

# NOMINATIONS

**For positions to be elected at the 173rd Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee on October 03, 2020**

## Diocesan Treasurer

**ONE clergy or lay person to be elected to a 1-year term**

### **Michael Weber (St. Aidan's, Hartford)**

Michael Weber is a member of St. Aidan's where he has served as Senior Warden, Bishop's Committee member and treasurer (currently). He also has been a member of the Diocesan Finance Committee since 2016.

Mike holds a Bachelor's Degree from UW-Eau Claire in Elementary Education and Library and Media Education as well as a Master's Degree in Media Technology from UW-Stout. Mike taught at Central Middle School in Hartford as the Library Media Specialist and District Technology Director. After 34 years in education he retired in 2011. He then worked part-time as a Media Technology Consultant for the District for 5 years.

He has also served as board member and treasurer for the Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association (WEMTA) and treasurer for the Hartford Lions Club.

Mike is married to Linda and has a son (Tim) and a daughter (Jessica). In retirement Mike likes to travel, visit their 5 grandkids, and ride his bike. Late winter is a special time for making maple syrup.

## Executive Council

**TWO clergy persons to be elected to three-year terms**

**TWO lay persons to be elected to three-year terms**

### **The Rev. Pippa Lindwright (St. Mary's, Dousman)**

The Rev. Pippa Lindwright - St. Mary's, Dousman, 651.341.9629, motherpippa@milwpc.com

Mother Pippa is the rector at St. Mary's, Dousman since June 2019. She previously served seven years as Associate Rector at St. Bart's, Beaverton, Oregon.

Mother Pippa served on Diocesan Council (similar to Executive Council) and Commission on Ministry in Oregon, and is currently serving on Commission on Ministry here in the Diocese of Milwaukee. She also served in the Diocesan online worship services this spring and summer. She's enjoyed getting to know the people of the Diocese and is interested in learning more.

Mother Pippa graduated from Episcopal Divinity School, class of 2012. Outside of church Mother Pippa enjoys reading, baking and playing board games.

### **The Rev. Joel Prather (St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee)**

Father Joel Prather read St. John's Gospel at the age of 19 for the first time and was utterly amazed at what Jesus said and did. That amazement continues to this day.

He's served as Rector in the Diocese of Milwaukee since 2014, first at Christ Church, Delavan and now at St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee. A native Chicagoan, after graduating from Illinois State University he spent nine years with State Farm Insurance until he heard God say "go" on the shores of the Amazon in Brazil in 2003. So they "went" to great state of Wisconsin to study at Nashotah House. After seminary, he and his wife Tammy were called to the Diocese of Dallas to plant a new Church. Upon its reception as a Mission of the Diocese and moving into its own facilities, Father Joel accepted the call to the Diocese of Milwaukee.

Father Joel is passionate about evangelism, Church growth, crossing barriers with the Gospel, helping the Scriptures become real for people, leadership development and strengthening relationships that help transform congregations and their communities.

Fr. Joel is the Vice President of the Executive Council, serves on the Commission on Mission & Development, and has previously served on the Multicultural Ministry Team.

He and his family love to travel and are always seeking out great local bakeries and coffee shops. Father Joel enjoys reading monastic literature, listening to heavy metal, and can always be found with a cup of coffee nearby.

### **The Rev. David Simmons (St. Matthias, Waukesha)**

The Rev. David Simmons has served as Rector of St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Waukesha since 2008. He has a passion for fostering collaboration and seeking innovative ways to share the Gospel. He serves as the Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, and has served as the President of the Standing Committee and as a member of Executive Council. He has served as an alternate General Convention deputy in 2012, 2015 and 2018. A leader in ecumenical and interfaith issues, he serves as National President of Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interfaith Officers (EDEIO.org), represents the Episcopal Church to the National Council of Churches, is the Chair Emeritus of the National Workshop on Christian Unity, and represents the diocese as the Vice-chair of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee and with the Wisconsin Council of Churches.

David serves the greater community of Waukesha as a board member of the Housing Action Coalition of Waukesha County, as a Chief Election Inspector and as a percussion instructor at Waukesha West High School.

St Matthias has become a center of leadership around issues of homelessness and low-income housing and is engaged in an active partnership with Hebron House of Hospitality, which is headquartered at the church.

David is married to his wife Micky, and has two children, Brendan and Brigid. His hobbies include Kendo, music composition, and board games.

### **John Johnson, PhD (Grace, Madison)**

John is a long-time member of Grace Church, Madison and serves on the Vestry (second term). He serves on the board for the Grace Presents Concert Series, and has volunteered for years with his family in the Grace food pantry. He was appointed to and served last year and this year on the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee Bishop Search Committee. He lives in Madison with his wife and one daughter, and has two adult daughters living in Minneapolis and Strasbourg, France.

John is director for Literacy and Mathematics at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), an adjunct instructor of Educational Leadership at Edgewood College, and is a member of the Wisconsin Arts Board, appointed by the governor.

At the DPI, John leads the state's work in the areas of literacy, English language arts, and mathematics. Also, John oversees review and revision of academic standards, and chairs the State Superintendent's Academic Standards Review Council. Prior to his current position, he served for thirteen years as Communications Director for the State Superintendent and the DPI. He served for over fifteen years in schools as a history, social studies, and special education teacher, learning coordinator, and assistant principal.

Also, John was a professor of Educational Leadership. Additionally, he serves on the boards of the WASCDC (Wisconsin Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development), and Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.

John earned his undergraduate degree in history from Georgetown University, and his three graduate degrees, including his doctorate, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

### **Janice Pauc (Holy Cross, Wisconsin Dells)**

Janice is a lifelong Episcopalian, baptized and confirmed at St Luke's, Milwaukee. While a member of Resurrection, Mukwonago / St. David's, New Berlin she served on the Vestry and search committee as well as teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Janice serves as Senior Warden of her current parish, Holy Cross, Wisconsin Dells.

Retired Physical Therapist with 29 years in the school system and over 40 years of practice in total. Graduate of UW Madison with an advanced degree from UW Whitewater.

## **General Convention Alternate Deputies**

### **FOUR clergy and FOUR lay persons to be elected to serve at 2021 General Convention**

#### **The Rev. Matthew Buterbaugh (St. Matthew's, Kenosha)**

Fr. Matthew Buterbaugh is the Rector of St. Matthew's Parish in Kenosha. During his time in this diocese, he has served in many capacities, including Commission on Mission and Development, Task Force for Multi-Cultural Ministry, Chair of the diocesan Nominations Committee, Diocesan Worship Planning Team, and is Dean of the South Convocation. He was also on the Bishop Search Committee that began transition work at the beginning of this year.

In the wider Church, Fr. Matthew has held several roles as well. He has been on the Wisconsin Council of Churches Unity and Relations Committee. Currently, he is the Diocese of Milwaukee representative on the Province V Executive Board and is on the Nominations Committee for the Province.

Outside of the parish, Fr. Matthew has been involved with many community organizations, events, and causes. In Kenosha, he is involved with CUSH (Congregations United Serving Humanity), Kenosha's branch of the WISDOM Network. And he has been involved with the Sojourner Peace Center's Restorative Practices Circle Keepers.

Fr. Matthew is currently working on his Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Development through the Bexley-Seabury Federation.

In his free time, he enjoys hiking with his dogs, and traveling to new places.

### **The Rev. Margaret "Marge" Kiss (St. Thomas of Canterbury, Greendale)**

As an active member of St. Luke's in Bay View, the parish that called her to ordination, Marge participated in governance at the parish level by serving on the vestry for three years and twice representing the parish as delegate to the diocesan convention. She was instrumental in forming their Outreach Committee and served on the Altar Guild, as a member of the Choir, as an acolyte, a Lay Eucharistic Minister and did home visits.

Prior to her ordination to the diaconate in 2010, Marge Kiss was an active member of St. Luke's, Bay View, where she served on the vestry, as a lay delegate to diocesan convention, and as a member of the Altar Guild and choir, as well as doing home visits as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. On the diocesan level, she has participated in diocesan governance by serving as the recorder of minutes for Executive Council for some thirteen years and more recently as Executive Secretary of the Diocese of Milwaukee. Marge records the minutes of Diocesan Convention and has held this role for a dozen years, also actively participating in the planning and execution of our Diocesan Conventions. As a member of the Deacons Council, she helps plan the annual retreat for diocesan deacons.

This year, Marge joined the diocesan staff as Accounting Operations Assistant, working part-time in the Finance Office at Nicholson House.

Marge's first career was in education, as a teacher for 20 years and a principal for 5 years. Her second career was with Heritage Title Services, working as a title examiner as well as issuing final policies.

Marge represented the diocese at the 2018 General Convention, where she served on the committee responsible for recording the official minutes of the proceedings.

Marge would be a positive addition to the diocese's delegation to the 2021 General Convention. In addition to her strong background and recent experience in governance at the parish and diocesan levels, she brings exceptional organizational and communication skills.

Perhaps most importantly, Marge is able both to encourage and value the expression of diverse viewpoints

### **The Rev. Kathleen Monson-Lutes (Trinity, Janesville)**

Rev. Kathy has served Trinity, Janesville since September 2015. She has served as convener of Clergy Day/Retreat committee promoting clergy formation. Before coming to the Diocese of Milwaukee, in the Diocese of South Dakota, Rev. Kathy was a deputy to General Convention 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2015. She would consider it a privilege to serve the Diocese of Milwaukee as an alternate deputy to the 2021 General Convention.

Kathy has just recently earned her Doctor of Ministry in Preaching from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Kathy's husband, Rick Lutes, recently went to his glory. They have a son, Tom (living in the Twin Cities with wife, Amanda and their son, Elijah) and a son, Willie (living in Rochester, Minnesota with partner, Maren).

### **The Rev. David Simmons (St. Matthias, Waukesha)**

The Rev. David Simmons has served as Rector of St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Waukesha since 2008. He has a passion for fostering collaboration and seeking innovative ways to share the Gospel. He serves as the Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, and has served as the President of the Standing Committee and as a member of Executive Council. He has served as an alternate General Convention deputy in 2012, 2015 and 2018. A leader in ecumenical and interfaith issues, he serves as National President of Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interfaith Officers (EDEIO.org), represents the Episcopal Church to the National Council of Churches, is the Chair Emeritus of the National Workshop on Christian Unity, and represents the diocese as the Vice-chair of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee and with the Wisconsin Council of Churches.

David serves the greater community of Waukesha as a board member of the Housing Action Coalition of Waukesha County, as a Chief Election Inspector and as a percussion instructor at Waukesha West High School.

St Matthias has become a center of leadership around issues of homelessness and low-income housing and is engaged in an active partnership with Hebron House of Hospitality, which is headquartered at the church. David is married to his wife Micky, and has two children, Brendan and Brigid. His hobbies include Kendo, music composition, and board games.

### **The Rev. Mindy Valentine-Davis (St. Peter's, Fort Atkinson)**

Mother Mindy Valentine Davis has been canonically resident in the Diocese of Milwaukee since 2016. Originally from Iowa, she came to the diocese out of seminary, The University of the South School of Theology, in Sewanee, Tennessee. She served first as Priest in Charge, and then Rector at St James Episcopal Church in West Bend from 2016 to 2020. She was then called to Fort Atkinson as Rector at St. Peter's Episcopal Church and began her incumbency there on May 1. Mother Mindy loves being in the Diocese of Milwaukee and is grateful to continue to be a part of its mission and ministry, serving her congregation, the surrounding communities, and the diocese at large. She would be honored to represent the Diocese of Milwaukee as an alternate clergy deputy to General Convention in 2021.

### **Janet Finn (Holy Trinity, Prairie du Chien)**

Janet Finn is an active member of Holy Trinity, Prairie du Chien where she has belonged for 50 years. She has served the parish in many capacities, including organist, altar guild president, church school teacher, lay Eucharistic minister, vestry clerk, Sr. Warden (12 years), delegate to Committee to Elect a Bishop (2003), lay deputy to diocesan convention (since 1988), search committee chair, CDI participant, member of diocesan Strategic Planning Committee, member of Canon 28 Task Force (currently). Additionally, Janet is actively involved with: Wisconsin State Historical Society, serving as a guide and curatorial cleaner; Prairie du Chien Historical Society, local hospital auxiliary; local school board (member for 12 years); American Cancer Society Relay for Life (5 years as chair); and the local performing arts board. Janet has also hosted foreign exchange students and has been active in Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

A retired middle school science teacher (20 years), Janet has been married to Theodore Finn, retired 3M chemical engineer, for 52 years; she has three married daughters and eight grandchildren. She and her husband have resided in Prairie du Chien for 53 years. Janet has attended General Convention previously and seeks the nomination for Alternate Lay Deputy to the 2021 General Convention, feeling that the Holy Spirit is calling her to continue her work representing the Diocese of Milwaukee at the General Convention of our Church.

### **Peter Larson (St. Paul's, Milwaukee)**

It is a great privilege and an uplifting spiritual experience to partake of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

In the current crisis, Peter initiated St Paul's virtual engagement, leading coffee hours, midweek lunches, vestry meetings, and parishioner calling programs. Peter is a Junior Warden of St. Paul's, and served as Stewardship Chair for several years, on St. Paul's and Christ Church's Discernment Committees, and a Vacation Bible School Teacher. Peter completed Sewanee's Education for Ministry (EfM) program. In previous Churches in Minneapolis and Chicago and Massachusetts, Peter served on the equivalent of the Vestry (10 years), as Senior Warden (5 terms), and as a Sunday School and Vacation Bible School Teacher (15 years). He has been a delegate to the Diocesan Convention, was the alternate Lay Deputy to the 2015 General Convention and was a Deputy to the 2018 General Convention. He is now serving his second term on the Diocesan Executive Council.

Peter is retired from his career in wealth management, in which he held professional and executive positions for major banking firms.

Peter has served on boards of several civic organizations, including the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, Grass Roots North Shore, and the Columbia St. Mary's Community Benefit and Advisory Council. He is a Docent at the Milwaukee Art Museum where he co-chairs the Continuing Education Council and has led their virtual engagement activities.

Growing up in Chicago, he graduated from Williams College and the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He holds the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Certified Financial Planner (CFP) designations. Peter lives with his husband, Bill Fry, and wheaten terrier, Lucy, in Milwaukee.

### **Mary Washbush (Trinity, Wauwatosa)**

Mary Washbush served for six years as a vestry member at St. James Episcopal Church, Milwaukee, and three years as Junior Warden. As Junior Warden, Mary also was a member of the St. James Episcopal Church Milwaukee Closing Committee. Mary has served several times as a deputy to Diocesan Convention. Mary has also served on the Canon 8 Task Force in 2017 and 2018.

Mary has had the honor to be a visitor at four General Conventions and served as a volunteer during the last General Convention in Austin Texas.

Mary is an educator with a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. Her current position is an Instructional Coach and Professional Development Lead at Nathan Hale High School in West Allis. She also serves as the 4K-12 English Language Arts Curriculum Lead for the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District.

Mary's spouse of 26 years is John Washbush. They have a 21-year-old daughter, Ellie, who is in her final year at Waukesha County Technical College seeking an Associate's Degree in Web Design and Social Media Apps.

## **Province V Synod representatives**

**ONE clergy person and TWO lay persons to be elected to serve through 2021 Gen. Conv.**

### **The Rev. Matthew Buterbaugh (St. Matthew's, Kenosha)**

Fr. Matthew Buterbaugh is the Rector of St. Matthew's Parish in Kenosha. During his time in this diocese, he has served in many capacities, including Commission on Mission and Development, Task Force for Multi-Cultural Ministry, Chair of the diocesan Nominations Committee, Diocesan Worship Planning Team, and is Dean of the South Convocation. He was also on the Bishop Search Committee that began transition work at the beginning of this year.

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Fr. Matthew is currently working on his Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Development through the Bexley-Seabury Federation. In his free time, he enjoys hiking with his dogs, and traveling to new places.

### **Sharon Henes (St. Dunstan's, Madison)**

Sharon Henes is an active member of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church. She currently serves in a variety of capacities, including Vestry member, Formation Chair, Sunday School teacher, Youth Group leader, acolyte coordinator, Lay Eucharistic Minister and delegate to Diocesan Convention. She is a Saint Francis House Board member and a member of the Title IV Disciplinary Board. Sharon attended the 2018 General Convention as an alternate lay deputy and was elected last year to represent the Diocese of Milwaukee as lay deputy to the 2021 General Convention. At the national level, she serves on the Court of Appeals for Clergy Title IV appeals. Sharon strives to keep apprised of issues impacting the Church nationally and on the local level. A member of Forma, Sharon is trained to lead the Dismantling Racism curriculum (youth and adult) from the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing and has attended several Episcopal conferences.

Sharon is an administrative rules coordinator and has written administrative code/law for nine years. In addition, she monitors legislation and testifies at legislative committee hearings. Prior to her current position, for 13 years, she was a paralegal assisting in license disciplinary prosecutions for health care professionals.

Sharon has been married to Mike for 31 years. They have a son, Kendrick, a high school teacher, who lives with his wife and their two children in Connecticut and a daughter, Amanda, who is pursuing a master's degree in biblical studies and serves on the Episcopal Church's Task Force on Ministry to Individuals with Mental Illness.

### **Tammy Prather (St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee)**

Tammy Prather is passionate about mobilizing people, processes, and resources for God's purposes to grow God's Kingdom. Tammy currently serves on the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee and she was elected at last year's diocesan convention to represent the Diocese of Milwaukee as a lay deputy at the 2021 General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

Tammy has a Master's in Theological Studies from Nashotah House (2017) and is a trained Spiritual Director through Heartpaths DFW / Spiritual Directors International. She has been a professional lay minister for two decades, most recently as the Pastoral Associate at St. Mary's, Dousman and Executive Minister at Christ Church, Delavan. She has also planted a new congregation as the Executive Minister at Church of the Savior in Allen, TX and has done consulting work for the Children's Ministry and School at St. Philip's in Frisco, TX (a 1,400-member church) in the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas.

Tammy attended Illinois State University (1997) and began her professional life as a Social Worker providing therapeutic counseling for children and teens. She transitioned in 2000 to a career in ministry. Tammy was Director of Children & Family Ministries at Church of the Resurrection in Wheaton, IL overseeing a ministry



of 200 children and adult volunteers until starting her family in 2005. In 2010 she developed and taught a specialized integrated curriculum of History-Political Science- Geography-Literature for private school students, and has home-schooled her own son, Jude, in the Classical Method until he began High School this year in 2019.

Her passion for missions and education has taken her around the globe including South Korea, China, teaching English to Muslim students in Tunisia, the Brazilian Amazon, Peru and to do Hurricane Relief in New Orleans and Puerto Rico. She has made Pilgrimage to Israel (2008) and to England this Summer with the Youth of St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee. She has studied Icon Writing with Judy Kaestner and says, "Every place I have ministered has been such an interesting opportunity to see God at work. I love that God has gifted us all in many different ways. We should work together with others to help grow existing, encourage older, and start new ministries. I can't wait to see what God will do to continue to build His kingdom here in Milwaukee."

## **Standing Committee**

**ONE lay person to be elected to a four-year term**

**ONE priest to be elected to a four-year term**

### **The Rev. Philip Cunningham (St. John Chrysostom, Delafield)**

The Rev. Philip Cunningham is rector at St. John Chrysostom in Delafield. He has served there since 2014, after having served as rector of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in San Antonio, Texas and associate rector at St. John's Episcopal Church in McAllen, Texas. In the Diocese of West Texas, he served on the Executive Council, as dean of the convocation, and as examining chaplain for those in the ordination process. Prior to being ordained, he worked in corporate finance for ten years in Texas and California.

In addition, he serves as a chaplain in the Wisconsin Air National Guard and holds the rank of Major. In 2019 he was deployed to Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar for six and a half months, where he was responsible for the spiritual needs of over 2,000 Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines.

He has been married to Amy for 24 years and has two children: Auggie, who is studying anthropology (probably) in Madison; and Meredith, who is a senior at Oconomowoc High School.

### **The Rev. Miranda Hassett (St. Dunstan's, Madison)**

The Rev. Miranda is the Rector of St. Dunstan's Church in Madison, WI, where she has served for over nine years. Miranda is currently Co-Chair of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and Dean of the West convocation. She served for six years on the Commission on Mission and Development for the Diocese of Milwaukee, and valued that opportunity to walk with and learn from parishes that are struggling, thriving, and everything in between. She also served on the Board of St. Francis House Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for five years, and convenes the Frazer Scholarship Committee. She traveled to Tanzania with Bishop Miller and other members of the Diocese in 2013 as part of our Newala Companion Diocese partnership.

Miranda was elected to serve as a Deputy for the Diocese of Milwaukee at the 2021 General Convention of the Episcopal Church, after serving as a Deputy and Alternate Deputy in 2015 and 2018. Miranda has found it fascinating and rewarding to watch the Church at work, grappling with the big issues facing us within and without.

From 2014 - 2016, Miranda participated in the Missional Leadership Cohort, a program of Luther Seminary for early-career Episcopal clergy with the potential to help their parishes undertake adaptive change to flourish in the landscape of 21st century faith. In 2018 Miranda and St. Dunstan's received a Clergy Renewal sabbatical grant for Miranda to explore how to engage children more fully in Episcopal worship, while the parish developed more intergenerational friendships.

Miranda feels a call to contribute to the important work of the Standing Committee in this time of diocesan leadership transition and challenges due to the pandemic. She offers a combination of familiarity with the diocese, training in adaptive change, a collaborative spirit and a belief that the gifts of the Episcopal way of faith matter in our changing world.

Miranda is a lifelong Episcopalian who was active in diocesan and provincial youth and young adult ministry as a high school and college student in Indiana. She attended seminary at Duke University (Durham, NC) and the Episcopal Divinity School (Cambridge, MA). Her Masters of Divinity work focused on Contemporary Society, the role, challenges, and calls of the Church in the modern world.

Miranda lives in Madison with her husband Phil and their children Griffin (15) and Iona (10).

### **The Rev. Dave Mowers (Trinity, Baraboo & St. John the Baptist, Portage)**

Dave Mowers serves as Rector at Trinity, Baraboo, and Vicar of St John the Baptist, Portage. Dave has consented to be nominated for election Standing Committee because he believes that Jesus is not done working through the institution of the Diocese of Milwaukee, and he believes that Standing Committee, among other bodies, has a unique opportunity to discern the work that God is calling the Diocese of Milwaukee to at this time in our life together.

Dave's experience in serving two parishes simultaneously while parenting three small children and helping to launch a startup homeless shelter in Baraboo has demonstrated his significant administrative ability, his commitment to collaboration, receiving input across lines of difference, clear boundaries and discernment, all of which would help him contribute to Standing Committee's work at discerning God's work and positioning the diocese to respond to it.

Dave has the usual sorts of divinity degrees from the usual places, is married to Elizabeth, and has three small children. If elected, he pledges to think carefully and well, to ask difficult questions, to operate with respect and honor towards others, and to look out for those overlooked by the usual diocesan processes.

### **The Rev. Lars Skoglund (St. Aidan's, Hartford)**

Lars received his undergraduate degree in Biblical and Theological Studies from Wheaton College (IL) and attended Nashotah House Seminary, where he completed his Masters of Divinity in 2014.

After serving for 18 months as a lay pastoral assistant at Trinity Baraboo and St. John the Baptist in Portage, he was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Steven Miller in June of 2016. He then began serving at St. Aidan's as deacon-in-charge, before being ordained to the priesthood in December of that same year.

Within the Diocese, Fr. Lars has participated in DCDI, Fresh Start, and Camp Webb, where he served as counselor and, more recently, co-director. As one of the younger priests of the Diocese, Fr. Skoglund would bring a unique and important perspective to the work of the Standing Committee, along with his gifts of insight, wisdom, and a down-to-earth sense of humor.

Fr. Skoglund is married to Katie, a registered dietician, and is the dad to twin babies - Oskar and Eleanor Jayne. He notes that although his main hobby is now changing diapers, he enjoys hiking, a good book, and eating Bendtsen's kringle from his hometown of Racine.

### **Margaret A. Done (St. Thomas of Canterbury, Greendale)**

In my time at STOC I have assisted with Parish Life, Christian Formation and Communications. I have served as a vestry member, junior warden and currently serve as senior warden. I have had the privilege to serve as Senior Warden through the retirement of a priest, the hiring of a new priest and a global pandemic.

When I am not at STOC I enjoy spending time with my husband and teenage daughter, reading and crafting. I believe my attention to detail, willingness to listen and examine an issue will make me an asset to the Standing Committee.

### **Jim Watkins (Trinity, Wauwatosa)**

Jim Watkins loves being a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Wauwatosa. He serves in many capacities there: adult education committee member, Sunday school teacher, usher and Alpha coordinator. Before moving to Milwaukee in 2017, Jim was an active member at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Richmond, VA where he served on Vestry and was a delegate to the Diocesan Convention in 2017.

Jim arrived in Milwaukee on Good Friday of 2017 to help launch an urban Christian school called St. Augustine Preparatory Academy at the intersection of Harrison Ave. and 6th St. The school serves over 1300 students and a majority low-income and latino/a population. Jim was the Director of Christian Formation until April of 2020 when he transitioned to Nashotah House Theological Seminary. At Nashotah House, Jim serves as the Senior Advancement Officer.

Jim has been married to Emily for 16 years and he has four children: Jonah (14), Rowan (10), Isaac (8), and Athan (6). The Watkins family has a loyal and energetic dog named Sherlock. Jim holds a PhD in theology from the University of St Andrews and an MCS in Christianity and the Arts from Regent College in Vancouver, CA. He is passionate about theology, discipleship, the arts and education.

## **Title IV Disciplinary Board**

**ONE clergy to be elected to a three-year term**

**TWO lay persons to be elected to three-year terms**

### **The Rev. Margaret “Marge” Kiss (St. Thomas of Canterbury, Greendale)**

Prior to her ordination to the diaconate in 2010, Marge Kiss was an active member of St. Luke’s, Bay View, where she served on the vestry, as a lay delegate to diocesan convention, and as a member of the Altar Guild and choir, as well as doing home visits as a Lay Eucharistic Minister.

On the diocesan level, she has participated in diocesan governance by serving as the recorder of minutes for Executive Council for some thirteen years and more recently as Executive Secretary of the Diocese of Milwaukee. For many years, Marge has also played a key role in the planning and execution of our Diocesan Conventions. These latter roles have familiarized Marge with both diocesan and national Constitution and Canons, providing her with a working knowledge that would be an asset on the Title IV Disciplinary Board.

As a member of the Deacons Council, she helps plan the annual retreat for diocesan deacons.

Last year, Marge joined the diocesan staff as Accounting Operations Assistant, working part-time in the Finance Office at Nicholson House.

Marge’s first career was in education, as a teacher for 20 years and a principal for 5 years. Her second career was with Heritage Title Services, working as a title examiner as well as issuing final policies.

Marge represented the diocese at the 2018 General Convention, where she served on the committee responsible for recording the official minutes of the proceedings.

### **The Rev. Dr. Esther Kramer**

As a lay person, Esther was an active member of Episcopal churches in Wisconsin, Michigan, South Carolina and Georgia, serving on vestries, search committees and singing in the choir. Since moving back to Wisconsin, she led a parish discernment process at St. John Chrysostom in 2013 and was part of the Lake Country Episcopal Church planning team. Ordained in 2016, Esther was a deacon at St. John Chrysostom and St. Mary’s, Dousman; and served on the Commission on Ministry. In May of 2020, she completed the Anglican Studies program at Virginia Theological Seminary, receiving training in Title IV and studying canon law. She was ordained to the priesthood in August.

Esther studied Communications and Public Policy at the graduate level. First as a college faculty member and since 2001 as an executive administrator, Esther led higher education accreditation programs related to a variety of fields, provided oversight for institutional compliance (including Title IX, discrimination protection) and engaged in strategic planning activity for several colleges and universities, most recently Nashotah House. Her interest in providing access to education and opportunities for development was guided by a desire to serve God and the Church.

Esther has been married to Tom Schlaefer for 34 years, with whom she shares the joys of home renovation (current and final is #12) kayaking (plus two dogs) and cooking.

### **The Rev. Jason LaVann (St. Luke’s, Bayview)**

I am currently the priest-in-charge of St. Luke’s in Bay View. I have been a priest since 2006, and never tire of enjoying the ways in which priesthood allows me into the lives of others. Whether it is preaching and presiding on Sunday mornings, pastoral counseling or sacramental preparation, or just simply having a conversation over coffee, I love to connect with people and learn about how God is alive and active in their lives. I believe thoroughly that God meets us right where we are at, and that faith is much more a journey nourished by questions and searching than a destination of ready-made answers. I am blessed to serve a community and congregation of welcoming and authentic people on such a journey.

I also passionately believe that the church is so much larger than any one parish. It is a blessing to be able to serve the church at a diocesan level. In the Diocese of Milwaukee I have served on the Trustees of Funds and Endowments, Professional Standards Committee as well as a Multi-cultural team. Service at the diocesan level provides me with wonderful opportunities to build all sorts of life-giving bridges!

When we have free time, my wife Kristy and I enjoy running, hiking, music, reading, movies, friends, and walking our dogs through the Bay View.

### **Jason Zapf (St. Matthew’s, Kenosha)**

Jason has been an active member of St. Matthew’s in Kenosha since 2012. He is currently employed as an Assistant District Attorney in the Kenosha County District Attorney’s Office.

Jason has been married to Jennifer Zapf for eight and a half years and they have two children; Rosalee, who is six and a half and is about to start first grade at Somers Elementary in Kenosha, and Liam, who is four and a half.

### **Jen Vettrus (Trinity, Wauwatosa)**

Jen Vettrus served as the Lay Assistant for Ministry Development at Trinity Episcopal Church in Wauwatosa, WI for four years before completing a Master’s Degree in Negotiation and Dispute Resolution through



Creighton University (2010). Through that program she gained experience in Restorative Justice, particularly in leading talking circles with participants of all ages and diverse backgrounds. She is also one class away from a certificate in Biblical Studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

Before coming on staff with Trinity she served as an urban project director for a college ministry in Milwaukee for eleven years, training students in social justice and racial reconciliation. She has led two student pilgrimages to Northern Ireland. She is now the Senior Endowment Associate at the Jewish Community Foundation, part of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, where she manages operations for donor advised and endowment funds, a college scholarship program and a legacy gift program, involving creating biographical sketches of donors. She has also served as a member of the Vestry of Trinity Church.

## **Trustees of Funds and Endowments, Inc.**

### **TWO persons (lay or clergy) to be elected to three-year terms**

#### **The Rev. Mindy Valentine Davis (St. Peter's, Fort Atkinson)**

Mother Mindy Valentine Davis has been canonically resident in the Diocese of Milwaukee since 2016. Originally from Iowa, she came to the diocese out of seminary, The University of the South School of Theology, in Sewanee, Tennessee. She served first as Priest in Charge, and then Rector at St James Episcopal Church in West Bend from 2016 to 2020. She was then called to Fort Atkinson as Rector at St. Peter's Episcopal Church and began her incumbency there on May 1. Mother Mindy loves being in the Diocese of Milwaukee and is grateful to continue to be a part of its mission and ministry, serving her congregation, the surrounding communities, and the diocese at large.

Mother Mindy has served on the board of TFE for the last three years, so she brings with her experience and a good working knowledge of the board, its goals, and fiscal responsibilities. A former Mathematics major, she has a head for patterns, numbers, figures, and critical thinking. She is ready and willing to continue to serve as a TFE board member and help realize TFE's goals of sound fiscal management, transparency, and service to all those who have entrusted and will entrust the board with the stewardship of their funds and endowments.

#### **The Rev. Geoff Ward (St. Christopher's, River Hills)**

Fr. Geoffrey Ward was called to the Diocese of Milwaukee in 2017 to serve as the Rector of St. Christopher's in River Hills. Fr. Ward is a member of the diocesan finance committee and is also completing his first three-year term on the TFE board. During his time with TFE, Geoff has held the positions of Vice President (2019) and President (2020).

Prior to St. Christopher's, Fr. Ward led St. Francis Church in Eagle River, WI, and a needs-based ministry-Caritas of Eagle River. He has also served as a priest associate at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford, CT.

Fr. Ward previously held executive positions in the financial services industry, including management of the Pension Resource Center, a MetLife company responsible for more than 17,000 qualified retirement plans. As a subject matter expert on ERISA regulatory matters, he collaborated with MetLife's government affairs group and was an active participant on committees and discussion panels for a number of industry trade organizations, holding professional designations CFP, CLU, ChFC, and AIF.

A graduate of Nicolet High School, Fr. Geoffrey holds a bachelor's degree from Viterbo University, Master of Fine Arts from Trinity University, and Master of Theological Studies from Seabury Western. His interests include fishing, boating, swimming, cross-country skiing and cheering on the Brewers, Packers, and Bucks. He and wife Valerie have six children, four grandchildren, and two Yorkies, Banjo and Susanna.