



OFFICES TO BE ELECTED

Please review the following leadership opportunities in the Diocese and prayerfully discern individuals who may be called to offer their gifts and talents in service to the Church. To nominate a person for an open position, [please follow this link to use the approved form.](#)

It is essential for delegates to review all nominations prior to convention. Therefore, all nominations must be submitted no later than October 19, 2026 so that they can be published online by October 30, 2026.

The Diocese of Western North Carolina and the Nominating Committee are committed to recommendations for leadership roles that demonstrate the ongoing work of making systemic equity a reality in our institution.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE DIOCESE: (3-year term)

*1 Adult Layperson from each of the following Deaneries: Western, Asheville;
1 Clergy from each of the following Deaneries: Hendersonville and Foothills.
At Large: 2 Adult Laypersons.*

The Executive Council:

- Helps set the vision and mission of the Diocese and supports the implementation of the work of the Diocese between Conventions.
- Meets up to six times annually, plus an overnight retreat at the beginning of the new calendar year.
- Ideal candidates will have served on a Vestry and have a basic understanding of the work of the Diocese.
- Elected members having served a full term are eligible for reelection after a year has passed, or will have passed, since such person's last term of office and the start of a new term of office. (DioWNC Canon 4.2)

For more information contact Jann Mellman: jrmellman@gmail.com

Interested candidates, please note that the first E.C. meeting is a retreat at Lake Logan on February 5-6, 2027.

Lay Rotating Off: eligible for re-election at 2026 Convention: Lee Berger, Jann Melman, Sandra Smith and Sandy Rountree

Clergy Rotating Off: eligible for re-election at 2026 Convention: The Rev. David Henson and The Rev. Logan Lovelace

THE STANDING COMMITTEE: (4-year term)

1 Clergy,

1 Adult Layperson

The Standing Committee:

- Serves as a council of advice for the Bishop
- Is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in the absence of a Bishop.
- Must give its advice and consent for a number of important actions within the life of the Diocese and The Episcopal Church, such as election of Bishops, approval of candidates for ordination, and sale or encumbrance of property of the Diocese.
- Meets monthly with called meetings as necessary.
- Ideal candidates will have served on a Vestry and have a basic understanding of the work of the Diocese.
- Elected members having served a full term are eligible for reelection after a year has passed, or will have passed, since such person's last term of office and the start of a new term of office. (DioWNC Canon 5.2)

For more information contact The Rev. Susan Buchanan at sbuchanan@saintjamesepiscopal.org

Lay Rotating Off: eligible for re-election at 2027 Convention: Jane Schronce

Clergy Rotating Off: eligible for re-election at 2027 Convention: The Rev. Susan Buchanan

THE EPISCOPAL FOUNDATION OF WNC: (3-year term)

3 Adult Laypersons, one from each of the following Deaneries:

Asheville, Hendersonville, and Mountain.

The Foundation makes grants and loans to groups affiliated with the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Western North Carolina for capital and program projects.

The Foundation:

- Reviews and evaluates grant requests, including financial statements; educates members of their parish about the Foundation; each board member makes a modest financial gift to the Foundation (minimum \$10).
- Meets four times per year.
- Ideal candidates will have served on a vestry and have familiarity with parish financial documents, or a willingness to learn.
- Board members serve a 3-year term and may serve one second consecutive term.

For further information contact Ms. Dillon Manly at mardill0913@gmail.com.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: (3-year term)

1 Adult Layperson

1 Clergy

The Nominating Committee:

- Puts forward nominees for all offices and other leadership positions to be appointed or elected by the Diocesan Convention, Executive Council, or Bishop.
- Helps to identify qualified and interested Clerics and Laypersons for such positions
- Keeps a roster of interested candidates
- Works to encourage systemic equity in the process of identifying nominees.
- Ideal candidates will have some familiarity with the ministries of the Diocese and know people in the Diocese outside of their own parish.
- Members serve a 3-year term and may serve a second consecutive term.

For more information contact The Rev. Jonathan Stepp at frjonathan@stalbansparish.org

TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH: (3-year term, 7/1/27 – 6/30/30)

1 Lay

The University of the South, familiarly known as Sewanee is a private Episcopal liberal arts college in Sewanee, Tennessee, United States. It is owned by 28 southern dioceses of the Episcopal Church. The Board of Trustees:

- Elects and appoints a Board of Regents, a Chancellor, a Vice-Chancellor, and a Chaplain to serve the University and governs matters related to the Charter, the Constitution, and the University Domain.
- Meets once a year in Sewanee in the fall. Board members are often asked to participate in sub-committees of the board.
- Expenses incurred are the responsibility of the Board members.
- Ideal candidates would care deeply about collegiate level spiritual and academic formation in the Episcopal Church and have experience with serving on a vestry or other non-profit board.

For more information contact The Rev. Rob Wood at rwood.gs@gmail.com

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE: (3-year term)

1 Clergy |

1 Adult Layperson

The Finance Committee is responsible for oversight of all financial affairs of the Diocese. The Committee:

- Reviews and approves the financial policies of the Diocese; monitors diocesan accounting and financial activity; oversees investment policy and management; offers support for parish mission and ministry, and also advises the Bishop and diocesan leadership on issues having financial implications for the Diocese.
- Meet six times per year, both in-person at the Bishop Henry Center and by Zoom.
- Ideal candidates will have an understanding of financial statements and, preferably, experience in finance, accounting, investment management, and/or auditing, or a willingness to learn these skills.

For further information contact The Rev. Sam Tallman at svtktv@aol.com

DISCIPLINARY BOARD: (3-year term)

2 Clergy

1 Adult Layperson

The Disciplinary Board assists the Bishop in the oversight of the disciplinary process regarding allegations of serious clergy misconduct as outlined by Title IV of the Canons of the ECUSA. The board:

- Works with the Bishop and others to assess and evaluate allegations of misconduct.
- Meets on an as-needed basis.
- Ideal candidates will have the ability to think clearly about human behavior and engage the Title IV process with the values of healing, repentance, forgiveness, restitution, justice, and amendment of life.

For further information contact The Rev. Jonathan Stepp frjonathan@stalbansparish.org

Any late nominations will need to submit a PDF copy of the nomination form at the end of this memo (see below) as well as a Motion to Suspend the Rule. At the appointed time, the Nominator needs to make a motion from the virtual floor of convention that the rules be suspended so that the nomination be considered and accepted.

**The 104th Annual Convention of the
Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina November 7, 2026
NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTED POSITIONS**

From the Floor of Convention

The delegates to the Annual Convention will be responsible for electing the following officers and delegates:

- Episcopal Foundation of WNC (3-year term): 3 Adult Laypersons, one each from the Foothills, Piedmont, and Western Deaneries..
- Executive Council of the Diocese (3-year term): 1 Adult Layperson from each of the following Deaneries: Asheville, Western; 1 Clergy from each of the following Deaneries: Hendersonville and Foothills. At Large: 2 Adult Laypersons.
- Standing Committee (4-year term): 1 Adult Layperson; 1 Clergy
- Nominating Committee: 1 Adult Layperson for a 3-year term; 1 Clergy for a 3-year term.
- Finance Committee: 1 Adult Layperson for a 3-year term; 1 Clergy for a 3-year term.
- Disciplinary Board: 1 Adult Layperson for a 3-year term; 2 Clergy for a 3-year term.
- Trustees of the University of the South: 1 Adult Layperson to fill a 3-year term (July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2030)

Submission Deadline: November 7, 2026 – 8:45 am

Nominee:

Nominated for the Office Of:	
First & Last Name	
Email Address	
Congregation & City	
Has the nominee indicated a willingness to serve?	
Is the nominee an incumbent to the office?	

Biographical Sketch:

In 500 words or less, on a separate sheet of paper, please provide biographical information about the nominee's qualifications, willingness to serve, and other statements that may be helpful for discernment by convention delegates. Please include a headshot of the nominee. Provide 250 copies to the Dispatch of Business. Statements will be published prior to Convention.

Head Shot:

Please email a high-resolution headshot image of the nominee to be used in Diocesan Convention Materials to Canon Augusta at canonaugusta@diocesewnc.org.

Motion to Suspend the Rule:

At the appointed time, the Nominator needs to make a motion from the virtual floor of convention that the rules be suspended so that the nomination be considered and accepted.