Nominations for Election
Episcopal Diocese of WNC

THE EPISCOPAL FOUNDATION OF WNC

Positions to Fill: 3 Lay Persons (Asheville, Hendersonville, and Mountain Deaneries)

Lay Person - Asheville Deanery



Ms. Jan Hildebrand
Trinity, Asheville

Jan Hildebrand, a native Ashevillian, has been a member of Trinity Parish since the mid-1980s. She joined the staff in 2020 as Assistant Finance Director, working from home during the pandemic, and later became Director of Finance. Most of her career was in public school and nonprofit finance. She lives in Chunn's Cove with her husband Pete, a lifelong Trinitarian, and enjoys sewing, reading, and time with family and friends.

Lay Person - Hendersonville Deanery



Ms. Mary Lance
St. James, Hendersonville

Mary Lance was raised in Fletcher in a fourth-generation Calvary Episcopal family. A UNC-G and UNC-CH graduate, she worked as a community college instructor, activity director, consultant, and Long Term Care administrator. Camp Henry summers led to board service there, at In-the-Oaks, and Lake Logan. A St. James, Hendersonville member, she served on Vestry and Outreach and organized Creation Care Ministry. Mary would be honored to serve the Episcopal Foundation.

Lay Persons - Mountain Deanery



Ms. Joan Smith
St. Luke's, Boone - Mountain Deanery

Joan Smith has been an active member of St. Luke's in Boone since relocating from Upstate New York in 2022. A lifelong Episcopalian, she has served as chalice bearer, reader, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, and Discernment Committee member. Earlier, she served on vestry and led Morning Prayer at St. John's in Speedsville, New York. Joan hopes to help share the love and plenty found in the Diocese of Western North Carolina.



Ms. Paula Riggs
Holy Communion, Glendale Springs - Mountain Deanery

Paula joined Ashe County's Holy Communion Parish in 1988, serving on Vestry for 36 years, 27 as Senior Warden. She chaired the Diocesan Cursillo Secretariat and represented Mountain Deanery on Executive Council. Paula was Vice President of the first Diocesan Daughters of the King chapter and now serves as parish chapter President. A licensed Acolyte, she received the Diocese's 2018 Outstanding Communicant Award. She hopes to serve the Episcopal Foundation.

Nominations for Election
Episcopal Diocese of WNC

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Positions to Fill:

1 Clergy - Hendersonville Deanery
1 Clergy - Foothills Deanery
1 Lay Person - Asheville Deanery
1 Lay Person - Western Deanery
2 Lay Persons - At Large

Lay Persons - Asheville Deanery



Mr. Bill Hasskamp
St. James, Black Mountain - Asheville Deanery

Bill Hasskamp joined St. James, Black Mountain in 2001 and has served on Vestry, including as Junior Warden, chaired its Solar Energy Taskforce, and cofounded the Vergers in 2005. He joined the choir as a tenor in 2021. A frequent Diocesan Convention delegate, he served on the Executive Committee (2005–2008) and Standing Committee (2021–2024), and is on the Nominations Committee. He was elected a Deputy to the 82nd General Convention.

Lay Persons - Western Deanery



Ms. Barbara Jo White
Grace Church in the Mountains, Waynesville - Western Deanery

Barbara Jo White grew up in the Methodist church. A camp counselor for several summers while studying at UNC-Chapel Hill, she also volunteered one summer with the Methodist Church's Appalachia Service Project, doing home repair. As a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic (1987-1989), she developed the World Map Project, in which local residents hand-paint large world maps on school walls. The project continues in Peace Corps countries today.

Nominations for Election
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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Lay Persons - At Large



Mr. Patrick Bartholomew
Grace Church, Morganton - At Large Representative

Patrick Bartholomew was raised Roman Catholic and spent years in a contemplative community in Columbus, Georgia, leading retreats nationwide. After earning bachelor's and master's degrees at Western Carolina University, he worked 36 years as a Speech-Language Pathologist. Received into the Episcopal Church at Grace, he is a second-year Junior Warden and active in Mission and Outreach, serving meals to unsheltered neighbors. He looks forward to serving on the Executive Council



Ms. Jane Schronce
St. Luke's, Lincolnton - At Large Representative

Jane Schronce, a lifelong Episcopalian and retired English teacher, has served St. Luke's, Lincolnton for nearly fifty years, including on several vestries and recently as Senior Warden. Her diocesan service includes Executive Council, Standing Committee, strategic planning committees, both recent bishop transition committees, and the Lake Logan Board. She has been a General Convention deputy three times. Jane hopes to return to Executive Council, where her diocesan service began.



Mr. Greg Townsend
Grace Church, Asheville - At Large Representative

Greg Townsend has been a member of Grace Episcopal Church, Asheville for over 40 years, where he and his wife Shannon raised their two sons. Both are retired Asheville City Schools educators. Greg has served multiple Vestry terms, including as Senior Warden during a clergy transition, and currently leads Grace's Christian formation program. Known for his deep faith and love for the church, he is seeking election to Executive Council.

Clergy - Hendersonville Deanery



The Rev. Dr. Kathy Hulin
St. John in the Wilderness, Flat Rock

The Rev. Dr. Kathy Hulin moved to Flat Rock in March 2026 and serves as Associate Rector for Formation and Pastoral Care at St. John in the Wilderness. Formerly a Baptist minister in Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, she was ordained an Episcopal priest in 2018 and served All Saints', Lakeland as Assistant to the Rector and Bishop's Representative to an Episcopal school board. Kathy would be honored to serve the Diocese of WNC on the Hendersonville Deanery.

Nominations for Election
Episcopal Diocese of WNC

STANDING COMMITTEE

Positions to Fill: 1 Clergy & 1 Lay Person

Clergy



The Rev. Anita Ware
Church of the Redeemer, Shelby

The Rev. Anita Ware is Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Shelby and Administrative Dean of Iona WNC: A School for Ministry, where she was the first graduate. A vocational deacon and priest in several WNC congregations, she holds a Doctor of Education in Leadership and spent more than three decades in public education as a teacher, administrator, and district leader. She is passionate about collaborative leadership.

Lay Persons



Mr. Tom Bartholomy
St. Paul's, Morganton

Tom is a member of St. Paul's, Morganton, and recently retired as President/CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving Charlotte and Asheville, after chairing the national BBB board. Hiw volunteer work includes Glen Alpine Food Pantry (board secretary), Burke United Christian Ministries, Foothills Conservancy trail building, and Morganton Rotary (board member). He now leads Morning Prayer at St. Paul's. Tom hopes to bring broad nonprofit board experience to the diocesan Standing Committee.



Ms. Lee Berger
All Saints, Franklin

Lee Berger, a retired Macon County teacher, has served All Saints, Franklin on Vestry for many terms, several as Senior Warden, and on two Discernment Committees. Her diocesan service includes two Executive Council terms, two terms on the Foundation for the Diocese of WNC, one as chairman, and the Camp Henry and Lake Logan boards. A past Rotary Club of Franklin president, she hopes to serve on the Standing Committee.

Nominations for Election
Episcopal Diocese of WNC

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Positions to Fill: 1 Clergy & 1 Lay Person

Lay Persons



Mr. Thomas Griswold
St. John in the Wilderness, Flat Rock

Thomas Griswold, a member of St. John in the Wilderness since 2018, served as Treasurer (2020-2024), Endowment Trustee and Chair, and on the Finance Committee, increasing financial transparency while the endowment doubled. A retired corporate attorney, he was Assistant General Counsel at Textron and John Deere and ran a Deere business in Germany. He sings in the parish choir and hopes to strengthen the Church's finances through the Finance Committee.



Mr. M. Bruce Smith
Christ Church, Sparta

Bruce Smith's career in accounting, finance, and audit includes 16 years programming financial projections for insurance agents and 12 years as Executive Director of the Oxford Housing Authority. He also audited cash handling in National Parks and earned FLMI and CLU certificates. Bruce was treasurer of St. Stephen's, Oxford for 13 years and Christ Church, Sparta for three. He values simple, transparent financial statements and hopes to assist the diocese.

Clergy



The Rev. Will Bryant
Transfiguration, Saluda

The Rev. Will Bryant, ordained in 2021, is rector of the Church of the Transfiguration in Saluda, where he works with the vestry and treasurer on budgets, endowment, and long-term planning, and has overseen capital projects. He has served on the Lake Logan board since 2023 and organized the Bishop's Cup golf tournament since 2024. A former credit union employee, he would be honored to serve on the Finance Committee.

Nominations for Election
Episcopal Diocese of WNC

DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Positions to Fill: 2 Clergy & 1 Lay Person

Clergy



The Rev. Mike Alford
St. Luke's, Boone

Mike Alford, rector of St. Luke's, Boone, is a second-career priest who practiced law for 34 years, including hundreds of arbitrations and mediations as arbitrator and mediator. Ordained in the Diocese of Southwest Florida, he served as President of its Disciplinary Board, managing Title IV proceedings to conclusion. He seeks one of two open clergy positions on the Disciplinary Board, committed to Title IV's goals of healing, justice, and reconciliation.



The Rev. Jim Pritchett
Calvary, Fletcher

The Rev. Jim Pritchett retired ten years ago as Canon to the Ordinary. Dealing with Title IV situations was an important part of his work, and he is very familiar with the canons and the diocese's process for addressing them. Though not the fun part of church life, he considers it important to maintaining integrity in the church community.



The Rev. Dr. Robert Reese
Church of the Redeemer, Asheville

The Rev. Dr. Bob Reese, born and raised in Asheville, was ordained deacon and priest in this diocese (1974, 1975). In his 51 years of ministry he has served churches in WNC and the Diocese of Georgia, where he chaired the Standing Committee. He was an active-duty Army chaplain from 1981-1989 and Associate Priest at Grace Church, Asheville (2010-2020). He is currently Priest-in-Charge of the Church of the Redeemer, Asheville.



The Rev. Alison Schultz
Good Shepherd, Cashiers

The Rev. Alison Schultz is Assistant Rector at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers, bringing two decades of ordained ministry and deep pastoral care, spiritual guidance, and administrative leadership. Beyond the parish, she serves as Secretary of the Advisory Council of Big Brothers Big Sisters and on the board of the International Friendship Center, combining faithful pastoral leadership with civic engagement focused on mentorship, education, and caring for our neighbors.

Nominations for Election
Episcopal Diocese of WNC

DISCIPLINARY BOARD
Positions to Fill: 2 Clergy & 1 Lay Person

Lay Person



Ms. Suzi Herbert
Good Shepherd, Hayesville

Suzi Herbert is a member of Good Shepherd, Hayesville, where she has served as Senior Warden and currently serves on the Outreach and Housing Security committees. She served on the Diocesan Bishop Search Committee. A retired educator, consultant, and former Georgia state legislator, she holds degrees in education and chaired several statewide education committees. Suzi was a founding member of Open Arms Institute, which helped churches develop Christian childcare centers.



Mr. George Sweet
Church of the Transfiguration, Saluda

George Sweet was a member of St. Agnes, Franklin for 10 years and has belonged to Transfiguration, Saluda for 23, serving as Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Treasurer at both. He also served on the diocesan Standing Committee. He seeks to help the diocese on the Disciplinary Board, bringing sound judgment, compassion, and a good understanding of human nature.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Positions to Fill: 1 Lay Person & 1 Clergy

Lay Person



Ms. Jane Schronce
St. Luke's, Lincolnton

Jane Schronce, a lifelong Episcopalian and retired English teacher, has belonged to St. Luke's, Lincolnton for almost fifty years, serving on several vestries and recently as Senior Warden. Her diocesan service includes Executive Council, Standing Committee, both recent bishop transition committees, the Lake Logan Board, and three General Convention deputations.

TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
Positions to Fill: 1 Lay Person



Dr. John Maddocks
Holy Communion, Glendale Springs

Dr. Maddocks, a cradle Episcopalian from Winston-Salem, graduated from the University of the South in 1969. He taught school before serving 29 years as a public school principal. He and his wife, Jane, attended St. Barnabas, Greensboro for 34 years and have now belonged to Holy Communion, Glendale Springs for 23. He has served on Vestry and as both Junior and Senior Warden. They have three children and six grandchildren.