

## **Report from Diocesan Council to Diocesan Convention 2025**

The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo, President

Diocesan Council met five times prior to the 2025 Diocesan Convention. Our final meeting of the year is scheduled for December 9 at Calvary Episcopal Church, where we will meet in person to elect officers for 2025 and welcome newly elected members from the Convention.

The mission of Diocesan Council is set forth in Section 1 of Canon V:

“The Diocesan Council shall act on behalf of the Convention when the Convention is not in session. In particular, it shall evaluate the policies, programs, and other activities of the Diocese, make recommendations to the Convention, and give general oversight to the work, mission, budget and human resources of the Diocese. The Council shall perform such other functions and tasks as the Convention may assign to it.”

In essence, Diocesan Council serves as the “Convention in recess,” empowered to act on behalf of the Convention throughout the year.

### **Highlights of 2025**

I was elected President of Diocesan Council and Bryan Webb was voted as Vice President of the Council in the December 2024 meeting. In our February meeting we confirmed several key leadership roles: the Rev. Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan – Judge of Assessments, Betti Rottschaefer – Judge of Audits, the Rev. Noah Evans – member of, Budget and Assessment Working Group (BAWG), Bryan Webb- Chair, BAWG, and the Rev. Julie Smith – Chair, Nominating Committee. In February, Rebecca Steiner was elected Diocesan Treasurer. Following her departure from the Diocese, Rev. Canon Joann Saylor was elected as Diocesan Treasurer and Marlene Rihn as Assistant Treasurer at our September meeting.

Each Council meeting includes:

- A devotion/ prayer
- Reports from the Bishop and Canons
- Updates from the Presidents of the Standing Committee and Board of Trustees
- Reports from the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor
- Updates from the Chair of BAWG
- Reports from various diocesan committees and ministries, including the Compensation Committee, Growth Fund, Commission on Ministry, Children’s Ministry, Policy Workgroup, Convention Committee, and the Social Justice and Outreach Committee.

In addition to ongoing oversight and discussion, Council completed its canonically required actions and appointments, including:

- Approving diocesan staff clergy housing resolutions
- Reallocating budgetary funding as needed
- Awarding Parish Mission and Financial Partnership Grants to parishes and missions
- Granting diocesan assessment relief where appropriate
- Recommending approval of:
  - Nominees for Diocesan Convention–elected positions (2025)
  - Lay and Clergy Compensation and Medical Plan Guides (2026)
  - The 2026 Diocesan Budget

## **Membership of Diocesan Council**

The Rt. Rev. Ketlen A. Solak, Bishop

Andrew Roman, Chancellor

Council President: The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo, *St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon*

Council Vice President: Bryan Webb, *Redeemer, Squirrel Hill*

Secretary: Eileen Sharbaugh, *St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon*

Members:

The Rev. Nancy Threadgill, *St. Mark's, Johnstown*

Florence Atwood, *Calvary, East Liberty*

James Neral, *Christ Church, North Hills*

The Rev. Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan, *Calvary, East Liberty*

Eileen Sharbaugh, *St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon*

Anthony Crisafio, *St. Andrew's, Highland Park*

The Rev. Canon Natalie Hall, *Redeemer, Squirrel Hill*

Bruce Quayle, *Christ Church, North Hills* (District 1)

Bryan Webb, *Redeemer, Squirrel Hill* (District 2)

Constance Davis, *Atonement, Carnegie* (District 3)

Daniel Sirianni, *St. Bartholomew's, Scottdale* (District 4)

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Diocesan Council President this year.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Laura Di Panfilo