

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (2023)

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 2023 Nominations Committee: The Rev. Nic Mather (Chair), St. Stephen’s, Longview; Brent Wadell, Good Shepherd, Federal Way; Donna Murphy, St. John’s, Kirkland.

Nominees at-a-Glance:

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (pg. 3)
<u>LAY</u> (3 year)
Tina Polf <i>St Dunstan’s, Shoreline</i>

DIOCESAN COUNCIL (pg. 4-5)		
<u>Be Attitudes – Lay</u> (3 year) Jo Burkholder <i>St. Luke’s, Seattle</i>	<u>Peninsula – Clergy</u> (3 year) Eric Stelle <i>St. John’s, Gig Harbor</i>	<u>Sno Isle – Clergy</u> (3 year) Allen Hicks <i>Trinity, Everett</i>
<u>At-Large – Clergy</u> (1 year) Greg Peters <i>St. Alban’s, Edmonds</i>	<u>At-Large – Clergy</u> (3 year) Annie Calhoun <i>St. Anne’s, Washougal</i>	<u>At-Large – Lay</u> (3 year) Lee Holland <i>St. Matthew’s, Browns Point</i>
<u>BIPOC Recommendation</u> (3 year) Sharalyne King <i>St. Stephen’s, Longview</i>	<u>Holy C – Clergy</u> (1 year unexpired) Doyt Conn <i>Epiphany, Seattle</i>	

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STANDING COMMITTEE (pg. 6)	
<u>Clerical Order</u> (4 year)	<u>Lay Order</u> (4 year)
<p>Jim Eichner <i>Holy Cross, Redmond</i></p> <p>Steve Thomason <i>Saint Mark's Cathedral, Seattle</i></p> <p>Jani Wild <i>St. Paul's, Bellingham</i></p>	<p>Constance Lightbody <i>St. John's, Kirkland</i></p> <p>Don Little <i>St. Bede's, Port Orchard</i></p>

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

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 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

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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.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY – LAY [one three-year]

Tina Polf – *St. Dunstan's, Shoreline; Self Employed CPA.* As a woman accountant, I have lived the process of working to become a professional in an environment that did not favor women. I have mentored younger accountants. I work well within a group and am excited to be part of a process that makes sure we have the right people for the ordained ministry. I also want support those that are not called to the ordained, but rather a lay ministry. This is just as important. I am open to seeing where there are ways to improve the process, especially for those that come from non-traditional backgrounds, including issues of institutional racism and other institutional barriers. I will use curiosity and creativity in finding ways to engage the aspirants and candidates. In my tax practice, I am very accustomed to "making taxes less scary". I welcome the idea of doing the same thing here, helping the individuals feel more confident.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL BE ATTITUDES REGIONAL MINISTRY – LAY [one three-year]



Jo Burkholder – *St. Luke's, Seattle; Leadership Development, Kaiser Permanente.* Over the course of my spiritual journey I have participated in many aspects of parish life across multiple dioceses including a constantly changing university mission church, a small parish in upstate New York with an amazing art community, a vibrant cathedral parish where I helped grow ministries to young adults, to a well-endowed parish that closed when it became clear that members were not prepared to grow, change, and engage with the evolving community. I have seen the good, the bad, the joy and the heartbreak. To that experience I bring more than 20 years of professional work as an Anthropology and Gender Studies scholar, researcher, and education specialist. I'm trained in organizational development and equity work. As a queer parent of a transgender adult, and someone with a history of disability, I draw on the perspectives of what it can be like to feel marginal, unseen, unwelcome, and therefore skeptical.

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



Eric Stelle – *St. John's, Gig Harbor; Rector.* When the pandemic was disrupting everything, I actually found it to be totally invigorating; taking stock of changing conditions; convening leaders to discern and articulate the core values that would anchor our decision-making; devising innovative structures and ministries to care for one another; overseeing a major capital campaign and building renovation; and doing this all with a posture of honesty and hope. Our parish flourished during those 17 months of shutdown, and we emerged as a fundamentally healthy and growing church. I want to serve the Diocese with these same skills and experience. In this season of significant

cultural shift and church decline, we must keep our eyes wide open to the legitimate institutional needs of the church, while not losing focus on our missional objective to live out the gospel with relevance and integrity on behalf of a world desperate for the good news of God with us.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL SNO ISLE REGIONAL MINISTRY – CLERGY [one three-year term]



Allen Hicks– *Trinity, Everett, Boeing Retiree, Curate.* I am a fairly recently ordained priest in the church, June 13, 2022. I am currently serving as Curate for Trinity in Everett. I have served internships at St. Margaret's in Factoria, and St Philips in Marysville. Saying that, I have experience in churches that could be considered with small, medium and large congregations. The common denominator for all of these churches is the quality and dedication of the people throughout the Diocese. We face a lot of challenges in today's world and our survival depends on all of us working together to make that happen. Open, honest communication is of the utmost

importance as we move into our future..

DIOCESAN COUNCIL AT-LARGE – CLERGY [one one-year]



Greg Peters – *St. Alban's, Edmonds; Rector.* My 25 years of ordained ministry have been in this diocese. I have the grace to serve as rector of St. Alban's, Edmonds. My main interests are ecotheology and ecojustice. By ecotheology, I mean, my understanding of the God is incarnational, through creation in all its diversity; that our good God created and loves all of us and all things, and desires to enjoy us for eternity. By ecojustice, I mean that the commandment to love our neighbor must include all this beautiful garden we have been entrusted with, while having a particular emphasis on caring for our most vulnerable neighbors, and striving for right, redeemed

relations. Besides serving in several congregations, I have served on the diocesan level - Camp Huston Board, the Board of Examining Chaplains, the Church and the World Commission, the Allies Circle and Diocesan Council. The Diocesan Council is where all these things come together.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL AT-LARGE – CLERGY *[one three-year]*



Annie Calhoun – *St. Anne's, Washougal; Vicar.* I'm new to the Diocese and St .Anne's. Prior to moving here in Fall 2022, I served in the Diocese of Los Angeles as an Associate Rector at Trinity in Orange, CA. My experience in both medium and small churches, and with responsibilities for Youth Ministry, Confirmation preparation, Adult Education and all aspects of serving as a priest, has given me a wide range of experiences to share. My former work was in sales and management within the University and College Publishing industry, so I integrate business approaches and best practices when serving the church. I try to balance respect for the ways things are with comfort for change, innovation, and well thought out risk taking. I know that team work is essential for our success as a community, and for all people to feel included and invested in our mission and ministry. And, I depend on the Holy Spirit for guidance all the time.

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



Lee Holland – *St. Matthew's, Browns Point; Semi-retired.* All of us are created equal. Currently, I am seeking 2nd term with Diocesan Council. Outside of it, I am serving 4th term with Episcopal Conference of the Deaf, currently as Vice-President. As a Culturally Challenged member of the Church, I strive to see that no one is forgotten.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL – BIPOC RECOMMENDATION *[one three-year]*



Sharalyne King – *St. Stephen's, Longview; Teacher-Elementary Education.* Over the years (2020-2023) as a member of Diocesan Council, I've had the pleasure of working with some very talented individuals and have learned a lot about Diocesan budgets. Through my work and amazing teamwork with Budget and Finance Committee, I have grown in my own understanding of budgets having a Master in Business Administration from very talented team members on this Committee. Through my work over these past three years, I've felt more closely to the work of our greater Church and look forward to serving our Lord Christ through this ministry if granted again. Thank you.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL HOLY C REGIONAL MINISTRY – CLERGY *[one one-year unexpired term]*



Doyt Conn – *Epiphany, Seattle; Rector.* As a priest in the Diocese since 2007, having served a church that has radically changed since arriving, I have experience implementing programs of varying complexity, and a great deal of practical experience managing programs against budgets. What I look forward to most as a member of Diocesan Council is connecting with other parishes in my region, and sharing with them what the Diocese is implementing on behalf of the Convention.

STANDING COMMITTEE CLERICAL ORDER [one four-year term]



Jim Eichner— *Holy Cross, Redmond; Rector and Food Bank Farm Manager.* I do not relish meetings and sometimes say things that feel are important but awkward in the room. This is a very important season for us as we call the next bishop. I come with focus, and a long-term vision for health and mission for the Diocese. As a Snohomish Food Bank Farmer and East-Side Rector since 2002, I live with feet firmly planted in rural and urban concerns. Call my cell any time 425-223-7249.



Steve Thomason – *Saint Mark's Cathedral, Seattle; Dean and Rector.* Having served in a variety of roles at the diocesan and church-wide levels, including seven years of work on General Convention committees and Interim Bodies devoted to developing best practices related to the election of bishops, I am keenly aware of the role the Standing Committee plays in the life of the church--diocesan and in the broader church. As cathedral dean, I also see the value of supporting our next diocesan bishop in their role, and I would be delighted to do so as a clergy member of the Standing Committee as we enter this new era in our common life.



Jani Wild – *St. Paul's, Bellingham; Rector.* Hi I'm Rev. Jani Wild, Rector of St. Paul's Bellingham, I bring both the energy of our Parish and my own fresh eyes to the Standing Committee. While I have been working at St. Paul's since March 1, 2023, I am relatively new to this diocese. I recently served on the Board of Trustees in the Diocese of El Camino Real from (2019-2021), serving as Vice President for 2 years. I have considerable experience in the administrative aspects of the Episcopal Church, working for 15 years as Director of Operations, and have worked closely with laity, clergy and bishops during my various areas of service in the Church. In taking a leap of faith and moving my family, I have found free-falling for Jesus marvelous and extremely life-giving. I look forward to serving the diocese with joy and gratitude.

STANDING COMMITTEE LAY ORDER [one four-year term]



Constance Lightbody – *St. John's, Kirkland; Retired Educator.* I have been active in the lay leadership of St. John's Kirkland since filling a vacant Vestry position. I have served one year as junior Warden, five years as Senior Warden, two years as Treasurer, five years as chair of the Finance Committee and two years as chair of the Adult Education Committee. I have also been an altar server, lector, chalice bearer, intercessor and regularly lead Morning Prayer virtually which was initiated during Covid. All of these ministries and leadership positions have allowed me to develop a rich experience in parish ministries, leadership and finances which I would bring to the Standing Committee. Our mission is to be Christ in the community, calls us to take a stand for social justice, equity for all of God's children and to safeguard those less fortunate. Leadership, training and connection by the Diocese are critical for the individual parishes to live into this mission.



Don Little – *St. Bede's, Port Orchard; Retired Engineer.* My current position is Senior Warden at St. Bede Port Orchard., I have served 4 years on diocesan council, 6 years on grants committee, 1 term vestry St. Pauls Klamath Falls , Or 2 terms vestry and delegate St. Luke's Renton, 2 terms bishops committee St Bede's Port Orchard. I currently have Eucharistic minister, Eucharistic Visitor, Worship leader, and Preacher licenses. My church means everything to me, the support I got after my wife's death was immeasurable. I love the outdoors for kite flying and fishing. Or just listening to the sound of the surf, My goal as senior warden at St Bede's is to continue the improvements to make a welcoming church more welcoming. Often the key to success is compromise. As a member of the standing committee, I would always approach the tasks with an open mind.

SECRETARY OF THE DIOCESE



Marda Steedman Sanborn – *Saint Mark's Cathedral; Retired & Assisting Priest.* I have served this Diocese in ordained ministry for 31 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. I am retired and serve as an Assisting Priest at St Mark's Cathedral, Seattle.

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 3 years. 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 challenges in the coming year while we prepare for a new Bishop. During these times the church should not stand still but continue to grow and to serve.