

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The Commission on Ministry is established pursuant to Title III of the Canons of the Episcopal Church and Canon XXX of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh in order to advise and assist the bishop “in the determination of present and future opportunities and needs for the ministry of all baptized persons; and in the design and oversight of the ongoing process for recruitment, discernment, formation for ministry, and assessment of readiness therefore.”

Since the 2016 Diocesan Convention, the Commission on Ministry will have met seven times, including the annual Winter Interview Day, Ministry Exploration Day, and a retreat for those in the discernment and ordination process. Highlights of the year include:

- The Bishop granted Postulancy to Kim Karashin of St. Peter’s, Brentwood.
- Three individuals took the General Ordination Examinations in January 2017.
- The Annual Winter Interview Day with the Bishop, Commission on Ministry, and Standing Committee on January 14, 2017, featured formal interviews with five individuals.
- The Bishop granted Postulancy to Julie Smith of Redeemer, Squirrel Hill.
- The Commission and Bishop accepted the nomination of Brandon Cooper of St. Andrew’s, Highland Park.
- The Bishop ordained Joseph Baird to the Sacred Order of Priests on January 22, 2017, at St. Peter’s, Blairsville.
- The Bishop ordained Annis Rogers to the Sacred Order of Deacons on March 4, 2017, at Trinity Cathedral, and ordained her to the Sacred Order of Priests on September 17, 2017, at St. Mark’s, Johnstown.
- With the consent of the Standing Committee, the Bishop granted Candidacy to Brandon Mozingo of St. Peter’s, Brentwood, followed by approval for ordination, and ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons on June 3, 2017, at Trinity Cathedral.
- The Bishop ordained Douglas Kinsey to the Sacred Order of Priests at St. Peter’s, Brentwood, on June 18, 2017.
- With the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, the Bishop received the Holy Orders, Priesthood, of Charles Esposito on August 6, 2017, at Calvary, East Liberty.
- Under the leadership of the Rev. Michelle Boomgaard, the Commission held its first retreat for individuals in the process, at the Donegal House on April 21 and 22. It was an opportunity for worship, fellowship, and spiritual reflection.
- Ministry Exploration Day was held on May 6, 2017, at Calvary, East Liberty. Approximately 30 people participated, including potential nominees for Holy Orders with spouses and clergy.

The Rev. Charles Hamill was elected to serve a three-year term at Annual Convention. The Commission mourned the death of former long-time member of the Commission on Ministry, the Rev. Lynn Chester Edwards. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

I thank Bishop McConnell for his leadership and support, and each member of the Commission for their service during the year: Ms. Carolyn Booker, St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg; the Rev. Michelle Boomgaard; Ms. Bethany Hamill, Christ Church, North Hills; the Rev. Charles Hamill, Christ Church, North Hills and All Saints, Brighton Heights; the Rev. Jonathon Jensen, Calvary, East Liberty; the Rev. Eric McIntosh, St. James, Penn Hills; the Rev. Kris Opat, St. David's, Peters Township; the Rev. Lorena Ringle, Christ Church, North Hills; Mr. Steve Stagnitta, St. Andrew's, Highland Park; the Rev. Ann Staples, St. Thomas, Northern Cambria; Ms. Daryl Walker, All Saints, Brighton Heights; and ex-officio as staff, the Rev. Scott Quinn, Canon Pastor, the Rev. Jay Geisler, Canon for Ordained Vocations, and the Rev. Ted Babcock, Canon for Congregational Support.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Louis B. Hays
Chairperson