

**2023 Diocesan Convention
BIOGRAPHIES OF NOMINEES**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One layperson to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2026



Name: Thomas Moore
Church: Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh
Occupation: Retired

I began attending Trinity Cathedral at age five. I attended Sunday school there and served as an acolyte until I graduated from high school. After college and law school I returned to Pittsburgh to work at Carnegie Mellon University and then Pittsburgh National Bank/PNC Bank. During my years working downtown I would frequently attend noonday services at Trinity Cathedral. I was appointed to the Cathedral Chapter by Dean

George Werner.

Over the years I have been a parishioner at Calvary, East Liberty, and St. Andrew's, Highland Park. I served on the Vestry at both parishes. I am currently a member of Trinity Cathedral and serve on Chapter. I have served on the Board of Trustees and Standing Committee in the past.

I devoted my career to advising wealthy families and charitable institutions on investments and financial planning. I am licensed as an attorney in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

I graduated from Kenyon College with an AB, Ohio Northern University with a JD, and Carnegie Mellon University with an MPM. I was an adjunct instructor at the Heinz College at Carnegie Mellon University.

CATHEDRAL CHAPTER

One clergy and one layperson to be elected to three-year terms ending in 2026



Name: The Rev. Dr. Luke Zerra
Church: St. Peter's, Brentwood
Occupation: Priest-in-Charge

I serve as Priest-in-Charge of St. Peter's, Brentwood and as the Associate Dean of the Stevenson School for Ministry, a local formation program based out of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania that trains Episcopalians for all orders of ministry. Previously, I served as Curate at St. Andrew's, Highland Park, and as Youth Minister at St. Paul's, Mt Lebanon. I am involved in diocesan work as a member of the Committee on

Constitutions and Canons.

I am interested in being on the Cathedral Chapter in order to support the clergy and people of the Cathedral. I have been inspired by the good work being done at the Cathedral in my time in this Diocese, work that testifies to God's renewing and reviving Spirit. Helping support this work would be an honor.



Name: Shawn Brooks
Church: St. Andrew's, Highland Park
Occupation: Parish Administrator

My name is Shawn Brooks and I recently retired from a career in Higher Education that spanned 35 years. My retirement brought my husband Chris and I to Pittsburgh, which is a bit of a homecoming as I was born and raised here and literally grew up in St. Andrew's church. Upon relocating to Pittsburgh, I did so with the intention of being fully retired. However, I soon realized that I didn't do well with being idle and had no interest in actually being retired. Accordingly, when the Rector at St. Andrew's asked if I would be interested in working as a part-time bookkeeper, I jumped at the opportunity. When he announced that he had been called to serve at a parish in New Jersey, he asked if I would consider becoming the full-time Parish Administrator at St. Andrew's. Once again, I eagerly stepped into the position.

Throughout my career working in educational administration, I developed a passion for servant leadership. The main reason I am excited about the possibility of serving on the Cathedral Chapter is that I seek experiences and opportunities that provide an opportunity to give back. As a lifelong Episcopalian, I can think of no better way or higher honor than to serve the Diocese that provided the foundation of my faith and has otherwise given me so much.

I earned a Ph.D. in Higher Education and Organizational Change from UCLA as well as a Master's Degree in Student Personnel Services from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In addition, I have a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration from Thiel College.

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND CANONS

One clergy and one layperson to be elected to three-year terms ending in 2026



Name: The Rev. Dr. Julie L. Smith
Church: Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill (where I worship when not supplying)
Occupation: Chaplain – Redstone Senior Living Community – Greensburg/Employee Support Specialist

Since being confirmed in the Episcopal church in 2003, I have served in several church ministries until being ordained a Priest in 2019. I currently serve as a supply priest across the diocese and have visited a number of diocesan parishes.

My previous work as a college professor, my training as a historian, and my service as a priest each require deep reading of documents and an understanding of how application and text may differ. This became clearer as we revised the manual for those seeking holy orders in the diocese.

I have served at the diocesan level for various committees since returning to Pittsburgh in 2006. As Chair of the Commission on Ministry I have read deeply the church canons and constitution as we revised the manual for seeking holy orders for the diocese. I am interested in serving on the Constitution and Canons Committee because these documents provide the framework for our structure to allow the Diocese to flourish and grow ministries to love God and love our neighbors.



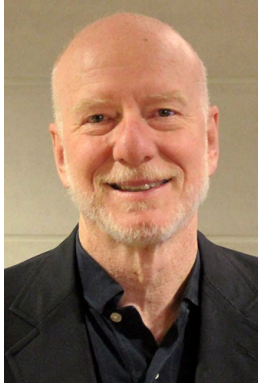
Name: Ian Everhart
Church: Calvary, East Liberty
Occupation: Attorney

Ian Everhart was born and raised in Pittsburgh, attended Rice University in Houston, then served in western Honduras with the Peace Corps before graduate school brought him back to Pittsburgh (law school at Pitt and a master's degree at Carnegie Mellon). He worked in state government for four years in Harrisburg before again boomeranging to his hometown, where he serves as law clerk to Judge Patrick Connelly on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. When he met his wife Laura in a singing group, Ian became the third generation in a row of Everhart men to have met his wife in a choir. They have sung together in several church choirs (including St. Andrew's parish choir, Calvary's schola cantorum, and St. Stephen's in Harrisburg) and other ensembles. At Calvary, Ian serves as an usher and has also participated in Education for Ministry (EfM) and the young adults group. He and Laura are parents of Clare, born in the fall of 2021.

Lots of rules hover in the background of our lives and do not seem very relevant or interesting, until all of a sudden, they are of extreme importance. Our recent experiences as a diocese, both in questions of governance in the national church, and in addressing the COVID pandemic, have shown the importance of having well-drafted constitutions and canons in place, to help weather any stressful moments, rather than (intentionally or unintentionally) hindering a response. Working closely with a judge, I have also appreciated the importance of impartial and speedy resolution of allegations, balancing the interests of both the accused and victims. I want to bring my experience in the secular world (reading and drafting the language of statutes, regulations and contracts, and playing a role in the judicial process) to support the diocese, its parishes and its people.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

One member to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2026



Name: Charles W. Atwood
Church: Calvary, East Liberty
Occupation: Physician

I am a life-long Episcopalian who has been a member of Calvary Church for over 30 years. My wife, Florence, and I met at Sewanee during our college years, married a few years later, and moved to Birmingham, AL where I attended medical school at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. After medical school and residency in Birmingham, we moved to Pittsburgh, so I could finish my medical training in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. I am currently a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and an attending physician at UPMC and the VA hospital system. At Calvary, I have been a church schoolteacher, a gardener, and a member of the vestry. I have also served as a board-of-directors member for Calvary Camp.

I feel called to the Commission on Ministry to serve the diocese in the selection and development of priests and deacon who may have a call to ordained ministry. For the past 20 years I have served a similar role in my professional life as a fellowship director where I have interviewed, vetted, and selected many physicians for training programs at UPMC. I strongly believe in a deliberate and careful process for discernment to the ordained ministry and would be honored to serve our diocese in this way.

GROWTH FUND

One member to be elected to a three-year term ending 2026



Name: Elizabeth Hardie
Church: St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg
Occupation: Retired

I have been a lifelong member of St. Stephen's Wilkinsburg and a Vestry member multiple times. I have served as Clerk of the Vestry, Junior Warden, and Senior Warden. Twice during my Senior Warden tenure, our Priest retired, and I assumed the responsibility of administrator of the parish. On the Diocesan level, I served as a member of the Board of Trustees for six eventful years. During that time, I also served as a member of the Growth Fund.

Having served on the Growth Fund in the past I feel I can bring some experience needed to that group. Having served on St. Stephens Vestry when we had to ask the Growth Fund for help in a project, I feel that experience will be valuable when evaluating loan or grant money for other parishes.

REGIONAL DISCIPLINARY BOARD

One clergy member to be elected to a three-year terms ending 2026



Name: The Rev. Charles Fischer

Church: St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

Occupation: Vice President for Seminary Advancement, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

I am currently serving as a Priest Associate at St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon and the Vice President for Seminary Advancement at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. I am also a member of the Commission on Ministry for the Diocese.

Prior to moving to Pittsburgh, I was active in the Diocese of Atlanta having served as a rector of a parish in SW Atlanta. Married to Rhonda and we have two boys, Charles IV and Cameron.

STANDING COMMITTEE

One clergy and one layperson to be elected to four-year terms ending 2027



Name: The Rev. Canon Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan

Church: Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh

Occupation: Cathedral Canon of Formation and Parish Life

Originally from East Tennessee, I have lived, studied, and served in Pittsburgh for over eight years. I currently serve as a Cathedral Canon focusing on formation opportunities and building parish life. I served as Diocesan Convention Manager from 2018-2021. I currently serve on the Clergy Association Executive Committee and the Interfaith Council at Point Park University. I am also a deputy to our upcoming General Convention in 2024. I live with my husband Jamie in Brighton Heights.

I offer myself as a candidate for Standing Committee. I want to continue to support the life of our diocese and the work to which we have been called. The Diocese of Pittsburgh has a unique history and a hopeful future. I am glad to serve in any capacity to support this future. I would be honored to serve Christ, the church, and our community on Standing Committee.

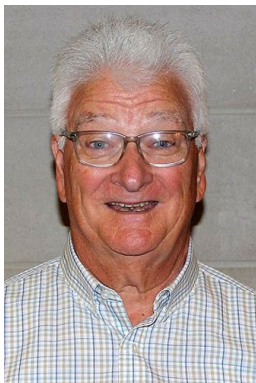


Name: Anthony Crisafio
Church: St. Andrew's, Highland Park
Occupation: Research Consultant

I joined the Episcopal Church shortly after spending several months living in Israel and spending time in Jerusalem. I felt called to a renewed sense of faith and desire to live closer to God. My church journey has been transitory over the last several years, as I first was received into the Church in Washington DC, then moved to the Caribbean to the UK then back to Pittsburgh.

Since returning to Pittsburgh, I have been a member at St Andrew's, Highland Park serving as an usher and reader. As our parish entered a period of transition, I served on the Survey Committee to help craft our rector search and have stepped up when asked to help with outreach and parish events. As a congregant, I have taken part in our adult formation program through our Lenten Baptismal Promise study, our summer Bible study, and our current Sacred Ground group.

In serving my parish and our larger Church community, I draw on my experience in the global Anglican Communion, work in healthcare and research, and an abiding faith to bring together my talents in the ways the Church has called on me. In accepting my parish's nomination, I commit to bring my experience and focus on listening to the Standing Committee to hear the needs of our Diocese and the greater Pittsburgh community and listen for the Holy Spirit's guidance forward.



Name: Robert Eley
Church: Calvary, East Liberty
Occupation: Retired

I would like to be considered for service as a lay member of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh Standing Committee. I have previously served two terms on the Diocesan Board of Trustees and have held important Lay leadership positions in two parishes in the Diocese (St. Stephen's Wilksburg and Calvary) over the past 35 years. I recently retired from serving as the Treasurer at Calvary, a position I held for 22 years. I believe that I have valuable knowledge and experience to share with all members of the Committee as we work to grow the diocese and carry out our responsibilities in advising and supporting the Diocesan Bishop in the years ahead.



Name: Eileen Sharbaugh

Church: St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

Occupation: Retired Teacher/Educator

Eileen Sharbaugh has spent most of her career as an Early Childhood Educator with St. Paul's Episcopal Nursery School and recently retired from her role as the Director of the nursery school. She is the co-founder of Jeremiah's Place, Pittsburgh's only Crisis Nursery, where she continues to serve on the Board of Directors. Eileen is the Chair of the Early Childhood Exploratory Committee at The Church of the Holy Cross in Homewood, where she and others are exploring ways to connect with and serve the youngest members of the neighborhood: children birth to age five.

A member of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, Eileen serves on the Children and Youth Commission and the Spiritual Growth Commission. She is a Lay Eucharistic Minister and Lector and especially values her role as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor - providing her the opportunity to share communion with someone who is unable to attend church. Eileen facilitates the Wednesday Evening Small Group and co-leads a contemplative walking group at St. Paul's. Other ways Eileen has been involved with parish life have been as a VBS leader, greeter, usher, Co-Chair of the Rector search committee, Sunday School teacher, youth group helper, and has served on Vestry. She has been a member of the Diocesan Commission on Ministry and serves as a Deputy.

Having been a member of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh for decades, I would like to support the work of the diocese and extend my service to the Church by participating as a member of the Standing Committee. I believe serving on the Standing Committee will deepen my understanding of the Diocese and allow me the opportunity to see how God is at work in our region and to support this important work of sharing and spreading God's love.