

Open Diocesan Leadership Positions in the Episcopal Diocese of Central New York (2022)

Open Leadership Positions

The 154th Diocesan Convention will elect leaders to serve on the Diocesan Board, Disciplinary Board, and Standing Committee, and will also vote to confirm the Bishop's appointments to the Diocesan Board and Commission on Ministry. The Convention will also elect our diocesan deputies to the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church (2024) and delegates to the Triennial Meeting of the Women of the Church (2024).

Nominations are accepted via the nomination form (cnyepiscopal.org/nomination-form) until Friday, October 14th.

Commission on Ministry

The Commission on Ministry oversees the process of discernment of and formation of persons for the ministry of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Central New York. The Commission also oversees the continuing education of current clergy in the diocese. The bishop appoints the entire membership of the Commission each year.

This year, the Commission on Ministry is looking to fill one lay vacancy. Please contact the Rev. Daniel Handschy, chair of the Commission on Ministry, at djhandschy@gmail.com if you feel called to this ministry or wish to recommend a candidate. Please do not use the nomination form for this purpose.

Diocesan Board

The Board shepherds the resources of the Diocese to fulfill its mission and to ensure a sustainable future by adopting ethical, transparent, and sound policies and programs.

The Board, together with the Bishop, sets the diocesan priorities and develops a budget to fund them. The Board also acts as the trustees for all diocesan corporations and funds.

Board members are lay and ordained members of the Episcopal Church, led by the Bishop and Vice-Chair. The Board meets up to six times each year, with part of each meeting being a joint meeting with the Standing Committee.

Board membership includes the Bishop, four members elected at Convention, three members appointed by the Bishop, a Standing Committee representative, and the treasurer.

Convention 2022 will elect:

- One lay person for a three-year term.
- One clergy person for a three year term.

In addition, at this Convention the bishop will appoint one clergy person for a three-year term. The Bishop's appointments are confirmed by Convention.

Disciplinary Board

The Disciplinary Board is the body that deals with all matters regarding the ecclesiastical discipline of members of the clergy (other than the bishop diocesan). The Disciplinary Board is governed by the relevant provisions of Title IV of the Canons of the General Convention of The Episcopal Church and detailed in Diocesan Canon XXVII.

The Board consists of five clergy members and four lay members. Clergy members must be canonically and geographically resident in the Diocese, and can be either active or retired. Lay members must be adult communicants in good standing and geographically resident in the Diocese.

The term for Disciplinary Board members is three years. The Disciplinary Board meets as needed.

Convention 2022 will elect:

- One lay person for a three-year term.
- Two clergy persons for three-year terms.

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee consists of eight members: four clergy persons and four laypersons. Meetings are held five times per year, with part of most meetings being a joint meeting with the Diocesan Board.

Responsibilities include:

- Review and consent to all transactions involving the sale, mortgage or lease of church-owned real estate.
- Approval of the election of bishops anywhere in The Episcopal Church, which leads to a concern for the structure and distribution of authority in the Church.
- Approval of persons for ordination to the diaconate and priesthood, which leads to a concern for ministry throughout the Church.
- Acting as a council of advice for the bishop in such matters as she may choose to bring before the Committee; and on matters which the Diocese, through the Standing Committee, wishes to bring before the bishop.
- Acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in the case of prolonged absence, disability, or resignation of the diocesan bishop, if there be no other bishop to whom authority has been temporarily given.
- Acting as the investigative body in the process of ecclesiastical discipline as specified in the Canons of The Episcopal Church.

What kind of person are we looking for?

In addition to the person who is dedicated to Christ and the Church, we are seeking an individual who is a strong leader, able to provide careful counsel to the bishop, aware of the tenor regarding issues in the greater church, and capable of assisting in the leadership of the diocese should the need arise.

Convention 2022 will elect:

- One lay person for a four-year term.
- One clergy person for a four-year term.
- One clergy person for a three year term.

General Convention Deputies

The General Convention of the Episcopal Church meets once every three years (although 2021's GC was postponed to 2022 due to COVID). The General Convention is the largest bicameral legislative body in the world. Each bishop attends sessions of the House of Bishops. Each diocese also sends a deputation of four clergy persons and four laypersons to the week-plus long convention. The next General Convention will be held in July of 2024 in Louisville, Kentucky.

General Convention is a bit like a family reunion of the Episcopal Church with agencies, groups, and other constellations of Episcopalians gathering for the event. For deputies, days can be long, and often a lot of walking in the convention center is involved. Deputies will also need to

be comfortable with digital devices and technology, and be able to master new technologies rapidly. This coming convention will have the added excitement of the election of the next Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, as Michael Curry's term expires in 2024.

Convention 2022 will elect:

- Four clergy deputies;
- Four lay deputies;
- Four clergy alternates;
- Four lay alternates.

Delegates to the Triennial Meeting of the Women of the Church

Convention will also elect delegates to the Triennial Meeting of the Women of the Church, which runs concurrently with the General Convention in Louisville, Kentucky in July 2024.

Convention 2022 will elect:

- Three Triennial Delegates, clergy or lay.
- Two Triennial Alternate Delegates, clergy or lay.

Nomination FAQs

How do I nominate an individual for a diocesan leadership position?

Complete the nomination form at cnyepiscopal.org/nomination-form. Nominations are due Oct. 14th.

Who may submit a nomination?

The following individuals are eligible to submit a nomination:

- Any clergyperson entitled to vote in Convention.
- Any lay delegate certified by the Convention Secretary at least six weeks prior to the Convention who is from a parish in good standing both in their payments to the Church Pension Fund and diocesan mission apportionment for the period prior to January 1st of the Convention year.

Who may be nominated?

Nominees must be at least 20 years of age and confirmed communicants of The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Central New York. Other requirements may apply; please see descriptions of open positions above.