

Nominations Committee 2018 Report to Convention

This draft report reflects information received by October 16. Additional information and, hopefully, a full slate of candidates will be presented at the convention. If you are interested in standing for election to an open position please send an email to nominations@ecww.org.

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.

Nominees at-a-Glance:

STANDING COMMITTEE (pg. 3)

Clerical Order

The Rev. Steve Danzey

Lay Order

Charla Connor
Stuart Case

DIOCESAN COUNCIL (pg. 3-5)

Columbia - Clergy

The Rev. Joseph Lester Scheeler

Eastside - Lay

Heather Irwin
Thomas G. Andrew, Jr.

Holy C – Clergy

The Rev. Edmund Harris
The Rev. Canon Nancy Ross

Mount Baker - Clergy

The Rev. Diane Ramerman

Sno Isle – Lay

Sharon Kay Rader
Carolyn Forbes

Willapa – Lay

Jeff Zahir

OFFICERS OF CONVENTION (pg. 6)

Secretary

Karen Gusse

Archivist & Records Manager

Diane Wells

Treasurer

Barbara Fox

Historiographer

Carle Griffin

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH GOVERNING BODY/OFFICE

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.

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. The Diocesan Council includes the bishop, and two members (one clergy and one lay) representing each of the regional ministries.

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, oversees 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.

Historiographer: The historiographer is responsible for creating, maintaining and continuing a history of the Diocese, including its significant leadership and events. This is a volunteer position.

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

The Rev. Steve Danzey – Rector, Good Samaritan, Sammamish. My interest in serving on the Standing Committee stems from my love for the Episcopal Church and a deep desire to see it grow, thrive, and embody the Kingdom of God here in western Washington. Having served on the Standing Committee for a year, and in four parishes and three dioceses in our Church, I've gained a broad understanding of how our Church functions in various contexts, and our strengths and challenges as a Christian movement in the 21st century. I would also bring to the Standing Committee a passion for and experience in church planting, evangelism, discipleship, and theological education. Having also served as CEO of a small company before becoming a priest, my experience in administration, leadership development, and finances could be useful in supporting the work of our diocese and our bishop.

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

Nominees from the floor

Charla Connor – All Saints, Tacoma.



Stuart Case – St. Barnabas, Bainbridge Island. I feel that bringing my prior experiences in community and church activities may benefit the diocese. My previous activities include a board position with Ravenna Bryant Community Association during which my lobbying efforts along with others resulted in the construction of a multi-use community center. President/chair of board of Ruth Dykeman Children's Center during which launched a fully funded \$1.8Million capital campaign. Served as Sr. Warden during which we hired Rev. Karen Haig. I worked with the Vestry to improve the safety of the campus. I received accolades for my leadership.

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

The Rev. Joseph Scheeler – Vicar, All Saints, Vancouver. Greetings and Thank you for this nomination for the position of clergy member of Diocesan Council. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve The Council if called. When I was younger, one of my Elders admonished me as I was describing an accomplishment of mine with great pridefulness, that leadership is demonstrated; it is never announced. Leading is a gift, given by those who would be led. When leadership ceases to be demonstrated the People simply turn away and follow another. I hope you would find leadership in my thoughtful, quiet, humble, and intentional participation in this Diocesan Council. I am by nature and by Culture a searcher and finder of consensus. The Elders have shown us that "Circular" rather than "linear" decisions are best. There are times when decisions and consensus are elusive, buried deep in words or hiding in feelings. These are the times when we contemplatively pray; quietly wait; patiently sit and respectfully speak again. Often, we find the we and Creator have cleared the mist; and the path forward is bright with clarity.

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

Thomas G. Andrew, Jr. – *St. Margaret, Bellevue.* I have been an active Christian all of my life and have participated as a member of the Vestry, Treasurer, Finance and Outreach Committees at Saint Margaret's as well as participating as a Eucharistic Visitor and Lector. In my "civilian" life, prior to retirement, I was an Executive Vice President of US Bank of Washington (formerly Peoples Bank) and, after banking, was a consultant and advisor to numerous family owned businesses in the western US. Service has been a hallmark of my professional and personal life, and I would look forward to continuing to offer my organizational, financial and marketing skills as a member of the Diocesan Council for the Eastside.



Heather Irwin – *Holy Cross, Redmond.* I chose the Episcopal Church after a wide variety of other church experiences and think the work of the Episcopal Church needs to be more widely known. I enjoy meeting people and hearing their unique faith journeys and believe that the Gospel must be good news for everyone. At Holy Cross, I've been a youth group leader, worship leader, broccoli planter for the Food Bank Farm, and that person to call when you need dinner for 40 at the homeless shelter tomorrow. Professionally, I've worked as a math tutor for individuals going back to school later in life and as an optical engineer designing laser mapping systems. I am accustomed to breaking down top-level ideas into smart goals, and, if given the opportunity to be on council, look forward to getting to work with additional people in this diocese.

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

The Rev. Edmund Harris – *St. Peter, Seattle.* As a lifelong Episcopalian, I've been actively involved in many different congregations across the Episcopal Church. Prior to being called as rector of St. Peter's, Seattle, I served in the Diocese of RI, where I founded a street church in the Episcopal tradition called Church Beyond the Walls, started an Episcopal Service Corps community, and served as assistant rector at a thriving congregation in East Providence.

I've seen what the Episcopal Church can do and be, given the right vision and resources, and I'm excited to offer my gifts and experiences to support the mission and priorities of local congregations here in western Washington.

In addition to my voice on Council, I'll bring a commitment to listening, lots of questions, an eagerness to learn from fellow Council members, and a collaborative spirit.

Alongside my priestly ministry, I share my life with my spouse Michael and our seven-month old son, Ben.



The Rev. Canon Nancy Ross – *Saint Mark, Seattle.* I would be glad to bring my energy and varied experience to the Diocesan Council. My background is nonprofit communications, where budgets that serve diverse constituencies were bedrock for ongoing mission.

I'm drawn to ministry by a heart for pastoral care and a seeker spirit, and I'm passionate about connection in every sphere. How we express ourselves as Christians in the world and in relationship to each other in this Diocese, and how we facilitate relationships and collaborative actions here, is a listening/communicating/doing job. I would bring skills as a writer and public relations professional; experience organizing programs and working sessions, including World Water Day for the U.N.; and a zeal for this life in ministry that includes being a point person for Sanctuary and developing relationships with partner organizations, to the seminal work we share of preaching the Gospel of Jesus through our actions, individually and as Church.

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

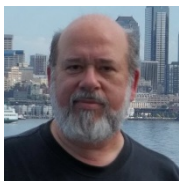
Sharon Kay Rader – *St. Hilda St. Patrick, Edmonds.* As a member of St Hilda St Patrick. I have (with my husband) started a feeding program working with Trinity Lutheran and Maplewood Presbyterian to provide hot meals to the homeless. I served on our Bishop’s Committee as junior warden. During my tenure I worked to provide a new roof for the facility and hired a contractor to restore an overgrown bioswale on the property. These processes have helped me to understand why stewardship is so important which in turn will help me to provide good financial input to the Council. I am a Sunday school teacher, a Lay Eucharistic Minister, manage our food Pantry which provides assistance to local homeless and hungry neighbors, serve on the Worship Committee, and help lead our congregation through faith and love. I have attended CCD. All of my talents will help me to serve the Council and the Diocese.



Carolyn Forbes – *St. Philip, Marysville.* I was previously on Council representing a Commission. I am currently on vestry. My past experiences have been in leadership positions with Camp Fire (I started it in Uruguay) and also with Hospice of Tacoma volunteers. I have been a communicant of the Episcopal Church in the diocese for 60 years and think that my experience in the church in various capacities qualifies me for a position on Council.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL MOUNT BAKER REGIONAL MINISTRY – CLERGY *[one three-year term]*

The Rev. Diane Ramerman – *Christ Church, Anacortes.* I serve as priest at Christ Episcopal Church, Anacortes. Christ Church is one of seven Total Common Ministry congregations in the Diocese of Olympia. Over the last thirty-eight years, I have participated in various lay and ordained activities of the Diocese of Olympia, including serving on the Board of DSOMAT (former school of Ministry and Theology of the Diocese), the Pastoral Care Committee, and as trainer for Safeguarding God’s Children and Safeguarding God’s People. I believe the Diocesan Council has an important role in our governance, supporting the churches of the Diocese with a sustained and faithful framework for their ministries. Prior to my ordination, I was an attorney and mediator. I am married to Dale Ramerman, retired King County Superior Court judge; we have six adult children and thirteen grandchildren.

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

Jeff Zahir – *St. Benedict, Lacey.* I think I’ve been moderately successful at articulating visions for my church. I know that whenever I’ve been successful, it’s been in articulating the vision of others and not my own. In fact, I’ve learned that no matter how good an idea I think I may have, others will think of it and surpass it with their own...and we’ll all be in a happier/holier place for their having participated in the synergy of collective thought.

SECRETARY OF THE DIOCESE OF OLYMPIA



Karen Gusse – *Senior Business Process Analyst for the Boeing Corporation, and a consultant with the Diocesan Congregational Consulting Network; member of St. James, Kent.* I am called to support the work of the Diocese of Olympia as the Secretary to Convention. This position serves as a member of the Board of Directors, where I will use my gifts and skills developed in business to help guide the ministry and vision of the Diocese. I am a two-time prior member of the vestry at St. James, a co-leader of young adult ministry and an active part of our music ministry. I graduated from the diocesan College for Congregational Development and am now working as part of the Consultant Network. I look forward to learning from the other members and being able to share my gifts.

ARCHIVIST AND RECORDS MANAGER



Diane Wells – *Archivist and Records Manager for the Diocese of Olympia; member of Messiah Lutheran Church, Auburn.* This will be my 25th convention as your diocesan archivist and records manager. I strive every day to manage and improve our archives and records program for the benefit of the diocese and our congregations. I believe that the watchwords, Stewardship and Service, describe the mission of this program: Stewardship, because of the importance of keeping, maintaining and protecting the diocese's irreplaceable documentary heritage - and Service, because it is also the goal of this program is to provide appropriate and timely access to these materials. I hope I am

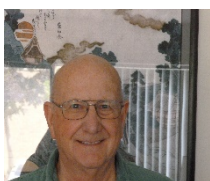
successful at implementing this mission.

TREASURER



Barbara Fox – *Retired escrow officer/limited practice officer; St. John, Kirkland.* : It would be my pleasure to continue working with congregations in providing the resources we have and will develop in the Accounting/Finance Office to help in their ability to proclaim the good news of God and be part of the Jesus movement.

HISTORIOGRAPHER



Carle Griffin – *Retired; St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle.* This year, as Historiographer, I posted a brief history of the diocese on the diocesan website. I also converted the material on the website into a booklet for distribution at this year's Convention. I'm hoping our leaders find this brief history interesting and encouraging. I've taken a new look at the controversy over declining numbers and found reason to project a return to the slow and steady growth that we experienced before WWII. Much of our decline in numbers was due to a retreat from the post-war birth rate which produced

the Baby Boom. Current diocesan policies should give us hope for the future. Production of a comprehensive history continues.