

# EPISCOPAL DIOCESE *of* INDIANAPOLIS

## **Nominations for Diocesan Offices**

Updated 11/4/2025

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

# Standing Committee

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

### *Clergy nominees – 1 Year Term*



#### **The Rev. Monique Ellison**

Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis

#### **Biography**

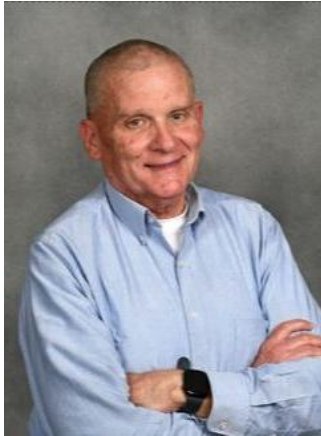
**Describe the church work or community service activities you or the person nominated have participated in that prepared you for the work of the committee:** In

more than twenty years of ordained ministry, I have served six years on Commission on Ministry and have been chaplain for a Committee for the Nomination of a Bishop. It has been my honor to serve as a consultant for congregations experiencing conflict. The honor has come from knowing that there is tenderness and pain in the system and yet seeing God at work in a congregation that wants to be faithful. These congregations have come out on the other side of this pain by sharing the truth with each other, understanding their stories better, and establishing norms and systems that make space for accountability and living into their mission. conventions).

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** I have accompanied individuals and congregations discerning paths forward in ministry, I would cherish the opportunity to continue to bring these gifts and experiences to the Standing Committee in the Diocese of Indianapolis.

*There are currently no Full Term Clergy nominees*

## *Lay nominee for full term*



### **Mr. Greg McClure**

St. John's, Lafayette

#### **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:** Greg has served on the St. John's Vestry three different times (each term was three years) and as Senior Warden for two years from 2020-2022. He also served for several years on the Stewardship Committee. Currently, he serves as treasurer of St. John's and on the Finance Committee. He is also the editor of the St. John's monthly newsletter. Greg is a "cradle" Episcopalian and his father, the Rev. Al McClure, served as a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis for several decades. In the Lafayette community, Greg volunteers regularly at the Food Finders Fresh Market Food Pantry and at the Food Finders Resource Center.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** Greg knows the Church well and is a devoted servant leader. Greg was an incredible help to me during my time at St. John's, Lafayette. He is reliable, trustworthy, and focused on the church's mission to serve the wider community.

# Disciplinary Board

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

## *Clergy nominees*



### **The Rev. Jeffrey Bower**

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:** Now in my 19th year of ordained ministry in the Diocese of Indianapolis, I have served on many ministries of the diocese: Standing Committee; COM; Waycross Board; Global Missions (Chair); Former Dean of Mid-central Deanery. I have served on the Board of Trustees of CTS, as President of the CTS Alumni Association and as a founding board member of Trinity Haven. I have many years of

pastoral ministry as both chaplain and priest and recently completed a one-year apprenticeship in spiritual direction.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** I have vast experience in conflict resolution and pastoral care and work well with others.

## *Lay nominees*



### **Ms. Elizabeth "Beth" Dingman**

St. John's, Mt. Vernon

**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:** Beth has previously served a 3-year term on the Disciplinary Board. She is an amazing event organizer and leader. Beth is a cradle Episcopalian and has done and lead just about every position in the Church short of being called to ordained ministry. Beth has been Senior Warden of the parish several times, as well as

Vestry Clerk. Beth is not just an outstanding lay leader of our parish, but she is also involved in various social service, outreach agencies in our community.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** As already mentioned, Beth has already served one 3-year term on the Disciplinary Board several years ago. Beth has a great attention for details. Beth is the Historiographer of our parish and is excellent at performing research, data collection, and organizing of information, and she is a sharp-minded proofreader.



**Mr. David Sloane**  
Christ Episcopal, Madison

**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:** Vestry work and currently senior warden. I have been involved in resolving workplace conflict a former position.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:**

Have been an Episcopalian since birth. Have served on disciplinary committee in the past Have served on vestry several times and am currently serving as senior warden. Bring years of experience in dealing with decisions regarding employee discipline and conflict resolution

# Commission on Ministry

1 Clergy Member, Full Term;

1 Lay Member, Full Term

## *Clergy Nominees*



### **The Rev. Hilary Cooke**

Good Shepherd, West Lafayette

[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:** Hilary has served on the COM before (2006-2012) as well as the Bishop Search Committee (2015-2016), the Standing Committee (2018-2021), the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Mission Strategy (2020-2023), and the Global Missions Commission (2020-present). She has also served in the secretariat at General Convention since 2000 (nine

conventions).

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** Hilary has a DMin in Psychotherapy and Faith and this informs all aspects of her ministry. She is skilled in listening and enjoys coming along side people who are in discernment. In her current work at the Episcopal Campus Ministry at Purdue, she has many opportunities to mentor young adults. Hilary has a clear sense of discernment, an excellent understanding of the importance of ordained ministry, and an expansive sense of vocation within the Church and within the baptismal covenant that all Christians share.



## **The Rev. Jason Fortner**

St. John's Crawfordsville

**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 had an incredibly positive experience coming through the ordination process in this diocese. I believe that fact as well as my term as deacon at All Saints, my curacy at St. John's Lafayette, and my time at St. John's Crawfordsville have prepared me for this role.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** I have every reason to believe that the supportive and nurturing interaction I experienced with the COM during my process continues. Nevertheless, I want to do my part to ensure that it does and to continue to improve how the ordination process works in Indy Dio. I believe my experience as a middle-aged person who had a career and a family while going through the process and seminary will allow me to offer a unique perspective to aspirants and to my fellow COM members. I am definitely excited about the possibility of helping others discern their call through this holy and challenging process.

*There are currently no lay nominees*

# Waycross Board

## 2 Positions –Clergy/Lay Member, Full Term

*There are currently no clergy nominees*

*Lay nominees*



### **Ms. Meg Booth**

**Christ Church Cathedral, 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:**

I nominate Meg Booth for Waycross Board. I have known her for many years, as a volunteer and giver at Waycross. She is a former camp counselor at Waycross, a member of Christ Church Cathedral and is Senior Director of Volunteer Experience at the headquarters of the Central Indiana Girl Scouts. Over the past 35 years she has volunteered in various activities from overseeing a book fair to serving on the vestry. She has

organized parents for high school soccer teams and chaperoned many youth activities. At Christ Church Cathedral she organized Adopt a Family Christmas gift giving and the backpack donation program for back to school. She has been a volunteer at Christ Church Cathedral Strawberry Festival, serving on the board for over 10 years. Favorite volunteer role involves supporting Waycross. Volunteering at Waycross includes Alumni Work Camp, Fall Festivals, and Staff Reunion. She also volunteers as Guest Host at Waycross making sure all are welcome and have a comfortable stay. She promotes upcoming events at Waycross, while encouraging visitors to take information to share with youth and families.

Of note, Short bio: Attended St Luke's Shelbyville and Christ Church Cathedral Graduated from Culver Academy and Depauw University Waycross Camp counselor 1983,1985. Assistant Director 1987-1988 Christ Church Cathedral Women: Strawberry Festival Coordinator, VP, service chairman 1999-2008, Christ Church Vestry 2006-2009 Currently employed at Central Indiana Girl Scouts : Senior Director of Volunteer Experience

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** Meg Booth has a varied amount of experience of engaging people into volunteering and donating time or money for a worthy cause. I have personally witnessed her vocalizing the impact

Waycross has on adults and children while encouraging people to volunteer/help Waycross either with time or donations. She has eloquently spoken to visitors about the impact of the Waycross Experience and how it can be life changing. She and I have volunteered as Guest Hosts and have been part of work crews on many volunteer occasions at Waycross. Giving back to Waycross appears to be a priority, as seen with her dedication and love for the camp. Her experience as Senior Director of Volunteer at Central Indiana Girl Scouts speaks for itself. She has developed a skill set of working with stakeholders and has a strong understanding of not for profit and faith-based organizations. She is collaborative and has created market plans and action steps to ensure successful outcomes. She demonstrates a wonderful comfort level of organizing volunteers, public speaking and is trained in conflict management. She holds a certification in volunteer administration. She has verbalized the value of outdoor education with structured and non-structured environments. She strongly believes that Waycross is important for our youth and adults as a safe, sacred space where all can develop a strong appreciation for the outdoors. Her actions speak well of "welcoming everyone to the table". Meg exhibits love for Waycross with her actions and her words. Her assets and skills, as well as her love for Waycross, would greatly benefit Waycross now and for the future.



**Mr. Timothy Dinger**  
St. Augustine, Danville

**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 worked in summer camp ministry from 2003-2009 as both a summer camp counselor and an assistant director. As camp counselor, I had responsibilities for working with and ministering to the campers assigned to me. As a camp assistant director, I have experience in compliance, camp management, and budgeting. Most recently, my work has focused on toddlers and preschoolers as I serve as the

Director of Early Learning at a church in Indianapolis.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** One of the most meaning parts of serving in a camp ministry context was being a part of a change in leadership and direction. I have seen the way Waycross has grown, changed, and become a better of itself in recent years. I want to offer my talents and abilities as Waycross continues that growth, while still being faithful to its history.



**Ms. Juliana Hulsey**

Christ Church Cathedral, 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:**

Juliana has a long history of active involvement in both church and community service, which has uniquely prepared her for the work of this committee. Growing up in the Diocese of Indianapolis, she participated in church choir and youth group at the Cathedral. She was later an active member of the Youth Steering Committee and attended the Fall and Spring Youth Conferences at Waycross. She was also a member of summer camp staff in 2017, 2018, and 2021. Juliana regularly volunteers at Waycross throughout the year, including Alumni Work Camp. As of 2025, she is a member of the Waycross Fundraising Committee.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** Juliana brings a wealth of fresh ideas and a strong commitment to advancing the mission of Waycross. She has already developed several fundraising concepts that could help increase community engagement. Juliana is deeply passionate about serving the community and is dedicated to improving the experience for everyone involved with Waycross. In addition to her enthusiasm, Juliana’s professional background in project management provides her with valuable skills in budget and timeline management. These skills will allow her to contribute meaningfully to the board’s efforts.



**Mr. Wesley Powell**

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:**

I have served an existing three years on the board have been able to help create: - Whistleblower & Grievance Policy - Establish a compliance officer position - Assist with hiring a new Executive Director

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:**

Push to include more diversity in the offerings at Waycross and help all those who seek retreat and peace from the world.

# General Convention Deputy

## 4 Clergy Deputies, 4 Lay Deputies, 4 Clergy Alternates, 4 Lay Alternates

### *Clergy Deputy nominees*



#### **The Rev. Andrew Downs**

St. Stephen's, Terre Haute

**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:**

Nearly two decades of parish ministry Standing Committee  
Commission on Ministry Faithful Innovations Trainer Manna  
From Seven Board Homeless Coalition of the Wabash Valley  
Vigo County Point-in-Time coordination team

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:**

Andrew (Drew) is a willing leader and a gracious team player. With a generous presence, strong communication skills, and eager participation, Drew offers a blend of unique experience, ideation, creativity, tradition, theological conviction, and a deep desire for collaboration to help us understand our environment and seek Christ-centered responses to it.



#### **The Rev. Peter Gray**

St. Philips, Indianapolis / Grace Unlimited, Butler University

[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:**

Since ordination in 2008, I have served the church in diverse ways - as a parish priest in small, supported congregations; in large, endowed parishes; in campus ministry; and in higher education administration. Those positions have allowed me to work in diverse contexts - urban and rural areas across four dioceses and at an institution with a residential Episcopal seminary that serves the entire Episcopal Church. As a result, I have experienced the church in a broad range of

contexts. I bring an appreciation of the diversity of ways that the Church adapts to to meet the needs of realities on the ground in each ministry location. And I bring an awareness of the extent to which the work of General Convention does and does not impact ministry happening at the local level.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** I expect to spend plenty of time reading reports and attending committee meetings in advance of General Convention. Even more, I intend to listen to clergy and lay leaders of the Diocese of Indianapolis as they reflect on their own needs at the congregational level so that as I participate in committees, speak and deliberate in the House of Deputies, and vote, I can adequately represent their interests.



## **The Rev. Spencer Ruark**

St. Christopher, Carmel

### [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 co-rector at The Table, I helped to lead that congregation through a transition into the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and a large part of that process involved working with the constitutions and canons of the church. This experience helped to instill a respect and enjoyment of working in the realm of church governance. Working at studying and refining canons of our church is not everyone's cup of tea, but I passionately believe that it is important and holy work. And it can even be enjoyable at times, in its own way.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** I am a detail oriented person and a hard worker. These are skills that I think can contribute to allowing me to serve faithfully and diligently in the practical aspects of the role. I am pastoral and a leader. These are gifts that help to inform and guide me in how to serve in the role. I believe my posture (pastoral/leader) will better equip me to serve faithfully as a delegate because it will help me to work well with others and will help me to keep an eye toward what is most important in each piece of General Convention business. I am passionate about and plan to serve in our Church for decades to come, so I am excited at the prospect of participating and serving in this way.



## **The Rev. Benjamin Sternke**

The Table, 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:** Our process of entering the Diocese of Indianapolis required close attention to the constitution and canons of both the Diocese and The Episcopal Church as a whole, and I enjoyed thinking carefully about walking through this process with all due propriety.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** As a recently-received priest, I have a deep respect and affection for the faith and liturgies of The Episcopal Church, but also as a minister with decades of experience in other faith traditions, I think I can bring a fresh perspective to the deliberations and conversations of General Convention.



## **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:**

Before coming to the Diocese of Indianapolis to serve as Rector of St. Paul's in Evansville, the Rev. Holly Rankin Zaher ministered to and with young people in six other dioceses and served widely as a workshop leader and event speaker. Since ordination, she has held a range of leadership roles that have deepened her experience in

collaborative ministry and governance. These include service on the Executive Council, leadership for Women's Weekend, Camp Chaplain, President of the Standing Committee, member of a local school board and a community leadership group in Evansville, and two terms as a Deputy to the General Convention. Each of these experiences has strengthened her ability to lead, listen, and help communities discern and live into their shared callings in response to the love of Christ.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** As someone who has previously served at General Convention, Rev. Zaher would bring valuable experience in helping to orient and support delegates as they engage the work of the Church. She would use her gifts for building community—gathering people for prayer, mutual support, information sharing, and encouragement—to help the deputation function as a

cohesive and grounded team. Rev. Zaher's personal mission, "to weave the hope of Jesus, people, and ideas so that we might learn to live well together in God's world," would guide her service as she helps the group navigate both the practical and spiritual dimensions of our common work.

## *Lay Deputy Nominees*



### **Mr. Zachary Anderson**

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:**

Current Vestry Member at St Stephens Terre Haute. Member of the General Convention's Young Adult Caucus. Diocesan Convention Delegate 2024-2025, Alternate, 2023.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:**

My job at the Vigo County Public Defenders Office enables me to navigate governance structures and ensuring the rights of each person. Using this experience at General Convention enables me to represent the people of the Diocese effectively.



### **Ms. Connie Betts**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Lawrenceburg

[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:**

After nearly thirty years of worshiping in the Episcopal Church, I still remember what drew me in: incredible welcome and acceptance, the emphasis on loving God and one's neighbor, and the encouragement to use God's gift of reason in spiritual formation. Those were the key reasons I chose to be received in 1997. Since then, I have been an active member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Lawrenceburg. I worked with children's and youth ministries within my congregation as well as supporting my daughters' membership in the Youth Steering Committee at a diocesan level. I later served on the Bishop's Committee as a member, secretary, and Sr. Warden. This includes leading the congregation through a time of transition in our search for a new priest. My participation

in the College of Congregational Development provided leadership growth and a new lens to view the broader church. More recently, I had the privilege of representing the Diocese of Indianapolis at the 81st General Convention in 2024 as a lay deputy. I was in awe to be a part of this body that leads the Episcopal Church. Witnessing & participating in the election of a new Presiding Bishop, considering changes to Church canons, meeting other Episcopalians from around the world, and seeing the many ways Episcopalians are loving their neighbor helped me gain a greater understanding that I am a part of something so much bigger. In the last year, I accepted the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Executive Council and the Secretary to the Diocese. These roles involve documenting the proceedings of the Executive Council meetings as well as the Diocesan Convention.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** My involvement at the congregational, diocesan, and national levels has deepened my love for the Episcopal Church and the work that it does. The various roles I have served in from leadership to children's and youth ministries offer a broad frame of reference when considering pieces of legislation that may come forth.



**Ms. Michaela Flash**  
St. Philip's, Indy

**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 served in several different leadership capacities at St. Philips as well the larger church including: serving on the vestry, serving as senior warden, trainer in the college for congregational development, serving as president of the Union of Black Episcopalians, serving on the Commission on Ministry.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** I could contribute in the following ways: applying self-differentiated leadership skills in working in group settings, and offering a unique and energetic lens to serving our church.



### **Ms. Mariann Scott**

St. Timothy's, 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:**

I have served as a delegate several years to our Diocesan Convention. I have also served on Executive Council and the Racial Justice Team. I am the past president of Union of Black Episcopalians Indy Chapter and I am currently the Diocesan Coordinator for Education for Ministry. I am co-chairing Faith Voices for Justice a gathering of faith and lay

leaders from around the State to raise our voices at the Indiana Statehouse. I am currently also involved in Advocacy Works a cohort designed to teach better Advocacy skills to leaders.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** I can bring my skills learned from the last General Convention (my first) and my advocacy experience to be better able to understand Resolutions that come before the House of Deputies. I was also Vice Chair of the Courtesy Resolutions Committee, so I now have experience in Committee work on the National level. I understand more fully the responsibilities and work done at General Convention.

## *Lay Alternate Nominee*



### **Ms. Connie Betts**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Lawrenceburg

#### **Biography**

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After nearly thirty years of worshiping in the Episcopal Church, I still remember what drew me in: incredible welcome and acceptance, the emphasis on loving God and one's neighbor, and the encouragement to use God's gift of reason in spiritual formation. Those were the key reasons I chose to be received in 1997. Since then, I have been an active member

of Trinity Episcopal Church in Lawrenceburg. I worked with children's and youth ministries within my congregation as well as supporting my daughters' membership in the Youth Steering Committee at a diocesan level. I later served on the Bishop's Committee as a member, secretary, and Sr. Warden. This includes leading the congregation through a time of transition in our search for a new priest. My participation

in the College of Congregational Development provided leadership growth and a new lens to view the broader church. More recently, I had the privilege of representing the Diocese of Indianapolis at the 81st General Convention in 2024 as a lay deputy. I was in awe to be a part of this body that leads the Episcopal Church. Witnessing & participating in the election of a new Presiding Bishop, considering changes to Church canons, meeting other Episcopalians from around the world, and seeing the many ways Episcopalians are loving their neighbor helped me gain a greater understanding that I am a part of something so much bigger. In the last year, I accepted the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Executive Council and the Secretary to the Diocese. These roles involve documenting the proceedings of the Executive Council meetings as well as the Diocesan Convention.

**How can you or the person nominated contribute by serving:** My involvement at the congregational, diocesan, and national levels has deepened my love for the Episcopal Church and the work that it does. The various roles I have served in from leadership to children's and youth ministries offer a broad frame of reference when considering pieces of legislation that may come forth.

# Executive Council

**1 Clergy Member, Crossroads – 2 Year Term, Edge – 1 Year Term; 1 Lay Member, 3 Year Term, Confluence, Edge, Wabash, Waycross, Riverbend – 2 Year Term, Crossroads – 1 Year Term**

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

Confluence Lay – 3 Year Term

**Mr. Mike Staubitz** | St. Stephen's, New Harmony

Crossroads Clergy – 2 Year Term

**The Rev. Adam Pierce** | Trinity Episcopal Church Indianapolis

Crossroads Lay – 1 Year Term

**Ms. Louise Boling** | All Saints, Indianapolis

The Edge Clergy – 1 Year Term

The Edge Lay – 3 Year Term

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

River Bend Lay – 2 Year Term

**Mr. Benjamin Sapp** | St Paul's, Jeffersonville

Wabash Lay – 3 Year Term

**Ms. Natalie Rodriguez** | Good Samaritan, Brownsburg

Waycross Lay – 3 Year Term

# 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. Allen Rutherford** | St. John's, Mt. Vernon

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

## *Crossroads*

Clergy:

Lay:

## *The Edge*

Clergy:

Lay:

## *River Bend*

Clergy: **The Rev. Jason Haddox** | Trinity, Lawrenceburg

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

## *Wabash*

Clergy: **The Rev. Andrew Downs** | St. Stephen's, Terre Haute

Lay:

## *Waycross*

Clergy:

Lay: