



183rd Annual Convention
Episcopal Diocese of Florida

2026 Nominees



2026 Nominations Overview

Diocesan Council: Lay

- 1 Lay: First Coast East (3-Year Term)

Disciplinary Board

- 2 Clergy (3-Year Term)
- 2 Lay (3-Year Term)



2026 Nominations Overview

Standing Committee

- 1 Clergy (3-Year Term)
- 1 Lay (3-Year Term)

Sewanee Board of Trustees

- 1 Clergy (3-Year Term)

Diocesan Council



Diocesan Council Nominees at a Glance



Name	Parish, City	Region
Lay Nominees, 3-Year Term (Elect 1: First Coast East)		
Kathleen McLean	St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach	First Coast East
John Cooksey	Episcopal Church of Our Savior, Jacksonville	First Coast East
Laura Ammons	Redeemer Episcopal Church, Jacksonville	First Coast East

Diocesan Council
Lay Nominees, 3-Year Term
(First Coast East)

Diocesan Council: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Kathleen McLean

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach

Biography:

I am an active member of St. Peter's in Fernandina Beach, contributing as Clerk of the Vestry, Eucharistic Minister and Visitor, altar guild member and co-chair of the Meditation Garden project. I have always valued worshipping as part of a faith community. As a child, I was educated by the Sisters of Notre Dame and attended St. Michael's Catholic Church. As a Naval Officer and, later, as a Navy wife, I moved often from base to base, coast to coast always finding brothers and sisters in Christ eager to welcome me into community. After my naval service, I taught advanced mathematics at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes Episcopal School in Alexandria, Virginia for 15 years. During that time, I found the liturgical traditions of the Episcopal Church familiar and its progressive approach to theology refreshing. Upon retirement and full-time residence in Fernandina Beach, I was received into the Episcopal Church at St. Peter's in 2018. My husband, Duncan, and I have been married for 36 years; we have three adult children, a 4-month-old granddaughter, and expect another granddaughter in October! In addition to spending time with family and friends, I enjoy walking on the beach with our corgi, Maisie, gardening and quilting.

Why would you like to serve?

It is an exciting time for the Diocese of Florida. As a servant leader, I welcome the opportunity to help the Diocese move forward under new leadership, always striving to be faithful followers of Jesus. Exercising my baptismal covenant, I am prepared to dedicate my time and leadership experience to the task of guiding diocesan ministry and fiscal decisions.

Diocesan Council: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



John Cooksey
Episcopal Church of Our Savior, Jacksonville

Biography:

John Cooksey currently serves as the Senior Warden at the Episcopal Church of Our Savior. He also served several years as a vestry member and Treasurer of Grace Episcopal Church in Orange Park.

Why would you like to serve?

My desire to serve on the council comes from my deep devotion to the Episcopal Church. I believe we should all use our time and talents to help preserve the church and keep it as healthy as possible. I believe my past business and non-profit experience would bring value to the council. Thank you for your consideration.

Diocesan Council: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Laura Ammons Redeemer Episcopal Church, Jacksonville

Biography:

Laura Ammons has 24 years' experience in Financial Services, currently as a Digital Product Manager in the mortgage industry and as the Director of Finance & Administration for the Church of the Good Shepherd. While a member of the Church of the Redeemer where she heads the Altar Guild, Laura also acts as registrar for Cursillo, serves on the Credentials Committee at Diocesan Conventions, and co-produces the podcasts A Morning at the Office, An Evening at Prayer, and Compline: Late Evening Episcopal Prayer for Forward Movement.

Why would you like to serve?

If elected, I would be honored to serve as the lay representative to the Diocesan Council from the First Coast East Region. For the last year, I have learned an incredible amount about managing the business affairs of a parish, including the implementation of vast improvements in financial reporting and standardization of policies and procedures for handling the receipt of funds and disbursement of expenditures. Most importantly though, has been the understanding that church finances are more complex than those of a for-profit business as at the core are the relationships we hold with each other as children of the living God.



Disciplinary Board

Disciplinary Board Nominees at a Glance



Name	Parish, City	Region
Clergy Nominees, 3-Year Term (Elect 2)		
The Rev. Catherine Montgomery	St. Mary's Episcopal Church & Outreach Mission, Jacksonville	First Coast West
The Rev. Sarah Minton	St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach	First Coast East
The Rev. Andreis Diaz Dorta	Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach	First Coast East
Lay Nominees, 3-Year Term (Elect 2)		
Matthew Wolfe	Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville	First Coast West
David (Dave) L. Spaulding	St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, St. Augustine	River
Ernest Driscoll	St. Paul's, Federal Point	River



Disciplinary Board Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)

Disciplinary Board: Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)



The Rev. Catherine Montgomery St. Mary's Episcopal Church & Outreach Mission, Jacksonville

Biography:

Catherine is the vicar at St. Mary's Episcopal Church and Outreach Mission in Jacksonville, which includes The Market at St. Mary's and Church Without Walls. She graduated from the University of Florida and earned her Master of Divinity at the General Theological Seminary. Before her call to St. Mary's, she spent nine years as the Director of Family Ministries at Christ Church in Ponte Vedra. Previously, she had a 15-year career in commercial banking. Catherine and her husband, Eric, have two young adult children, Georgia and Luke.

Why would you like to serve?

The trust placed in those with spiritual authority comes with the sacred responsibility to ensure accountability, to protect the vulnerable, and to work toward just and meaningful reconciliation. I would be happy to participate in work so vitally important to the strength of our diocese.

Disciplinary Board: Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)



The Rev. Sarah Minton

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach

Biography:

I am grateful to serve as Rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Before coming to St. Peter's, I served as Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Green Cove Springs and as Curate at All Saints Episcopal Church in Jacksonville. Prior to ordination, I spent more than 20 years in lay ministry, an experience that continues to shape my love for the Church and my appreciation for the ministry of all the baptized. I am a graduate of Duke Divinity School and have been blessed to serve our diocese in a variety of leadership roles, including the Standing Committee. I currently serve on the Camp Weed Committee and as Chair of the deputation for the 2027 General Convention. I deeply love the Episcopal Diocese of Florida and count it a privilege to serve God's people alongside faithful clergy and lay leaders throughout our diocese. My husband, Steve, and I are blessed with three daughters, a bonus daughter, and our spirited dog, Oliver (and 2 grandchildren, Gus and Hope). Above all, I love Jesus, believe deeply in the Church's mission, and am continually humbled by the opportunity to help people grow in faith, discover their gifts, and share God's love with the world.

Why would you like to serve?

I am honored to be considered for service on the Diocesan Disciplinary Board. Through my leadership in the Diocese, including service on the Standing Committee, I have gained firsthand experience with diocesan as well as churchwide governance and the importance of the canons in the life of the Church. I appreciate that the canons are not merely rules, but faithful guardrails that help clergy remain in right relationship with one another and with the Church, fostering accountability, integrity, and trust. I value collaboration, careful discernment, and respectful dialogue, and I recognize the importance of the Title IV process in promoting healing, reconciliation, and justice when difficult situations arise. I would be grateful for the opportunity to bring my experience, commitment to the Church, and desire to serve faithfully to the work of the Disciplinary Board.

Disciplinary Board: Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)



The Rev. Andreis Díaz Dorta

Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach

Biography:

The Rev. Andreis Díaz Dorta currently serves as Vice Rector at Christ Church, where he helps lead worship and the Hispanic ministry. With more than fifteen years of experience as a parish priest since his ordination at the Episcopal Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Havana, Cuba, Fr. Andreis brings a warm, bicultural presence to the life of the congregation. He is married to Marcela Beatriz and is the father of Ana Eva Díaz, their one-year-old daughter. Fr. Andreis is also pursuing a second master's degree at the Jesuit University in Granada, Spain, where he is writing on today's crisis of belonging and identity, exploring how faith communities can become more welcoming, rooted, and life-giving spaces for all.

Why would you like to serve?

I feel that God is calling me to serve in the larger context of the Diocese and has graciously provided me with the gifts, skills, and life experiences to serve on the Disciplinary Board. It would be my great joy to serve the people of the Diocese of Florida in this manner.



Disciplinary Board Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)

Disciplinary Board: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Matthew Wolfe Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville

Biography:

After a career as a Navy pilot, I attended law school at the University of Florida. My law practice has focused on Bankruptcy, Real Estate and Probate for the past 20 years. It is an honor to serve people when they are at their most vulnerable. I have served multiple terms on the Vestry of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Jacksonville and have been the Chancellor there since 2011. This has given me quite a bit of exposure to the complexities of church life that are relevant to this role. I believe in the collective wisdom found in the canons of our Church and that all people should be treated with dignity and respect. Thank you for your consideration.

Why would you like to serve?

I am interested in serving on the Disciplinary Board because I believe in the stated goals of Title IV—healing, repentance, forgiveness, restitution, justice amendment of life, and reconciliation—and am willing to work to accomplish them to the greatest extent possible. I understand it is not a perfect process, but it is the only one we have, and so it should be implemented with thoughtfulness and care.

Disciplinary Board: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



David (Dave) L. Spaulding St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, St. Augustine

Biography:

David was born in Portsmouth, VA, and attended The College of William and Mary. Following college, he received a Navy commission, spending three years as a missile officer aboard USS Albany, CG10, before obtaining a master's in general psychology and doctorate in Counseling Psychology from The Catholic University of America. David then returned to the Navy, serving twenty years of active duty, retiring as a commander. He had the opportunity to sail on surface ships, dive in a submarine, fly in helicopters and fight with the Marines in foreign war, the First Gulf War as well as complete a post-doctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at the Oregon Health Sciences University and Portland VA. His twilight tour was as the Director of the Midshipmen Counseling Center at the U.S. Naval Academy. Immediately post Navy, he served for 20 years as the Director of the University Counseling Service at Sewanee: The University of the South where he treated young adults for depression, anxiety, trauma, substance abuse, eating disorders, cognitive dysfunction, and relationship problems. He also taught at the University as a Visiting Professor of Clinical Psychology. David has been married and divorced twice and has two wonderful daughters who are the highlights of his life. His second wife, Robin Reed, and the mother of his children, is now an Episcopal Priest in the Diocese of Central Florida. Ten years ago, David retired and moved from Tennessee to St. Augustine.

Why would you like to serve?

I am applying for a second term on the Diocese's Disciplinary Board because I believe my background could be helpful. I was one of the psychologists for the Seminary at Sewanee and as a clinician worked with seminarians. I saw all the things my wife at the time had to go through to be able to attend seminary at VTS. I have also been close to individuals who have gone through the disciplinary process.

Disciplinary Board: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Ernest Driscoll
St. Paul's, Federal Point

Biography:

Ernest Driscoll is a retired Navy Commander with 32 years of active service and has served as a college professor at Flagler College for 17 years. He is married to the youngest daughter of the Rev. Canon Walter Saffran going on 43 years (thus the church background) and the defacto usher at St. Paul's when nobody else seems willing to participate.

Why would you like to serve?

I am always content to be in supporting roles when I can contribute positively.



Standing Committee

Standing Committee Nominees at a Glance



Name	Parish, City	Region
Clergy Nominees, 3-Year Term (Elect 1)		
The Rev. William Stokes	St. James Episcopal Church, Lake City	Santa Fe
The Rev. Thomas P. Reeder	Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach	First Coast East

Standing Committee Nominees at a Glance



Name	Parish, City	Region
Lay Nominees, 3-Year Term (Elect 1)		
Jack Tull	Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach	First Coast East
Anne Seraphine	Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Gainesville	Santa Fe
Jim Salter	Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Gainesville	Santa Fe
Jennifer Lasserre	St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach	First Coast East
Carolyn Gosselin	St. John's Episcopal Church, Tallahassee	Apalachee
Julie Davis	Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville	First Coast West
Edward "Ed" Snowden d'Avi	St. Francis in the Field Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra	First Coast East
Simon Banks	St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Palm Coast	River
Paul Arrington	St. John's Cathedral, Jacksonville	First Coast West



Standing Committee Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)

Standing Committee: Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)



The Rev. William Stokes
St. James Episcopal Church, Lake City

Biography:

The Rev. William Stokes is the Rector of St. James Episcopal Church in Lake City, where he has worked alongside the parish to foster both numerical and spiritual growth. His ministry is grounded in a desire to help the Church share the transforming love of Christ with more people and to equip congregations to grow in faith, welcome, and service. William grew up in Orange Park and was an active member at Grace Episcopal Church during his youth. He is a double graduate of Sewanee: The University of the South, an institution that deeply formed him as a Christian. Following his graduation from seminary, William returned to the Diocese of Florida and served for four years as the Associate Rector of St. Mark's in Ortega. William has also served the Diocese as a member of the Commission on Ministry, chair of the Convention Nominating Committee, diocesan trustee of Sewanee, teacher in the Deacon's School, and as the Happening spiritual advisor.

Why would you like to serve?

With the election of a new bishop and an opportunity to open a fresh chapter in ministry, our Diocese has a unique opportunity to reach more people throughout North Florida with the Gospel. I want to serve alongside our new bishop in extending the mission of a Diocese that has done so much to form me as a priest. I am excited to help our Diocese fulfill the mission Christ has given us: to baptize, to make disciples, and to reconcile the world to God.

Standing Committee: Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)



The Rev. Thomas P. Reeder
Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach

Biography:

I was ordained in 2003. I began my ordained ministry as Associate Rector, and later Priest-in-Charge, of St. Mark's, Jacksonville. I then served for eight years as Rector of Christ Episcopal Church, Williamsport, in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, where I was a member and Vice Chair of that diocese's Standing Committee. In 2013, I was called to Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach, as Senior Associate Rector, and in 2018 I became the parish's fourth Rector. Christ Church worships across two campuses in English and Spanish, and its size — the largest Episcopal congregation in Florida and among the largest in the nation — has given me a particular vantage point on the demands of pastoral leadership and staff supervision at scale. Within the Diocese of Florida, I have completed one term on Diocesan Council and served as an elected Alternate Delegate to the 79th General Convention in Austin, Texas, in 2018. My wife and I live in Ponte Vedra Beach, where we are enjoying our first year as grandparents.

Why would you like to serve?

I have now spent more than two decades in ordained ministry — as a curate, a rector of a small-town parish, and now as rector of a large multi-campus congregation. I have also seen the wider Church from the inside, through eight years of diocesan governance in Central Pennsylvania and my own term on our Diocesan Council here in Florida. I believe that combination of parish-level and diocesan-level experience is exactly what the Standing Committee needs right now. This is a particularly important moment for our diocese. We have been without a diocesan bishop for some time, and in that season, we have done real, hard, and rewarding work of reconciliation with one another. I want to do my part to help that spirit of reconciliation and love continue — especially as we welcome our new bishop. He will need senior clergy around him who lead with love and a gentle but steady hand, ready to welcome him and his family, help him find his footing among us, and follow his lead into a season we can look forward to with real hope and joy. I care deeply about the whole Diocese of Florida, not just my own parish. This work means exercising sound judgment and helping guide the diocese with wisdom and care. I bring a pastor's heart, a steady temperament, and real experience with the mechanics of diocesan polity, and I would be honored to put that experience in service of our diocese and its people.



Standing Committee Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Jack Tull

Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach

Biography:

Diocese of Florida: 2 terms as Vice Chair of Diocesan Council; 2 Standing Committees; Commission On Ministry; Diocesan Coordinator for Episcopal Relief and Development for 20 years; Chair of Nominating Committee; DOF Transition Committee.

Episcopal Church and Diocese of Washington: Served as a 6-time Deputy to General Convention; Served on World Mission, Marriage and Congregational Vitality Legislative Committees; Served as Co-Chair to the Episcopal Relief and Development 75th Anniversary Celebration; Founding Lay Director of Cursillo in the Diocese of Washington; Team Rector and Team Member for Cursillo in Dioceses of Washington, Maryland and Florida; Parish Senior Warden; Parish Treasurer.

Why would you like to serve?

I believe that my experience on the Episcopal Church, Diocesan and Parish levels over the past 50+ years will allow me to contribute to the work of the Standing Committee as we welcome and coordinate diocesan activities with our newly elected Bishop. I would like to see a continuation of the good ministry we, as a diocese, have done over the past few years to bring Christ and the benefits of Christian ministry to all people in our diocesan area.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Anne Seraphine Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Gainesville

Biography:

Anne worships at Holy Trinity, Gainesville, where she serves as a Verger, a Lector, Eucharist Minister, and diocese delegate. She assists the Chapel of Incarnation Chaplain with Christian formation, discipleship, and liturgical oversight and serves on the Chapel's Advisory Board. In the past, at Holy Trinity, she served on a Rector Search Committee, the Board of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Foundation; and conducted, analyzed, and reported the results of two Rector Search Surveys. She has also led a weekly Contemplative Prayer Group and has served as an EfM mentor. At the diocesan level, she has participated in two ministries: Cursillo and Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation. She works at the University of Florida as a faculty member and program coordinator. Her area of expertise is in the areas of applied statistics, program evaluation, and survey research. Currently, she's the lead program evaluator of two programs that promote collaborative, place-based science in the public schools: the Cade Museum sponsored program, *Operation Inventivity*, which targets economically challenged third grade science students in the public schools; and the *Guardians of the Gulf*, which targets 8th and 9th graders who live in Florida's coastal regions. For two years, she served as a principal investigator of a Florida Department of Education funded grant for a program evaluation of a Florida music initiative for grades K - 2 in three school districts. At the University of Florida, she has served on the COE Faculty Policy Council, which is the policy-making authority for the College of Education.

Why would you like to serve?

I accepted the nomination to serve because I hope to use my gifts to support the bishop and the diocese, in such a way to promote a greater awareness that we, as the body of Christ, are called to proclaim the Gospel and live in unity, by extending to all the freely given grace of Christ.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Jim Salter

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Gainesville

Biography:

My wife, Lee Ann, and I have been members at Holy Trinity, Gainesville since January 1964. At Holy Trinity I have served on vestries, search committees, senior warden several times, lay reader, cup bearer, Verger and with God's help, founder of Holy Trinity Episcopal Foundation, Inc., which provides direct support to Holy Trinity. As for my work in the Diocese, I have been a member and former chair of the Audit and Budget Committee, served several times on the Camp and Conference Center Committee, several times as a member of Diocesan Council, either an alternate Deputy at General Convention in 2012, 2015, 2021, 2024 and will be at General Convention in 2027. I was appointed Vice Chancellor by Bishop Cervený over 20 years ago and I continue to serve in that capacity. I have been and continue to serve as a member of Diocesan Convention Committee on Constitution and Canons.

Why would you like to serve?

I believe our Diocese faces both old and new challenges, and our new bishop will be an extremely important part in addressing them. As we in our Diocese, together with our new bishop address these, I believe my institutional knowledge, my past experience at the diocesan level, my understanding of issues we face and the challenges before us, with God's help, serving on the Standing Committee, I believe I would be of benefit to our Diocese and to our new bishop.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Jennifer Lasserre

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach

Biography:

My name is Jennifer Lasserre. I have been a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church for 27 years and have been blessed to serve in a variety of leadership roles during that time. My service has included Junior Warden and Treasurer, as well as participation on three Rector Search Committees, the Youth Leader Search Committee, and the Camp Weed & Cerveny Conference Center Director Search Committee. Last year, I served as Interim Youth Coordinator, and I currently serve as Director of Communications and Parish Life. I am deeply committed to the mission of the Episcopal Church and would be honored to serve the Diocese on the Standing Committee.

Why would you like to serve?

The Episcopal Church has shaped my faith and given me countless opportunities to serve over the past 27 years. Serving on the Standing Committee would be a meaningful way to give back to the wider Church. I believe this is an important time for our Diocese, and I would welcome the opportunity to listen well, work collaboratively, and help provide thoughtful leadership.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Carolyn Gosselin
St. John's Episcopal Church, Tallahassee

Biography:

Carolyn Gosselin is a seventh-generation Floridian who obtained her undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Florida. She is a graduate of the Center for Creative Leadership in Colorado Springs as well as Leadership Florida. She spent her 35-year professional career in leadership roles with Young and Rubicam, SunTrust Bank (now Truist), and CNL Financial Group in marketing, public relations, government affairs, and branding roles. After leading the branding work for Chicken Salad Chick, she and her husband, Bob, became franchisees, opening two locations in Tallahassee and one in Thomasville, GA. Carolyn's skills and experience lie in leadership, administration, and communications, with strong people skills, and the ability to manage sensitive situations. She has since retired and enjoys volunteering in various capacities throughout the state, including serving on the Episcopal Diocese of Florida's Bishop Transition Committee. Carolyn and Bob have two adult married children and two precious grandchildren in Tallahassee.

Why would you like to serve?

I have deeply enjoyed the past 10 months as co-chair of the Bishop's Transition Committee. The honor of being asked to do the work of the Transition Committee is humbling. I believe each of our committee members brings strengths and perspectives I do not have, and that we will stand on the work of the Standing Committee and the Search Committee to help our Diocese identify the bishop that God has chosen for us. My husband and I were confirmed into the Episcopal Church 42 years ago. We believe we are called to use our gifts in the service of our Lord. Over the years, we have belonged to three wonderful parishes: St. Michaels, Orlando; St. Martin in the Fields, Atlanta; and St. John's, Tallahassee. In these parishes, I have served in multiple roles including vestry member; Jr. Warden and Sr. Warden; Stewardship Chair; and chair of the rector's search committee (twice). In May of this year, I graduated from the Education for Ministry course offered through Sewanee Theological Seminary – a life-long dream of mine. My sense is that having someone like me, through my leadership on the Transition Committee, who will know each of the nominees well by the end of August would greatly serve the Standing Committee and the diocese. Our next bishop will be entering a new community, and having someone he has gotten to know (and hopefully trust) may smooth his transition and speed his impact on our diocese.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Julie Davis

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville

Biography:

My parents met in the choir at Good Shepherd, and I was baptized there as an infant. When I was six, my family moved to St. Mark's (Jacksonville) which became my second home for the next 55 years. I was active in EYC, confirmed, sang in the choir, served on the Vestry, was a convention delegate, facilitated a bible study, led the Outreach Commission and helped lead several special projects. I returned to Good Shepherd in 2020 where I sing in the choir, facilitate a bible study, am a convention delegate and served on the Vestry (including as Senior Warden). I recently completed Education for Ministry (EfM) and plan to mentor a new EfM group at Good Shepherd beginning in the fall. From 2023 through 2026, I served on the Committee for Reconciliation and Healing. I also served on the Commission on Ministry for the Diocese for 8 years during Bishop Howard's early episcopacy. In each of these roles, I especially enjoyed the opportunity to work with and to get to know so many faithful and loving Christians, both lay and clergy, who care deeply about our diocese. I have two adult daughters and two young grandsons. I practiced law in Jacksonville from 1984 – 2021 and have volunteered with and served on the board of many Jacksonville nonprofits.

Why would you like to serve?

I believe the next three years will be a very exciting time for our diocese as we welcome our new bishop. I would be honored to help provide him with support and advice as a member of the Standing Committee. If elected, I will do my very best to make sure that the voices of all lay people in our diocese are well-represented.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Edward "Ed" Snowden d'Avi

St. Francis in the Field Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra

Biography:

Ed d'Avi has lived in Florida since 1968 and is a "cradle Episcopalian." He and his wife Franny have three grown children and six grandchildren. Ed attended the University of Florida receiving a Bachelor of Architecture and a Master of Building Construction (MBC). With 5 decades of leadership, Ed is a Registered Architect and has worked as, General Contractor, Building Official, Program Director, and Owner's Representative. His work was focused on setting the direction of design & construction companies, leadership, encouragement, development, and management of people's talents. His work extended from his own Architectural Practice in Ocala to Kuwait, to the Caribbean islands for the Trinidad/Tobago Federal Government, and to all states east of the Mississippi River the U.S. His church involvement extends 8 from altar boy to attendance at Deacon School. At Grace Episcopal, he was a youth pastor in Ocala for five (5) years, was on the founding board of WHIJ (88.1), a lay reader, Eucharistic Minister, and Vestry member. Ed participated in several mission trips to central America (Catholic Diocese of Florida), a pilgrimage to Israel, Christ Renews His Parish (St Mary's Catholic Church, Cocoa, FL), cooks weekly (for 70 men) at Christ Episcopal Church, PVB, and served on a team of cooks for the last Diocesan Convention's "low country boil." He served on the Transition Committee for the 2026 Bishop's Election, the Chair of the Diocesan Architectural Review Board, Kairos Prison Minister and was "In process" to becoming a "Local Priest" in this Diocese from 2015-2018.

Why would you like to serve?

I believe in giving back to the Lord with my time, talents, and treasures (T³). He has given me certain gifts (talents) which I am called to use in His service. I have served on Economic Development Council Boards (9 yrs), Boards of Adjustment, Christian Radio Station Boards, using what He has given me for His purposes. I felt called, so therefore it is my desire to continue to serve when and where I am able.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Simon Banks

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Palm Coast

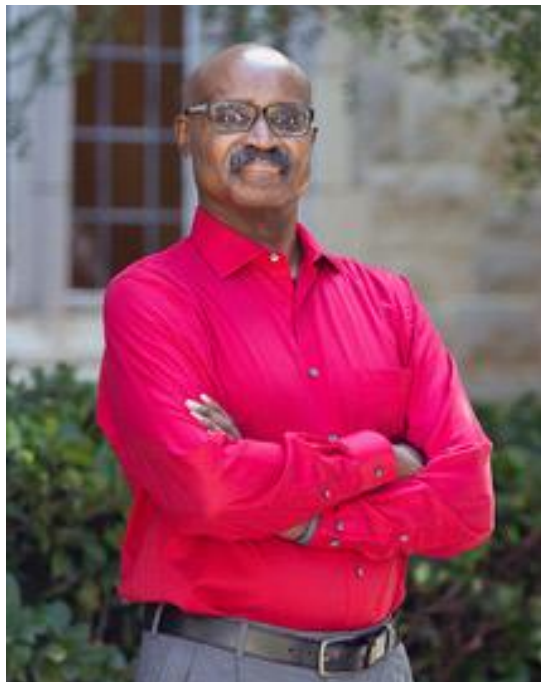
Biography:

My name is Simon. Although I was born, baptized, confirmed, and raised in the Church, I truly surrendered to God in 2008, and He has answered my prayers and guided me ever since. He loves me even though I am broken. Since then, I have tried to live a life of service. Some examples include helping to create and run a Christian high school in Chicago, attending Garrett Theological Seminary, and loving my fiancée (soon to be wife) in the way God commands in Ephesians 5:25. God has changed my life in miraculous ways, far beyond anything I could have imagined. I am grateful and utterly blessed. Julie, children and grandchildren love me and am a respected member of the community we live in.

Why would you like to serve?

Julie and I moved to Palm Coast two years ago. We attend St. Thomas, and both of us are active in the Church. There is still so much more work to do. I would like to help the diocese in whatever way is deemed best to spread the conviction that the world will be a better place if more of us embrace an honest, deep, and vulnerable faith. In today's world many have shied away from the church. Religion is viewed by many as impractical and irrelevant. Many people don't embrace that the church can be transformative in helping live a better life. I believe the diocese has an important role in helping with this challenge, and I would like to help make that possible, even if it is in a small way.

Standing Committee: Lay Nominees (3-Year Term)



Paul Arrington
St. John's Cathedral, Jacksonville

Biography:

Paul is a retired attorney and small business advisor who worships at St. John's Cathedral, Jacksonville. Confirmed in the Episcopal Church in 2005, he has served in parish leadership roles, including currently serving as Treasurer at the Cathedral. He served as District Counsel for the SBA and as a Business Consultant and financial management specialist with UNF's Small Business Development Center. Paul has served on boards including Catholic Charities, Jacksonville and Riverside Avondale Preservation, Inc. He holds a J.D. from Case Western Reserve, where he edited the Law Review. Beyond the parish, he served on the Diocesan Bishop Search Committee and co-chairs the Ministry of Racial Healing, Reconciliation, and Justice. A Sacred Ground facilitator and recent EfM graduate, he is committed to the work of Becoming Beloved Community. Paul is a lifelong learner and a fan of both the Tampa Bay Rays and Baltimore Orioles.

Why would you like to serve?

Paul brings experience in financial oversight, governance, and consensus-building to this sacred responsibility. His ministry work has taught him that healthy leadership requires patience, transparency, and finding common ground across differences. He is committed to listening, collaboration, and serving with humility, hope, and love for the Church.



Sewanee Board of Trustees

Sewanee Board of Trustees Nominees at a Glance



Name	Parish, City	Region
Clergy Nominees, 3-Year Term (Elect 1)		
The Rev. Roy Tuff	Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Gainesville	Santa Fe
The Rev. Victor Hailey	St. Paul's by the Sea Episcopal Church, Jacksonville Beach	First Coast East
The Rev. Christopher Dell	Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville	First Coast West



Sewanee Board of Trustees Clergy Nominees (3-Year Term)

Sewanee Board of Trustees: Clergy Nominees, 3-Year Term



The Rev. Roy Tuff Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Gainesville

Biography:

The Rev. Roy Tuff and his wife Maria relocated to Gainesville last February. He is Canonically resident in the Diocese of Florida. He came to Holy Trinity, Gainesville as Rector following almost 15 years as Rector of Good Shepherd Church and Schools in Punta Gorda. Prior to that he was chaplain at Saint Stephens Episcopal School and assisting Priest at Christ Church in Bradenton since 2003. While canonically resident in the Diocese of Southwest Florida, Father Roy has been Dean of the Venice Deanery 2014–2017, A General Convention Deputy (2015 Alternate), 2018, 2022, and 2024 and a member the Diocesan Commission on Ministry. He has been active in Cursillo, Happening, and Episcopal Schools activities over the years. Almost every time he's attended a National Episcopal Church event, he's been renewed and energized. Over the years he has been a part of this diverse body of Christ, he is most proud of The Episcopal Church's ability to embrace the uniquely individual parts that make up the complex relationship we experience across the entire landscape of the national Church.

Why would you like to serve?

Since I left Sewanee in 2003 following seminary, I have cherished every opportunity to return to the mountain. I've often thought that when the time was right, I would be grateful for an opportunity to serve as a Trustee. My entire ministry has been immersed in educational endeavors as the school's chaplain, as Rector of Church with a Parish Day School, and now having a more supportive role as Rector of Holy Trinity's independent preschool. Promoting and furthering the uniquely governed University of the South would ideally be mutually beneficial. I love both the college and seminary offerings and culture. As a father of three college graduates that have found meaningful vocations, I value the intellectual, spiritual, and outdoor resources of Sewanee's 13,000-acre campus with boundless opportunities for research, recreation, applied learning, and reflection.

Sewanee Board of Trustees: Clergy Nominees, 3-Year Term



The Rev. Victor Hailey St. Paul's by the Sea Episcopal Church, Jacksonville Beach

Biography:

I serve as Rector of St. Paul's by the Sea Episcopal Church in Jacksonville Beach and have been in ordained ministry for sixteen years. Before coming to St. Paul's by the Sea, I served congregations in Maryland, where my ministry included parish leadership, preaching, pastoral care, stewardship, and strategic planning. I am especially passionate about helping churches deepen their spiritual life, strengthen their relationships with the communities around them, and prepare faithfully for the future. My wife, Abby, and I have two children. As a 2009 graduate of the School of Theology at the University of the South, Sewanee is a place I hold dear to my heart. My years there helped form me as a priest, shaped my understanding of ministry, and gave me friendships and memories that continue to sustain me. I would be honored to serve on the Board of Trustees and to give something back to a place that has given so much to me.

Why would you like to serve?

I believe deeply in Sewanee's distinctive mission at the intersection of faith, education, community, and service. The University holds an important place in the life of the Episcopal Church, forming clergy and lay leaders while also providing a rigorous liberal arts education grounded in a strong sense of place and community. As a parish priest, I see every day how urgently the Church needs thoughtful, faithful, and imaginative leaders. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my experience in parish ministry, governance, strategic planning, stewardship, and community engagement to Sewanee's continued flourishing. I would also value the opportunity to listen, learn, and work collaboratively with others who care deeply about Sewanee's future and its continuing service to the Church and the wider world.

Sewanee Board of Trustees: Clergy Nominees, 3-Year Term



The Rev. Christopher Dell Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville

Biography:

The Reverend Christopher Dell grew up outside Jacksonville, Florida and earned his Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, with a minor in Spanish, at Stetson University. Upon earning his Master of Divinity from the School of Theology at Sewanee, he was called as Associate Chaplain at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, where he enjoys teaching and walking through life with students. He also currently serves as Co-Chair of the Commission on Ministry in the Diocese of Florida. When he's not visiting other congregations as a supply priest and guest preacher, Father Chris worships at Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville with his wife (Shannon) and son (Chatham). His interests include biblical studies, liturgy, languages, cooking, visual arts, and video games.

Why would you like to serve?

Sewanee is a special place for many Episcopalians and many others who find themselves drawn to the Domain; it became another spiritual home for me during my seminary formation. I would cherish the opportunity to bring together, in a new way, my love for Sewanee and my love for our diocese by serving not merely as a trustee for the university but as an ambassador and bridge between these two spiritual homes.