



The Reverend Natalie L.G. Hall was ordained Pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) in September 2009 after earning dual Masters in Systematic Theology and Divinity from Luther Seminary (St. Paul, MN). She served as a vicar at Christ Lutheran Church (Valparaiso, IN) and has since served two congregations in the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA.

Hall is delighted to join the Diocesan staff as Canon for Evangelism and Faith Formation. Hall's commitment to ecumenical witness runs deep. Baptized as an infant in the Lutheran tradition, her formative childhood years were spent just outside of Frankfurt, Germany (Mörfelden-Walldorf) where she was introduced to the 1979 Book of Common Prayer

when she and her family joined a parish under the jurisdiction of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe (TEC). She was warmly welcomed, invited to serve in church leadership for the first time, catechized, and received her first Eucharist.

In seminary, she came to understand the distinct charism of Lutheran theology to be a commitment not to specific ecclesial structure, but to the completion of an evangelical mission which brings existing ecclesial structures to more completely embody the promise of the Gospel. Reformation is an ongoing process in all churches, and as such, Lutheran insights can inform internal processes of reformation within any polity, including the Episcopal Church.

Hall has a gift and passion for evangelism, building faith into the common structures of daily life and communicating the good news of God's promises in contexts outside the liturgical assembly or parish hall. Hall seeks to equip communities for cross+generational faith practices in church, at home, and beyond, welcoming both those familiar and unfamiliar with church into a unifying vision of faith practices, commitment, and empowering diverse gifts to strengthen the community of faith. She has recently formalized some of this vision in a new confirmation curriculum titled *Chosen Together*, based on her experience at Oak Grove Lutheran Church (Zelienople, PA), where she saw how connected, committed, caring people led their youth into mature, committed and vibrant faith that successfully transitioned to adult participation in church communities wherever they went.

Natalie's commitment to Episcopal-Lutheran dialogue goes the extra mile, having promised a lifetime of mutual reformation with her husband, Daniel a bivocational priest of the Diocese and practicing general surgeon. They have two daughters, Grace (10) and Maryam (6 months).

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EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH
CANON FOR EVANGELISM AND FAITH FORMATION

The Canon for Evangelism and Faith Formation is responsible for initiating, encouraging, and overseeing efforts on the part of individuals, parishes, and the Diocese as a whole to practice Christian faith through words and actions as individuals, family units, community, and denomination. A particular emphasis is placed on efforts that are aligned with the Presiding Bishop's focus on evangelism and reconciliation, as well as those that advance the Diocese's strategic priorities.

These responsibilities require the Canon for Evangelism and Faith Formation to engage in a variety of activities, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Assist parishes and individuals in identifying those with the spiritual gift and charism for evangelism and offering opportunities to develop that gift in ministry and relationship with others.
- Identify areas of teaching and training that assist parishes and individuals to respond to God's claim on their lives through baptism through evangelical expression in every avenue of daily life.
- Connect individuals and parishes to the appropriate resources within the Diocese and outside of it to facilitate their evangelical efforts.
- Seek grants and other funding sources to support diocesan and parish evangelism initiatives.
- Organize, implement, assist, and participate in as necessary and/or requested, evangelism-based and theological education oriented initiatives.
- Explore both traditional and non-traditional means to reach both those connected with parishes and those yet to know God through Jesus Christ, providing resources needed to grow in Christian faith, life, and expression.
- Keep the Bishop, diocesan staff, and appropriate committees informed, as necessary and appropriate, of the status of and issues surrounding various evangelical and theological education opportunities and initiatives.
- Learn about and from, evangelical and theological education initiatives occurring in other dioceses and denominations. Introduce those initiatives, as appropriate, to Bishop, diocesan staff, parishes, and others.
- Participate in weekly meeting with the Bishop and fellow canons, addressing issues and developing strategies.
- Providing administrative support for diocesan meetings, events, and activities.