



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE *of* INDIANAPOLIS

Nominations for Diocesan Offices

Updated 10/31/2024

Standing Committee
Disciplinary Board
Commission on Ministry
Waycross Board
Executive Council
Neighborhood Conveners

Standing Committee

1 Clergy Member, Full Term; 1 Lay Member, Full Term

Clergy nominee for full term



The Rev. Holly Rankin Zaher

St. Paul's, Evansville

[Biography](#)

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee:

Following my baptism and dedication to Christ as a teenager, I have been active in youth ministry in six different dioceses as a lay person, both as a volunteer and professional, and as a speaker and youth ministry educator. I oversaw the worship and liturgy of a church planting team. I have also served as an ordained priest in two different dioceses. In the

Diocese of Indianapolis, I have served on the Executive Council, as a Neighborhood Convener, as a camp chaplain at Waycross, and work with Canon Brendan O'Sullivan-Hale to facilitate "Faithful Innovation." In Evansville, I have served on several boards including Leadership Everyone, which works to equip people in all spaces in our area with servant leadership for the good of our community, and CAJE, Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: One of my values is being connected with others and with Christ. For me, it is important to make sure all voices at the table are heard and valued, that we make sure the voices that need to be heard are included, and that we communicate what needs to be communicated with those who need to hear it. I bring my diverse, outsider experience along with my almost seven years of being connected in this diocese.

Lay nominee for full term



Michael McGraw

St. Francis-In-The-Fields, Zionsville

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee:

I'm running for a second term on the Standing Committee. I have served on Executive Council and on the Vestries of two parishes. I'm on the Board of two companies that own apartments for 1) elderly and handicapped, and 2) folks who are HIV-positive.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: By examining situations and information provided to assist in arriving at a good, consensus, course of action for the Diocese.

Disciplinary Board

1 Clergy Board Member, Full Term;

1 Lay Board Member, Full Term;

1 Lay Board Member, 2 Year Term

There are currently no clergy nominees

There are currently no lay full term nominees

There are currently no lay two year term nominees

Commission on Ministry

1 Clergy Member, Full Term; 1 Lay Member, Full Term

Clergy nominees



The Rev. Ælred Dean

St. Paul's, Columbus

[Biography](#)

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee:

I am the priest-in-charge at St. Paul's, Columbus and I have and continue to serve on the Education Committee of the Brotherhood of St. Gregory in discerning possible calls for the religious life. I have also served as a member of the Executive Council, Budget Committee, and Standing

Committee in the Diocese of Lexington, where discerning skills are necessary for the mission and ministry of TEC.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: To partner in collaboration with the Bishop, Diocesan Staff, and the COM to listen to and hear where God is calling our church. To journey with people who are in the discernment process, not only for Holy Orders, but also where God is calling all the baptized. This is done by following the lead of the Holy Spirit who is already ahead of us and asking us to follow in courageous ways in sharing the good news of God in Christ.



The Rev. Adam Pierce

Trinity, Indy

Biography

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee: In my role as a campus minister in East Carolina I spent time with college students working with them to discern goals and purpose in their lives post college; this involved listening and helping them figure out the right questions to be asking in their prayer lives.

I have spent the last three years working with different fellows at Faith at The Crossroads, a ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church with young adults, helping them discern God's call in their own lives. This has looked like taking time to learn their passions and interests and working to place them in a partner site that will align with those values, so they are both emotionally and spiritually connected to their work for the time they are in the program.

In my pastoral ministry, I have worked to connect people's passions and gifts to various ministries in the church. I believe that we are most fully alive when we are utilizing the gifts God has given us. Helping people discover those gifts or utilize those gifts for ministry, lay or ordained, is a great joy of my ministry.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: I am passionate about ensuring folks are listening to God in their lives and participating in ministry that feeds them. I have a mentor who is quick to say that if it's not drawing us closer to God, stop doing it. I believe discernment happens in community and through a varied body of experience.

To the Commission on Ministry, I will bring my gifts of listening, asking deep questions, organization, and a sense of joy and good humor.



The Rev. Hipólito Fernández Reina

Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis

Biography

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee:

Padre Hipolito is a leader in the Cathedral congregation in the formation of disciples and guiding them in growing into the full stature of Christ. In his role as Cathedral Canon, he gets to know every person who comes into contact with the Latino community in the Cathedral. He pays attention to their gifts

and works with the Cathedral leadership team to find places for everyone to serve in the body of Christ.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: Hipolito is an experienced priest, practice identifying and forming leaders in the church. He has mentored clergy in his home Diocese in the Dominican Republic. It would be a gift to this diocese for him to be part of identifying leaders, especially among people whose first language is Spanish.

Lay nominees



Sara Gunter

Trinity, Bloomington

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee:

I have spent my life in the church and was brought up to pray and reflect and discern as an individual and in group settings. In the Diocese of Spokane a colleague on the bishop's staff and I led series of prayer zooms for the folk of the diocese, experimenting with using Lectio Divine, the Examen, Ignatian Imaginative Prayer to pray together. I have served in churches, on diocesan staffs, and at camp and conference

centers as a program leader and put together a variety of events and activities to provide deep and prayerful formation and fellowship. And, I have walked with several friends and colleagues as they have gone through the discernment and ordination process.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: I love to pray and to listen to/for the Holy Spirit with others and to work to submit to the guidance and will we discern together. I will pray, listen, talk, encourage candidates and postulants with the other members of COM to faithfully and lovingly walk with them during a thrilling, terrifying, vulnerable process of discernment, discovery, and growth.



Pamela Smith
St. Paul's, Indianapolis

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee: Active member of St. Paul's Indy since 2007. St. Paul's vestry 2010-13. Diocesan Standing Committee member 2013-16, president 2014-16. Delegate to diocesan convention since 2013. Commission on Ministry member 2020-22.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: As a layperson, I am deeply aware of the power that clergy have to impact an individual, a congregation, a community or society generally. In my previous term on COM, I became more aware of different ways that individuals live out their call to ordained ministry other than as parish priests.

My faith and sense of purpose are deepened and renewed as I walk with the individuals discerning God's call to them.

Waycross Board

1 Clergy Member, Full Term; 1 Lay Board Member, Full Term

There are currently no clergy nominees

Lay nominees



Donald Bryan

St. Stephen's, Terre Haute

[Biography](#)

Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee:

As a life-long Episcopalian, Don has actively served three congregations in the Diocese of Indianapolis through regular parish life, serving on vestries, as warden, and serving on various committees. For thirty-five years, Don has served as a teacher (special education) and coach (high school varsity football, wrestling, and boys and girls soccer), helping teach, guide, encourage, and champion young people of all ages, helping them develop positive attitudes and life skills. As a parent of eight and grandparent of eight, Don has sent nearly all of them to camp at Waycross, helping each of them have an experience with Waycross that might match his own as a camper. Don is incredibly patient, supportive, positive, eager to get things done, and is deeply committed to Waycross.

How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving: Don has previously served on the Waycross Board and recently helped with fundraising to repair the retreat house on Hickory Hill. His social skills, kindness to the needs of others, and devotion to both Waycross itself and the young people of the Diocese are present in the way he speaks about them and to them. His skill with people of all ages would make him an asset to the work of the Board in all of its work.

Executive Council

**1 Clergy Member, Three Year Term, Confluence,
Crossroads and Waycross;
Lay Member, Three Year Term, Riverbend**

*These leaders were elected at fall neighborhood meetings,
to be ratified by diocesan convention*

Confluence

3 Year Term – Clergy

The Rev. Allen Rutherford | St. John's, Mt. Vernon

Crossroads

3 Year Term – Clergy

The Rev. Andrea Arsene | All Saints, Indianapolis

Waycross

3 Year Term – Clergy

The Rev. Karen Sullivan | St. Thomas, Franklin

River Bend

3 Year Term – Lay

No lay Executive Council Member was elected

Neighborhood Conveners

**1 Clergy Member & 1 Lay Member per Neighborhood
1-year Term**

These leaders were elected at fall neighborhood meetings

Confluence

Clergy: **The Rev. Holly Rankin Zaher** | St. Paul's Evansville

Lay: **Ms. Sheila White** | St. Stephen's New Harmony

Crossroads

Clergy: **The Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick** | Trinity, Indianapolis

Lay: no lay co-convener elected

The Edge

Clergy: no clergy co-convener elected

Lay: **Mr. Steve Lawson** | St. Christopher's, Carmel

River Bend

Clergy: **The Rev. Allan Wallace** | St. Paul's, New Albany

Lay: **Ms. Cindy Wood** | St. Paul's, New Albany

Wabash

Clergy: **The Rev. Jim Said** | Good Samaritan, Brownsburg

Lay: **Ms. Jessica Short** | St. John's, Crawfordsville

Waycross

Clergy: no clergy co-convener elected

Lay: **Yvonne Olinger** | St. David's Bean Blossom