

The 205th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Maine
November 16, 2024

NOMINATIONS FOR DIOCESAN LEADERS



EST^d 1820

MEET THE NOMINEES



TREASURER OF THE DIOCESE

Julian Sheffield

St. Margaret, Belfast

Nominated by Theodore G. Fletcher

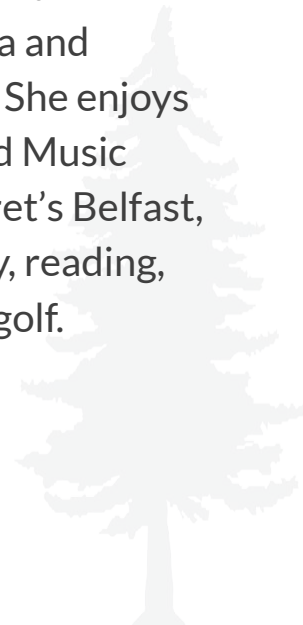
Julian Sheffield spent most of her working life doing financial management, largely in non-profit and church-related institutions. She retired in 2018 after 10 years as Finance Director of the Brooklyn Youth Chorus, a 600-student after-school program. She has been treasurer of a parish in NY, treasurer of the Northport Village Corporation in ME, and directed finances for several schools. She has specialized in putting small or startup companies on sound financial management footing.



In the second year of tenure as Diocesan Treasurer, Julian has been engaged in re-conceptualizing audit procedures for parishes and entities, and looks forward to continuing that work with the Diocesan Audit Task Force. She is energized to help worshiping communities understand their financial positions and consider creative strategies. She is also deeply committed to increase lay ministries, as she believes the greatest treasure of the church is its people.

I find Julian to be hardworking and fierce about clarity and transparency in financial presentations.

Julian lives in Northport with her wife Deirdre Good, dogs Simba and Maddy, and cat O'Malley. She enjoys serving on the Liturgy and Music Committees of St Margaret's Belfast, training her dogs in agility, reading, cooking, handcrafts, and golf.



MEET THE NOMINEES

SECRETARY OF THE DIOCESE



Theodore G. Fletcher

St. Andrew and St. John, Southwest Harbor
Nominated by Julian Sheffield

Ted brings a wealth of experience, dedication and good humor to his work as Secretary of the Diocese. After a year of working with him, I can say that he is a valuable contributor to the health and functioning of the diocese, and a stalwart and delightful colleague.

As an attorney, Ted has experience in both corporate and litigation settings which serves him well in this role. The Secretary of the Diocese needs to be someone who initiates and integrates questions and conversation and brings people together so that issues or assignments are not scattered. The Secretary also must be alert to keeping records, open access, and process concerns.



Ted's passion as an Episcopalian is to provide a space where people can truly engage in their faith—life, doubts, and salvation—wrestling with what God calls us to be, who Jesus in our lives, and how the Holy Spirit is acting upon us.



MEET THE NOMINEES



STANDING COMMITTEE CLERGY MEMBER

The Rev. Kerry Mansir

Christ Episcopal Church, Gardiner
Self-nominated

It has been a privilege to serve on the Standing Committee for the past three years, and I have learned much about the important work done by this elected body in support of our Bishop, diocesan family, and the larger church. It has been a particular pleasure to meet and interview those in the ordination process here in Maine and to see the unique gifts of ministry that they are bringing to our diocese.

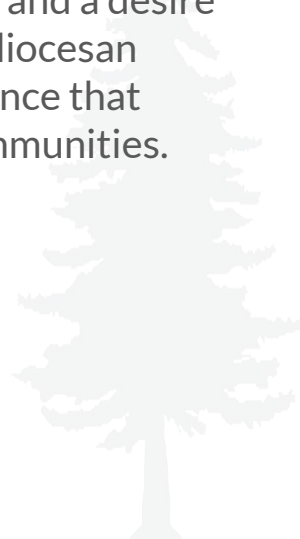
I have had the opportunity to participate in and lead many ministries in the diocese for more than 20 years. I've worked with children and youth at Bishopswood, St. Matthew's in Hallowell, and St. Bart's in Yarmouth. I helped launch an intergenerational ministry in Augusta called Mustard Seeds. Since my ordination in 2017, I've served at Christ Church in Gardiner, first as assistant to the priest-in-charge and as rector since 2019.

On the diocesan level, I was part of the Discernment Committee for our Bishop search in 2018-2019, and I was previously involved with an Evangelism Committee, seeking



fresh ways to share the stories of how our local parish communities help us to center our lives around loving and life-giving relationships, following the way of Jesus.

I believe the greatest gift that I can bring to the Standing Committee is a love for and belief in the work of our local faith communities and a desire to be a part of healthy diocesan structures and governance that support those faith communities.



MEET THE NOMINEES



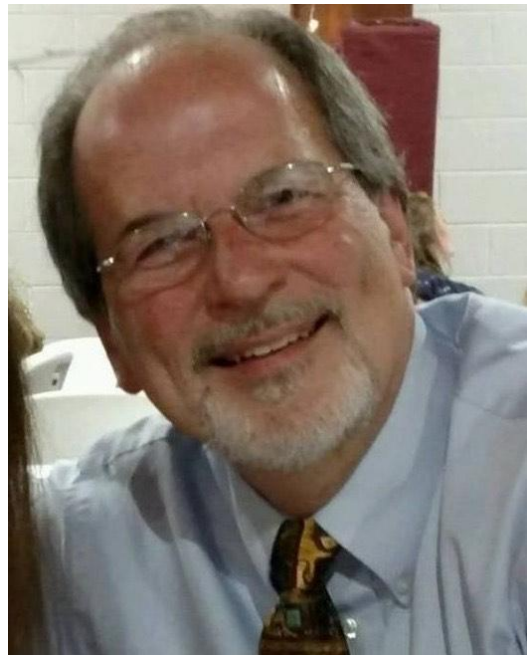
STANDING COMMITTEE CLERGY MEMBER

The Rev. Kevin Kinsey

The Aroostook Episcopal Cluster
Self-nominated

The Rev. Kevin L. Kinsey is a native of Southwestern Michigan, hailing from the Kalamazoo area. Kevin was a music major at Wittenberg University (Springfield, Ohio) where he received the Bachelor of Music Education degree in 1984. He came to Fort Fairfield, Maine in 1987 to take the band director's position at Fort Fairfield public schools. He led successful band programs for twelve years in Fort Fairfield and then in the Presque Isle elementary schools where he was the beginning band director for thirteen years.

Kevin's progression toward ordination began with the Total Ministry program instituted in The Aroostook Cluster by the Rev. Robert A. Smith, Jr. (Ret.) in the 1990's. After several years as lay preacher, he entered the ordination process in 2006 under the Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen. A non-traditional student, Kevin "read for orders" and was mentored and guided by Rev. Smith, Rev. Lynne Jocelyn (UMC), Bishop Knudsen, and the Rt. Rev. Stephen Lane.



Most of his coursework was online through the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. He also attended classes at CDSP (Berkeley, California) and Episcopal Divinity School (Cambridge, Massachusetts). He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Lane in January of 2013.

Kevin's ministry as priest has been in The Aroostook Episcopal Cluster since his ordination. The Cluster currently consists of Church of the Good Shepherd, Houlton, St. John's, Presque Isle, and St. Paul's, Fort Fairfield.

MEET THE NOMINEES



STANDING COMMITTEE LAY MEMBER

Mark Spahr

St. Patrick's, Brewer
Self-nominated

Mark is seeking reelection for a second term on Standing Committee. A lifelong Episcopalian and a member of St. Patrick's, Brewer for the past 24 years, Mark served as a Deputy to General Convention in 2012 (Indianapolis), 2015 (Salt Lake City), 2018 (Austin), 2022 (Baltimore, Deputation Chair), and 2024 (Louisville). He was a member of the the Bishop Transition Committee, and previously served on Diocesan Council for 6 years. He currently serves as the President of the Standing Committee. At St. Pat's, Mark has served in roles including cooking for church suppers, as a Convention Delegate for 12 years, and serving as a licensed lay reader and chalice bearer.



He has previously served as a Vestry member and Chair of the Search Committee. Mark is the Director of Education Technology for the Maine Department of Corrections. He lives in Winterport with his wife Leigh and two daughters, Peyton and Hannah, and their two dogs Ella and Winnie.



MEET THE NOMINEES



DISCIPLINARY BOARD

CLERGY REPRESENTATIVE, 2-YEAR TERM

The Rev. Sara D'Angio White

St. David's, Kennebunk

Self-nominated

Sara D'Angio White is the Associate for Children and Families at St. David's in Kennebunk, and formerly served as the Canon for Youth Ministry in this diocese. Sara is passionate about protecting the vulnerable, while also balancing a restorative and trauma-informed approach to justice. As a clergy representative to the Disciplinary Board, she would strive to serve her colleagues and her diocese with both compassion and equity.



MEET THE NOMINEES



DISCIPLINARY BOARD

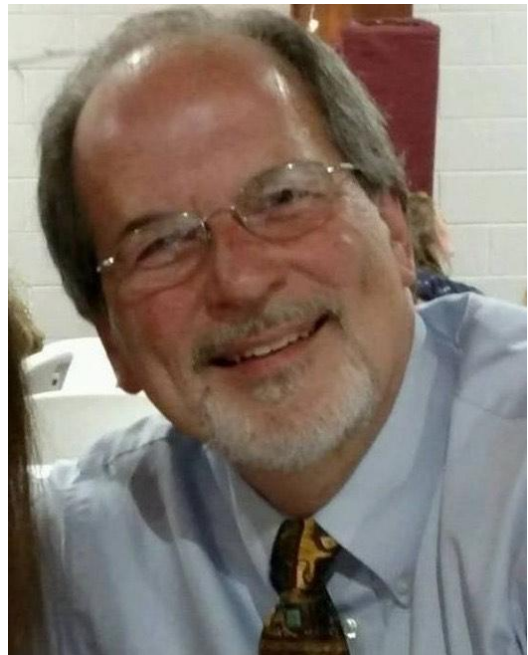
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MEET THE NOMINEES



DISCIPLINARY BOARD

CLERGY REPRESENTATIVE, 3-YEAR TERM

The Rev. Shirley Bowen

Trinity Church, Saco
Self-nominated

It would be a privilege to continue to serve as one of the diocesan clergy representatives to the Disciplinary Board. The task of the board is a sacred one. It strives to uphold the integrity of our Baptismal Covenant by having clearly stated expectations of appropriate behavior and a fair and thorough process to review complaints of priest or deacon misconduct while also partnering with diocesan leadership to ensure support is provided to all parties involved. Recent participation in a review demonstrated the compassionate and professional thoroughness of the process.

I've been actively involved/responsible for oversight of disciplinary practices, especially while working in higher education. As associate dean of students at the University of New England, I co-led the yearly oversight of the student handbook's judicial policies and procedures, working with university attorneys to ensure rights of those in the process were honored and procedural guidelines were followed.



I convened and trained undergraduate disciplinary committees and served on student, staff and faculty disciplinary committees. This experience of working with attorneys to craft and oversee a process which balances accountability and compassion was an asset to my service to date.

Additional experience includes serving as a Safe Church trainer for the diocese when it was still done in person and working with diocesan staff to create an initial template of policies and procedures for use in congregations responding to a request of a person on the sex offender registry to worship in a parish.

MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Reverend Gwen Fry

St. Mark's, Waterville
Self-nominated

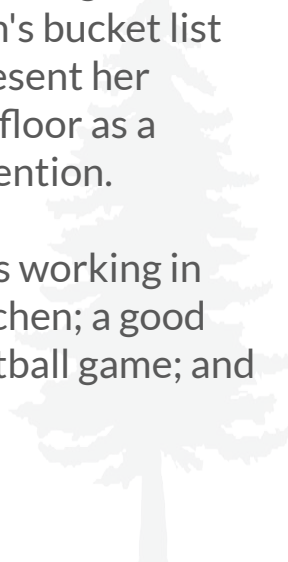
The Reverend Gwen Fry is serving as priest in charge at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Waterville. She has 33 years of experience as a priest in a wide range of parish settings across the spectrum of parish size, theology, economic means, and social standing. Her experience in the church makes her sensitive to the necessity for the equality of all God's children. She has been involved in justice work for the trans community and marginalized people in Arkansas, the US, and within TEC. She has provided specialized training for the Police Academy, Little Rock, the ACLU, the Univ of AR Medical School, and AR Children's Hospital. She helped organize the Gender Clinic at UAMS and their first Pediatric Gender Clinic.

Gwen was elected to the Standing Committee at the 204th Diocesan Convention of Maine. She is a steering committee member of TransEpiscopal. In 2022, she joined other advocates speaking to the Executive Council on life in the church as a transgender clergy person. She has served two trienniums on TEC's Interim Body to Oversee the Continuing Development of Anti-Harassment Best Practices.



Gwen also served on the Resolution Review Legislative Committee at the 81st General Convention this past summer. Prior to this General convention she has attended the last four General Conventions as a visitor or exhibitor and has testified in hearings and walked resolutions through the legislative process. Gwen's bucket list wish is to some day represent her diocese by sitting on the floor as a Deputy at General Convention.

Gwen's self-care includes working in her home chapel: the kitchen; a good Kentucky Wildcat basketball game; and cooking shows.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Reverend Joshua Hill

St. Alban's, Cape Elizabeth
Self-nominated

The Rev. Joshua Hill is rector of St Alban's Episcopal Church in Cape Elizabeth where he has served for three years. He previously served for 15 years in lay and ordained ministry in parishes and Episcopal Schools in Connecticut, East Tennessee, and New Hampshire. In the diocese of Maine, he presently serves on the Commission on Ministry and the Compensation Committee. In June he was honored to serve as a deputy to General Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Joshua loved that work, and he is eager to continue serving on Maine's deputation at the next General Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, if given the opportunity.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Rev. Douglas Beck

St. Francis By the Sea, Blue Hill
Nominated by Lucia Elder

Douglas is the rector of St. Francis by the Sea, Blue Hill. He is co-chair of the Clergy Formation Committee and the Diocesan Council clergy representative for the Acadie Region.

Douglas found his spiritual home in the Episcopal Church as a young adult, confirmed in 1992. Before ordination in 2019, he served the church as a layperson and lay employee for many years and feels a particular call to our church's laity and their equipping for ministry as well as clergy development for the church of today and tomorrow.

While serving in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Douglas served on the Discernment and Formation Committee, was a mentor to the newly ordained. He led retreats for laity in discernment and clergy seeking renewal.

Douglas is a certified spiritual director. He is enthusiastic about the renewal of all things through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who says, "Behold, I make all things new."



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Rev. J Ann McAlhany

Trinity Episcopal Church, Castine
Nominated by Patricia Sprague

Ann is a deacon, currently serving at Trinity Episcopal Church in Castine. She was previously assigned to Saint John's in Bangor, as well as spending time at Saint John's in Brownville Junction, and Saint Augustine's in Dover-Foxcroft. While she has served in a larger congregation, Ann also understands the joys and anxieties of the smaller, rural parish.

She has previously served on Diocesan Council and is currently serving her second year on the Standing Committee.

As a delegate to General Convention, Ann would bring the perspective of a deacon, and listening ears honed by two decades of work in the world as a business advisor.

She has faith that God is ever walking with us, and would be honored to continue to serve God as a Diocese of Maine delegate to General Convention.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Rev. Lynn Rutledge

Nominated by the Rev. Stephen D. Muncie

Lynn asks for your vote to be elected as a Clerical Deputy to General Convention. She brings to this position her love of The Episcopal Church, her ability to listen deeply, her years of experience working with vestries and diocesan committees and her desire to play a small part in the future of the church through the convention.

Growing up in Texas, Lynn was confirmed in the Episcopal Church in her college years. When she moved to Western Massachusetts, she served as Treasurer and Senior Warden in her local parish. For the past 30 years, she has lived and worked in the Diocese of Maine.

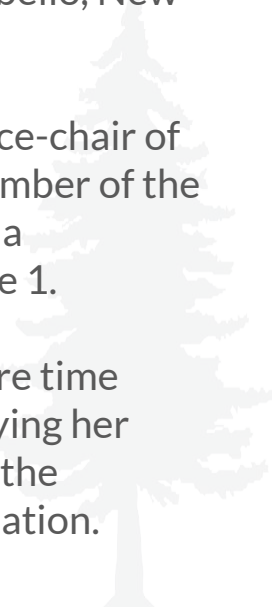
She served Christ Church, Eastport, and St. Aidan's, Machias, as rector. During her tenure, she was active in ecumenical work, believing that the small congregations in that corner of Washington County could accomplish more by acting together than as individuals. In Eastport, she led the association that ran the food pantry and an emergency heating fund. In Machias, she worked with area clergy to hold Lenten services in their respective congregations.



Since retiring two years ago, Lynn has found a niche working as a supply priest in congregations near her and in St. Stephen and Campobello, New Brunswick.

Currently she serves as vice-chair of Diocesan Council, as a member of the Grants Committee and as a representative to Province 1.

She likes to spend her spare time traveling, gardening, enjoying her friends, and working with the Pembroke Trotting Association.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Rev. Kerry Mansir

Christ Episcopal Church, Gardiner
Self-nominated

I've been active in the Diocese since moving to Maine in 2002. My first job was leading Faith Development at Camp Bishopswood. Since then, I have led ministries for children and youth at St. Matthew's, Hallowell and St. Bart's, Yarmouth and at the intergenerational Mustard Seeds program in Augusta. I was ordained to the priesthood at Christ Church, Gardiner in 2018 and have served as their Rector since 2019.

In these years of serving in the Diocese, my appreciation for the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church has grown. I believe that the Episcopal Church has a unique role in the future of the Christian faith. With Christian Nationalism on the rise, we have a responsibility to combat those voices by forging a different way, that of our baptismal covenant which calls us to strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being.



Serving as a Deputy at General Convention this past summer, I was able to see how a focus on this work of love and justice is at the heart of our governance. I learned much about how the polity of the church works and feel that I could serve the Diocese of Maine even better now that I have experienced the intricacies of evaluating resolutions and electing leaders. The work of the General Convention sets the tone for who we are in our small, but vital faith communities in Maine, and I would love to be a part of that work.

MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Rev. Lauren Kay

Self-nominated

The Rev. Lauren Kay (they/he) is a priest-at-large in Southern Maine, currently serving as a supply priest for congregations throughout the diocese and beyond.

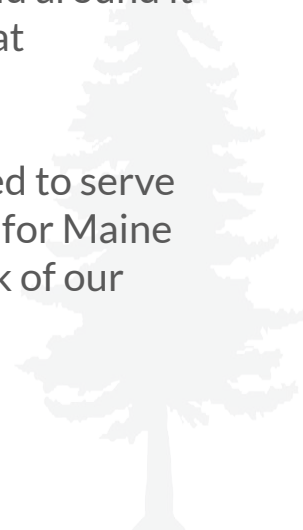
Lauren has been involved at a diocesan level since arriving in Maine in 2019, including as a member of the Racial Justice Council and Area Clergy Representative for Southern Gateway on Diocesan Council (2021-present).

Passionate about the work of the church inside and outside the walls of the institution, Lauren has engaged in justice-oriented initiatives and formation at diocesan and church-wide levels with an emphasis on BIPOC and LGBTQ+ matters. In the last few years, Lauren was invited to speak about the experience of being a transgender clergy person in listening sessions with Church Pension Group leadership and Executive Council of the Episcopal Church (TEC) and was part of the planning committee for the first-ever leadership retreat for trans and non-binary clergy in TEC and the Anglican Church in Canada. They also were a workshop presenter and plenary speaker for multiple Forma conferences.



Lauren served as clergy deputy for the first time to the most recent General Convention and learned a great deal about the processes involved in that level of church governance. They were energized by the experience and the ways in which TEC can impact the world around it through the work done at Convention.

Lauren would be honored to serve again as a clergy deputy for Maine and continue in the work of our church.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION CLERGY DEPUTY

The Rev. Ryan F. Mails

St. George's York Harbor

Nominated by the Rev. Stephen D. Muncie

Ryan received his Master of Divinity from the School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee and was ordained to the priesthood in 2017.

After ordination he served as regional minister in the Diocese of Texas and priest-in-charge of a parish in Longview, Texas.

In 2019 Ryan was called to be rector of St. George's, York Harbor,

In the Diocese of Maine, Ryan serves as chair of the Compensation Committee, as a member of the Liturgical Commission, and as a member of the board of Camp Bishopswood.

Prior to ordination Ryan studied public history and worked as a furniture-maker.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Mark Spahr

St. Patrick's, Brewer
Self-nominated

A lifelong Episcopalian and a member of St. Patrick's, Brewer for the past 24 years, Mark served as a Deputy to General Convention in 2012 (Indianapolis), 2015 (Salt Lake City), 2018 (Austin), 2022 (Baltimore, Deputation Chair), and 2024 (Louisville). He was a member of the the Bishop Transition Committee, and previously served on Diocesan Council for six years. He currently serves as the President of the Standing Committee. At St. Pat's, Mark has served in roles including cooking for church suppers, as a Convention Delegate for 12 years, and serving as a licensed lay reader and chalice bearer.



He has previously served as a Vestry member and Chair of the Search Committee. Mark is the Director of Education Technology for the Maine Department of Corrections. He lives in Winterport with his wife Leigh and two daughters, Peyton and Hannah, and their two dogs Ella and Winnie.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Christian M. Clough

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke, Portland
Self-nominated

With a lifelong passion for creation care, and a gratefully learned concern for the inclusion of all God's children in the care of The Episcopal Church (TEC), Christian is passionate about the reconciling, restoring, and reviving work of TEC, especially as it applies to marginalized populations and environmental stewardship. Christian believes that the inclusive care professed by TEC is an essential contribution to our troubled world, and growing TEC helps bring the love of God closer to all God's children, especially when other religious groups may exclude and condemn those who are different.

Raised an Episcopalian, Christian has served numerous Episcopal congregations around the US as musician for 32 years. He is committed to liturgy and music revitalization as a means to strengthen the Church's offering of beauty and encouragement to worshipers.

Christian serves on the Episcopal Maine Commission on Ministry, with a particular commitment to lay ministry discernment and support, and the Liturgical Commission.



He is currently on the planning team for an upcoming gathering of New England Episcopalians to raise up new BIPOC leaders. He holds two master's degrees from Yale, in music performance and religion (liturgical studies concentration), and a BA in geology. General Convention experience is not of itself an asset; still, Christian represented Maine in 2024, and Chicago in 2018 and 2022. Since August 2022, he is Canon for Liturgy & Music at the Cathedral of St. Luke, Portland. He and his husband, the Rev. Christopher Worthley, love living in South Portland with Dakota, their rescued cocker spaniel.

MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Sandra F. McPhee

St. David's, Kennebunk
Self-nominated

I moved to Maine from the Chicago area in the fall of 2022, having owned a vacation home here for over 20 years. I am a semi-retired lawyer, trying to actually retire.

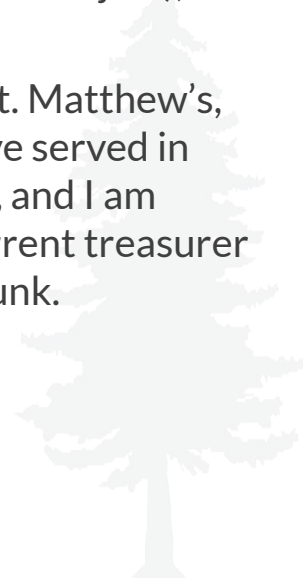
Much of my volunteer work has been within the structures of The Episcopal Church. I was honored to be appointed a Trustee of Diocesan Funds for the Diocese of Maine earlier this year. In 2015, I was elected, and in 2022 I was re-elected, a trustee of the Church Pension Fund. I have been a member of the Executive Council, the Standing Commission on World Mission (three years as chair), the chair of the board of Bexley-Seabury Seminary, a board member of the Consortium of Episcopal Parishes, president of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Chicago, and a delegate or alternate from the Diocese of Chicago to every General Convention from 2000 to 2022.

I am chair of the Friends of Cuttington University in Liberia, an Episcopal University.



In addition, I have been active in a variety of roles with the American Committee for KEEP (Kiyosato Educational Experiment Project), Inc. since 1977.

At my former parish, St. Matthew's, Evanston, Illinois, I have served in every possible lay role, and I am delighted to be the current treasurer of St. David's, Kennebunk.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Nancy Dymond

St. John's, Bangor
Self-nominated

Hello! I'd very much like to be a lay representative for the Episcopal Diocese of Maine at GC 2027.

I'm a retired elementary school teacher who has and continues to work with young people in the community and church.

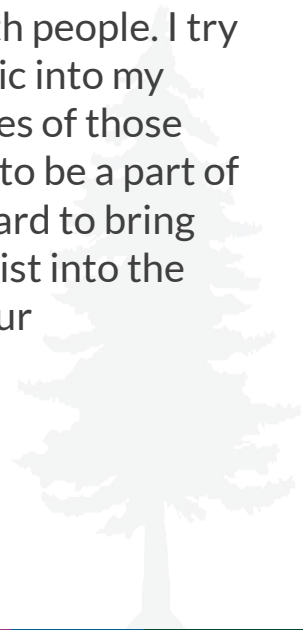
Currently, I'm head acolyte/acolyte trainer serving with youth who are new to the church. I've also served as youth leader with two groups, as they made their way through the Confirm, Not Conform curriculum to confirmation. We also went on three mission trips to Cambridge, Massachusetts, helping three different food ministries. I serve as a chalice bearer and lector.

I'm in my second year of a three-year term on the Commission on Ministry. I'm also on the Province 1 planning committee, which is hosting an Advent Conference for Emerging and Current BIPOC Leaders in The Episcopal Church in Arlington, Massachusetts.



I was born and raised at St. John's, Bangor and my family has a long history there.

I enjoy collaborating with people. I try to bring humor and music into my daily life and into the lives of those I'm with. I'd be honored to be a part of our church's going forward to bring the light and love of Christ into the world. Thank you for your consideration!



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Theodore G. Fletcher

St. Andrew and St. John, Southwest Harbor
Self-nominated

I offer myself as a nominee for Lay Deputy to General Convention, because I think I have a broad range of experience in parishes, at the Diocese, and at Provincial Conference that will be helpful both to the deliberations of General Convention but especially for the people of the diocese. I have served as warden and clerk of a vestry, in a variety of roles at the diocese, including on Diocesan Council and the Diocesan Finance Committee, and as Delegate to Provincial Conference (formerly Provincial Synod) on two occasions.

I hope that I can bring the challenges and concerns of parishes in a time of steady and dramatic social and economic change to the broader church. Conversely, I hope to learn and share how other dioceses and parishes are responding to these changes and proclaiming the Gospel in new contexts.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Mary Beth DiMarco

Church of the Good Shepherd, Houlton
Self-nominated

Mary Beth DiMarco is a lifelong learner and seeker of the path of Jesus. She is interested in working with others to figure out who the church is called to be and how we are called to show up in the current moment. Mary Beth is a retired public school teacher who lives in Houlton. She currently serves as senior warden at the Church of the Good Shepherd and secretary of the Committee on Indian Relations.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Harold van Lonkuyzen

St. Peter's, Rockland

Nominated by Lucia Elder

Harold Van Lonkhuyzen is a long-term St. Peter's Rockland parishioner. He has served twice on the St. Peter's vestry, participated in or led various parish committees, worked with his family in the Loaves and Fishes soup kitchen for some years, and currently also serves on the diocesan Commission on Ministry. He is a community psychiatrist, medical educator, husband, and father of four.



Harold will bring skills in listening, discernment, and professional development. He has extensive personal experience of issues relating to small, rural churches, mental health, and Christian formation.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Julie Littlefield

St. George's, York Harbor
Self-nominated

As a member of St. George's, I have served as treasurer, senior warden, convention delegate, and committees participant. In addition, I am a member of the Diocesan Council during which time I served on the finance committee and the Loring House Task Force to determine future options for use of the building. Given this background, I am confident that I can attend the General Convention with a rich understanding of policy, finances, and the Spirit who guides us.

As a trained social worker I bring the gifts of listening, warmth, building community, openness to learning, and good analytical mind.

Commitment to prayer and the gospel is deeply imbedded in my soul. My sense of humor and wonder are also assets.



There is excitement in anticipation of the 2027 General Convention as I imagine working with others to advance the mission of the church, and to evaluate potential changes as we move into the future.

Thank you for considering my nomination.



MEET THE NOMINEES



GENERAL CONVENTION LAY DEPUTY

Thomas G. Ainsworth

St. Peter's, Portland

Nominated by the Rev. Stephen D. Muncie

Inclusive justice and equity have been drivers of my work and my life. As a retired attorney, and as a cradle Maine Episcopalian, I hope to contribute to the Church's collaborative work on policy and procedures.

