

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (2022)

This draft report reflects information received by October 06. With a 150-word limit, each candidate was asked to review the job description for the position and discuss how their gifts, experiences, skills, and interests would aid this work, and how they would invigorate and/or stimulate the ministry of the particular diocesan leadership group.

Members of the 2022 Nominations Committee: The Rev. Nic Mather (Chair), St. Stephen’s, Longview; Jan Akin, St. Benedict’s, Lacey; Brent Wadell, Good Shepherd, Federal Way; Donna Murphy, St. John’s, Kirkland; The Rev. Helen McPeak, Trinity, Seattle; Sylvia Sepulveda, Christ Church, Anacortes; The Rev. Edie Weller, Saint Mark’s Cathedral, Seattle; Sherina James, Christ Church, Tacoma

Nominees at-a-Glance:

Commission on Ministry (pg. 4)	
<u>Clerical Order</u>	<u>Lay Order</u>
<p>The Rev. Emily Austin Saint Mark’s Cathedral, Seattle</p> <p>The Rev. Keith Dorwick St. Andrew’s, Port Angeles</p>	

DIOCESAN COUNCIL (pg. 4-6)		
<p><u>Evergreen – Clergy</u> (3 year)</p> <p>Josh Hosler Good Shepherd, Federal Way</p>	<p><u>Holy C – Lay</u> (3 year)</p> <p>Alison Estep St. John the Baptist, Seattle</p> <p>Emily Meeks Saint Mark’s Cathedral, Seattle</p>	<p><u>Mt. Baker – Clergy</u> (1 year)</p> <p>Baudelina Paz Resurrección, Mt. Vernon</p>
<p><u>Rainier – Lay</u> (3 year)</p> <p>Maitland McKenzie St. Mary’s, Lakewood</p>	<p><u>At-Large – Lay</u> (3 year)</p> <p>Stuart Case St. Barnabas, Bainbridge Island</p> <p>Karen Sjöström St. John’s, Kirkland</p> <p>Mandy Whitaker St. Aidan’s, Camano Island</p>	

STANDING COMMITTEE (pg. 6-7)	
<u>Clerical Order</u>	<u>Lay Order</u>
<p>Jedediah Fox Redeemer, Kenmore</p> <p>Elise Johnstone St. John the Baptist, Seattle</p>	<p>Skylar Carroll St. David, Shelton</p> <p>Carole Loudenback Good Shepherd, Federal Way</p> <p>Christina “Tina” A Polf St. Dunstan, Shoreline</p>

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OFFICER OF CONVENTION (pg. 7-8)		
<u>Secretary of the Diocese</u>	<u>Archivist and Records Manager</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
Marda Steedman Sanborn Saint Mark's Cathedral, Seattle	Erik Bauer Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Bremerton	James Beckwith St. Paul's, Bellingham

GENERAL CONVENTION (pg. 8-13)	
<u>Clerical Order</u> (4 elected & 4 alternates)	<u>Lay Order</u> (4 elected & 4 alternates)
Keith Dorwick St. Andrew's, Port Angeles Sabeth Fitzgibbons Trinity, Seattle Jedediah Fox Redeemer, Kenmore Ruth Anne Garcia St. James, Kent Edmund Harris St. Peter's, Seattle Elise Johnstone St. John the Baptist, Seattle David Marshall St. Dunstan, Shoreline Nic Mather St. Stephen's, Longview Malcolm McLaurin Holy Cross, Redmond Britt Olson St. Luke's, Seattle Rachel Taber-Hamilton Trinity, Everett	Judith Andrews St. Thomas, Medina Sunni Bannon St. Thomas, Medina Alisa Johnson Good Shepherd, Federal Way Sharalyne King St. Stephen's, Longview Maitland McKenzie St. Mary's, Lakewood Michael Seewer Saint Mark's Cathedral, Seattle Karen Sjöström St. John's, Kirkland Lillian Springer St. Matthew/San Mateo, Auburn Tieran Sweeny-Bender Epiphany, Seattle April Thomson Christ Church, Blaine

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH GOVERNING BODY/OFFICE

Commission on Ministry: The primary canonical responsibility of the Commission on Ministry (COM) is to assist the Bishop in matters related to discernment and selection of persons for ministry; in the guidance and pastoral care of all candidates for Holy Orders, as well as lay professionals and other baptized persons; and in matters pertaining to lifelong learning. The Commission does this by facilitating the process for authentic individual discernment in community, by listening to the Holy Spirit and the sacred in each person, and by helping discerners grow spiritually as they identify their place in building the Kingdom of God. Members of the COM represent all orders of ministry laid out in the Catechism. Members are appointed for three-year terms by the Bishop, with terms beginning after diocesan convention. The work of our diocesan COM is done through periodic meetings as well as two in-depth

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retreats for those in process for holy orders. High value is placed on authenticity and integrity; listening and communication skills; intentional work focused on anti-racism skills, equity and inclusion; and compassionate understanding.

Diocesan Council: Between Diocesan Conventions, the Council oversees the budget and program goals of the Diocese, carrying out priorities adopted by Convention. Council develops a proposed budget to be ratified by the next convention. Members assume and accept the role of public relations and goodwill toward individuals and congregations facilitating connectedness within the Diocese. Members accept assignments, work on task groups, and attend regional, committee and commission meetings as necessary. Membership of the Diocesan Council is in transition through 2024, based on convention action in 2020. When complete, the Diocesan Council will include the bishop; 14 elected members (1 clergy or lay member from each of the 10 regional ministries and 4 at-large members (2 clergy and 2 lay); and up to 6 BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) members appointed by the bishop.

Standing Committee: The Standing Committee serves as a council of advice for the bishop and becomes the diocesan ecclesiastical authority in the bishop's absence. It makes decisions about the sale, encumbrance or disposal of real property belonging to parishes of the Diocese. It interviews and makes recommendations to the bishop on candidates for Holy Orders, and the consent of the Standing Committee is required for ordination. The Standing Committee also gives or withholds consent to the election of bishops throughout the church and has judicial responsibilities in the case of clergy misconduct where the clergy or the complainant does not accept the adjudication of the bishop. By canon, no two members of the Standing Committee may be from the same congregation.

Secretary of the Diocese of Olympia: The Secretary of the Diocese takes part in the planning, preparation and leadership of Convention. The secretary receives (through the convention office) all resolutions, amendments, and official written business of convention. The secretary is official signatory of Convention correspondence and is an officer of the Diocese. As an officer, the secretary serves on the Board of Directors. This is a volunteer position.

Archivist and Records Manager: The archivist and records manager is the official custodian of diocesan records and is responsible for the direction and implementation of the archives and records management program of the Diocese of Olympia. This is a part-time, paid position.

Treasurer: The treasurer of the Diocese has responsibility for the assets of the Diocese, including investments, cash, and real property. The treasurer advises the bishop on financial matters, is liaison to the diocesan accounting and insurance office, and serves as an officer of the diocesan corporation. The treasurer is accountable to the bishop and the diocesan convention. The treasurer also serves as a member of the Board of Directors, the James F. Hodges Diocesan Investment Fund, the Budget and Finance Committee of Diocesan Council, and convenes the Joint Finance Panel. This is a volunteer position.

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COMMISSION ON MINISTRY – CLERICAL ORDER [three-year term]



Emily Austin – Vocational Deacon, St. Mark's Cathedral & Employee Benefits Team Lead at The Partners Group, Saint Mark's Cathedral, Seattle. I remain resolutely committed to the Diocese of Olympia's future wellness as a community of worship, mutual ministry, faith formation, and sharing of the Good News. In nearly every stage of my life the Diocese of Olympia has ended up playing a role in forming my commitment to a Jesus Christ-centered life of service. I'm constantly challenged to live more deeply into my baptismal covenant here and will work, in whatever capacity I'm called, to ensure that same thriving space for others into the future. Ordained in 2018, areas of ministry have been serving those experiencing homelessness, the sanctuary movement and immigration reform. I currently work full-time at The Partners Group, an independent professional service and employee benefits firm of 200. I was awarded the company Excellence in Customer Service award in 2022. In my spare time I enjoy kayaking and swimming ('22 highlight: sunrise swim in the Sea of Galilee).



Keith Dorwick – Deacon, St. Andrew's, Port Angeles. Like too many LGBTQIA+ individuals, I found my path to ordained ministry a tough one, especially given my age. (One of my mentors in my previous diocese told me to slow down, that ordination was always a long path—I said, “but fifty years?”) Canonically resident in this diocese and serving at St. Andrew's, Port Angeles, I wish to work with those involved in discerning their baptismal call, whether to a deeper understanding of their call to the laity; to the priesthood; or to the diaconate. In the wounded world in which we live, the need for all four orders is more pronounced than ever but, for a variety of factors, deacons are deeply necessary in that space between the world and the church. Like any deacon, my call is at the liminal space for deacons, but I would like to help other folks find their way to God's will.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL EVERGREEN REGIONAL MINISTRY – CLERGY [one three-year]



Josh Hosler – Good Shepherd, Federal Way. I'm a diocesan person by nature. All our congregations, large and small, are better off by being part of a diocese. The diocesan structure provides both support and accountability. In nearly 30 years in the Diocese of Olympia, I've served in youth ministry, on the Cathedral Foundation Board, on the Commission on Liturgy & the Arts, and in many other ways. And I love Diocesan Convention. It feels to me like an annual family reunion. Unfortunately, Diocesan Convention can't happen every weekend. That's why we have the Diocesan Council, to push important matters forward as the “convention in recess.” I would love to be a part of this work. I hope you'll vote for me. Thank you.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL HOLY C REGIONAL MINISTRY – LAY [one three-year term]



Allison Leary Estep – Associate Vice President, University Communications, Seattle Pacific University, St. John the Baptist, Seattle. My five years participating in the life of St. John the Baptist in West Seattle has been remarkable and joyous as I've rediscovered the liturgy in a warm and open community. In my professional work I manage a departmental budget, set strategy and policy, and handle personnel issues – all skills that are applicable to participating in Diocesan Council. I also have a deep commitment to growing in my understanding, knowledge, and compassion around the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Some of my values in serving on committees include listening well, supporting the team, and bringing a prayerful approach to decisions and building community. At SJB my service has included two consecutive terms as senior warden during a priest transition and serving as a periodic lay preacher, teacher of adult formation classes, RenewalWorks facilitator, and eucharistic minister.

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Emily Meeks – Program Manager, UW Medicine Memory and Brain Wellness Center, Saint Mark’s Cathedral, Seattle. I am drawn to opportunities that help create spaces for connection and transformation. Serving on Diocesan Council would be a way to further engage on governance issues that can yield both change and sustainability. I value clarity in messaging, forging strong partnerships, and developing processes to support program initiatives. My professional focus of older adult health and wellbeing, especially dementia education and creative aging, has further cultivated my appreciation for intergenerational relationships. I am grateful to serve as senior warden in my last year on vestry at Saint Mark’s to take a more active role in connecting operations to mission and prayerfully respond to the needs of a cathedral community. I also enjoy developing programming for 20s/30s ministry at Saint Mark’s that connects, invites and inspires authentic community. Outside of healthcare and Saint Mark’s, I enjoy discovering adventure and spiritual connection in nature through paddling, pedaling, hiking and running.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL MT. BAKER REGIONAL MINISTRY – CLERGY [one three-year term]



Baudelina Paz – no bio provided

DIOCESAN COUNCIL RAINIER REGIONAL MINISTRY – LAY [one three-year term]



Maitland McKenzie – United States Army Retired, St. Mary’s, Lakewood. Having served 21 Years in the Army I bring the skills of how to work on a Staff at the upper levels of leadership. Often deep listening to the many ideas being presented can find a path forward towards the accomplishment of the goals that are in front of us. I have a strong prayer life and many of the decisions that need to be made over the long term can be greatly facilitated by intentional prayer which helps to remove the ego and seek the greater Kingdom of God and how that is being made manifest in our midst. I bring to the table an M.Div. from Seattle U, a M.Ed. from the University of

Oklahoma and I am a Command and General Staff College Graduate. I have been serving as a representative of St. Mary’s to Diocesan Convention for about nine years.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL AT-LARGE REGIONAL MINISTRY – LAY [one three-year]



Stuart Case – Retired, St. Barnabas, Bainbridge Island. For the past 3-4 years, I have served as the Lay Delegate for the Peninsula Region and a member of the Budget and Finance Committee. Due to the COVID pandemic, I was not able to visit the other parishes of the region. However, I attended nearly all the monthly Budget and Finance Committee meetings which were convened via Zoom. I would very much like to continue in both of these positions as the Lay Delegate – At Large on the Diocesan Council. As the diocese enters this transition period because of the resignation of Bishop Rickel, I can offer a continuity in both the budgeting aspects as well as the leadership as a member

of council. The time ahead will be challenging based on unknown factors that may appear to cause more frequent review of the budget and financial condition of the diocese. I will endeavor to visit more parishes during my tenure. Please, I ask to continue to serve the diocese.

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Karen Sjöström – *Research Scientist, Retired, St. John’s, Kirkland.* In my 30 years at St. John’s I have been active in many ministries, including Choir, Vestry, Lector, Acolyte and Eucharistic Minister, Children’s Education, and Community Outreach. With each volunteer experience my horizons widened and my faith deepened. From Choir and Vestry I learned the value of listening, as well as the joys and frustrations of needing to work “in harmony” with others. As Senior Warden (during a year with no Rector), I exercised administrative and management skills, and cheered on the congregation. As Junior Warden during the “Year of Covid”, I chaired the Task Force on Re-Gathering, which demanded organization, research, and writing. For these tasks I called upon skills developed through my PhD studies and my time as leader in BSA. I am familiar with times of transition, have demonstrated responsibility and perseverance, and have much to offer as a Representative At-Large to the Diocesan Council.



Mandy Walters Whitaker – *music historian and private music teacher, St. Aidan’s, Camano Island.* I have been fortunate to serve on the Diocesan Council this past year. I have learned a lot and have been impressed by the commitment, abilities, and insights of my fellow council members. This year, I am nominated to fill an at-large position and am hopeful I will be able to serve again. Our family has moved frequently. In each place, we’ve been found a church home. I have volunteered in a variety of capacities, working with music, worship, children’s education, and outreach. In each place, I was able to learn from those around me and share my ideas as well. I hope to bring my experience in volunteer service in different capacities and in different faith traditions to share new ideas with the council and throughout the diocese. By learning from each other and exploring and valuing our differences, we strengthen our family of faith.

STANDING COMMITTEE LAY ORDER *[one four-year term]*



Skylar Carroll – *Retired School Psychologist (30 years). Retired Minister of Music (40 years), St. David of Wales, Shelton.* After 40 years service as Minister of Music for several denominations, I now happily volunteer as a member of St David of Wales. During my career I honed my leadership skills in liturgical planning and congregational psalmody. In the process, I also discovered gifts for leading worship, deep listening, mediation, and voicing group prayers. I served on two Pastoral Search Committees and chaired the Liturgy Committee for several years. I am currently a Diocesan-Licensed Preacher providing occasional homilies at St Davids. As I send my roots more deeply into this beloved rural community, I also long for a broader vision of this Diocese I call home. In retirement I hold fast to my personal goal for living with grateful generosity. If so called, I pledge to the Standing Committee all my gifts, experiences, and skills; trusting God’s Spirit at work within us to serve the good pleasure of Love.



Carole Loudenback – *Caregiver, Good Shepherd, Federal Way.* I was elected last year to serve on the Standing Committee to finish a one-year term. While on the committee, I served as the liaison to the Commission On Ministry and the had the role of chaplain, mainly opening and closing prayers. I have been worshipping at Good Shepherd for 31 years. I have been on the vestry, Junior Warden, altar guild, prayer healing and Pastoral Care chair. I have volunteered with Kairos Prison Ministry, including leading a Kairos and a Come And See weekend. I have deepened my spiritual journey and come closer to He wants me to be. All this is with God’s help. I would appreciate your vote to serve the diocese on the Standing Committee. In His Love, Carole



Christina “Tina” A Polf – *Self-employed CPA, St. Dunstan’s, Shoreline.* Currently, I am Senior Warden, St. Dunstan’s. I served on Diocesan council and as parish Treasurer. I am organized, can run effective meetings and get things done. I work in a collaborative way, contributing my ideas and don’t get upset, if they aren’t used. I can see the “trees” and “forest” at the same time. I am not afraid to ask questions. I have an easy relationship with numbers and the stories they tell. I can

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explain difficult things in a language that helps others understand, particularly financial transactions. As an accountant, it is my mission to make taxes less scary for my clients. I work to instill confidence in others and help them become excited about their work and ministry. I believe I will be an asset to the Standing Committee. I am excited about the possibility of working with the other Diocesan leaders to accomplish a common goal.

STANDING COMMITTEE CLERICAL ORDER [one four-year term] [one two-year unexpired term]



Jedediah Fox – *Rector, Redeemer, Kenmore.* I have served in several capacities in my time in the Diocese of Olympia. I believe that I can be a useful voice in the deliberations of the Standing Committee during this important time in the life of the Diocese.



Elise Johnstone – *Priest-in-Charge, St. John the Baptist, Seattle.* I see the Standing Committee as an embodiment of the connection between congregations, a diocese, and the wider Church. I am blessed to have had the experience of serving as a Canon to the Ordinary in a previous diocese that experienced considerable leadership transition. There, I engaged in the serving all congregations, and utilized the constitution and canons of The Episcopal Church and that Diocese to offer faithful guidance for bringing about God’s Kingdom—I have experience in how local, diocesan, and church-wide bodies work. In my former diocese, I served on numerous commissions, including Council, the Commission on Ministry, the Liturgy Commission, and also as deputy to 3 General Conventions. Congregations, the diocese that they comprise, as well as the wider Church work best when there is good communication and representation. I would be honored to continue serving our Diocese on the Standing Committee and assist in this regard.

SECRETARY OF THE DIOCESE



Marda Steedman Sanborn – *Retired Priest, Saint Mark’s Cathedral.* I have served this Diocese in ordained ministry for 30 years. I have a diverse background in ministry in this Diocese which includes serving as the current Secretary of Convention, serving on the Constitution and Canons Committee and serving with the Board of Directors. I am the Intake Officer for the Diocese. In addition, I have served on the Commission on Ministry, the Board of Examining Chaplains, Admission of New Parishes and Missions and have represented the Diocese as a delegate to General Convention. I have taught at the College of Congregational Development for this Diocese and for others, I have served as a Lay Person, a Deacon, a Priest and as Canon to the Ordinary. It is an honor to serve the people of this Diocese in ministry.

ARCHIVIST AND RECORDS MANAGER



Erik R Bauer – *Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Bremerton.* It’s my privilege to be your newest diocesan Archivist and Records Manager and I’ve been in this role since April 2022. In this time of transition, I believe this position continues to be vital for the diocese. In keeping with my predecessor’s focus on digital files, I continue to expand the digital archives for diocesan records and have started a digital asset management database to better manage digital files. My goal is to provide the diocese and its congregations, ministries, and institutions with the highest level of archival and records management expertise and service. I’m an active participant in several professional organizations such as the Society of American Archivists and the Seattle Area Archivists. I have Master’s degrees in Humanities, History, and Library and Information Science.

TREASURER



James Beckwith – *St. Paul's, Bellingham*. It has been an honor serving as your Treasurer for the past year and as Acting Treasurer the year before. I have served on the Standing Committee of this Diocese and as Treasurer of St. Paul's Bellingham where I wrote its first Finance Policy and Procedure Manual. I am a retired accountant and the only male in three generations not an ordained Episcopal minister. Having no children, I consider the Church and this diocese as my family. There are significant new challenges in the coming year, what with the vestiges of Covid and the introduction of a new Bishop Provisional. I do not believe the church should stand still during these times but to continue to grow and to serve.

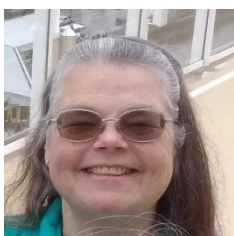
GENERAL CONVENTION DEPUTATION – LAY ORDER



Judith Andrews – *Saint Mark's Cathedral, Seattle*. As a deputy for the General Convention, I was honored to serve as chair of an interim body in preparation for that Convention. That committee, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Safeguarding Committee, drafted model policies on sexual harassment that were adopted at the convention this summer and worked with and oversaw the creation of the new Safe Church Training by Praesidium in close collaboration with the Department of Formation of The Episcopal Church. I hope to bring my passion for this work and for the Church, my skills as a lawyer and prior experience as a deputy to the next convention to further these important issues and to work collaboratively with our deputation to participate effectively at the Convention and bring our learnings back to the Diocese.



Sunni Bannon – *St. Thomas, Medina*. I'm honored to be nominated as Lay Deputy to General Convention 2024. Fifteen years ago, my husband and I found our church home at St. Thomas in Medina. I have a long history of church and community volunteering, and most recently joined the Altar Guild. During a period of personnel transition in 2017, I joined the St. Thomas staff and served as Associate for Engagement and then Director of Ministries through early 2022. Previously my career was in higher education, primarily with University of Washington. I'm currently creating staff development materials and storytelling curricula and am a consultant for sacred and secular organizations. My hobbies include traveling, reading, and sharing good food with friends and family. I live on the eastside with my husband, two teenage children, our yellow Labrador, and a turtle. If elected, I would serve the Diocese of Olympia with thoughtfulness, compassion, curiosity, and enthusiasm.



Alisa Johnson – *Good Shepherd, Federal Way*. My name is Alisa Johnson. I am a leader and organizer, with the hobby of "research." I am currently serving as Senior Warden at Church of the Good Shepherd in Federal Way. I also serve as chair and trustee of the GS Endowment Committee, a member of Faith Formation Committee, and as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector. On the diocesan and national level, I have recently participated in the College of Congregational Development, Better Together, Sacred Ground and FORMA. I've been a long-time volunteer with the Kairos Prison Ministry at WCCW. I just finished leading our annual woman's retreat, Journey to the Well, at St. Andrew's House.



Sharalyne King – *St. Stephen's, Longview*. My name is Sharalyne Cozette King. I'm a Washington State Certified Educator of 5 years engaging minds to reach learning goals. Also, I'm a former State of Ohio small business owner with an MBA. Wisdom and knowledge have helped me engage people in conversation and team collaboration. I enjoy developing relationships within the community. Through Diocesan Council, I've learned from my Council members in how to elevate Christ through goals and objectives. My ideas have been honored and supported within this team. This mentoring has been nurturing to me. I want to grow in the business side of the Church; supporting Church

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leadership in spiritual aims to spread Christ's love. The work of Christ is not a solitary process. It's a process of a collective body with aligned goals, collaborative hearts and minds. It's through these relationships that new ideas flourish and higher attainment of goals can be achieved.



Maitland McKenzie – *St. Mary's, Lakewood.* Having served 21 Years in the Army I bring the skills of how to work on a Staff at the upper levels of leadership. Often deep listening to the many ideas being presented can find a path forward towards the accomplishment of the goals that are in front of us. I have a strong prayer life and many of the decisions that need to be made over the long term can be greatly facilitated by intentional prayer which helps to remove the ego and seek the greater Kingdom of God and how that is being made manifest in our midst. In this setting time is the constraint that all have to live and work with in being as efficient as possible to make decisions and take the appropriate actions with the materials we are given. I bring to the table an M.Div. from Seattle U, a M.Ed. from the University of Oklahoma and I am a Command and General Staff College Graduate. I have been serving as a representative of St. Mary's to Diocesan Convention for about nine years.



Michael Seewer – *Saint Mark's Cathedral, Seattle.* Michael Seewer serves as the Cathedral Sacristan and Head Verger at Saint Mark's Cathedral. He has experience as diocesan convention delegate in his former diocese and this diocese, and was a deputy to General Convention in 2015 for the diocese of Kentucky. He was on vestry at his former parish in Kentucky (a 3-year term, with one year as senior warden), and was elected to the vestry at Saint Mark's before resigning as required to accept his job on staff. He is an active member of the diocesan Liturgy and Arts Commission and the Vergers Guild. His faith is formed deeply by Anglican Spirituality, has an interest in the polity of our church, and believes that listening is one of the most powerful and meaningful gifts we can offer each other. He enjoys playing guitar, delicious cup of coffee, hanging with his dog Fritz, and occasional road trip adventures.



Karen Sjöström – *St. John's, Kirkland.* Since my family and I came to St. John's in the early 1990s, I have participated in a wide variety of ministries, both inside and outside of Sunday worship. One of the most educational and exciting experiences for me has been attending the Diocesan Convention, where I learned to step outside of a "parochial view". I have attended the Convention in various places, from Lynwood to Vancouver, and in various forms, both on-site and on-line. I have served as delegate, alternate, and as chairperson for the Eastside/Evergreen region. I have organized regional and parochial meetings, and prepared reports for the congregation. All of these disparate experiences have been bound by a sense of faith and community working toward the common good. It would be a privilege to experience gathering on a national level, and I believe I would be a responsible servant as Lay Deputy to the General Convention.



Lillian Springer – *St. Matthew/San Mateo, Auburn.* I have been an Episcopalian my whole life. I have taught Sunday school, served on the bishops committee and taught Sunday school. I have also taken EFM and served on several diocesan committees. I hope my experience and God's grace will help me make good decisions at General Convenience.

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Tieran Sweeny-Bender – *Epiphany Parish, Seattle*. Hello! My name is Tieran Sweeny-Bender (they/them), from Epiphany Parish Seattle, and I am excited to stand for election to be a lay deputy at General Convention. I discerned a call to church-wide governance as a deputy to General Convention 2022. There, I worked to pass resolutions creating an LGBTQ+/Women's Ministries office at the church-wide level, and also affirming the inclusion of non-binary people in the Church. I started as an acolyte in middle school, served as a youth delegate at many diocesan conventions, and co-led my college's Christian group. I am passionate about lay ministry and helping the Church welcome and include all people, especially LGBTQ+ people. In preparing for GC22, I lucked out connecting with people willing to welcome me and share their knowledge and experience. Leading up to GC24, I seek to be that person for others, building community among people called to this ministry of governance.



April Thomson – *Christ Church, Blaine*. I was confirmed in 2004. Retiring to WA in 2010 my wife and I began attending Christ Church, Blaine, a small Mission parish. I've been involved as eucharistic minister, lector, hospitality, bishop's committee, Clerk, office machine whisperer. I'm a graduate of The College For Congregational Development, and a 3-time Delegate to Diocesan Convention. Feeling called more deeply into serving not only church but the Church I was elected Lay Alternate Deputy to General Convention in 2019. I attended in that capacity in Baltimore this summer. What I witnessed was people who deeply love this church in a way I'd not experienced before. Day one I was overwhelmed, and by the close I was hungry for more. I have since submitted for consideration to two interim task forces. I would be humbled to represent our Diocese again at General Convention ...if I can just tear away from unjamming the copy machine.

GENERAL CONVENTION DEPUTATION – CLERICAL ORDER



Keith Dorwick – *Deacon, St. Andrew's, Port Angeles*. As a deacon, I bring sixty five decades of life in the church, including a decades long journey to the permanent diaconate, ordained in 2020. I am happy to work between the world and the church and have extensive experience in both the Chicago Metropolitan Synod of the ELCA and in the Diocese of Chicago of our church including service on many committees. I also served as an active layperson in the Diocese of Western Louisiana and now as a deacon in this diocese. An educator (a professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for twenty years and an educator for thirty years), I have service on many national, regional, and local committees in the field of English. I hope to bring this history to bear at General Convention and work to increase the diversity of our national church. My husband and two cats love life in the PNW.



Sabeth Fitzgibbons – *Rector, Trinity, Seattle*. I am interested in being a clergy deputy to General Convention because I love the work of The Episcopal Church when it meets to discuss and pray and decide about our life as a Church. I love the diversity of people and perspectives at General Convention. I love the sense of community and shared commitment to living life faithfully, however we understand it. Part of ordination to the priesthood is a promise to take our place in the counsels of the church, and I feel strongly called to be part of the General Convention. I previously attended General Convention as a deputy from Olympia (2006, lay) and Northwestern Pennsylvania (2015, clergy). Ordained in this diocese in 2006, I served with congregations in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania before coming home to Seattle in 2016. I am currently Priest in Charge at Trinity Parish, Seattle.

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Jedediah Fox – *Rector, Redeemer, Kenmore.* I have had the privilege of serving as a clergy deputy for the last two General conventions. Being a deputy is an unique & challenging experience and I hope that I can continue to represent the diocese of Olympia well in the deliberations of the greater church.



Ruth Anne Garcia – *Interim Priest, St. James, Kent.* During my almost 25 years in ordained ministry, I have had the honor to serve in different congregations in several dioceses in the Episcopal Church. The structure of the Episcopal Church and its connections both within the diocese, between the dioceses, and within the larger Anglican Church throughout the world gives both lay and ordained leaders an opportunity to work together toward the proclamation of the gospel in an ever-changing world. I feel called to serve and share this work on behalf of the Diocese of Olympia .



Edmund Harris – *Rector, St. Peter’s, Seattle.* I’m truly honored to be considered as a deputy for General Convention. Since 2015, I’ve served as rector at St. Peter’s, Seattle, where my work has involved helping the congregation to navigate growth and change. Prior to St. Peter’s, I founded Church Beyond the Walls, a street church in Diocese of RI. In this Diocese, I’ve served on the Multicultural Ministries Commission, and currently serve on the Seattle Service Corps Board and Diocesan Council. I also would bring my experiences as a gay person, spouse, and parent, as well as my lifelong commitment to being in dialogue with people across differences. As we continue to emerge from Covid, and reckon as a church with the challenges like climate change, racism, and inequality, the knowledge and experience I have gained from serving in diverse contexts within the Diocese and wider Episcopal Church equips me to serve as a deputy at this critical time.



Elise Johnstone – *Priest-in-Charge, St. John the Baptist, Seattle.* When our Church gathers as the General Convention—the baptized, across states/nations, across ethnicities, races, languages, and backgrounds—whether lay, priest, deacon, bishop—it is joyous when we can share blessings and challenges and deliberate together for the building up the Kingdom of God. I have been blessed to have served as a deputy for a former diocese in 2012, 2015, and 2018, and was a member of legislative committees in 2015 and 2018. I currently serve as the vice-chair of the Episcopal-Presbyterian Dialogue, and have served on the board for the College for Bishops. My experience as a parish priest and as a canon to the ordinary have informed how the Church can work together at our best, and I have dealt with great challenges when the Church is far from our best. It would be a privilege to serve as a deputy for the Diocese of Olympia in 2024.



David Marshall – *Rector, St. Dunstan’s, Shoreline.* As a priest, I am passionate about discerning God’s call and empowering community to respond. Under my leadership, St. Dunstan’s Church of the Highlands Parish, where the “Highlands” is a gated community of the wealthy, has become The Church that Feeds People. Our feeding program has run uninterrupted since 2011, delivering food every week to sanctioned tent encampments for the homeless, and feeding all who come to our doors. We have regularly hosted sanctioned homeless encampments and we now host the Shoreline Severe Weather Emergency Shelter. We have refurbished our worship space, installed a new organ, upgraded the accessibility of our campus and paved our parking. We have transformed an old, comfortable chapel for the wealthy into a mission outpost of God’s kingdom. This is not a singular accomplishment but a way of being that we, as a church, are called to.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (2022)



Nic Mather – Rector, St. Stephen’s, Longview. General Convention is a unique opportunity to come together as the larger body of our church, being in communion with one another as we listen and discern the movement of the Holy Spirit calling us Episcopalians into the gaps in our society to be an example of what it means to be Christ followers in this generation and the next. I would be honored to be elected as a part of that gathered body representing our diocese, representing smaller parishes in our diocese, and representing the more rural areas of our diocese. As a

millennial priest I think it is important to step up for these opportunities to serve the church so that I can help shape its future with Gen Z who is already here and ready to engage, and to ensure that my children will have a church they know, love and trust when they become young adults.



Malcolm McLaurin – Curate, Holy Cross, Redmond. I welcome the nomination for the clergy deputy for General Convention and I believe my experience and skills can add a unique perspective to our work. Having 20 years of experience working in the Episcopal church in five different diocese the majority of this time in lay ministry, I have an experience of the Episcopal Church that captures multiple vantage points. In addition to these gifts, I will also bring the gift of engaged listening, a renewed energy for the post pandemic church, and a willingness to have courageous conversations. Having completed seminary after nearly two decades in lay roles in Episcopal church

as well as engaging theological education during the pandemic has afforded me the opportunity wrestle with the question of “who are we” in new ways. I truly believe this perspective is needed as we step into who we are called to be.



Britt Olson – Vicar, St. Luke’s, Seattle. I care deeply about our church and know the importance of serving as a GC deputy. At my first GC in 2003, we affirmed Gene Robinson as the first partnered gay man to serve as Bishop of NH. At my second we affirmed Katharine Jefferts Schori as the first female primate in the Anglican Communion. At my third we added gender identity and expression as protected for employment. At my fourth we required anti-racism training across the Church. I was elected as the Clergy 1 Deputy for the 2015 GC before moving to the Diocese of Olympia. These actions and many others reflect what many of you have worked and struggled for as members of

your local congregations. I’ve served as a priest in five dioceses and as Canon to the Ordinary in two. I’ve worshiped and consulted with hundreds of congregations in development, conflict, clergy transitions and pastoral emergencies. At GC we have the opportunity to help set policy, budget and direction for our brand of the Jesus Movement. With God’s help we will be more just, loving, affirming and sacrificial in our care for the most vulnerable. I will be particularly focused on how we use the legacy and resources we have to build a better future for the young, the economically challenged, those disaffiliated from a faith tradition and the ones on the margins.



Rachel Taber-Hamilton – Rector, Trinity, Everett. I am Shackan First Nation and have been active in Indigenous ministries in the Episcopal Church for over 20 years. I am co-founder of the independent grassroots advocacy network of people of color and allies in the diocese – Ethnic Ministries Circles of Color. My years of service in the diocese includes terms on Diocesan Council and Standing Committee (President from 2014-2017). I am currently a member of the Commission on Ministry and am the rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Everett, where I have been for 12 years. My experience with General Convention includes serving as Clergy First Alternate (2015), as Clergy Deputy #2 (2018), and as Clergy Deputy #1 (2022). At the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church held in Baltimore (2022), I was elected Vice President of the House of Deputies and currently serve in that role. I have a

passion for social justice and advocacy for people of color that informs my commitment to institutional transformation for the empowerment and equity of all people. I am committed to our Church’s aspiration to be the Beloved Community, and I bring a depth of skills and organizational experience as a representative and deputy of the Diocese of Olympia to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church.