

## **118<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Church in Utah Report of the Diaconate**

### **Members**

- Deanna Sue Adams                      St. Michael's, Brigham City
- David Christian                         St. Peter's Clearfield
- Marsha Heron                           St. Elizabeth's, Whiterocks
- Hollinger, Renee                       Church of the Resurrection
- Libby Hunter                            Cathedral Church of St. Mark, Salt Lake City
- Sandra Jones                           St. Luke's, Park City
- Anita Miner                              All Saints, Salt Lake City
- Alison Desiderio Peterson           St. Mary's Provo
- Patricia Sanchez                       Church of the Good Shepherd, Ogden
- Robert Shoop                           St. James', Midvale

### **Mandate**

The ministry of a deacon is to represent Christ and his Church in the world, particularly as a servant of those in need; and to assist bishops and priests in the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments.

### **Goals**

To have at least one deacon at every parish within the diocese, with multiple deacons in the larger parishes. We are working with the Commission on Ministry to help people from the congregations of Latinos, South Sudanese and Native Americans to discern Diaconal ministries.

To continue ongoing training / education for the in-place Deacons.

### **Action items**

We welcome Renee Hollinger into our ministry. Renee was ordained to the Diaconate on November 16th, 2022 at the Church of the Resurrection in Centerville.

The Tuttle School for Discipleship and Ministry has begun its second two year program. The first semester of 2023 is focused on The Old Testament, The Way of Love, The Book of Common Prayer, Personal Devotion, and Parish Visits. There are currently nine students enrolled in the program. The curriculum used is from the IONA Collaborative from the Seminary of the Southwest.

The deacons continue to meet periodically with the Bishop via Zoom.

### **Analysis of action**

We continue to meet with the Bishop regularly via Zoom to discuss our ministries and work towards a broader understanding of the Diaconate throughout the Diocese.

From the Tuttle School, the students are very engaged and continue to invest of themselves.

**Findings and conclusions**

The ministries of the current deacons are functioning and we provide service to our parishes and the greater world. Expansion of that ministry can only serve to aid in the outreach of the diocese.

**Recommendations:** No action from convention is required at this time.

**Statement of how the group's work fits into the mission strategy of the Diocese**

The very nature of the diaconal ministry projects the mission of the church in the world. We serve our parishes and are one of the faces of the Episcopal church in the secular world. Expansion of that ministry will enhance that ability.

Submitted respectfully,

The Ven. Robert Shoop, Archdeacon