

# BIOGRAPHIES OF NOMINEES

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Two laypersons to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2019*

**Name:** Kenneth E. Gray

**Church:** St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

**Occupation:** Professor of law

**Service to the church:** Past: Array

**Statement of interest:** For 44 years, I have taught property law both in Chicago (six years) and here at Duquesne Law School (38 years). It would be an honor to serve on the Board of Trustees and make my professional skills (such as they are) available to the church. My late wife, Rosalind, was a life-long Episcopalian. In the 14 years since her death, I have found a vibrant spiritual home at St. Paul's in Mt. Lebanon; a home full of compassion. In return, I would very much like to give any help and assistance that I can to the church.

**Name:** Daniel K. Moore

**Church:** St. Brendan's, Franklin Park

**Occupation:** Retired

**Service to the church:** Past: Senior Warden (2014-15); Junior Warden (2013).

**Statement of interest:** My first exposure to an Episcopal Church and congregation was when my wife became the administrative assistant at Fox Chapel Episcopal Church in 2005. We became St. Brendan members in 2008. I was born and raised a Presbyterian, and had been a Methodist for the vast majority of my adult life. The inclusiveness of being an Episcopalian is what has drawn us to and will keep us as Episcopalians.

I have been a member of St. Brendan's in Franklin Park for the past seven years, which is when I became an Episcopalian. I retired in April of this year after a 43-year career in the residential building products industry – 35 years with Alcoa and eight with Plygem Industries, the company that bought our division from Alcoa. My career required that we, my wife, Janice of 42 years and daughter, Meghan, now 35, to move eight times. The majority of time was spent in the Washington DC area, Chicagoland, Dayton, Ohio area, and Pittsburgh. Accounting, finance, operations management, marketing, and sales were the various job disciplines for which I was responsible.

I was honored to serve as St. Brendan's Junior Warden in 2013 and as Senior Warden in 2014-15. Being Senior Warden required counseling with diocesan personnel. In addition to invaluable advice, friendships developed. I stand ready to assist the diocese by serving on the Board of Trustees.

**Name:** Dana Phillips

**Church:** St. Thomas, Oakmont

**Occupation:** Retired

**Service to the church:** Present: Standing Committee. Past: Board of Trustees (2008-12); Deputy to Diocesan Convention; Vestry; Senior Warden; Clerk; Treasurer; and Bishop Search Committee Chair.

**Statement of interest:** I have submitted my name as a candidate for a position on the Board of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. I previously served as a trustee of the diocese from December 2008 through December 2012. As a trustee, I served on the finance and audit committees and was one of two trustees who reviewed all the documents returned to the diocese that related to funds held by the diocese, collating this information in ways that enabled us to restart payments to parishes and other donor intended uses.

I believe that a key responsibility of diocesan trustees is to ensure that all assets of the diocese continue to be available to future generations of Episcopalians to use for the missions to which God is calling us and, if elected, would work toward that end.

My other service within the diocese includes serving as a vestry member, clerk, senior warden, and treasurer for my parish, St. Thomas, Oakmont; chairing the most recent Bishop Search/Nominating Committee; serving for a term on the Standing Committee; and serving as a volunteer planning coordinator for Bishops Johnson and Price during the re-building of our diocese. I appreciate your consideration of my candidacy.

**Name:** Amy Shelley

**Church:** St. Thomas, Canonsburg

**Occupation:** Estimator for HVAC Company

**Service to the church:** Present: Board of Trustees; Chair of Growth Fund Committee; and Property Committee of the Board of Trustees. Past: St. Thomas Vestry (2012-16); and Junior Warden

**Statement of interest:** I am member of St. Thomas, Canonsburg, and was formerly known as Amy Jennings. From 2012-16, I served on the vestry as Junior Warden and continue to volunteer with St. Thomas outreach projects. I am currently serving a three-year term on the Board of Trustees where I serve on the Property Committee and chair the Growth Fund Committee.

I strive to use my work experience as an estimator and construction experience to assist with the returned properties and to help review grant applications for the Growth Fund. I hope that by serving a second term, I can continue working to reduce costs associated with returned properties and work to allocate diocesan resources to focus on future growth.

I continue to work as the Director of Estimating at Controlled Climate Systems, where I have worked for over ten years. I spend my free time restoring my house and traveling with my husband. I also enjoy spending time with my eight-year-old nephew.

**Name:** Lyle M. Wood

**Church:** Holy Cross, Homewood

**Occupation:** Investigative Supervisor, PA Human Relations Commission, Pittsburgh Regional Office

**Service to the church:**

**Statement of interest:** I am a cradle Episcopalian who returned to a deeper faith through the ministry at Holy Cross. I have taken on responsibility there as the acolyte director and member of vestry. My heart lies with evangelism and new member ministry. I would bring to the Board of Trustees a commitment to serving the churches of the diocese, supporting struggling parishes and encouraging new church starts and mission. I would also bring a strong commitment to diversity as the diocese moves forward into the future.

## **CATHEDRAL CHAPTER**

*One clergy and one layperson to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2019*

**Name:** The Rev. Joseph Baird

**Church:** St. Peter's, Blairsville

**Occupation:** Retired

**Service to the church:** Present: Deacon, St. Peter's, Blairsville. Past: Two terms on Diocesan Council; two terms on the Budget and Assessment Working Group; Judge of Audits; Bishop Nominating Committee; and Senior Warden.

**Statement of interest:** My name is Joseph Baird, and I am a Deacon, serving under Father Arthur Dilg, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Blairsville. Most of my thirty years in the Episcopal Church have been spent in smaller parishes, far from diocesan affairs. That ended when I joined the Bishop Search Committee. Since then, I served most of two terms on Diocesan Council as a lay representative from

District 4, and while there, was privileged to serve on the Budget and Assessment Working Group. I have also been Judge of Audits these last two years. As part of my training for Holy Orders, I served six months at Christ Church, North Hills, with Father Shoucair, and six months at St. Thomas, Oakmont, with Father Murph.

I was ordained in June of this year, and had to relinquish the posts mentioned above, including approximately eight years as Senior Warden at St. Peter's, as I held all these as a lay person.

I see the cathedral as the center of our gathered faith. Serving on Cathedral Chapter would allow me to continue to be involved in the community of the diocese, learn about the challenges of city ministry, and to contribute as I am able.

**Name:** Elizabeth A. Duckstein

**Church:** St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

**Occupation:** Retired broadcast engineer

**Service to the church:** Present: President, Diocesan ECW; President, St. Paul's ECW; Growth Fund Committee; and Social Justice and Outreach Committee. Past: St. Paul's Vestry; and in Philadelphia: head of lay ministries, Sunday School, fellowship and outreach.

**Statement of interest:** The cathedral is the flagship of the diocese and I think with the resurgence that our city is slowly trying to build and our belief that we look outside our doors we have a very good opportunity to raise our flag high.

I remember old Pittsburgh grey and smoky. So I left town for nearly 40 years. I am very pleased with the city we are becoming now. Our diocese has a place in that growth.

My time on Council has given me the chance to work with Social Justice and Outreach and the Growth Fund Committee. Both have afforded me a chance to view our diocese as a whole – our breadth and depth around southwestern Pennsylvania. And I look forward to helping all of us have a place at our historic building and its impact on our city.

**Name:** Anne Robb

**Church:** Calvary, East Liberty

**Occupation:** Retired teacher

**Service to the church:** Present: Parish council; lector/chalicer; lay Eucharistic minister; UTO coordinator; Calvary-Lincoln Afterschool Program (CLASP); Women of Calvary Steering Committee; and grant award committee. Past: EFM graduate; Calvary PIIN Team; and Church of the Redeemer Vestry, altar guild and lector/chalicer.

**Statement of interest:** As a parishioner in the Pittsburgh diocese since 1994, I have been involved in a broad spectrum of ministries, first at the Church of the Redeemer and for almost ten years at Calvary, where I am presently on Parish Council and where I am an active participant in the life of the congregation.

My interest in the Cathedral Chapter stems from my earliest days in the diocese, when I remember the cathedral as a bustling and vital diocesan center. I especially recall that as a member of Redeemer's Altar Guild, I visited the cathedral for diocesan-wide altar guild events and also attended filled-to-capacity Ingatherings and other events.

Recent years, however, have brought about changes, not to mention crises, in the life of our cathedral, which many now consider "beleaguered." On the other hand, the bishop's office has been brought back to the midst of an incredibly revitalized downtown, with a fast-growing residential population and scores of cultural and entertainment happenings attracting thousands of people.

I feel that this is a crucial time in our diocese – and in our city – to appeal to new downtown residents to create a renewed cathedral parish, and also to establish the cathedral as a part of the region's cultural revival. In addition, as a preservationist and longtime docent and member of the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, I believe it is imperative to preserve this spiritual and historic site and develop its considerable potential.

## **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY**

*One member to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2019*

**Name:** The Rev. Charles Hamill

**Church:** All Saints, Brighton Heights and Christ Church, North Hills

**Occupation:** Priest

**Service to the church:** Present: Committee on Constitution and Canons, Secretary (four years); Cathedral Chapter representative (two years); Diocesan Council (one year); and Resolutions Committee (2016). Past: Clergy Association Board (three years, president one year).

**Statement of interest:** My weekly ministry has included serving as Assistant Rector of Christ Church North Hills for the past four years, as well as serving as a supply priest to the cathedral during the Monday lunch service for the last three years. In addition, in September I was named Priest-in-Charge at All Saints, Brighton Heights. I have also served on multiple committees and boards within the diocese over the last four years, including Constitution and Canons, Cathedral Chapter, Clergy Association and most recently Diocesan Council. In each position, I have learned much about the day-to-day workings of the diocese, while at the same time trying to add my own perspective and help in any way that I can. Throughout my various work across the diocese, I have learned more and more about the parishes as well as their various needs for clergy and lay leaders. Through conversations on these various committees, especially the Clergy Association Board, and while acting as supply clergy at six different parishes over the last three years, I believe that I have gained an increasing awareness of not only my own ministry strengths and weaknesses, but also what many parishes and clergy see as needs and wants in their own ministries. I would hope to be able to use all of this varied knowledge and experience to partake in the working conversations and recommendations of the Commission on Ministry in the next three years.

**Name:** The Rev. Linda Tardy Wilson

**Church:** All Souls, North Versailles

**Occupation:** Pastor-in-Charge

**Service to the church:** Present: Disciplinary Board; and Commission on Race and Reconciliation

**Statement of interest:** Times are changing. In the latest EDS magazine (Summer 2016, Vol. XLII, No. 1), an article read, "Parish Past Perfect – Episcopal parishes are changing, faster than ever. Will seminaries, dioceses and parishes adapt?" Our members of the Commission on Ministry are to assist those individuals discerning an active life in ordained ministry as well as to prepare them for the transitions taking place not only inside parishes but also in the community these parishes surround. My involvement with various community organizations, church committees and parish positions has been numerous over the years. It is not the norm that a deacon is assigned to be pastor in-charge of a parish in an urban/suburban area in our diocese. Perhaps my experience and background from the outside and inside the church will provide a particular perspective and be a useful asset for the commission and for those wishing to serve God and the church and the community.

**Name:** Joyce Donadee

**Church:** St. Brendan's, Franklin Park

**Occupation:** Retired school counselor

**Service to the church:** Present: Diocesan Council; Diocesan Children's Ministry Team; Diocesan Nominating Committee; Godly Play mentor; Sunday School leadership team; Newcomer Ministry Coordinator; Godly Play workshop leader; Deputy to Diocesan Convention; and Vestry at Christ Church, North Hills. Past: Founder/Coordinator of Diocesan Children's Ministry Team; co-editor of Diocesan Formation newsletter, *Feed My Sheep*, Vestry at St. Brendan's; and member of Forma network of Episcopal formation leaders.

**Statement of interest:** I am a lifelong Episcopalian, having grown up in Church of the Advent in Brookline and St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon. I have been a member of St. Brendan's, Franklin Park, for over ten years.

Formation and encouraging people on taking their journey to Christ has been my ministry. This would help me to contribute to the Commission on Ministry. This Commission assists the bishop to guide candidates for Holy Orders and to receive clergy from other denominations through the discernment process. The Commission is presently comprised of five lay people and six members of the clergy. The work of the Commission on Ministry is critical for the growth of our diocese and our parishes.

As part of my own formation, I have been fortunate to participate for three years in the Education for Ministry program and have met regularly with an Episcopal spiritual advisor. In addition, I have participated in diocesan programs such as the anti-racism training, Invite, Welcome, Connect Conference, and the Restoration Project. I participate in Forma (Episcopal formation group of over 400 members) that engages its members with church growth ideas through formation of children and adults. My counseling career skills can assist me to help Bishop McConnell to give guidance to candidates for Holy Orders. My skills can also furnish assistance to those individuals who discern that they are not being called to the priesthood or diaconate ministry but instead are looking for opportunities to minister as a layperson.

As a member and former coordinator of the diocesan Children's Ministry Team, I have established relationships with lay people and clergy in most of our parishes and have collaborated with many people in this ministry for a number of years.

At St. Brendan's, I am working with Father Ted Babcock to develop formation programs for all our members, from the children through our seniors. It is our hope to develop programs which draw people of all ages into a journey to Christ individually and corporately. We are also committed to supporting the diocese's efforts to lift up and train lay people as well. I coordinated with children's ministry leaders to offer a Godly Play workshop for the diocese at St. Brendan's in August.

It is my hope to bring my skills and experience to the Commission on Ministry to support the committee's effort to guide individuals into and through the process of discerning where God is calling them.

## **COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND CANONS**

*One clergy and one layperson to be elected to three-year terms ending in 2019*

**Name:** The Rev. Charles Hamill

**Church:** All Saints, Brighton Heights and Christ Church, North Hills

**Occupation:** Priest

**Service to the church:** Present: Committee on Constitution and Canons, Secretary (four years); Cathedral Chapter representative (two years); Diocesan Council (one year); and Resolutions Committee (2016). Past: Clergy Association Board (three years, president one year).

**Statement of interest:** I have served as secretary of the Committee on Constitution and Canons since April 2016, when I was asked to fill a vacancy on the committee. Later that year at the Diocesan Convention, I was elected to a three-year position on the committee, and I have served as secretary since then. Over the last three years or so on the committee, I have learned much about the general layout of the Constitution and Canons as we have worked to change, correct and update various issues within them. During that time, I have also tried to add my own insight and voice to the conversations surrounding the committee's work. I hope to be able to continue working over the next three years to help make our legal framework a viable and helpful foundation for the daily life and work of the diocese, its clergy and its people.

**Name:** The Rev. Shawn Malarkey

**Church:** Nativity, Crafton

**Occupation:** Rector

**Service to the church:** Present: Rector, Church of the Nativity, Crafton.

**Statement of interest:** While I am relatively new to the diocese in an ordained capacity, now serving as rector of Nativity Episcopal Church in Crafton, I have been anxious to find an opportunity to serve in a

broader way. Through my background both as priest in the Roman tradition, famous (or infamous) for its canonical rigor, and my work as a government contractor proofing background investigation documents, I feel that I have the skill set to be a useful addition to the Committee on Constitution and Canons. A recent Internet advertisement for an insurance company read: “It doesn’t matter...until it matters.” From my perspective, this bit of pithy wisdom speaks to the importance of the work done by this committee. Words, even small ones, can be critically important, especially when it comes to the words that guide our polity and practice. If elected, I can assure you that I will work diligently with fellow committee members to ensure that these words suitably, accurately and concisely support our shared ministry.

**Name:** Betsy Hetzler

**Church:** Atonement, Carnegie

**Occupation:** Retired teacher

**Service to the church:** Present: ECW finance committee; and parliamentarian for diocesan convention. Past: Vestry (Nativity, Crafton and Atonement, Carnegie); Standing Committee; Diocesan UTO Coordinator; Bishop Search Committee; Altar Guild (Crafton/Carnegie); Alternate to General Convention; Deputy to Diocesan Convention (Crafton); Senior Warden (Carnegie); Vestry Recording Secretary (Crafton); Diocesan Council (2002-08); various outreach committees; and Disciplinary Committee. I recently returned to the Atonement parish, so my service there was between 1987 to 2008. My service at Nativity was between 2008 to 2016. I returned to Atonement in July of this year.

**Statement of interest:** In recent years, I have served the diocese as a member of the Standing Committee (2012-2015), Alternate Deputy for General Convention, parliamentarian for Diocesan Convention, past UTO Chair, and as a member of the disciplinary board. While at Church of the Nativity, Crafton (2008-2016), I served on the Altar Guild, as a deputy to Diocesan Convention, and as a member of the vestry, serving as recording secretary (2009-2015). I recently returned to my home parish of Church of the Atonement, Carnegie, where prior to 2008, I served at various times (1987-2008) on the vestry, including several terms as senior warden or assistant treasurer; as a member of the Altar Guild; as a deputy to Diocesan Convention and Diocesan Council; and as part of the Outreach Committee. I have enjoyed living in Robinson Township since 1987, and am a retired teacher.

## **DEPUTIES TO GENERAL CONVENTION**

*Four clergy and four lay deputies to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2019*

*Four clergy and four lay alternate deputies to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2019*

**Name:** The Rev. Nancy Chalfant-Walker

**Church:** St. Stephen’s, Wilkinsburg

**Occupation:** Rector

**Service to the church:** Present: Deputy to General Convention 2015; Co-chair, Nominating Committee for Diocesan Convention; and Commission on Race and Reconciliation. Past: Standing Committee (President); Chair, Bishop Search Transition Committee; and Diocesan Conversation on Human Sexuality Planning Committee.

**Statement of interest:** At General Convention, representatives of the whole Episcopal Church gather every three years to “take counsel for the renewal and mission of Christ’s Church.” It is an honor to have served as a deputy for the diocese at the last General Convention in 2015. That convention set the direction of the church towards an intentional focus on evangelism and reconciliation, a focus which reflects the commitments of our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and which I find to be an important focus for all of us. If chosen to serve again, I will bring a heart for faithful mission, a commitment to prayer, and a conviction that the Holy Spirit does guide us when we work together to discern God’s will. And this time, I will bring some experience as well.

**Name:** The Rev. Bert Daly

**Church:** St. Paul's, Kittanning

**Occupation:** Priest-in-Charge

**Service to the church:** Present: Priest-in-Charge, St. Paul's, Kittanning; Clergy Association Board; Pittsburgh Episcopal Cursillo (Music Team); and Disciplinary Board.

**Statement of interest:** The mission of the church is "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ." General Convention is a time when we gather to "take counsel for the renewal and mission of Christ's Church." As a cradle Episcopalian, I have been interested in the General Convention of the Episcopal Church for many years, and would be honored to serve the Diocese of Pittsburgh as a deputy to the 2018 General Convention.

**Name:** The Rev. T.J. Freeman

**Church:** Calvary, East Liberty

**Occupation:** Associate Rector

**Service to the church:** Present: Standing Committee; and Sheldon Calvary Camp Board. Past: Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations.

**Statement of interest:** Currently I am in my third year of serving at Calvary Episcopal Church in East Liberty and my fondness for this parish and the diocese continues to grow. Over the past year, I have had the opportunity to serve on the Standing Committee for the Diocese of Pittsburgh. During this same period of time I have been serving on the board for Sheldon Calvary Camp. It has been an honor to serve with committed clergy and lay members of this diocese. Following General Convention in 2012, the President of the House of Deputies appointed me to the Standing Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations. During the course of that service I was a part of many conversations that are looking to the future, imagining new relationships, and strengthening the foundations of our church. The Diocese of Indianapolis and the Diocese of Texas, the two dioceses that I have been a part of prior to coming here, have some similarities and many differences from the Diocese of Pittsburgh; the breadth of these experiences provided me with insights and knowledge that will be an asset to the Diocese of Pittsburgh's delegation to General Convention in 2018.

**Name:** The Rev. Jeffrey D. Murph

**Church:** St. Thomas, Oakmont

**Occupation:** Priest

**Service to the church:** Present: General Convention Alternate Deputy. Past: The Listening Committee; the Bishop's Task Force 2; the Bishop's Task Force 1; General Convention Deputy, and Standing Committee.

**Statement of interest:** The General Convention of the Episcopal Church is the council that meets every three years so that the Church can make decisions about its common life, consider new challenges and problems and lay plans for advancing God's Kingdom on earth. Understanding it this way, I consider that, despite its unwieldiness and its sometimes brazen politics, it is a tool for the Holy Spirit to use to guide Jesus' Church. After all, God always uses broken things to work his will; otherwise, none of us could serve him. In my own experience as a deputy in Indianapolis, I realized that prayer for God's guidance was foundational for me to be able to fulfill this role. The daily worship together of the deputies, bishops and guests set a context for the whole work of the Convention. And so, I was somewhat surprised to discover that there was a sense of worship that permeated the whole enterprise. If I am elected to represent our diocese at the next General Convention then it will be with this understanding and dedication to prayerfully seeking the guidance of God's Spirit that I will go.

**Name:** The Rev. Kris Opat

**Church:** St. David's, Peter's Township

**Occupation:** Priest

**Service to the church:** Present: Standing Committee; Commission on Ministry; Disciplinary Board; and Clergy Compensation Committee. Past: Alternate Deputy to 2015 General Convention; Strategic Task Force; and Chair of District 3.

**Statement of interest:** I am asking for your vote for deputy to General Convention. General Convention makes decisions which dramatically affect the future of our church. God willing, I will be serving in this church for decades to come and I want to take part in today's decisions that will affect our ministry tomorrow. I love the Episcopal Church and I want it to be as effective a tool for love in this world as it can be. General Convention is a cumbersome thing and I want the opportunity to learn its workings now, so that in the years to come I can be as effective as possible. I am hopeful and optimistic for our future together and so I ask for the opportunity to serve in Austin at General Convention 2018.

**Name:** The Very Rev. Scott Quinn

**Church:** Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh

**Occupation:** Clergyman

**Service to the church:** Present: Chairman of Cathedral Chapter; Canterbury Place Board; Old St. Luke's Board, Diocesan Growth Fund Committee; and Widows Corporation Board. Past: Deputy to seven General Conventions; President, Standing Committee; President, District 5; Diocesan Council; and Calvary Camp Board.

**Statement of interest:** It's been a privilege and a pleasure to have served the Diocese of Pittsburgh in this capacity seven times since 1997. As a deputy to the upcoming General Convention, I would, on behalf of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, continue to actively engage in the life and governance of the Episcopal Church at large.

**Name:** The Rev. Dr. Bruce M. Robison

**Church:** St. Andrew's, Highland Park

**Occupation:** Rector

**Service to the church:** Present: Deputy to 2015 General Convention; Committee on Constitution and Canons; and Compensation Committee of Diocesan Council. Past: Deputy to 2009 General Convention; Alternate Deputy to 2012 General Convention; Standing Committee (1999-2003; 2010-13); Chair, Task Force on Collaboration (2009-12); Board Member, Pittsburgh Episcopal Clergy Association (1995-2012), President (1998-2009); Board Member, National Network of Episcopal Clergy Association (1998-2004), President (2002-2004)

**Statement of interest:** It would be difficult to overstate the complexity of challenges emerging in the broader landscape of the Episcopal Church. In so many places, including our own diocese, new and creative initiatives of faithful witness seek to find traction in an environment of declining membership and diminished financial and social resources. Our inspiring Presiding Bishop calls us as Episcopalians to re-engage with our society as members of the "Jesus Movement," and at every level – individual, congregational, diocesan, and denominational – a spirit of exploration and experimentation and Forward Movement in gospel ministry is beginning to find expression. General Convention is the place where that new spirit will be shaped and equipped institutionally through developments in governance and Church-wide organizations.

It has been my privilege to be a part of the work of every General Convention since 2000 – for three Conventions as a member of the leadership legislative team of the National Network of Episcopal Clergy Associations and, since 2009, twice as Deputy and once as Alternate Deputy from our Diocese of Pittsburgh. In 2015, I was honored to be appointed by the President of the House of Deputies to serve on the Committee on the Church Pension Fund – which, despite perhaps a rather dry-sounding title, has become one of the key committees in imagining and equipping a new vision for the deployment and support of clergy and lay professionals in the ministry of the Episcopal Church. I believe I was able to



make a meaningful contribution to the work of the committee in Salt Lake City, especially as we engaged in deeper review of how structures of compensation and the requirements of the Denominational Health Plan affect the mission of smaller congregations – and of the clergy and lay professionals who serve these congregations. If elected to serve in Austin at the 2018 General Convention I would be both honored and excited to continue that work. Thank you for your consideration.

**Name:** The Rev. Dr. James Simons

**Church:** St. Michael's, Ligonier

**Occupation:** Rector

**Service to the church:** Present: Diocese – Standing Committee; National – Executive Council; Planning and Arrangements; Chair of Dispatch; and Philippines Covenant Committee. Past: Standing Committee (twice); Diocesan Council; and Cathedral Chapter.

**Statement of interest:** I have been privileged to represent the Diocese of Pittsburgh at every General Convention since 1991. I think that this work is a good match for my gifts and talents. For the past three conventions, I have served as the Chair of Dispatch of Business and am responsible for navigating all 300+ resolutions through a complex legislative system. I have been asked to serve again in the capacity, by President Jennings, in Austin. I currently serve on the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church as well as Planning and Arrangements, preparing for both the 2018 and 2021 Conventions. I have served on the Council of Advice for three different Presidents all of whom I consider to be friends. I was also a contributing essayist for the book *Shared Governance*, written to explain to deputies how the polity of our church operates.

**Name:** The Rev. Nancy L. Threadgill

**Church:** St. Mark's, Johnstown

**Occupation:** Priest-in-Charge

**Service to the church:** Present: Treasurer, Board of Trustees for National Episcopal Health Ministries (EHM); and Priest-in-Charge, St. Mark's (two years). Past: Rector, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Mobile, AL (eight years); and Curate, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Mobile, AL (two years).

**Statement of interest:** As a lifelong Episcopalian, I have always had an interest in the theological, spiritual, liturgical, financial and political aspects of church. As a lay person, I have served on the vestry of two separate churches and was elected to serve as deputy to diocesan convention many times in the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. In the last ten years, I have been a clergy deputy to convention in two separate dioceses. Being a deputy to the General Convention in 2018 would serve to round out my understanding of the national church and how it responds to national and worldwide needs and events. I am eager to serve as a deputy for the Diocese of Pittsburgh as it renews itself and searches to find its place in the work Christ is calling all of creation to accomplish for God.

**Name:** Michael Edward Braxton

**Church:** Calvary, East Liberty

**Occupation:** University development officer

**Service to the church:** Present: Committee on Constitution and Canons, Chair; first alternate deputy to 2015 General Convention; and deputy to Diocesan Convention. Past: Alternate deputy to 2012 General Convention; deputy to Diocesan Convention (2008-present); Vestry (2000-04); Parish Council (1996-2000, President 1999-2000); Verger (1997-2014); and Calling Committee for the 16th Rector (2012-23).

**Statement of interest:** We are blessed with a precious heritage in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Each of us, in his or her own way, has worked to preserve and build upon that heritage, through both good times and times of trial, as God's witnesses in western Pennsylvania and in the Episcopal Church. I have added my part to that heritage in six years of service on the Constitution and Canons Committee, currently chair and past secretary, and as an Alternate Deputy to the 77th and 78th General Conventions. My parish family has known me as a verger, member of the calling committee, vestryman, parish council member, volunteer and a faithful communicant for more than two decades. In offering my gifts of legal training

and university fundraising experience to the church's service, I have been given much more in return through connecting with neighbors in the diocese, the church and the community. As we look towards our future together and equip ourselves to face the challenges ahead, my hope is that I may represent you, our diocese, and our heritage as Christians in this place, adding our part at General Convention in the weaving of the beautifully rich, diverse tapestry of the Episcopal Church.

**Name:** Lisa Brown

**Church:** St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

**Occupation:** Writer, Christian educator, digital consultant for faith communities

**Service to the church:**

**Statement of interest:** It would be an honor to represent the Diocese of Pittsburgh at General Convention. In addition to the work I've done as the Communications Coordinator and Director of Children's Ministry at St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, and as the coordinator for the diocesan Children's Ministry Team, my qualifications include:

- active membership in Forma (organization for Christian formation). I am completing the Certification in Leadership in Lifelong Faith Formation; I have led workshops at national conferences (Forma, Kanuga); and I write for the Building Faith blog.
- active membership in the e-formation community (formation, community building and faith development in the digital space). I led a workshop at the most recent e-formation conference at Virginia Theological Seminary.
- a leadership role in planning the Forma 2016 conference workshops; and in planning the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary formation conference.
- a focus on new approaches to ministry in the digital space, including formation, community building and visual storytelling.

My relationships across the national church have allowed me to experience many different models of ministry and a spectrum of issues related to diversity and sustainability; all of which I can consider in the context of how they might impact and inform the direction of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

**Name:** Jon Delano

**Church:** St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

**Occupation:** Money & Politics Editor, KDKA-TV (CBS)

**Service to the church:** Present: Deputy to General Convention; District 3 Chair; Judge of Elections (Diocesan Convention); Senior Warden and Vestry; and Lay Eucharistic Minister Coordinator. Past: Standing Committee; Co-chair, Diocesan Convention; Co-chair, Diocesan Nominating Committee; Chair, St. Paul's Worship Committee; and Chair, St. Paul's Stewardship Committee.

**Statement of interest:** After serving a number of years in various diocesan positions (Standing Committee, District Chair, the Array, co-chair of Diocesan Convention, co-chair of Nominating Committee, Judge of Elections) and grounded with parish service and worship (Senior Warden, vestry, Deputy to Diocesan Convention, Lay Eucharistic Minister coordinator, Stewardship chair, etc.), I think my experience and background in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, coupled with my skills in communication, law, and mediation, will be helpful as we strengthen the Episcopal Church in a challenging world. As a Deputy to General Convention, my goal has been to strive to make sound judgments on all matters before General Convention, always tempered by the counsel and wisdom of the clergy and lay people in this diocese. Our worship together as Episcopalians in the greater Anglican Communion depends on our ability to transcend and navigate differences in a public environment while remaining true to our core beliefs as Christians who value the diversity led by the Holy Spirit that is the ever-evolving American experience of this Church.

**Name:** Joan R. Gundersen

**Church:** Redeemer, Squirrel Hill

**Occupation:** Historian and archivist

**Service to the church:** Present: Archivist; lector; Worship Committee; Heritage Place worship service team; choir. Past: Vestry; Treasurer; Diocesan Committee on Constitution and Canons; Convention Organizer; Diocesan Administrator; Sunday School teacher; and Search Committee for Rector and Music Director.

**Statement of interest:** My service to the Episcopal Church began at age nine by singing in the parish youth choir. Throughout my life, I have sought ways to serve God through the Episcopal Church, in the parish, the diocese, and at a national level. Currently I am part of a small team that provides mid-week services at a nursing/rehabilitation center; sing in the Church of the Redeemer choir, serve on Redeemer's worship committee, and serve both parish and diocese as archivist. It was an honor to go to General Conventions twice as a lay deputy and most recently as an alternate from Pittsburgh. At General Convention 2012, I helped represent diocesan interests in committee on resolutions directly impacting Pittsburgh and other rebuilding dioceses, authored the resolution celebrating the diocese's 150th anniversary, and generally tried to help our deputation. It would be a great honor to serve again.

**Name:** Neal J. Heiss

**Church:** Christ Church, North Hills

**Occupation:** HR Risk Management and Compliance Director, PNC Bank

**Service to the church:** Usher/greeter for 8:00 a.m. service; driver for Jubilee Soup Kitchen food donation delivery; member Outreach Committee; member Finance Committee; and member Capital Campaign Committee. Past: Vestry.

**Statement of interest:** I am a life-long Episcopalian, baptized and confirmed in Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Collingswood, NJ. I have been an active member of Christ Episcopal Church in Riverton, NJ; Trinity Episcopal Church in Wilmington, DE; St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon; and for the past twelve years at Christ Church, North Hills. Called by Christ, I have served as an usher in each of these parishes. While at Trinity Church in Wilmington, I taught Sunday School and was elected president of the Trinity Foundation, a multi-million dollar endowment formed to support seniors and educational programs in the church and community. I also drove the parish's van on Sunday mornings to transport seniors from Wilmington's Hispanic community to and from church.

Currently, I serve as head usher every Sunday morning at the 8:00am service; I am a regular driver for the Jubilee cooks' food deliveries to the Jubilee Soup Kitchen; I serve on the Outreach Committee and the Finance Committee. I served on Christ Church vestry 2012 – 2014. I also served as a Christ Church lay delegate to the 2010 and 2014 Diocesan Conventions.

I currently lead a risk management and regulatory compliance function in Human Resources for PNC Bank. I have been in business management for most of my 36-year career, so I feel I possess some leadership and management talent that can serve the Episcopal Church as a delegate representing Christ Church to the General Convention. I offer the talents and gifts I have to the service of the Episcopal Church.

After attending and serving Episcopal parishes in three states, and after serving Christ Church on vestry, as delegate to the diocesan convention, and currently as usher, volunteer and committees member, I feel called to expand my knowledge and service to the Episcopal Church more broadly as delegate to the General Convention. Christ Church, North Hills is a special place, and if I can, through representing our parish at the General Convention, in some small way, contribute to its future, I am ready to fulfill that calling.

**Name:** Kevin J. Hipolit

**Church:** Emmanuel, North Side

**Occupation:** Retired chemical engineer

**Service to the church:** Present: Diocesan Council; Budget and Assessment Working Group; and Growth Fund Committee. Past: Vestry, Emmanuel, North Side; Vestry, St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon; and lay Eucharistic reader.

**Statement of interest:** I am honored to be considered for the position of Lay Deputy to the General Convention. Being very familiar with our diocese as a whole, the challenges we have and the strengths we possess, I think I can well represent our diocese at the General Convention. I am also curious where and how we fit in with the goals and direction of the national church and what I can learn there that will help our diocese. My background in engineering guides me to be well prepared and make thoughtful, sound decisions based on research and observation. Whatever I take on, I prepare well ahead and am prayerful, keeping my eye toward how it will serve God's purposes. I think of myself as a good listener, often picking up on details others miss. I appreciate diversity of thought when considering complex issues. Sensitive to social justice concerns, I value equality among all people, and have tried to serve those less fortunate than myself. With a high regard for daily reading of Scripture, regular church attendance and prayer, I attempt to be consistent, purposeful and faithful to my chosen faith in the extraordinary Love of God.

**Name:** Jamie McMahon

**Church:** Calvary, East Liberty

**Occupation:** Fundraising

**Service to the church / Statement of interest:** I currently serve at Calvary Episcopal Church as secretary of the Vestry, chair of the parish's deputation to Diocesan Convention, as a verger, and as a member of the choir. I have previously served as a member of the Stewardship Committee. I attended the General Convention in 2015 as the second lay deputy from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, in 2012 as the first alternate and as a member of the House of Deputies Secretariat, in 2009 as part of General Convention management staff, and in 2003 as a member of the Young Adult Festival. During the 2015 General Convention, I was a member of the Legislative Committee on Stewardship and Development. More broadly in the Episcopal Church, I served as a member of the church-wide Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development from 2009-2015 with three years as chair, and as a member of the Standing Commission on Communications and Technology from 2003 to 2006. In my professional life, I work as director of development at Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Over the past decade, I have worked with several parishes as well as with the Diocese of Pittsburgh itself to assist with fundraising strategy and efforts. I would be honored to serve the diocese again as a deputy to the General Convention in 2018.

**Name:** Erin Morey

**Church:** St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

**Occupation:** Attorney / Incoming Director of Communications, St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

**Service to the church:** Present: Episcopal Church Delegate to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (2015 and 2016); Vestry; Stephen Minister; Lay Eucharistic Minister; Episcopal Relief and Development parish representative; and Bread for the World Coordinator to Diocesan Social Justice Committee. Past: Deputy to Diocesan Convention, 2015.

**Statement of interest:** I am excited about working on behalf of the Church on both the local (parish and diocesan) level, and the global level, and about connecting these experiences. I was selected twice to serve as one of the Episcopal Church's delegates to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. While I was doing this work, I relied on my experience as a member of St. Paul's, and the Diocese of Pittsburgh. I am always honored to have an opportunity to serve as a voice for my brothers and sisters in Christ, and also to share what I've learned with them. I look forward to having the opportunity to do this work as St. Paul's incoming Director of Communications. I have also worked as a

judicial law clerk and attorney, and I bring this experience to my work. I am very interested in working together to make the best possible decisions to help us live in right relationship with God and one another. Most of all, it is always deeply inspiring to meet other Episcopalians, and to share how we live our faith with one another.

**Name:** Bruce R. Quayle

**Church:** Christ Church, North Hills

**Occupation:** Retired engineer

**Service to the church:** Present: Vestry, third term; Communication, Directory and Outreach Committees; and choir. Past: Two terms Lay Deputy to Diocesan Convention; Chairman, District 1; Lay Deputy from Church of the Nativity; choir at Nativity; and video and photograph church events.

**Statement of interest:** I believe I am called to serve wherever I am, and that the right times present themselves. I have always felt poised and called to serve. It would be an extraordinary privilege to serve as Deputy to General Convention. I now and previously served twice on vestry at Christ Church. I just finished my second term as Diocesan Convention Lay Deputy and Chair of District 1. I served two terms on the vestry of Church of the Nativity in Crafton as well as twice Lay Deputy. I participated in several committees at Christ, Nativity, and All Souls Church in Asheville, NC. I completed about a year and a half of the Education for Ministry (EfM) course offered at All Souls through Sewanee Seminary. I've served in the choir here at Christ, at Nativity and at All Souls. And I attended Cursillo in the Diocese of Western NC. I have served on the Boards of several non-profits in the arts community as well as held elective office in Asheville. I am a retired Engineer/Physicist (eight patents), enjoy anything electronic, mathematical or computer related. My skills are put to use at Christ Church by serving as "computer/electronic guru" when needed, including implementing the church Wi-Fi. I also love reading, music, traveling and camping.

**Name:** Mary Roehrich

**Church:** St. Andrew's, Highland Park

**Occupation:** Retired

**Service to the church:** Present: Diocese: Board of Trustees; Property Committee of Trustees; Deputy to General Convention; and Parish: Vestry Secretary; Parish Property Committee; Lector; Altar Guild; Stewardship Committee, and Parish Development Committee. Past: Diocese: Deputy to Diocesan Convention; Cathedral Chapter; Diocesan Council; Across the Aisle; Standing Committee, Deputy to General Convention 2009, 2012, and 2015; Transition Committee; Strategic Planning Task Force; Diocesan Dialogue Planning Team; Commission on Architecture; and Parish: Representative to District VII; Vestry; Senior Warden; Property Committee, and Altar Guild.

**Statement of interest:** In the beginning of my service to the church it was primarily to represent St. Andrew's in the diocese. It evolved into an effort to keep the diocese in the Episcopal Church, then to make the continuation of the diocese after the split as smooth as possible. Now the diocese needs to represent its unique experience of Christian community to the General Convention, and to try to influence the actions of General Convention to fulfill its mission and ministry in the best way possible.

Our diocese is ably represented by a group of devoted lay and clergy deputies whose job is to bring the diocese to GC and the GC to the diocese. I hope to continue to contribute to this process by attending the next GC in 2018.

**Name:** Jaclyn Slobodnyak

**Church:** St. Peter's, Brentwood

**Occupation:** Youth group director / teacher

**Service to the church:** Present: Youth group director; Sunday School teacher; Vestry member; VBS teacher; and Deputy to Diocesan Convention 2016. Past: Assistant Youth Director; VBS assistant; Happening program; Parents Night Out; Teen Voices; and Sheldon Calvary Camp Staff 2006-07.

**Statement of interest:** I am the current Youth Group Director at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Brentwood. My interest is in mentoring the youth and keeping them active in the church. I strongly believe that youth today are already the church, not only the future of the church.

The church has always been an important part in my life. St. Peter's helped grow my faith and through the support and mentoring I received there, I achieved more than I thought I could. I am now a Pennsylvania Certified Pre-K through 4 teacher and working towards additional certifications.

Growing up I was involved in many activities at the parish (youth theater group and VBS) and diocesan level (Happening). As an adult on the Happening staff I was on the Security team and then the Drama Mama. In 2012 I had the honor to share my Family Talk based on my children's book, "Where's Daddy?" which dealt with losing a father at a young age. Also, in high school, I helped coordinate a Parents Night Out program that still exists today. Additionally, I am a middle school Sunday school teacher, serve on the vestry, and deputy to diocesan convention 2016. I hope to expand my service to the church at the national level as a deputy to General Convention in 2018.

**Name:** Steve Stagnitta

**Church:** St. Andrew's, Highland Park

**Occupation:** Retired computer programmer

**Service to the church:** Present: Board of Trustees, Commission on Ministry; Deputy to General Convention; Lay Reader; and Parish Discernment Committee. Past: Diocesan Council; Committee on Canons; and Growth Fund Committee.

**Statement of interest:** I have been a lay deputy to the General Convention for the previous five conventions, serving as a regular deputy for the previous three conventions (2015, 2012, and 2009), and as an alternate deputy in 2003 and 2006. I was also the lay chair of our deputation in 2015. My interest is finding ways to help build up the Diocese of Pittsburgh through working with the national church. While a deputy to general convention, I have worked on legislative committees for Evangelism as well as most recently a legislative committee for Congregational Vitality. I was able to formulate legislation that was helpful to providing funding for parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh through the use of mission Enterprise Zones, which helps fund parishes that cannot take care of all their cost themselves. In addition, I helped to put together legislation and funding for planting new churches in inner city areas. The hope is that 30 new congregations will be built in the next three years. If elected I hope to continue to work at the national church level to develop methods to build up our diocese and make it stronger through the coming years. I pray that I might have your support to do this work.

**Name:** John (Sig) Tragard

**Church:** St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg

**Occupation:** Sales and marketing consultant

**Service to the church:** Present: Vestry; Lay Eucharistic Minister; Lay Reader; and Acolyte. Past: Administrative Assistant to Priest.

**Statement of interest:** I asked Bishop McConnell what I could do to serve the church. He asked me to prayerfully consider being a deputy to the national Convention. His request seemed to carry some weight. So after prayer and discussion with my wife I am submitting my nomination. When one gets a request from the bishop, the prayerful consideration seems different; one of immediacy and direction since I serve at the pleasure of our bishop.

So much for my statement of interest. I am qualified for this position since I have been intimately involved with the Episcopal Church for over 35 years. I have served on vestry, been an administrative assistant to our priest and involved with the Public Conversation Project. I desire to know more of how our denomination functions. In college I was Presbyterian. When I first worshiped in an Episcopal Church I saw a clearer revelation of Christ in the liturgy and the Holy Spirit was present. I want to be a voice for the conservatives and hold to the authority of Scripture as God's word and uphold His sacraments as we proclaim this same clarity and good news of Jesus Christ to all whom He brings across our path.

## **DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

*Two clergy and one layperson to be elected to three-year terms ending in 2019*

**Name:** The Rev. Canon Dr. Catherine Brall

**Church:** St. Thomas, Canonsburg

**Occupation:** Priest / Director of Field Education

**Service to the church:** Present: Priest-in-Charge, St. Thomas, Canonsburg. Past: Canon Missioner; Provost, Trinity Cathedral; Standing Committee (President, 2006); Growth Fund Committee; Diocesan Council (President, 2000); Small Church Congregational Developer; and Children's Ministry Team.

**Statement of interest:** I am willing to serve as a member of the Disciplinary Board and would engage in this role carefully and prayerfully to the best of my ability should it ever be necessary. It would very much please me if, during my elected term of service, the Disciplinary Board was never called to meet. My qualifications to serve are chiefly two: I am an ordained clergy person with 21 years of ministry in this diocese; and I have lived and led through the "recent unpleasantness" in this diocese with the ability to still get out of bed on most days.

**Name:** The Rev. Jean Chess

**Church:** St. Andrew's, Highland Park

**Occupation:** Deacon / Computer engineer

**Service to the church:** Present: Deacon, St. Andrew's, Highland Park. Past: Deacon, Calvary; Deacon Formation Board; Hospital Chaplain; Archdeacon; Commission on Ministry; and Director of Administration.

**Statement of interest:** I was pleased to learn that the diocese and the Disciplinary Committee have been working to implement the Title IV canons under the guidance of Canon Ted Babcock. I believe that we all want to strive for our congregations and our diocese to be a safe place for all people, and educating ourselves about these canons and proactively putting in place the processes that we would need to handle any accusations, be they true or false, are important steps towards creating safety and accountability. I would be honored to serve the diocese as a member of the Disciplinary Committee.

**Name:** Jean Adams

**Church:** Calvary, East Liberty

**Occupation:** Administrator

**Service to the church:** Present: Calvary Personnel Committee; choir. Past: Calvary Junior Warden; member of Vestry and Finance Committees; member of Rector Calling Committee; and Treasurer Women of Calvary.

**Statement of interest:** I am honored to be nominated for this committee. While I hope we never have occasion to meet, it seems sensible and appropriate to be prepared.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE**

*One clergy and one layperson to be elected to four-year terms ending 2020*

**Name:** The Rev. Eric McIntosh

**Church:** St. James, Penn Hills

**Occupation:** Priest-in-Charge

**Service to the church:** Present: Priest-in-Charge, St. James, Penn Hills

**Statement of interest:** I am currently the Priest-in-Charge of St. James' Episcopal Church of Penn Hills, where I have served as church planter for two-and-a-half years. I was asked to build a worshipping community. Thus far, we have grown from zero to 50 worshippers with an average Sunday attendance of roughly 20-25. During these two-and-a-half years, we have baptized three children and ten adults. St.

James is also engaged in a more expansive vision as we develop a Family Resource Center, located at the church and focused on youth ages 8 to 21.

Eight years ago, while in seminary, I found the Episcopal Church. I fell in love with the prayer book. I stand as a testimony that our prayer book is a gift to those with fresh eyes. I am watching firsthand how our theology, prayer and the love of Jesus Christ ignites something awesome in those who have never been exposed to love, Jesus or a church like ours. I believe I am suited for the Standing Committee if for no other reason but to bring the blessing of fresh eyes.

**Name:** Russell Ayres

**Church:** Calvary, East Liberty

**Occupation:** Retired lawyer

**Service to the church:** Present: Board of Trustees (President 2009-2013); and Diocesan Nominating Committee. Past: Vestry; Junior Warden; Senior Warden; Chair, Calling Committee; Friends of Music Steering Committee; and By-laws Revision Committee.

**Statement of interest:** I have been an Episcopalian since I was a child in Sunday School, albeit with lengthy periods of inactivity during my adult years. Following 9/11/2001, I determined that I should try harder to discover what the Church held for me and I for the Church. I found a welcome home at Calvary. In late 2008, I volunteered to join the Board of Trustees, having perceived an opportunity to help to rebuild our recently splintered diocese. Working with three bishops of unique and varied gifts and an equally diverse group of trustees has reinforced my conviction that mutual acceptance grounded in love is essential if the Church is to flourish. It has been deeply rewarding to work for the past eight years with such a dedicated group, as we labored collegially to be faithful stewards of the properties that were handed down to us, often in ways that had little or no apparent precedent. As my term as a trustee draws to a close, I am hopeful that I will have the opportunity to continue to serve the diocese as a member of the bishop's council of advice.

**Name:** Terlene Brown

**Church:** Holy Cross, Homewood

**Occupation:** Administrative assistant

**Service to the church:** Present: Senior Warden; and Vice President of Diocesan Council. Past: Bishop Transition Committee.

**Statement of interest:** I have been a member of The Church of the Holy Cross for 64 years. I am the Senior Warden of the vestry at Holy Cross. I was on the Transition Committee for the bishop search. I am currently Vice President on Diocesan Council. I am currently the Administrative Assistant of Senior Services at the Hill House Association.

I feel that I would be an asset to the Standing Committee, because of knowledge of the Episcopal Church and the work that I have done for my church and the diocese.

**Name:** Elizabeth (Beth) Pearson

**Church:** Emmanuel, North Side

**Occupation:** Consultant

**Service to the church:** Present: Acolyte. Past: Vestry, Christ Church Cathedral, St. Louis, MO; and Lector, Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore and Christ Church Cathedral.

**Statement of interest:** I believe I am qualified to be a member of the Standing Committee for several reasons:

- I have been a member of the Episcopal Church for nearly 30 years.
- I have served as a vestry member of Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis, so I understand church governance.
- I attended the Episcopal School for Ministry in St. Louis for two years. I did not complete the course because of a family illness, but I went through all but the classes specifically designed to help deacons fulfill their roles.



- I am a trained mediator, which means that I am skilled at helping people talk about the issues that matter to them (rather than their positions) so that some kind of understanding is possible for all parties. I worked with both individuals and corporations on conflicts of all kinds.

- I want very much to be of service to the Diocese of Pittsburgh and I think I could bring skills to the committee.

- I am active in my own parish including being a acolyte.

I will be a diligent member of the Standing Committee if I am chosen and will do my best to thoughtfully and prayerfully help advise the bishop on any issues he chooses to share with the committee.