

## 118th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Utah Report of The Commission on Ministry

The Commission on Ministry (COM), which is advisory to the Bishop, currently focuses on the ordination process of The Diocese of Utah with supplemental support for all formative ministries of the Diocese.

In the 2022-2023 year, Daniela Lee of San Esteban/St. Stephen's was ordained to the Transitional Diaconate and then the Priesthood, and Renée Hollinger of Church of the Resurrection was ordained to the Diaconate. Deanna Anderson of San Esteban/St. Stephen's was named a Postulant for the Diaconate. Ashley Gurling of Church of the Resurrection has had her ordination to the Transitional Diaconate date set for April 26th, 2023. Others persons are in the beginning stages of discernment at the congregational level.

The Manual for Ordination has gone under significant revision to clarify and standardize the ordination process across the Diocese. Language has been updated for inclusivity and to reflect *The Tuttle School for Discipleship and Ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of Utah* as the required Diaconal studies program. Emphasis has been placed on the pastoral role present for all those discerning ordination. From the Ordination Manual:

"One should also remember that the Holy Spirit works through the church—through others—as well as through oneself. We all serve for the sake of Christ's church. Discernment of call is an ongoing process involving the applicant, the Bishop, the COM, the Standing Committee, the vestry, the parish discernment committee, and the clergy-in-charge of the congregation. A person entering the process has no guarantee that it will end with ordination, but everyone working on the discernment pledges to be as transparent as possible concerning the applicant's process, treating the applicant with kindness, respect, and dignity."

Standards for The Licensing of Lay Preachers, and for Lay Worship Leaders has been set by the Bishop with consultation with the COM.

The COM membership is appointed by the Bishop to three year terms. Current membership includes Karen Browning, Kurt Cook, Michelle Doherty, Joseph Frank, Sergio Gonzalez, The Rev. Cn. Terri Heyduk, The Rev. Anita Miner, Mike Mitchell, and The Rev. Kurt C. Wiesner. Angela Rogers provides staff support. Karen Browning and Anita Miner have completed their terms as of the 2023 Diocesan Convention.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Kurt C. Wiesner  
Chair, Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of Utah