

2013 Diocesan Nominees

Updated 10/8/2013

Diocesan Council (2 Year Term) Elected by Convention: Elect 3 Clergy-at-Large



Rev. Paul Frolick
St. George's Hilton

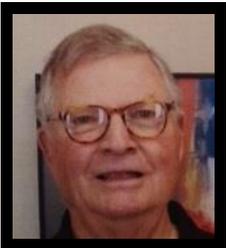
I am excited for the opportunity to serve the diocese. The issues facing Diocesan Council are important to the life of our church, and I hope to offer my perspective as a newly ordained priest in a semi-rural parish, a longtime lay staff person in various suburban and urban churches in Michigan, Washington, DC, and Rochester, a former public policy advocate for a national healthcare non-profit, and a lifelong Episcopalian.

Trustees (3 Year Term) Elected by Convention: Elect 3 Clergy or Lay



Rev. Peter Harter
St. Paul's Rochester

I am running for a second term on the Board of Trustees. I have served on the audit and the Responsible Investment Sub-committees. I believe that my many years of experience as a Trusts and Estates attorney uniquely qualifies me to understand the fiduciary issues brought before the Trustees. I am committed to the responsible management of our diocesan endowment and the funds for our parishes and to transparency in our governance and decision making.



Jack Biemiller
St. Paul's Rochester

My career has been in Finance, both Commercial Banking and Investment Management. My outside Board activities have included Allendale-Columbia School, GEVA Theater, St. Paul's Church and Rochester General Hospital including serving as Board Chair. I presently serve on the Board of Lifetime Care, Rochester Independent Physicians Associates and Greater Rochester Assurance Company. I am presently employed by Whitney and company as a Senior Vice-President.



Douglass Lyon
St. Thomas Rochester

I have attended St. Thomas' Episcopal Church for 16 years. I have served on the parish's rector search committee (2010), as Finance Commission Chair (8 years), and on the Vestry (3 years). I have also served on several finance-related sub-committees. I bring knowledge of the inner workings of a Diocesan parish. I am the President of Lyon Capital Management LLC, a local investment management firm founded in 1994. I hold a Masters in Business Administration.

Standing Committee (4 Year Term) Elected by Convention: Elect 1 Clergy and 1 Lay



Christopher Moore
St. Paul's Rochester

I served on St. Paul's Vestry, then as Treasurer and Warden. I have served on two separate occasions as the parish's representative to Diocesan Convention. Last, I am presently the President of the Board of Water for South Sudan, an organization that provides fresh drinking water to the people of South Sudan. Taken together these experiences have given me substantial insight on the workings of large and entrepreneurial organizations.



Rev. Mary Mrocza, PhD
St. Peter's Dansville & Trinity Canaseraga

I am a seasoned priest who has ministered in parishes (ASA 5-600; interim, Black, Latino; inner city, suburban, town), hospitals, schools, ecumenical settings, and colleges. I received graduate training in Nonprofit Leadership and used these skills in board development, fiscal accountability, collaboration, job analysis, and strategic planning. Resource stewardship also requires an ability to discern gifts; I have supervised/mentored seminarians and a deacon. My Benedictine spirituality seeks a balance of work, play and prayer.

Commission on Ministry (3) Year term Elected by Convention Elect (1) Clergy



Rev. Suzanne Johnston
Church of the Epiphany Gates/Ephphatha

Ordained May, 2008. Long time advocate for the Deaf community and serves as Deacon for the Deaf Ministry, has worked in Human Services for over 25 years. Assistant Professor and Director of their Brain Injury Clinic at Nazareth College. Serves on the Professional Advisory Committee of the Hearing Loss Association of America/Rochester. Committed to ministry with the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, in providing access to and understanding of the Gospel for the handicapped and marginalized.

Commission on Ministry (3) Year term Elected by Convention: Elect (1) Lay



Nancy S. Newton
St. Thomas' Rochester

Having served one term, I would like to serve another to see the fruits of COM's work develop. For three years, COM has functioned in a new way, using sub-committees to do much of its work. Now concerned with the ministries of both ordained, deacons and priests, and of lay church members, a new Diocesan Manual has been developed for a changing time in the life of the church.



Susan Dow
St. Paul's Rochester

In my first term, I have served on Commission for Ministry as Secretary and have overseen the application process for Education Grant requests. A second term would allow me to continue this calling and I would do my best to humbly and prayerfully serve the Diocese for three more years, with God's help.



Dr. Patricia Wheelhouse
St. Luke's and St. Simon Cyrene

I serve on the Anti-Racism Committee, and am an alternate convention delegate for Two Saints. As a lay associate of the Community of the Holy Spirit, I maintain a contemplative prayer practice while engaging in daily life. I am a certified graduate of the Wings Spiritual Direction Program, and am currently in private practice with individuals. As a retired school administrator, I have many years of experience in discerning an individual's

Disciplinary Board: Elect (1) Clergy and (1) Lay

No nominees

Deputies to the 78th General Convention 2015 Elect (4) Clergy



Very Rev. J. Brad Benson
St. Thomas Bath

I have attended the last four conventions out of a need to connect with the larger church as a parish priest. I was a clergy deputy at the last convention. What I am confirmed in is the belief that we as a diocese needs to both play a role in the decisions of the larger church and through its deputies, be connected with the global church. It would be an honor to serve again.



Rev. Dahn Gandell
St. John's Honeoye Falls

I am uniquely qualified because I have attended the past four general conventions. I currently serve on Executive Council as the Clergy Representative for Province 2 and have a good working relationship with the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies. I have friends across the national church and serve as Executive Council's liaison to the Committee on the Status of Women as well as the Commission on World Mission.



Very Rev. Michael Hopkins
St. Luke's and St. Simon Cyrene

I served as Deputy to the 2012 Convention. I know the Diocese well, having served here for ten years now, as well as having been raised in the Southern Tier. I am currently the Dean of the Rochester District and a member of Standing Committee. Having attended every General Convention since 1997, I know how Convention functions. I am eager to participate in this Convention being concerned for the mission of the church and the renewal of structures that will enable that mission.



Rev. Mary Mroczka, PhD
St. Peter's Dansville

I bring roots in this diocese and experience in other geographical regions. Bishop Spears received and ordained me; my field of education was at St. Stephen's Rochester. I served on diocesan committees and was a GOE Reader. My work in systems design and change leadership, and my wide-angle lens would help me represent our diocese and serve the whole church. As a single woman rector of the Southwest churches, I offer a different perspective to our delegation.



Very Rev. Lance Robbins
Good Shepherd Webster

As the long term Rector of a parish in our Diocese and as Dean of the Monroe District I feel that I am uniquely qualified to represent our Diocese at General Convention. Having worked extensively with clergy and parishes around our region, I believe I have a good understanding of local needs and a wider vision for the Episcopal Church in general.



Very Rev. J. Eric Thompson
St. Michael's Geneseo

I am an Episcopalian by choice and without regrets with 18 years of ministry, nearly 9 of which are in an ordained capacity. I have experience working with both church and civil governing bodies. I value strong, just leadership and an entrepreneurial approach to ministry, which are crucial to the church in this era. I am committed to the ethos of the Episcopal Church, and believe our best days lie ahead.



Rev. Kit Tobin
Christ Church Corning

I have connected with many of you as Safe Church and AntiRacism Trainer, Southeast District Diocesan Council Member, and straight ally for Oasis Rochester. I have written and spoken for resolutions, served twice at General Convention for Recovery Ministries and as your 2012 Alternate Deputy. Currently I work as supply priest throughout the Diocese. All of this has given me a good sense of who we are – our needs and our vision for the future.



Rev. C. Denise Yarbrough
St. Peter's Bloomfield

I have served the past two general conventions as first alternate and then as deputy. I served on the Ecumenical and Interreligious Committee at the 2009 Convention. I have served the Diocese as Ecumenical and Interreligious Officer for 10 years and currently work full time in campus ministry. As the church reorganizes itself both of these areas of engagement will be critical to the church's mission. Engaging the religious "other" and mentoring the millennial generation are both critical to the church's future.

Deputies to the 78th General Convention 2015 Elect (4) Lay



Carl Johengen
St. Thomas Bath

Having served as a Lay Deputy in 2012 and as an Alternate Deputy in 2009, I believe I have the experience necessary to serve in this important office. I believe that our church is being called to look critically at how we use our resources of money, time, and personnel for the spreading of the kingdom, and I am eager to be part of this conversation.



Canon Dr. Karen Noble Hanson
St. Paul's Rochester

As a previous Deputy to convention, I was elected to serve on the board of the Church Pension Fund. I chair the Pension Fund Finance Committee and am an elected member of the Board of Directors. As former CIO and CFO of this Diocese, I understand its questions and am passionate about its needs. We are facing changes in the life of the church, many of which are needed, as is continuity as we move to the future. I hope to preserve the best of the past while embracing needed change.



Susan Hartney
Episcopal Parishes of Schuyler County

I am a lifelong Episcopalian, mother of four, Clergy Spouse and Professional Church Musician. As a visitor, I have observed General Convention for eight trienniums (since 1985). I was elected Second Alternate Deputy in 2009 and First Alternate Deputy in 2012 and I would welcome the opportunity to serve as Deputy. Because a Deputy represents the whole church, I know that I have the background, knowledge and experience to represent our diocese.



Neil Houghton
St. John's Honeoye Falls

The Episcopal Church, through scripture, reason and tradition, has brought the Good News of the Gospel to the 21st century. Now we must support every diocese and parish to make that a local reality and let everyone know we are here! My position as a member of Provincial Council, Standing Committee, workshop designer and leader, and years of volunteering and serving as a deputy to General Convention make me highly qualified to participate in this important General Convention that will consider significant restructuring of The Episcopal Church.



Sarah Peters
St. George's Hilton

Currently I'm Senior Warden at St. George's having held numerous positions within the church. My qualifications to serve as a Deputy to General Convention include my strong background as an Episcopalian, member of Diocesan Council since 2001, vice-chair during 2013 and a thirty-four year career as a public school educator. I have a deep commitment to the Diocese and its' vision and look forward to working towards a positive future.



Susan Woodhouse
St. Peter's Henrietta

I currently serve my parish and diocese in many ways; as Junior Warden at St. Peter's, Secretary to Convention and Council and Diocesan UTO Coordinator. I understand the diocese, its mission and growing array of ministries. I have had the opportunity to participate in the work of General Convention and understand level of commitment needed to be a delegate. I believe my background and leadership qualities will enable to me to represent the Diocese of Rochester well.