

Nominating Committee Report

239th Diocesan Convention

February 2023

Dear Fellow Members:

Following is the Nominating Committee Report for the 2023 Diocesan Convention. The nominees for each office in each category will appear in the same order for convention voting.

Many thanks to the following individuals who served on the Nominating Committee this year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CONVOCATION</u>
The Rev. Rev. Dr. Jon C. Graves	Atlantic
Vacant—Lay	Atlantic
The Rev. Kyle Cuperwich	Burlington
Ms. Marge Lenhardt	Burlington
The Rev. Naomi M. Cressman, Dcn.	Camden
Ms. Christina Crowthers	Camden
The Rev. Dr. William Ndishabandi	Monmouth
Canon Annette Buchanan	Monmouth
The Rev. Peter De Franco, O.S.B.	Northern
Mr. Arthur G. Pedersen, II	Northern
The Very Rev. Paul Jeanes, III	Trenton
Dr. Henry M. Richards	Trenton
The Rev. Susanna P. Cates	Watchung
Ms. Myrna Dyson	Watchung
The Rev. Antoinette Tackett	Woodbury
Mr. Cole Banning	Woodbury

Special thanks to the many candidates who indicated their willingness to serve and to those who placed them in nomination.

Canon 5 provides for independently submitted nominations to be submitted to the Secretary of the Convention. Deadline for such nominations is 45 days prior to the convention. **After this time, any member of the convention can make a nomination ‘from the floor’ during the convention, but (a) the nominator must have filed a nomination form on the diocesan website no later than a week before the convention opens, (b) the nominator must attend the online convention to make the floor nomination when invited, and (c) the nominee must attend to certify willingness to serve if elected.**

Respectfully,

Antoinette Tackett

The Rev. Antoinette Tackett, Chair

Electronically stamped

Nominating Committee
239th Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Names **without asterisks** were received by the Nominating Committee before January 1, 2023.
2. Names **with asterisks** were put in nomination between January 1 and 18, 2023 to the Secretary of Convention.
3. Names with **two asterisks** are nominations put forth from the floor filed on the appropriate form no later than one week prior to convention.

A. Standing Committee—Vote by Orders
1 Clergy—4 year term

**1****The Rev. Dr. Maria B. Sanzo—St. Raphael the Archangel, Brick**

Rev. Sanzo served as a vocational deacon and priest in this diocese for 22 years. She held positions as an Associate Rector, Rector, and Priest-in-Charge, and has experience in many ministries in the Episcopal Church. She served on the Committee to the Diaconate, Dean of the Monmouth Convocation, and has been an instructor with the School for Deacons, currently The School for Ministry. Rev. Sanzo holds a strong commitment to serving the needs of parish and diocese.

**2****The Rev. Susanna P. Cates—All Saints' Church, Scotch Plains**

Susanna Cates, a priest for nine years and Rector of All Saints' in Scotch Plains, has served the Diocese of New Jersey in several capacities. She currently is the lead facilitator for Fresh Start and served on the Bishop Search Committee and the Resolutions Committee. In serving on the Standing Committee, she hopes to bring greater clarity of communication and purpose to the Diocese.

**3****The Rev. W. Keith McCoy, Dcn.— St. John's Church, Somerville**

For over 30 years, Deacon McCoy was a library administrator, working with boards, staff, and customers. Ordained in 1985, he has served the Diocese on many committees, Archdeacon to Bishop Council, Alternate to General Convention, member of the National Archives Board, and President of the Fund for the Diaconate. He would bring broad experience in working with and on boards, a deep knowledge of the diocese, and a sense of spirit-based service to this office.

B. Standing Committee—Vote by Orders

1 Lay—4 year term



Canon Karen Oliver Moore—Grace Church, Plainfield

- 1** Karen has been a leader both in her long-standing career at prudential Financial where she retired as V.P. worldwide communications and at Grace Church as a warden. She is actively involved in the diocesan Anti-Racism commission and the Diocesan Task Force for Urban revitalization. At present, she serves on the Board of oversight of the Diocesan School for Ministry. Karen has previously served on the Diocesan Council and the Standing Committee.



Jack Daugherty—Church of the Good Shepherd, Pitman

- 2** Jack has served on the Vestry, the Stewardship and Property Committees of his parish and as a Eucharistic Minister. He has served as a Deputy to Annual Convention and the Woodbury Convocation. Jack volunteers with the Pitman Food Pantry and Family Promise of Gloucester County. In our Diocese, Jack is a member of the Loan and Grant Committee, the Diocesan Council, and the Transition Committee. He is also a trustee of St. John's, Avalon.



Rhonda Jackson—St. Peter's by-the-Sea, Cape May Point

- 3** Rhonda recently served as Acting Transition Officer, is a Diocesan Transition Consultant and Coach; serves on the Board of Missions, Validation of Minutes, and various committees. Rhonda is a Convention Delegate and Trustee of St Peter's; served on Vestry, Discernment Committees, Capital Campaigns. An EfM graduate, currently studying to become a Spiritual Director. Rhonda has extensive corporate experience, with expertise in leading and building effective teams, focused on relationship development. Rhonda is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.



Connor Crafton-Tempel—Trinity Church, Asbury Park

- 4** I believe that I am qualified to be a member of the Standing Committee because of my current work with the diocese, as well as in my secular life. In my secular life, my leadership is being developed with the AmeriCorps NCCC FEMA Corps program. In addition to my experience with FEMA Corps, I have held numerous positions requiring me to work with teams of people with various backgrounds that differ from mine.

**C. Diocesan Council—Clergy
3 Clergy—3 year terms**



1 The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves—St. Stephen’s Church, Waretown

The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves loves the Episcopal church having served on the local, diocesan, national and international church. Chip has served as a previous Diocesan Dean, President of Diocesan Standing Committee, Diocesan Financial Committee, Developed Teaching series for National Church on Church Next, member of Gathering of Leaders, Episcopal Consortium and multiple International Mission projects.



2 The Rev. Susanna Cates—All Saints’ Church, Scotch Plains

The Reverend Susanna is the rector of All Saints' in Scotch Plains. She has lovingly served on the Committee on Resolutions, the Bishop's Search and Nominations Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Diocesan School for Ministry, and is the lead facilitator for the Fresh Start program for clergy new to the diocese. She is deeply committed to the work of the diocese and longs to be more involved in its day-to-day process.



3 The Rev. Petrina Pyatt—St. Augustine’s Church, Camden

Currently supply priest for St. Augustine's Episcopal Virtual Church, Camden and Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield. Previous parish priest of Our Merciful Savior, Penns Grove. Held roles as Chair, Nominating Committee for two terms. Served as member of Diocesan Liturgy Committee and Constitution & Canons. Member of the Commission on Black Ministries and Union of Black Episcopalians. I bring skills of integrity and good decision making and look forward to being a Diocesan asset.



4 The Rev. Eve Chamberlain—St. John’s Church, Little Silver

Born and raised an Episcopalian, Eve was ordained to the Diaconate in 2015. She has been serving at St John’s Church in Little Silver since then. Eve previously served on Diocesan Council under both Bishop Cancell and Bishop Stokes. She currently serves on the Diocesan Global Goals Task Force and the Episcopal Community Services application review team. Eve recently accepted an appointment to represent the Diocese on the TEC Global Mission Advocate Network.



5 The Rev. Ryan Paetzold—Sts. Stephen & Barnabas Church, Florence/Christ Church, Palmyra

Fr. Ryan Paetzold serves as Priest-in-Charge at Sts. Stephen & Barnabas Episcopal Church in Florence and at Christ Episcopal Church in Palmyra, and as Associate at Christ Church Parish in Bordentown. He was elected to the Board of Missions and has served on multiple boards, councils, and commissions for non-profit organizations and local governments. Fr. Paetzold hopes to bring the experience and skills he has developed to serve needs of the Diocese.

D. Diocesan Council—Lay
3 Lay—3 year terms



1

Debra Kirk—St. Stephen’s Church, Waretown

My experience as an artist has opened my mind and heart to new directions. I practice discipleship formation in the Bible discussion group I mentor. I have experience on Vestry, in Strategic Planning, and Standing Committee, but it's as a grandparent that I apply here. My grandchildren attend Sunday School in my parish and I seek to support and strengthen our Holy and beautiful Episcopal Church for their future.



2

***Valaida Wynn—St. Andrew’s Church, New Providence**

Most recently, Valaida has served as Chair of the Episcopal Search and Nomination Committee for the election of the 13th bishop and as Trustee of the Diocese. She is also active in governance, ministry and mission at St. Andrew’s. As the daughter of Rev. Jim Wynn, she has grown up in the diocese and thoroughly understands church governance in the Episcopal tradition. Professionally, Valaida is a non-profit development executive with 20+ years of fundraising, marketing and communications experience.



3

****Canon Karen Oliver Moore—Grace Church, Plainfield [FLOOR NOMINATION]**

Karen has been a leader both in her long-standing career at prudential Financial where she retired as V.P. worldwide communications and at Grace Church as a warden. She is actively involved in the diocesan Anti-Racism commission and the Diocesan Task Force for Urban revitalization. At present, she serves on the Board of oversight of the Diocesan School for Ministry. Karen has previously served on the Diocesan Council and the Standing Committee.

E. General Convention Alternates—Clergy
Vote by Orders
Vote for 4—3 year terms



1

The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves—St. Stephen’s Church, Waretown

The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves has served as Episcopal clergy since 2008 including rector/priest-in-charge at several parishes, president of a diocesan Standing Committee, Diocesan Dean, Board Member of the Episcopal Consortium, member of Gathering of Leaders and various additional local, diocesan and national work. It would be an honor for Chip to serve in this capacity.

E. General Convention Alternates—Clergy - continued

Vote by Orders

Vote for 4—3 year terms



The Rev. Canon Dr. James T. Yarsiah—St. James' Church, Bradley Beach and St. Michael the Archangel, Wall

2

Canon Yarsiah serves as Priest-In-Charge of the affiliated parishes of St. James Episcopal Church, Bradley Beach and St. Michael the Archangel Episcopal Church, Wall Township. He currently serves on the Diocesan Board of Missions, representing Monmouth Convocation. In his former diocese (South Carolina), James served on the Standing Committee and on Diocesan Council. He served for nine years as Chaplain/Vicar and Assistant Professor of Religion at Voorhees College and St. Philip's Chapel, Denmark, SC.



The Rev. Angelo Wildgoose—St. Mark's Church, Plainfield

3

I am nominating Father Angelo Wildgoose for the position as an Alternate for the General Convention as a member of the Clergy. Fr. Wildgoose is dedicated to the vision and mission of St. Mark's, as well as the Diocese of New Jersey. He is a proponent for social justice for all people through the works of others in the name of Jesus Christ. His dedication goes unmatched.

F. General Convention Alternates —Lay

Vote by Orders

Vote for 4—3 year terms



1

Dr. Karen G. Bemis—Christ Church, New Brunswick

Karen Bemis has resided in the Diocese of New Jersey since 1991. Her roles within parish and diocese have included Christ Church, New Brunswick delegate to Northern Convocation and Diocesan Convention, audit committee, disciplinary board, and deputy to General Convention in 2015 (alternate 2012, 2021/2). She supports anti-racism and serves as chair of the chaplaincy committee for the Episcopal Campus Ministry at Rutgers. Otherwise, she conducts scientific research in volcanology and oceanography.



2

Marcus A. Gales—Christ the King Church, Willingboro

Marcus Gales is a member of Christ the King Episcopal Church, Willingboro, NJ and currently serves as Junior Warden. Marcus is retired from the US Air Force after 30 years active and reserved duty. He has been a deputy for many Diocesan Conventions. He has served as an alternate and legislative aide for General Conventions. He is a member of the Commission on Black Ministry and UBE.

F. General Convention Alternates —Lay - continued
Vote by Orders
Vote for 4—3 year terms



3 Canon Wendy Blackman—St. Mark’s Church, Plainfield

I am a retired Critical Care Nurse from JFK Medical Center, Edison, NY and a 30 year member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Plainfield, NJ. I am active in the Diocese and currently on Standing Committee, COBM, Anti-Racism Commission and Board of Missions. I am a life member of UBE and secretary of the local chapter. I was a NJ Deputy at the 2018 General Convention and look forward to serving the diocese in 2021.



4 Joseph Walker—St. Paul’s Church, Westfield

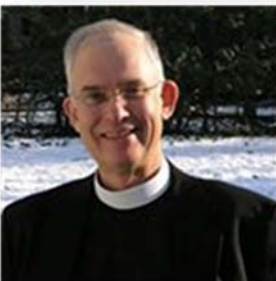
Joe has been a member of St. Paul’s Westfield since 2001 and currently serves as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and is on Altar Guild. He also represents the parish as a delegate to Convention and the diocese as a member of the Transition Committee.

G. Cathedral Chapter—Clergy
1 Clergy—3 year terms



The Rev. Micah C. Cronin—St. George’s by-the-River, Rumson

1 The Rev. Micah Cronin serves as the Curate at St. George’s By-the-River in Rumson. He is a member of the Diocese of NJ LGBTQ Commission and served on the Bishop Search Committee. Micah also serves the wider church in his writings for *Earth & Altar*. In seeking election to the Cathedral Chapter, Micah desires to continue his service to the Diocese of New Jersey.



The Rev. Canon Dr. John P. Mitchell—Retired

2 The Rev. Canon Dr. John P. Mitchell is a retired priest of the diocese and currently is serving as a member of the Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons. "This is important work for the effective functioning and interrelationship of the various parts of the diocese. I would be honored to serve as a member of the Cathedral Chapter.

H. Cathedral Chapter—Lay
1 Lay—3 year terms
2 Lay—1 year unexpired term



1

Katherine Young—St. Luke’s Church, Metuchen

Katherine is a cradle Episcopalian and lifelong member of St. Luke’s in Metuchen. She has served in various capacities including as Activities Chair, Vestryperson, Sunday School Teacher, Choir Member, LEM, and Daily Office Reader. At the Diocesan level, she served on the most recent Bishop Search Committee, on the Reception Committees, as a co-teacher with Connie White on Discerning your Spiritual Gifts and on the Cathedral Chapter and CAST committees. She looks forward to continuing with the Cathedral Chapter.

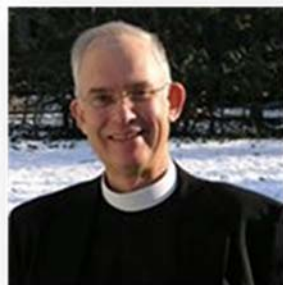
I. Standing Commission on Clerical Compensation—Clergy
2 Clergy—3 year terms



1

The Rev. Canon Dr. James T. Yarsiah—St. James’ Church, Bradley Beach and St. Michael the Archangel, Wall

Canon Yarsiah serves as Priest-In-Charge of the affiliated parishes of St. James’ Episcopal Church, Bradley Beach and St. Michael the Archangel Episcopal Church, Wall Township. He currently serves on the Diocesan Board of Missions, representing Monmouth Convocation. In his former diocese (South Carolina), James served on the Standing Committee and on Diocesan Council. He served for nine years as Chaplain/Vicar and Assistant Professor of Religion at Voorhees College and St. Philip’s Chapel, Denmark, SC.



2

The Rev. Canon Dr. John P. Mitchell—Retired

The Rev. Canon Dr. John P. Mitchell is a retired priest of the diocese and currently is serving as a member of the Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons. "This is important work for the effective functioning and interrelationship of the various parts of the diocese. I would be honored to serve as a member of this committee."



3

The Rev. Angela Cipolla—Trinity Church, Moorestown

Clergy compensation is an important balance of just and livable compensation for the clergy and affordability for the congregation. This balance has always been a challenge and is even more so now, but it is one that I am passionate about finding and maintaining. I have been honored to serve on the commission since the convention of 2020 and feel called to continue serving this vital ministry.

**J. Standing Commission on Clerical Compensation—Lay
2 Lay—3 year terms**



1

Arthur G. Pedersen—St John’s Church, Woodbridge

I am a lifelong Episcopalian, with experience on parish vestries and have seen the challenge of putting a budget together that meets salary requirements and what the parish can afford. I have also previously been a member of this commission and the Diocesan Council.



2

Rosina Dixon—St. John on-the-Mountain Church, Bernardsville

Rosina is a retired physician and a member of St. John on the Mountain, served on the Vestry and as Senior Warden. She served on the Standing Commission on Clerical Compensation. She serves on Discerning our Common Call Committee, and chairs the Advisory Council for ECS-New Jersey. She served on the board of the National Association of Corporate Directors and is a Trustee of Acenda. She is President of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, and a Trustee of the Jointure for Child Enrichment and Adult Education.

**K. Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons—Clergy
1 Clergy—3 year term**



1

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey M. Kirk—Retired

Jeff Kirk has been a member of the Constitution and Canons Committee since 2015. He has been in the diocese since 1990 and has served as a rector of three churches and, in retirement, as an interim rector of three others. He also serves as a Transition Consultant, and was on the Bishop Search and Nomination Committee for Bishop Stokes. His education includes: BS Civil Engineering, MBA, M Div., D. Min.

**L. Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons—Lay
1 Lay—3 year term**



1

Canon Donna Freidel, Esq.—St. Thomas’ Church, Glassboro

A lifelong member of the diocese and a practicing attorney since 1984, Donna was President of the Diocesan ECW Board and Woodbury ECW District. She serves on the Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons, Standing Committee, the Board of Kitchen of Hope, St. Thomas Jubilee Ministry, and is secretary for the Woodbury Convocation. She has served the Board of Family Promise of Gloucester County and is an active member of the Lions.

M. Trustees of Diocesan Trust Funds—Lay
1 Lay—5 year term



1

Canon Paul Wolfgang—Holy Trinity Church, Collingswood

Paul Wolfgang is very familiar with the challenges facing our diocese. He has served on many diocesan boards and commissions both under Bishops Cancell and Stokes. He serves on Diocesan Council, Diocesan Investment Trust and Cathedral Chapter. In his home parish, Holy Trinity, Collingswood, he has served as Warden, Vestryman, Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Worship Leader, and Choir member.

N. Finance and Budget—Clergy or Lay
3 Clergy or Lay —3 year terms



1

Arnold Bruce Anderson—Christ Church, New Brunswick

I am a retired public school math teacher. For the last two years I have been the financial chair for my parish, Christ Church, New Brunswick. In it I oversee a budget between \$400,000 and \$500,000 and the challenges presented therein. One of the biggest challenges has been to keep our deficit below the opening bid while still running a viable, community serving mission. I enjoy this work.



2

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3

The Rev. Paul Van Sant—St. Stephen's Church, Whiting

Lifetime Diocesan Member. Ordained 1988. Served three Camden Parishes 1988-1990; led Church of the Good Shepherd, Berlin, to independent parish status 1990-2006. Currently: Rector of St. Stephen's, Whiting, member of Diocesan Finance & Budget. Past Member: Diocesan Council, Nominating Committee, Hunger Task Force, Committee on Aging, Cathedral Major Chapter, and Chair of Accountability and Fair Share Task Force. Desire to continue serving our Diocese with our Bishop.

**O. Diocesan Investment Trust—Clergy or Lay
1 Clergy or Lay—4 year term**

Nominations were not submitted for this office.

**P. Audit Committee—Clergy or Lay
1 Clergy or Lay—3 year term**



Canon Paul Wolfgang—Holy Trinity Church, Collingswood

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**Q. Disciplinary Board—Clergy
4 Clergy —3 year terms**



The Rev. Angelo Wildgoose—St. Mark's Church, Plainfield

1 I am nominating Father Angelo Wildgoose as a member of Disciplinary Board. Fr. Wildgoose is dedicated to the vision and mission of St. Mark's, as well as the Diocese of New Jersey. He is a proponent for social justice for all people through the works of others in the name of Jesus Christ. His dedication goes unmatched.



The Rev. Petrina Pyatt—St. Augustine's Church, Camden

2 Currently supply priest for St. Augustine's Episcopal Virtual Church, Camden and Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield. Previous parish priest of Our Merciful Savior, Penns Grove. Held roles as Chair, Nominating Committee for two terms. Served as member of Diocesan Liturgy Committee and Constitution & Canons. Member of the Commission on Black Ministries and Union of Black Episcopalians. I bring skills of integrity and good decision making and look forward to being a Diocesan asset.



The Rev. Peter De Franco—St. John the Baptist Church, Linden

3 Having served on the Disciplinary Board in the Diocese of Newark, I know that this position requires a level of pastoral sensitivity which balances justice and compassion. I would be grateful to serve the diocese in this capacity.

R. Disciplinary Board—Lay
3 Lay —3 year terms



1

Susan L. Clarke—St. Stephen’s Church, Whiting

Susan is a Lifelong Episcopalian. Worked with clergy in three different Dioceses. As an officer of Oasis in the Diocese of Newark she worked closely with clergy. As a senior warden, she counseled her rector regarding charges she was under and how that might affect her ongoing ministry. Not long after, Susan received an M.Div. from Berkley Divinity School at Yale. Since Graduation she has served several parishes in a number of lay capacities.



2

Meegan Adames—Christ Church, New Brunswick

Meegan Adames is a parishioner of Christ Church New Brunswick. She has served as Rector's Warden, People's Warden, and vestry member. Currently, she is a Sunday School teacher for middle school students, a lay reader, and volunteers with Laundry Love monthly with her two children. Professionally, Meegan is the principal of the New Brunswick P-TECH, a small, specialized public high school. Some of her students also volunteer with Christ Church members at a local food pantry.

S. Intake Officer
1 Clergy or Lay—1 year term



1

***The Rev. Canon Karin R. Mitchell—Retired**

I have served as Title IV Intake Officer for the past four years and would like to continue in this position. I am a Canon of our Cathedral, currently serve on the Committee on the Priesthood, and the Cathedral Chapter. I retired three years ago as rector of St. David’s in Cranbury.

T. Church Attorney
1 Lay —1 year term



1

Talbot B. Kramer, Jr., Esq.—St. Thomas’ Church, Glassboro

Tal Kramer, St. Thomas’ Church, Glassboro, served on the Vestry; currently serves as Senior Warden, is involved in the choir, teaches Sunday school, leads Family Promise Ministry to the homeless, and serves on the Standing Commission on Clerical Compensation. An attorney for 35 years, he and his wife Donna Freidel have a practice in Turnersville handling many subject areas including civil and family court litigation, corporate issues, and real estate. Tal looks forward to continuing to serve as Church Attorney.

U. Treasurer

1 Clergy or Lay—1 year term



Jonathan Gloster—Christ Church, New Brunswick
Jonathan has served as Diocese of NJ Treasurer since November 2020. Jonathan has attended Christ Church since 2001 after relocating to New Jersey from the Washington, DC area. He has served on the Vestry as Property and Finance Committee Chair. He served as Parish Treasurer for over 5 years. He has served on several other task forces and committees during his time at Christ Church. He currently serves on the COVID-19 Learnings and Breakthroughs Task Force and the Urban Renewal Task Force.

V. Secretary of Convention

1 Clergy or Lay—1 year term



Canon Paul Ambos, Esq.—Christ Church, New Brunswick
Canon Ambos, of Christ Church New Brunswick, is a life-long member of the diocese and is an attorney practicing in the fields of corporate, real-estate, and canon law. He serves on the Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons, the Committee on Resolutions, and the Committee on Rules of Order. He is currently Chancellor of the Diocese, Deputy to General Convention, and the incumbent Secretary of Convention.