

**Report to the 230th Annual Diocesan Convention
Committee on the Diaconate**

The School for Deacons continues to grow and evolve as a viable asset to continuing education in the Diocese under the leadership of the Rev. Canon Linda Moeller, Director. The Venerable Victoria Cuff, Archdeacon for Discernment is the liason between the School for Deacons and the COD.

The following persons in the class of 2015 in the School for Deacons granted postulancy: Magdalena Adders, William Balmer, Carolyn Bradley, Paul Chalakani, Eve Chamberlain, Naomi Cressman, Dorothea Hospador, Jorge Martinez, Chizoba Nwankwo, Michelle O'Quend, Karen Reeman, Trisha Thorne, Diane Jacobs.

The Archdeacons have oversight of deacons in the Diocese in three geographic areas: Northern, Along the Delaware River, and on the shore. In addition they each have special oversight in 3 other specific areas. The Venerable Keith McCoy is Archdeacon for Deployment in the diocese. The Venerable John Hanson is Archdeacon for Pastoral Care and the Venerable Victoria Cuff is Archdeacon for Discernment. The Archdeacons report directly to the Bishop. Archdeacons Cuff, McCoy and Hanson will retire as of the 230th Convention.

The Committee on the Diaconate is responsible for interviewing, identifying and recommending applicants to the School for Deacons. The Committee also continues to shepherd students in the school through the ordination process. The Committee works closely with the Archdeacons to assure that the discernment, selection process and preparation of those who have expressed a call to the diaconate is thoughtful, intentional and fair.

The COD is involved in the Association of Episcopal Deacons (formerly the North American Association for the Diaconate), which, through publications and conferences, works within the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to promote the Diaconate, to educate the church about the diaconate, and to support deacons in ministry.

The Committee on the Diaconate is co-chaired by the Rev. Lynn H. Johnson, Dcn and the Ven. Victoria Cuff, Dcn. The following persons serve on the committee; Presbyters: the Rev. Anna Powell, and the Rev. Maria Sanzo; Deacons: the Rev. Richard Wisniewski, the Rev. Tom Sweeny, the Rev. Emily Holman, the Rev. Catherine Esposito, and the Rev. Mary Ann Jensen; Lay persons: Mr. Carroll Wilson, Mr. Cedric Richardson, Mr. Tony Vitale, Ms Nancy Metcalf.

Respectfully submitted,
The Venerable Victoria Cuff, Deacon, Co-Chair
The Reverend Lynn H. Johnson, Deacon, Co-chair