



# Diocese of Southern Ohio

151st Diocesan Convention

**NOVEMBER 14-15, 2025 - HAMILTON, OHIO**

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## Version History

Oct. 15 - Published with the Second Call to Convention

Oct. 23 - Updates to Exhibits, Reports, Workshops

Nov. 7 - Final Version Published

## People of God in Southern Ohio,

*Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n to Earth come down...*

Even in the midst of a very real sense of danger and dread in these past months, the people of our diocese have showed up. You've connected. You've served. You've advocated and stood in solidarity with neighbors.

*Come, Almighty, to deliver, Let us all thy grace receive...*

As LGBTQ+ rights are challenged and as vitriol grows, our diocese has grown our LGBTQ+ ministries, further investing in the ministry and leadership of our beloved siblings. As our Latino members and neighbors live in fear of unlawful detention and deportation, we've welcomed our missioner for Latino ministries, given parish leaders support for interactions with ICE, and promised clergy legal assistance in circumstances of civil disobedience. As White Supremacy once more grows in the soil of our country, our Reparations Task Force has done its work and comes to us with the next step in our diocesan-wide commitment to racial justice and reconciliation.

*Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy host above...*

Yes, friends, we live in frightening days. But I hold out a sustaining sense of hope: hope given to us in God's love, in the example of Christ Jesus, in the guidance of the Spirit, and in you: the beloved people of Southern Ohio. I hold the hope of our hearts, tethered to the love of our living God. In this 151st Convention of Southern Ohio, we will explore that hope. We'll look for ways to share that hope with a world that needs it - desperately. We'll learn together, work together, inspire together for that hope to be shared. It is a joy to be your bishop, and to gather for this convention with you.

*Changed from glory into glory, Till in Heav'n we take our place  
Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!*

**Yours in Christ,**



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

# Convention 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.

This schedule is subject to change.

## FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 14th

9:00 am	Exhibitors set-up time	Mezzanine (2nd Floor)
11:30 am	Lunch served until 1 pm	Riverside Ballroom
Noon	Check-in and Exhibits Open	Mezzanine
1:00 pm	Opening Plenary*	Hamilton Ballroom
2:00 pm	Session I Workshops	See pgs. 8-12
3:00 pm	Session II Workshops	See pgs. 8-12
4:00 pm	Session III Workshops	See pgs. 8-12
5:00 pm	Eucharist with Annual Bishop's Address*	Butler Ballroom
6:30 pm	Banquet Dinner	Riverside Ballroom

Childcare will be available from 1-5 pm on Friday.  
Parking lot shuttle will run from 10-1 pm and 3-6 pm.

## SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 15th

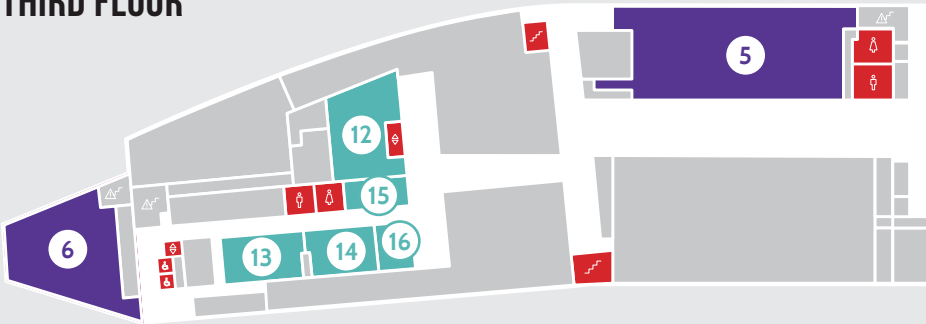
7:00 am	Dais Meeting	Hamilton Ballroom
8:30 am	Check-in and Exhibits Open	Mezzanine
9:00 am, cont.	Morning Session* Morning Prayer Call to Order Convention Business Keynote Address Noonday Prayer	Hamilton Ballroom
12:15 pm	Lunch Clergy Spouse Luncheon Deacons' Luncheon	Riverside Ballroom Fork & Palate Restaurant Lane Conference Room
1:45 pm	Afternoon Session* Convention Business, including Budget	Hamilton Ballroom
By 5:30 pm	Adjournment and Dismissal	

Childcare will be available from 9 am to close on Saturday.  
Parking lot shuttle will run from 7:30-10:30 am and 2-5 pm.

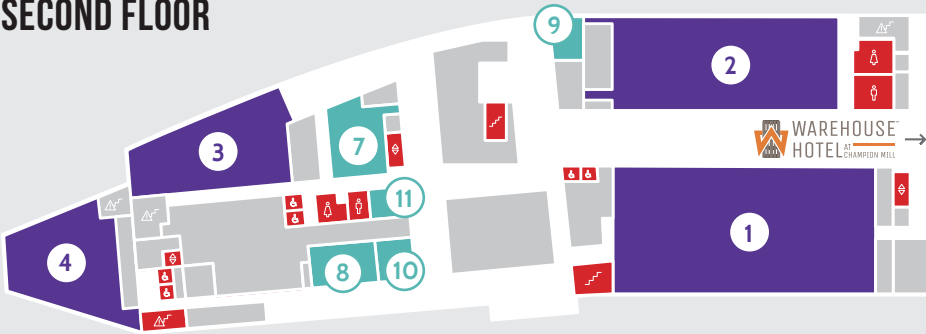
\* Denotes a livestreamed event.

# Convention Center Map

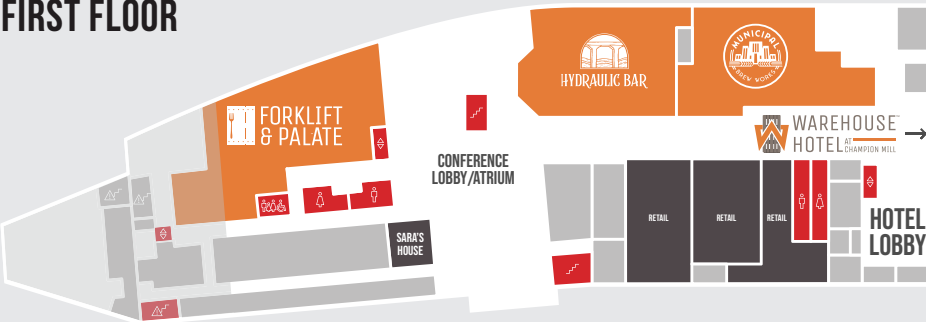
## THIRD FLOOR



## SECOND FLOOR



## FIRST FLOOR



### Halls/Ballrooms

### Size (sq ft)

1	Hamilton Ballroom	8,842
2	Riverside Ballroom	6,149
3	Waterfront Hall	3,006
4	Foundry Hall	2,652
5	Butler Ballroom	4,102
6	Belt Line Hall	2,719

### Conference Rooms

### Size (sq ft)

7	Lane	1,137
8	McCloskey	730
9	Thomson Boardroom	426
10	Ford Boardroom	403
11	Mosler	314
12	Mueller	1,450
13	Monument	1,029
14	Miami	874
15	Chestnut Suite	507
16	Beckett Suite	459

# Exhibit Hall

Our exhibit hall is a space to connect and discover ministries throughout our diocese including opportunities to learn, network, purchase items, and more.

## ☐ BELOVED COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

*Diocesan Ministry*

Learn about this important ministry of our diocese including upcoming events and giveaways.

## ☐ BETHANY SCHOOL

*Episcopal Ministry*

Learn about Ohio's only Episcopal K-8 school. Bethany is located in Glendale and is a ministry of the Community of the Transfiguration.

## ☐ BISHOP HERBERT THOMPSON CHAPTER OF THE UNION OF BLACK EPISCOPALIANS

*Diocesan Ministry*

Learn more about our diocesan chapter of this churchwide network, including membership information and upcoming events.

## ☐ CHAPLAINS TO THE RETIRED CLERGY & CLERGY SPOUSES

*Diocesan Ministry*

An opportunity to learn more and connect.

## ☐ CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY COUNCIL

*Congregational Ministry*

Information regarding the outreach ministry and its collaborations and an opportunity to support by purchasing items.

## ☐ COMMUNITY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

*Episcopal Ministry*

Learn about this Episcopal religious order whose convent is located in Glendale.

## ☐ CRAFTED GOODS FROM JERUSALEM

*Vendor*

Goods for sale including hand carved wood, silver-mounted glass, and stonework.

## ☐ EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

*Diocesan Ministry*

Education for Ministry provides seminary-level theological education for the laity. This year marks EfM's 50th anniversary. Come visit the booth to learn more and sign up.

## ☐ FORWARD MOVEMENT

*Vendor & Churchwide Ministry*

Giveaways and a selection of items for purchase.

## ☐ FREecycle EXCHANGE

*Diocesan Ministry*

An opportunity to share items no longer needed from congregations and to bring home items that can be used, including items from closed congregations.

## ☐ KAIROS OUTSIDE

*Congregational Ministry*

Learn about St. Peter's, Delaware's ministry with women with loved ones in incarceration.

## LGBTQ+ ALLIANCE

*Diocesan Ministry*

Learn more about our diocesan ministries with our LGBTQ+ community and upcoming events for LGBTQ+ Episcopalians and allies.

## MISSION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

*Diocesan Ministry*

Members of the Mission Implementation Team will be on hand to share information about their work and our new diocesan mission, vision, and priorities.

## PARTNERS IN MINISTRY IN LIBERIA (PIMIL)

*Congregational Ministry*

Learn more about this multi-congregational partnership for ministry overseas.

## THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL QUEER BELIEVERS

*Congregational Ministry*

Learn about Church of the Redeemer, Hyde Park's new podcast about LGBTQ+ life in the church.

## PROCTER CENTER

*Diocesan Ministry*

Learn about upcoming events at our diocesan camp, farm, and retreat center, purchase camp swag, and grab a cookie!

## PROVINCE V

*Episcopal Ministry*

Learn about how to get involved with Province V of The Episcopal Church.

## REPARATIONS TASK FORCE

*Diocesan Ministry*

The Reparations Task Force will display our work and invite people into conversation about it. They will also be selling copies of our new diocesan book, *A People's Sesquicentennial History*.

## SEAMAN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE

*Congregational Ministry*

An opportunity to learn more and connect.

## SEMINARY OF THE SOUTHWEST

*Episcopal Ministry*

Learn about degree programs at our Episcopal seminary in Austin, TX and opportunities to visit campus.

## SOCIETY OF THE COMPANIONS OF THE HOLY CROSS

*Episcopal Ministry*

Learn more about our diocesan chapter and the national organization of this almost 150-year-old women's group of the Episcopal Church.

## SOUL GOODS

*Congregational Ministry*

Learn about and purchase items from Christ Church Cathedral's gift shop. All profits benefit organizations building love and equity in the world.

## ST. ANDREW'S, EVANSTON

*Congregational Ministry*

Learn about this historic congregation as they celebrate their 130th anniversary.

## ST. MATTHEW'S, WESTERVILLE BANNERLY PROJECT

*Congregational Ministry*

Decorative banners for sale benefitting St. Matthew's many outreach activities including PIMIL, Street Church, Otterbein's Promise House, and others.

# Our Keynote Speaker

## THE RT. REV. CARRIE SCHOFIELD-BROADBENT

The Right Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent was elected bishop of Maryland in March 2023 and was ordained and consecrated in September 2023 at Washington National Cathedral.



Bishop Carrie previously served the Diocese of Central New York as canon for transition ministry and congregational development. She has served as a conflict resolution consultant for churches across the church and as a trainer in the College for Congregational Development.

Deeply committed to honoring the dignity of every human being, Bishop Carrie consistently attends to her own work around race, climate change, economic justice, and full inclusion of LGBTQ+ persons and is committed to helping the church grow in these areas. She identifies her own core values of ministry as: trust and relationships, truth and transparency, and compassion and faithfulness.

## Plenary & Workshops

*The elements described in the Rule of St. Benedict—stability, obedience, and conversion of life—provide a framework for approaching the spiritual life of both individuals and our faith communities. We will begin our 151st Convention by learning the Benedictine Life Model as offered through the College for Congregational Development, first with our plenary session and then in smaller workshops.*

### PLENARY: DIVINE LOVE IN A WORLD OF CHANGE

1 PM - Hamilton Ball Room

*Hosted by the Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White, bishop of Southern Ohio, and the Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, bishop of Maryland.*

Join Bishop White and Bishop Schofield-Broadbent to learn the Benedictine Life Model from the College for Congregational Development. Through the lens of this model, they will invite participants to explore the cycle of stability, listening, and transformation, encouraging us to hold fast to God's constant and divine love in the midst of our changing church and world.

## WORKSHOP SESSION I: STABILITY

*“Accepting this particular community, this place, and these people...as the way to God.”*

- Esther de Waal, *Seeking God: The Way of St. Benedict*

Stability has to do with the ability to find God in our current situations—the people, the places, the time where we really are.

### SOURCES OF TRANSFORMATION: CREATING SPACE FOR GOD’S WORK IN CONGREGATIONAL LIFE (TASTE OF CCD)

2 PM - Miami Conference Room

*Hosted by CCD trainers, the Rev. Brad Gough, curate at St. Timothy’s, Anderson Township and Anny Stevens-Gleason, minister for congregational development at Church of the Redeemer, Hyde Park.*

In this workshop, Anny Stevens-Gleason and the Rev. Brad Gough will introduce participants to the Sources of Transformation model from the College for Congregational Development. This model helps leaders recognize where and how God is already at work transforming lives within their congregations. Together we’ll explore the areas of transformation in congregational life and consider how to strengthen them, not by adding more programs, but by deepening the impact of what already exists. Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of how to assess their congregation’s strengths and plan for growth in ways that align with Benedictine practices of stability and attentiveness to God’s ongoing work.

### FOR ENCOURAGEMENT AND BUILDING UP: MUTUAL MINISTRY REVIEWS AND A FLOURISHING DIOCESE

2 PM - Belt Line Hall

*The panel discussion includes the Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White, bishop of Southern Ohio; Dr. James Allsop, member of the Standing Committee and St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights; and the Rev. Jed Dearing, president of the Standing Committee and rector of Trinity, Capitol Square.*

St. Paul exhorted the early church in his oldest letter: “Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5.11. Bishop White and the Joint Governing Bodies of the Diocese (Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, and the Diocesan Trustees) have completed a Mutual Ministry Review as a tool for encouraging and building each other up. Join this panel discussion to hear about the process of instituting the Mutual Ministry Review, the insights and encouragement the review provided both the bishop and Joint Governing Bodies, and how local congregations can utilize a Mutual Ministry Review among clergy and lay leadership for their own flourishing.

## OUR PLACE, OUR PURPOSE

2 PM - Monument Conference Room

*Hosted by the Rev. Derrick Fetz, missionary for stewardship.*

God has gifted many of our congregations with a building and perhaps land. How can this gift be used for a congregation to live out its purpose beyond Sunday morning worship and provide meaning for parishioners and community members alike? What do we do if church property is hindering as the result of maintenance expenses and/or deferred upkeep instead of helping a congregation's mission? Come explore answers to these questions.

## WORKSHOP SESSION II: OBEDIENCE

*“A lifelong process of learning...listening to the Word of God, to the Rule, to the brethren, and to the Abbot.”* - Esther de Waal, *Seeking God: The Way of St. Benedict*

Obedience is about listening with an ear to responding, whether we're listening to God through prayer and silence; through Scripture; through others in community; through our own selves; through friends and family; or through the world around us. Obedience is deep listening with an openness to taking action.

## MUTUAL LISTENING: A BENEDICTINE APPROACH TO REST

3 PM - Monument Conference Room

*Hosted by Jerusalem Greer, co-executive director of the Procter Center and Miriam McKenney, missionary for Beloved Community.*

The elements described in Benedict's Rule provide a framework for approaching the spiritual life and the physical life as a whole. In this workshop, we will explore the countercultural practices of following Jesus through rest and retreat to be stronger disciples individually and in our faith communities.

## LISTENING FOR THE HEART OF GOD IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

3 PM - Belt Line Hall

*Hosted by the Rev. Aaron Rogers, missionary for Black ministries.*

Our most important partners in ministry are the neighborhoods in which our churches are situated. This workshop seeks to help participants understand how community collaboration can be a joyful exploration in listening and obedience to the heart of God. Church leaders will learn a framework for community engagement, participation, and collaboration based on the Benedictine Life Model from CCD.

## WHERE GOD SPEAKS BETWEEN US: PRACTICING HOLY LISTENING WITH YOUNG ADULTS

3 PM - Miami Conference Room

*Hosted by the Rev. Olivia Hamilton, missionary for lifelong formation.*

In a time marked by increasing (and often well-founded) skepticism about religious institutions, young people are often asking: Is there more to the spiritual life than rigidity or rule following? Can I listen to God's voice, and the time-tested wisdom of spiritual elders, without losing my own sense of freedom and agency?

As we minister to young adults, we must be poised to engage their worries and wonders from a place of humble curiosity. In faithfully attending to their lived experiences we often realize that they have much to teach the imperiled religious institutions we inhabit and represent.

In this workshop, we'll harvest wisdom from individuals and communities within our diocese that are making space not only to listen to young adults, but also to let what they hear shape the trajectory of their mission and ministry moving forward. Come ready to listen with intention and engage your own deep questions about how our church can equip young adults to live lives of discipline and devotion to the "way of love" that Jesus invites us to share in.

## WORKSHOP SESSION III: CONVERSION OF LIFE

*"A commitment to total inner transformation.."*

*- Esther de Waal, Seeking God: The Way of St. Benedict*

Conversion of life is an expectation of and openness to the new horizon—the new work God is doing in the midst of our lives that is forever drawing us to Christ.

## IF ONLY THEY KNEW ABOUT US

4 PM - Monument Conference Room

*Hosted by the Rev. Jason Emerson, rector of St. Patrick's, Dublin; Liz Brauza-Hughes, data and information manager; and the Rev. Vicki Zust, rector of St. Mark's, Upper Arlington.*

God commands us to share the Good News of Jesus, and folks today need an alternative to the White Nationalist evangelical or Roman Catholic churches around them. People need to know there are Christians of which they don't have to be afraid. While nothing will ever be more effective than a personal invitation, mass mail is cheaper and easier to produce than ever before. Come and learn how to harness free tools to create, mail, and invite folks to worship from folks who have done it and seen the impact.

## **JOURNEYS OF TRANSFORMATION WITH OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS**

4 PM - Miami Conference Room

*Hosted by the Rev. Gerardo Romo Garcia, missionary for Latino ministries.*

How does our understanding of the Pentecost story transform our lives as parishes and individuals? This workshop will combine Scripture and personal experience of leaders across the diocese to offer insight into how our ministries might respond to immigrants in our communities. Come with questions!

## **UNDERSTANDING OUR ORBIT: FAITH DEVELOPMENT IN COMMUNITY (TASTE OF CCD)**

4 PM - Belt Line Hall

*Hosted by Canon Katie Forsyth, CCD trainer and canon for communications.*

God calls people in all stages of faith development into the life of our congregations. A healthy congregation recognizes God at work in all stages of faith and cultivates an invitational movement toward greater maturity: to go deeper in community and in formation, to connect between different stages, and to nurture those at the spiritual heart of the congregation. Canon Katie will teach a model from the College for Congregational Development as a tool for considering our approach to communal faith development of our congregations.

# 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, page 4

### 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 151st Convention admit with seat and voice the lay members of diocesan staff, candidates for holy orders, sisters of the Community of the Transfiguration, Bishop Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, and all non-canonically resident clergy licensed to officiate.

### Ratification of convention appointees:

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

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

Treasurer	Nadya Richardson	St. Philip, Columbus
Registrar	Sarah Beegle	Diocesan Staff
Board of Examining Chaplains	The Rev. Darren Elin	St. Thomas, Terrace Park
Finance Committee	Dr. James Allsop	St. Simon, Lincoln Heights
	Jeff Baldrige	St. Francis, Springboro
	Doug Carr	St. Paul's, Logan
	The Rev. Darren Elin	St. Thomas, Terrace Park
	The Rev. Lee Anne Reat	Trinity, Newark
	Nadya Richardson	St. Philip, Columbus
	The Rev. Gene Sheppard	St. Luke's, Marietta
	The Rev. Benjamin Speare-Hardy	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
	Bradley Sturm	Trinity, Capitol Square
	Dot Yeager	St. Mark's, Columbus
Committee to Review	1st Vice-Chair of Council:	The Rev. Jason Emerson

the Minutes	President of Trustees:	The Rev. Jack Koepke
	President of Standing Committee:	The Rev. Jed Dearing
New Three-Year Appointments to the Commission on Ministry	Sr. Kathleen Crossman	St. Anne, West Chester
	The Rev. Gene Hallahan	Christ Church, Ironton
	Robin Holland	St. Philip, Columbus
	The Rev. Craig Klein	St. Paul's, Chillicothe
	The Rev. Gayland Trim	All Saints, New Albany
	<i>One lay vacancy to be filled</i>	

**Reception of Commission Reports** - see section starting on page 23.

**Approval of the minutes of the 150th Convention** - view from the convention page of the website, or [here](#).

### General Convention Resolutions

#### EXPLANATION:

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)

#### MOTION

The Secretary of Convention moves that this 151st Convention acknowledge the receipt of the aforementioned resolutions from the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church.

# 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 151st Diocesan Convention.*

**R2025-01:** Recommitting to Support of the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals - Page 16

**R2025-02:** Establishing the Commission on Reparative Justice in the Diocese of Southern Ohio - Page 18

**R2025-03:** Dissolving the Union Between Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Southern Ohio - Page 20

**R2025-04:** Mission Share Funding Plan - Page 21

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

The Rev. Alice Connor  
The Rev. Gary Lubin  
Edward Lasseigne  
Darien McCoy  
Jim Heathcote

St. Timothy's, Anderson Township (Chair)  
Church of the Redeemer, Hyde Park  
St. Stephen's, Columbus  
St. Stephen's, Columbus  
St. Mary's, Hillsboro

## **R2025-01: Recommitting to Support of the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals**

**Whereas**, in response to *General Convention Resolution 2015-A021* Conventions of the Diocese of Southern Ohio passed resolutions R2015-01 and R2019-02 and R2022-06, directing the diocese to continue support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at a minimum of 0.7% of the diocesan budget to fund SDG mission grants for the calendar years 2017-2022 and 2024-2026; and

**Whereas** during those years the diocese has supported SDG grants to congregations that have built direct partnerships with faith-based initiatives and other not-for-profits advancing sustainable development throughout the world; and

**Whereas** the SDGs are having a significant impact on eradicating disease and poverty worldwide; and

**Whereas** Episcopalians' steadfast commitment to advancing the SDGs is more crucial than ever in embodying Jesus' call to action, now that the United States Government has cut its support of humanitarian foreign aid, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that in consideration of *Resolution B026 of the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church*, the 151st Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio direct the diocese to continue to support the SDGs at a minimum of 0.7% (a percentage of .007) of the diocesan budget through the end of the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals program in 2030, calendar years 2027, 2028, 2029 and 2030; and be it further

**Resolved**, that SDG mission grants be used to fund world mission programs which address the SDGs and build long-term relationships among partners, with emphasis on leadership development and sustainability.

### **EXPLANATION**

The following organizations have received SDG grants from the Diocese of Southern Ohio since 2017:

- Head & Neck Outreach (medical education, Uganda)
- Transformations CDC (sustainable agriculture, Guatemala)
- Caring Response Madagascar Foundation (literacy, women's self-help groups)
- Infinite Chance (Guatemala - reading program)
- Street Business School (Entrepreneurial program)
- El Hogar Ministries (basic and vocational education, Honduras)
- Companions in Mission (Guatemala)
- Bread for Life
- Partners-in-Ministry-in-Liberia (PIMIL - primary, secondary & trade education)
- Global Needs Fund
- Episcopal Relief and Development
- Global Episcopal Mission Network

For additional information on SDG grants visit [diosohio.org/grants-financial-assistance](https://diosohio.org/grants-financial-assistance).

For more on the SDGs and the global impact they are having: [UN.org/sustainabledevelopment](https://UN.org/sustainabledevelopment)

## **IMPACT**

This resolution continues the allocation of 0.7% (a percentage of .007) of the diocesan budget to the support of world mission through application of the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (formerly the Millennium Development Goals 2000-2015) to “build long-term relationships among partners, with emphasis on leadership development and sustainability.”

Each parish can be involved with world mission through connections to global ministries and in cooperation with other parishes. The Sustainable Development Goals encourage these connections in many ways, including prayer.

## **PRESENTED BY**

The Rev. David Kendall-Sperry	St. Peter’s, Delaware
The Rev. Abeoseh Flemister	Retired
Clifton Flemister	St. Matthew’s, Westerville
The Rev. Joseph Kovitch	St. Matthew’s, Westerville
The Rev. Bruce Smith	Retired
Ariel Miller	Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming
The Rev. Christopher C. Richardson	St. Philip, Columbus
Deborah Stokes-Wayne	St. Philip, Columbus
The Rev. George Glazier	Trinity, London
Lissa Barker	St. Patrick’s, Dublin
Anita Dohn	Cincinnati
James Allsop	St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights
The Rev. Allison English	Calvary, Cincinnati
Wendell Mulford	St. Paul’s, Chillicothe
The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin	St. John’s, Worthington

## **R2025-02: Establishing the Commission on Reparative Justice in the Diocese of Southern Ohio**

**Whereas**, the Gospel of Jesus Christ calls the church to justice, reconciliation, and healing, following the commandment to love God and neighbor;

**Whereas**, the Diocese of Southern Ohio, through the Reparations Task Force, has recognized that racial and economic inequities—rooted in the historic sin of slavery and perpetuated by systemic racism—continue to harm Black communities and other marginalized groups; and

**Whereas**, reparations are a faithful act of repentance, healing, and transformation that embody Christ’s reconciling love; and

**Whereas**, reparative justice strengthens congregations by deepening discipleship, widening witness, and equipping leaders for equity and healing; and

**Whereas**, the scope of this work requires a permanent body with authority and accountability to sustain long-term initiatives; therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the 151st Convention establish the Commission on Reparative Justice as a permanent body, succeeding the Reparations Task Force, to lead, sustain, and expand this work; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Commission include 9–15 clergy and lay members, appointed by the bishop with consent of Diocesan Council, serving staggered three-year terms with reappointment possible; and be it further

**Resolved**, that within its first year, the commission develop a three-to-five-year strategic plan with measurable goals, strategies for congregational engagement, and accountability; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the commission report annually to convention and provide interim updates, including progress on reparative education, financial initiatives, advocacy, reconciliation, and leadership development, all aligned with The Episcopal Church’s Becoming Beloved Community framework; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the commission be funded through the diocesan budget and may seek grants and designated gifts; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the diocese affirm reparative justice as central to its mission, fulfilling the Great Commission through acts of repair, equity, and reconciliation.

### **EXPLANATION**

The Diocese of Southern Ohio has taken important steps in acknowledging the legacy of slavery, racial injustice, and systemic inequities that have shaped our communities and church. The creation of the Reparations Task Force was a vital beginning, but as the task force discerned, reparative justice requires sustained commitment over generations, not temporary or ad hoc measures.

This resolution establishes the Commission on Reparative Justice as a standing body of the diocese to ensure continuity and accountability. The commission will advance reparations, support congregations, and build partnerships that heal and repair broken relationships.

Reparations are not only a matter of justice but also a gospel imperative. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18–20) sends us to make disciples, teaching all Christ has commanded. This calls us to embody reconciling love by addressing the deep wounds of racial injustice. Through reparative action, we proclaim the Good News with integrity, showing that the church not only names sin but

also works to repair its harm.

This work strengthens congregations by deepening discipleship, equipping leaders for ministries of justice and reconciliation, and rooting parish life in practices of equity, healing, and belonging. We also recognize that other communities have been harmed by economic injustice within the diocese. The work of reparations offers a model for seeking justice and repair that speaks to their unique circumstances.

The commission's work will align with The Episcopal Church's Becoming Beloved Community framework, a proven model for racial healing, justice, truth-telling, and repair. By creating this commission, the Diocese of Southern Ohio commits to living more fully into its baptismal covenant: to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.

## **IMPACT**

Reparations are not only a matter of justice; they are a gospel imperative. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) sends us into the world to make disciples, teaching all that Christ has commanded us. This requires us to embody Christ's reconciling love by addressing the deep wounds of racial injustice. Through reparative action, we proclaim the Good News with integrity, showing the world that the church not only names sin but also works to repair its harm.

This work will strengthen congregations by deepening discipleship, equipping leaders for ministries of justice and reconciliation, and rooting parish life in practices that embody the values of equity, healing, and belonging. We are aware that other communities have been harmed by economic injustice within the diocese. The work of reparations provides a model by which these communities can seek justice and repair that speaks to their own particular circumstances. It is our hope that the new commission will inspire and support other communities championing their own journey toward wholeness and healing.

The establishment of a diocesan Commission on Reparative Justice will require ongoing financial support from the diocesan budget. Initial costs are expected to include meeting expenses and program resources to sustain the Commission's work. Additional costs may arise as the commission develops and administers reparative initiatives, including possible financial commitments to affected communities. While specific dollar amounts cannot be projected until the commission develops its strategic plan, the financial impact is anticipated to be moderate but ongoing. The commission will also be authorized to seek external funding sources, including grants and designated gifts, to supplement diocesan allocations.

## **PRESENTED BY**

### *The Reparations Task Force:*

The Rev. Karl Stevens, co-chair	St. Stephen's, Columbus
Larry James, co-chair	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
Dianne Ebbs	Christ Church Cathedral
The Rev. Olivia Hamilton	Diocesan Staff
Emily Joyce	Christ Church, Dayton
Miriam McKenney	Diocesan Staff, Liaison
Ariel Miller	Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming
The Rev. Karen Montagno	Grace, College Hill
The Rev. Jason Oden	Indian Hill Church, Indian Hill
The Rev. Aaron Rogers	Diocesan Staff, Liaison
The Rev. Christopher Slane	St. Andrew's, Evanston
Deborah Stokes	St. Philip, Columbus
The Hon. Tyrone Yates	St. Andrew's, Evanston

## **R2025-03: Dissolving the Union Between Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Southern Ohio**

**Resolved**, that upon a vote of two-thirds of each order of the 151st Convention, the union between Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Kenwood, Ohio and the Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio be dissolved; and be it further

**Resolved**, that at the same time, the “contract of closure” delivered to the Standing Committee by the Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White, Bishop of Southern Ohio on October 9, 2025, becomes effective.

### **EXPLANATION**

The leadership and members of the congregation met on multiple occasions to prayerfully decide the future of the congregation. The congregation decided it should officially close. The independent preschool remained open until August 31, 2025.

### **PRESENTED BY**

The Standing Committee  
The Rev. Jed Dearing, President

Trinity, Capitol Square

## R2025-04: Mission Share Funding Plan

Be it **Resolved**, that the Mission Share Funding Plan for the years 2026 – 2028 be set using a graduated share formula applied to all congregations of the diocese. This share formula shall consist of the Total Non-Restricted Revenue (currently defined on page 3 of the Parochial Report as Line 3 & Line 5, is subject to change with subsequent versions of the Parochial Report by General Convention) multiplied by a simple rate determined by the following graduated scale:

<b>Total non-restricted revenue</b>	<b>Mission Share</b>
Less than \$200,000	5% of total non-restricted revenue
Between \$200,001 and \$350,000	8% of total non-restricted revenue
Between \$350,001 and \$1,000,000	12% of total non-restricted revenue
Over \$1,000,000	13% of total non-restricted revenue

and be it further **Resolved**, that if a parish exceeds a rate threshold of their tier in a given year, the Mission Share Rate increase by one-half of the difference between the tier rates for the first year allowing the parish two years to realize the new rate; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Diocesan Council oversee a Mission Share Review process, that is initiated upon petition by a congregation to reduce its mission share percentage because of extenuating circumstances. In addition, the Diocesan Finance Committee also may petition Diocesan Council to revise a congregation’s Mission Share Rate; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Diocesan Council set a Funding Plan Review in the year 2028 to review and adjust the Mission Share Funding Plan for subsequent years or earlier in the case of changes by the General Convention to the Parochial Report.

### EXPLANATION

At the 2021 Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio Resolution R2021-02 *Mission Share Funding Plan* in part directed the Diocesan Council to set a Funding Plan Review in the year 2023 and adjust the Mission Sharing Funding Plan or establish a new funding plan for 2025 and beyond.

The Mission Share Formula Review Committee met with Diocesan Council on June 8, 2024. More time was needed to meet the criteria which follows:

The Mission Share should be:

- a) Easy to use
- b) Clear
- c) Transparent
- d) Sustainable enough to last for several years
- e) An expression of our diocesan values
- f) Maintain revenue at the current level of \$2.44 million

Diocesan Council passed a motion to eliminate the Mission Share True-Up practice following 2025 and because of surpluses, the Mission Share Formula was modified, discounting the 2024 Mission Share Assessments by 15%.

In March 2025, council heard the complete analysis of the Review Committee’s Mission Share Funding Plan. Following extensive research into how other dioceses managed their Mission Share and in keeping with the above mandates, they proposed the four-tier structure in the resolution above.

In April 2025, the diocese used Zoom Meeting Forums to share this formula along with a simple 10.25% flat rate. The consensus indicated that the flat rate model was too burdensome on the smaller parishes and there were concerns about the steep transition cost between rates in the four-tier model.

In May 2025 the Review Committee shared multiple iterations of a Marginal Rate tier plan which would ease the transition but failed in the areas of easy to use and maintaining revenue at the current level of \$2.44 million. Council accepted their recommendation of the four-tier structure.

Growth is good but should not be financially burdensome. Therefore, a recommendation was presented to Council on October 4, to provide a glide path between tiers and to continue the opportunity of the Mission Share Review process for parishes who need assistance with these transitions.

**PRESENTED BY**

The Mission Share Formula Review Committee

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin, Chair

St. John's, Worthington

# 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**

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

## **OTHER REPORTING BODIES AND ROLES**

Campus Ministries  
Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer  
Episcopal Community Ministries  
Faith in Life Commission  
Lawrence Home & Clergy Daughters  
Minority Empowerment Initiative Trust  
Mission Implementation Team  
Procter Center Board of Advisors  
Province V Executive Board  
Reparations Task Force  
Sustainable Development Goals Grants  
Task Force on Regional Structures

# THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Bradley Sturm, Chair

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

## Overview

The 2026 consolidated budget is balanced.

Summary of 2026 Budget Draft v.8							
	2026 Convention	2026 Other Funds	2026 WCP Fund	2026 Consolidated Budget	2025 Consolidated Budget	2026/2025 Percentage Change	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE ESTIMATE</b>	\$ 3,075,606	\$ 537,771	\$ 2,023,809	\$ 5,637,186	\$ 5,540,276	1.7%	
Staffing Expense Estimate	\$ 2,866,377	\$ 316,532	\$ -	\$ 3,182,909			
Program Expense Estimate	\$ 209,229	\$ 221,239	\$ 2,023,809	\$ 2,454,277			
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE ESTIMATE</b>	\$ 3,075,606	\$ 537,771	\$ 2,023,809	\$ 5,637,186	\$ 5,540,276	1.7%	
<b>Under (Over) Budget</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ (0)	\$ 0	\$ -		

The convention budget is the section on the consolidated budget that is approved by the convention delegates.

Canon XIII lists the items that must be paid from the convention budget:


- Episcopal Church Assessment
- Bishop’s Staff and Office
- Diocesan Convention
- General Convention and Provincial Synod
- Additional expenses as approved by the diocesan convention, Diocesan Council, or in accordance with diocesan accounting policies and procedures.

The Other Funds budget includes the funds that are designated for specific missions and ministries. The bishop decides how the annual allotment from the William Cooper Procter (“WCP”) Fund will be used, with concurrence by the trustees to ensure those uses are consistent with the WCP Fund trust document.

The 2026 budget reflects our diocesan priorities as developed through our diocesan-wide discernment sessions. The chart of accounts was modified to reflect our diocesan priorities.

## Income

The 2026 consolidated budget’s total income for program and operations of \$5,637,186 shows a modest 1.7% increase over the 2025 consolidated budget. The 2026 convention budget has estimated total income for programs and operations of \$3,075,606. The mission share assessment of \$2,436,000 accounts for 79% of that total. The budget anticipates all parishes will pay their full mission share assessments.

 Diocese of Southern Ohio	2026 Convention Budget	2026 Other Funds	2026 WCP Fund	2026 Consolidated Budget	2025 Consolidated Budget	2026/2025 Percentage Change
<b>Total DSO Income</b>	\$ 3,075,606	\$ 537,771	\$ 2,973,809	\$ 6,587,186	\$ 6,240,276	5.6%
<b>Pass Through Ministries - Transfers to Diocesan Subsidiaries</b>						
Procter Camp & Conference Center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 400,000	
Church Foundation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	
<b>Total for Pass Through Ministries</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 950,000	\$ 950,000	\$ 700,000	35.7%
<b>Total Income for Programs/Operations</b>	\$ 3,075,606	\$ 537,771	\$ 2,023,809	\$ 5,637,186	\$ 5,540,276	1.7%

### Expenses

The budget format is changed from prior years to reflect the revised priorities that resulted from the diocesan-wide discernment sessions. We have also consolidated line items and grouped expenses to reflect those revised diocesan priorities. The year-over-year comparisons may be less meaningful this year because of these changes to the budget format.

The bishop’s compensation and expenses are paid primarily by Other Funds, with the Charlotte Elizabeth Procter (“CEP”) Fund covering most of those expenses. The CEP Fund does not provide for the bishop’s pension fund contributions, so that \$40,788 is paid from the convention budget.

The convention budget pays the compensation for the bishop’s staff, the \$445,000 Episcopal Church Assessment as well as the operations of 412 Sycamore. The total for bishop, Staff, diocesan office, administration and Episcopal Church Pledge is \$2,866,377 or 6.0% less than in 2025.

	2026 Convention Budget	2026 Other Funds	2026 WCP Fund	2026 Consolidated Budget	2025 Consolidated Budget	2026/2025 Percentage Change
<b>Bishop's Office</b>						
<b>Ministry Center: 10 Bishop</b>						
<b>Total Bishop</b>	\$ 40,788	\$ 316,532	\$ -	\$ 357,320	\$ 383,526	-6.8%
<b>Total Bishop's Staff, Office &amp; Administration</b>						
Office Team Ministry Center 15	\$ 877,733					
Congregations Team Ministry Center 16	\$ 394,462					
Communications Team Ministry Center 17	\$ 267,024					
Finance Team Ministry Center 18	\$ 499,725					
Administration & 412 Ministry Center 19	\$ 163,190					
National Church Pledge	\$ 445,000					
Finance Operations Ministry Center 61	\$ 178,455					
<b>Total Staff, Admin, 412 and National Church Pledge</b>	\$ 2,825,589	\$ -				
<b>Total Bishop, Staff, 412, Admin &amp; National Church Pledge</b>	\$ 2,866,377	\$ 316,532	\$ -	\$ 3,182,909	\$ 3,385,465	-6.0%

Most of the funding for Ministry Team 20’s mission centers (“MC”) will come from the WCP Fund. Funding is lower for 2026 than it was in 2025 because of the changes in diocesan priorities, as well as the reorganization of the accounting chart of accounts.

	2026 Convention Budget	2026 Other Funds	2026 WCP Fund	2026 Consolidated Budget	2025 Consolidated Budget	2026/2025 Percentage Change
<b>Ministry Team 20 Totals</b>						
Latino Ministries MC 20	\$ -	\$ 24,000	\$ 19,050	\$ 43,050		
Becoming Beloved Community & Black Ministries MC 23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 82,000	\$ 82,000		
Repentance Task Force MC 24	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 202,140	\$ 202,140		
Education / Licensed Ministries MC 26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,001	\$ 29,001		
Community of Deacons MC 27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Retired Clergy MC 28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,725	\$ 16,725		
Outreach & Grants MC 29	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
<b>Total Ministry Team 20</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 24,000</b>	<b>\$ 348,916</b>	<b>\$ 372,916</b>	<b>\$ 571,301</b>	<b>-34.7%</b>

Congregational Ministry Team 30 also relies heavily on the Procter Fund to fulfill their missions and ministries. The 48% growth in spending reflects our diocesan priorities with increased allocations to:

- Formation
- Commission on Ministry
- Congregational Development (formerly “NEC”)
- Curacy Program
- College for Congregational Development (“CCD”)
- Stewardship (new ministry initiative)

	2026 Convention Budget	2026 Other Funds	2026 WCP Fund	2026 Consolidated Budget	2025 Consolidated Budget	2026/2025 Percentage Change
<b>Congregations Ministry Team 30 Totals</b>						
Formation MC 32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,214	\$ 57,214		
Stewardship MC 33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,250	\$ 27,250		
Transitions MC 34	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,800	\$ 22,800		
Campus Ministry MC 35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107,700	\$ 107,700		
Commission on Ministry MC 36	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,300	\$ 99,300		
Episcopal Communities Ministries MC 37	\$ -	\$ 186,239	\$ 100,000	\$ 286,239		
Congregational Development (aka NEC) MC 38	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 244,000	\$ 244,000		
Faith in Life MC 39	\$ -	\$ 11,000	\$ 79,680	\$ 90,680		
Diocesan School MC 40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,000	\$ 59,000		
Ordination Ceremonies MC 41	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,450	\$ 6,450		
Curacy Program MC 42	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 530,000	\$ 530,000		
CoGL (legacy grants) MC 43	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,500	\$ 65,500		
Ecumenical Partners MC 44	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58,050	\$ 58,050		
College for Congregational Development MC 45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 98,000	\$ 98,000		
Parish Support MC 47	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,350	\$ 34,350		
<b>Total Congregational Ministry Team 30</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 197,239</b>	<b>\$ 1,569,294</b>	<b>\$ 1,786,533</b>	<b>\$ 1,205,012</b>	<b>48.3%</b>

Communications and Community Engagement 40 is funded with a mix of convention and WCP funding. The decrease in 2026 from 2025 is the result of the sesquicentennial being a 2025 event. Governance and TEC membership are expenses of the convention budget and in line with the prior year's budget.

	2026 Convention Budget	2026 Other Funds	2026 WCP Fund	2026 Consolidated Budget	2025 Consolidated Budget	2026/2025 Percentage Change
	Convention Budget	Other Funds	Yet to be Funded	Total Expenses		
<b>Communications &amp; Community Engagement 40 Totals</b>						
Communications & Community Engagement MC 51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85,600	\$ 85,600		
Sesquicentennial MC 26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
LGBTQ+ Ministries MC 53	\$ 27,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,500		
<b>Total Communications &amp; Engagement</b>	<b>\$ 27,500</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 85,600</b>	<b>\$ 113,100</b>	<b>\$ 196,769</b>	<b>-42.5%</b>
<b>Governance and TEC Membership Totals</b>						
Provincial Synod MC 71	\$ 9,403	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,403		
General Convention & Lambeth MC 72	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000		
Diocesan Convention MC 74	\$ 57,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,000		
Diocesan Council MC 74	\$ 100,326	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,326		
<b>Total Governance &amp; TEC Membership</b>	<b>\$ 181,729</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 181,729</b>	<b>\$ 181,729</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total Program Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 3,075,606</b>	<b>\$ 537,771</b>	<b>\$ 2,023,809</b>	<b>\$ 5,637,186</b>	<b>\$ 5,540,276</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,075,606</b>	<b>\$ 537,771</b>	<b>\$ 2,023,809</b>	<b>\$ 5,637,186</b>	<b>\$ 5,540,276</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
<b>Under (Over) Budget</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (0)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	

### Summary

The 2026 convention budget is balanced as is the consolidated budget. Revenue and expenses have increased a modest 1.7% from the prior year's budget. This 2026 budget reflects our diocesan priorities as revised by our diocesan-wide discernment sessions.

### Our 2025 members -

Anne Brack	Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming
The Rev. Jason Emerson	St. Patrick's, Dublin
Larry Haas	Christ Church, Glendale
Ericka Hall	St. Philip, Columbus
Carol Herrick	St. George's, Dayton
The Rev. Warren Huestis	St. Mary's, Hillsboro & All Saints, Washington Court House
Bradley Sturm (Chair)	Trinity, Capitol Square
Nancy Talley	All Saints, New Albany
Dot Yeager	St. Mark's, Upper Arlington
Randy Young	St. Paul's, Dayton

# CHURCH FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Sallie Schisler, Chair*

This report outlines key activities, decisions, and achievements of the Church Foundation over the past year. In a period marked by rebuilding and renewed focus, the Foundation took deliberate steps to align its efforts with the diocese's broader mission and priorities.

## **Clarifying Purpose and Strategic Planning**

With two new members elected at the 2024 convention added to the group, the Foundation began the year by clarifying its purpose in connection to the diocese's mission and priorities. A comprehensive work plan was crafted to guide activities and ensure alignment with organizational goals.

## **Grant Moratorium Adjustments**

In response to ongoing needs, the Foundation partially lifted the grant moratorium from 2024 in May to address urgent grant requests. By August, the moratorium was fully lifted, allowing for the resumption of all grant activities.

## **Program Participation and Application Revisions**

Foundation members participated in the diocese's inaugural College for Congregational Development, gaining valuable insights to support congregational growth. The grant and loan application process was revised to incorporate new questions and update existing ones, ensuring greater clarity and fairness in the evaluation process.

## **Communications and Outreach**

Efforts were made to boost communications with congregations, increasing the Church Foundation's visibility and accessibility. This outreach resulted in interactions with 21 congregations, reflecting a 50% increase in engagement compared to previous years—a notable achievement during a period of rebuilding and refocusing.

## **Grant Awards**

To date, the Foundation has awarded \$199,239.85 in grants, with additional awards anticipated at the December meeting.

## **Conclusion**

In summary, the Church Foundation has made significant progress in advancing its mission, supporting congregations, and rebuilding its operations. The steps taken this year position the Foundation for continued growth and service in the coming year.

## **Our 2025 members -**

The Rev. Anne Warrington Wilson	Grace, College Hill	2025
Harold Patrick	St. Matthew's, Westerville	2026
Jean Schelhorn	St. Luke's, Granville	2027
The Rev. Sallie Schisler	Retired, Eastern Region	2028
Drew Abbott	Christ Church Cathedral	2029

# COMMISSION ON CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Respectfully submitted by Anny Stevens-Gleason, Chair, and the Rev. Canon Meredith Day Hearn, Staff Liaison

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

For the last year or so, Bishop White has had this body “on pause” as the diocese clarified its mission and vision. Aside from an Ad-Hoc Commission on Congregational Life (COCL) that met one time to review a funding proposal from the Closed Congregations Fund for St. Barnabas in Montgomery, the COCL did not convene in 2025. Now with a new, clarifying mission and vision and new leadership on the staff-led congregations team, the bishop is prepared to reconstitute this canonical body of 12 members in 2026.

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

In 2025, the diocesan budget reflected a total amount of \$177,00 for the COCL. This is the total of previous grant commitments made to congregations that needed to be fulfilled in 2025.

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

The appointments made by Bishop White for the re-constitution of the CoCL in 2026 takes all of these factors (race, age, and geography) into consideration.

## **Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

It’s anticipated that the new iteration of COCL will meet as-needed, preferably on Zoom to carry out its canonical responsibilities (Canon XV):

1. To support the needs of the bishop and congregations team as it relates to the work of developing our congregations.
2. To make recommendations around the establishment of new congregations
3. To oversee changes in the status of a congregations, changes in designation, and closings
4. To receive and review requests for funding from congregations, pending budget approval for new “Congregational Development Grants.”
5. To ensure and empower the congregations team in conducting an annual review of all mission congregations.

## **Our 2025 members (Ad Hoc Committee)**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:
Drew Abbott	Christ Church Cathedral
Cathy Bagot	Trinity, Newark
Dionne Clifton	St. Philip, Columbus
The Rev. Julie Fischer	Holy Trinity, Oxford
The Rev. Brad Gough	St. Timothy’s, Anderson Township
The Rev. Olivia Hamilton	Calvary, Clifton <i>(at the time of meeting)</i>
The Rev. Sallie Schisler	Retired, Eastern Region
Anny Stevens-Gleason	Redeemer, Hyde Park
The Rev. Gayland Trim	All Saints, New Albany
Emily Von Allmen	Redeemer, Hyde Park

# COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

*Respectfully submitted by Robin Holland, 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, to assist in the discernment of those called to lay ministry, and to advise the bishop about all of these ministry-related activities.

- January 2025 - Interviewed 13 for Explorer Internship Discernment Placements
- February 2025- Training for Internship Discernment Committees (Zoom)
- February 2025 - Explorers Day - 15 explorers participated along with their respective clergy
- April 2025 via Zoom - Training for Parish Discernment Committees (ZOOM)
- May 2025 - Two postulants interviewed for updates on their status, two postulants interviewed for candidacy
- Oct 2025 - Ten interviewed for postulancy
- Planned for upcoming January Discernment Internship interviews and February Explorers Day

In addition to the above meetings:

- We received and responded to update letters from each postulant in the Spring and again in the Fall
- Continued to refine a clearer plan for the reception of orders
- 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 -**

The Commission on Ministry 's budget for 2025 was \$68,938.

These funds were allocated to support the work of the Commission in the following ways:

50120 Contract Chaplain to Seminarians & mileage \$1,238

50280 Travel exp - Seminarians / Chaplains \$10,500

51120 Background Checks \$5,320

51160 Courses, Education, Testing

51250 Hospitality & Fellowship \$25,130

51260 HR Services Psychological Eval \$26,250

51390 Office Expense \$500

## **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—lay or clergy, race, age, sex, and sexual orientation, as well as geography.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 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 to implement and refine the new process for discernment for explorers. The first phase of Parish Discernment was implemented in 2024. The Second phase of Internship Discernment was implemented in January 2025

To increase opportunities for discernment for those called to lay ministries, a Lay Discernment Day at Procter Center will be planned for 2026.

**Our 2025 members -**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:	CLASS OF:
Jermaine Carew	St. Patrick's, Dublin	2025
Sr. Kathleen Crossman	St. Anne, West Chester	2025
The Rev. Cortney Dale	St. Patrick's, Lebanon	2025
Robin Holland	St. Philip, Columbus	2025
The Rev. Craig Klein	St. Paul's, Chillicothe	2025
Chris Nelson	St. Paul's, Greenville	2025
Anne Cappelletti	St. Peter's, Gallipolis	2026
Lauren Cuff Faller	St. Christopher's, Fairborn	2026
Miriam McKenney	Calvary, Clifton	2026
The Rev. Christopher Slane	St. Andrew's, Evanston	2026
Mary Louise Thomas	St. James, Clintonville	2026
The Rev. Vicki Zust	St. Mark's, Upper Arlington	2026
Thomas Jones	St. Patrick's, Dublin	2027
The Rev. Craig Foster	Retired, Columbus	2027
Barbara Bass	St. Margaret's, Dayton	2027
The Rev. Rowena MacGregor	Chillicothe, Circleville, Logan, and Lancaster	2027
The Rev. Stacey Sands	All Saints, Pleasant Ridge	2027
The Rev. Jason Prati	All Saints, New Albany	2027

## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Phil Hooper, Recording Secretary*

**Regarding our mission and work -**

Diocesan Council's canonically established purpose is "to carry out the program and policies adopted by the Diocesan Convention...Council shall have charge of the coordination, development, and prosecution of the missionary, education, and social work of the Church." (Canon XII, Section 1a)

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

Funding for Diocesan Council is primarily for those expenses connected to its six meetings throughout the year; the body gathers at the Procter Center for five out of its six meetings. We believe that in-person discussion contributes to stronger relationships with one another as

well as greater depth and discernment in weighing the important matters entrusted to Council. This year, in particular, the development of our mission-oriented Ways of Working document was enabled by in-person conversations and activities utilizing College for Congregational Development methods and models.

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

Council members are elected by convention with the balance of representation from clergy and lay orders determined by church canon. Bishop White also has the responsibility to appoint members of council; she does so each year with various forms of diversity in mind (both geographic and demographic). This ensures that a variety of perspectives are engaged in our deliberations and priority-setting.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

In 2026, council will devote time at each meeting to explore how our “Ways of Working” are being enacted by our members. This will allow us to continue to develop a culture of generous, joyful, and reflective leadership that is in alignment with the diocesan mission to “embody the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

**Our 2025 members -**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:	CLASS OF:
The Rev. Philip DeVaul*	Redeemer, Hyde Park	2026
The Rev. Pam Fairley	St. Barnabas, Montgomery	2026
Spencer Izor	St. Paul’s, Oakwood	2026
Evan Jameson*	St. James, Piqua	2026
Joshua Sherwood	St. Peter’s, Gallipolis	2026
Marissa Staples*	St. Andrew’s, Evanston	2026
Nancy Talley	All Saints, New Albany	2026
The Rev. Brooklin Taylor	Redeemer, Hyde Park	2026
Anne Brack	Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming	2027
Larry Haas	Christ Church, Glendale	2027
The Rev. Warren Huestis	St. Mary’s, Hillsboro & All Saints, WCH	2027
Rob Konkol	St. Barnabas, Montgomery	2027
The Rev. Jason Emerson	St. Patrick’s, Dublin	2027
The Rev. David Burman	St. John’s, Worthington	2028
Judith Grant	St. Mark’s, Columbus	2028
Ericka Hall	St. Philip, Columbus	2028
Katharine Wagner	St. Mark’s, Dayton	2028
The Rev. Phil Hooper	St. Anne, West Chester	2028

*\*Denotes bishop appointee.*

# **STANDING COMMITTEE**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Jed Dearing, 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. 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.

Standing Committee meets monthly, with additional gatherings for the Joint Governing Bodies Retreat, Mutual Ministry Review and Commission on Ministry Interviews.

The Standing Committee invited both the chair of Commission on Ministry and members of the Trustees to make presentations at meetings so that the Standing Committee. A stronger grasp on both the ordination process and current candidates has allowed the Standing Committee to better prepare for candidate interviews and support the newly ordained. Meeting with the trustees has increased our understanding of the gifts our diocese has been entrusted with and how to better support the bishop on matters of financial concern.

Building on this work of developing relationships across the diocesan leadership bodies, the Standing Committee has made a commitment to providing ongoing mutual support to the bishop. The Standing Committee partnered with both the Diocesan Council and Trustees of the Diocese to complete a Joint Governing Bodies Mutual Ministry review along with the bishop. This shared work has increased understanding and accountability to one another and the diocese as we live out our shared mission.

Finally, the Standing Committee had the privilege of meeting with the Diocesan Reparations Task Force to encourage their initiatives being proposed to address and heal historic and continuing wrongs against the black community in southern Ohio.

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

There is funding available to support in person meetings. Aside from the Joint Governing Bodies retreat the Commission did not utilize these funds this year, instead conducting all meetings over Zoom.

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

Standing Committee meets monthly on Zoom, allowing equal participation without consideration of the additional time and cost necessary to gather for those who live on the far geographic borders of the diocese.

The commission itself is multi-generational, with the ages of three of the six members under fifty years old and the other three, over sixty years old. We are currently comprised of five caucasian members and one Black member. The Standing Committee is currently comprised of two members who minister in Cincinnati, one in Chillicothe, one in Columbus and two in Delaware. Standing Committee is made up of three laity and three clergy, and it is the general custom of Standing Committee for the position of president to alternate annually between laity and clergy, promoting the shared ministry of lay and clergy alike.

Through relationships in the joint governing bodies and throughout the diocese, we can be active to promote the work of the committee, to intentionally encourage members from across diverse racial backgrounds to run for office, and be communicative about the accessibility of serving on this body because of our meeting on Zoom, so that no one discounts themselves by virtue of geographic location or mobility concerns.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

In line with the mutual goals set during the Joint Governing Bodies Mutual Ministry Review, the Standing Committee is committed to the following...

1. Encouraging stability, particularly being attentive to the workload of both the bishop and her staff, that the good work started since her consecration has an opportunity to bloom, in a season when the opportunities for the church to respond are endless, that we carry out the mission set through shared listening sessions.
2. Continuing to build on our shared leadership across Joint Governing Bodies, by inviting members of the Diocesan Council to join for a Standing Committee meeting and share about their work as the convention between conventions.
3. Be attentive to any unhealthy patterns within the diocese that are in need of renewal, and encourage a thoughtful and sustainable intervention and process of change that allows for the possibility of transformation and ongoing health.

**Our 2025 members -**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:	CLASS OF:
Dr. James Allsop	St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights	2025
The Rev. Jed Dearing	Trinity, Capitol Square	2025
The Rev. David Kendall-Sperry	St. Peter’s, Delaware	2026
Emily Ross	St. Peter’s, Delaware	2026
The Rev. Allison English	Calvary, Clifton	2027
Wendell Mulford	St. Paul’s, Chillicothe	2027

**TRUSTEES OF THE DIOCESE**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. John F. Koepke, III, President*

**Regarding our mission and work -**

The Diocesan Trustees exist as an entity within the Diocese of Southern Ohio to receive and invest funds given to the diocese as endowments. The trustees manage the investments of the William Cooper Procter Endowment Fund as well as to advise and concur with the bishop diocesan’s allocation of the endowment’s income. As of June 30,2025, the value of the fund was \$79,758,038. Investment decisions are guided by three goals: 1) maintain the purchasing power of the Fund; 2) long-term growth; 3) provide income to support programs and allocations that meet the endowment’s criteria. Trustees set an annual draw rate based on the rolling average of the fund’s value over the past 12 quarters adjusted for inflation and management expenses. The draw rate in 2025 is 3.75%. The allocations made in 2025 and those anticipated in 2026 can be seen on the Consolidated Budget.

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

The trustees don't receive funding from the diocesan budget. The mission of the trustees is to manage financial assets that provide funds to support programs and ministries in the greater diocese and beyond.

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

Trustees of the diocese are elected by diocesan convention, and trust that diocesan Nominating Committee will offer candidates for election who are representative of our diocese's demographics.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

The Trustees will continue its faithful and prudent management of the funds and assets that have been entrusted to our stewardship; advise the bishop and offer consent to the bishop's proposed allocations from William Cooper Procter Fund; consider ideas and proposals made by the Reparations Task Force and other diocesan entities to strengthen the mission and ministries of our diocese and it's congregations.

**Our 2025 members -**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:	CLASS OF:
The Rev. Jack Koepke	Retired, Western Region	2025
The Hon. Tyrone Yates	St. Andrew's, Evanston	2026
Patricia Hassel	Redeemer, Hyde Park	2027
The Rev. David Pfaff	Christ Church, Glendale	2028
Mike Kennedy	St. Patrick's, Dublin	2029

**CAMPUS MINISTRIES**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Olivia Hamilton, missionary for lifelong formation*

A number of congregations in our diocese are faithfully engaged in the work of campus ministry. Some congregations have historic and well-established connections with nearby colleges and universities, while others are seeing the benefit of establishing new ministries to support the spiritual and religious needs of students and young adults.

In the Cincinnati area, campus minister Chris LaRue (based out of Church of the Advent in Walnut Hills) meets regularly with a group of Xavier students, providing relational support and spiritual accompaniment to XU students both on campus and at Advent.

Church of Our Saviour in Mt. Auburn, under the leadership of the Rev. Terri Thornton, engages University of Cincinnati students through the Lives United program, a non-profit music, arts, and community. The church is also identifying that their pantry can serve as a resource for students experiencing food insecurity.

Good Shepherd, Athens continues to provide a spiritual home for students and faculty at Ohio University. Many of Good Shepherd's choral scholars are studying music at OU, and the Rev. Robert Hill and music director Marsha Reilly get to know and support these young people in many ways.

The Rev. Julie Blake Fisher and the faithful flock at Holy Trinity, Oxford are connecting in innovative ways with Miami students, especially those who may have been mistreated in other religious contexts due to gender/sexuality. A young adult bible study encourages students to wrestle honestly with questions of faith, vocation, and belief.

Up in Columbus, St. Stephen's ministers to the needs of the OSU community. Students go out to lunch after church with Deacon Brice every other week, attend midweek events together, and engage in the study of scripture, theology, and Episcopal tradition. Students serve on the vestry, sing in the choir, and help lead worship.

At St. Luke's, Granville, the Rev. Julia Joyce-Miesse is developing and implementing a new program for students and young adults, especially students at nearby Denison University. Canterbury Club provides a gathering space for diverse college-aged young adults who meet weekly for dinner, conversation, community, and Compline. St. Luke's is actively working to build up an action-based culture of welcome and inclusion for all - no exceptions.

Finally, though not a congregation, Procter Camp and Conference Center is deeply invested in the work of raising up young adults as leaders and disciples. Guided by Jerusalem and Nathan Greer, college students and young adults serve in many capacities at Procter (counselors, kitchen crew, farmhands) and their seasons spent working together lead to the creation of lifelong friendships, a deep sense of belonging, and a space for spiritual and even vocational discernment.

In the coming year, the Rev. Olivia Hamilton, missionary for lifelong formation, will be creating a campus ministry landing page on the DSO website, helping congregations in DSO to identify and leverage their gifts for ministry with young adults, and enhancing our outreach and visibility in order to allow students, especially incoming freshman, to learn about and connect with nearby Episcopal churches. Eric Richey, Campus Ministry Developer for the Province V region of The Episcopal Church, provides resources and encouragement to these efforts.

## **CREATION CARE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMISSION**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Craig Foster, Chair*

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

The commission's mission is to promote creation care and environmental justice within the diocese through support of parish programs, advocacy, and formation.

Parish support: The commission supported promotion of the Season of Creation and helped to promote the efforts of Good Shepherd, Athens to install anew solar photovoltaic system.

Advocacy: The commission worked to address issues related to energy efficiency and community based solar at the Ohio Statehouse through letter writing and phone calls.

Formation: The commission continued supporting the structure for Megan Suttman and Jacob Taylor, two committed and skilled creation care leaders in the Cincinnati area, in implementing a program called Catechism of Place. The program works 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.

This year, we again co-sponsored the Soil to Soul Retreat at Procter Center. This was a very successful third year for the retreat which is now the annual creation care event for Provinces Four and Five of The Episcopal Church. More information can be found through Procter Center.

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

\$20,000 was allocated for the Catechism of Place project

\$7,500 was allocated for direct commission work, of which \$3,750 was dedicated to scholarships for members of the diocese to attend the Soil to Soul event.

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

The people invited to the Task Force described in goals for 2026 below have representatives from all five regions of the diocese.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

I announced my retirement from the commission as member and chair. In discussions with diocesan staff proposed three options for continuing the commissions work. One was to appoint a new chair and continue as the current commission, and the second was to place the work of the commission under the Becoming Beloved Community work of the diocese. The third one, which I recommended, is to temporarily stop commission work and redevelop diocesan creation care and environmental justice work so that it fits clearly within the mission and priorities of the diocese developed in 2024. Based on that recommendation, Diocesan Council voted to stop the work.

As stated in the council minutes from the October 2025 meeting, “Bishop White plans to appoint a Creation Care Ministry Task Force which will engage questions about the nature of creation care ministry in Southern Ohio and the most effective long-term structure to support that work. This new, temporary task force will ensure these ministries are in alignment with diocesan mission, vision, and values.”

**Our 2025 members -**

Dana Carlson	Good Shepherd, Athens
The Rev. Craig Foster	St. Stephen, Columbus
Michelle French	All Saints, Pleasant Ridge
The Rev. Iva Joyce-Miesse	Trinity, Capitol Square
Ariel Miller	Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming
Megan Suttman	Advent, Walnut Hills
Jacob Taylor	Advent, Walnut Hills
Dave Thomson	Christ Church Cathedral
Bill Ubbes	Holy Trinity, Oxford
Kyle Vath	Advent, Walnut Hills
Ken Wright	Christ Church, Glendale

## **ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH OFFICER**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Melanie Slane, Officer*

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

Each diocesan bishop in The Episcopal Church is empowered to appoint an Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer (EDEIO) to serve as their representative to ecumenical and interfaith engagement initiatives throughout their diocese. The mission of the EDEIO is to increase engagement beyond religious barriers that separate the body of Christ and build loving relationships with our siblings of other faith traditions. Three organizations serve as enduring partners for this work:

1. The Ohio Council of Churches, on which our EDEIO serves as vice president. Their main initiatives this year were: anti-gun violence action, mental health stigma reduction, and fair legislative maps. Their much beloved executive director, the Rev. Dr. Jack Sullivan Jr. will retire from this ministry at the end of the year, and the executive team is currently working to call a new interim executive director.
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. Several members the planning committee are Episcopalians, and all church members were encouraged to attend via eConnections. 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 2025 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 obtain photo ID cards that are legally valid throughout Cincinnati.

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

2025 Diocesan Budget 4-66-51220 OCC \$30,000

2025 Diocesan Budget 4-66-51220 EquaSion \$10,000

2025 Diocesan Budget 4-66-51220 MARCC \$22,000

The EDEIO budget also includes mileage and other travel funds for conferences and other gatherings totaling \$2,100 in 2025. We came in under budget this year.

### **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. There have been occasions of increased partnership with churches in the Columbus area in the past several 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. Our new regional structure is a hopeful mission field for this work, and the EDEIO is in conversation with fellow clergy to establish a regional representative for each region of our diocese. The Procter Camp and Conference Center has also been a great partner in hosting an Ohio Council of Churches Board meeting and is opening itself to conversations about an ecumenical summer camp.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

Goals for the EDEIO in 2026 include:

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

## **EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY MINISTRIES**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Michael Ralph, chair*

**Regarding our mission and work -**

The mission of Episcopal Community Ministries is to assist local congregations engage in active ministry to their greater communities.

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

We receive funding from the budget which allows us to offer grants to local parishes. This year, ECM awarded grants in the amount of \$110,155 to churches in the Diocese of Southern Ohio. Grants were awarded to varied ministries such as feeding programs, blessing boxes, after school programs, and food pantries.

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

In recent years, we specifically reached out to SE Ohio to ensure their representation on the board.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

We hope to continue to expand our own relationship with the congregations applying for grants by visiting their church and seeing their ministries in action.

**Our 2025 members -**

Lily Balukjian-Thompson  
Judy Battle  
The Rev. Dan Carlson  
Rae Fellows  
The Rev. Gene Hallahan  
Jane Paraskevopoulos  
The Rev. Michael Ralph  
Andi Wright

St. John's, Worthington  
St. Margaret's, Trotwood  
Advent, Walnut Hills  
St. Stephen's, Columbus  
Christ Church, Ironton  
Calvary, Clifton  
Chillicothe, Circleville, Lancaster, Logan  
Epiphany, Nelsonville

## **FAITH IN LIFE COMMITTEE**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Olivia Hamilton, missionary for lifelong formation*

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

The stated purpose of the Faith in Life grant is to support Christian formation in our congregations. As the missionary for lifelong formation, I became the convenor of Faith in Life when I began in May. Since I began, we have received a number of grant submissions that we've been able to fund in full. These include funding the "Creative Connections" program at St. Barnabas which, in their words, "is a weekly 90-minute interactive experience for seniors with dementia which offers invigorating music and stimulating movement. While participants engage, care partners join a separate support group for education, respite, and connection. The program fosters emotional support, meaningful connections, and a sense of community for all." St. Barnabas members participate in the program and will reflect on how the experience is shaping their faith, sharing their stories in worship and other forums. Faith in Life also supported two other congregations who are striving to provide more robust and connected spiritual care to congregants: Calvary, Clifton and St. Margaret's, Trotwood. Calvary will be training "Stephen Ministers," lay leaders who will provide "high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties." In Trotwood, members of St. Margaret's will use their Faith in Life award to grow their "Triple H" ministry. This ministry seeks to "create a welcoming and inclusive environment where individuals can come together to socialize, learn and prioritize their spiritual journey. We are dedicated to nurturing a vibrant community where everyone feels safe to explore their personal and spiritual growth through workshops, seminar and /or support groups." Each of these projects point to a hunger in our congregations—for spiritual connection, relational depth, and the strengthening of community partnerships. These programs leverage congregational strengths while encouraging contextual Christian formation.

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

The Faith in Life commission acts as the trustees of an endowment from the Second Century Fund to provide grants for programs for Christian education. Each year, approximately \$30,000 is allocated to fund grant requests.

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

The Faith in Life commission was made up exclusively of diocesan staff during the period of flux between bishops. The commission is working to identify individuals to serve on the commission moving forward. People with particular skill or expertise in the area of Christian formation, who help to represent the demographic diversity of our diocese, are especially sought after.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

In reviewing 2025 Faith in Life applications, the commission became aware that the questions in the application do not clearly articulate the goals of the grant. Specifically, the language of the grant application should be more clear about what Christian formation is and how formation can and should be integrated into the programmatic life of a congregation. A grant request should be able to clearly articulate how the proposed project will incorporate or advance Christian formation. To that end, the commission will need to revisit the application to make sure that applicants have a good sense of what is being asked, and that they understand the intended scope and parameters of the Faith in Life grant.

## **LAWRENCE HOME & 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.

1. 4 Clergy daughters were awarded - \$12,000.00 at \$3,000 per grant
2. 7 Minority women were awarded - \$21,000.00 at \$3,000 per grant
3. 3 Non-Profit Organizations were awarded - \$65,867.00
  - a. \$25,867.00
  - b. \$20,000.00
  - c. \$20,000.00

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

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

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 2026 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 2025 members -**

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
Sarah Beegle	Staff Liaison

## LGBTQ+ MINISTRIES

*Respectfully submitted by Drew Abbott, Convenor*

**Regarding our mission and work -**

The diocese has worked for years to facilitate and support parish involvement in Pride events; however, there was little additional collaboration or awareness for community activities of our LGBTQ+ parishioners and allies during the other months of the year. The LGBTQ+ Alliance was formed to support the work of connecting and supporting parishes and individuals in the LGBTQ+ community who are curious about or working to figure out what it means to follow Jesus.

In response to the RFP for funding new ministries that Bishop White opened for the 2025 budget year, we wrote a budget request to augment the work that Canon Julie Murray had been doing for years supporting the Episcopal presence at Pride celebrations across our Diocese. This augmentation includes a reworking of the LGBTQ+ section of the DSO website to include a list of affirming churches. You can find that information and resources at [diosohio.org/lgbtq](https://diosohio.org/lgbtq).

An informational training webinar on “What it means to be an affirming congregation” was held on Zoom, and training for vestries and greeters/ushers has been provided for parishes and the employees at the Transfiguration Spirituality Center.

The first DSO Summit filled the Procter Center in March. The Rev. Beckett Leclair from the Ausable Inclusion Center in the Diocese of the Great Lakes was our keynote speaker, Brianna Kelly provided the music, and the Rev. Phil Hooper was our chaplain. The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White celebrated at our closing Eucharist. It was an amazing event for a capacity crowd of LGBTQ+ folks and allies. We are very excited about our 2026 LGBTQ+ Summit, March 27-29th at Procter. Our keynote speaker will be the Rev. Canon Carla Robinson from the Diocese of Olympia. Procter will also host Camp Pride, August 6-8 next year.

The diocese continues to support our presence at Pride celebrations and parades throughout the diocese, including area Pride services and liturgies.

We are thankful to our diocesan liaisons, Canon Julie Murray and Canon Katie Forsyth for their guidance and support.

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

The DSO LGBTQ+ Alliance received funding from the diocesan Budget, an Evangelism Grant from The Episcopal Church, and a gift from the Ensign Harry James Coombe Fund of Christ Church Cathedral. These funds were/are used to support the missional activities articulated above.

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

Bishop White has appointed a LGBTQ+ Task Force to be a next iteration of diocesan LGBTQ+ leadership to broaden access and ensure better regional representation.

This 7 member group will hold responsibility for retreat planning, formation/training planning, Pride coordination, leadership development (network building for connecting folks to governance and discernment), and pastoral support/prayer resourcing for our LGBTQ+ ministries across the diocese.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

The LGBTQ+ Alliance is a network of LGBTQ+ individuals and allies who are Christians or curious about their faith. We aim to build community, affirm and celebrate our unique gifts, and share the Good News of Christ's love within The Episcopal Church.

We affirm and celebrate LGBTQ+ individuals as beloved children of God. We recognize the pervasive social isolation, particularly felt by LGBTQ+ individuals facing exclusion from their families and faith communities. This ministry initiative offers spaces of inclusion, belonging, and hope.

## **MINORITY EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE TRUST**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Benjamin Speare-Hardy, D. Min., President*

It is with deep gratitude and abiding hope that I present this year's report on the work of the Minority Empowerment Initiative Trust (MEIT). I am honored to submit this report detailing our 2024-2025 grant awards to African American students pursuing higher education. In a time when educational access remains uneven, MEIT stands as a beacon of hope and empowerment.

### ***Purpose and Mission***

MEIT was established to empower historically marginalized students through financial support, mentorship, and communal affirmation. Each grant awarded is not merely a transaction; it is a testimony to our belief in the God-given potential of every student and a tangible investment in the future of our churches, neighborhoods, and institutions. Our mission is clear: to support African American students through financial assistance, spiritual encouragement, and communal affirmation. In a time when access to education remains uneven, MEIT stands as a beacon of equity and empowerment.

### ***2024-2025 Grant Cycle Overview***

- Total Students Supported: 19
- Total Grant Funds Awarded: \$50,000

- Institutions Represented: Xavier University, Kentucky State, Ohio University, Capital University, Morgan State, Wilberforce University, Ohio State, and others
- Renewal vs. New Applications: Majority of grants were renewals, affirming our long-term commitment to students' academic journeys
- Age Range of Recipients: 17 to 43, reflecting both traditional and non-traditional scholars
- Geographic Reach: Students hail from Cincinnati, Dayton, Xenia, and surrounding communities.

### **Impact Highlights**

- Students like Baron Davis (Kentucky State) and Aamani Johnson (Xavier University) received renewed support, demonstrating sustained academic progress and financial need.
- New applicants such as Braylen Davis (Wilberforce University) and Sydney Quency (Morgan State University) represent the next generation of leaders stepping into their collegiate journeys with hope and determination.
- Non-traditional students, including Markeshia Smith and Shante Cook, continue to inspire us with their resilience and pursuit of higher education later in life.

Each grant is more than a check; it is a declaration of belief in the sacred worth and potential of our youth. These students carry with them not only the hopes of their families, but the legacy of our churches and the dreams of our ancestors.

We are deeply grateful to the Diocese of Southern Ohio for its ongoing support and spiritual partnership. Your prayers, encouragement, and financial stewardship make this work possible. We invite continued collaboration as we seek to expand our reach, deepen our impact, and walk alongside these students in faith and solidarity. Let us continue to be a church that invests in possibility, that nurtures leadership, and that believes in the transformative power of education.

May this report serve not only as an account of our work but as a celebration of what is possible when the Church invests in the dreams of its children.

### **Our 2025 members -**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:	STATUS:
Deborah Allsop	St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights	Elected from parish
Judy Battle	St. Margaret's, Trotwood	Elected from parish
LaSaundra Craig	Cincinnati	Bishop's Appointee
Dionne Clifton	St. Philip, Columbus	Elected from parish
Michael Hughes	St. Andrew's, Evanston	Bishop's Appointee
Ellie O. Johnson	St. Andrew's, Evanston	Elected from parish
LaVerne Mitchell	St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights	Elected from parish
Lynee Roberts	St. Margaret's, Trotwood	Elected from parish
The Rev. Benjamin Speare-Hardy	St. Margaret's, Trotwood	Bishop's Appointee
Tiffany Taylor	Dayton	Bishop's Appointee
The Rev. Gayland Trim	All Saints, New Albany	Bishop's Appointee
The Hon. Tyrone Yates	St. Andrew's, Evanston	Elected from parish

# MISSION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

*Respectfully submitted by Kristin LeMay, member*

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

The Mission Implementation Team was assembled to listen across the diocese, to launch new initiatives, and to build strong internal systems to support our shared mission, in order that we might grow in the alignment of our priorities and our practices in our common life as disciples of Jesus in Southern Ohio.

The process began in the spring of 2024, with discernment conversations held across the diocese, in which all people were invited to voice concerns, share hopes, and dream together about who God is calling us to be. A smaller working group, comprised of participants from those initial listening sessions, then came together to draft a mission, values, and priorities statement in keeping with what had been heard. These founding documents were then circulated around the diocese for additional insight and feedback.

Once our collective mission, values, and priorities were named and known, the Mission Implementation Team was established with the goal of cultivating healthy systems and beginning concrete change toward the future we had dreamed up together as a diocese. Serving on this team are:

The Rev. Canon Jodi Baron, canon to the ordinary  
Canon Katie Forsyth, canon for communications  
The Rev. Phil Hooper, rector at Saint Anne's, West Chester  
Spencer Izor, associate vice president, Wilmington College  
Kristin LeMay, vestry at Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens  
Miriam McKenney, missionary for Beloved Community  
The Rev. Gayland Trim, deacon at All Saints, New Albany

This team committed to an 18-month term to help further conversations, seek feedback, and build systems that would support the work of our shared mission. After all, our mission as a diocese must not be a statement that merely lives on a piece of paper; it must be a goal that informs, is enacted in, and is furthered by everything we do.

Toward that end, the Mission Implementation Team took as its charge the following list of diocesan priorities, heard across the previous year of listening:

- **COMMUNICATION:** 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, becoming Beloved Community.
- **STEWARDSHIP:** We share God's gifts generously.

Together we asked how we could take concrete steps to support these priorities. Where were the weak spots in our current systems? Who did we need to talk to learn more? What holes needed to be shored up? What concrete action could we take now? And what next steps would flow from those beginnings?

We worked together to shape these priorities into concrete projects, which we broke into steps,

and ranked by urgency. These projects we tackled in a series of dedicated “sprints” each quarter, whose progress we supported by showing up for weekly check-ins and attending monthly meetings.

The projects we have undertaken across 2025 reflect our direct response to the needs we heard as early as 2024, the mission that grew out of those conversations, and the priorities we as a diocese have named together. This listing shows the work that had already been begun and points toward the work still to come.

### **PRIORITY: MISSION ALIGNMENT**

Project: Coordination of Diocesan Staff and Mission Priorities

At the beginning of 2025, the bishop’s staff goals were three-fold: establish a regular rhythm of meeting as a whole staff and by team, develop a supervision structure for one-on-one staff development and job alignment, and establish a quarterly review process that provided a container for staff to reflect on how their job helped the diocese live into its newly identified mission. They then focused mission alignment efforts on articulating and connecting the concrete elements of their job descriptions with the mission statement, values, and identified priorities. Each staff position was mapped out to reflect which verb of the mission aligned with their job description and then invited to reflect on how their work helped the diocese live into its mission, as well as which priorities their work touched, through the newly established quarterly review process.

### **PRIORITY: COMMUNICATIONS**

Project: Communications Plan Digital Notebook

Toward the goal of an overall communications plan for the diocese as an organization, the Communications Office implemented new regular rhythms of diocese-wide communications channels and modes. After a period of evaluation, these new expressions of our communications ministry will be formalized into a Communications Plan. As part of that, a Crisis Communications Plan was completed and implemented, ready to be initiated in moments of natural or civil crisis. A small group also met to consider the desire for new and curated evangelism tools and training, which are expected to roll out in 2026.

### **PRIORITY: EQUIPPING DISCIPLES**

Project: Diocesan Prayer Team

Because prayer connects us to the purpose of God and supports all we endeavor to undertake in God’s name, the Mission Implementation Team’s first action was to assemble and convene a prayer team. Over the past year, the Diocesan Prayer Team kept the intentions of the diocese and this group close to their hearts and sent those intentions to God, who already knew them. The work of prayer continues.

### **PRIORITY: EQUIPPING DISCIPLES**

Project: Campus Ministry Evaluation

Toward the goal of “equipping disciples,” we identified a need to build up a more robust presence in campus ministries across the diocese. The first step was to collect information about what efforts are already underway. A survey was sent to all the parishes, gathering information about current work on campuses, and what projects might be possible. Preliminary work was also done to create an interactive map that brings together parish locations and nearby institutions of higher learning. With these tools, we have been able to equip the new Missioner for Lifelong

Formation with a starting point for engaging parishes in the call to campus ministry.

**PRIORITY: EVANGELISM**

Project: Evangelism Toolkit

To begin, we conducted a web audit and comprehensive survey of the current online evangelism strategies at work in the diocese. This led to the creation of a small group, who gathered at Procter to begin sketching messages and strategies for a diocesan wide evangelism campaign. The small group identified that before a campaign can be launched, there needs to be concerted formation around evangelism across the diocese. First steps toward this effort involved the creation of a toolkit that can be circulated around the diocese. This toolkit has been shared with the canon for communications and the canon for congregations.

**PRIORITY: FLOURISHING CONGREGATIONS**

Project: Clergy Care System Program Development & Launch

The Mission Implementation Team conducted a comprehensive survey of diocesan clergy to gauge interest in various programs and modes of support for those in ordained ministry; the survey results were reviewed by the team and by diocesan leadership. Present and future programming, including regional structures, trainings/workshops, and continuing education grants will be responsive to the stated needs of clergy in Southern Ohio for connection, renewal, and education in areas like congregational development, parish management, and social justice ministry.

**PRIORITY: FLOURISHING CONGREGATIONS**

Projects: Leadership Pipeline for Laity and Communication Resources for Clergy

To have flourishing congregations, we need to develop lay leaders, inform the diocese about available leadership positions, and set clear expectations of what is required to fill those positions. Initial conversations have sketched the parameters for this pipeline, which has been handed to diocesan staff to launch in the future. The Mission Implementation Team also touched base with the communications staff to ensure a good connection of resources for clergy. Diocesan staff will continue to foster a clear pipeline of information to connect with lay leaders and clergy across the diocese as we continue to dream and envision what that will look like in the months ahead.

**PRIORITY: JUSTICE**

Project: Micro-Community Support

In keeping with our priority of seeking healing and reconciliation, as we strive to become Beloved Community, a member of our team reached out to leaders/members of the four historically Black churches in our diocese, as well as leaders/members from churches in the Appalachian region. The conversations gave them the opportunity to voice their concerns and wants from the new bishop. A consistent message received was the need for better communication, as well as a willingness to be involved with them as much the larger churches. As a result, communication has increased throughout our diocese, and the bishop and her staff have increased significantly the visitations to the micro-communities.

**PRIORITY: STEWARDSHIP**

Process: Guidelines, Norms, and Process for Financial Transparency

The financial transparency project included reviewing and synthesizing specific feedback

submitted to the bishop regarding financial communication and accessibility, and conducting collaborative working sessions with the Interim CFO to clarify fund structures, fund descriptions, and publicly shared information that would accurately reflect the financial realities of the diocese and stewardship priorities. Additionally, a comprehensive web audit framework was conducted, that is based upon the accessibility to assess the clarity, visibility, and usability of financial documents and reporting on the diocesan website in the future. The resulting recommendations support improved transparency, informed decision-making, and stronger accountability throughout the diocese.

### **Next Steps**

This work completed by the Mission Implementation Team is only the beginning. While the Mission Implementation Team has completed its service, it leaves behind the structures and systems that will continue to support the unfolding of our mission by dedicated staff, clergy, and lay leaders across the diocese. We are grateful to have had this opportunity to begin a work that we will rejoice to watch our diocese continue in the months and years ahead.

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

While the Mission Implementation Team did not receive direct funding, its work was facilitated and supported by a dedicated team at Ministry Architects, who were hired by the diocese to assist in this work. Ministry Architects led the visioning and listening process that resulted in the creation of this team, and then they continued to facilitate our work across eighteen months. This investment has paid off in the creation of ongoing systems that directly support the needs heard from across the diocese, the priorities identified by the bishop, and the mission we have articulated in response to both.

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

The Mission Implementation Team was quite consciously designed to collect a diverse cross-section of the diocese. We show diversity in age, race, geography, sexuality, and experience. The hope is that, through this diversity on our team, we have been able to recognize and represent the diversity of our diocese, in its needs, strengths, and concerns. At this time, the team has served its term and so no further assistance with reaching representation is needed.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

While the Mission Implementation Team has served its complete term (an 18-month commitment), the work this team launched continues throughout the diocese. Our goal was to create and implement systems that would support the ongoing unfolding of the diocese's mission for the foreseen future. We look forward to seeing how the stakeholders and staff will continue to advance God's mission in Southern Ohio.

## PROCTER CENTER BOARD OF ADVISORS

*Respectfully submitted by Nathan Greer, Co-Executive Director and Ex-Officio Member*

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

As a ministry of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, Procter Center witnesses to the Good News of God's love by embodying and teaching creation care, spiritual growth, hospitality, and belonging. 2025 has been a year of revitalization and renewal of our position as a ministry of the Diocese of Southern Ohio.

Procter Center has implemented camp programs in three major areas:

- Camp WILD provides creation care and faith-centered creation-awareness through engagement with non-domesticated wild spaces.
- Spirit and Sabbath: The place where creation care, christian formation and worship come together. Spirit & Sabbath programs offer opportunities for embodied learning, community connection, spiritual renewal for all ages.
- Farm Camp brings us creation care and faith-centered creation awareness to the domesticated community of flora and fauna at Procter. Each hands-on activity serves to bring awareness to sustainable practices, agricultural history, stewardship, and connection.

These camp sessions are inclusive and have reached persons of all ages, orientation and level of formation. All of the activities presented are instrumental in teaching the love of God's creation and the individual's valuable place within it.

Our nine summer camp sessions included camps for youth, families, Silver and Gold Camp, and Women's Camp. In addition, we hosted a teaching session for the College for Congregational Development, the Episcopal Creation Care Gathering, Commission on Ministry, Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, and other commissions and committees of the diocese. Procter also hosted parish retreats, retreats for churches from other denominations, and non-diocesan groups such as the Quilters' Guild, Ohio Council of Churches Board, along with individual and couples' retreats.

Our farm is a special area for the demonstration of creation care. Procter Center Farm is a production and educational, six-acre, diversified vegetable and livestock farm.

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

The Procter Center Board of Advisers is a volunteer group that receives no funding. The board serves to provide advice and guidance to the co-executive directors in the operation of the center, and to ensure that the ongoing work of the Procter Center aligns with the mission statement, as defined by the board.

The Procter Center is funded through a complex combination of sources, including income generated by the farm lease, income generated by the camp and conference center, a grant from the William Cooper Procter Fund, the Thompson Campership Fund, the Kraut endowment for deferred maintenance, gifts and donations made directly to the Procter Center, and a portion of mission share monies. This year Procter also received a grant from Christ Cathedral for Electric Vehicle chargers, and a donation from the cathedral to the campership fund.

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

The Board of Advisors consists of 13 members of whom five are clergy and eight are lay members. There are four liaison positions within this group. One member from the Diocesan Trustees, One from Diocesan Council, a DSO Liaison and One from the Church Foundation. In addition, also included in this group is a chaplain. The bishop diocesan serves as president of the Board of Advisors and the 1st VP is a lay person. There are seven women and six men in the advisory group. The two co-directors also sit with the Board of Advisors at their meetings which are held quarterly. Geographically there are six persons from the Cincinnati area, seven from the Columbus areas, one from Athens and the co-directors reside in London.

**Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

The mission of the Procter Center will not change for 2026. The current mission statement was written by the board in December of 2024, and the language was aligned closely with the new mission and stated values of DSO as outlined by Bishop White earlier that fall.

Our Mission: As a ministry of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, Procter Center witnesses to the Good News of God’s love by embodying and teaching creation care, spiritual growth, hospitality, and belonging.

Our Values:

- Faith: Rooted in our Episcopal identity, we are committed to following Jesus and his way of love.
- Inclusion: We welcome, affirm, and celebrate the belovedness of all of God’s creation.
- Goodwill: We celebrate the best of each other showing kindness, respect, and grace as we work to build authentic community.

Additionally, Procter programs have been designed to meet the stated diocesan priorities of Communication, Equipping Disciples, Evangelism, Flourishing Congregations, Justice, and Stewardship.

The most ambitious and impactful new project at Procter in 2026 will be the launching of The Commonage at Procter Center, our new Episcopal Service Corps program. The Commonage program is designed for young adults, aged 18-26, looking for summer or seasonal employment. The program offers meaning and belonging through immersive experiences and education in restorative agriculture, spiritual practice, and communal living within a farm, camp, and retreat center setting. At Procter, Commonage Members will experience life together tethered by prayer, shared meals, play, rest, reflection, conversation, service, and hard work.

**Our 2025 members -**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:	CLASS OF:
The Rev. Dan Carlson	Advent, Walnut Hills	2025 (Bishop Appointee)
Jodie Emerson	St. Patrick’s, Dublin	2025
Tym House	Redeemer, Hyde Park	2026
Spencer Izor	St. Paul’s, Oakwood	2026 (Bishop Appointee)
Kristin LeMay	Good Shepherd, Athens	2027 (Bishop Appointee)
Meghan Western	St. Edward, Whitehall	2027
Drew Abbott	Christ Church Cathedral	Church Foundation Liaison
The Rev. Jason Emerson	St. Patrick’s, Dublin	Diocesan Council Liaison
Mike Kennedy	St. Patrick’s, Dublin	Diocesan Trustees Liaison

## PROVINCE V BOARD

*Respectfully submitted by Edward Lesseigne, Diocesan Representative*

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

See the full report of Province V to its dioceses [at this link](#).

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

Each diocese in the province gives Province V an apportionment to help achieve our mission. The Province V Executive Board greatly appreciates the contribution of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. It is through contributions of every diocese in Province V that we are able to offer a range of resources and opportunities for connection.

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

Province V offerings are open to all. See details at [provincev.org](http://provincev.org).

Evidence of the inclusion and representation within the work of Province V can be found in the [full annual report of Province V](#).

### **Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

Province V works to support all people in their local ministry contexts, helping them get the resources and connections they need and that they didn't know they needed!

## REPARATIONS TASK FORCE

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. Karl Stevens, 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 2025 the task force engaged in specific investigations into the relative wealth of the four Historically Black Parishes in the diocese. The task force discovered that:

The four Historically Black Parishes in the Diocese (St. Margaret's Dayton, St. Philip Columbus, St. Andrew's Evanston, and St. Simon of Cyrene Lincoln Heights) are among the financially poorest, their aggregate wealth being only .8% of the aggregate wealth of all urban parishes in the diocese.

The four Historically Black Parishes in the diocese have small endowments given their histories, the size of their endowments ranging from 0% to 4.3% of the average size of endowments among urban parishes in the diocese.

The task force also began an ongoing review of current and historical reparations efforts in

the diocese. As people learn about our work we are hearing more about instances of financial support for the Black community, and for the Historically Black Parishes in particular.

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

Reparations work, in its current stage of development, is primarily the work of White people, who strive to understand the role of white supremacy and systematic racism and address it in their communities and their individual lives. They do so while in conversation with their Black neighbors and friends. The Reparations Task Force is therefore composed of white and Black people from every geographic region in the diocese.

By our calculations, past and ongoing diocesan efforts account for less than 2% of diocesan wealth. The Rev. Peter Jarrett-Schell calculates that 14.7% of diocesan wealth is the right standard for reparations.

The Reparations Task Force made a presentation to Bishop White on May 21st, in which we recommended that, in conjunction with the Trustees of the Diocese, she begin the process of endowing or increasing the endowments of the four Historically Black Parishes. In 2025, we recommend making reparation in the amount of \$500,000 per each of the four parishes. We requested that these endowment funds be established and at least partially funded by January 2026, with each of the four endowments to be managed by a Reparations Endowment Committee, composed of representatives of the Trustees, the four Historically Black Parishes and diocesan staff.

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

Reparations work, in its current stage of development, is primarily the work of White people, who strive to understand the role of white supremacy and systematic racism and address it in their communities and their individual lives. They do so while in conversation with their Black neighbors and friends. The Reparations Task Force is therefore composed of white and Black people from every geographic region in the diocese.

### ***Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -***

Pending the passage of a resolution that we have submitted to convention, the Reparations Task Force will become the Reparations Commission in 2026. The new commission will be composed of not fewer than nine (9) and not more than fifteen (15) members, including both clergy and lay representatives, appointed by the bishop with the consent of Diocesan Council. Members will serve staggered three-year terms, with provision for reappointment, so as to ensure continuity of leadership and sustained momentum in the commission's work. The commission will develop a strategic plan within its first year, to guide its initiatives for a period of three to five years, with measurable goals, strategies for congregational engagement, and pathways for accountability. It will continue in its commitment to the following:

- Supporting and resourcing congregations in practices of reparative justice, education, and formation;
- Developing and administering financial reparations initiatives in partnership with affected communities;
- Engaging in advocacy, partnership, and reconciliation work that advances the Gospel of Jesus Christ;

- Creating opportunities for congregational leadership and laity to be strengthened in the ministry of reparation; and
- Aligning all initiatives with The Episcopal Church’s Becoming Beloved Community framework, ensuring that the diocese’s work is rooted in the wider church’s vision for racial healing, justice, and reconciliation.

**Our 2025 members -**

Judy Battle	St. Margaret’s, Trotwood
Frank Carr	St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights
Dionne Clifton	St. Philip, Columbus
Jeff Dey	Church of Our Saviour, Cincinnati
Vanessa Gentry	St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights
Pamela Mayo-Mack	St. Margaret’s, Trotwood
John Harris	St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights
Larry James (Co-Chair)	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
Emily Joyce	Christ Church, Dayton
Kelsey Logan	St. Patrick’s, Dublin
Ariel Miller	Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming
Jason Oden	Indian Hill Church, Indian Hill
The Hon. Tyrone Yates	St. Andrew’s, Evanston
The Rev. Karen Montagno	Grace, College Hill
Diane Ebbs	Christ Church Cathedral
The Rev. Chris Slane	St. Andrew’s, Evanston
Karl Stevens (Co-Chair)	St. Stephen’s, Columbus
Debbie Stokes	St. Philip, Columbus

## **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS GRANTING COMMITTEE**

*Respectfully submitted by the Rev. David Kendall-Sperry, Chair*

**Regarding our mission and work -**

After General Convention Resolution 2015-A021 passed, the conventions of the Diocese of Southern Ohio passed resolutions R2015-01, R2019-02 and R2022-06, 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 and 2024-2026.

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. SDG grants fund world mission programs which address the SDGs and build long-term relationships among partners, with emphasis on leadership development and sustainability. A resolution to the 151st Convention has been submitted to continue the SDG Grant Awards program through the end of the U.N. program in 2030.

More information is available about the Sustainable Development Goals at [GlobalGoals.org](https://www.globalgoals.org).

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

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.

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.

Four applications were received by the end of October 2024 and were processed through the grant awards review. Awards were:

- 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 hope to have more proposals received and awards made before the end of the 2025 calendar year.

We have also 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. Their website is found at [USAforSDGs.org](https://www.usaforSDGs.org).

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

Dr. Anita Dohn, MD, a former long-term medical missionary, along with her husband, also a doctor, served in the Dominican Republic for many years at medical clinics serving those in need. This year, Dr. Dohn is stepping down after serving many years on the SDG Grant Awards Committee. We thank her for her years of ministries in global mission, and for her service on the SDG Grant Awards Committee and wish her the best in her continuing ministries.

The committee is seeking another member to assist in the review of grant applications and carry on with the ministries of the Committee, especially from the under-represented area of the East Region of the diocese. If you are, or know someone who is interested in serving, please contact Canon Katie Forsyth.

### **Regarding our goals for 2026 and our connection to the emerging mission and vision of the diocese -**

The committee plans to coordinate with Canon Katie Forsyth, 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 the diocesan resolution.

### **Our 2025 members -**

NAME:	CONGREGATION:
Lissa Barker	St. Patrick's, Dublin
Dr. Anita Dohn	Trinity, Hamilton
Clifton Flemister	St. Matthew's, Westerville
The Rev. David Kendall-Sperry	St. Peter's, Delaware
Ariel Miller	Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming

## TASK FORCE ON REGIONAL STRUCTURES

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

The Task Force completed its data gathering work in January of 2025 and submitted our report to the Bishop and Diocesan staff in February of 2025. That work, combined with the work of other bodies, led to the announcement in the late summer of 2025 to the creation of 4 regions. View the announcement at [tinyurl.com/DSO-regions-2025](https://tinyurl.com/DSO-regions-2025).

### **Our 2025 members -**

**NAME:**

Carol Allen  
Canon Jon Boss  
The Rev. Mary Carson  
Ericka Hall  
Lauren Cuff Faller  
The Rev. Benjamin Speare-Hardy  
Wendell Mulford  
The Very Rev. Owen Thompson  
The Rev. William Sangrey  
The Rev. Gene Sheppard  
The Rev. Vicki Zust

**CONGREGATION:**

Christ Church, Ironton  
Ascension & Holy Trinity, Wyoming  
St. James, Westwood  
St. Philip, Columbus  
St. Christopher's, Fairborn  
St. Margaret's, Trotwood  
St. Paul's, Chillicothe  
Christ Church Cathedral  
St. George's, Dayton  
St. Luke's, Marietta  
St. Mark's, Columbus

# Nominations for Elected Offices

*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 -**

**The Diocesan Council - Page 57**

**The Standing Committee - Page 61**

**Trustees of the Diocese - Page 64**

**Church Foundation Trustees - Page 65**

**Procter Center Board of Advisors - Page 66**

**Deputies & Alternates to General Convention - Page 68**

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

Canon Jon Boss - Ascension and Holy Trinity, Wyoming

The Rev. Vicki Zust - St. Mark's, Upper Arlington

# 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 151st Convention, we will elect:**

Four lay persons for full three-year terms (Class of 2028)

One cleric for a full three-year term (Class of 2028)

## **Our current nominees are:**

Mika Lakomy-Ricketts - St. James, Clintonville

Barbara Shoemaker - Trinity, Capitol Square

Nancy Talley - All Saints, New Albany

John Samuel Wilson - St. Mark’s, Upper Arlington

The Rev. Julia Joyce-Miesse - St. Luke’s, Granville



## **LAY NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

**Mika Lakomy-Ricketts**

**ST. JAMES, CLINTONVILLE**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

I was blessed twelve years ago to encounter The Episcopal Church for the first time on the campus of Ohio State at St. Stephen’s, where I found a community ready to welcome a young evangelical who loved Jesus, but didn’t yet know a collect from an antiphon. I’ve enjoyed and had my faith deepened by continuing to study since then, from EFM to retreats at Procter. I currently serve on the vestry at St. James, happily scrubbing toilets and working on more effective ways to welcome our neighbors. This is my third year as a delegate to diocesan convention. I live in Ashville with my husband, Travis. Professionally I have a non-partisan role in politics which keeps me on the road, giving me the joy of visiting many parishes across Ohio on Sunday mornings every Summer.

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

I knew I was interested in becoming more useful to the wider diocese, but I wasn’t sure exactly how until I read through the last year of minutes of the Council. Our Episcopal polity requires highly engaged, cheerful and prayerful lay participation to function properly, and I believe I can meet that need. I was glad to see a body carefully stewarding our resources while supporting and encouraging Bishop White, and would like to continue that effort.



## LAY NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**Barbara Shoemaker**

**TRINITY, CAPITOL SQUARE**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

I am Barbara Shoemaker, and I am a parishioner at Trinity Episcopal Church on Capitol Square, Columbus. I was raised up and educated in the Roman Catholic Church, parish schools, and university. I lived in California for 27 years. During that time, I was received into The Episcopal Church when I experienced the desire to live a fully inclusive spiritual and liturgical life. Church communities I served while in California include, clerk for the vestry at my receiving parish of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Auburn and later at the inner-city church of St. John the Evangelist in Stockton. I served the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin on the planning committee with the Canon for the Ordinary to develop two diocesan wide women's retreats. Bishop David Rice appointed me to the Commission on Ministry (CoM), and I served one half of my term due to a move back to Ohio to be closer to family.

I moved to Hilliard in May of 2024. I am fully engaged with Trinity on Capitol Square. I accepted a volunteer role for the coordination of our Kindness Fund, which assists those who are unhoused with financial gifts toward down payment fees or first month rent or for those facing eviction due to rental debt. I accepted a call to expand that role to Lay Pastoral Care Coordinator for the parish. I am working with my clergy to nurture ministries to live out our baptismal covenants in caring for each other. I am a member of our parish team who completed year one of the College for Congregational Development here in the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio and I look forward to completing year two of the CCD curriculum next summer.

Professionally, I served in various leadership capacities during my nursing career as a pediatric advanced practice nurse and clinical educator and as secretary for two terms for the board of directors for the National Association of Orthopaedic Nursing.

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

Each time I contemplate a life decision, I reflect on this very probing question. I then remind myself of Isaiah 6:8 where God asks, "Whom shall I send?" and Isaiah responds, "Here am I, send me."

Right now, it is one of those moments when I have carefully discerned the call to nominate for Diocesan Council. I have reflected about being young in the diocese and what do I bring to the table. Through the wrestle of the discernment, I find the mission of Isaiah 6:8 to be the reason to say yes to this call to serve. I pledge to use my time and talents to support and live out the mission and vision of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio as we care for each other and walk together, living out the Gospel message of Jesus in the work of the diocese.



## LAY NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**Nancy Talley**

**All Saints, New Albany**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

Nancy Talley, a cradle Episcopalian, is currently serving as a second-term Junior Warden at All Saints Episcopal Church, New Albany. A 21-year member, Nancy has witnessed the remarkable growth of All Saints, transitioning from a small mission to a vibrant, 600 member parish.

At All Saints, I have engaged in various leadership roles, including working on program development to encourage new members to become contributors of time and talent within our community. Currently, All Saints is actively working to encourage members to participate in our diverse ministries, and ensure that all members feel empowered to contribute. It is crucial to ensure that each age group, demographic, and member's needs are met and that they have opportunities to contribute and feel valued. As our congregation continues to expand, we must address the challenges of stang, programs, and inclusivity.

As Junior Warden, I'm involved in running the business side of the parish, including budget development and management; and as a member of our New Infrastructure team, I am involved in discerning growth of our facilities to continue expanding our in-reach and out-reach ministries.

Throughout my life in The Episcopal Church, I have had the privilege of serving in a variety of congregations, ranging from small groups of less than 50 members to larger communities exceeding 600. I understand that each parish within the Diocese of Southern Ohio possesses unique blessings and has distinct needs and challenges.

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

I have had the honor of serving on Diocesan Council for the past four years, and am interested in serving a second term. It is an honor to represent all diocesan churches between conventions. Diocesan Council works with integrity in building relationships and spreading the Love of Christ. Diocesan Council works with our Bishop in addressing budget and spending needs, celebrating her successes and providing advice when practical.

I have had the pleasure of working with Council as the bishop has come to understand our diocese's strengths and issues. Bishop White is developing a staff to serve our diocese spiritually, financially and in support of our clergy. Council addressed the best practices this past year clarifying our mission and ways of working.

An important function of Diocesan Council is advising on the appropriate collection and use of Mission Share Funds. I believe my past experience on Council and in various parish leadership positions equips me to continue contributing to the overall success of Diocesan Council and the diocese, in general.



## LAY NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**John Samuel Wilson**

**ST. MARK'S, UPPER ARLINGTON**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

As an active member at St. Mark's, Columbus, I serve as a lector, chalice bearer, substitute organist, and member of the vestry. Additionally, I will be serving for the first time as lay delegate at this year's convention. I have enjoyed offering support at our annual Cultural and Artisan's Fair and running our church's table at the Upper Arlington Pride festivities.

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

After losing my job as a pastor in a large evangelical church right before the pandemic, I came to The Episcopal Church seeking peace, healing, and rest. I found in St. Mark's and in the Diocese of Southern Ohio a new, life-giving, joyful way of doing church and being the Body of Christ, and I want to further offer my services toward this church. I've long been a bit of a polity nerd, and I am passionate about the role of the diocese in equipping the local church for ministry. When I learned of the need for more lay nominees for Diocesan Council, I felt a little nudge from the Spirit to offer what I can in this role as an opportunity to further live into my baptismal covenant. I believe in how God is moving in our diocese, and I believe I am being called to play what part I can on the Diocesan Council.



## CLERGY NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**The Rev. Julia Joyce-Miesse**

**St. Luke's, Granville**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

Hello, my name is Julia Joyce-Miesse, and I am the rector of St. Luke's in Granville. I am blessed to journey with an incredibly loving and passionate group of servant leaders! We care for those experiencing food insecurity at our Market Street Pantry, which opens its doors twice a week and serves over 150 families each week. I bring over 35 years of experience in youth and young adult ministry, gained through work in Province IV and national church programs. And now St. Luke's is launching a new college ministry program, St. Luke's Canterbury Club, to open our doors to college-aged young adults and nourish them physically, emotionally, and spiritually through dinner gatherings, storytelling, discipleship, community, and prayer. We pray to be mentors to young adults, while also being mentored by them. I am a member of the Young Adult Campus Ministry (YACM) leaders of Province V, as well as a member of the Province V YACM cohort with lay leaders from St. Luke's, where we journey together to navigate best practices in campus ministry at this time in our nation. I have also had the opportunity to attend two bi-diocesan

(Ohio and Southern Ohio) Beloved Community retreats as we work to see where the Holy Spirit is calling us to “Speak the Truth, Proclaim the Dream, Practice the Way, and be Repairers of the Breach.” I am grateful to have spent significant time with other faith leaders in dialogues with elected officials at the Capitol, bringing concerns of our communities that align with our baptismal vows. I have also had the blessing of being a part of a session crew at the Procter Center for Family Camp 3: Conservation Camp, where I served as team Chaplain and team medical, and journeyed with incredible staff, counselors, and families to listen to where God is calling us to care for Creation.

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

I feel called to serve on the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Southern Ohio because a portion of my vows to the priesthood included, “You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor.” (BCP p. 531) The Diocesan Council has the blessing and responsibility to collaborate with the bishop in guiding the mission and ministry of our diocese. Each member of the council brings their individual gifts and the voices of those entrusted in their care. My passion is to help The Episcopal Church share that it is a place of welcome, belonging, and love as we work towards becoming a Beloved Community. Where we spend time matters. Who we engage with matters. Where we spend our money often indicates the priorities of an institution. I want to demonstrate that we are a people with a theology of abundance, a theology of liberation, and a theology of justice for all of God’s people and God’s creation.

## 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 151st Convention, we will elect:**

One lay person for a three-year term (Class of 2028)

One cleric for a three-year term (Class of 2028)

**Our current nominees are:**

Ed Yuhas - St. Patrick’s, Dublin

The Rev. Gene Hallahan - All Saints, Portsmouth & Christ Church, Ironton

The Rev. Vicki Zust - St. Mark’s, Upper Arlington



## LAY NOMINEE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE

**Ed Yuhas**

**ST. PATRICK'S, DUBLIN**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

After having been away from St. Patrick's, Dublin for nearly twenty years due to job transfers, my wife and I returned in 2019. Shortly thereafter, I was asked to co-lead the search committee to find our current rector, the Rev. Jason Emerson. From there, I became senior warden, and my term was completed earlier this year. Today, I serve on the Endowment Committee and sing in the choir.

Just prior to our time at St. Patrick's, we were members of the Wooster, OH United Methodist Church for ten years, where I served as finance chair for over five years. That led me to a Board of Trustees position at MTSO (Methodist Theological School of Ohio), where in addition to attending board meetings, I serve on the Investment Committee for the seminary's endowment fund. I am beginning my seventh year as a board trustee.

Vocationally, I have spent the overwhelming majority of my career in corporate sales and marketing positions for food companies, including Borden, Nestle, and Mars. About a dozen years ago, I left the corporate world, and became an executive recruiter, identifying, recruiting, and evaluating CEO's and their direct reports for food and agricultural related companies-- public, private, trade associations, foundations, and NGO's.

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

I have been richly blessed in both my professional and parallel lay leadership career by being exposed to wonderful leaders, both clergy and lay. Through God's gifts to me and experience, I feel as though I have developed a well balanced skill set of strategic thinking and planning, financial savvy, and human capital deployment--all necessary skills in becoming a contributing member of the Standing Committee.



## CLERGY NOMINEE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE

**The Rev. Gene Hallahan**

**ALL SAINTS, PORTSMOUTH & CHRIST CHURCH, IRONTON**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

I am the priest-in-charge at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Portsmouth, and Christ Episcopal Church, Ironton. I am a member of New Episcopal Communities I served on the transition committee for the diocese. To add a fun fact to this description, I have led the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Portsmouth for the past three years. I participate in the local communities of Ironton and Portsmouth through civic organizations, leading vespers as scheduled at Hill View

Retirement Community in Portsmouth and outreach to those in need.

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

Jesus taught us to serve one another with humility that is rooted in faith. It is in this spirit that I feel God is calling me to serve on the Standing Committee. The responsibilities of this committee, that is, offering counsel to the bishop, oversight of church property and the ordination process, resonates with my practice of collaborative leadership, prayerful discernment and stewardship. I feel that I would enrich the work of the Standing Committee by bringing to it a representation from the southeast part of the diocese.



**CLERGY NOMINEE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

**The Rev. Vicki Zust**  
**ST. MARK'S, UPPER ARLINGTON**

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

I am the rector of Saint Mark's, Columbus. I am a part of the Network UA group which helps connect a variety of non-profit organizations in the Upper Arlington area. I am also a part of the Upper Arlington Community Health Action Team. Currently I serve on the Commission on Ministry and the Committee on Dispatch of Business for Diocesan Convention as well as taking part in Columbus regional events. I have served on the diocesan staff of two dioceses, Southern Ohio and Western New York, and have served as rector of congregations in both of those dioceses.

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

In more than 25 years of ordained ministry, I have worked closely with Standing Committees while serving on diocesan staffs, Commissions on Ministry, and Boards of Examining Chaplains. I have a deep respect for the importance of the Standing Committee in providing balance, oversight, advice and support to bishops and representation for the diocese in the councils of the wider Episcopal Church. I believe I bring a great deal of experience and prayerful and thoughtful input to the role.

# 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 151st Convention, we will elect:**

One person (clergy or lay) to a five-year term (Class of 2030)

## **Our current nominees are:**

The Rev. Darren Elin - St. Thomas, Terrace Park



## **NOMINEE FOR THE DIOCESAN TRUSTEES**

**The Rev. Darren Elin**  
**ST. THOMAS, TERRACE PARK**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

My family and I moved to Southern Ohio in 2010 upon receiving the call to serve as rector at St. Thomas in Terrace Park. Within these fifteen years, I have had the privilege of serving the diocese in a number of capacities in addition to my role as a priest and pastor locally. I currently serve on the Finance Committee, the subcommittee of the Diocesan Council for Clergy Compensation Review, and the Mission Share Formula Review Committee; as well as representing the diocese as Board Member of Episcopal Retirement Services and their Affordable Living Team. Previously, I have served as a facilitator and then coordinator for Safe Church Ministry, chair for the Bishop's Advisory Committee for Compensation and Resources and several ecumenical ministry initiatives for our greater area and represented our diocese on the Board of Trustees for Berkeley Divinity School. I have also served a previous term on Diocesan Council as the secretary. With over 27 years in parish ministry, my experience spans congregations of various sizes, Total Ministry teams, and service in six different dioceses nationwide. All of these experiences reinforce the commitment I feel to the Church being about relationships and equipping each other for the work of ministry, both in our congregations and into the world and especially thinking about the impact our decisions have on the lives of those we are entrusted to serve.

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

I sense that God may be calling me to serve as a trustee at this moment when our diocese continues to discern how best to steward the gifts entrusted to us for mission and ministry as we embrace a new chapter of our diocesan vision with our new bishop. The Trustees' work, grounded in fiduciary care yet animated by faith, embodies a foundational aspect of

discipleship: to hold our common life in trust for the sake of the Gospel and for generations to come. Throughout my ministry, I have sought to bridge faith and strategy, helping congregations align vision, resources, and relationships so that their ministries might flourish. I have learned that wise stewardship requires both imagination and discipline: imagination to see how God's abundance might be revealed, and discipline to manage that abundance faithfully and transparently. My formation in theology, music, and organizational leadership has shaped a way of seeing stewardship as a spiritual art, where numbers tell stories of faithfulness, and decisions about property or endowment become acts of hope. I believe I could help bring to the Trustees both pastoral insight and practical experience in governance, finance, and mission alignment. At its best, this ministry invites prayerful discernment and collaboration. I would be honored to help our diocese continue investing in ministries that proclaim God's reconciling love, ensuring that every resource entrusted to our care serves Christ's work of renewal in this time and for the future.

## CHURCH FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

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 151st Convention, we will elect:**

One person (clergy or lay) to a five-year term (Class of 2030)

### **Our nominees are:**

Paul Davis - Calvary, Clifton



### **NOMINEE FOR CHURCH FOUNDATION TRUSTEE**

**Paul Davis**

**CALVARY, CLIFTON**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

have been on the vestry, served as senior warden, and I am currently on the building and grounds committee. I am a chalice bearer, a reader, and an usher. Also, my wife and I pledge every year and meet that pledge. In the larger community I have been a faculty leader at Cincinnati State and a long time member of the Elder High School alumni board. Nationally I have been a national leader of the American Association of University Professors. As a national collective bargaining chair and a vice president of the association I served on its foundation board.

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

I believe God is calling me to this position because of all of the above experiences but also because of my strong feelings about the importance of serious planning when it comes to planning and implementing the needs for our parishes building and grounds needs.

## **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 151st Convention, we will elect:**

One person (clergy or lay) for a three-year term (Class of 2028)

**Our nominees are:**

Lissa Barker - St. Patrick's, Dublin

The Rev. Iva Joyce-Miesse - Trinity, Capitol Square



### **NOMINEE FOR PROCTER BOARD OF ADVISORS**

**Lissa Barker**

**ST. PATRICK'S, DUBLIN**

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

At St. Patrick's in Dublin, I have served in the choir, as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, as a vestry person, as a Stephen Minister, a Parish Nurse, and I have organized and led several Advent Quiet Days for the congregation. I participate in the Way of Love Dinner and am serving on the Feeding the Homeless at St. John's Town Street ministry that is just starting at St. Patrick's. In the DSO, I have been a member of the Diocesan Council, The Standing Committee and The Procter Board of Advisors. In the larger community I have served in multiple medical missions to Choluteca, Honduras and in Frome, Jamaica. I served 36 years in the United States Navy as a Navy Nurse and I am an Emerita Professor of Clinical Nursing at The Ohio State University College of Nursing

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

As a young girl, I went to church camp every summer for 14 years. It was there that I realized that God was real, that creation mattered, and I was a part of it. It was also the time that I realized that Jesus was the person after whom I needed to model my life and relationship with God, Creation and People. All this was formed at camp, and guided my formation as a

Christian Woman. This formation served me well during challenging times in the Navy and in my responses the current world climate. When I moved to Ohio in 2003, I learned about Procter and realized that this was a place in which I needed to invest time, talent and treasure. I have served on both the Board of Directors and the Board of Advisors. This is the place where I am called to serve. I am excited and highly enthusiastic about the revitalization of our beautiful Camp and Conference Center. I commit to serve to enhance formation for members of our Diocese and others who are called to be with us. I look forward to being a participant in the growth and fulfillment of the mission of Procter Camp and Conference Center



## **NOMINEE FOR PROCTER BOARD OF ADVISORS**

### **The Rev. Iva Joyce-Miesse** **TRINITY, CAPITOL SQUARE**

#### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

I have served as the Associate Rector at Trinity on Capitol Square since May 2024. This was a joyful return to my home diocese after spending a year in Boulder, CO where my wife (also an Episcopal priest) served in her first call after our graduation from Virginia Theological Seminary in May 2022.

I was cradled within the loving arms of St. John's, Lancaster from a very young age, where I had modeled early and often what it meant to live into my baptismal covenant. I remained devotedly engaged in faith communities throughout college and early adulthood. Prior to seminary, I attended St. Patrick's, Lebanon and St. Anne's, West Chester; I served each of these parishes in virtually every lay leadership role that existed, and a few that I created on my own, prior to discerning my call to holy orders.

In my current context, I am responsible for shared liturgical and preaching responsibilities and directly oversee our Adult Formation program offerings and our Pastoral Care team. I support, in a collaborative manner, the rector in multiple administrative initiatives within a growing parish. Most recently, I convened a visionary team of lay leaders as we reimaged and updated a Mission/Vision statement to more accurately reflect Trinity in its discipleship and community engagement. In my role, I consistently engage with other faith leaders and colleagues to speak and bear witness to statehouse policy and legislation that stands in opposition to the radical hospitality of Jesus, the full inclusion of all people, or our the vows within our baptismal covenant. I currently serve on the DSO Creation Care and Environmental Justice Commission, have served as session crew Chaplain/Medical Team at Procter Family Camp as well as on the medical team of the national Episcopal Youth Event in 2023.

Before sensing a call to ordained life, I served my first vocational call to healthcare as an orthopedic/sports medicine physical therapist and administrator for nearly 30 years.

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

I began attending Procter in 1984, when I attended my first Happening, a bi-annual diocesan youth event, modeled closely after the Cursillo movement. I fondly remember Procter with the old farmhouse and without the Conference Center and Lodge. I fondly remember the worship

space upstairs in Hobson and without Christ Chapel. I even, well, almost, fondly remember the sulphury-smell of the rusty well water in the showers in Blanchard Commons. Yes, I met the tender love of community at church and LEARNED a lot about God there, too, but Procter is where I MET God...out here amidst the corn and the quiet, under the trees and under the stars, listening to the songs of creation, and sitting in the shadow of the big red barn. I carry Procter with me in my ministry; it informs my work and my vocation because it, this place, is a part of me.

My, how we've grown, both Procter and me over these forty years. I've come back to pick up my campers and subsequently my summer counselor, to worship, to discern my call with the Commission on Ministry, to attend clergy days and regional confirmations, to participate in Creation Care retreats, to serve on Summer Camp Staff...and to pray. And yet, as the car accelerates out of Midway and rounds that next big sweeping turn, the Barn and the Chapel come into view, my heart sings and I know that I am home.

I would be humbled to serve on the Procter Board of Advisors to ensure that the recently revitalized mission and vision continue to meet the needs of our diocese and our youth, and that the growth we are witnessing there is supported into the future. I would treasure the opportunity to give back, even a widow's mite, to this place that formed me, so that others can meet God in this place.

## DEPUTIES & ALTERNATES TO GENERAL CONVENTION

The General Convention is the governing body of The Episcopal Church and sets mission priorities, budget and policies for the succeeding three years. General Convention approves changes to The Episcopal Church's Constitution and Canons and approves liturgical texts for trial use and changes to the Book of Common Prayer.

The 82nd General Convention will meet July 2027 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Per Canon IV, Sections 1-2, deputies are elected first from the slate of nominees; a separate ballot will be taken to elect alternate deputies from the remaining candidates.

### **At this 151st Convention, we will elect:**

Four lay deputies and four lay alternate deputies

Four clergy deputies and four clergy alternate deputies

### **Our nominees are:**

Lissa Barker - St. Patrick's, Dublin

Dionne Clifton - St. Philip, Columbus

Tym House - Church of the Redeemer, Hyde Park

Mika Lakomy-Ricketts - St. James, Clintonville

Edward Lasseigne - St. Stephen's, Columbus

Darien McCoy - St. Mark's, Upper Arlington

Brianna Smith - St. Philip, Columbus

Elizabeth Wagner-Weber - St. Mark's, Dayton

The Rev. Lynn Carter-Edmands - All Saints, New Albany

The Rev. Canon Scott Gunn - Christ Church, Glendale & Forward Movement

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin - St. John's, Worthington

The Rev. Julia Joyce-Miesse - St. Luke's, Granville

The Rev. Jason Prati - All Saints, New Albany

The Rev. William Sangrey - St. George's, Dayton



## LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

**Lissa Barker**

**ST. PATRICK'S, DUBLIN**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

At St. Patrick's in Dublin, I have served in the choir, as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, as a vestry person, as a Stephen Minister, a Parish Nurse, and I have organized and led several Advent Quiet Days for the congregation. I participate in the Way of Love Dinner and am serving on the Feeding the Homeless at St. John's Town Street ministry that is just starting at St. Patrick's. In the DSO, I have been a member of the Diocesan Council, The Standing Committee, the Regional Disciplinary Board, and The Procter Board of Advisors. In the larger community I have served in multiple medical missions to Choluteca, Honduras and in Frome, Jamaica to name a few. I served 36 years in the United States Navy as a Navy Nurse and I am an Emerita Professor of Clinical Nursing at The Ohio State University

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

I have served as Lay Deputy and Alternate for four previous conventions. I love the energy of the House of Deputies and the work they do to serve Jesus and the Episcopal Church. This is the forum where the Lay persons in the Diocese, along with our Clergy deputies can debate difficult issues without rancor and in the spirit of making decisions that are consistent with Jesus' teachings. In addition, we have the opportunity to listen to our Bishops, and offer our responses. As a Deputy, the task is not just to go to the convention, but to be assigned a committee and commit to hard work before the convention. I am called to offer not just my experience, but also my openness to change, my support of all persons in their ministries, a true belief that all of us are beloved children of God and thus we are all related and there is no exclusion of anyone in our human family. I am forward thinking, excited to combine experience with fresh ideas and pathways. I have a special love for global health. I have served on many medical missions including those to Liberia, Cambodia, Albania, Jamaica and Honduras. Being with these people has opened my heart to embrace the amazing diversity of our human family. I truly believe that the Episcopal Church is in the forefront of learning from our past, being intentional about not repeating our sins, and working toward the environment that Jesus would have us create. I strongly believe that I am called to participate as a Deputy in the work of the Episcopal Church



## LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

### **Dionne Clifton** **ST. PHILIP, COLUMBUS**

#### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

I have been a member of St. Philip Episcopal Church in Columbus Ohio since I was two years old. I have participated in Sunday School and was an acolyte as a child. As an adult, I have been on the Vestry, worked as part of the security team, on the Buildings and Grounds committee and the co chair of the Community Youth Outreach Committee. I have also been on the search committee for a new rector of St. Philip. Since Covid, I have been responsible for the online services that we offer. This included Friday Noon Day Prayer, Zoom service and our YouTube Live streaming. On the diocesan level, I was a member of the Commission on Ministry for six years. I was also part of the committee to write the job description for the position of the black missionary. I am a member of board for MEIT and work in a leadership capacity for the Union of Black Episcopalians. I have also chaperone youth to National UBE conferences for six years and participated in the first Civil Rights Pilgrimage for youth.

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

I believe that God is calling me at this time because we all have a responsibility to be open to be open to serve as called and needed in these areas of church life. My varied experiences in many areas of church life have prepared me to participate in the governance of the wider Episcopal Church and that I have been called to offer my gifts, talents, and experiences in this area at this time. A significant majority of my faith formation occurred in the Diocese of Southern Ohio. My desire to serve in this area is strong. As the Episcopal Church fully enters our call to express the historic faith of the church in ways that are responsive to the needs of people in today's world, I believe I have been prepared to assist in that ministry which invites change in denominational organization and practice. Part of my formation experiences have helped me to serve my parish family as we adopt and adjust to current technological advancements that help to enhance church worship, communication, and other areas of church life. This openness to changes in our world placed in context of the Biblical faith that we are called to embrace shapes the call to service that our church needs to strengthen our effectiveness in ministry and evangelization.



## LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

**Tym House**

**CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, HYDE PARK**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

I currently serve as the minister for mission & family discipleship at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Cincinnati, Ohio. In this role, I provide leadership for youth and young adult ministries, helping nurture faith, community, and belonging among children, teens, and families. Within the parish, I helped create and continue to oversee an after-school program for 7th-12th grade students, which predominantly serves students from Clark Montessori in Hyde Park. I also support a lay team that connects our congregation to opportunities for service and outreach in the broader community. In addition, I co-host a podcast with Anny Stevens-Gleason, *The Priesthood of All Queer Believers*, where we explore the intersection of the queer community and the church as an act of integration and reconciliation between the two.

In addition to contributing to youth events and initiatives for the Diocese of Southern Ohio, I currently serve as the 2nd vice chair of the Procter Center Board, helping guide its mission to be a place of spiritual renewal, leadership development, and community connection for people across the diocese.

Beyond the walls of the church, I am committed to serving the wider Cincinnati community. I serve as the chair of the Local School Decision-Making Committee (LSDMC) at Clark Montessori in Hyde Park, where I collaborate with administrators and families to strengthen school leadership and engagement. I also volunteer with and serve as a member of the Grant Screening Committee for Queen City Charities, supporting LGBTQ+ initiatives throughout the city.

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

I would be honored to serve as a lay deputy to the 82nd General Convention of The Episcopal Church. While the core of my calling has led me to focus on youth across my work in the parish, diocese, and community, I feel a deeper motivation to create spaces where all people can experience God's love, claim their full dignity, and discover their place in God's mission. I believe this calling naturally extends into the wider church, where important decisions are made that shape how we live out the Gospel in our time. Serving as a delegate would give me the opportunity to bring the experiences, hopes, and voices of youth and others in my local community into the wider conversation of the church, while also helping to discern how our common life can better reflect the love, justice, and inclusiveness of Christ.



**LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC**

**Mika Lakomy-Ricketts**

**ST. JAMES, CLINTONVILLE**

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

I was blessed twelve years ago to encounter The Episcopal Church for the first time on the campus of Ohio State at St. Stephen's, where I found a community ready to welcome a young evangelical who loved Jesus, but didn't yet know a collect from an antiphon. I've enjoyed and had my faith deepened by continuing to study since then, from EFM to retreats at Proctor. I currently serve on the vestry at St. James, happily scrubbing toilets and working on more effective ways to welcome our neighbors. This is my third year as a delegate to Diocesan Convention. I live in Ashville with my husband Travis. Professionally I have a non-partisan role in politics which keeps me on the road, giving me the joy of visiting many parishes across Ohio on Sunday mornings every Summer.

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

General Convention offers us a rare opportunity to discern together our priorities as an entire polity. I love The Episcopal Church, and I believe God is calling us to actively invite our neighbors in to know Him here. As a delegate I would be thrilled to bring my professional skills in the legislative process to bear, while keeping the gospel as my north star.



**LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC**

**Edward Lasseigne**

**ST. STEPHEN'S, COLUMBUS**

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

Our faith requires us to get involved and collaborate in various spheres to make the world better. At my congregation (St. Stephen's, Columbus), I've served on vestry, as treasurer, and currently as chair of our endowment committee. I also served on a search committee to identify our new rector. A decade ago, I chaired a committee that revamped our parish's website. About 15 years ago, I helped re-start our church's Wednesday prayer service, which has grown and thrived over the years.

It's important for Episcopalians to realize the vital role of our dioceses and of our denomination in keeping congregations healthy and productively connected to each other. Provinces, too, have a contribution to make here, and I've been blessed to represent our diocese on the Province V executive board for six years. Our affiliated organizations also play a crucial role, which I've become more aware of since joining the PIMIL Council three years ago. And for more than a decade, I've been a member of the resolutions committee for our diocesan convention.

In terms of the community beyond our church, I served 12 years as secretary and member of the board of our condo association. For many of those 12 years, our condo community faced serious challenges and internal conflict, but I stuck with it, because I believe that people in a community should step up and volunteer, regardless of the magnitude of the challenges. The last thing I'll mention is my volunteer work on many political campaigns for local, state, and national elections. The work I've done is the basic grunt work of political campaigns, but I've been doing it in Columbus (off and on, of course) for at least 20 years.

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

It certainly feels like, over the past few years, our nation and world have entered a new era, one beset by problems, threats and conflicts, many of which were hard to predict not so long ago. There are opportunities, too, but I agree that our church has a special role in promoting the Christian message on issues and among communities where suffering and conflict are at their greatest. Long-term projects of the Episcopal Church, such as Beloved Community, LGBTQ+ support and outreach, and Creation Care, began essential aspects of the work that is necessary years before we found ourselves in the current situation. New efforts and initiatives are needed, too, but they should be tailored to maximize their effectiveness in dealing with the new challenges that we now face. I'd like to be part of the effort to figure out the right response to these challenges.



**LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC**

**Darien McCoy**  
**ST. MARK'S, UPPER ARLINGTON**

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

I serve as the Children's Formation Assistant at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Upper Arlington, where I walk alongside kids in grades K-5 as they learn, create, and take part in worship. Beyond my parish, I helped coordinate the Episcopal Church's presence at Columbus Pride and continue to support diocesan gatherings that center youth, young adults, and the full inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ community and my BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) siblings. My journey with the Diocese began at Procter in 2018, when I first served as a camp counselor. That same year, I joined the Episcopal Service Corps at Brendan's Crossing. Over the years, I worked in many different roles at Procter: front desk, housekeeping, kitchen, respite care, the farm market store, and even farming during the height of COVID. I later helped launch the Day Camp program as its director and served as Camp Coordinator in 2023. Those experiences introduced me to people across the Diocese and helped me see how wide and connected our church family really is.

I am also deeply involved at Jacob's Porch, an interdenominational and interfaith ministry at The Ohio State University, where I help nurture a welcoming space for students to ask questions and grow in faith. I support campus ministry at Denison University through the Canterbury Club at St. Luke's, Granville, working with the Rev. Julia Joyce-Miesse. Outside of church life, I serve as the Receptionist at Neighborhood Services Inc., a food pantry in Columbus, where I connect

neighbors with resources and welcome volunteers with the same spirit of hospitality I try to carry everywhere I serve.

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

I feel God calling me to serve at General Convention because my heart for ministry has always been about hospitality, formation, and creating spaces where people know they belong. In every place I've been, whether teaching children at Saint Mark's, walking alongside students at Jacob's Porch or Denison, or welcoming neighbors at NSI, I've seen how the church becomes most alive when people feel seen, valued, and cared for.

Hospitality has been at the center of my work. For me, it's more than a smile or an open door. It's a way of showing Christ's love. Scripture says not to neglect showing hospitality to strangers, because in doing so, we might welcome angels without realizing it. I've seen how even the smallest acts of welcome can change lives, a child finding their place in worship, a student brave enough to ask hard questions about faith, or a neighbor who leaves with both food and dignity.

I believe the Episcopal Church is called to that same kind of welcome on a wider scale. General Convention is where we listen for God's call and decide how we will live it out together in worship, in policy, and in mission. If given the chance, I would bring my own experiences and the voices of those I serve into that space. I hope to help our church keep growing in love, justice, and inclusion, so that our life together continues to reflect the radical welcome of Jesus Christ.



**LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC**

**Brianna Smith**

**ST. PHILIP, COLUMBUS**

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

I have been involved in the diocese more as a youth than a young adult. I was a counselor at Procter for 4 years. I volunteered at conventions and attended UBE and EYE. I also was a Eucharistic minister and acolyte at my church. When I went off to college I wasn't as involved. Now that I've been back, I have slowly started to involve myself more. I am on vestry at my church and also becoming more involved in the safety/security team.

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

I feel God has been calling me to get more involved in the church. I have been a part of the Episcopal church since a young child. I have grown up at St Philips church where as a youth I was very involved. As I got older and eventually went off to college, being involved had diminished. Now that I am back in Columbus at my home church, my passion for serving others and improving the episcopal church had reignited. During the 150th celebration of the diocese, I was approached with the idea of nominating myself and hopefully getting the opportunity to be a part of the 151st convention office.



## LAY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

**Elizabeth Wagner-Weber**

**ST. MARK'S, DAYTON**

### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

In my parish I serve as acolyte director and acolyte, chaliceist, lector, Altar Guild member, and Sunday School teacher for the high schoolers. I have served on the vestry for a three-year term, was part of the search committee for a new rector a few years ago, and have served as both a youth delegate and full delegate to diocesan convention several times. I also had the privilege of attending GC81 as a first-time deputy. I volunteer everywhere at church when needed, and frequently can be found at the top of a ladder changing candles or hanging banners for the Altar Guild and Buildings & Grounds. I have worked our Pride booth at Dayton Pride for three years now, and enjoy spending time with the other young adults of nearby diocesan parishes. In the City of Dayton I attend as many charity-led events as I can, particularly for the LGBTQIA+ community and various food pantries. Our parish is a strong supporter of outreach ministries, and through them I actively support CareHouse and Canterbury Court. I also vote in every election and keep the needs of all people in mind when taxes and referendums are on the ballot.

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

At GC81 in Louisville, I had the privilege of serving as a first-time deputy. The sheer amount of time and effort put in by all the legislative committees was both overwhelming and exciting, and I learned much about the inner workings of The Episcopal Church. I also had the joy of meeting and becoming part of the Under 40 Caucus, a group of passionate young adults from all of our provinces who have great ideas and the skills to see them through. The church as a whole has always said they want their young people involved; I am one such person with the time and energy to attend and work at General Convention. Much of that work is easier to accomplish if our caucus can meet in person on-site, especially for all new members who will join.

I also feel called to see a number of resolutions completed, specifically those for marriage equality. As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, it is important to me that I see my community and my friends obtain equal rights and privileges within our faith.

I feel called to continue breaking down the doors that held my grandmother and mother back as children and adults, and to ensure all future generations can worship in and enjoy The Episcopal Church to the fullest.



## CLERGY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

### **The Rev. Lynn Carter-Edmands** **ALL SAINTS, NEW ALBANY**

#### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

As a “retired” priest canonically resident in the Diocese of Southern Ohio, I hang my alb at All Saints, New Albany as “priest in residence.” In this capacity, I assist at the altar on most Sundays when I am not covering as supply in various parishes in the Columbus area. I also sing in the choir at All Saints and support a cohort of persons there discerning their vocation in the church and beyond. Additionally, I assist with some formation there. My diocesan service was as a parish priest at St. James, Columbus (Clintonville), and then as a member of Bishop Breidenthal’s staff initially focusing on formation and transition ministry, and finally as canon to the ordinary.

My ministry to and with the larger community has emerged from my experience with clergy disciplinary canons as an advisor to complainant, respondent, and parish-as-injured-party in a few dioceses, as well as a consultant to disciplinary board leadership concerning Title IV disciplinary canons. I have served as a deputy from Southern Ohio to two General Conventions (2022 and 2024) and was appointed to the Title IV legislative committees for both of those conventions. Most recently, I was appointed by the Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies to serve on the Standing Commission for Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons through 2030. This interim body of 18 persons (appointees from the lay, clergy and episcopal orders) receives resolutions from General Convention that have been referred to it for greater research and preparation for the next General Convention; we also look for ways to improve the canons of the church. In 2023 – 2024 I served as National Chaplain to The Order of the Daughters of the King. I am in my fourth year a member of the Board of Directors of Healthy Congregations, Inc. and am currently singing with the Gahanna Community Chorus.

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

Through my experience with Title IV clergy disciplinary canons at a wider church level, and my experience with the clergy disciplinary canons of The Episcopal Church, I believe God has called me in my “retirement” to continue to use my experience to improve the canons of the church. My service on the Standing Commission is not limited to clergy disciplinary canons. I have been blessed so far to work on resolutions concerning support of lay-led congregations and how best to provide for lay officer accountability that is sensitive, fair and just. I continue to think about how the canons of the church can support our vocation to be the church and carry out the ministry of the risen Christ as followers of Jesus in a changing church and secular environment.

It would be a privilege once again to represent the Diocese of Southern Ohio as a deputy to General Convention and to be able to speak to convention in Phoenix in 2027 about the work of the interim body to which I belong and with which I continue to work for the good of the Reign of God as expressed through the church.



## CLERGY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

### **The Rev. Canon Scott Gunn** **CHRIST CHURCH, GLENDALE & FORWARD MOVEMENT**

#### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

My primary ministry is serving the wider Episcopal Church at Forward Movement, publishers of Forward Day by Day and creators of many other discipleship resources. When I am not traveling, home base is Christ Church, Glendale, where I preach, celebrate the sacraments, and teach. In our diocese, I have served on the Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry, and Board of Examining Chaplains. I currently serve on The Episcopal Church's General Convention Reinvention Steering Committee, with a mandate to treasure the essentials of General Convention while also pivoting to help this gathering meet the needs of today's church.

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

I am a church geek, and serving as a deputy to General Convention is the fullest expression of church geekery. In particular, I am drawn to work so that we as a church do not forget our highest and best callings while also changing to meet the needs of today's world. As a deputy, this means thinking through many issues large and small to decide what we should give up and what we should treasure. The considerable reading (hundreds of pages!) required is always a treat for me, and I have blogged through all the matters to be considered at several conventions. If elected, I would most likely do this again as folks have told me the work is helpful. Serving as a deputy would allow me, I believe, to use the gifts God has given me to make disciples of Jesus Christ.



## CLERGY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

### **The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin** **ST. JOHN'S, WORTHINGTON**

#### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

Since April 2020, it has been my privilege to serve as rector of St. John's in Worthington and Parts Adjacent. My ministry in our diocese has included chairing the Mission Share Formula Committee in 2024-5, serving as a deputy to the 81st General Convention in 2024 (where I was a member of the legislative committee that oversaw revisions to the denominational health insurance plan), and chairing the Nominating Committee for the Tenth Bishop of Southern Ohio in 2022-3. Recently I've begun a side project as a consultant for bishop searches at the request of Presiding Bishop Rowe's staff; I'm currently working with the Diocese of Lexington as they call their next diocesan bishop. I'm an active member of the Central Region a.k.a. Columbus Deanery, Worthington Faith Leaders, and Worthington Leadership Roundtable. I've also served on two task forces of General Convention: the Task Force on Theology of Money from 2018-21, which

reported on theologies of money, stewardship, and practices of socially responsible investment in The Episcopal Church; and the second iteration of the Task Force on the Study of Marriage from 2015-18, whose work led to liturgical marriage equality in all dioceses of the church.

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

I love The Episcopal Church because this is where Jesus found me when I was a broken, hurting young adult. He followed me into the tomb I'd made of my life, grabbed my hand, and led me into resurrection. And I continue to find him here, in the pews and parish halls and Zoom meetings of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement. My service as a first-time deputy in 2024 and on General Convention task forces persuaded me that God has given me gifts for the ministry of deputy, particularly the practice of Ignatian spirituality, with its focus on discernment; systems thinking; an ability to absorb a lot of material quickly; and the willingness to say the thing that needs to be said. My broad experience of The Episcopal Church, in dioceses as conservative as Tennessee and as liberal as California, has given me a wide perspective on our church, an appreciation for the big tent of Anglicanism, and a commitment to the dignity of all baptized people. It would be an honor to serve our diocese as a deputy.



**CLERGY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC**

**The Rev. Julia Joyce-Miesse**  
**ST. LUKE'S, GRANVILLE**

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

I am the rector of St. Luke's in Granville, and I am blessed to journey with an incredibly loving and passionate group of servant leaders! We care for those experiencing food insecurity at our Market Street Pantry, which opens its doors twice a week and serves over 150 families each week. I bring over 35 years of experience in youth and young adult ministry, gained through work in Province IV and national church programs. And now St. Luke's is launching a new college ministry program, St. Luke's Canterbury Club, to open our doors to college-aged young adults and nourish them physically, emotionally, and spiritually through dinner gatherings, storytelling, discipleship, community, and prayer. We pray to be mentors to young adults, while also being mentored by them. I am a member of the Young Adult Campus Ministry (YACM) leaders of Province V, as well as a member of the Province V YACM cohort with lay leaders from St. Luke's, where we journey together to navigate best practices in campus ministry at this time in our nation. I have also had the opportunity to attend two bi-diocesan (Ohio and Southern Ohio) Beloved Community retreats as we work to see where the Holy Spirit is calling us to "Speak the Truth, Proclaim the Dream, Practice the Way, and be Repairers of the Breach." I am grateful to have spent significant time with other faith leaders in dialogues with elected officials at the Capitol, bringing concerns of our communities that align with our baptismal vows. I have also had the blessing of being a part of a session crew at the Procter Center for Family Camp 3: Conservation Camp, where I served as team Chaplain and team medical, and journeyed with incredible staff, counselors, and families to listen to where God is calling us to care for Creation.

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

I hear God calling me to serve as a clergy deputy to the 82nd General Convention of The Episcopal Church because I believe baptism matters. I believe that when we walk through those waters, we are forever changed. We take vows that we strive to live into every day with God’s help. I am passionate about the ways The Episcopal Church can be a place of belonging, healing, and empowerment for voices who have long been excluded or muted. This diocesan convention calls us to be “Disciples and beacons of Christ’s love and justice.” Through the lens of baptism, I bring my passion for youth and young adult ministry, for the work of Beloved Community, for our LGBTQIA2S+ siblings – all lights that have been burning brightly and doing beautiful works of justice – but not always regarded or honored within our churches.

I believe that representation matters. As a biracial, queer, female clergy person, I sit in many intersections of culture within our church. With over twenty years of experience as a registered nurse in trauma departments, I am a healer who centers the art of listening and storytelling as a vehicle for healing. I believe as disciples of Christ, we are called to model the life of Christ. Jesus sat WITH, ate WITH, listened WITH, and taught WITH God’s people. These are all active ways of love. In a nation that seems more fragmented than ever, I hear God calling us, the Episcopal Church, to go and be WITH God’s people. It is time for us to step out of our comfort zones, our beautiful sanctuaries, our well-manicured spaces, and be the Church in the world. These are the hopes that I have heard from young people. They want a church whose Sunday morning message matches their Tuesday morning feet.

The ability to serve as a deputy and representative of the Diocese of Southern Ohio would allow me to bring the lights of the unseen, the stories of the unheard, and the courage of our baptism to the ears, hearts, and minds of the wider church...with God’s help.



**CLERGY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC**

**The Rev. Jason Prati**  
**ALL SAINTS, NEW ALBANY**

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

I am the rector of All Saints in New Albany Ohio. I also serve as the chair of the Liturgical Commission for the diocese as well as a member of the Commission on Ministry.

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

I have joyfully served as a deputy at the 2018 General Convention in Austin, Texas as well as in 2022 in Baltimore, Maryland. I am passionate about Jesus Christ whose Passion, Death and Resurrection has brought us salvation, hope and peace ushering in the New Creation. As a church, we are called to share this Good News with our words, lives and actions. General Convention is a powerful ministry of the Body of Christ to listen to the Holy Spirit in our midst and walk forward in the world as disciples with the Light of Christ. I feel called to this position to help listen and discern God’s presence among us with the gifts and talents Christ has given me. Our church is very much alive and we live in exciting times to bear witness to Christ. I feel called to be a part of this awesome ministry.



## CLERGY NOMINEE FOR DEPUTY TO GC

### **The Rev. William Sangrey** **ST. GEORGE'S, DAYTON**

#### ***Describe your participation in the life of your congregation, the diocese, and the larger community -***

Since being ordained to the diaconate eleven years ago, I have been blessed to serve in various ministries of different congregations, the diocese and the wider church. Currently, I serve liturgically at St. George's Dayton as part of the ministry team proclaiming the Gospel and serving with and for the people of the parish. My responsibilities include teaching and guiding acolytes who serve the parish in the formative years of their faith journey, as well as supporting the laity who minister to those in need in the parish and our community. Personally, my spiritual grounding at St. George's provides a solid foundation for me when I go out to minister beyond the walls of the parish (another charge to a deacon). Vocationally, my dual ministry settings (as a hospice chaplain and as a staff chaplain at a multi-level retirement community) call me to provide pastoral care to patients, residents and their families in different settings over a large portion of our diocese including Cincinnati, Dayton and much of rural south-central Ohio. At the diocesan level, I have served two terms on the Diocesan Council as part of the elected leadership that supports and empowers the ministries of people of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. Last year I served on Bishop White's Task Force on Regional Structures which helped to lay the groundwork for reimagining our diocese in the years to come. Additionally, I was blessed to serve as the first clergy alternate Deputy to General Convention in Louisville in 2024 where I represented our diocese in the wider church. My diaconal journey has also allowed me to worship and serve at a number of the parishes of our diocese, participating in life and ministry with the people of Southern Ohio.

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

As followers of Jesus Christ, each of us, as part of our Baptismal Covenant, professes our faith and trust in God and our desire to share the Good News. We also promise, with God's help, to live out our faith in the world. One of the service dismissals I routinely use calls on each of us to "Go in peace to Love and serve the Lord." Since long before my ordination, I have always tried to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead me to places where I can best love and serve God and God's people. As an alternate deputy to the 2024 General Convention, I learned about the structures and procedures of our church. The church, as assembled at General Convention, benefits from the diversity of opinions and perspectives of its members, something that became abundantly clear to me as I experienced firsthand the prayerful deliberations of those gathered. As the only deacon in the deputation from Southern Ohio, I believe that I brought a somewhat different clergy perspective that needed to be voiced to the gathering. Working alongside the other members of our deputation, I learned many of the ins and outs of the complex governance of the broader church while representing the hopes of those who selected me as one of your representatives. If I am given the opportunity to represent DSO in Phoenix in 2027, I believe that this understanding of General Convention and my various ministries in service to God's people will help me to be an effective deputy of our diocese. I feel that by following the guidance of Jesus to love and serve others and grounded in faith and trust of God I will be able to serve for the betterment of our diocese, church and the world.

# Convention Worship

*Please plan to use a device to view our worship materials or print your copy ahead of time.*

Holy Eucharist - 82

Morning Prayer - 112

Noonday Prayer - 118

# Holy Eucharist

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for the 151st Convention  
of the Diocese of Southern Ohio



The Right Reverend Kristin Uffelman White, Tenth Bishop  
Friday, November 14, 2025

*Holy Eucharist*

## About our offering

The offering collected at this service will go to emergency funding for hunger relief organizations.

## Communion

Communion is offered today at stations throughout our worship space. At the appointed time, an usher will guide you to the nearest station. Gluten-free hosts are available. If you need assistance, please alert an usher.

## Prelude

Fanga

*St. Simon of Cyrene African Drumming Ensemble*

## Processional Hymn

**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

*Hymnal 1982, 657*

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
2 Come, al - might - 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.

**Introductory Rites**

*Celebrant*

Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

*People*

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

**The Collect for Purity**

*Bishop:* 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.

*All:* Amen.

**Gloria**

LEVAS, 243

Glo - ry,

Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,

Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. —

1. Glo-ry to God — in the high-est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth. —

2. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, - we give you thanks, - we praise you for - your glo-ry.

*Unison*

3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Glo-ry,

Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,

Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. — 4. You

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are

seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive\_ our\_ prayer. 6. For

you a - lone\_ are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are\_ the Lord,

*Unison*

7. You a - lone\_ are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the

*Descant*

Lord, — Lord — we  
 glo-ry of the Fa - ther. Glo-ry, Glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we

praise — you — Lord, — Lord — hal - le -  
 praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we

*Descant*

lu - jah.

*Women*  
Praise your Ho - ly name.

*Men*  
Praise your Ho - ly name.

A - - - men.

The musical score consists of three systems. The first system features a descant in the upper voice, followed by vocal parts for Women and Men. The second system shows piano accompaniment for the first two systems. The third system shows piano accompaniment for the 'Amen' section, with a key signature change to D major indicated by a sharp sign on the F line.

**The Collect**

*Bishop:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

*Bishop:* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the briar shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

- *Isaiah 55:1-13*

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 19:7-14, Caeli enarrant**

*Emergent Psalter (2009), Isaac Everett*

**Refrain**

*Refrain, Hymntune Psalter (2007), C. Daw and K. Hackett*

The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

*The Choir introduces the Refrain. All are then invited to join, singing twice through. The verses of the psalm are spoken.*

**Refrain, sung twice**

7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes. **Refrain, sung twice**

*Holy Eucharist*

- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. *Refrain, sung twice*
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults. *Refrain, sung twice*
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer. *Refrain, sung twice*

### **Second Reading**

A Reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. - 2 Corinthians 4:1-10

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn  
Great is Thy Faithfulness

LEVAS, 189

1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,  
2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

1. There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee;  
2. Sun, moon and stars in their cours - es a - bove,  
3. Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

1. Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not,  
2. Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness,  
3. Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

1. As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
2. To thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.  
3. Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Great is thy faith - ful-ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed,

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

## The Holy Gospel

Santo Evangelio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, según Juan.

**Pueblo: ¡Gloria a ti, Cristo Señor!**

»Yo soy la vid verdadera, y mi Padre es el que la cultiva. Si una de mis ramas no da uvas, la corta; pero si da uvas, la poda y la limpia, para que dé más. Ustedes ya están limpios por las palabras que les he dicho. Sigán unidos a mí, como yo sigo unido a ustedes. Una rama no puede dar uvas de sí misma, si no está unida a la vid; de igual manera, ustedes no pueden dar fruto, si no permanecen unidos a mí.

»Yo soy la vid, y ustedes son las ramas. El que permanece unido a mí, y yo unido a él, da mucho fruto; pues sin mí no pueden ustedes hacer nada. El que no permanece unido a mí, será echado fuera y se secará como las ramas que se recogen y se queman en el fuego.

»Si ustedes permanecen unidos a mí, y si permanecen fieles a mis enseñanzas, pidan lo que quieran y se les dará. En esto se muestra la gloria de mi Padre, en que den mucho fruto y lleguen así a ser verdaderos discípulos míos. Yo los amo a ustedes como el Padre me ama a mí; permanezcan, pues, en el amor que les tengo. Si obedecen mis mandamientos, permanecerán en mi amor, así como yo obedezco los mandamientos de mi Padre y permanezco en su amor.

»Les hablo así para que se alegren conmigo y su alegría sea completa.

*- Juan 15:1-11*

El Evangelio del Señor.

**Pueblo: Te alabamos, Cristo Señor.**

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

*- John 15:1-11*

**The Bishop's Address**

**The Right Reverend Kristin Uffelman White**  
*Tenth Bishop of Southern Ohio*

## The Nicene Creed

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

God of our forebearers and God of our unfolding future, you have brought us together from every corner of this diocese, rural and urban, to worship you in spirit and truth at this 151st Convention. We pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, bear our prayer.*

We come bearing the stories of our communities, the hopes of our congregations, and the sacred memory of those who walked this way before us. We pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, bear our prayer.*

*Holy Eucharist*

You have been our dwelling place in every generation. A refuge in times of trial, a wellspring in seasons of renewal. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

God of wisdom and wonder, as we enter the work of this Convention, we seek your presence not only in our prayers, but in our process, our planning, and our partnerships. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Bless this plenary session with clarity and courage. Let our debates be seasoned with grace, our decisions rooted in justice, and our hearts open to your Spirit's leading. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We pray for those entrusted with governance and vision, for our Bishop and delegates, that they may listen deeply, speak truthfully, and act faithfully. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We lift up the ministries represented here: those that feed the hungry, shelter the vulnerable, teach the children, and tend the elders. May our deliberations strengthen their witness and expand their reach. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We give thanks to the saints who have gone before us: for bishops, clergy, and laity who built churches and broke bread, who marched for justice, prayed for peace, and labored in love. We especially pray for those listed in the Diocesan Necrology. May their memory be a blessing and their courage a compass. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Bless this Convention, O Lord, with your Spirit of wisdom and discernment. Guide our deliberations, that they may reflect your justice and mercy. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Stir our hearts toward holy imagination, that we may dream boldly, serve humbly, and lead faithfully. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We pray for our Bishop Kristin Uffelmann White, our Assisting Bishops, Kenneth, Nedi, Wendell, and all who bear the weight of leadership. Strengthen them with clarity, compassion, and courage. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We pray for every congregation, rural and urban, thriving and struggling, that each may be a beacon of your grace in its community. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We lift the young and the elders, the seekers and the seasoned, the newly confirmed and the long-committed. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We lift up those who hunger and thirst. Grant them the nourishment they need, that their bodies may be strengthened and their spirits uplifted. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Make us one Body, reconciled and renewed, that we may proclaim the Gospel with our words and in our deeds. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

In this time of change and challenge, anchor us in your love, stretch us toward your justice, and send us forth in your name. We pray to you, O Lord.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

In the name of the Triune God, who walks beside us in every season, who stirs our hearts toward justice and joy, we offer this prayer and pledge ourselves anew to the work of Beloved Community. ***Amen.***

### **The Confession of Sin**

*The Deacon says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

***All***

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Bishop stands and says*

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

### **The Sign of Peace**

*Bishop:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***All:*** And also with you.

# The Liturgy of the Eucharist

*The Bishop invites our offerings to support emergency funding for hunger relief organizations.*

*The Choir sings*

## Offertory Anthem

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby (b. 1949)

The Diocesan Singers

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, That He may abide with you for ever; E'en the Spirit of Truth.

And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless.

I will come to you.

- John 14:15-18

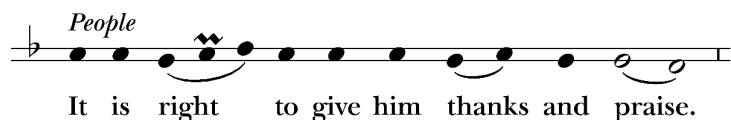
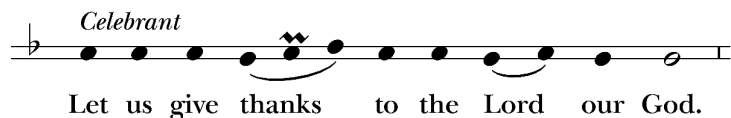
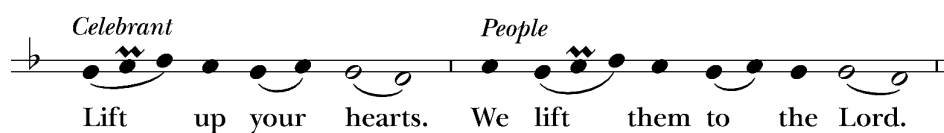
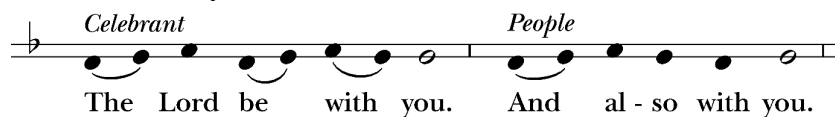
*As the gifts are brought forward, all sing*

## Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Hymnal 1982, 390 vs. 3*



## Eucharistic Prayer B



*Bishop:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Holy Eucharist*

Piano introduction in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The right hand plays chords and the left hand plays a simple bass line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

Piano accompaniment for the first vocal phrase.

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Piano accompaniment for the second vocal phrase.

Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo -

The first system of the musical score consists of two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in a soprano and alto clef, with lyrics written below. The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics for this system are "Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo -".

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal and piano parts. The vocal lines are in a soprano and alto clef, with lyrics written below. The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics for this system are "ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est."

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord 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 he 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 his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in His sacrifice that we may be acceptable through him, 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

**All: AMEN.**



*Leader*

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:

*Response*

grant us peace. \_\_\_\_\_

**Communion Music**

Prelude *from* The Victorian Kitchen Garden

Paul Reade (1943-1997)

Brandon Graves, *clarinet*

*All join in singing*

**Come, risen Lord**

*Hymnal 1982, 306*

1 Come, ris - en Lord, and deign to be our guest;  
 2 We meet, as in that up - per room they met;  
 3 One bo - dy we, one Bo - dy who par - take,  
 4 One with each o - ther, Lord, for one in thee,

*Holy Eucharist*

nay, let us be thy guests; the feast is thine;  
 thou at the ta - ble, bless - ing, yet dost stand:  
 one Church u - ni - ted in com - mun - ion blest;  
 who art one Sa - vior and one liv - ing Head;  
  
 thy - self at thine own board make man - i - fest  
 "This is my Bo - dy"; so thou giv - est yet:  
 one Name we bear, one Bread of life we break,  
 then o - pen thou our eyes, that we may see;  
  
 in thine own Sac - ra - ment of Bread and Wine.  
 faith still re - ceives the cup as from thy hand.  
 with all thy saints on earth and saints at rest.  
 be known to us in break - ing of the Bread.

**There is Power in the Blood**

*This Far by Faith, 76*

1 Would you be free from the bur - den of sin? There's pow'r in the blood,  
 2 Would you be free from your pas - sion and pride? There's pow'r in the blood,  
 3 Would you do ser - vice for Je - sus your King? There's pow'r in the blood,  
  
 pow'r in the blood. Would you o'er e - vil a vic - to - ry win? There's  
 pow'r in the blood. Come for a cleans - ing to Cal - va - ry's tide. There's  
 pow'r in the blood. Would you live dai - ly his prais - es to sing? There's

won - der - ful pow'r in the blood. There is pow'r, pow'r,  
 won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.  
 won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.

won-der-work-ing pow'r in the blood in the blood of the Lamb; of the Lamb; there is

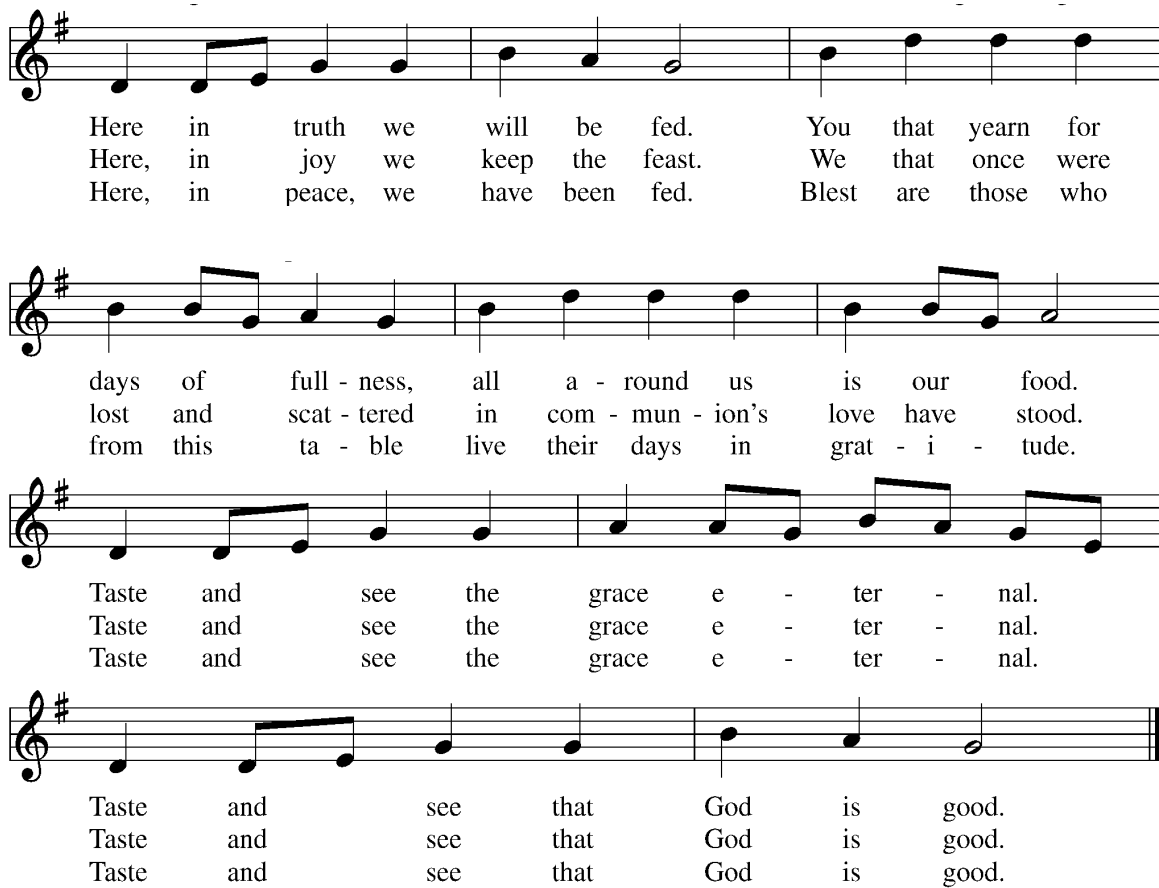
pow'r, there is pow'r, won-der-work-ing pow'r in the pre - cious blood of the Lamb.

**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.

**Prayer after Communion**

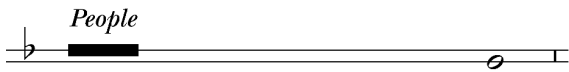
*Bishop:* Let us pray.

**All:** 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.

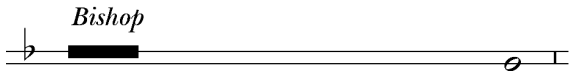
## Episcopal Blessing



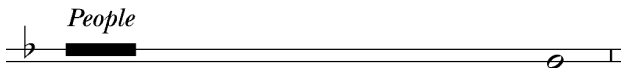
Our help is in the Name of the Lord;



The maker of heaven and earth.



Blessed be the Name of the Lord;



From this time forth for ever-more.

*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.

*All:* Amen.

## Dismissal

*Deacon:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

## Recessional Hymn

### God is Love

*Hymnal 1982, 379*

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let  
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in  
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - jice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him  
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,  
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind-ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -  
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are  
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through  
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that  
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.  
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.  
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

**Postlude**

Fanga with solos

*St. Simon of Cyrene African Drumming Ensemble*

**Thank you to all who have participated in today's liturgy.**

**Crucifer, Acolyte** Bea and Kiera *from* St. George's, Dayton

**Lectors** Noah Stacy, Kim Jewett, Jim Schwartz

**Preacher and Presider** The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White

**Deacons** The Rev. William Sangrey and the Rev. Anne Reed

**Musicians** The Diocesan Singers, *choir*; Dr. Jimmy Leach, Dr. Daniel Zehringer, Dr. Elisabeth Suffern, Mr. Connor Fuhrmann, *brass*; Brandon Graves, *clarinet*; Stephen Sollars, Sarah Simko, *organ*

**Liturgical Commission** The Rev. Jason Prati, the Rev. Sallie Schisler, the Rev. Benjamin Speare-Hardy II, Anny Stevens-Gleason, Sarah Simko

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# Morning Prayer

*for November 15, 2025*

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*Officiant* Lord open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

*Officiant* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

*All* Come let us adore him.

Venite

*Psalm 95:1-17*

*All* Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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.

## Psalm 137:1-6

1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, \*  
when we remembered you, O Zion.

2 As for our harps, we hung them up \*  
on the trees in the midst of that land.

3 For those who led us away captive asked us for a song, and our oppressors called for mirth: \*  
"Sing us one of the songs of Zion."

*Morning Prayer*

**4 How shall we sing the LORD'S song \*  
upon an alien soil?**

5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, \*  
let my right hand forget its skill.

**6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, \*  
if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.**

**Psalm 144**

1 Blessed be the LORD my rock! \*  
who trains my hands to fight and my fingers to battle;

**2 My help and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, \*  
my shield in whom I trust, who subdues the peoples under me.**

3 O LORD, what are we that you should care for us? \*  
mere mortals that you should think of us?

**4 We are like a puff of wind; \*  
our days are like a passing shadow.**

5 Bow your heavens, O LORD, and come down; \*  
touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.

**6 Hurl the lightning and scatter them; \*  
shoot out your arrows and rout them.**

7 Stretch out your hand from on high; \*  
rescue me and deliver me from the great waters, from the hand of foreign peoples,

**8 Whose mouths speak deceitfully \*  
and whose right hand is raised in falsehood.**

9 O God, I will sing to you a new song; \*  
I will play to you on a ten-stringed lyre.

**10 You give victory to kings \*  
and have rescued David your servant.**

11 Rescue me from the hurtful sword \*  
and deliver me from the hand of foreign peoples,

**12 Whose mouths speak deceitfully \*  
and whose right hand is raised in falsehood.**

13 May our sons be like plants well nurtured from their youth, \*  
and our daughters like sculptured corners of a palace.

**14 May our barns be filled to overflowing with all manner of crops; \*  
may the flocks in our pastures increase by thousands and tens of thousands;  
may our cattle be fat and sleek.**

15 May there be no breaching of the walls, no going into exile, \*  
no wailing in the public squares.

**16 Happy are the people of whom this is so! \*  
happy are the people whose God is the LORD!**

**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.**

### **Matthew 9:35–10:4**

*Lector* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

The Word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle 16 - The Song of Zechariah** *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

*Luke 1:68-79*

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

### 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* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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.**

Suffrages A

*V.* Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*R.* **And grant us your salvation.**  
*V.* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
*R.* **Let your people sing with joy.**  
*V.* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.* **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
*V.* Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*R.* **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
*V.* Let your way be known upon earth;  
*R.* **Your saving health among all nations.**  
*V.* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
*V.* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.* **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

*Collect for the Diocese*

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop Kristen and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*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.***

*Collect 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.***

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

*Morning Prayer*

## **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, **Father of all mercies,**  
**we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks**  
**for all your goodness and loving-kindness**  
**to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,**  
**and all the blessings of this life;**  
**but above all for your immeasurable love**  
**in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;**  
**for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,**  
**that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,**  
**not only with our lips, but in our lives,**  
**by giving up our selves to your service,**  
**and by walking before you**  
**in holiness and righteousness all our days;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord,**  
**to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,**  
**be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*The Officiant then concludes:*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

*Amen.*

*- 2 Corinthians 13:14*

# Noonday Prayer

*for November 15, 2025*

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

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

**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.**

## **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.**

*Officiant* If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconcile us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

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

*- 2 Corinthians 5:17-18*

## The Prayers

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

**People** Christ, have mercy.

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

**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.**

*Officiant* Lord, hear our prayer;

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

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my 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.*

*Free intercessions may be offered.*

*The service concludes as follows*

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

# Necrology

At our 151st 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

The Rev. Robert Davis Hughes, III, Ph.D.  
 The Rev. Carol Hull  
 The Rev. Gwynneth Lee Jones Mudd  
 The Rev. Robert Blanchard Rideout\*

## LAITY

Thomas Auten	St. Paul's, Oakwood
Sue Barna	St. Mark's, Upper Arlington
Joy Bartenstein	Christ Church, Springfield
Merelyn Bates-Mimms	Christ Church Cathedral
Crystal Baughman	St. Peter's, Gallipolis
Jacqueline Bechtold	Christ Church Cathedral
Betty Bedford	All Saints, Pleasant Ridge
Mary Benning Hopple	Redeemer, Hyde Park
Gloria Ann Beshalske	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
Donna Boyer	Christ Church, Dayton
Chuck Briant	Good Shepherd, Athens
Charles "Chuck" Buck	Christ Church, Glendale
Charles (Sandy) Burton	St. George's, Dayton
John Bushman	St. Luke's, Granville
Nancy Butler	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
Diane Byrne	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
William L. Campbell	St. Paul's, Oakwood
Charles Cerny	Christ Church, Dayton
Gordon Christenson	Redeemer, Hyde Park
Sue Coblentz	St. George's, Dayton
Dan Collier	Ascension, Middletown
Larry Combs	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
Thomas Conley	Ascension & H. Trinity, Wyoming
Rick Cothorn	St. George's, Dayton
Barbara Cribbs	St. George's, Dayton
Terri (Gorde) Cronin	St. Paul's, Oakwood
James K. Cutright	St. Paul's, Chillicothe
Jerome Daiker	St. James, Westwood
Robin Dashiells	Christ Church Cathedral

Elizabeth "Tibby" Day	St. Mark's, Dayton
Penni Wilson DeJarnett	St. Edward's, Whitehall
Jill Richards Denise	St. Paul's, Oakwood
John R. Denise, Jr.	St. Paul's, Oakwood
John R. Denise, III	St. Paul's, Oakwood
Diana DeVoe	Christ Church, Springfield
Eloise DeZwarte	St. Luke's, Granville
Charles Edward Feuss	Christ Church Cathedral
Barbara Fellows	St. Mark's, Upper Arlington
Marguerite Keith Fields	St. Andrew's, Evanston
Joan C. Fields-Cox	Trinity, Hamilton
Deborah Dawes Fortkamp	Trinity, Capitol Square
Carmelita Friason	St. Andrew's, Evanston
James L. Francis, Jr.	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
Nancy Wright Gabalac	Holy Trinity, Oxford
Stephen Marksity Gabalac	Holy Trinity, Oxford
Mary Dyson Gahbauer*	Trinity, Capitol Square
Jack Gee	All Saints, Portsmouth
Bailey Geers	St. Thomas, Terrace Park
John W. Goodyear*	St. James, Westwood
Lynn Graham Mowery	Good Shepherd, Athens
Dennis Gruber	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
Marsha Claire (Kelly) Gray*	Christ Church, Glendale
Charis T. Gridley	St. Paul's, Oakwood
Elana Haberer Hurd	St. James, Westwood
David Hamilton	Christ Church, Glendale
Brenda Hammerly	St. Mark's, Upper Arlington
Gary Haslop*	St. Paul's, Chillicothe
Earl Hatt	Christ Church Cathedral
William Howard Hardesty, III	Holy Trinity, Oxford
Brian Harris	St. George's, Dayton
Mark David Hazelbaker	Christ Church, Ironton
Margaret Heasley	St. Luke's, Granville
Barbara Jean Heitsman	Holy Trinity, Oxford
Robert Helton	Redeemer, Hyde Park
Michael Henrickson	Christ Church Cathedral
Loretta Henschen	Christ Church Cathedral

Susan Herbert	St. John's, Worthington	Dave Radia	Trinity, Capitol Square
Nancy Hemer	St. Paul's, Greenville	Richard M. Rawson	St. Paul's, Oakwood
Diane Fasany Hocz	Ascension, Middletown	Fred Reed	Christ Church, Springfield
Anne Hopkins	St. Timothy's, Anderson Twp.	William Renner	St. Paul's, Chillicothe
Irene Hunter	St. Paul's, Chillicothe	Ken Rex*	Christ Church, Glendale
Isaiah Hyman, Jr.	Christ Church Cathedral	Gayle Rich	Christ Church, Springfield
Richard Ispording	Ascension & H. Trinity, Wyoming	Dorothea Geertruida	
Pam Johanssen	St. Patrick's, Dublin	Margaretha	
Lynne Kellner	Ascension & H. Trinity, Wyoming	Rienstra-Wischhoff*	St. Edward's, Whitehall
Katy Kern	Christ Church, Glendale	Herb Riley	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
Nancy Kes	Ascension & H. Trinity, Wyoming	Ida Mae Riley*	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
Richard Allen Killworth	St. Paul's, Oakwood	Suzanne Rodabaugh	St. Paul's, Oakwood
Delores Kindell	St. Peter's, Delaware	Gregory Roth	Redeemer, Hyde Park
Thomas Elliott King	Trinity, Hamilton	Lou Scott	St. Thomas, Terrace Park
Jay Edward Kruse	Christ Church Cathedral	Rosemary Slater	Christ Church, Glendale
H. Ann Kuntz	St. Timothy's, Anderson Twp.	Mari Grace Smith	All Saints, Portsmouth
Louise LaNouette	Redeemer, Hyde Park	T. Michael Smithson	Holy Trinity, Oxford
Alan Larimer	St. Luke's, Granville	Mary Sones	St. Mark's, Dayton
David Lewis	All Saints, Portsmouth	Richard A. Stadler, Jr.	Trinity, Capitol Square
Robert Lindsay	St. John's, Worthington	Hollis Stevenson	St. Mary's, Hillsboro
Andy Longinow	St. George's, Dayton	Donna Straugter	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
Lamar E. Love	St. Philip, Columbus	Bill Talbot	St. Barnabas, Montgomery
Robert Lowell	St. Mary's, Hillsboro	Vernon Thomas	St. Thomas, Terrace Park
Ruth Lund	Redeemer, Hyde Park	Rosemary Todd	St. George's, Dayton
Jack Lutz	St. Mark's, Upper Arlington	Havery A. Toles	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
Cynthia L. (Madison)		Smitty VanSickle	Trinity, Capitol Square
Mackenzie	St. Edward's, Whitehall	Milla Vick	Christ Church, Springfield
Mary Malotke	St. Thomas, Terrace Park	Julie Weatherington-Rice	St. John's, Worthington
Richard Martin	St. John's, Worthington	John Weiler	St. George's, Dayton
Paul McCauley	Calvary, Cincinnati	Jane Weltz	St. George's, Dayton
Patricia McNulty	St. George's, Dayton	Esther Whitby	St. George's, Dayton
Fritz Milligan	St. Matthew's, Westerville	Peter A. Whitby	St. Paul's, Oakwood
Marilyn Moore	All Saints, Portsmouth	Linda Lorraine Whittle*	St. James, Westwood
John D. Mosher	Redeemer, Hyde Park	Annie Wilkes	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
Richard (Dick) Mote	St. Paul's, Greenville	Jeanne Winget	St. John's, Worthington
Chip Mumford	St. George's, Dayton	Harry Wise	St. Margaret's, Trotwood
Jefferson Neff	Ascension, Middletown	Carol Wood	Christ Church Cathedral
Don Nourse	All Saints, Portsmouth	David Woodyard	St. Luke's, Granville
Patrick O'Brien	St. John's, Worthington	David Wolverton	St. Paul's, Greenville
John M. Otter, III	St. Luke's, Granville	Bob Works	Christ Church Cathedral
Douglas Palmer*	St. Peter's, Delaware	Thomas Wortley	Ascension, Middletown
Anthony Peppe	St. George's, Dayton	Molly Yost	All Saints, Portsmouth
Francie Pepper	Christ Church Cathedral	Sam Zook	Christ Church, Springfield
Ann Posey	Christ Church, Dayton	Frank Zubovich	St. Mark's, Upper Arlington
Howard Phillips	St. Mark's, Dayton		
James Price	St. Mary's, Hillsboro		
Sally Putnam	Ascension & H. Trinity, Wyoming		

\*Denotes a member of the Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna.

# 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; Co-Chair, Nominations Committee

Liz Brauza-Hughes - Data & Information Manager

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

Canon Katie Forsyth - Canon for Communications

The Rev. Canon Meredith Day Hearn - Canon for Congregations; Workshop Coordinator

Eric Landen - Calvary, Clifton; Parliamentarian

Canon Julie Murray - Canon for Community Engagement; Convention Secretary

Dr. Sarah Simko - Executive Assistant to the Canon to the Ordinary

Katharine Wagner - St. Mark's, Dayton; Diocesan Council Liaison

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

The Rev. Vicki Zust - St. Mark's, Columbus; Co-Chair, Nominations Committee

## **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 - Controller

The Rev. Derrick Fetz - Missioner for Stewardship

The Rev. Gerardo Romo Garcia - Missioner for Latino Ministries

Jerusalem Greer - Co-Executive Director, Procter Center

Nathan Greer - Co-Executive Director, Procter Center

The Rev. Olivia Hamilton - Missioner for Lifelong Formation

Miriam McKenney - Missioner for Beloved Community

Canon Mark Priest - Canon for Finance and Operations

The Rev. Aaron Rogers - Missioner for Black Ministries

The Rev. Melanie Slane - Transitions Minister

Kelly Whitaker - Accounting Specialist

Erick Williams - Receptionist

