

The 206th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Maine
Oct. 25, 2025

NOMINATIONS FOR DIOCESAN LEADERS



MEET THE NOMINEES



TREASURER OF THE DIOCESE

Julian Sheffield

St. Margaret, Belfast

Nominated by Theodore G. Fletcher

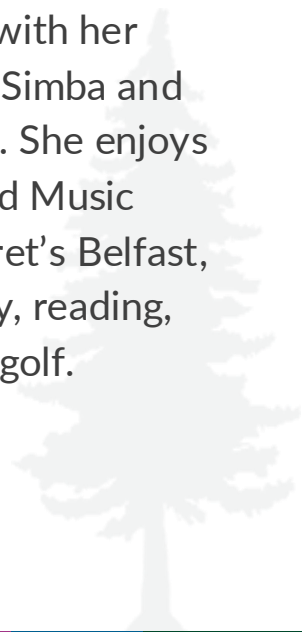
Julian Sheffield spent most of her working life doing financial management, largely in non-profit and church-related institutions. She retired in 2018 after 10 years as Finance Director of the Brooklyn Youth Chorus, a 600-student after-school program. She has been treasurer of a parish in NY, treasurer 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 third 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 worship 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

I have served as Secretary of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine and Secretary of Diocesan Convention since March 2023; this will be the third time I have stood for election as your Secretary. I would like to think I have grown in the job and learned a lot, but you should ask others for their opinion—maybe I am growing soft in the head or ?

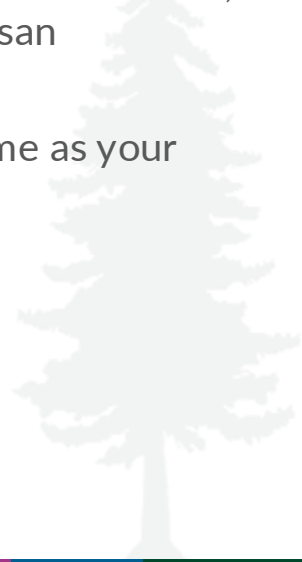
The position description on the Diocesan website is pretty true to my experience: it does require a good working knowledge of the Diocese, the peculiarities of ecclesiastical organizations generally, and perhaps a sense of humor. Even though I am not the world's best or fastest typist, I do have a pretty good memory for what happens; and true to my profession, I take copious notes.

The job is about more than taking meeting minutes, however. It requires interacting with staff and various committee members, keeping good counsel, and something I am still learning: when to be quiet.



The Canons suggest quite a few duties for the Secretary, but most of these are handled by diocesan staff: e.g. , sending out formal notice of the date, time, and place of Diocesan Convention.

I hope you will re-elect me as your Secretary.



MEET THE NOMINEES



STANDING COMMITTEE CLERGY MEMBER

The Rev. Ann McAlhany

Trinity Episcopal Church, Castine

Nominated by the Rev. Elizabeth Marshall Casasola

Ann's journey of faith has been deeply rooted in the Maine Episcopal community, from her confirmation at St. Margaret's in Belfast to hearing God's call to the diaconate at Trinity Castine. Since her ordination in 2011, she has served with grace and compassion across our diocese.

Currently serving at Trinity, Castine, Ann has provided steady pastoral presence during two years of transition. Her parish ministry experience includes 11 years at Saint John's in Bangor and formation work at Saint John's in Brownville Junction and Saint Augustine's in Dover-Foxcroft. This diverse experience across parishes of varying sizes gives Ann invaluable insight into the distinct needs of different congregations.

Ann's diocesan service includes Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, and the Discernment Committee for Bishop Brown. Reflecting on her first Standing Committee term, she expressed genuine joy about "working with the bigger picture and interconnections of the Diocese"—revealing that



she is someone who sees ministry as building bridges across communities.

From her base in the Downeast Acadia region, Ann brings an important geographical perspective and 20 years of business advisory experience that translates into practical pastoral wisdom. Her thoughtful presence, clear communication, and abiding faith make her a natural leader for our diocesan community. Her second term on the Standing Committee would be a gift of both considerable experience and pastoral presence for the Diocese of Maine.

MEET THE NOMINEES



STANDING COMMITTEE LAY MEMBER

Nancy Whitehouse

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brunswick

I have been a member of St. Paul's in Brunswick since the early 1980's serving in many different roles: vestry, altar guild, lector, chairing Christmas fair, memorial garden, flowers, hospitality, discernment committee and over nine years as treasurer.

As treasurer, I worked very closely with the rector, vestry, finance committee, diocesan leadership and trustees to help steward St. Paul's finances successfully through those years.

I am retired from the University of Southern Maine as curriculum technology coordinator. This position was half-time administrative and half-time faculty. As an administrator, my time was spent on many searches for personnel at all levels from groundskeeping to dean of the college along with other duties including grant writing and capital campaign work for new buildings. As faculty, I taught computer science and applications and worked with faculty, staff and students with any computer application problems.



I taught in that area for over 35 years on all levels from kindergarten (most fun) through graduate school.

The attributes that I bring to this position are as follows:

Good listener - hearing all sides of issues before rendering an opinion.

Patience - to look for the best possible solutions and the energy to work as a team to make sure that they are carried out to a successful conclusion.

Deep Faith - That all will be well no matter what obstacles seem to come about.

MEET THE NOMINEES



STANDING COMMITTEE LAY MEMBER

Samuel M. Allen

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke, Portland

I moved to Maine in 2013 on my retirement after retiring from MIT, where I was a professor in materials science and engineering for 34 years. My wife is from Maine, and Maine had become my family home, so we were determined to live our retirement years here.

We joined the Cathedral Church of St. Luke in Portland early in 2014. I served as junior warden from 2015-2018, senior warden from 2019-20, and a second term as senior warden 2022-23. I have served several times as one of the cathedral's delegates to Diocesan Convention. Early in the COVID pandemic, I began a lay-led worship service via Zoom that is ongoing, and a source of great satisfaction.

My work at MIT involved teaching, mentoring, running a research group, and administrative responsibilities.



During my final two years on the faculty, I served as chair of the faculty for MIT. That was excellent preparation for serving the cathedral as warden. In addition, my wife, the Rev. Anne Fowler, is an Episcopal Priest. I have learned a great deal about the church from supporting her work as rector of St. John's Church in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts from 1992-2013.



MEET THE NOMINEES



DIOCESAN COUNCIL LAY REPRESENTATIVE, THE SOUTHERN GATEWAY

Julie Littlefield

St. George's, York Harbor

I have been treasurer and senior warden for St. George's and have participated in numerous committees in the past thirteen years. I have been on the Diocesan Council for the past three years and been a member of the Diocesan Finance Committee and the Loring House Committee. The past three years have been enlightening and educational as I have learned of the workings of the diocese and gotten to know the staff.



It is a privilege to serve in this capacity! Finance, social work skills, and pastoral work have informed my work AND I so welcome serving as a Lay Deputy at General Convention in 2027. Collaboration has been paramount to all I do in my service to the Diocese of Maine.



MEET THE NOMINEES



DIOCESAN COUNCIL LAY REPRESENTATIVE, THE SOUTHERN GATEWAY

Karen Perka

St. David's, Kennebunk

Nominated by the Rev. Stephen A. Fales

I write to nominate Karen Perka for the position of lay representative/delegate to Diocesan Council from the Southern Gateway. I had the privilege to work with Karen when she was senior warden at St. David's in Kennebunk. I was filling in for the rector who was on sabbatical.

Karen is extremely competent, highly organized, and endlessly energetic. She works well with people of all ages.

At St. David's she has been involved in every aspect of parish ministry: warden, vestry, lay eucharistic minister, lector, budget box management. In addition, Karen co-chaired a very successful "time and talent" auction last May and she co-led an ongoing grief group with Deacon Gail Chandler. Karen is a graduate of EFM.

For 20-plus years Karen worked for GE Health as a process and education software consultant in New York's Capitol District.



During her time in the Diocese of Albany, Karen served on the Diocesan Council for six years. Also in Albany, she was the event planner for two annual conventions and coordinator for an Alpha convention.

If elected Karen will be an asset to our diocese! The skill and energy she will bring to the group will touch everyone at the table. She is a deeply spiritual person and prayer is her guide to action.

MEET THE NOMINEES



DIOCESAN COUNCIL

LAY REPRESENTATIVE, MIDCOAST

Lucia C. Elder

St. Peter's, Rockland

I have been a member of St. Peter's in Rockland for 55 years where I am a server, lector, lay eucharistic minister, chorister, chair of pastoral care, Diocesan Convention delegate, etc. I have also served on the vestry, as senior warden, on the strategic Planning Committee and Discernment Committees.

For the past three years I have represented the Midcoast Region of the diocese on the Diocesan Council. It has been a privilege and joy to work with this wonderful group of dedicated brothers and sisters in Christ to serve the needs of the diocese.

After prayerful consideration, I feel I still have more to give.



MEET THE NOMINEES



DIOCESAN COUNCIL LAY REPRESENTATIVE, THE HEART OF MAINE

Jeff Mansir

Christ Church, Gardiner

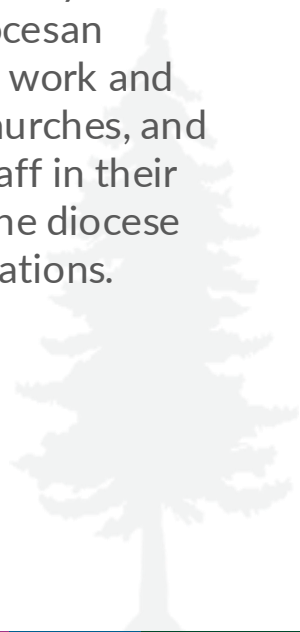
It has been my privilege to serve the diocese and local churches in a variety of roles over the past 20 years. In that time, I have served as a church treasurer and as treasurer at Camp Bishopswood; I also served on the Loring House Task Force, and I currently work with congregations (in this diocese and others) on church audits. For the past 10 years I have practiced as a tax preparer specializing in the specific needs of clergy.

My experience as a Certified Public Accountant and auditor would lend itself well to the work of the Diocesan Council, particularly in its fiduciary responsibility for the diocese between conventions.

I have deep and practical experience with church finance, internal controls, budgeting, and facilitating mission through effective governance.



It would be my pleasure to work with the bishop and the lay and clergy members of Diocesan Council to support the work and ministry of our local churches, and to support diocesan staff in their work for the good of the diocese and individual congregations.



MEET THE NOMINEES



DIOCESAN COUNCIL LAY REPRESENTATIVE, ACADIE

Theodore G. Fletcher

St. Andrew and St. John, Southwest Harbor

I am running for re-election as the lay representative to Diocesan Council for the Acadie Region for a second and final three-year term.

I have learned a lot about ministry and one's faith in these past three years. First, I have really come to treasure the diversity of the Diocese of Maine, especially the diversity in our response to God's call to us. That very much carries over to this region, which runs over a hundred miles from Trinity Castine in the West to St Anne's Calais and Christ Church Eastport in the East. Second, each of the 12 congregations in our region is contending with demographic challenges—both an aging population and diminished interest in "organized religion"—whatever that is. And third, each of these congregations is responding to increased need in our host communities for creative engagement and prayerful presence as social services are cut back and government funding disappears.

One benefit of serving for three years rests in an awareness of what I could do better in this position and identify resources that might be brought to bear on addressing some of these critical challenges.



If that sounds like vague "gobbledygook-gook" written by my campaign "comms team," I do think greater awareness of different programmatic responses across parishes will lead to better resourced parishes.

Beyond that these past three years I have been on both the Diocesan Finance Committee and on the Executive Committee and these assignments have allowed me a window into a wide range of the challenges the diocese faced and celebrations that

diocese enjoyed. I think it has been good preparation for another three years, and I hope you do too.

MEET THE NOMINEES



LAY REPRESENTATIVE, AURORA BOREALIS

Benjamin Barr, Jr.

St. Andrew's, Millinocket

I serve on a number of boards, create events centering around poetry and music, serve as Lly leader and reader at St. Andrew's, writer/reporter/photographer/poet, enjoy God's great outdoors, among many other interests.

These past three years serving as a member of Diocesan Council has been very educational and I certainly hope that I have represented the people of Aurora Borealis.

My assignments have been with the Wilson Center, Earth Justice Committee, and Peacekeepers.

I sincerely hope that I have been able to contribute in positive ways to each assignment and with election for another three-year term, that I can continue to make a difference and to serve the people that I represent. It has certainly been an honor and a privilege thus far in these endeavors.



MEET THE NOMINEES



TRUSTEES OF DIOCESAN FUNDS CLERGY, FOUR-YEAR TERM

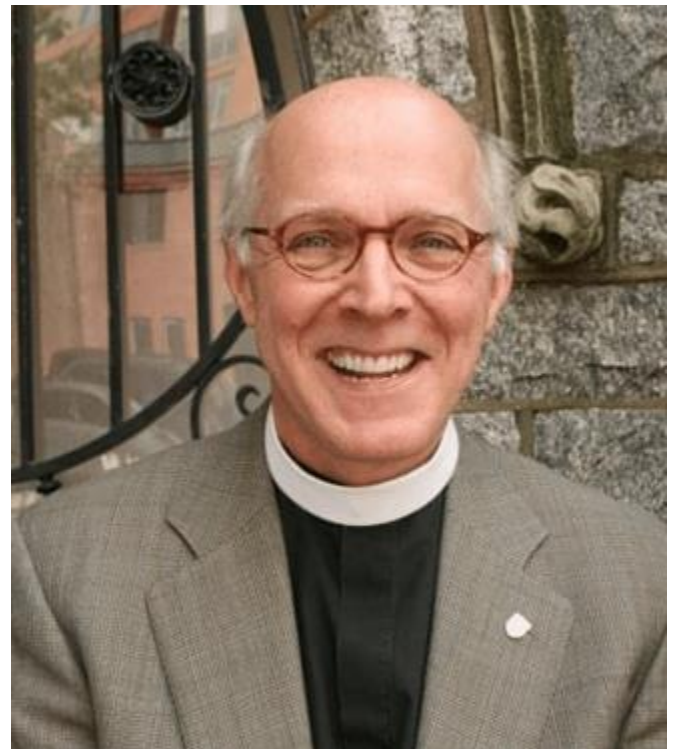
The Rev. Timothy A. Boggs

St. Francis by the Sea, Blue Hill

In 2020, Tim retired as rector of St. Alban's Church in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, after a decade of service. Tim is a vice president of the Trustees of Diocesan Funds. He has served as a trustee for eight years. He and his husband, James Schwartz, live in Brooklin, Maine and France.

Tim was educated at public schools of Lake Bluff and Lake Forest, Illinois and the University of Wisconsin, Georgetown University, and The General Theological Seminary (GTS). Tim served a decade as a trustee of GTS during a period of renewed fiscal management and change. He is the author of the book, "Through the Gates into the City", a history of the seminary, the church and its place in New York City.

Tim's ordained ministry began as Associate Rector of St. Alban's Parish in Washington, DC. He then served as canon provost of the National Cathedral, before returning to parish life in Maine.



Prior to ordination, Tim served for twenty years as an officer and senior vice president of Time Warner, Inc., and as a member of the professional staff of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary.

Tim brings to this position a sensitivity to the responsibility of the trustees to support the growth of the church, to manage a long-term and faithful investment strategy, alert to risk. He strives to listen and collaborate in this ministry.

MEET THE NOMINEES



TRUSTEES OF DIOCESAN FUNDS LAY, FOUR-YEAR TERM

Nancy Whitehouse

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brunswick

I have been a member of St. Paul's in Brunswick since the early 1980's serving in many different roles: vestry, altar guild, lector, chairing Christmas fair, memorial garden, flowers, hospitality, discernment committee and over nine years as treasurer.

As treasurer, I worked very closely with the rector, vestry, finance committee, diocesan leadership and trustees to help steward St. Paul's finances successfully through those years. St Paul's has 13 investment and endowment funds totaling \$1.8M that are currently held by the diocesan trustees. I was responsible for reporting to St. Paul's leadership about those funds, working with the trustees to set up new accounts, and also for borrowing (and repaying) from those funds to help with paying vendors with a large renovation project.

I am retired from the University of Southern Maine as curriculum technology coordinator. This position was half-time administrative and half-time faculty. As an administrator, my time was spent on searches for personnel at all levels with other duties including grant writing and a \$2M capital campaign.



As faculty, I taught computer science and applications. My credentials for this position include an MBA as well as degrees in business, education and an advanced degree in technology.

The attributes that I bring to this position are as follows:

Good listener - hearing all sides of issues before rendering an opinion.

Patience - to look for the best possible solutions and the energy to work as a team to make sure that they are carried out to a successful conclusion.

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TRUSTEES OF DIOCESAN FUNDS LAY, FOUR-YEAR TERM

Nicholas Penfield

Cathedral Church of St. Luke

I am currently president of the Trustees of the Diocesan Funds and vice president at TD Bank, N.A.

I have spent more than 25 years at TD Bank, N.A., serving in various capacities in Risk Management, Operations and Lending.

I have been a board member and Treasurer of the Portland Community Free Clinic and chaired the Endowment Committee at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke's in Portland. I have also served on the vestry, finance committee and as secretary.

I received a B.A. from Denison University in 1992.



MEET THE NOMINEES



TRUSTEES OF DIOCESAN FUNDS LAY, FOUR-YEAR TERM

Nathaniel Henshaw

St. Paul's, Brunswick

Nominated by the Rev. Matthew R. Scott

Nat has been a parishioner of St. Paul's for 35 years, where he currently serving on the finance committee and has served on the vestry. He has spent 28 years as a diocesan trustee.

Nat is president of CEI Ventures, Inc., a for profit subsidiary of Coastal Enterprises, Inc. He founded CVI in 1993 to manage the Coastal Ventures Limited Partnership and to direct the investment of venture capital into progressive Maine companies. He manages five social venture capital funds with combined initial capitalization of over \$65 million and investments in 75 private companies.

Prior to his current position, he served as a loan and investment officer at CEI. He has also worked for other venture capital firms, such as Intersouth Partners L.P.; Kitty Hawk Capital Lt., and Chemical Venture Capital Corporation (now J.P. Morgan Partners).



Nat holds an MBA from Duke University Fuqua School of Business and a B.A in Economics from Duke University. He sits on the boards of several Coastal Ventures, CVLP and CVILLC portfolio companies as well as several voluntary civic and religious boards.



MEET THE NOMINEES



TRUSTEES OF DIOCESAN FUNDS LAY, FOUR-YEAR TERM

Carlos Mello

St. Thomas', Camden

Nominated by the Rev. Paul Briggs

Carlos has served as a diocesan trustee since February 2021.

He has over 40 years of banking, lending, investment, finance, and accounting experience, and currently serves as CEO at the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME). In this role, Carlos provides oversight over the State of Maine's education savings plan (NextGen529), as well as the FAME investment portfolio.

Prior to joining FAME, Carlos served as the president and CEO of Prudential Bank & Trust, FSB, and held other leadership positions at Prudential Financial. He also held senior vice president and managing director positions at People's United Bank.

Carlos is a certified financial planner and has held investment representative, investment advisor, and securities principal licenses.



He is a former certified public accountant and received his B.S. in accounting from Boston College. Carlos currently serves as chair of the CEI Ventures board of directors and served as senior warden at St. Thomas' Camden.



MEET THE NOMINEES



TRUSTEES OF DIOCESAN FUNDS LAY, FOUR-YEAR TERM

Sandra F. McPhee

St. David's, Kennebunk

Nominated by the Rev. Andrew D'Angio White

The work of the Trustees of Diocesan Funds is of particular interest to Ms. McPhee because she understands how important invested and endowed funds are to the lives of our parishes. By careful and strategic management of the funds entrusted to their care, the trustees can help to secure the longevity of the parishes in this diocese and enable those parishes to fulfill their mission into the future.

Ms. McPhee is currently serving as a trustee, having been appointed to fill an unexpired term.

As an attorney primarily working in the areas of estate planning, probate, and not-for-profit corporations, she has helped her clients determine how best to develop their financial resources to benefit their families. A significant part of her professional work has been assisting not-for-profits to acquire the necessary financial resources to serve their charitable purposes.

Ms. McPhee has held a variety of leadership roles within The Episcopal Church. She is currently a trustee of the Church Pension Fund.



She has been a member of the Executive Council, the Standing Commission on World Mission, 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 eight General Conventions. In addition, she has done significant work with church-related organizations in Liberia and Japan.

Ms. McPhee holds an A.B. degree from Smith College and a J.D. from the Boston University School of