council minutes, with a process to be developed in collaboration with the Canon for Communications.

### **Mission Share Reduction and Eliminate True Up Practice**

Diocesan Council approved a one-year reduction in diocesan mission share by 15% for 2025, using the established formula, and to eliminate the "true up" practice. This will allow the mission share formula review committee to deeply discern how to simplify the process and develop an equitable and transparent formula for the diocesan mission share beginning in 2026. There will be a motion for Diocesan Convention to vote on this provision as part of the Convention Budget presentation. Research by the chartered Mission Share Formula Review Committee found that in 2024, 40 of the 71 congregations in the Diocese of Southern Ohio were functioning with a deficit budget. That committee will present a comprehensive proposal in 2025.

### **Review and Approval of the Convention Budget**

The Budget Committee, led by Bradley Strum, developed a comprehensive budget that is consistent with the direction and staffing, as well as the reduced Mission Share. This was a transparent and spirit-filled process.

### **Ministry Architects Diocesan Listening Sessions and Mission Implementation**

Council has been reviewing and giving input to the work as it continues and will be part of the December retreat with the stakeholders.

### **Reparations Task Force**

The Council agrees that the task force's purpose continues to develop and seeks support for meaningful opportunities to repair the breach that systemic racism has caused.

Represents via representatives on the Creation Care and Environmental Task Force, Becoming Beloved Community commission, Convention Resolutions Oversight, Dispatch of Business, Program and Ministry Review, Systemic Review, and Procter Center.

### **Congregational Contacts Initiative Continues**

Each year, congregations are required to submit three important documents (Parochial Report, Annual Report, and Audit) as well as to remain current on their Mission Share payments. The diocesan canons specify that congregations that do not comply are to be denied voice and vote at annual conventions. Katherine Wagner, 2nd Vice President, managed the Congregational Contacts work where all Diocesan Council members were assigned congregations/parishes to encourage compliance with canonical deadlines and to provide an awareness of diocesan programs and resources that could assist

them in ministry. All congregations had complied with the canonical requirements prior to the electing convention. The council voted by poll to grant seat, voice, and vote for the handful of congregations that struggled to meet hard and fast canonical deadlines but met the requirements prior to the convention.

***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

The funding for this commission covers operating costs at Procter for our meetings there.

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

The Diocesan Council spent time identifying the roles needed for 2025 for election and appointment and has been presenting names to the bishop and Nominating Committee. Members will be elected at convention and appointments. It is essential that the appointments will include a variety of factors including: geography, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and age to make sure that the concerns and experiences are represented on council.

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

The 2025 goals are to be dedicated to the work coming out of the December 2024 stakeholder retreat to bring the mission of the diocese to life.

***Our 2024 members -***

The Rt. Rev. Kristin White, President

*Class of 2024*

Barry Feist - Holy Trinity, Kenwood

Ericka Hall - St. Philip, Columbus

The Rev. Peter Homeyer - Christ Church, Dayton

Larry James - St. Barnabas, Montgomery

The Rev. Bruce Smith - St. Mark's, Columbus

Nancy Sullivan - Our Saviour, Cincinnati

Katherine Wagner - St. Mark's, Dayton

*Class of 2025*

The Rev. Pamela Fairley - St. Barnabas, Montgomery

Spencer Izor - St. Paul's, Oakwood

Joshua Sherwood - St. Peter's, Gallipolis

Nancy Talley - All Saints, New Albany

*Class of 2026*

Anne Brack - Ascension and Holy Trinity, Wyoming

The Rev. Jason Emerson - St. Patrick's, Dublin

The Rev. Warren Huestis - All Saints, Washington Court House

Kathy Mank - St. Barnabas, Montgomery

*Ex-Officio*

The Rev Darren Elin - St. Thomas, Terrace Park (Systemic Review Advisor)

Nadya Richardson - St. Philip, Columbus (Diocesan Treasurer)  
*Bishop's One-Year Appointees, Class of 2024*  
The Rev. Top Borden - St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights  
Dagny Gelormo - St. Luke's, Granville  
Kyle Vath - Christ Church Cathedral

*Staff Liaisons*

The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - Canon to the Ordinary  
Andrea Owens - Administrative Assistant

## **THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

*Respectfully submitted by Nadya Richardson (St. John's, Columbus), Diocesan Treasurer*

### ***Regarding our mission and work -***

The Finance Committee oversees the fiscal responsibilities of the diocese as outlined in Canon X. The Finance Committee typically meets quarterly to oversee the actual spending versus the diocesan budget.

### ***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

The Finance Committee does not receive funds.

### ***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

As long as I have been Chair, we have been racially and gender mixed. While this is politically correct, it has never been an issue. In fact, I have not even thought about it until this question.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

Goals of the Financial Committee are to assist smaller parishes and missions with financial management and reporting. The Finance Committee is in the process of developing financial policies and procedures with a focus on the smaller churches. If requested, members have volunteered to assist, in person, with implementation. We continue to foster trust with transparency.

### ***Our 2024 members -***

Jeff Baldrige - St Francis, Springboro  
Cynthia Bronson - St Philip, Columbus  
Clifton Flemister - St. Matthew, Westerville  
John Harris - St Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights  
Patrick Hreachmack - St Mark, Columbus  
Nadya W. Richardson- St. Philip, Columbus (Chair, Diocesan Treasurer)  
Bill Ubbes - St Patrick, Lebanon  
Carolyn Wilmesherr - Christ Church, Glendale  
Dot Yeager - St Mark, Columbus  
Randy Young - St Paul, Dayton

### *Staff Liaisons*

The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White - Bishop  
The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - Canon to the Ordinary  
Andrea Owens - Administrative Assistant

## **THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. David Kendall-Sperry (St. Peter's, Delaware), President*

### ***Regarding our mission and work -***

The Standing Committee serves as the bishop's council of advice in the everyday life of the diocese. It considers consents for all bishops elected in the Episcopal Church, including those bishops received into the Episcopal Church from the Anglican Communion and other denominations in full communion with the Episcopal Church. It reviews candidates for ordination, gives the bishop advice and consent for the purchase, sale, and encumbrance of church property, and provides the bishop with recommendations for dissolutions or proposed clergy disciplinary actions when called for. The committee and the bishop often discuss church initiatives at the Episcopal Church, diocesan, province, and local levels.

### ***Meetings Between Conventions 2024***

Since the Diocesan Convention last year, the Standing Committee has met about 18 times. Most of the meetings were held on Zoom.

### ***Accomplishments in 2024***

The committee took up a pledge to support the bishop in consultations and in prayer. We had a glorious ordination ceremony for the bishop in February of 2024. In addition, we will work to help the bishop have a smooth transition into this new role. The committee reviewed requested real estate transactions. We reviewed and considered consent for all newly elected bishops in the Episcopal Church.

### ***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

Funding is for the few in person meetings we will have with the bishop, the CoM, and Diocesan Council.

### ***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

Elected by Diocesan Convention. Continue to promote available positions by communicating clear responsibilities and authority, and by recruiting.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

We will continue to support the bishop in consultations and in prayer. In addition, we will continue to work to help the bishop have a smooth transition in implementing any staff changes and implementing programs and process to meet the mission of the diocese. We expect to complete a Mutual Ministry Review with the bishop and set up a schedule

for regular ongoing Mutual Ministry Reviews. The committee will review requested real estate transactions, and other canonically required work. We will review and consider consent for all newly elected bishops in The Episcopal Church.

#### **Our 2024 members -**

The Rev. Canon Meredith Day Hearn\* - formerly All Saints, Pleasant Ridge, 2026

Dr. Elizabeth Barker (Vice President) - St. Patrick's, Dublin, 2024

The Rev. David Kendall-Sperry - St. Peter's, Delaware, 2024 (President)

Dr. James Allsop - St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights, 2025

The Rev. Jed Dearing - Trinity, Capitol Square, 2025

Ms. Emily Ross - St. Peter's Delaware, 2026 (Secretary)

*\* Due to the Rev. Meredith Day Hearn's new role on the bishop's staff, she has resigned her position on the Standing Committee as of November 13th, 2024. That position is open for election at the diocesan convention for the remainder of the term for two years.*

## **TRUSTEES OF THE DIOCESE**

*Respectfully submitted by Jon Boss (Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming), President*

#### **Regarding our mission and work -**

The Trustees exist as an entity within the Diocese of Southern Ohio to receive and invest funds given to the diocese as endowments. The Trustees carry out those responsibilities by:

- Advising and concurring with the bishop diocesan in the use of the William Cooper Procter (WCP) Endowment; e.g., the annual WCP Budget. This includes annually establishing the "draw rate", which for 2025 will be 3.75%. The rate reflects our analysis that the growth rates experienced recently during the 12 (twelve) Quarters ending March 31 each year cannot assume to be continuing. It also reflects that our experience of the past five (5) years is that there will be unique needs, such as during the COVID epidemic, and our response to the work of the Creation Care and Environmental Stewardship Commission's work on energy efficiency opportunities. The recent Facility Assessment Reviews have made us aware of the significant differed maintenance challenges that will need to be addressed in the near future. The actual rate may well exceed 4%. Thus, the 3.75% rate for the WCP Budget supported activities provides a cushion that should not impact the long-range health of the WCP Memorial Fund.
- Providing congregations and related organizations the opportunity to invest in the Consolidated Funds. The Consolidated Growth and Consolidated Income Funds were merged into a single balanced fund, the Consolidated Growth and Income Fund (Fund), in April 2024. The fund's balance as of August 31, 2024 was \$51,409,592. The merged fund returned 17.8% for the trailing year. The funds are invested with PNC Bank and subject to the Investment Policy Statement developed and

monitored annually by the Trustees. Currently there are 89 total accounts in the fund, representing the investments of 19 congregations, the Minority Empowerment Initiatives Trust (MEIT), the Lawrence Home Association, the Diocese of Southern Ohio Memorial Scholarship Fund, as well as assets of the Trustees of the Diocese.

*Activity and Accomplishments:*

- Reinforced the commitment we made in the summer of 2020 to support Bishop Breidenthal’s call to the diocese for “a diocesan conversation about reparations” by approving in September Bishop Smith’s request to commit up to \$200,000.00 a year beginning January 1, 2023 for the compensation and activities of the soon to be named Missioner for Black Ministries, and the continuing work of the Reparations Task Force. In 2023 we added the provision that any portion of these monies that are not spent in a calendar year, will be held in reserve for use in future years. These actions are consistent with our two (2) 2020 resolutions as shown below:
  1. Resolve that: The Bishop and Trustees of the Diocese of Southern Ohio commit to partnering with the newly created Reparations Task Force, our four predominately African-American congregations, our Spanish speaking congregations, the Becoming Beloved Community Task Force, and the Minority Empowerment Initiatives Trust (MEIT) in investing in those empowerment strategies and goals that are consistent with the Baptismal Covenant’s call that we “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being,” and be it
  2. Further resolved that: The bishop and Trustees of the Diocese of Southern Ohio explore with the Reparations Task Force, and the aforementioned stakeholders, the creation of a diocesan staff position whose focus would be to increase the vitality of the Black and brown communities of faith while also being an advocate for the engagement by all our congregations in responding to Jesus’ call to “Love our neighbors as ourselves”.
- Managed the equity portfolios of the WCP, Marjorie P. Lee (MPLee) and Consolidated Growth Funds consistent with the Episcopal Church Executive Council Corporate Social Responsibility Committee’s (CSRC) directives for socially responsible investments. PNC employs varied approaches in the selection of managers to meet this directive, including the exclusion of stocks as defined by the CSRC, and the inclusion of managers who integrate Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) factors and risks into their investment process.
  - As of August 31, 2023, the composite ESG Risk Score of companies’ exposures to and management of material ESG risks as measured by Sustainalytics, is 21.0, where 100 represents the greatest risk. This represents a 1.4-point improvement over the prior three (3) years, and indicates the level of material unmanaged ESG risk has been reduced.
  - The exposure to fossil fuel companies which generate at least 10% of their revenue from fossil fuel products and services is less 1.3, relative to the

portfolio's benchmark of 5.0%. Importantly, the total carbon emissions generated by the companies in the portfolio is 2.8 million tons, or 49% of the total carbon emissions generated by the companies in the benchmark.

- Continued the quarterly draws from the Martha S. Chaney, the John N. Chaney and Ruth Dawson Lacey trusts for the benefit of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Hillsboro.
- Re-appointed Jon Boss to represent the Trustees on Procter Center's Board of Directors and as their representative on the Board of the Episcopal Retirement Services Foundation.

**Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -**

n/a

**Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -**

Trustees are elected by the Diocesan Convention. That process is supported by the work of the Nominating Committee who carry this charge.

**Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

A "Facility Condition Assessment" has been underway to determine the extent of deferred maintenance challenges in our seventy-one (71) congregations. As of the date of this report, and with the assessments completed, the "Immediate Needs" amount to \$14,805,011.00. The current projection of costs over the next 10-15 years is \$34,971,420.00. At the same time, the Creation Care and Environmental Justice Commission has identified the potential investment of up to an additional \$525,000.00 for solar installations.

**Our 2024 members -**

Jon B. Boss - Ascension and Holy Trinity, Wyoming (President), 2024

Patricia Hassel - Redeemer, Hyde Park, 2027

The Rev. Jack Koepke - St. Mark's, Dayton (Vice President ), 2025

The Rev. David Pfaff\* - Christ Church, Glendale, 2024

The Hon. Tyrone Yates - St. Andrew's, Evanston, 2026

*\* David was appointed by the Trustees to fulfill the Rev. Derrick Fetz's unexpired term until the 150th Convention, and has submitted his nomination to complete the term.*

**Ex-Officio**

Nadya Richardson - St. Philip's, Columbus (Diocesan Treasurer)

Sara Beegle - Executive Assistant to the Bishop

Andrea Owens - Administrative Assistant

## CREATION CARE & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

*Respectfully submitted by the Revs. Catherine Duffy and Craig Foster, Co-Chairs*

### **Regarding our mission and work -**

The Creation Care and Environmental Justice Commission (CCEJ) entered our third year with enthusiasm and projects on our table. We appreciate the interest we see throughout the diocese and the support we are receiving.

Formation CCEJ continued supporting structure for Megan Suttman and Jacob Taylor, two committed and skilled creation care leaders in the Cincinnati area, in implementing a CoCL Grant funding a program called Catechism of Place. The year-long program worked directly with parishes to assess their call to creation care ministry and how that call can come to life with their existing assets. The parishes engaged more directly with their land were encouraged to develop relationships between the congregations and the creation around their parishes. Megan and Jacob eventually, we hope to engage all congregations in this deep analysis and engagement with creation care ministry. The specific activities included:

#### *St Barnabas -*

Jan/Feb 2024 Helped plan and implement a Lenten series which was based in creation care

March 2024 Seed starting and Terra Divina contemplative program

Winter/Spring 2024 Met with Mother Jane several times and groundskeeper to discuss land use at St Barnabas and met with Beloved Community group several times to discuss integrating creation care into their work

Spring/summer 2024 implemented three week program Intro to ecotheology

#### *At Church of the Advent -*

Winter 2024 implemented three week program Intro to ecotheology

April- October 2024 implemented a 6 month Catechism of Place workshop series

#### *At St Edwards -*

Spring/ Summer 2024 planning and consulting with senior warden

August 2024 implemented Intro to Ecotheology and Terra Divina

#### *Publications by Catechism of Place*

March 2024 Seeing in the Dark and Eco-Lent Companion by Megan and Jacob

November 2024 Magnificat by various contributors

October 2024 Rewilding by Tess Dankoski

The Catechism of Place program is included in the draft 150th Convention budget where we will expand to additional congregations throughout the diocese.

**Liturgy** – We requested and received endorsement from Bishop White for parishes to use the Season of Creation Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes from September 1, 2024 to October 4, 2024 (<https://seasonofcreation.org>). We are listed on The Episcopal church Creation Care website as one of the 40 diocese which endorsed the Celebration Guide. We received many anecdotal reports from parishes that used the creation

inclusive liturgical options in their worship during the Season of Creation.

**Advocacy** - Commission member Ariel Miller included frequent updates on environmental policy as part of her weekly public policy post for the diocesan e-news. The top challenges include gerrymandering (which contributes to policies favoring fossil fuels and undermining renewable energy) and corruption, which continues despite the conviction of former House Speaker Larry Householder this spring in the massive federal bribery and racketeering case over HB 6. In addition, we have reported on SB 83, which has passed the Senate, and which specifically listed climate change as a divisive issue on which it would inhibit faculty in public universities from taking a point of view in class.

Kyle Vath proposed to Diocesan Council that the diocese issue a statement supporting the passage of Issue 1 and the Council agreed.

**Solar and Energy Efficiency** - Having completed the Energy Efficiency grant program in 2023, we began to set a vision of supporting the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on parishes. In August 2023, the Commission made a proposal to the Trustees of the Diocese to fund a second, slightly different grant program. This request was for grants of varying sizes to fund small-scale ministries up to funding solar panels for qualifying churches. We have met with the Trustees of the diocese this year await final approval of this program.

**Procter Center** - This year, we co-sponsored the Farm to Forest Retreat at Procter Center. This was a very successful second year for the retreat and more information can be found through Procter Center.

**Communication and Connection** - The CCEJ continues to work on bringing together all those across the diocese who work in the area of Creation Care ministry. We are in discernment about how to make our activities known across the diocese and how to leverage social media and/or our web page to draw others into our work.

***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

No Response

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

No Response

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

No Response

***Our 2024 members -***

Dana Carlson - Good Shepherd, Athens

The Rev. Catherine Duffy - St. Patrick's, Dublin (Co-Chair)

The Rev. Craig Foster - St. Stephen's, Columbus (Co-Chair)

The Rev. Warren Huestis - All Saints, Washington Court House

Ariel Miller - Ascension and Holy Trinity, Wyoming  
Megan Suttman - Advent, Walnut Hills  
Jacob Taylor - Advent, Walnut Hills  
David Thomson - Christ Church Cathedral  
Bill Ubbes - Holy Trinity, Oxford and St. Patrick's, Lebanon  
Kyle Vath - Advent, Walnut Hills  
Ken Wright - Christ Church, Glendale and St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights  
*With staff support from*  
Jerusalem Greer - Procter Center  
Danielle Vogel - Procter Center

## **ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH OFFICER**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Melanie Slane (bishop's staff)*

### **Regarding our mission and work -**

Each Diocesan Bishop in the Episcopal Church appoints an EDEIO to serve as their representative to Ecumenical and Interfaith engagement initiatives throughout their Diocese. There are varying levels of engagement in this field nationwide by both Bishops and EDEIOs either by necessity or affinity. In most Diocese, the EDEIO also serves as proxy board member on local boards for organizations committed to cross-denominational and interreligious engagement. Dio. S. Ohio has emerged as a leader in this field, serving on national organizing bodies and state-level ecumenical councils.

The mission of the EDEIO is to increase engagement beyond religious barriers that separate The Body of Christ and to be in loving partnership with our siblings of other faith traditions in areas which we believe benefit all people in our communities.

In 2024, three main organizations served as partners for this work:

1. The Ohio Council of Churches, on which our EDEIO serves as Vice President. Their main initiatives this year were: Abolishing the Death Penalty in Ohio, Anti-Gun Violence Initiatives, Honesty for Ohio Education and Fair Legislative Maps, and Combating Racism and White Christian Nationalism.

2024 Diocesan Budget-51220 OCC \$18,100 and Travel Expenses of \$500

2. EquaSion (The Interfaith Council of Cincinnati)

The most visible sign of the work of EquaSion in the annual Cincinnati Festival of Faiths. The festival is an interfaith gathering of thousands of people from around the state committed to celebrating religious diversity and learning from one another. Several members of Dio. S. Ohio Churches serve on the Planning Committee and all Church members were encouraged to attend via e-connections.

\*An Annual Appeal of \$10,000 (WCP Grants by Bishop) has been transferred to a request of the 2025 budget as a mark of our ongoing support for interfaith engagement done

through EquaSion. In addition to the Festival of Faiths, Episcopalians in our Diocese serve as leaders in this organization with their other branches of organizing, including: A Mighty Stream: An Interfaith Community of Sacred Activists for Racial Justice, and Faith Communities Go Green: An Environmental Stewardship partner of Green Umbrella.

3. MARCC (Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati). MARCC's social concern priorities for 2024 were: Affordable Housing and Community Violence Prevention. They also continue to be the leaders in our community issuing MARCC ID Cards that help undocumented residents, people experiencing homelessness, and those recently released from prison obtain photo ID cards that are a legally valid form of identification within the city of Cincinnati. MARCC hired a new Executive Director in 2024 and are currently undergoing strategic planning for their future as an organization.

2024 Diocesan Budget-51220 MARCC \$33,000.

***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

Included in initial response.

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

Given that the EDEIO is a single person, rather than a commission, increased visibility of the work and increased partnership is desired for the growth and thriving of this ministry in 2025. There have been occasions of increased partnership with Churches in the Columbus area in the past two years, but there is a strong desire to increase conversation and collaboration on ecumenical and interfaith engagement in smaller towns throughout our diocese where most of this work has been happening on an organic level for years. Procter Center has also been a great partner in hosting an Ohio Council of Churches Board Meeting and is opening itself to conversations about Ecumenical Summer Camp for the 2026 season.

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

Goals for the EDEIO in 2025 include:

- Increased visibility and collaboration among all Dio S. Ohio communities
- The formation of an official commission to carry out the good work of ecumenical and interfaith engagement
- Continued and increased financial support of not-for-profit organizations partnering with us in this work.

***Our 2024 members -***

N/A

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

*Respectfully submitted by Kathy Mank (St. Barnabas, Montgomery), President*

### **Regarding our mission and work -**

The Diocesan Women's Ministries/Episcopal Church Women Board is the only organization that elevates the status of women.

Women's Ministries/ECW educates and advocates for gender equality through advancing educational opportunities, the right to own property, equal monetary compensation, access to health care and women's reproductive rights, and protection from violence which is a root cause of homelessness for women and children. The board also promotes the United Thank Offering's ministry of gratitude and innovative grants and the Book of Remembrance Scholarship Fund which primarily supports the education of diocesan women attending seminary. Finally, the board provides a network for diocesan women to share ministries and support one another.

Women's Ministries/Diocesan ECW have updated their outdated bylaws to operate more effectively with a circular model of leadership. The process of approval will require bishop support and the counsel of the chancellor.

The Diocesan ECW hosted one ministry minute in late 2023 and hoped to continue offering more brief webinar like moments with the assistance of the formation department in 2024.

Our Diocesan ECW honored Bonnie John from Trinity Newark as the diocese's Distinguished Woman at Triennial Meeting 2024. Bonnie was selected following a nomination process.

We were a resource to ECW's reforming such as St. Philip, Columbus.

We were a resource through our contacts with the Church Periodical Club and helped PIMIL send children's books to Liberia.

We served as a screening committee for a United Thank Offering food insecurity grant submitted in January.

We granted two ECW Book of Remembrance scholarships to two seminarians and updated the physical book with calligraphy. While we are working on an electronic version of the book, the Book of Remembrance's sacredness is enhanced with recorded memorials.

Our coordinator is serving in her last year as Province V ECW president and has forged connections with the women's ministries of the Diocese of Ohio by attending their meetings at Bellwether. The seed is planted for collaboration within Ohio.

### **Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -**

The Women's Ministries/Diocesan ECW receives no funds from the diocesan budget.

**Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -**

The most active ECW's meet in our four historically black churches. Maintaining contact with leaders of ECW and women's ministry groups including DOK will keep the invitation for leadership open.

**Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

Combine efforts with TEC, the Anglican Communion and Mother's Union to promote gender justice including reducing gender based violence - utilize webinars and a summit meeting.

Informational webinars regarding the UN Commission on the Status of Women meeting in March 2025 - support TEC's efforts and consider sending a young adult from our diocese to observe the meeting with TEC's delegation.

Invite new leadership and revise bylaws.

Maintain the Diocesan ECW Book of Remembrance - inscribe the names gathered in 2024 into the book - cycle through a new application process with new diocesan software, Fluxx.

Share about Church Periodical Club as a resource for seminary books and children's books for ministry applications

Invite DOK to co-host a women's retreat - work with Diocese of Ohio women.

**Our 2024 members -**

Cristina Cogar - St. Peter's, Gallipolis

Sherry Gillespie - St. James, Zanesville

Kathy Mank - St. Barnabas, Montgomery (President)

Sandra Mead - Trinity, Newark

Sr. Jacqueline Marie - Community of the Transfiguration, Glendale

## **LAWRENCE HOME AND CLERGY DAUGHTERS**

*Respectfully submitted by Deborah Allsop, Chair*

**Regarding our mission and work -**

The Lawrence Home Association, founded in 1896, under the will of philanthropist Eleanor Earnshaw, was started to "provide a Christian home for self-supporting, young women on limited means, the most important aim being to help them elevate their standard of life." To this day, the Lawrence Home Association provides opportunities through educational grants for minority women and clergy daughters. In addition, the Lawrence Home Association provides grants to three non-profit agencies who seek to provide opportunities for women to become self sufficient.

**Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -**

The funding for the Lawrence Home Association comes from three different sources Earnshaw Bequest Distribution Account ending x1091, Earnshaw Bequest Distribution Account ending x1326 and William Cooper Procter Fund Account ending x1326.

The total income from these funds is approximately 4% of the interest approximately \$100,000 annually.

**Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -**

The representative of the Lawrence Home Association includes eight women who are from the following churches:

Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati  
St. Philip's, Columbus  
St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights  
St. Barnabas, Montgomery  
Our Savior, Mechanicsburg  
All Saints, Pleasant Ridge  
St. Margaret's, Trotwood

There are five African American Women and three Caucasian Women.

**Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

The goals for the commission for 2025 are:

1. Provide opportunities through grants for young women of limited means to pursue post secondary education;
2. Provide opportunities through grants for young women of limited means to elevate their standard of life through programs of agencies designed to provide the needed services.

The goals of the Lawrence Home Association support the emerging mission and vision of the DSO in that its goals are aligned with the DSO in that we are working toward uplifting marginalized women and providing them with opportunities through education and program services to increase their self-sufficiency.

**Our 2024 members -**

Deborah Allsop - St Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights  
Dianne Ebbs - Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati  
Jamie Fetz - Our Saviour, Mechanicsburg  
Ericka Hall - St Philip, Columbus  
Barbara Hudson-Banner - St Margaret, Dayton  
Katrina Mundy - St Andrew, Evanston  
Margo Rapp - St Barnabas, Montgomery  
Dorothy Powell - All Saints, Pleasant Ridge

**Staff liaison**

Sarah Beegle - Executive Assistant to the Bishop

## **MISSION SHARE OVERSIGHT**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Peter Homeyer (Christ Church, Dayton), Chair*

### ***Regarding our mission and work -***

2024 was an active year for Mission Share Oversight. There were a series of generous, open-handed choices made regarding mission share for the current and previous year. At the same time, there are a series of process items which remain open and challenging.

In May of 2024 a vote was requested of Diocesan Council by Bishop White related to a surplus in the 2023 Diocesan budget. This request was to return a portion of that surplus as a credit to congregations, “in proportion to which congregations contributed”. This amount totaled roughly \$450,000. This electronic vote was reported as carrying 13 in favor to 2 opposed and credits were issued. Although, the results of this resolution by Diocesan Council were not recorded in the next meeting minutes.

At the June meeting of Diocesan Council, a number of issues related to Mission Share were brought forward for action. The first motion eliminated the true-up process for mission share at the end of each year. This motion carried and goes into effect for budget year 2025. The second motion offered Diocesan Council a series of options for recalculating the Mission Share formula. After consideration, the option adopted by Council provided an across the board, 15% discount for all congregations, while continuing to use, for now, the existing 2024 formula. This change is intended for only one year, while a working group studies, and presents, a new formula to Council in the coming year. No known members of Mission Share Oversight were included in the process pieces presented to Diocesan Council on either of these matters.

Finally, some of the process pieces related to this work require attention. Both the recording of Diocesan Council actions taken electronically between meetings, and the coordination between Diocesan staff, Diocesan Council, and the Diocesan finance office for specific Mission Share reviews experienced slips this past year.

### ***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

n/a

### ***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

As Mission Share Oversight is a function of Diocesan Council, careful attention to the diversity of membership of that body would be the best way to ensure wide representation.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

Mission Share Oversight will be engaged in the Diocesan Council’s review, and action, around creating a new formula for mission share in 2025. In addition, process pieces, related to the creation, presentation, and follow through of work which should include Mission Share Oversight will need attention in the coming year.

### **Our 2024 members -**

The Rev. Peter Homeyer - Christ Church, Dayton (Chair)  
The Rev. Theorphlis Borden - St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights  
Nadya Richardson - St. Philip, Columbus  
The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - bishop's staff  
Susan Byrnside - bishop's staff  
Andrea Owens - bishop's staff

## **PROCTER BOARD OF ADVISORS**

*Respectfully submitted by Jerusalem Greer, ex-officio member and co-executive director*

### **Regarding our mission and work -**

As a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, the mission of Procter Center is to embody and teach creation care, spiritual development, belonging, and hospitality as we work to become Beloved Community together.

In 2024 Procter the board supported the Procter staff as they worked to live into our mission in the following ways:

- Hosted Summer Camp, a DSO supported formation ministry that worked to embody and teach all of our core values to all 235 campers. Two board members served as formation leaders at camp.
- Hosted original programming, including Farm to Forest Creation Leaders Retreat, Bake Pray Rest- A Camp for DSO Formation Leaders, Kids Garden Club, Rogation Celebration Day, Epiphany Celebration, "Foraging for Advent" Advent Event, Fall Youth Retreat, and Seeding Day
- Hosted DSO theological formation and restoration gatherings, including Clergy Camp, Deacon School, Lay Preacher Training, Beloved Community, and Safe Church Training
- Hosted DSO leadership meetings, including CoL, CoM, Council, the listening and working groups around the new DSO mission
- Hosted non-DSO groups such as Madison Christian School, Artistic Sisters, Ohio Council of Churches board, and Good News Baptist
- Launched the Community Supported Agriculture program with new DSO churches, sold farm goods at the Grove City Farmers Market, building relationships within that community
- Developed new faith & land programming for all ages through Farm Camp and Camp WILD.
- Continued to grow the Procter Farm and Procter Teaching Gardens in order to serve

more locally grown produce and protein in the Procter kitchen, for our CSA program and at the market.

***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

In 2024 Procter received funds from the following DSO sources:

- The William Cooper Procter endowment (which stipulates that a share is to always come to Procter to support the care of Procter. The amount given has remained static for several years.)
- In 2024, Procter was not in the DSO budget as part of Mission Share. However, the Council released Mission Funds later in the year to support Procter's continued efforts to address all deferred maintenance.
- Procter received a Faith and Life grant for the Farm to Forest retreat.
- The Bishop sponsored local leaders to attend Bake Pray Rest.

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

Procter has a wide variety of ages and orders on our Advisory Board and hopes to add a youth representative in the near future. Our growth edges remain in the areas of race and geography. We believe our 2025 appointments will help us grow in both of these areas.

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

Procter's Goals for 2025 include:

- Continue to build and stabilize Procter as a spiritual center for formation and community for the dioceses.
- Continue to work to align Procter farm, summer camp, and retreat programs with our mission and values.
- Continue to build and stabilize original programming that aligns with our mission.
- Work to create stability and sustainability across each department.
- Begin work on expanding safe and welcoming lodging options for individuals, groups, and families that align with our mission.
- Empower Procter Board of Advisors with a clear mandate for supporting Procter's mission as a ministry of DSO.
- Work to more closely align DSO funding sources with the role of Procter as the spiritual and formation center of the dioceses.

***Our 2024 members -***

The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White (Chair)

Jon Boss - Ascension and Holy Trinity, Wyoming (Liaison from the Diocesan Trustees)

David McKenney - Calvary, Clifton (Liaison from the Church Foundation Trustees)  
The Rev. Bruce Smith - St. Mark's, Columbus (Liaison from the Diocesan Council)  
Annika Russo - St. Patrick's, Dublin  
The Rev. Warren Huestis - All Saints, Washington Court House  
Lissa Barker - St. Patrick's, Dublin  
Jodie Emerson - St. Patrick's, Dublin  
The Rev. Derrick Fetz - now bishop's staff  
Tym House - Redeemer, Hyde Park  
Spencer Izor - St. Paul's, Oakwood

*With staff support from*

Jersusalem Greer - co-executive director

Nathan Greer - co-executive director

Robin Kimbler - operations director

## **REPARATIONS TASK FORCE**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Karl Stevens (St. Stephen's, Columbus), Co-Chair*

### ***Regarding our mission and work -***

For the Diocese of Southern Ohio, reparations is a discipline of repentance and repair following the way of Jesus, that reckons with historical and continuing wrongs against people based on their group identity. This requires a habit of assessing the harms we participate in, lamenting these offenses, changing our practices individual and institutional and surrendering substantial financial resources to heal what can be repaired and move toward mutual joy as beloved community which we undertake with God's help. We will begin this work considering and addressing the harms against the Black community in this place.

In the past year, we have worked with the bishop's office to establish the staff position of missioner for Black ministries. The missioner will work with the strong lay leadership in our Historically Black Parishes (HBPs) to advocate for full-time rectorships and financial growth through increased contributions, engagement in social enterprise, and regional, local, and church-wide grant opportunities and resources. We have worked with the DSO 150th committee in the ongoing creation of a diocesan history that is told from the perspective of parishes and community organizations, making sure that the story of race relations in the diocese has a prominent place in that history. We have been hearing the stories of the reparations work that is already going on in our parishes, and are working to bring those stories to the attention of the whole diocese.

### ***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

The budget for the missioner for Black ministries position has been part of our funding request in 2023, 2024, and 2025. The search for the position was put on hold until Bishop White began her episcopacy. It is ongoing now, and we hope that the hiring of the missioner will take place before the end of the year.

Additionally, in the past we paid consultants to help us in our work. We have discontinued that practice. In the coming year we have request budget funds to support four meetings at Procter (one per quarter) and educational opportunities. We hope, by the end of 2025, to be ready to make a substantial ask from the diocese, not to pay for task force work, but to begin the process of paying reparations.

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

Black members of the diocese have made it clear that reparations is the work of white people, but five of them have agreed to continue to help with this work so that task force as a whole can benefit from their advice. Of the fourteen taskforce members, nine are white and five are Black.

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

We recognize that our work requires endurance, as it is the hard work of system change and commitment building. Our current efforts focus on two objectives for 2025. We seek transparency when it comes to diocesan wealth so that we can gain a clear understanding of the resources that are available for reparations. We work to build relationships with the Black community, seeking advice from individuals and organizations as we create a plan for reparations. Arriving at the shape that reparations will take will require much conversation and consultation. Diocesan efforts that are currently meant to support our Historically Black Churches, the position of missionary for Black ministries, and the Black members of our diocesan community only account for 1.5% of our estimate of diocesan wealth. The recommended amount for churches and dioceses to pay in reparations, based on the current wealth gap, is 14.7%. As a diocese, we have a lot of work to do.

***Our 2024 members -***

Dianne Ebbs - Christ Church Cathedral (Co-Chair)  
The Rev. Olivia Hamilton - Calvary, Clifton  
Emily Joyce - Christ Church, Dayton  
Dr. Kelsey Logan - Calvary, Clifton  
The Rev. Karen Montagno - Grace, College Hill  
The Rev. Melanie Slane - Redeemer, Hyde Park (now bishop's staff)  
Jeff Dey - Church of our Savior, Cincinnati  
The Hon. Tyrone K Yates - St. Andrew's, Evanston  
Miriam McKenney - bishop's staff  
The Rev. Karl Stevens - St. Stephen's, Columbus (Co-Chair)  
The Rev. Jason Oden - Indian Hill Church  
Larry James - St. Barnabas, Montgomery  
The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - bishop's staff  
Debby Stokes-Wayne - St. Philip, Columbus

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS GRANTS

Respectfully submitted by the Rev. David Kendall-Sperry (St. Peter's, Delaware), Chair

### **Regarding our mission and work -**

General Convention Resolution 2015-A021 the 141st Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio passed resolutions R2015-01 and R2019-02, directing the diocese to continue support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at a minimum of 0.7% of the diocesan Mission Share assessment to fund SDG mission grants for the calendar years 2017-2022.

During those years the diocese has supported SDG grants to organizations with missions throughout the world, as the SDGs are having a significant impact on eradicating disease and poverty worldwide. In consideration of Resolution B026 of the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, the 148th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio directed the diocese to continue to support the SDGs at a minimum of 0.7% of the diocesan Mission Share assessment for the calendar years 2024, 2025, and 2026. SDG grants fund world mission programs which address the SDGs and build long-term relationships among partners, with emphasis on leadership development and sustainability.

Visit [GlobalGoals.org](https://www.globalgoals.org) for more information about the Sustainable Development Goals.

### *Meetings Between Conventions 2024*

The committee met to organize the updating of materials and integration into the new diocesan Fluxx system that manages grants, as well as to review the Grant Applications and process requests for grants. The meetings were held on Zoom.

### *Accomplishments in 2024*

Four applications have been received by the end of October 2024 and are yet to be processed this calendar year. Proposals received are:

- Head and Neck Outreach, Uganda, Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming.
- Infinite Chance English Program, Guatemala, St. Patrick's, Lebanon.
- Partners in Ministry in Liberia (PIMIL), Liberia, St. Matthew's, Westerville.
- Caring Response Madagascar Foundation, Madagascar, Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming.

We have received inquiries from Director Caroline Kleinfox of the United Nations Foundation, seeking information about our support of the Sustainable Development Goals and the people and programs we've been supporting through the diocesan SDG grants. Her department in the U.N. Foundation promotes the Sustainable Development Goals efforts in the United States of America.

Diocesan Assistance has been provided by: Ms. Kristi Reynolds, Ms. Andrea Owens, Ms. Sarah Beegle, The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron, The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White

**Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -**

Included in the mission of the committee.

**Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -**

The committee is open to volunteers from the members of the diocese. The various communications from the committee will highlight the ministry and encourage others to participate.

**Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

The committee plans to coordinate with the Canon for Communications to promote both grant awards and their resulting follow-up reports, as well as seek applications from the parishes and missions of the diocese by promoting awareness of the diocese's support of this United Nations program through this diocesan resolution.

**Our 2024 members -**

Dr. Elizabeth Barker - St. Patrick's, Dublin

Dr. Anita Dohn - Trinity, Hamilton

Mr. Clifton Flemister - St. Matthew's, Westerville

The Rev. David Kendall-Sperry - St. Peter's, Delaware (Chair)

Ms. Ariel Miller - Ascension and Holy Trinity, Wyoming

## **MISSION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**

*Respectfully submitted by Spencer Izor (St. Paul's, Dayton), Chair*

**Regarding our mission and work -**

The Vision Implementation Team oversees the 18-month process of implementing the vision and addressing recommendations outlined in the diocesan-wide assessment and vision summit with Ministry Architects. The team serves as a non-anxious presence in this time period; addresses the immediate pressure points facing the diocese; affirms a consensus for the direction of the diocese; works on accomplishing goals and implementing the mission statement and values; and helps create any infrastructure needed to support all of this work.

Since May 2024, the Vision Implementation Team has:

- Started to address all pressure points listed in the assessment report.
- Effectively worked and will continue to work with the diocesan staff and local leaders to find creative solutions.
- Prioritized the team's task list
- Completed tasks related to the creation of long-term stability for diocesan ministries.
- Supported staff and other ministry leaders in recruiting necessary volunteers for all initiatives.

- Communicated regularly with the diocesan staff and larger diocese about the vision process and accomplishments over the next 18 months.
- Attended weekly check-ins (10-15 minutes), potentially via email once momentum is built.
- Attended monthly meetings (approximately 45-60 minutes).
- Worked through assigned tasks between meetings.

***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

To my knowledge, we don't have any funding, beyond that which was paid to partner with Ministry Architects. But, the team doesn't have their own budget, if this is what the question is asking.

***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

The Mission Implementation Team was strategically formed by diocesan leadership to be representative of the demographics of the diocese. The composition of the team has taken into account characteristics such as geography, race, and generational life stages, and should a member need to step away from the team, leadership would seek to find someone new who holds experiences and perspective that aren't otherwise represented, so the team continues to be reflect the demographics of the diocese.

***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

The Mission Implementation Team 2025 goals for the Diocese of Southern Ohio are to:

1. Serve as the task-accomplishing team for the implementation process outlined in the May 2024 Ministry Architects assessment report.
2. Create systems and infrastructure to ensure the long-term growth and effectiveness of the diocese.
3. Identify and prioritizes additional infrastructural tasks as they arise.
4. Ensure that the diocese clearly and compellingly communicates its priorities and programs, especially to diocesan leadership and individual churches.
5. Provide creative troubleshooting and support when obstacles to the renovation process arise.

***Our 2024 members -***

The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - Bishop's Staff: Canon to the Ordinary

Canon Katie Forsyth - Bishop's Staff: Canon for Communications

The Rev. Phil Hooper - St. Anne's, West Chester

Spencer Izor - St. Paul's, Oakwood (Chair)

Kristin LeMay - Good Shepherd, Athens

Miriam McKenney - Bishop's Staff: Missioner for Beloved Community

***Consultants***

Sean Williams - Project Manager, Ministry Architects

Renée Wilson - Lead Consultant, Ministry Architects

## **TASKFORCE ON REGIONAL STRUCTURES**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Vicki Zust (St. Mark's, Columbus), Chair*

### ***Regarding our mission and work -***

We were asked by the bishop to explore ways in which the Diocese of Southern Ohio might create regional structures to enhance the connections between and among the congregations, clergy and people of the diocese. We have engaged in gathering opinions and information from a wide variety of people, including a survey, conversations at clergy day and diocesan convention, and targeted interviews. We anticipate making a recommendation to the bishop by the beginning of Lent.

### ***Regarding our diocesan funding and how funds were deployed -***

N/A; this commission is not funded.

### ***Regarding our charge for wide representation in ministry -***

We have been intentional about soliciting opinions and ideas from a widely representative population of the Diocese.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2025 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

We anticipate reporting to the Bishop and concluding our work by the beginning of Lent 2025.

### ***Our 2024 members -***

Carol Allen - Christ Church, Ironton  
Jon Boss - Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming  
The Rev. Mary Carson - St. James, Westwood  
Ericka Clifton - St. Philip, Columbus  
Lauren Cuff Faller - St. Christopher's, Fairborn  
The Rev. Benjamin Speare-Hardy - St. Margaret's, Trotwood  
Wendel Mulford - St. Paul's, Chillicothe  
The Very Rev. Owen Thompson - Christ Church Cathedral  
The Rev. William Sangrey - St. George's, Dayton  
The Rev. Gene Sheppard - St. Luke's, Marietta  
The Rev. Vicki Zust - St. Mark's, Columbus (Chair)

# Nominations

*The ministry of a diocese is carried out through many people and in all orders of ministry. The governance of our diocese is shared by several bodies and positions, many of which are constituted by election. Our diocese aims for diverse voices in leadership: race, age, gender, socio-economic status, geography, etc. Advances in technology have reduced previous barriers to participation, especially in our ability to meet using online tools.*

*Please review the pages in this section for descriptions of the bodies, information about our anticipated elections, and for the submitted responses from our nominees.*

## **GOVERNANCE BODIES -**

- Page 56** - The Budget Committee
- Page 58** - The Diocesan Council
- Page 67** - The Standing Committee
- Page 70** - Trustees of the Diocese
- Page 77** - Trustees of the Church Foundation
- Page 84** - Procter Center Board of Advisors

## **JOIN US IN THANKING OUR NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:**

Cathy Bagot - Trinity, Newark

Jon Boss - Ascension and Holy Trinity, Wyoming (Chair)

The Rev. Derrick Fetz - Church of Our Savior, Mechanicsburg and Epiphany, Urbana; bishop's staff

The Rev. Michael Ralph - St. Philip's, Circleville; St. Paul's, Chillicothe; St. John's, Lancaster; St. Paul's, Logan; bishop's staff

The Rev. Joseph Kovitch - St. Matthew's, Westerville; bishop's staff

Nadya Richardson - St. Philip's, Columbus

The Rev. Sallie Schisler - St. Peter's, Gallipolis and Grace, Pomeroy

## **THE BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Budget Committee members are responsible for preparing and reviewing the annual operating budget of the diocese. Primary work occurs in the spring, with collection and review of budget requests.

**At this 150th Convention, we will elect:**

One cleric for a three-year term (Class of 2027)

**Our nominees are:**

The Rev. Jason Emerson - St. Patrick's, Dublin

## **NOMINEE FOR THE BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**CLERGY - THREE YEAR TERM**

### **The Rev. Jason Emerson ST. PATRICK'S, DUBLIN**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I believe God is at work in the Diocese of Southern Ohio. I have witnessed God at work through serving on the Diocesan Council, the Nominating Committee for the Bishop Search, and as a Chaplain at our summer camp at Procter. God is also at work in and through St. Patrick's, where I have been blessed to serve for the last three years.



*Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?*

I believe the Holy Spirit is up to something. The Spirit is reshaping, rebuilding, and renewing the theology of money in this diocese. Money is a spiritual force, and how we use it testifies to our values and beliefs. Serving on the diocesan council this last year, we began a transparent conversation regarding diocesan finances. I feel called to help cultivate this forthright culture and build a budget that supports local ministry and increases opportunity for every parish.

## THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Diocesan Council members play a critical role in the governance of the diocese, acting as the “convention-between-conventions.” Members review the budget and mission share review requests, follow implementation of convention resolutions and work with the bishop on ministry and mission decisions in the diocese. Diocesan Council meets six times per year (or as called).

### **At this 150th Convention, we will elect:**

- Three laypersons for three-year terms (Class of 2027)
- One layperson for a two-year, unexpired term (Class of 2026)
- Two clerics for three-year terms (Class of 2027)
- One cleric for a one-year, unexpired term (Class of 2025)

### **Our nominees are:**

*For the three lay, three-year terms*

Judith Grant - St. Mark's, Columbus

Ericka Hall - St. Philip, Columbus

Katherine Wagner - St. Mark's, Dayton

*For the lay, two-year term*

Larry Haas - Christ Church, Glendale

*For the two clergy, three-year terms*

The Rev. David Burman - St. John's, Worthington

The Rev. Phil Hooper - St. Anne, West Chester

*For the clergy, one-year term*

No Submissions

## NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

LAITY - ONE THREE YEAR TERM

### Judith Grant

ST. MARK'S, COLUMBUS

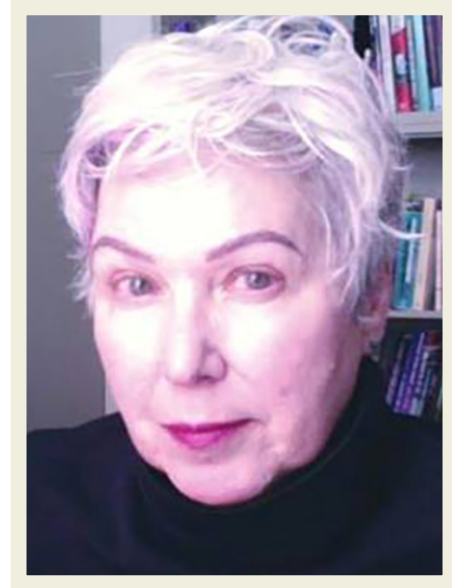
***Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

I have been a member of St. Mark's for about six years, and a confirmed Episcopalian for about 25 years. During my time at St. Mark's I have been an active member of the congregation, serving on the vestry, leading a contemplative prayer group, initiating and coordinating two prayer retreats (held at Cincinnati Transfiguration Center and Procter Center) and am in the process of beginning a pet ministry at St. Mark's.

I have also served as a counselor at the Procter Center for "Camp Launch." In my previous congregations (Church of the Good Shepherd in Athens, OH, and the tiny mission church of St. Hugh's of Idyllwild, CA), I served on the vestry and was in the choir.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

I find myself increasingly drawn to the church as a source of hope in a troubled world. I find the congregations to be thoughtful, open and full of ideas that I would not normally have associated with Christians - in a good way! I would like to offer my talents (such as they are) in leadership to the church. I feel that I could contribute the dialogue that is occurring there, and perhaps aid in shaping the church on a state and national level. I am a retired professor (most recently, Ohio University) of political theory and women's studies who has served as department chair of women's studies and the department of Political Science, as well as having run several Centers at both OU and my former institution, USC in Los Angeles.



## NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

LAITY - ONE THREE YEAR TERM

### **Ericka Hall**

**ST. PHILIP, COLUMBUS**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I am a member of Saint Philip Episcopal Church in Columbus, Ohio where I am a youth leader, co-acolyte director, youth Sunday school leader, Chair of the Widows Mite, member of the buildings and ground committee, on the vestry, leader of the weekly youth and family Bible study group, and publisher of the weekly newsletter. In the diocese I am a member of the Bishop Herbert Thompson chapter of UBE, and on diocesan council. I work with the larger community through my church by helping with the Friends of the Homeless feeding program and the Community Youth Outreach Committee. In the summer I assist with our Youth Community Outreach's summer reading programs and soon will have a life skills program in the summer for high school students. My future goal will be to have a peace camp during the summer to include religious relations, race relations, and appropriate civic engagement.



*Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?*

I feel that God is calling me to continue the work that was started during my first term on diocesan council. Especially in the areas of growth, transparency, relationship building, and responsiveness to the vision God is giving younger members in our diocese.

## NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

LAITY - ONE THREE YEAR TERM

### **Katharine Wagner** **ST. MARK'S, DAYTON**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

A cradle Episcopalian raised in St Louis, I have been a member of St Mark's Dayton since 2008. My combined Catholic/Anglican family quickly became involved at all levels of parish life, which intensified when I took the position of Parish Administrator in 2010. For the next 12 years, in addition to the many varied duties that come with that job, I have been a Sunday School teacher for 'tweens and teens, a member of the Altar Guild, Stewardship Committee, Buildings & Grounds Team, and Tech/ Communications Team. I have served as a Deanery Rep, three terms on the Vestry, three terms as Junior Warden, and Convention Delegate for more than ten years. When my job was eliminated in 2022 due to the pandemic, I continued my volunteer work teaching, serving the Altar Guild, supplying livestream commentary for Sunday services, and working with B&G.



In 2021 I was elected to my first term on Diocesan Council, and have been involved with the Systemic Review and Dispatch of Business Committees; Congregation Contacts Project, which has matched Council members with all 71 parishes to improve communications and canonical compliance; and have held the office of Second Vice President for two years.

I have been a vocal supporter and ally of all things PRIDE related, co-chairing the DSO booth during Dayton PRIDE events, and I have marched with other Daytonians in support of Science, Reproductive Rights, and to Keep Families Together. In April I joined the staff of Christ Church - Dayton as Parish Administrator, and am again working with area and regional churches on various projects to benefit the Diocese and local community.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

Three years ago, we started the Congregation Contacts Project, designed to help five parishes struggling with various canonical deadlines, so that all would have seat, voice, and vote at Convention. This was so well received that it has expanded to a communications/deadlines program involving all elected and appointed members of Diocesan Council and all 71 churches, improving the relationship between both parties. With Bishop White's election and the exciting, positive changes in the DSO leadership structure and culture, I feel called to continue the work with the Council members and churches.

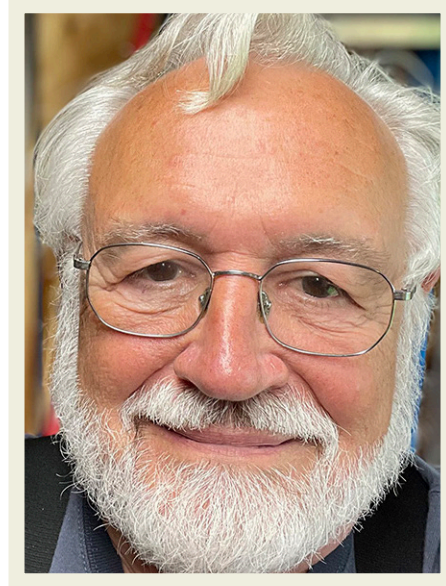
## NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

LAITY - ONE TWO YEAR, UNEXPIRED TERM

### Larry Haas CHRIST CHURCH, GLENDALE

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I have been worshipping at Christ Church Glendale for over 20 years. I have been in leadership roles as Chair of the Education Commission 2005 - 2010, Vestry/Warden 2010 - 2013, chairperson of Music Profile Committee 2019, and Vestry/Warden 2023 - present. I was the Acolyte Mentor for 12 years and a member of the choir for many years.



I have participated in diocesan workshops to identify mission and goals, and have been involved with the convention many times including the two occasions we were searching for a Bishop.

I have volunteered at several organizations over the years and a board member on a few including Habitat for Humanity, volunteer and board member, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, volunteer in same day surgery for children, Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center, volunteer, SnacPac4L, a suicide awareness non-profit, board member, and Tikkun Farm, Inc. volunteer and board member.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

For several years I have felt the diocese has been very distant from parish life. There were the obligatory visits by the Bishop, however, they were getting further apart and offered little opportunity for connection. Becoming more involved in the life of the diocese may be a way to understand that distance and diminish it. Now that Bishop Kristin Uffelman White is present with us, it seems like a good time to learn. In full disclosure this is my attempt to gain more connection with the larger church because I don't believe God wants me to feel disconnected.

## NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

CLERGY - TWO THREE YEAR TERMS

### **The Rev. David Burman ST. JOHN'S, WORTHINGTON**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I am the associate rector at St. John's Episcopal Church in Worthington, where I look after our children's & youth ministries, and assist the rector (the Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin) with preaching, teaching, and pastoral care. I have helped coordinate youth ministry among Episcopal churches in the wider Columbus area, and I am active in the Worthington Faith Leaders Association and the Columbus deanery clericus. I also volunteer at the Ohio Railway Museum, and perform occasionally at the Nest Theatre.



*Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?*

I love that Episcopal worshipping communities get to live in community with one another and support each other as mutual members of the Body of Christ, and so I feel tug to help build trust between parishes and diocese-wide bodies, and to help ensure that parishes in our diocese have the resources they need to do ministry on the ground - by serving on Diocesan Council.

## NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

CLERGY - TWO THREE YEAR TERMS

### **The Rev. Phil Hooper** **ST. ANNE, WEST CHESTER**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I currently serve as the Rector of St. Anne Episcopal Church in West Chester, OH; I've had the privilege of being with this vibrant community since August Of 2023. In addition, I currently serve on the Mission Implementation Team convened by Bishop White to build on the good work done at Diocesan listening sessions and the Mission Development Summit in 2024. Beyond the Diocese of Southern Ohio, I contribute to several Episcopal projects

including Sermons that Work, the Prophetic Voices preaching podcast, and as a board member of the Center for Deep Green Faith.



*Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?*

In previous dioceses, I have served on other leadership bodies including Standing Committee (Diocese of N. Indiana) and various ministry councils. At the suggestion of some trusted colleagues, I have prayerfully considered this role on our Diocesan Council and am ready to offer myself in service. Our Diocese is at a pivotal moment in which there is a feeling of energy, possibility, and high hope for increased relationship and synergy across parishes and other ministry groups; I believe that this is the work of the Holy Spirit in our midst, and I pray that my own background in nonprofit work and church leadership equips me to support our shared mission through participation as a member of Council. It's important to me that our Diocesan governance structures work to support parishes (and other local bodies) where the transformative work of the Church is primarily enacted. Jesus was and is with people, wherever they were at; our Church must be the same.

## THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Standing Committee serves as the bishop's council of advice. It shares responsibility for the ordination process, is consulted for consent for the election and consecration of new bishops in the church and reviews requests from congregations to encumber their property. This group carries out a mutual ministry review with the bishop, and in the absence of a diocesan bishop serves as the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese. The committee typically meets monthly.

### **At this 150th Convention, we will elect:**

- One layperson for a three-year term (Class of 2027)
- One cleric for a three-year term (Class of 2027)
- One cleric for a two-year, unexpired term (Class of 2026)

### **Our nominees are:**

- Lissa Barker - St. Patrick's, Dublin
- Wendell Mulford - St. Paul's, Chillicothe
- The Rev. Allison English - Calvary, Clifton
- The Rev. David Kendall-Sperry - St. Peter's, Delaware

## NOMINEE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE

LAITY - ONE THREE YEAR TERM

**Lissa Barker**  
**ST. PATRICK'S, DUBLIN**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I am a cradle Episcopalian who has tasted other forms of worship and always returned to the Episcopal Church. I had a 36 year career in the United States Navy, so I have resided in multiple dioceses. Each of these have given me insights on the mission and worship of our church and I have used that experience to be active in each of them. After retirement from active service, I moved to Ohio to be the Director of Masters' Programs for the College of Nursing at The Ohio State University and I am now a Full Professor (Emerita). Since coming to the Diocese of Southern Ohio, I have served my parish on the Vestry, the rector search committee (co-chair) the choir, Stephen Ministry, Parish Nurse and Wellness Consultant, EFM mentor, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, and Lay Reader. I have been a Deputy and Alternate Deputy to General Convention. I currently serve the Diocese as 1st Vice President of the Board of Advisors for Procter Camp and Conference Center and as Vice President of the Standing Committee. During the time of my first term, the Diocese was in the process of searching for a new Bishop as well as working with the Interim Bishop Diocesan to prayerfully and actively look towards moving this Diocese further on the path of being what Jesus would have us be as a Beloved Community. Along with my colleagues on the Standing Committee, our efforts were blessed by the Holy Spirit and we elected a dynamic new Bishop Diocesan.



***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

I have prayed a great deal about offering to continue my service on the Standing Committee. My discernment is that I have much to give for our future mission as a Diocese and a partner in the "Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement." I have been blessed with energy, health, organizational and analytic skills, a sense of humor, and an unshakable trust in Jesus. I feel a strong urge to continue to serve, to listen, and to value all participants in our process of becoming. I love fresh ideas and the wisdom of experience and tradition. I have worked effectively as Vice President of the Standing Committee over the last year. I am excited about the prospect of continuing to work with our Bishop and the new administrative structure of the Diocese of Southern Ohio.

In my ministry, I emphasize wellness and the joy that comes from being a part of God's creation.

## **L. BARKER, CONT.**

All of these factors have combined for me to be confident that I am being called to continue to serve another term on the Standing Committee. Thank you and Blessings for considering my application.

## **NOMINEE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

**LAITY - ONE THREE YEAR TERM**

### **Wendell Mulford** **ST. PAUL'S, CHILLICOTHE**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I have been a member and vestryperson of three congregations in the Diocese: St. Luke's Marietta, All Saints Pleasant Ridge, and St. Paul's Chillicothe, where I currently serve as Senior Warden. I served two terms on Diocesan Council in the early 2000's. I previously served on the Evangelism, Faith In Life, and Professional Development committees. I'm a graduate of the Southern Ohio Lay Leadership Initiative (SOLLI) and served as a program coordinator for three years. I was a member of the Nominating Committee for our most recent Bishop search and I'm currently finishing a 3-year term on the Commission for Congregational Life.

I retired from a 38-year career in Human Resources management in 2022. My wife and I returned to our hometown of Chillicothe and we're currently in the process of developing and opening a small business.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

Our Diocese is in a period of transition which will last several years. Should it be the convention's pleasure to elect me, I pray that my professional experience, my prior diocesan involvement, and my experiences as a leader within the four-church collaboration (St Philip's Circleville, St. Paul's Logan, St. John's Lancaster, and St. Paul's Chillicothe) will be beneficial as a member of the Bishop's council of advice - the Standing Committee.



## NOMINEE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE

CLERGY - ONE THREE YEAR TERM; ONE TWO-YEAR, UNEXPIRED TERM

### The Rev. Allison English CALVARY, CLIFTON

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

The Reverend Allison English has been rector of Calvary Episcopal Church for six years. During this time, she has demonstrated a deep commitment to worship leadership and the development of both youth and adult formation in the parish, including the establishment of two Education for Ministry in-person cohort groups.

In addition to her work at the congregational level, English has engaged actively with the wider diocese by serving on the Commission on Ministry for the past five years. She formerly served on the Episcopal Community Ministries (ECM) grant-giving committee. Through these activities, English has exemplified the spirit of collaboration and commitment to the broader Episcopal community.

English is not only committed to her congregation and diocese, but also actively participates in the larger community by partnering with area congregations to advance a response to homelessness and affordable housing in the Cincinnati area and by assisting with her daughter's Girl Scout troop.

#### ***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

"I believe that God is calling me to serve on the Standing Committee at this pivotal moment in the Diocese of Southern Ohio. As we welcome our new bishop, The Right Reverend Kristin Uffelmann White, I see a unique opportunity to support her in establishing her ministry among us.

This is an exciting time for our diocese, filled with potential for growth and transformation. I feel called to offer my support and encouragement to Bishop White as she navigates this important period of diocesan development. My spiritual gift of discernment enables me to listen deeply and assess our collective needs, ensuring that our response to God's call is thoughtful and aligned with God's purpose and our new mission.

I am eager to collaborate with fellow committee members and Bishop White to foster unity and vision within the diocese. By participating in this process, I aim to contribute to the spiritual and administrative foundation that will support our church's ongoing growth. I seek to be part of the body that serves in an advisory capacity to the bishop, offering my encouragement as she leads us through this vital transition."



## NOMINEE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE

CLERGY - ONE THREE YEAR TERM; ONE TWO-YEAR, UNEXPIRED TERM

### **The Rev. David Kendall-Sperry ST. PETER'S, DELAWARE**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I've been the Rector at St. Peter's Church in Delaware for six years. I've served the Faith in Life committee as the recording secretary, on ECSF - now ECM - as a board member and president, for years as a member of the National & World Mission Commission, 5 different Parishes, and my family and I have been members of the Diocese for over 30 years. As we gear up for a renewed Sustainable Development Goals grant cycle, I serve as the Chair of the diocesan SDG Grant Awards Committee, and have led or supported successful diocesan resolutions for the Millennium Development Goals and the SDGs. I also serve on the Andrews House Community Center board, and for the last three years on the St. Vincent de Paul New Beginnings men's shelter board, both in Delaware County.



*Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?*

After much deliberation, I've discerned a call to continue serving on the Standing Committee because of my 39 years of experience in leadership in the Episcopal Church in Nebraska, and the Dioceses of Ohio and Southern Ohio. Leadership for me is the development of relationships and resources to further our mission for God's kingdom.

The Standing Committee has come a long way over the last three years. I've served as Secretary, Vice President and now President. I know, I can't seem to keep a job. And these responsibilities have challenged me in many ways but also brought me to a better understanding of how the work of the diocesan office and the support of the parishes may be led by our new Bishop toward a revitalization of our ministries in this place, and in the greater church. I would like to continue in that ministry in whatever ways God calls me to serve.

## **TRUSTEES OF THE DIOCESE**

Trustees of the diocese (also known as the Procter trustees) is the group responsible for management of diocesan and certain other investments and property owned by the diocese; and for serving as the board of advisors to the bishop on administration of the William Cooper Procter Memorial Fund. Trustees meet quarterly.

### **At this 150th Convention, we will elect:**

One layperson for a five-year term (Class of 2029)  
One layperson OR cleric for a four-year, unexpired term  
(Class of 2028)

### **Our nominees are:**

*For the lay, five-year term*

Mike Kennedy - St. Patrick's, Dublin

Nancy Talley - All Saints, New Albany

*For the lay OR clergy, four-year term*

The Rev. David Getreu - St. Philip's, Circleville; St. Paul's,  
Chillicothe; St. John's, Lancaster; St. Paul's, Logan

The Rev. David Pfaff - Christ Church, Glendale

## **NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE DIOCESE**

**LAITY - ONE FIVE YEAR TERM**

### **Mike Kennedy** **ST. PATRICK'S, DUBLIN**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

My family (wife Mary, sons Daniel and Andrew) and I became members at St. Patrick's in Dublin when a job transfer brought us to Ohio in 1997. Over time, I've served with Mary as a co-coordinator of St. Pat's Children's Chapel ministry, as a warden, two-time vestry member and Stephen Minister. I completed the SOLLI and eFM programs and led several pledge campaigns. As Senior Warden, I shepherded St. Pat's congregation through the Covid-19 pandemic as we simultaneously underwent rector and staff transitions with minimal disruption to our church community.



I have contributed at the diocesan level on the Stewardship Council and Commission on Ministry. Most recently, I co-led the diocesan Bishop Search Transition Committee with responsibility to welcome and introduce the bishop candidates, help plan the electing convention, the ordination of the bishop-elect, and coordinate a smooth transition for the new bishop and her family, among other tasks.

In our local community, I've been a member of the Dublin Schools Business Advisory Council, the Dublin Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and a volunteer youth soccer coach. My business focus has been wireline/wireless telecommunications and information technology, working both at start-ups and Fortune 50 companies including Pacific Bell and IBM. I recently retired from Verizon Communications which I joined as an executive director when the company was formed in 2000 and where I had a range of roles in wireless application development, infrastructure engineering and enterprise private/public cloud budget, planning, and financial governance.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

My experiences on the diocesan Commission on Ministry and as senior warden during COVID and St. Pat's rector transition deepened my awareness of the widely diverse needs of DSO's churches and the value of nurturing strong church-to-

## **M. KENNEDY, CONT.**

diocese and church-to-church linkages. The Holy Spirit used this to ignite in me a passion which led to my participating as a leader in the bishop search process. That highly rewarding experience has, in turn, deepened my appreciation for DSO's talented people, rich resources, and vast potential. I want to continue to serve and would welcome the opportunity to play an active role helping govern and shape DSO's emerging direction, so I prayerfully submit my application to join the trustee team.

## **NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE DIOCESE**

**LAITY - ONE FIVE YEAR TERM**

### **Nancy Talley**

**ALL SAINTS, NEW ALBANY**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

A Cradle Episcopalian who loves our church! A member of All Saints New Albany since 2005, I presently serve as Junior Warden and have been busy helping our parish address evangelism. At All Saints I have been a delegate to the Diocesan Convention for over 15 years, and currently serve on Diocesan Council. I traveled throughout our Diocese as part of the Bishop Nomination Committee and worked with the Transition Committee preparing for the Ordination of Bishop White.



In my adult life I have attended both small and large Episcopal parishes and have been exposed to the differing dynamics and unique needs of individual parishes. As a retired Chemistry teacher and local school district Curriculum Director, I have a good understanding of how to educate, communicate, mediate, and reach consensus. My experiences on Diocesan Council have widened my knowledge of our diocese and provided me with the background make good decisions as a Trustee. At the core, I believe we need to celebrate the Episcopal Church.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

Episcopal doctrine is central to my spiritual life, and I believe I am being prayerfully

## **N. TALLEY, CONT.**

called to apply for this opportunity. I deeply care for the present and future of the Episcopal Church and want our Diocese to be strong and grow spiritually. I feel I have the talents to help Bishop White define Diocesan leadership for spiritual growth and service. I believe my talents and background fit with the goals of the church. I have a strong desire to focus my caring nature, prayer, voice, and energy to help lead our Diocese as a Trustee.

## **NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE DIOCESE**

**ANY ORDER - ONE FOUR-YEAR, UNEXPIRED TERM**

**The Rev. David Getreu**  
**ST. PHILIP'S, CIRCLEVILLE; ST. PAUL'S,**  
**CHILLICOTHE; ST. JOHN'S, LANCASTER;**  
**ST. PAUL'S, LOGAN**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I am the Rector of four churches in the diocese – St. Philip's, Circleville, St. John's, Lancaster, St. Paul's in Chillicothe and St. Paul's, Logan. I oversee a staff of 13 employees and am involved in all aspects of the life of these four parishes. I have served in various positions throughout the diocese in the last 12 years. Most recently, I was the Canon for Finance and Budget of the Diocese from 2022 - 2023. In this role, I continued working within the finance office to oversee the finances of the diocese, including preparing and reviewing the diocesan budget, overseeing audits, reconciling bank accounts, property management, and assisting congregations. Additionally, I was a staff liaison to the Trustees of the Diocese, Church Foundation, Diocesan Council, Finance Committee, Budget Committee, Commission on Congregational Life, Episcopal Community Ministries, and the Procter Camp and Conference Center. Additionally, in 2023 I served as a co-interim director of the Procter Center. In my four years on diocesan staff and Canon for Finance and Budget I attended the meetings of the Diocesan Trustees and provided perspective on investments and investment accounts of the diocese. Outside of my role on Diocesan staff, I have served on COCL, Diocesan Council, Budget Committee, and the Mission Share Task Force. I founded and



## **D. GETREU, CONT.**

currently assist the Circleville Turkey Trot committee in their work to put on the 5k race on Thanksgiving Day raising money for the food pantry.

### ***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

One of my gifts in ministry is in the area of finance. Prior to being called as a Rector, I was a financial advisor for NBC Securities and other investment firms. I have obtained my Series 7, 31, 63 and 65 financial licenses. I also have my Life, Health and Annuities Insurance license. I have served clients in multiple states with their investment needs. I am familiar with the investment accounts of the diocese having researched a good number of them. I understand what PNC Bank is talking about when they do their investment committee reports. The Trustees main purpose is to invest the funds of the diocese, and I believe I can lend a credible voice to the management and use of our diocesan assets.

In the years I served on diocesan staff, I had the opportunity to offer my contributions to the Diocesan Trustees in matters of investments and account structure. Additionally, I researched and made recommendations to the diocesan trustees on the use/restructuring of various diocesan investment accounts. I feel called to serve as a Diocesan Trustee to continue in that work for the benefit of the diocese.

It has also become clear to me that the entire Southeast side of the diocese has little to no representation on the various committees and commissions. This is especially true of the Diocesan Trustees. The current members are from the Cincinnati and Dayton area. There is an imbalance of geographical representation in this important organization. We need to correct this with a representative board of diocesan trustees. My presence on the Diocesan Trustees, as a representative of four parishes in the Southeast quadrant will go a long way to correct this imbalance.

## **NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE DIOCESE**

**ANY ORDER - ONE FOUR-YEAR, UNEXPIRED TERM**

### **The Rev. David Pfaff CHRIST CHURCH, GLENDALE**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I serve as the Rector of Christ Church Glendale, and have done so since 2016. I feel blessed to serve a community of disciples who are faithfully seeking to follow Jesus in an often changing and always challenging world, asking ourselves how to use the gifts God has given us to be the Body of Christ to those around us, both within our faith community, and beyond. It is often a two-steps forward, one-and-a-half- step back process, and sometimes we get it completely wrong. However, as a community of faith, we believe that God asks us of us our best efforts, not perfection.



I have served in parishes, big and small, in communities of varying sizes and resources in the Dioceses of North Carolina, Massachusetts, and Milwaukee, where I served first as a parish priest, and then as a member of the bishop's staff for seven years. I also represented the Diocese of Milwaukee as a Deputy to General Convention in 2006, 09, and 12.

In this diocese, I served as a Trustee from 2018 - 2023, and am currently filling the first year of an unexpired term on the Trustees, hoping to be elected for the remaining four years of that term. I also spent three years representing Bishop Breidenthal on the Board of Episcopal Retirement Services. In addition to serving as a Deputy to General Convention, I have served as a Reader for the General Ordination Exams in the field of church history.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

The time I spent as a Trustee of the Diocese provided a fascinating introduction to the ways that the ministry of this diocese is shaped, supported, and, at times, challenged by the resources entrusted to us for carrying out God's work and will in the world. At both the parish and diocesan level, I am well aware that resources, in this case money, can be both a bane and a blessing. I believe that it is the responsibility of the Trustees not only to oversee the prudent and gospel-shaped investment of diocesan funds, but also to work in concert with the bishop to find

#### **D. PFAFF CONT.**

imaginative ways to use our financial resources that are both faithful in and of themselves, and which encourages ministry at the parochial as well as diocesan level.

Whether it is providing support for those in need of nutritious food or safe and stable housing, or helping our congregations become better stewards of God's creation, one LED light bulb at a time, the kingdom work to which we are called requires our careful attention, generous and courageous hearts, and the steadfast belief that God is using us, individually, and as a community of communities to achieve God's ends in ways that may surprise or challenge. I believe that my faith in God's steadfastness, borne of many years of service to the Church, has equipped me to be small part of this sacred discernment process, which is really what the Trustees are called to do.

## THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHURCH FOUNDATION

The Trustees of the Church Foundation are responsible for administering loans and funds for church buildings as well as some oversight over diocesan-owned properties. Trustees meet quarterly.

### **At this 150th Convention, we will elect:**

One layperson OR cleric for a five-year term (Class of 2029)  
One layperson OR cleric for a three-year, unexpired term  
(Class of 2027)

### **Our nominees are:**

*For the five-year term*

Drew Abbott - Christ Church Cathedral  
The Rev. David Getreu - St. Philip's, Circleville; St. Paul's,  
Chillicothe; St. John's, Lancaster; St. Paul's, Logan

*For the three-year term*

Jean Schelhorn - St. Luke's, Granville\*  
Sue Williams - Redeemer, Hyde Park

*\*This is a change from what was previously published. Jean requested to switch from running for the five-year term to the three-year term following the pre-convention meeting.*

## NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE CHURCH FOUNDATION

ANY ORDER - ONE FIVE YEAR TERM

### **Drew Abbott** **CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

Being an Episcopalian has brought joy and clarity to my spiritual life that was missing before being received in 2018. I am currently the Junior Warden at Christ Church Cathedral, Chair the Music and Worship Committee, and lead the LGBTQ+ Alliance. I am blessed to serve our neighbors experiencing homelessness and food insecurity in our Outreach program.

At the diocesan level, I serve on the Commission on Congregational Life and work with Cincinnati area parishes on LGBTQ+ ministry.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

I am seeking places of service in our church that draw on my strengths and abilities. From my career, I have a professional understanding of physical plants, construction, and property management. I deeply care about our parishes, particularly those that are struggling, and would love to do what I can to assist. As an entrepreneur, I have a knowledge of finance and business. Most importantly, as a follower of Christ, I have a deep desire to act justly and to love mercy, and I strive to walk humbly with my God.

It was suggested that this might be a good role for me.



## **NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE CHURCH FOUNDATION**

**ANY ORDER - ONE FIVE YEAR TERM**

**The Rev. David Getreu**  
**ST. PHILIP'S, CIRCLEVILLE; ST. PAUL'S,**  
**CHILLICOTHE; ST. JOHN'S, LANCASTER;**  
**ST. PAUL'S, LOGAN**



*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I am the Rector of four churches in the diocese – St. Philip's, Circleville, St. John's, Lancaster, St. Paul's in Chillicothe and St. Paul's, Logan. I oversee a staff of 13 employees and am involved in all aspects of the life of these four parishes.

I have served in various positions throughout the diocese in the last 12 years. Most recently, I was the Canon for Finance and Budget of the Diocese from 2022 - 2023. In this role, I continued working within the finance office to oversee the finances of the diocese, including preparing and reviewing the diocesan budget, overseeing audits, reconciling bank accounts, property management, and assisting congregations. Additionally, I was a staff liaison to the Trustees of the Diocese, Church Foundation, Diocesan Council, Finance Committee, Budget Committee, Commission on Congregational Life, Episcopal Community Ministries, and the Procter Camp and Conference Center. Additionally, in 2023 I served as a co-interim director of the Procter Center. In my four years on diocesan staff and Canon for Finance and Budget I attended the meetings of the Church Foundation Trustees and provided perspective on the various grant applications presented. I also assisted a number of parishes who were requesting a diocesan grant. Outside of my role on Diocesan staff, I have served on COCL, Diocesan Council, Budget Committee, and the Mission Share Task Force. I founded and currently assist the Circleville Turkey Trot committee in their work to put on the 5k race on Thanksgiving Day raising money for the food pantry.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

One of my gifts in ministry is in the area of finance and historic church preservation. In the years I served in a diocesan staff position I had the opportunity to offer my contributions to many DSO parishes who experienced serious issues with their physical plants. I feel called to serve on Church Foundation Trustees to continue in that work.

## **D. GETREU, CONT.**

As the former Canon for Finance and Budget I am very familiar with the work of the Church Foundation Trustees and have extensive knowledge about the needs of the parishes with the diocese as well as a familiarity of resources necessary to address the issues of deferred maintenance. I was instrumental in obtaining for all parishes of the diocese the parish facility assessments when I was on diocesan staff. As a result, all parishes received professional facility assessments which included timelines for making necessary repairs based in a way that was realistic for them. It is critical that the diocese work to address deferred maintenance in our facilities and to provide financial assistance for doing so.

As the rector of St. Philip's, Circleville, I have spent the past ten years engaged in historic preservation work on the facility with parish leadership to eliminate deferred maintenance. Through this work, and over many years, I have become familiar with a variety of quality contractors who can assist parishes around the diocese. Currently, I am working with the other three parishes under my charge to address their deferred maintenance needs.

I participate in the monthly Diocesan Building and Grounds Committee and regularly hear from the various parishes about their needs. These parishes need solid, dependable resources in terms of contractors and funding. With my experience and resources I will be able provide them to parishes in need of such connections and work with them as much as I am able on their projects.

The entire Southeast side of the diocese has little to no representation on the various committees and commissions of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. There exists an imbalance of geographical representation throughout the diocese on most if not all of these important organizations. My presence on Church Foundation, as a representative of four parishes in this quadrant will go a long way to correct this imbalance.

## NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE CHURCH FOUNDATION

ANY ORDER - ONE THREE YEAR TERM

### Jean Schelhorn ST. LUKE'S, GRANVILLE

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

I have been an active member of St. Luke's Church, Granville for 41 years. I was trained as a research scientist and I am interested in challenges, active learning, and working on lots of things. In a smaller church this works well, as one tends to accept lots of challenges and serve in many roles. My roles have included Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Finance Committee member and Chair, Investment Committee member and Chair, Long-Range Planning Committee, 12 years as Audit Chair, Facilitator (of many meetings and the Vestry), Vestry member, multi-year Ski Trip Organizer (7 years, travel bus, lots of skiers!), Stewardship Committee member and Chair, and I creatively repair things around the Church and our Parish House. I currently serve as our Treasurer (a CFO position in a small church...) and a Vestry Member. My favorite St. Luke's projects include three "building" projects: 1) restoring our historic functioning bell with an Ohio Amish team I recruited; 2) at the request of the Rev. Harry Sherman, fabricating a life-sized realistic Advent Cave that complemented livestock in our front church yard for many annual Granville Christmas Walks; and 3) another type of building project - taking ink pens and seed funds donated by St. Luke's to Ethiopia to successfully inspire the start of an Ethiopian school for girls in a remote region of Ethiopia, now supported by folks in Europe as well as the US.

I was recruited to central Ohio by Owens Corning following graduate school and spent 17 years at their research center working on building materials, new products development, and leading teams that supported large business unit research, product, and facilities needs (including capital projects). I proudly say I have insulated and roofed buildings, worked with asphalt and composite products, helped make the products used in installations... all of this on a path to new products innovation and launches. Among others, I am a named inventor on more than 12 patents held by Owens Corning and Battelle (my second career home for 7 years where I worked on medical products and all sorts of high-tech stuff some of which I cannot talk about,,). Currently I work within the OSU College of Veterinary



## **J. SCHELHORN, CONT.**

Medicine mentoring invention and leading commercialization activities for roughly 150 faculty and fostering industry collaborations. I serve on The Works Board in Newark, Ohio, and in 2022 with my co-author published a book through Oxford University Press sharing best practices for moving academic product and services discoveries to the market.

While serving as St. Luke's Senior Warden, I led the charge for St. Luke's to return a portion of our 3-year Procter Grant funds to the diocese to prove St. Luke's was ready to move from Mission Status to Parish Status. At that time, we became the first Mission to regain Parish status. Others have followed in our footsteps, a very good thing for our Diocese! Most recently I have offered financial perspectives to the DOSO Finance Office on a variety of financial topics and have sought emergency funding from the Church Foundation.

### ***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

This is a great question! I have found that over my life I have gravitated to challenges. When working in community an answer has frequently emerged. Recently I was nudged by others to place my name in nomination for this role, and though this was not originally my idea, I never had any doubt that this was the right step for me to take. What I know for certain is our feet and hands are often guided, and great things come from that. At this time, I am seeking to use my skills and passion with the Church Foundation. During my discernment on this nomination, critical questions emerged. We clearly will not have enough funding to fix the many, many things each church needs (I heard the list is in the range of \$18M). And many of the needs are urgent. Might we use the Church Foundation funds and platform strategically to maximize impact? Might we leverage funds offered to churches as a match for dollars from others, thereby multiplying our impact? Might we assure the estimates within proposals are appropriate? Might we coalesce resources to help each other in the options phase and decision-making steps? Can the Church Foundation become not only a funding source, but also an information source for additional funding, and a marketplace for Vendors who want to help our churches? We have the most impact when acting in community! I am eager to serve as a Trustee for our Church Foundation to find and implement creative solutions for our many building needs.

## NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE OF THE CHURCH FOUNDATION

ANY ORDER - ONE THREE-YEAR TERM

**Sue Williams**

**CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, HYDE PARK**

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

Church of the Redeemer: After moving to Cincinnati August of 2022 we were so welcomed. Newcomers group, 9:00 service regulars, and I have been elected to be an alternate delegate, then delegate to Convention 2025.

Church of the Ascension, Clearwater, FL: We spent 20 years with Ascension, during which time I served on the flower guild and on the gardens and sacred spaces planning committees for buildings and grounds; as chair of the Legacy and Endowment Committee for 13 years; future planning committee. I also served the Diocese of Southwest Florida on a joint communications committee for outreach with the National Presbyterian Church.

St. Paul's Church, Dayton, OH: member 1969-2002; Married here, baptized 3 boys here, buried my brother and mother and father here in the columbarium. Served on Vestry, alter guild, every member canvas and various fundraisers.

St. Paul's College, Lawrenceville, VA: Served on Board of trustees, Vice-Chairman, Development, Finance, Nominating, Presidential search for this Historically Black College founded by the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Southern Virginia, from 1982-1988.

Community-wide service includes many boards, primarily focused on: Education, Arts, Conservation and Community (like United Way and Kids Voting, etc.). Most recent, Ohio River Basin Project with the National Wildlife Federation, Hanover College (Board), Florida Wildlife Corridor (President), Community Foundation Tampa Bay (Board)

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

I have broad community service that has spanned my lifetime. I felt called to share that experience as I returned "home" to Southern Ohio. Both my husband and I had parents and family who were grateful for all the church brought to their lives because of their work with the church. Now, this is my opportunity to serve Southern Ohio again and I look forward to the challenge.



## **PROCTER CENTER BOARD OF ADVISORS**

The Procter Center Board of Advisors advises the bishop and main stakeholders on the stewardship, operations, and programming for the Procter Center.

**At this 150th Convention, we will elect:**

One cleric or layperson for a three-year term (Class of 2027)

**Our nominees are:**

Meghan Western - Church of St. Edward, Whitehall  
Sue Williams - Church of the Redeemer, Hyde Park

## NOMINEE FOR PROCTER BOARD OF ADVISORS

THREE YEAR TERM

### Meghan Western

CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD, WHITEHALL

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

A cradle Episcopalian from the Diocese of Southwest Florida, I served as an acolyte and attended summer camp at Dayspring. In 198 I moved to Columbus and the DSO. I attended St. Stephen's during college, where I sang in the choir and served as a Campus Minister. I also attended and then worked on staff for Vocare (#3, 4, 5) at the diocesan level. In my adult years, I began attending St James, Clintonville (where my husband Brian and I were married, and our children baptised). I have served as an acolyte, lector, usher, choir member, vestry member, delegate to Convention, and many other roles! I began served multiple appointed terms on Diocesan Council under Bishop Briedenthal between 2014 and 2018, and I attended General Convention 79 in Austin as a Deputy.



Our family recently began attending the Church of St. Edward in Whitehall. Together with Brian I serve as a music leader, and involve myself in any aspect of parish life that I can.

We have been regular "Procter Groupies" for years. We are long-time CSA members, and attend special events at Procter whenever possible. In 2023 we attended summer family camp for the first time, and we back again this year full of joy and excitement for Conservation camp as well as youth camps.

In my daily life, I am a full-time mom, a freelance choreographer, and a part-time school administrator. I love to be involved in the communities around me, preferring to support local initiatives and practices wherever possible. I am passionate about living into the work the Spirit gives me to do in my every day life.

***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

Both my husband and I have discussed running for Procter Board for several years. We are both passionate about the intersection of faith and the environment, including sustainable agriculture, holistic nature education, and the preservation of natural areas for our souls to thrive. Procter has been special to me since my first

## **M. WESTERN, CONT.**

experience in 1999, and becomes ever more so each time I visit. I wish to support the existing structures, while also offering ideas and fresh perspectives to its continued growth. Through my time at camp this summer, I saw a new excitement and energy in the buildings, the farm, and most of all, the staff. By working on the Procter Board, I seek to add my own joy, love, and abilities.

From a practical perspective, I have a fair amount of organizational experience from my time in administrative positions and diocesan committees. I believe I bring a good balance of dreams and practicality that will serve Procter well in an advisory and support position.

## NOMINEE FOR PROCTER BOARD OF ADVISORS

### THREE YEAR TERM

### Sue Williams

#### CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, HYDE PARK

*Please describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -*

Church of the Redeemer: After moving to Cincinnati August of 2022 we were so welcomed. New comers group, 9:00 service regulars, and I have been elected to be an alternate delegate, then delegate to Convention 2025.

Church of the Ascension, Clearwater, FL: We spent 20 years with Ascension, during which time I served on the flower guild and on the gardens and sacred spaces planning committees for building and grounds; as chair of the Legacy and Endowment Committee for 13 years; and, future planning committee. I also served the Diocese of Southern Florida on a joint communications committee for outreach with the National Presbyterian Church.

St. Paul's Church, Dayton, OH: member 1960 - 2002; married here, baptized 3 boys here, buried my brother and mother and father here in the columbarium. Served on the Vestry, Alter Guild, every member canvas and various fundraisers. Also serve the Diocese of Southern Ohio as Community Issues Review Chair SW Ohio (grant making) starting about 1978.

St. Paul's College, Lawrenceville, VA: Served on Board of Trustees, Vice-Chairman, Development, Finance, Nominating, and Presidential Search for this Historically Black College founded by the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Southern Virginia.

Community-wide service includes many Boards, primarily focused on Education, Arts, Conservation and Community (like United Way, Kids Voting, etc.). Most recent: Ohio River Basin Project with the National Wildlife Federation, Hanover College (Board), Florida Wildlife Corridor (President), Community Foundation Tampa Bay (Board).

#### ***Why do you feel God is calling you to serve in this position?***

I have broad community service that has spanned my lifetime. I felt called to share that experience as I returned "home" to Southern Ohio. Both my husband and I had parents and family who were grateful for all their church brought to their lives because of their work with the church. Now, this is my opportunity to serve Southern Ohio again and I look forward to the challenge.



# Convention Leadership

*Please join us in extending gratitude for these leaders' willingness to serve our diocese by participating in the process of planning our convention.*

## **COMMITTEE ON DISPATCH**

The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron - Canon to the Ordinary; Chair

Sarah Beegle - Executive Assistant to the Bishop; Recording Secretary & Credentials

Canon Jon Boss - Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming; Chair, Nominations Committee

The Rev. Alice Connor - St. Timothy's, Anderson Township; Chair, Resolutions Committee

Canon Katie Forsyth - Canon for Communications

The Rev. Peter Homeyer - Christ Church, Dayton; Diocesan Council Liaison

Eric Landen - Calvary, Clifton; Parliamentarian

Canon Julie Murray - Canon for Community Engagement; Convention Secretary

Andrea Owens - Administrative Assistant

The Rt. Rev. Kristin White - Bishop; President of the Convention

The Rev. Vicki Zust - St. Mark's, Columbus; Chair of Workshop Arrangements

## **DIOCESAN STAFF**

*Beyond those staff members listed above with the planning committee, the entire diocesan staff contributes in some way to the organization of our convention.*

Susan Byrnside - Senior Accountant

Lori Crenshaw - Payroll & Benefits Administrator

The Rev. Derrick Fetz - Missioner for Stewardship

Jerusalem Greer - Co-Executive Director, Procter Center

Nathan Greer - Co-Executive Director, Procter Center

The Rev. Canon Meredith Day Hearn - Canon for Congregations

The Rev. Joseph Kovitch - Regional Missioner, Columbus

Miriam McKenney - Missioner for Beloved Community

The Rev. Michael Ralph - Regional Missioner, Southeast

The Rev. Melanie Slane - Transitions Minister

Kelly Whitaker - Bookkeeper

Eric Williams - Receptionist

# Convention Worship

Morning Prayer - 90

Noonday Prayer - 95

Holy Eucharist - 98

## MORNING PRAYER

*Standing as able*

You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but citizens together with the saints and members of the household of God. *Ephesians 2:19*

### CONFESSION

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Officiant* O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

*People* **And your glory all the day long.**

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

*Officiant* O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

*People* **And your glory all the day long.**

**INVITATORY** Venite Psalm 95:1-11

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; \***

**let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving \***

**and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.**

**For you are a great God; \***

**you are great above all gods.**

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth, \***

**and the heights of the hills are yours also.**

**The sea is yours, for you made it, \***

**and your hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, \***

**and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**For you are our God,**

and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. \*  
 Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!  
 Let us listen today to God's voice:  
 Harden not your hearts,  
 as your forebears did in the wilderness, \*  
     at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,  
     when they tempted me.  
 They put me to the test, \*  
     though they had seen my works.  
 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, \*  
     "This people are wayward in their hearts;  
     they do not know my ways."  
 So I swore in my wrath, \*  
     "They shall not enter into my rest."

*Seated*

**PSALM 108:1-6 (7-13)**

1 My heart is firmly fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; \*  
     I will sing and make melody.  
 2 Wake up, my spirit;  
     awake, lute and harp; \*  
     I myself will waken the dawn.  
 3 I will confess you among the peoples, O Lord; \*  
     I will sing praises to you among the nations.  
 4 For your loving-kindness is greater than the heavens, \*  
     and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.  
 5 Exalt yourself above the heavens, O God, \*  
     and your glory over all the earth.  
 6 So that those who are dear to you may be delivered, \*  
     save with your right hand and answer me.  
 7 God spoke from his holy place and said, \*  
     "I will exult and parcel out Shechem;  
     I will divide the valley of Succoth.  
 8 Gilead is mine and Manasseh is mine; \*  
     Ephraim is my helmet and Judah my scepter.  
 9 Moab is my washbasin,  
     on Edom I throw down my sandal to claim it, \*  
     and over Philistia will I shout in triumph."  
 10 Who will lead me into the strong city? \*  
     who will bring me into Edom?  
 11 Have you not cast us off, O God? \*  
     you no longer go out, O God, with our armies.  
 12 Grant us your help against the enemy, \*  
     for vain is the help of man.  
 13 With God we will do valiant deeds, \*  
     and he shall tread our enemies under foot.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## THE LESSON

Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Standing as able*

## CANTICLE J

**A Song of Judith** *Judith 16:13-16*

I will sing a new song to my God, \*  
for you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible.  
Let the whole creation serve you, \*  
for you spoke and all things came into being.  
You sent your breath and it formed them, \*  
no one is able to resist your voice.  
Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, \*  
rocks melt like wax at your presence.  
But to those who fear you, \*  
you continue to show mercy.  
No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, \*  
but whoever fears the Lord shall stand in your sight for ever.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**He descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again.**  
**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

*Officiant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**V.** Help us, O God our Savior;

**R.** **Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**

**V.** Look upon your congregation;

**R.** **Give to your people the blessing of peace.**

**V.** Declare your glory among the nations;

**R.** **And your wonders among all peoples.**

**V.** Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

**R.** **Never forget the lives of your poor.**

**V.** Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

**R.** **And your favor to those who are true of heart.**

**V.** Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

**R.** **So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**

### *For the Unity of the Church*

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, as you and he are one: Grant that your Church, being bound together in love and obedience to you, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### *A Collect for Guidance*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *Prayers for Mission*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving may be offered.*

***A Prayer of St. Chrysostom***

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**CONCLUDING SENTENCE**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*

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## NOONDAY PRAYER

*Standing as able*

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

*People* O Lord, make haste to help us.

*All* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**Hymn** Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

H 482



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our lab - ors, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

### PSALM 119

105 Your word is a lantern to my feet \*  
and a light upon my path.

106 I have sworn and am determined \*  
to keep your righteous judgments.

107 I am deeply troubled; \*  
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.

108 Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips, \*  
and teach me your judgments.  
109 My life is always in my hand, \*  
yet I do not forget your law.  
110 The wicked have set a trap for me, \*  
but I have not strayed from your commandments.  
111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; \*  
truly, they are the joy of my heart.  
112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes \*  
for ever and to the end.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*A passage of Scripture is read.*

From the rising of the sun to its setting my Name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to my Name, and a pure offering; for my Name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of Hosts.

*Malachi 1:11*

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*A period of silence follows.*

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

*Officiant and People*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*Officiant* Lord, hear our prayer;

*People* **And let our cry come to you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*The Officiant then says the Collect.*

Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving may be offered.*

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## PRELUDE

### THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn O day of peace that dimly shines *Standing as able*

H 597



1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our  
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the



hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and  
fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly



love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of  
graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -



hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -  
mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -



lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's  
cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the



prom - ised reign of peace.  
earth shall know the (Lord.)



Lord.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## GLORIA Glory to God

*Wonder, Love, and Praise 821*



Glo - ry to God; Praise to the Son;  
Glo - ry to God; Praise to the  
Love to the Spi - rit; Three and yet One.  
Son; Love to the Three and yet One.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, you have given the Holy Spirit to abide with us for ever: Bless, we pray, with his grace and presence, the bishops, priests, deacons, and laity here assembled in your Name, that your Church, being preserved in true faith and godly discipline, may fulfill all the mind of him who loved it and gave himself for it, your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 49:5-13

And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and

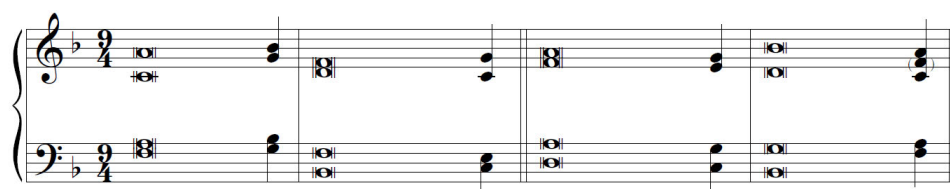
they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.” Thus says the Lord: In a time of favor I have answered you, on a day of salvation I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; saying to the prisoners, “Come out,” to those who are in darkness, “Show yourselves.” They shall feed along the ways, on all the bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will turn all my mountains into a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Lo, these shall come from far away, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene. Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

*Reader*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 67** *Sung by all*

Stephen Sollars



(Note in parentheses last time)

- 1 May God be merciful to us and **bless us**, \*  
show us the light of his countenance and **come to us**.
  - 2 Let your ways be known upon **earth**, \*  
your saving health among all **nations**.
  - 3 Let the peoples praise you, O **God**; \*  
let all the peoples **praise you**.
  - 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for **joy**, \*  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon **earth**.
  - 5 Let the peoples praise you, O **God**; \*  
let all the peoples **praise you**.
  - 6 The earth has brought forth her **increase**; \*  
may God, our own God, give us his **blessing**.
- (second half)*
- 7 May God give us his **blessing**, \*  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in **awe of him**.

**THE SECOND LESSON**

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is,

the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

*Reader*     **The Word of the Lord.**

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA** Celtic Alleluia *Standing as able*

*My Heart Sings Out 20*



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**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 28:16-20

*Deacon*     The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*     **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

*Deacon*     The Gospel of our Savior.

*People*     **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON AND CONVENTION ADDRESS** *Seated*

The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White

**THE NICENE CREED** *Standing as able*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,**

true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Form IV

*Bishop* Beloved of God, let us offer our prayers for the Church and its mission in the world, saying:  
Gracious God, hear our prayer..

For the Church and all its leaders, past, present, and still to come: with gratitude for the legacy and witness of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and for the new leadership of Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe; that your Church may be strengthened and your call to us renewed, day by day, let us pray.

*People* **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of this diocese: for our delegates, clergy, and staff; for our bishop, Kristin; for all who have made it possible for us to gather here today; that the good work you have given us to do in the course of this diocesan convention may serve to build up the Body of Christ, and that our faith will lead us to action in our various communities, let us pray.

*People* **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of this, and every nation, and for all who hold positions of public trust: that they may work toward justice and peace, with respect for people's dignity and care for the common good, let us pray.

*People* **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

For all people who stand in need: for those who have been displaced by hurricanes, fires, and other natural disasters; for those who are hungry; for those without shelter; for those who are cold; for those who are lonely; for those who grieve; that we will work together, with your help, to bring sustenance and healing and hope, let us pray.

*People*    **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

For the care of your creation: for the earth and the seas and the skies, and all that is in them; that we will honor the work of your hands in the ways that we live and move and have our being, let us pray.

*People*    **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

For those who have died: for the beloved departed of this diocese whom we now name (*please pray aloud or silently the names from our diocesan necrology included with your convention name tag*); that they may rest in your grace and peace, let us pray.

*People*    **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect:*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Celebrant*    The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

**WELCOME** *Seated*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*Ephesians 5:2*

*The people stand as they are able while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

OFFERTORY HYMN All who hunger gather gladly

Wonder, Love, and Praise 761



1. All who hun - ger gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na  
2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a  
3. All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is



is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring.  
wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.  
liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.



Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for  
Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were  
Here, in peace, we have been fed. Blest are those who



days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.  
lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.  
from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.



Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see that God is good.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B (Expanded Language)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S 130

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na".

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**All We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*A period of silence may be kept*

*Bishop* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**  
*Bishop* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **THE INVITATION**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*A note about communion: There will be communion stations where bread and wine will be administered. Please find the station nearest your area and proceed as directed. Gluten Free wafers are available upon request, please let the clergy know when you approach.*

*If you prefer to receive a blessing, instead of the sacrament, please cross your arms over your chest to indicate your desire and the priest will offer God's blessing upon you.*

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me  
 2. When my way grows— drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger  
 3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws—

1. stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
 2. near, When my life is al - most gone;  
 3. near, And the day is past and gone;

1. — Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the  
 2. — Hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand, lest I  
 3. — At the riv - er I stand, Guide my feet, hold my

1. light, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.  
 2. fall, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.  
 3. hand, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to  
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.  
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

1 Draw nigh and take the Bo - dy of the Lord,  
 2 Saved by that Bo - dy and that ho - ly Blood,  
 3 Sal - va - tion's giv - er, Christ, the on - ly Son,  
 4 Of - fered was he for great - est and for least,  
 5 Ap - proach ye then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,

1 and drink the ho - ly Blood for you out - poured.  
 2 with souls re - freshed, we ren - der thanks to God.  
 3 by his dear cross and blood the vic - tory won.  
 4 him - self the Vic - tim, and him - self the Priest.  
 5 and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

6 He that his saints in this world rules and shields  
 to all believers life eternal yields;

7 with heavenly bread he makes the hungry whole,  
 gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

8 Alpha-Omega, unto whom shall bow  
 all nations at the doom, is with us now.

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
 2 Come, al - mighty - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

**THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER** *Standing as able*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**THE BLESSING**

*The Bishop blesses the people saying*

*Bishop* Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*People* **The maker of heaven and earth.**

*Bishop* Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

*People* **From this time forth for evermore.**

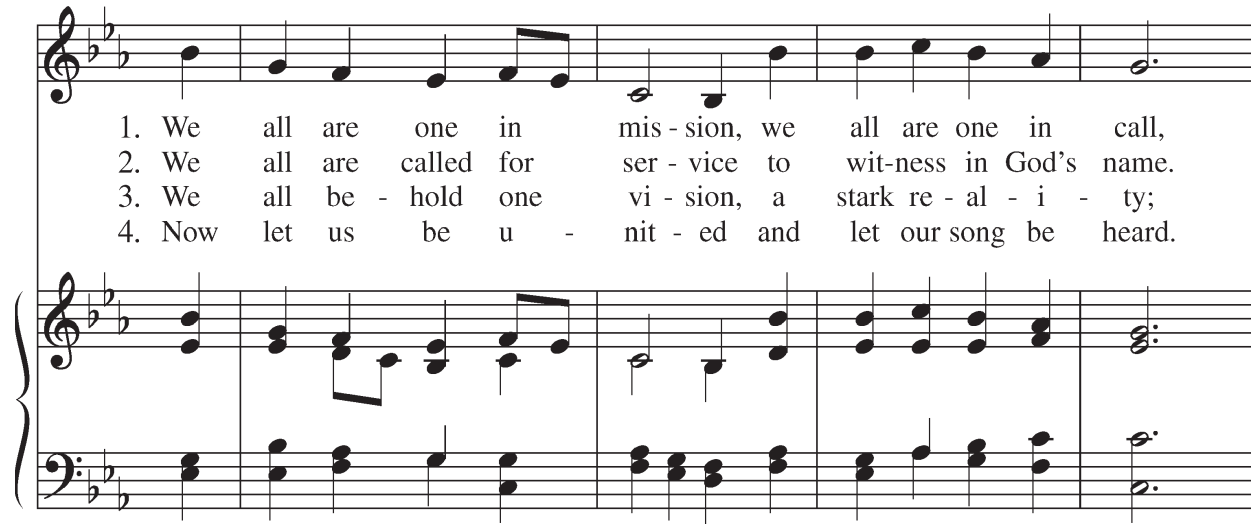
*Bishop* The blessing, mercy, and grace of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

*People* **Amen.**

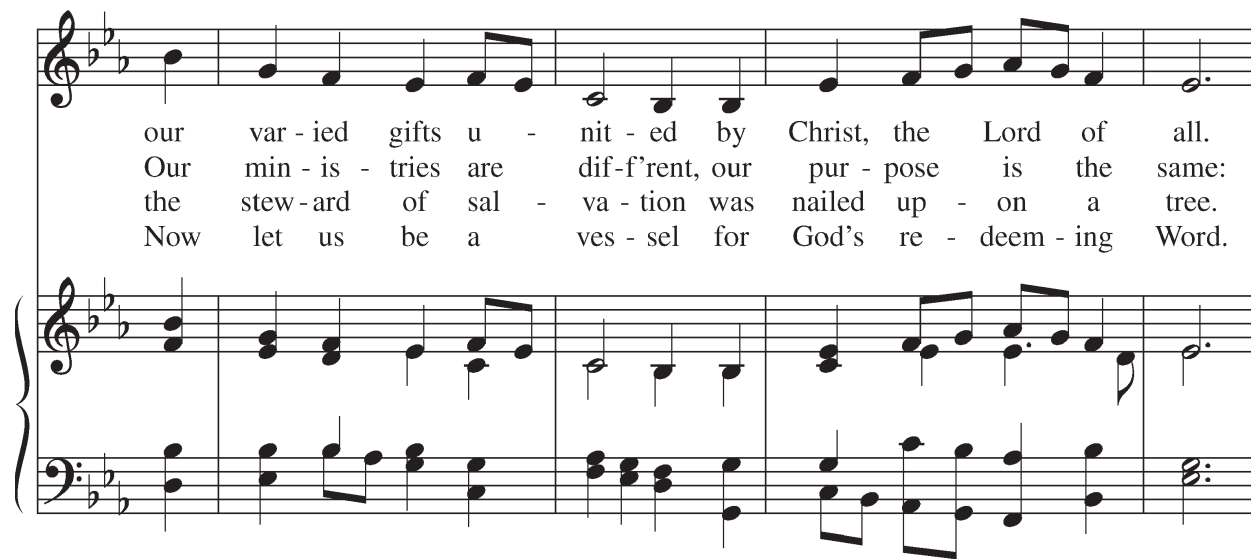
**THE DISMISSAL**

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**



1. We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,  
2. We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.  
3. We all be - hold one vi - sion, a stark re - al - i - ty;  
4. Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent, our pur - pose is the same:  
the stew - ard of sal - va - tion was nailed up - on a tree.  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
Yet res - ur - rect - ed Jus - tice gives rise that we may share  
We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so peo - ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.  
free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.  
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

**POSTLUDE**

# Necrology

*At our 150th Diocesan Convention, we will remember our leaders who have died since we last met. The names included on this list were provided by individual congregations via an optional submission form.*

## CLERGY

William O. Bales	May 25, 2024
John L. Clark	July 7, 2024
Kathryn Clausen	August 14, 2024
Myrick Cross	February 10, 2024
Robert Matheus	September 9, 2024
John A. Morrison	October 6, 2024
Lorentho Wooden	October 7, 2024

## LAITY

Daniel B. Ames	Calvary, Cincinnati	August 2, 2024
Thomas "Tim" Bainbridge	Trinity, Columbus	
Walter Bamford	St. Barnabas, Montgomery	August 16, 2024
Peg C. Bammann	St. Luke's, Granville	February 12, 2024
Faye Barbeau	St. Thomas, Terrace Park	June 21, 2024
Tayonna Barnett	Christ Church, Dayton	
Sarah J. Becker	Christ Church Cathedral	
David Belew	Trinity, Hamilton	October 5, 2024
Margery Belew	Trinity, Hamilton	December 30, 2023
Jack D. Berner	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	March 26, 2024
George Thomas Bible	Calvary, Cincinnati	August 14, 2024
Sharon Ann Scott Bossert	St. Peter's, Delaware	
Elizabeth L. Bronsil	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	July 17, 2024
Marilyn F. "Sammie" Bubel	Christ Church Cathedral	December 28, 2023
Jimmy Bussey	Calvary, Cincinnati	August 22, 2024
John Chesher	Trinity, Hamilton	February 12, 2024
Lucille Conliffe	St. Andrew's, Cincinnati	July 28, 2024
Mike Craig	Trinity, Newark	November 18, 2023
William S. Culp	Redeemer, Cincinnati	September 6, 2024
Rose Dwight	Christ Church, Dayton	October 31, 2024
Nancy C. Emery	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	December 1, 2023
Robert L. Emery	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	June 2, 2024
Joyce Faser	St. Andrew's, Cincinnati	January 2, 2024
Daniel Ferguson	Holy Trinity, Oxford	
E. Richard Fleet	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	December 31, 2023
Irmadel "Del" Goodell	St. Luke's, Granville	November 5, 2024
TD Griley	Trinity, Newark	

Ingrid Grupp	Calvary, Cincinnati	October 14, 2024
Dorothy Hanson	St. Peter's, Gallipolis	February 14, 2024
Leora D. Hardy	Redeemer, Cincinnati	October 12, 2024
Mary K. Hatt	Christ Church Cathedral	November 25, 2023
Nan Hauck	Calvary, Cincinnati	June 25, 2024
Jeanne Hayes	St. Andrew's, Cincinnati	August 13, 2024
Lorraine R. Heizer	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	January 24, 2024
Judith "Rudy" Ann Hill-Porter	Trinity, Columbus	
David Hixon	Trinity, Columbus	
Vernon Hogdon	St. Mark's, Dayton	February 27, 2024
David M. Holbrook	Redeemer, Cincinnati	March 21, 2024
Michael Johnson	Trinity, Newark	
Ronal Jordan	Trinity, Hamilton	Sept. 28, 2024
Betty Julian	Holy Trinity, Oxford	
Kevin Kay	Trinity, Columbus	
Heidi Jo Kendall-Newgard	St. Peter's, Delaware	
David A. Krafft	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	May 21, 2024
Stan Kummer	Christ Church Cathedral	
Terrell Lackey	Calvary, Cincinnati	June 25, 2024
William "Bill" Lane	Trinity, Columbus	
William Larson	All Saints, Portsmouth	December 31, 2023
Gary Loveday	Trinity, Newark	
Peter Ludwig	Redeemer, Cincinnati	November 29, 2023
Jean Lutz	Holy Trinity, Oxford	
Edward Maag	St. Mark's, Columbus	March 30, 2024
Lila Mason	Holy Trinity, Oxford	
Harold A. "Bud" Merten, Jr.	Redeemer, Cincinnati	September 4, 2024
Jean S. Miller	St. Barnabas, Montgomery	September 23, 2024
Mildred Mooney	Christ Church, Dayton	
Paul H. Moore	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	October 4, 2024
Michael Murray	St. Mark's, Columbus	September 1, 2024
Frank "Rocky" Morris	Trinity, Columbus	
Vivian Morris	Christ Church Cathedral	May 11, 2024
John "Jack" Otter	St. Luke's, Granville	October 20, 2024
David M. Pavlik	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	April 5, 2024
Kathy Pawlak	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	December 5, 2023
Adoria "Nikki" Perkins	St. Andrew's, Cincinnati	January 28, 2024
Cynthia W. Powell	Redeemer, Cincinnati	January 6, 2024
Spencer A. Pugh	St. Anne's, West Chester	April 17, 2024
Ida M. Riley	St. Barnabas, Montgomery	October 23, 2024
Paul Rogers III	Redeemer, Cincinnati	March 20, 2024
Patricia Rugola	Trinity, Columbus	May 1, 2024
Dow Saunders	St. Peter's, Gallipolis	April 21, 2024
Shirley Schooler	Christ Church Cathedral	August 30, 2024
Sam Slee	St. Mark's, Columbus	February 5, 2024
Bazil Smith	Trinity, Hamilton	August 26, 2024

Kathleen Stevens	St. Barnabas, Montgomery	October 31, 2024
James H. Stoehr III	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	February 24, 2024
Gordon Strauss	St. Andrew's, Cincinnati	March 10, 2024
Patricia Subbayya	Calvary, Cincinnati	January 8, 2024
Cecelia Sukai	St. James, Cincinnati	
Andra Surratt	St. Andrew's, Cincinnati	January 15, 2024
Robert B. Swan	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	March 24, 2024
Ralph Sylvester, Sr.	St. Peter's, Delaware	
Richard Warren	St. Luke's, Granville	June 9, 2024
Charles Weigel	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	November 25, 2023
Richard "Rich" Whaley	Trinity, Columbus	
Carol Jean Whitehead	St. Andrew's, Cincinnati	July 9, 2024
Judith Willoughby	St. Timothy's, Cincinnati	October 21, 2024
Bob Works	Christ Church Cathedral	November 12, 2024
Peg Ziegler	Trinity, Hamilton	June 17, 2024

*O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our siblings from the Diocese of Southern Ohio. We thank you for giving them to us, their family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*