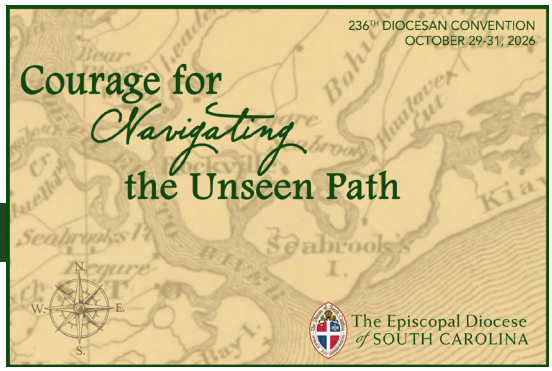
NOMINEES FOR DIOCESAN OFFICES

Report Prepared for the 236th Diocesan Convention
As of October 14, 2026



Standing Committee

The Standing Committee is comprised of six clergy and six lay members. The Standing Committee's responsibilities are: to act as the Standing Committee of the diocese in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, The Constitution of this Diocese (Article IX), and its Canons, including giving consents to Episcopal elections elsewhere in The Episcopal Church; to act as a Council of advice to the Bishop; and to act as Ecclesiastical Authority in absence of the Bishop. Terms are for three years, though this year, one seat is to fill an unexpired two-year term.

Clergy Nominees (2 Clergy Seats):
The Rev. Pam Fahrner
The Rev. B. Shawan Gillians
The Rev. Ned Mulligan

Lay Nominees (3 Lay Seats):
(two for 3-year terms, 1 for 2-year term)
John Gilbert
Deb Harris
Lori Wohlgemuth Tull

Deputy Alternates to the 82nd General Convention in 2027

Deputies and Alternates: Each diocese of The Episcopal Church is entitled to four clergy and four lay deputies at the triennial meetings of the General Convention. Alternate deputies are important should any of the elected deputies be unable to serve, and historically we have elected four in each order. The 82nd General Convention will be held July 3-8, 2027, in Phoenix, Arizona. While the deputies and two alternates were elected last year, two elected clergy deputies have departed the diocese, so this year Convention is asked to elect four clergy alternates and two lay alternates.

Clergy Nominees (4 Alternates needed):
The Rev. Ricardo X.-Z. Bailey
The Rev. Cn. Ryan Currie
The Rev. B. Shawan Gillians
The Rev. Jenny Newman

Lay Nominees (2 Alternates Needed):
Colleen Condon
Molly Hamilton

Trustees of the Diocese

The Trustees of the Diocese include three clergy and three lay members serving in a six-year term. The responsibilities of the Trustees are in accordance with the 1902 Act of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, and include quarterly meetings, and managing the investments, assets, and endowments of the diocese.

Clergy Nominee (1 Clergy Seat):
The Rev. Dr. Jennie Olbrych

Lay Nominee (1 Clergy Seat):
Lesley Gilbert

Trustee, University of the South

The University of the South, located in Sewanee, TN, is owned by the Episcopal dioceses of the southeast, each of which elects two lay persons and one member of the clergy to its Board of Trustees. The Trustees meet once each year for two days. Between annual meetings, Trustees serve the University by promoting its mission, encouraging enrollment, and supporting it financially. Terms are for three years.

Lay Nominee (1 Lay Seat):
William "Bill" Grimes

Additional nominations may be presented to the Nominations Committee on or before October 29, 2026, the first business day of Diocesan Convention.

Additional nominations must include 150 copies of each nominee's photo, nominator statement, and personal statement (which can be on one page).

Standing Committee
Clergy



Name: The Rev. Pam Fahrner

Church: St. Mark's, Port Royal

Nominated by: Sally Mayse

Nominator statement: The Reverend Pam Farhner is ideally suited to serve as a member of the Diocesan Standing Committee, and as advisor to Bishop Ruth. Always cheerful and full of energy, Pam has served most of the small churches in the Southern Deanery and is therefore uniquely suited to advise the bishop on the concerns and challenges of small churches in the rural, southern areas of the Diocese of South Carolina. Pam is a tireless worker for the church and brings a great deal of thoughtful creativity to any task. I believe she will serve the bishop, our Diocese and The Episcopal Church with boundless energy, integrity and enthusiasm. I ask your prayerful consideration to cast your vote for Pam Farhner as clergy member of Standing Committee.

Personal Statement: It has been a privilege to serve this diocese during its foundational and transformative years. Since my arrival in 2013, I have had a front-row seat to our collective journey, navigating periods of transition, the challenges of a global pandemic, and times of leadership vacancy. Serving under the guidance of Bishops von Rosenberg, Adams, and Woodliff-Stanley has provided me with invaluable opportunities to learn, grow, and collaborate with clergy, staff, and parishioners across our community.

My ministry includes many years of service at All Saints, Hilton Head, as well as meaningful engagements with the congregations of All Saints, Hampton; Christ Church, Denmark; Church of the Heavenly Rest, Estill; and The Episcopal Church in Okatie. Most recently, I served as the Interim Rector for St. Mark's in Port Royal, where I now happily worship as a parishioner.
In addition to my parish ministry, I have served on the Diocesan Council for two terms and currently contribute to the diocesan Finance Committee. Following my recent retirement, I am fully energized and uniquely positioned to devote my time, institutional knowledge, and deep love for this diocese's remarkable history to the Standing Committee. I look forward to bringing experience, enthusiasm, and a collaborative spirit to the table.

Standing Committee

Clergy



Name: The Rev. Deacon B. Shawan Gillians

Church: St. Mark's, Charleston

Nominated by: The Rev. Michael Shaffer

Nominator statement: I am honored to nominate the Rev. B. Shawan Gillians to serve on the Standing Committee. Shawan's combination of theological formation, professional expertise, governance experience, and faithful leadership makes her exceptionally well suited for this important ministry. Shawan holds degrees in Economics and Religion from Wofford University, Law from William & Mary, and Business Administration from the University of South Carolina. She is completing her Master of Divinity at Emory University's Candler School of Theology and, God willing and the people consenting, will be ordained a priest in January 2027.

As an attorney and utility executive, Shawan brings extensive experience in strategic planning, financial stewardship, complex decision-making, and collaborative leadership. She currently serves on several boards, including Roper St. Francis Berkeley Hospital, Children's Trust of South Carolina, and the Historic Charleston Foundation. Within our diocese, she has served as a vestry member and senior warden at St. Mark's, Charleston, and on the Strategic Visioning Committee. As a seminarian, she has served at St. Stephen's, Charleston, and Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston. I strongly recommend Shawan. She will bring wisdom, sound judgment, integrity, and a deep commitment to Christ and the leadership and mission of our diocese.

Personal Statement: After being received into The Episcopal Church in 2016 I have been blessed to serve the Church in lay or ordained ministry ever since. At St. Mark's, Charleston, I served in various capacities including as a member of vestry for six years, with five years as senior warden. I have also served on the diocese's Strategic Visioning Team.

I am completing my final semester at Emory University's Candler School of Theology. During seminary, I served at St. Stephen's, Charleston and currently serve as a deacon and seminarian at Grace Church Cathedral. God willing and the bishop and people consenting, I will be ordained to the priesthood in January 2027. Professionally, I have practiced law for nearly twenty years. I am also an executive with experience in finance, strategy, and corporate governance. My community service includes leadership with Coastal Community Foundation, Wofford College, Trident United Way, and other organizations.

I seek to serve on the Standing Committee because I believe faithful governance is itself a ministry. I would bring experience in governance, prayerful discernment, thoughtful counsel, and collaborative leadership to its canonical and advisory responsibilities as we discern together where God is calling our diocese in this season of renewal.

Standing Committee

Clergy



Name: The Rev. Ned Mulligan

Church: St. Bartholomew's, Hartsville

Nominated by: Joseph Rice

Nominator statement: As a parishioner, vestry member and choir member at St. Bartholomew's in Hartsville, I submit my nomination of Ned Mulligan, our priest-in-charge, as a member of the Standing Committee.Ned has brought new life to St. Bart's with his leadership, guidance, knowledge and ability to engage with everyone. His extensive and varied background and experience in both the private sector and in service to Episcopal schools and congregations provide him with a unique perspective that will benefit and enhance the Diocese as we move forward to grow and increase our relevance and reach with both existing and new members.

His theological training and his ability to convey that training in an approachable and accessible manner have endeared him to our congregation--a congregation that has weathered some difficult times and now finds itself moving in a positive and exciting direction. Ned is the driving force behind that growth and change. I am certain that he will bring that same level of dedication, enthusiasm, honesty and devotion to service as a member of the Standing Committee.

Personal Statement: I am seeking election to the Standing Committee because I would welcome the opportunity to serve the diocese in a new way and to offer the experience I have gained through several different chapters of my professional and ministerial life.

Before ordination, I practiced law for 25 years, learning the importance of careful listening, thoughtful analysis, and considering difficult questions from more than one perspective. My years in Episcopal schools—as chaplain, teacher, and administrator—gave me a deep appreciation for the breadth of our Church and for the ways our Episcopal identity can shape communities of faith, learning, and service. Parish ministry has added yet another dimension, allowing me to share closely in the joys, challenges, and hopes of a congregation and the people who call it home.

I have been fortunate to serve the Church in many different settings. At this point in my ministry, I would be grateful for the opportunity to bring those experiences together in service to our diocese, our bishop, our clergy and congregations, and the continuing mission of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina.

Standing Committee

Lay



Name: John Gilbert

Church: All Saints, Hilton Head Island

Nominated by: The Very Rev. Eric Bash

Nominator statement: John Gilbert is an excellent choice to be on the Standing Committee for the diocese. For the past three years, John has been on the vestry at All Saints Epsicopal Church in Hilton Head. During this time, he has helped lead us through an extremely successful capital campaign as well as leading the congregation during the retirement of the rector and the transitional time while they search for a new rector. As the senior warden, he has facilitated the hiring of our interim rector, and maintained strong communication with the diocese and congregation while we prepare to launch our formal search for the new rector.

John's vast experience as a retired military officer, board member of multiple nonprofit organizations, and integral supporter of his church and our diocese makes him a strong candidate for the Standing Committee. He is a servant leader who is passionate about our message of inclusivity, love, compassion, and care.

Personal Statement: I served in a variety of roles and places in the Air Force, retiring after 26 years, and continue to serve as a teacher, trainer, consultant, and advisor on international arms control, working to reduce the possibility of conflict in various forms and locations. I still devote time to leadership - and followship - in community and educational organizations. I have served on the governing board of our homeowners association (which includes 4400 residences), served in leadership positions with our 700-person World Affairs Council, currently sit on the Boards of the Coastal Discovery Museum and the Hilton Head Ethics Society, and present short courses for local continuing education groups.

My contributions to the religious life of our greater community center on All Saints Episcopal Church, where I have served on the Building and Grounds Committee, lead the team that processes and accounts for weekly donations, and served as a vestry member with responsibility for social justice, as junior warden, and now as senior warden. I have also been a delegate to the diocesan convention and recently led a successful search for our interim rector. I have been married to Lesley for 58+ years and we are proud parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

Standing Committee

Lay



Name: Deb Harris

Church: Holy Cross Faith Memorial, Pawleys Island

Nominated by: The Rev. Wil Keith

Nominator statement: Deb Harris has been an active and faithful member of the congregation since joining in 2013. She serves on many, many diocese committees and initiatives and currently has a leadership role in the diocesan Capital Campaign, "Rising Together." Deb has always finished whatever she has started and the work along the way is consistently excellent. Her work is vital to both parish and diocese and she provides a strong link between the two. She is a joy to work with.

Personal Statement: It would be my honor to serve as a lay member of the Standing Committee. I am a lifelong Episcopalian. I was born, raised and spent the majority of my life in the Washington, DC metropolitan area and moved to South Carolina in March 2013. I was an active member of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Springfield, VA for more than 25 years and was involved in many ministries: vestry, altar guild, outreach committee, lay eucharistic minister, Sunday school teacher, EYC leader, delegate to diocesan convention, search committees, discernment committees, and lay committees for seminarians. I'm involved in many ministries at HCFM: vestry, Stephen Ministry, ECW, acolyte, usher, and verger. I also served on the Diocesan Stewardship and Development Committee, the Strategic Visioning Committee, the Feasibility Study, and am currently working on our diocesan capital campaign. I was recently appointed assistant secretary to diocesan convention. I served as a lay deputy to the 80th and 81st General Conventions and I plan to serve again at the 82nd General Convention next year.

I am retired from a 35 year career as a system engineer and defense contractor. I have an adult daughter and was very involved in her schools and activities--church, symphonic and marching bands, lacrosse and karate.

Standing Committee

Lay



Name: Lori Wohlgemuth Tull

Church: Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston

Nominated by: The Rev. Roy Tripp

Nominator statement: I am delighted to nominate Lori Wohlgemuth Tull to serve on the Standing Committee of the Diocese of South Carolina. I first met Lori when she and her husband, Tom Tull, began attending St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Port Royal, where I was rector. From the beginning I was impressed with Lori's ease of connecting with people. Her listening skills, her inquisitive desire to learn more than what's just at the surface and her ability to ask questions that engage people are all aspects that would add value to the Standing Committee.

Lori's faith and her love of The Episcopal Church is evident by the many levels of involvement in the life of our diocese. While at St. Mark's, Lori became active participating as a lay reader and usher. She also played a pivotal role in establishing the Sacred Ground Program and was a facilitator for several programs. Lori is also focused on her own spiritual growth having completed the highly-intensive Education for Ministry Program. Lori will bring a proactive engagement to the committee coupled with a welcoming personality, and insights gained from living her faith in the public square.

Personal Statement: Raised in the Roman Catholic faith, growing unease with church doctrine led my husband and me to The Episcopal Church and our first Choral Eucharist at Grace Church Cathedral in October 2017. Within 30 minutes, we knew we had found our new spiritual home. After completing the Inquirers Class, we were received into The Episcopal Church in May 2018.

Since my reception into The Episcopal Church, I have been honored and humbled to serve in two different churches within the diocese: Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston and St. Mark's, Port Royal as lay reader and usher. Additional ministries in which I serve include Church Mouse Boutique/ Tea Room team member, Canterbury House Tea coordinator, Grace-to-Go food prep/greeter, and Community Supper team member.

In 2023, I participated in the inaugural Sacred Ground Program at St. Mark's. Greatly impacted by the experience and motivated to use my background as an adult learning professional to work with others building Beloved Community within the diocese, I co-facilitated two Sacred Ground Circles in 2024 and 2025. During this time, I also completed the Education for Ministry Program – a transformative spiritual experience for me.

The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina has given me the opportunity to serve my neighbors and the Lord in many capacities. And yet, I believe spiritual growth also comes with stretching oneself beyond what is most comfortable and listening for where the Holy Spirit may be directing me to go. At this point in my spiritual journey, I feel called to offer my name for consideration as a Standing Committee lay candidate.

Alternate Deputy, 82nd General Convention
Clergy



Name: The Rev. Ricardo X.-Z. Bailey

Church: Calvary, Charleston

Nominated by: Vermelle Simmons

Nominator statement: The Reverend Ricardo Bailey, seventh rector of Historic Calvary, brings significant pastoral experience and expertise in church law to the community. He serves on the Standing Committee and is a member of The Title IV Commission. Rev. Bailey also takes an active role in CAJM programs, a member of Three Churches United, participates in weekly ministry at Grace Church Cathedral, and acts as a pilgrimage leader of Racial Healing.

Father Bailey was initially ordained as a priest in the Holy Catholic Church in Atlanta, GA, and has served in the priesthood since 2003. In 2011, he was received into The Episcopal Church by Bishop Neil Alexander. He held numerous roles in The Diocese of Atlanta under Bishop Wright's leadership. During his service in Atlanta, Father Bailey was selected by then Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry to be one of three chaplains to the House of Bishops within The Episcopal Church.

Father Bailey is known for his approachability, respect for diverse perspectives, and his willingness to engage in governance. His collaborative spirit and commitment to clear communication are valuable assets to our deputation.

Personal Statement: My name is Father Ricardo Bailey, and I am a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina. I serve as the rector of the Historic Calvary Episcopal Church in Charleston.
I believe I would be a strong candidate to serve as an alternate clergy deputy for General Convention because I am familiar with the work of the House of Deputies on a large scale. Additionally, I believe my presence would bring a sense of balance and a renewed sense of purpose, affirming that there is a place for everyone at the table. I desire to serve God in this important role, and I trust that this intention will better equip me to be a servant leader in our beloved diocese.

Alternate Deputy, 82nd General Convention

Clergy



Name: The Rev. Cn. Ryan Currie

Church: All churches in the diocese (Bishop's Staff)

Nominated by: Deb Harris

Nominator statement: It is an honor and a privilege to nominate Ryan Currie to serve as a clergy alternate deputy for the 82nd General Convention. I have known Ryan since he came to our diocese as Holy Cross Faith Memorial's Assistant Rector in 2019. I have worked with him in a variety of capacities and have come to know him as a faithful, knowledgeable, compassionate, enthusiastic priest and friend. He would be an excellent addition to our deputation.

Personal Statement: I would be pleased to serve the diocese as a clergy alternate to the General Convention. I have wanted to participate in a General Convention for quite some time, but so far, I have not had the opportunity to do so. I believe that my experience of the broader church and my history in this diocese qualifies me to be a good representative for South Carolina Episcopalians, and I would be grateful for your support.

Alternate Deputy, 82nd General Convention
Clergy



Name: The Rev. Deacon Shawan Gillians

Church: St. Mark's, Charleston

Nominated by: The Rev. Michael Shaffer

Nominator statement: I am pleased to nominate the Rev. B. Shawan Gillians to serve as alternate clergy deputy to the 82nd General Convention of The Episcopal Church. An attorney and clergy, Shawan brings a unique combination of legal expertise, knowledge of canon and constitutional law, and familiarity with church polity. As a former senior warden of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Charleston, she understands the needs and concerns of vestry leadership from a lay perspective. Her experience as a seminarian at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and Grace Church Cathedral also gives her insight into the ministry and concerns of clergy.

Shawan has earned an excellent reputation in the wider church, including her selection by the Rev. Canon Ron Byrd to serve on the planning committee for The Episcopal Church's 2026 Seminarians of Color Conference. Shawan's credentials and experience make her exceptionally well qualified. With our current clergy deputation comprised exclusively of white male clergy, her election would broaden the perspectives and representation of our deputation and better reflect the diversity of our beloved diocese. I strongly urge her election.

Personal Statement: My experience in The Episcopal Church has given me the opportunity to see its common life from several perspectives - as a parishioner, vestry member, senior warden, a postulant and candidate for holy orders, and now a deacon. I currently serve at Grace Church Cathedral, following service as the seminarian on staff at St. Stephen's - Charleston. I am completing my final semester at Candler School of Theology at Emory University and, God willing and the Bishop and people consenting, will be ordained to the priesthood in January 2027.

Beyond the church, I am an attorney and a utility executive with experience in strategy, finance, communications, and governance. My community service has included leadership with educational, philanthropic, healthcare, and civic organizations throughout South Carolina. I would welcome the opportunity to serve our diocese at General Convention, where the breadth and diversity of The Episcopal Church gather to discern our common life and witness. I would bring careful preparation, thoughtful engagement with differing perspectives, and a willingness to listen deeply before reaching conclusions. I hope to represent our diocese faithfully while contributing to the wider Church's discernment of how God is calling us to proclaim the Gospel in our time.

Alternate Deputy, 82nd General Convention

Clergy



Name: The Rev. Jenny Newman

Church: St. Mark's, Port Royal

Nominated by: Barney Forsythe

Nominator statement: It is my honor to nominate the Rev. Jenny Newman, rector of St. Mark's in Port Royal, as an alternate delegate to General Convention. Jenny brings many gifts to this important service. Before ordination in 2021, she spent 10 years as a neurocognitive research specialist, counselor, and adjunct university professor. Prior to her call to the Lowcountry, Jenny was rector of a parish in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and a university campus chaplain. She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree, with a concentration in leadership. Jenny is a gifted preacher, engaging and collaborative leader, and strategic visionary who is fully grounded in the Gospel of Christ. In the short time she has been at St. Mark's, she has initiated a parish-wide discernment process that will lead to a clearer understanding of our values, mission, and vision, so that our congregation can be more intentional about how God is calling us to love and serve. As an alternate delegate to General Convention, she will listen deeply, discern where the Holy Spirit is leading The Episcopal Church, and participate collaboratively in charting the next phase of our church's ministry.

Personal Statement: Serving as an alternate to General Convention would be a rare chance to learn more deeply about The Episcopal Church while taking part in shaping its future. Currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry in Leadership for Wonder, I've been exploring how curiosity and deeper questions shape how we lead and discern together, and I bring a mission-focused orientation to that work. My hope is to see us move beyond stagnant models of church into places of joy and service where all belong and know themselves as God's beloved. Here in the Lowcountry, we have no shortage of deconstructing evangelicals seeking a spiritual home; helping The Episcopal Church recognize itself as that home is work I care deeply about.

Though new to South Carolina, I bring relevant experience: three years on my previous diocese's Executive Committee, service on its Commission on Ministry and Racial Justice Task Force, and ongoing leadership of pilgrimages serving the local and national church. What I'd bring to Convention is a willingness to listen widely, notice what's emerging, and help name the questions we're being called to ask. I hope to carry that discernment home to serve our shared life and ministry.

Alternate Deputy, 82nd General Convention
Lay



Name: Colleen Condon

Church: St. Peter's, Charleston (West Ashley)

Nominated by: The Rev. Courtney Davis-Shoemaker

Nominator statement: I have known Colleen since they began attending St. Stephen's, Charleston, and I am honored to now serve alongside them at St. Peter's in West Ashley. As bishop's warden, Colleen's commitment to renewing an Episcopal presence in West Ashley has been unwavering. They have been instrumental in helping us navigate significant building challenges while also discerning how we build a faithful and welcoming community.

Colleen brings valuable legal experience, careful attention to detail, and an ability to work through complex questions without losing sight of the people involved. When challenges at St. Peter's have felt overwhelming, Colleen has consistently helped us identify a path forward. Colleen is also deeply committed to ensuring that The Episcopal Church is grounded in God's love and reaches out to those who have experienced harm from the Church, particularly members of the LGBTQ+ community. They have helped engage our congregation in Park Circle Pride and the Charleston Pride Festival.

Colleen understands both the importance of thoughtful legislation and the relationships necessary to accomplish meaningful work. I believe these gifts, along with their deep commitment to The Episcopal Church, would make them a valuable member of South Carolina's General Convention deputation if called to serve.

Personal Statement: I would be honored to join the SC delegation to the 82nd General Convention as a lay alternate. I currently serve as bishop's warden to St. Peter's, on the Commission on Ministry (COM), Bishop's Advisory Committee on Ministry (BACOM), and on the diocesan Social Infrastructure Task Force. Participating in the convention would give me opportunities to learn more from others on ways I can be of increased service here at home.

Our diocesan churches helped me find God again after feeling shunned and isolated for many years. I was received into The Episcopal Church in 2018 at St. Stephen's, Charleston, where I served on the vestry, capital campaign committee, and as chancellor.

My professional career is as a Family Court lawyer and mediator. I have previously served three times at the DNC National Convention as a delegate and a Rules Committee member, and I humbly suggest that these skills could be helpful. Proud to be a queer Episcopalian, I represented our diocese at the Full and Equal Conference in Minneapolis in September, better comprehending the tremendous decisions our church has made to make LGBTQ+ people feel radically included. I want to continue the pursuit of that promise.

Alternate Deputy, 82nd General Convention
Lay



Name: Molly Hamilton

Church: Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston

Nominated by: Vermelle Simmons

Nominator statement: Molly has served the diocese as director of communications since July 2019. Through my roles on the Standing Committee and the Diocesan Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission, I have had the opportunity to work with her. Molly is efficient, knowledgeable, and she provides valuable insight. Her experience as a diocesan communicator has enabled her to work closely with diocesan deputies and to understand the responsibilities involved in representing the diocese.

Molly attended the last General Convention as both a visitor and a diocesan communicator. In connection with that convention and the previous General Convention, she worked closely with our diocesan deputies, reporting on their experiences from the months of preparation through their daily reports during the event. Through this work, Molly has gained valuable familiarity with what deputies need to do to best serve our diocese while attending and participating in this important gathering of the wider Church. Given her experience, knowledge, and familiarity with the work of diocesan deputies, she would be a great representative of our diocese as a lay alternate deputy, should she be elected.

Personal Statement: It would be an honor to serve as an alternate deputy for the 82nd General Convention in Phoenix next year. As diocesan director of communication, I have been very involved with our delegation for the two General Conventions held since I began in this role in July 2019. I observed remotely due to the pandemic for the 80th General Convention, and then I attended the 81st General Convention in Kentucky.

It was very enlightening to be there and view firsthand the impact that deputies from dioceses across The Episcopal Church can have on the direction our Church takes in the future. General Convention is shorter now than before the pandemic, and I believe having alternates is even more important as long sessions can lead to a need for a short break! I am already planning to attend in Phoenix and it would be a privilege to be able to particpate with our deputation, if only for a brief time. I'd be honored to serve in this role.

Trustee, The Diocese of South Carolina

Clergy



Name: The Rev. Dr. Jennie Olbrych

Church: St. Mark's, Charleston

Nominated by: The Rev. Dow Sanderson

Nominator statement: The Reverend Jennie Olbrych knows and loves the Diocese of South Carolina. Her rich and varied experience as rector, school chaplain, spiritual director, counselor, and friend to so many gives her a detailed overview of all the ministries of our diocese. She has served in most elected positions on the diocesan level and is now offering her gifts as a Trustee. All who know her value her wisdom, her calm demeanor, and her good humor. She has the ability to see the full measure of our past (the good and the bad) as well as a good understanding of our future needs for growth and sustainability. I have known and admired her for more than 30 years, and am honored to submit her name, and I commend her to your consideration

Personal Statement: I would be honored to serve our diocese in a fiduciary capacity as a Trustee. Building up The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina has been my call for decades and has taken many forms over the years. From settled calls in rural and suburban settings, to working with congregations in transition or crisis, to serving on a diocesan level in many capacities, I bring an awareness of the history, financial and property challenges and opportunities of our congregations and Diocese. Strengthening the institutional well-being of congregations for mission has been a key element in my work and has included untangling budgetary, property, and trust concerns. I have overseen capital campaigns, manage investments and several trusts, and would welcome the opportunity to bring this experience to the diocese by serving as a Trustee.

Trustee, The Diocese of South Carolina
Lay



Name: Lesley Gilbert

Church: All Saints, Hilton Head Island

Nominated by: Joyce Emmett

Nominator statement: I consider it a privilege to nominate Lesley Gilbert for the position of Lay Trustee of the Diocese. I met Lesley shortly after joining All Saints Episcopal Church back in 2014. Although she had only been at All Saints for a couple of years, Lesley was already involved in a number of ministries, as well as volunteering and serving in a number of community programs. I had the opportunity to serve with her on the Vestry and as an advisor to the All Saints Preschool. Lesley was a critical contributor to the creation of the All Saints Child Development Center in 2023, a program designed to serve children and families that would otherwise not be able to afford quality preschool education and childcare. At the 2024 Diocesan Convention, Bishop Ruth Woodiff-Stanley recognized the school by presenting the "Becoming Beloved Community" Spotlight Award to All Saints. With her background and skills, Lesley has the unique ability to both provide leadership in financial matters, while maintaining a passion for social justice and outreach initiatives.

Personal Statement: My career centered around finance and accounting, having started as a financial analyst and retiring as Vice-President of Finance for a major consulting firm headquartered in Washington, D.C. When I retired, I wanted to use the experience I had gained in business, both the technical aspects, but as importantly, people development and team leadership. This led to involvement and leadership in philanthropic and community organizations. I had the privilege of serving on the Advisory Board, including Chair, of Women in Philanthropy, a women's giving circle of over 200 women supporting local non-profits through annual grant-making. Other groups include the Symphony League, our homeowners' association finance committee, and World Affairs Council.

My goal when moving here was to be part of a church community. All Saints has provided me with opportunities from serving on and chairing the Finance Commission; the vestry; Foundation Board, including chair; the preschool board; and capital campaign committees. I was also a delegate to diocesan conventions and participated in Sacred Ground.

I was honored to serve on the search committee for our rector, which was followed by the privilege to be on the search committee for our bishop. On a personal note, John and I have been married for 58 years, have two sons, three grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Trustee, The University of the South
Lay



Name: Bill Grimes

Church: All Saints, Hilton Head Island

Nominated by: Sally Mayse

Nominator statement: William Grimes, universally known as Billy, is uniquely suited to represent the Diocese of South Carolina as a Trustee for the University of the South. Billy's son Will is a graduate of Sewanee, as are Will's wife and almost all of her family. Billy is immersed in Sewanee whenever there is a family gathering. Additionally, Will is a Delta Airlines pilot after Billy taught him to fly, utilizing the small airport at Sewanee. Another compelling attribute for your consideration is that Billy serves as teacher, coach and mentor to the Young Eagles, a high school flying program and is a lifeguard at the Beaufort YMCA. Both of these activities give Billy access to potential Sewanee students, a large group of talented, attractive and highly motivated young people. Billy Grimes is our man! Elect him as Trustee, University of the South.

Personal Statement: Thank you for considering me as a nominee as a Trustee of Sewanee representing the Diocese of South Carolina. It is an honor to be under consideration to potentially participate in the future direction of an institution that I admire and hold in such high regard. My wife Susan and I have been members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Port Royal for the past 10 years. I currently participate as a member of the vestry where my subcommittee focus is on stewardship.

I graduated from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology—and, like many graduates in the 1970s, not much idea of what I was going to do with it. While at Bowling Green, I played on the lacrosse team and was fortunate to be part of two championship seasons with an outstanding group of teammates. My career eventually led me into consulting, where I worked as a safety consultant and later as Director of Safety for several companies. My focus was on Safety Management Systems, human factors engineering, and flight safety. Later in life, I traded the consulting role for the cockpit and became a line pilot for a large business jet management company before retiring several years ago. Retirement, however, has been anything but quiet. Today I provide flight instruction at Beaufort Executive Airport, where I have the privilege of helping people develop the skills and confidence to become pilots. It's a rewarding way to meet interesting people, occasionally test my nerves, and watch someone achieve a lifelong dream. I also enjoy serving a few shifts each week as a lifeguard at the Port Royal YMCA.

My connection to Sewanee is primarily through family. Our son Will graduated from Sewanee in 2011 and his wife Cleo as well, in 2012. Will played lacrosse on the first NCAA division 3 team at Sewanee for four years which led us to becoming regular visitors and fully embracing the culture and beauty of "The Domain." Thank you once again for considering me as a Trustee at Sewanee representing the Diocese of South Carolina. It would be an honor if selected to participate in any way to help support an institution such as the University of the South. I have witnessed first hand the end results that an educational experience at Sewanee can provide a young individual and the spiritual leadership it develops for future clergy.