

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

Report to Diocesan Convention 2023

The Commission on Ministry is established pursuant to Title III of the Canons of the Episcopal Church and Canon III 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 2022 Diocesan Convention, the Commission on Ministry will have met 10 times with an informally gathered Inquirer’s Day on September 16, 2023. Highlights of the year include:

- Revised the manual for those seeking Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Pittsburgh
- The Bishop granted Postulancy to
 - Deanna Briody
 - Nicole Starr
 - Jack Roso Brownfield
 - Theodore Somes
- Four individuals took the General Ordination Examinations in January 2023.
- The Bishop ordained Cynthia Gainer and James Mirolli to the Sacred Order of Deacons on June 3, 2023, at Trinity Cathedral.
- Ministry Exploration Day was reinstated on September 16, 2023 at Redeemer Church in Squirrel Hill. Approximately 30 people participated, including potential nominees for Holy Orders with spouses and clergy.

I thank Bishop Solak for her leadership and support, and each member of the Commission for their service during the year:

Mr. John Appledorn, St. Brendan’s, Franklin Park; Dr. Frances Dannenberg, Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill; Ms. Jamie DeRosa, St. David’s Peters Twp.; Ms. Patricia Dunkis, St. Paul’s Mount Lebanon; The Rev. William Carpenter, St. Francis, Somerset; The Rev. Dr. Charles Fisher, St. Paul’s Mount Lebanon and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary; The Rev. Danial Isadore, St. Thomas, Oakmont and Chaplain for College Students; The Rev. Sara Irwin, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Carnegie; The Rev. Linda Tardy Wilson,

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Julie L. Smith
Chairperson