

125th Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia

Nominees for Election FINAL VERSION, Feb. 6

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 National Church.

Lay Nominees, one to be elected.

Lynn Farlin, Ascension, Norfolk



I'm currently employed at Church of the Ascension in Norfolk, as the Director of Christian Formation. My family has called Ascension home since 2001 and I engaged in altar guild, vestry, and the day school committee before joining the staff in 2007. Prior to working at Ascension, I spent 24 years in student affairs at the university level where I worked primarily in judicial affairs and student affairs administration. I currently serve the Diocese of Southern Virginia as a Safe Church Trainer, co-chair of the Christian Education Network (CE-Net), and as a lay member of the Commission on Ministry. In addition, I served on the Disciplinary Committee. I enjoy serving on diocesan committees and believe my skill set might be of use to the Standing Committee.

Margaret Seitz, Emmanuel, Hampton



I have been a member of Emmanuel, Hampton since 1985 when we moved to Hampton, VA. I am a retired Army Officer and a retired Middle School Science Teacher. I have served on the Vestry at Emmanuel and am currently the Register to the Vestry. I am also on the Diocesan Commission on the Status of Parishes and Missions. I have served as a Delegate to Council several times. I have served as a Sunday School teacher and am also a member of Emmanuel's choir. Also I serve in several community organizations. Through my various activities, experiences in and out of the church, and my past employment I feel this background would be an asset to the Standing Committee.

Clergy Nominees, one to be elected.

The Very Rev. Susan Grimm, St. Timothy's, Clarksville and Trinity, South Boston



After many years serving the Diocese as a lay person, I now serve as the Rector of Trinity in South Boston and St. Timothy's in Clarksville. I currently or have in the past served Cursillo, the Executive Board, the Ecclesiastical Court, the Standing Committee, on search committees and as a Convocation Dean. I think that one of the gifts of the Episcopal Church is our intentional connectedness, and serving on the Standing Committee is a way to encourage our relationships and accountability. My training as an attorney and accountant provides a good foundation for serving on the Standing Committee.

The Rev. Frederick Walker, St. James, Portsmouth and St. Mark's, Suffolk



I am the Rector of St. Mark's, Suffolk and Priest-in-Charge of St. James, Portsmouth. I am a clergy deputy to Province III. Serving two congregations on Sunday has been challenging and graceful. I am delighted to serve on the Standing Committee if you all lend me your vote.

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.

Lay Nominees, one to be elected.

Carolyn Kelly, St. James, Portsmouth



As a former licensing inspector with thirty years of experience, my leadership ability is broadly based and my accomplishments reflect a proven ability to perform in diverse and varied functions. In this regulatory position, I worked directly with federal, state, and local offices in ensuring compliance with Virginia State regulations. In addition, I conducted investigative and financial background checks of applicants and made recommendations for licensure. Currently, I serve as a vestry member of St. James, Portsmouth. With my commitment to serve on the board, I am very willing to commit my time and effort for the good of the Episcopal Church. I welcome the opportunity to serve on the Disciplinary Board.

John Rector, St. Paul's, Suffolk



I am a 57 year old married male father of two children, one daughter and one son. I have been a member of the Episcopal Church since I got married in 1985. I have served, and continue to serve my parish in a number of capacities. I served four terms on the Vestry including 3 times as Junior Warden and three times as Senior Warden. I served as director of our parish E.Y.C. and chaired several stewardship campaigns. During two of my terms as Senior Warden I helped guide the Parish through the transition of clergy. I currently serve on our endowment committee and as President of St. Paul's Trustees, Inc. I also serve as a Eucharistic Minister authorized to take communion to our shut-in parishioners. In addition I have served as a delegate to council. I believe my experiences over many years of parish leadership makes me sensitive to the needs of both the clergy and the parish when it comes to dealing with these delicate issues. I believe myself to an empathetic person that can be trusted to keep confidential information within the appropriate circles. I understand that if disciplinary issues are not dealt with effectively it can have a lasting, detrimental effect on both the clergy and the parish.

Clergy Nominees, two to be elected.

The Very Rev. Dr. Ronald E. Ramsey, St. Cyprian's, Hampton



As Rector of St. Cyprian's Church, Hampton, I have served as Dean of Convocation Five beginning February 2016. I hold a Master of Divinity degree from Morehouse School of Religion, a Master of Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School, a Doctor of Ministry from Trinity Lutheran Seminary and a Juris Doctor from the Massachusetts School of Law. I see the opportunity to serve on the Disciplinary Board as a chance to bring healing and to offer renewed hope for the people of our Diocese.

The Rev. Stewart Tabb, Ascension, Norfolk



As a young person I was obsessed with matters of epistemology. I wanted to know what is true. I learned to ask questions and listen. As I grew as a Christian, I wanted to know how to be loving and Christ-like; I learned about prayer and discernment. In seeking a position on the disciplinary board, I hope to bring both my passion for the truth and my passion for Christ to the service of the church as we engage in a Christ's mission of reconciliation and healing.

After attending the Church Divinity School of the Pacific I was ordained in 1999 and served in the Diocese of Nevada. I have served in the Diocese of Virginia, where I was on the Diocesan Stewardship Committee; the Diocese of Atlanta, where I served on the Commission for Christian Formation and as chaplain for diocesan EYC retreats; and the Diocese of North Carolina before coming to this diocese as rector of Ascension in 2015.

Provincial Synod

Our Diocese has three deputies to Provincial Synod (two lay persons and one cleric) who serve three-year terms. They are responsible to the Bishop and the Executive Board and report to the Board following Synod meetings. One of these deputies is also appointed by the bishop to serve a three year term on the Provincial Council.

Lay Nominees, one to be elected.

Gay Forloine, Hickory Neck, Toano



At Hickory Neck Church, Toano, served on the Vestry, Pastoral Care, Chalice Bearer, Lector, LEV and Diocesan Council Representative. As a Transitional Search Consultant for multiple churches in the Diocese and member of the Commission on Ministry, I've seen the many opportunities and challenges facing our parish communities. Served as Secretary on the Diocesan Standing Committee and encouraged continued collaboration between the clergy and laity to fulfill our mission of sharing the love of Christ with each other and the world outside our doors.

General Convention

Our Diocese has four lay and four clergy deputies, and four lay and four clergy alternate deputies. Deputies will attend the 79th General Convention, July 5-13 in Austin, TX. 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.

Lay Nominees, eight to be elected.

Isabel Burch, Bruton Parish, Williamsburg



I am a lifelong Episcopalian and have been active in the Episcopal Church wherever I have resided. For the past 14 years that has been in Williamsburg at Bruton Parish Church. If elected as a delegate to General Convention, I would bring skills and experience gained in a variety of roles at Bruton Parish, among them chair of the Bruton Parish Rector Search Committee, chair of the 300th Anniversary Committee, member of the Mission and Outreach Committees, member of the Capital Campaign Committee and vestry officer. I also serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. The second place of meaningful involvement in my life is Virginia

Theological Seminary, where I was formerly employed. I have served on its Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans Award Committee. For the Diocese of Southern Virginia, I was privileged to serve on the Church Planting Task Force as well as the Standing Committee. Now I would again like to offer my best efforts and support to the Diocese as well as the Episcopal Church outside of our diocese by contributing to the important work which comes with serving as a delegate to General Convention in 2018.

Toni Hogg, St. John's, Hampton



I was privileged to serve Southern Virginia as a General Convention Deputy in 2006, 2009 & 2015. As a Deputy in 2015 I was selected to serve on the Approval Committee of the election of the Presiding Bishop. Diocesan Youth Delegation Leader at General Conventions '94, '97, '00, and '03. Attended General Convention 2012 as a volunteer in the Publication Department and the House of Deputies. During 2012 I was nominated and ran for Executive Council of the Episcopal Church at the 2012 GC. Additional opportunities afforded me include: Diocese of Southern Virginia Standing Committee '02-'05; Executive Board '07-'11 (2 years vice-chair); Bishop's Consecration Committee; Jamestown 400th Celebration Committee. Personal experience includes: Co-hosted Episcopal church groups to Israel (3x), Jordan, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Spain, England, Scotland, Russia, China. I believe that my experience, acquired insights and skills are well-suited to the continuing challenges of General Convention and its committees' work. I have been blessed to witness and learn from so many others in The Church, and this has left me well-versed in discernment, listening and dialogue skills as part of an inclusive perspective of The Episcopal Church.

Cara Kinsey, Emmanuel, Chatham



Baptized and Confirmed in the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia, I've found a home in the Episcopal Church from New York to Germany, and now Virginia. I have enjoyed serving the Church in many capacities, from acolyting when I was young to interning with a church-sponsored community youth center in college. I have taught Sunday school, headed a youth group, served as a Eucharistic Minister, organized the lector rota, and more. Since coming to the diocese, I have been active in my parish's choir, continued serving at the altar and lectern, served as a member of our recent search committee, and been an alternate and delegate to Council. I recently attended Cursillo. I am employed as a school librarian at a school in the Episcopal tradition. I am an active participant in national committees in the American Library Association, having held several leadership roles there. I have a passion for working with youth and being an active part in the positive ministry of the Episcopal Church. Just as I believe it is important to represent our corner of the diocese at Diocesan Council, I would be honored to represent the Diocese of Southern Virginia at General Convention so that together, we can support the work of the Church as a whole.

Alice Webley, All Saints, Virginia Beach



I am a child of God and thus use the gifts given to me to serve my parish; All Saints' Virginia Beach as Senior Warden, Delegate to Diocesan Council, member of the Altar Guild and Justice Seekers (a parish group discussing racial reconciliation, mass incarceration, positive and negative stereotyping and more), Life member of The Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE). In the Diocese of Southern Virginia, I am a Trustee of the Diocese, member of The Commission on Ministry, and Repairers of the Breach. I have worked on the Bishop Search Committee. I was honored to be elected in 2014 serving as a Deputy to General Convention. Currently on the national level I serve as a member of The Episcopal Women's History Project. I have been one of the Episcopal representatives to the National Council of Churches in Christ, The National Standing Commission of Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations and National Secretary and National Registrar for UBE. In my prior diocese of Western Michigan, I was the First Alternate Deputy to the 2000 & 2003 General Convention, Diocesan Dispatch of Business, Vice President and Secretary of the Standing Committee, as well as many positions in my home parish of St. Philip's Grand Rapids. As a certified registered nurse, I am the Clinical Manager of an

Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit at a Level One Trauma Center. My work consists of managing, organizing and working collaboratively with other disciplines in providing care and functional independence to our patients struck by catastrophic illness and or disease. Working in this diverse environment lends to interacting and working in the diversity of the church. In feeling the continued call on my life to serve the church in the Lay order, I am seeking election for Lay Deputy to General Convention 2018. As a 2015 deputy, I was assigned Dispatch of Business where the daily convention calendar is set. Days are long and can be arduous, but participating in the work of “the” church is amazing, exciting and a gift which I strive to continue to serve in.

Samuel Webster, Ascension, Norfolk



Raised an Episcopalian, I have developed over the years a love of and growing appreciation for the larger Church. My parish involvement – warden, vestry, various committees (what would our Church be without committees!) – and my Diocesan involvement – Council delegate, Executive Board, Committee on Constitution and Canons, Chancellor – have caused me increasingly to seek God’s will for the Church. I served as a Deputy at the 2015 General Convention and experienced first-hand the power of God’s love through Jesus Christ for all mankind – and see how the Episcopal Church may reflect that love. I continue to feel called to engage in this dialogue in the larger Body of Christ – the General Convention.

Matthew White, St. David’s, Chesterfield



Matthew White currently serves as Junior Warden and Stewardship Liaison on the Vestry of St. David’s in Chesterfield. He is a second-year student in the M.Div. program at Union Presbyterian Seminary, and plans to pursue a career in healthcare chaplaincy after graduating, while continuing to discern a possible call to ordained ministry. Matthew has also served as a lay delegate to Annual council (2016) and twice as a lay alternate to Annual Council (2015 and 2017), and currently serves as a lay representative on the Disciplinary Board for the Diocese. At Union, Matthew is a student-elected representative on the Richmond Student Government Assembly, serves by presidential appointment as the student representative to the faculty Student Awards and Assessment Committee, and was recognized in 2016 with the Treichler Prize for Outstanding Scholarship in Church History. Matthew is lives with his wife Brittney, who is also an active member of St. David’s, and his stepchildren Khalil (9) and Darriell (15). Matthew hopes to serve as an alternate delegate to General Convention because he is passionate about the future of the church, particularly the importance of reaching out to younger families.

Clergy Nominees, *eight to be elected.*

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



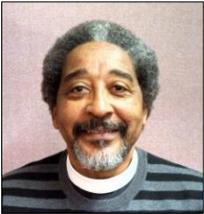
The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly is rector of Hickory Neck, Toano, just outside of Williamsburg. She currently serves on the College Ministries Commission. Prior to coming to the Diocese of Southern Virginia, she served on the Diocesan Commission on Ministry on Long Island, the Episcopal Ministries of Long Island Board of Directors, and was Rector of St. Margaret’s in Plainview, NY. While there, she also served President of the local interfaith clergy group. Before coming to Long Island, Jennifer served on Diocesan Council in Delaware. Jennifer has an M.Div. from Virginia Theological Seminary, and a Bachelors from Duke University. Before ordination, Jennifer worked in the non-profit sector with a Food Bank and an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity. As someone newer to the Diocese, she brings a fresh set of eyes to the experiences in the wider Church and our local Church. As a delegate to General Convention, she will offer a voice from the next generation of Church leadership.

The Very Rev. Dale Custer, St. John's, Chester



A priest for sixteen years, it has been my joy to be with the people of St. John's Chester since August 2004. Currently, I participate in Repairers of the Breach, serve as Chair of the Commission on Ministry and President of the Disciplinary Board. I was privileged to attend the 2015 General Convention as a Deputy from Southern Virginia. Experiencing the Larger Church was both educational and formative. I would be most honored to serve Southern Virginia as a Deputy in 2018.

The Rev. Willis R. Foster, Sr., St. Stephen's, Petersburg



I am the Rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Petersburg, Virginia and have been since my ordination in 2010. In 2014 I was selected to be one of the Clergy Deputies to General Convention. I would like to continue the work I started in 2015. If selected I will again represent and reflect the will of the whole Church, act for the whole Church, and speak to the whole as your Clergy Deputy. Also, I serve in the following capacities: Member of the Repairers of the Breach Commission; Member of The Mission Network. Additionally, I have completed the Center for Congregational Health, Interim Ministry 1: The Work of the

Interim Minister, completed the course work for Interim Ministry 2: The Work of the Congregation, and am in process of completing the field work required for the completion of the Interim Ministry 2 course. The Diocese of Southern Virginia is environmentally, culturally, economically, and racially diverse. Consequently, our representation at provincial and nation arenas should reflect this diversity.

The Rev. J. Derek Harbin, St. John's, Portsmouth



The Rev. Derek Harbin moved to Portsmouth in January of 2011 and serves as the 16th rector of St. John's Church. Married for 27 years, he and his wife (Clifford) have three children: Miles (24), Mitchell (21), and Clare (16). Derek earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Davidson College, a Master of Divinity degree, cum laude, from Nashotah House Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Seabury-Western

Theological Seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1988. In addition to his past work as a seminary adjunct faculty member in Seabury Institute's doctoral program in congregational development, he has provided productive and fruitful leadership to congregations of every ministry size across five dioceses as well as co-founded and ministered in a church plant through two size transitions. He led the consecration team for the 5th Bishop of Western north Carolina and served on the committee to develop a diocesan catechumenal process for that diocese, led a diocesan task force on the Diaconate and served on Executive Board, as the Cursillo Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, a General Convention Deputy Alternate, and a General Convention Diocesan Host Team member (all in Northern Indiana). He presently serves as chair of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and as a newly elected member of the Executive Board. He would be honored to use his ministry experience to represent the diocese at the next General Convention.

The Rev. Julia Messer, Eastern Shore Chapel, Virginia Beach

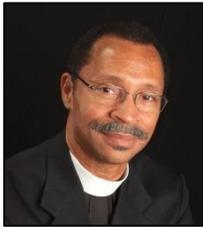


As a cradle Episcopalian I grew up in the church. In 2006, I began my discernment process in Southern Virginia and was sponsored by Epiphany, Danville. Throughout my discernment, I interned at parishes in our diocese, and served my Ordination Exploration Process at Hickory Neck Episcopal, Toano. I graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 2010, where I served as a class officer all three years and served on several committees, including student liaison to the VTS Board of Trustees for the Finance Committee and Investment Committee.

Upon graduation, I was called to Emmanuel, Virginia Beach where I served as the Assistant, then Associate, then Priest-in-Charge. In March 2015, I took the call to be the Associate Rector at Eastern Shore Chapel, Virginia Beach. Currently, I serve on the Executive Board and several other Diocesan committees, such

as the Ridley Scholarship Committee. Outside of the church I am also involved in several community groups in the Virginia Beach-Norfolk area. In 2009, I attended the 75th General Convention in Anaheim, California, where I interned for the PBS show, "Religion and Ethics". There I met with and interviewed people who held varying perspectives and gained an appreciation for the importance of the General Convention. I am very passionate about the future of The Episcopal Church and would be honored to represent the Diocese of Southern Virginia at our 79th General Convention.

The Very Rev. Dr. Ronald E. Ramsey, St. Cyprian's, Hampton



I have served as Associate Rector, Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston, MA; Associate for Pastoral Care, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Cambridge, MA; Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Arlington, MA; and currently as Rector of St. Cyprian's Church, Hampton and Dean of Convocation Five of the Diocese of Southern Virginia. I am also the author of five books. My commitment to both church and community can be seen in my service on various boards and committees, namely, the Episcopal City Mission Executive Committee; The Episcopal City Mission Public Policy Advisory Committee; the Board of Trustees of the Pelham Fund for Economic Justice; the Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of Massachusetts; the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Massachusetts; the Board of Directors of Morehouse School of Religion; the Massachusetts Diocesan Committee for Clergy Background Checks; the Massachusetts Diocesan Taskforce for Deployment; President of the Morehouse School of Religion Alumni Association; and as a Group Facilitator for the Diocese of Massachusetts Fresh Start Clergy Group. My current organizational affiliations include the Union of Black Episcopalians and the Harvard Club of Virginia. I am committed to the mission of the National Episcopal Church and the growth of the Anglican Communion throughout the world. I see General Convention as a way to further the dream of God for all humanity. As a Delegate to General Convention, I will promote the shared values of the Episcopal Church, actively listen to those with opposing views, and articulate my hopes for the church as an ambassador for the Diocese of Southern Virginia.

The Rev. Cameron Randle, St. James, Accomac & St. George's, Pungoteague



As rector of The Churches of St. George's Parish, the Rev. Cameron Randle serves St. James in Accomac and St. George in Pungoteague, on Virginia's Eastern Shore. Cameron has completed two consecutive terms on the Executive Board of the Diocese of Southern Virginia. He is a committed member of Repairers of the Breach, a diocesan group devoted to racial reconciliation; a member of the Addictions & Recovery Commission and a member of the Mission Network and Church Planting Task Force. A longtime advocate of diversity and multicultural ministries, Cameron would like the opportunity to engage and experience the broader church within the context of General Convention, particularly during this season in our national life. Cameron holds a B.A. in history and English literature from Oral Roberts University; a Diploma in Anglican Studies from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale; a Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School, a Juris Doctorate from the University of Tulsa College of Law and a Certificate in International Human Rights Law & Practice from The University of London (The London School of Economics).

The Rev. Samantha Vincent-Alexander, St. John's, Hampton



I never thought I would be someone to run for General Convention more than twice. It has been an honor to serve The Diocese of Southern Virginia as a deputy at the last two conventions. I am committed to the diocese and the church where I serve (St. John's Hampton). Yet I also feel a calling to run for General Convention again this year. I passionately believe that we will be able to do more as the church and be better disciples of Jesus Christ if our national church structure is simplified. I tried to pass a resolution at the last convention and it failed. I have learned from that experience and through my conversations with people who did affect change. I am confident that this time, I might be able to help our deputation affect real change. With your permission, I would like to have that opportunity again. I want General

Convention to be shorter, cheaper and accessible to more people. In the ten years I have been in the Diocese of Southern Virginia I have served on the Commission on Ministry, Executive Board and the young adult commission. It is always a privilege to represent the people of this diocese.

The Rev. Frederick Walker, St. James, Portsmouth and St. Mark's, Suffolk



I am the Rector of St. Mark's, Suffolk and Priest-in-Charge of St. James, Portsmouth. I am a clergy deputy to Province III. I look forward to your vote to represent our diocese as clergy deputy to General Convention 2018.

The Rev. Mark Wilkinson, St. Aidan's, Virginia Beach



I served as an alternate deputy to the previous General Convention in Salt Lake City in 2015. This was my first General Convention, however while attending that convention I had the opportunity to serve as the Legislative Aide for the Marriage Committee. In that role I had a unique opportunity to learn about and assist in the process of writing legislation. I was able to work with both Bishops and Deputies since this was a joint commission. I updated our delegation about what was happening with that committee. I believe my work with this commission qualifies me to serve as a Deputy to General Convention. I have served as rector of St. Aidan's for over 9 years. During that time I have served two terms on Executive Board so have a good understanding of the diocese. During that time on Executive Board I chaired the last Strategic Planning effort. I also was appointed by Bishop Buchanan to a commission that looked at finances during the interim period.