

The Diocesan Clergy Formation Committee works with Bishop Brown to support the ongoing formation, education, collegiality, and spirituality of the entire diocesan clergy community—retired and actively serving deacons and presbyters, without exception.

Committee members serve three-year terms, meeting once monthly via Zoom, facilitated by two co-chairs. Members serve on subcommittees as needed, supporting clergy formation events ranging from overnight clergy conferences to one-day in-person and online gatherings.

Since the 2023 Diocesan Convention, the CFC supported a Lenten Quiet Day with Rev. Dr. Mario Conliffe, an Episcopal priest and licensed professional clinical mental health therapist and supervisor in Maryland, focusing on clergy wellness. The May Clergy Conference, held at Schoodic Institute, featured The Rev. Dr. Patricia Lyons, who presented “Feast in a Time of Famine: Sacramental Life for our Secular Age.” We also co-sponsored the first tri-diocese gathering with NH and VT, held in The Diocese of New Hampshire in early October. Highlights of this gathering were a panel discussion with the three bishops, meaningful worship and the “Music that Makes Community” presenters. These events are a testament to our commitment to the ongoing formation and education of the clergy community.

CFC is grateful to the Diocesan Convention for the budget support that significantly undergirds our ongoing work.

We are currently seeking three new members-at-large to join us in January 2025. If you are interested in becoming a part of our committee, we encourage you to speak with one of us, Heather or Douglas, to learn more about the application process and the responsibilities of the role.

Faithfully,

The Revs. Heather Sylvester and Douglas Beck, co-chairs

on behalf of the Clergy Formation Committee: The Revs. Andree Appell, Ted Gaiser, Amanda Gerken-Nelson, Madeline Murphy, H. Roy Partridge, Carolyn Rosen, Tracy Shaffer, Peter Swarr