



# The 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Council

February 10, 2024

## Nominees for Election

(as of January 29, 2024)

### **Standing Committee**

*The Standing Committee is composed of three members of the clergy and three members of the laity. It acts as a Council of Advice to the Bishop and assumes many Episcopal duties for the diocese if there is a vacancy in the Bishop's Office, as outlined in the Diocesan Constitution Article XV, Diocesan Canon V and in the Canons of The Episcopal Church.*

### **Clergy Nominees, one to be elected.**

The Rev. Mary Margaret Winn, St. John's, Chester



Greetings! I am a full-time Priest-in-Charge, a full-time clergy spouse, and a full-time parent to a precocious toddler, giving me full understanding of the stresses and joys of ministry and parenthood; both of which should deeply matter to our parishes, our diocese, and the broader church. I have a strange love for the church constitution and canons; much like our liturgy, I believe they are in place to help us reach our full potential as the body of Christ, rather than hinder our growth and creativity.

The Episcopal Church is part of me. From Sunday School, acolyting, and youth council as a child; to sacristan and Church Nerd during undergrad at Sewanee; to parish and diocesan youth ministry in Memphis; to Virginia Theological Seminary, NoVa, and now SoVa, I have been called to devote my life to Jesus and the church that has so profoundly shaped it.

This would be my first time serving in a diocesan-elected position since ordination in 2020. My lifelong experience in The Episcopal Church, staying informed on broader church polity, and my commitment to serving and loving the body of Christ forward make me more than qualified and ready for this position. I would love to opportunity to add my voice to the great cloud of witnesses in Southern Virginia.

## **Lay Nominees, one to be elected.**

Deborah Austin, St. Mark's, Suffolk



I am running for Standing Committee because I feel that I have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to be an effective member of the body and, more importantly, because I love our Diocese and our Church and want to be of use to both. I am member of St. Mark's Church, Suffolk. I feel called to serve the larger Church as I have my local parish. I've served as Lay Eucharistic Minister, prayer leader, vestry member (am currently serving as senior warden), delegate to Council (past three years), president of the St. Mark's Episcopal Church Women (ECW), a member of the Daughters of the King, and sing in the choir. I am a life member of the Union of Black Episcopalians and currently serve as the President of the James Solomon Russell Chapter. I am an active life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Links, Inc. I am a retired Compliance Specialist of the Special Education Department from the Suffolk Public Schools.

## **Disciplinary Board**

*The Disciplinary Board is composed of nine members elected for three-year terms, five members of the clergy and four lay persons. The Board, defined in Canon XXII of Diocesan Canons, serves as the trial body for any member of the clergy charged under Title IV of the Canons of The Episcopal Church.*

## **Clergy Nominees, one to be elected.**

The Rev. Mark Riley, St. John's, Hampton



As a lifelong Episcopalian, I feel doubly blessed to have been able to have received my formative education in an Episcopal school in Baltimore, MD. After graduation, I completed my undergraduate degree at Western Maryland College (now McDaniel) and began a career in sales, with territories that took me to almost half of the United States. In concert with my spiritual growth in faith, I was expected to lead a life of mutual respect, responsibility, treasuring integrity, and living with honor as I developed into the deeply authentic, compassionate, honest and fair individual God calls each of us to be. These values were instilled at a young age, and along with service and leadership, the responsibility of loving others included maintaining a level of honor and accountability to self and to each other.

Serving in similar roles in my past has engendered the values of accountability and responsibility, while balancing the burden of leadership and loving in fairness. I have served as St. John's Associate Rector for eight years, a past member of both the Executive Board and the Disciplinary Board and now seek to renew my service at the diocesan level. To be able to serve the Diocese of Southern Virginia would be a distinct honor. Guided by Holy Scripture, prayer, and by employing my past leadership experience in both secular and sacred roles, I feel called to faithfully serve this diocese again.

### **Lay Nominees, *two to be elected.***

Rusty Bishop, St. Timothy's, Clarksville



I have been a member of the Episcopal church since 1994, initially in the Diocese of Washington (EDOW) and then the Diocese of Southern Virginia (DioSoVa) when I transferred membership to St. Timothy's, Clarksville, in 2015. While a member of the EDOW, I served 12 years on parish Vestry, numerous years as parish delegate to Diocesan Convention, 6 years on Standing Committee (2005-2011), and 3 years on the Disciplinary Board (2011-2014). I attended the 2009 General Convention as an Alternate Lay Deputy from EDOW. Since transferring membership to St. Timothy's and DioSoVA, I have served as the parish delegate to Council and on the Vestry. I have also served a term on the Executive Board as the lay representative for Convocation 9, and on the Disciplinary Committee. I served on the DioSoVa Standing Committee from 2017 to 2023. I currently serve on the Commission on Ministry and as a lay deputy for the Diocese to Province III. I believe my experience speaks to my qualifications.

Carolyn Kelly, St. James', Portsmouth



As a former Licensing Inspector of thirty years with the Virginia Department of Social Services, it was my duty to ensure compliance with state licensing regulations. As an experienced investigator, I issued child day center and family day home licenses, investigated complaints and allegations of illegal operators. Completed appropriate case action, including legal action, revocations, and imposing of civil penalties when necessary. This experience demonstrates my ability to serve on the Disciplinary Board. I previously served on the Disciplinary Board from 2020 through 2023 and served on the Bishop Search Committee of Southern Virginia for the appointment of Bishop Susan Haynes from 2018-2020. As a member of St. James' Episcopal Church, Portsmouth, I am currently a Lay Minister and Lay Reader and served two terms on the vestry.

## **General Convention – Alternate Deputies**

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*Our Diocese has four clergy and four lay deputies, and four clergy and four lay alternate deputies. Deputies were elected at the 131st Annual Council. Deputies and the 1st Alternate Deputies will attend the 81st General Convention, June 23–28, 2024, in Louisville, KY. Deputies and Alternate Deputies are not elected to represent the views of their diocese or constituency, but should reflect the will of the whole Church, act for the whole Church, and speak to the whole Church.*

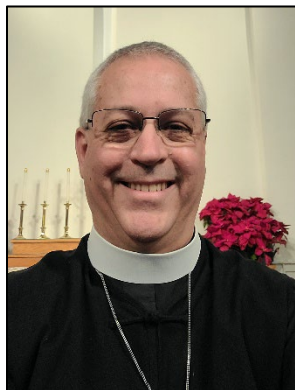
### **Clergy Nominees, four to be elected.**

The Rev. Grant Stokes, Trinity, Portsmouth



After graduating seminary, I was called to be the Assistant Rector at Christ and St Luke's where I was also ordained to the priesthood on Holy Cross Day, 2013. During my five-year tenure at CSL I began to fall in love with this area and the people of this diocese. I am now the Rector at Trinity, Portsmouth. I served on the Nominating Committee for the election of the 11th Bishop of Southern Virginia and was excited by the hopefulness and energy with which the people of this diocese undertook the election and consecration of The Right Reverend Susan B. Haynes. I served as diocesan delegate to Provincial Synod from 2019–2022, serve as the chair of the liturgical committee, and have served on the Standing Committee since 2022, currently serving as president.

The Rev. Marc Vance, St. Andrew's, Newport News

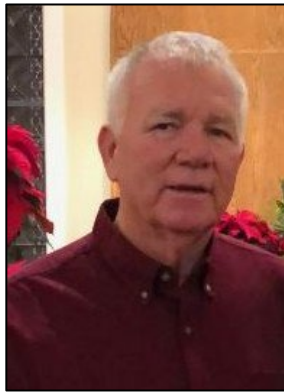


Serving 26 years in parish ministry in four dioceses and different sizes and types of churches has provided me with a relative breadth of experience and perspective in the various ministries and functions of the Church. A general theme that has defined my ministry over the decades is the foundation of love and the proclamation of good news (no one takes being made afraid or dehumanized as good news...). In those years, I have always been active beyond the parish because of my appreciation for being part of something larger than ourselves: a diocese, a national church, a global communion, a worldwide faith tradition. Previously, among a number of other ministries, I served on a Commission on Ministry, a camp board and as camp chaplain, and served as a volunteer at General Convention in Indianapolis in 2012. Currently, I serve on the Repairers of the Breach Committee, having been part of the subgroup that developed the racial healing training for the diocese, as well as being a facilitator for that training. Likewise, I am a facilitator for Safe Church training. I also serve on the Creation Care Team, participate fully in the Peninsula Ministry Partnership, have been deeply involved in the ongoing development of the upcoming diocesan Confirmation

process, and I am in my third year as the diocesan representative to the Province III Synod. I am pleased to offer my experience and perspective, and to continue to serve the diocese and Church at the national level, as one of your General Convention alternate deputies.

**Lay Nominees, *four to be elected.***

Rusty Bishop, St. Timothy's, Clarksville



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## **Current & Outgoing Members**

### **Standing Committee**

The Rev. Dale Custer, *St. Luke's, Powhatan*

Ms. Rose Parker, *St. Augustine's, Newport News*

The Rev. Grant Stokes, *Trinity, Portsmouth*

Ms. Kathy Wootton, *St. Luke's, Blackstone*

The Very Rev. Dr. Susan Grimm, *St. Timothy's, Clarksville & Trinity, South Boston*

Ms. Michele McCoy, *Grace, Norfolk*

**Outgoing members:** The Rev. Dale Custer, Ms. Rose Parker

### **Disciplinary Board 2023-2024**

The Rev. Mark Riley, *St. John's, Hampton*

Mr. John Rector, *St. Paul's, Suffolk*

Mr. Tom McSweeney, *St. Martin's, Williamsburg*

The Rev. Donna Hines, *Glebe, Suffolk*

The Rev. Grace Rigby, *Redeemer, Midlothian*

Mr. Albert Banwell, *St. Mark's, Hampton*

The Rev. Liam Muller, *Good Shepherd, McKenney & St. Luke's, Blackstone*

The Rev. Dana VanVliet-Pullin, *St. Mark's, Hampton*

Ms. Vania Blaiklock, *Bruton Parish, Williamsburg*

**Outgoing members:** The Rev. Mark Riley, Mr. John Rector, Mr. Tom McSweeney

### **Deputies to the 81st General Convention (2024)**

The Rev. Charlie Bauer, *Bruton Parish, Williamsburg* (head of deputation)

The Very Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, *Hickory Neck, Toano*

The Ven. Jan Brown, *Bruton Parish, Williamsburg*

The Rev. Ashley Urquidi, *All Saints', Virginia Beach*

Ms. Madeline Hanlon, *Hickory Neck, Toano*

Ms. Diana Moreland, *Emmanuel, Virginia Beach*

Ms. Pam Pringle, *St. John's, Hampton*

Ms. Helen Sharpe-Williams, *Christ & St. Luke's, Norfolk*