

**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY**  
**2023 – 2024**

The Commission on Ministry serves in an advisory capacity to the Bishop regarding those preparing for ministry both lay and ordained. In accordance with Title III, Canon 2.2 of the Canons of the Episcopal Church, the Commissions on Ministry (COM) is governed by the following principle: *The Commission shall advise and assist the Bishop in the implementation of Title III of these Canons, in the determination of present and future opportunities and needs for the ministry of all baptized persons, and in the design and oversight of the ongoing process for recruitment, discernment, formation for ministry, and assessment of readiness therefor.*

The 2023-24 Commission on Ministry is composed of the Rev. Linda Griggs, the Rev. Jonathan Huyck, the Rev. Maryalice Sullivan, the Rev. Craig Swan, the Rev. Joan Testin, Ms. Murry Edwards, Canon Betsy Fornal, Dr. Patricia Morokoff, Mr. Donald Peach, and Mr. Ken Stomberg, who serve staggered three-year terms. The Rev. Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew serves as staff for the COM.

In between Convention 2023 and Convention 2024, the Commission recommended to the Bishop the following actions:

- forward to the Standing Committee the COM's recommendation that Virginia Buckles be ordained to the priesthood;
- forward to the Standing Committee the COM's recommendation that Jeffrey Drake Douglas be ordained as a transitional deacon;
- forward to the Standing Committee the COM's recommendation that Jeffrey Drake Douglas be ordained to the priesthood.
- grant postulancy to Delight Bucko as she continues to discern her call to the priesthood;
- grant postulancy to Kaley Casenhiser as she continues to discern her call to the priesthood;
- grant postulancy to Matthew Ponder as he continues to discern his call to the priesthood.

Currently, the following people are postulants for Holy Orders:

For the Priesthood:

Delight Bucko

Kaley Kaisenhiser

Matthew Pounder

Jae Rice

For the Diaconate:

Ronald Bailey

Thomas Hobin

Thomas May

Part of the work of the Commission is to assist the Bishop by encouraging those who seek to discern God's call to them and by helping to identify appropriate programs for formation. The Diocese utilizes on-line programs of study through Bexley-Seabury Seminary to assist people in discerning their call and another which will prepare people to be licensed as Lay Preachers.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Fornal

Chair, Commission on Ministry