

2024 Diocesan Convention BIOGRAPHIES OF NOMINEES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Two laypersons to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2027



Name: Nicholas Byrd
Church: Calvary, East Liberty
Occupation: Software Engineering Manager

My name is Nicholas (Nic) Byrd. I am a lay member of Calvary in Pittsburgh, where I have been attending services for the past 9 years. Prior to that, I was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salem, Virginia, where I was the youth representative to the vestry from 2003-2004. Professionally, I am a software engineering manager at Google where I set technical direction for engineers working on Shopping-related searches. Previously, I developed backend services at Amazon and led the development of a county tax collection and disbursement product at Tyler Technologies. I have an undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Princeton University.

St. Paul's in Salem is a small parish, and like many parishes, it struggles with finances, leadership, and membership. My two children were baptized there four years apart and have consecutive annotations in the church's baptism registry. Unfortunately, its struggle for survival is not atypical, and many parishes now face financial desperation and declining membership. These factors confound and can lead to short-term decision making, infighting, and more rapid decline. My interest in the Board of Trustees is to contribute to the continued sustenance, maintenance, and growth of the Episcopal Church in the Pittsburgh region.



Name: Robert Lucas
Church: St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon
Occupation: Attorney

I was born and raised in Lancaster County. I graduated from the University of Delaware in 1981 with degrees in Political Science and Economics. In 1984 I earned my law degree from the University of Virginia, at which I was recruited by Eckert, Seamans to come to Pittsburgh as an associate attorney in 1984. Over the next 26 years I practiced law at two more private law firms and the corporate law departments of 4 Pittsburgh companies. For the past 15 years I have been a senior associate counsel at UPMC, and since 2016 also a Vice President, focusing on physician employment contracting.

While at Eckert I met my wife, Anna, who was born and raised in the Garfield neighborhood of Pittsburgh. We have lived in the south hills since our marriage in 1988, raising three children who are now 35, 32 and 29. My wife and I were active members of St. John Capistran parish in Upper St. Clair (where I was a Lector and a member of Pastoral Council) from 1989 until I left and started attending St. Paul's Episcopal in January 2023. At St. Paul's I am a Lay

Eucharistic Minister and Lector, an Usher, a member of the Bell Choir, and an active participant in our Parish's Wednesday evening book study small group. I also participated in Sacred Ground earlier this year.

Over the past 15 years I have served as a member of the Boards of Trustees of two Pittsburgh area non-profits, Outreach Teen & Family Services and PERSAD. I am no longer on either of those Boards, and so would like to use my time and experience to expand my service at St. Paul's to our diverse Diocesan community. My goal through service on the Diocese Board of Trustees would be to work to help our Diocese decide how best to provide needed support to the varied ministries of the Parishes in our Diocese.

CATHEDRAL CHAPTER

One clergy and one layperson to be elected to three-year terms ending in 2027



Name: The Rev. Elizabeth Locher

Occupation: Supply Priest

I moved to Pittsburgh in 2017 and have been serving in the diocese ever since. I graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 2012 and then served as a deacon in the Young Adult Service Corp, teaching seminary students at Msalato Theological College in Dodoma, Tanzania. When I returned to the US, I spent 3 years as assistant priest for Christian formation at Grace Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Virginia. I now serve as a supply priest here in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and have served many parishes from Brookline and Venetia to Hazelwood and Brackenridge.

Having been raised up in the Diocese of Virginia, which does not have a cathedral, I deeply value everything that Trinity Cathedral makes possible. I love its presence and witness downtown, inviting the people of Pittsburgh to worship God, even in the midst of the workday, and its outreach and service to the community. I also appreciate how it can be a place for our diocesan family to gather throughout the year to worship, ordain clergy, and discern our Lord's mission for us, especially when we gather for annual convention. I would be honored to assist in this good work by serving on the Cathedral Chapter.



Name: Anthony J. Turo

Church: St. Brendan's, Franklin Park

Occupation: Public Administrator

I am a member of St. Brendan's Episcopal Church in Franklin Park. I first attended St. Brendan's on the First Sunday of Advent 2018, after being a life-long Roman Catholic, and was officially welcomed into the Episcopal Church by the Bishop in May 2019.

Since joining St. Brendan's, I have become a lector, served on the Re-Opening Committee in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and served on the Discernment Committee charged with the selection of our Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Robin Jarrell. At the end of this year I complete a term on the Cathedral Chapter and was happy to

serve in that capacity over the past three years. I also serve on our parish's Spirituality Committee.

I became the executive director of Ursuline Support Services in April 2004. I joined Ursuline after 10 successful years with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. I have more than 40 years of experience with various human services organizations in the Pittsburgh area, including the Northern Area Multi-Service Center, and the local chapter of the American Red Cross where I served as the project director for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

I hold a master's degree in Public Administration from The University of Pittsburgh. I also earned a bachelor's degree in Individual and Family Studies, emphasizing in Adult Development and Aging, from Penn State University. I have been resident of the Pittsburgh area since my graduation from Penn State, and I currently live with my husband in Ben Avon.

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND CANONS

One clergy and one layperson to be elected to three-year terms ending in 2027



Name: The Rev. Jack Brownfield

Church: St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier

Occupation: Curate

My name is Jack Brownfield, and I have been part of the Diocese of Pittsburgh for as long as I can remember, since my baptism as an infant at St. Paul's, Mount Lebanon. I am very happy to be back in the diocese as an ordained person. I completed my MDiv at Princeton Theological Seminary and a yearlong Anglican Studies program at Virginia Theological Seminary. In June 2024 I was ordained a deacon, and since August I have served as Curate at St. Michael's of the Valley Episcopal Church, Ligonier.

I would like to serve on the Committee on Constitution and Canons because I believe it is important for our diocesan processes to run as smoothly and logically as possible. I believe I have an eye for detail which will serve well in this position. When rules and procedures are clear, it reduces confusion and allows us to focus on what really matters: preaching the Gospel and ministering to the world in the name of Jesus Christ.



Name: Madison Canales
Church: St. Andrew’s, Highland Park
Occupation: Office Manager

I have been a member of St. Andrew’s since 2022 and was confirmed in the Episcopal Church that same year. I currently work as the Office Manager of Trinity Cathedral and serve as this year’s Diocesan Convention Manager. At St. Andrew’s, I participate as an altar server, church school leader, and in the Parish Cares ministry.

I’m a 2018 graduate of West Virginia University with a BA in geography, and have lived in Pittsburgh for six years, settling in Carrick in 2023. I plan to begin an online graduate program in nonprofit administration in January 2025 and look forward to bringing the skills I’ll learn there to my home parish, work parish, and the Diocese at large.

As a lay church professional, I understand the importance of effective governance on the work of the church and how the implementation of our Constitution and Canons affects parish life. An efficient church allows our clergy and laypeople to more effectively preach and live out the Gospel. As a member of the Committee on Constitutions and Canons, I will dedicate myself to learning more about the details of our Constitution and Canons and making decisions that will further our ability to accomplish our Christian mission.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

One member to be elected to a three-year term ending in 2027



Name: The Rev. Dr. Moni McIntyre
Church: St. Stephen’s, McKeesport
Occupation: Priest-in-Charge

I have served in various capacities in the diocese during the past 24 years including Diocesan Council member (currently completing my fourth term); Standing Committee (presently completing my fourth term; served one year as President); Budget and Assessment Working Group (currently completing my second term); Deacon, Assisting Priest, Priest-in-charge, and Rector of The Church of the Holy Cross (2000-2016); supply priest; Interim priest at St. Andrew’s, Highland Park (2019-2020); and Priest-in-charge at St. Stephen’s, McKeesport (2021-present). I am currently an adjunct assistant professor at Duquesne University in the Sociology Department after having taught there full-time in the Theology Department (1990-2000), the Graduate Center for Social and Public Policy (2001-2015), and the Sociology Department (2015-2019 when I retired). I am a retired Navy Captain (O-6). I teach Healthcare Ethics and Decision Making to physicians and dentists monthly in the Advanced Medical Department Officer Course at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda. I earned a Ph.D. in Christian Ethics from the University of St. Michael’s College in Toronto (1990).

I desire to help those discern their vocation to ordained ministry, and I believe I have sufficient background and interest to be helpful on the Commission.



Name: The Rev. Erin Morey
Church: St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon
Occupation: Assistant Rector

I have served as Assistant Rector at St. Paul's since July of 2022. I was ordained as a priest in December 2022. I received my M.Div. at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in 2022. During seminary, I assisted clergy at a number of other churches in the diocese.

Prior to serving as clergy at St. Paul's, I served in a lay staff role as Director of Communications and Community Engagement. I am an attorney and began my career as an Assistant Public Defender in Allegheny County, and later served as a domestic violence survivor advocate at Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh. In these positions, I supported interns exploring public service careers, as well as new staff learning to assist people experiencing major life events. I currently serve as President of the Clergy Association of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, and on the board of Sheldon Calvary Camp. Previously, I served the wider Church as one of the Episcopal Church's delegates to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

I am interested in serving on the Commission on Ministry because I am grateful for the prayerful and thoughtful support I received while discerning a call to ordained ministry. I would be delighted to do more as part of the community helping others listen for God's call in their lives.

GROWTH FUND

One member to be elected to a three-year term ending 2027



Name: The Rev. Guy W. Brown
Church: St. Thomas, Oakmont
Occupation: Chaplain/Curate

Deacon Guy W. Brown, married to Kristin and blessed with five daughters and a grandson, serves the St. Thomas Episcopal Church community under the leadership of Fr. Jeff Murph. Deacon Brown holds a Master of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (2022) and a Bachelor of Science in Hotel Restaurant Management from the University of Houston (1986). Earning his Commission into the United States Army Reserves (1986) and retiring at the rank of Capt. in (2001); along with completing the Veteran's Administration's Certified Pastoral Education course, Deacon Brown brings a wealth of experience to his role.

As a member of the Growth Fund council for the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, Deacon Brown will be dedicated to supporting the growth and development of our parishes and ministries. His 25+ years of service in business and marketing will contribute to our efforts to expand our reach, deepen our impact, and strengthen our connection to the broader community.

STANDING COMMITTEE

One clergy and one layperson to be elected to four-year terms ending 2028



Name: The Rev. Brandon Cooper

Church: St, Paul's, Kittanning, St. Michael's, Rural Valley, and Christ Church North Hills

Occupation: Priest

Having served in the diocese of Pittsburgh in both lay and ordained roles for the past nine years, and being associated with six different parishes in that time, I am keenly aware of how different and unique each of our communities is. I currently serve as the assistant rector of one parish in our diocese, priest-in-charge of another, and long-term supply for a third. My representation would be a three for one bargain. In addition, the three parishes I serve run the gamut from a program-sized suburban church to family-sized extremely rural one. Having served as a deputy to the past General Convention, my eyes were opened to the need to represent the breadth of parish makeup that we have in the Episcopal Church, and I believe that this should start on the diocesan level. Seeing that as something that is important, I feel beholden to put myself forward as such a representative and give my time and effort to make it a reality.



Name: The Rev. Canon Natalie Hall

Church: Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill

Occupation: Rector

Ordained in 2009, I served as Pastor of two Lutheran congregations when Bishop McConnell recruited me to serve as Canon for Faith Formation and Evangelism in this Diocese, serving in that role from January 2017 until becoming Rector of Church of the Redeemer in Squirrel Hill in 2022, at which time my ordination was formally transferred to the Episcopal Church.

My ministry focuses on cultivating lay leaders to share the content of Christian faith. Over 5 years, I led a theological formation program that trained over 50 Episcopalians, Lutherans, and Roman Catholics to serve as lay worship leaders and preachers.

I am also committed to ecumenical and interfaith collaboration, serving on the board of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania and the national Lutheran-Episcopal dialogue. Work at Redeemer has cultivated respect and trust with multiple ecumenical and interfaith partners.

I feel called to serve both the Diocese and Bishop on the Standing Committee as a voice of support and strategic care as we transition to the next season of common life. I bring institutional memory as well as a wide network of ecumenical and interfaith relationships with whom the Diocese can collaborate in faithfulness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Name: Anthony Crisafio

Church: St. Andrew's, Highland Park

Occupation: Clinical Research Consultant

I have been a member at St Andrew's, Highland Park serving in a multitude of capacities over the past several years. As our parish entered a period of transition, I served on the Survey Committee to help craft our rector search and have stepped up when asked to help with outreach and parish events. I was asked to join our Vestry to fill a midterm vacancy, where I've taken a focus on our technologic ministries, including expanding our Sunday livestream and a website revamp. Beyond our Vestry, I serve as a reader and lay eucharistic minister & altar server monthly, and previously, as an usher.

In the larger Diocese community, I have participated in Sacred Ground Level 1 and 2 with an action plan that brought racial & social justice language into our liturgy and was then used at another parish. Since participating in both groups, I have joined the diocesan Commission on Race & Reconciliation, working to expand my Level 2 project to create a living repository of liturgical materials. I was also asked to participate in the inaugural Diocese-wide Mutual Ministry Review this past August & September.

In serving my parish and our larger Church community, I draw on my experience in the global Anglican Communion and an abiding faith to bring together my talents in the ways that God and the Church has called on me. All of which has grounded my education in medicine, public health, and bioethics – a collection of skills that has enabled me to reach across divides and work for mutual understanding and progress. I am committed to bring my experience and focus on listening to the Standing Committee to hear the needs of our Diocese and the greater Pittsburgh community and listen for the Holy Spirit's guidance forward.