



The Committee on the Diaconate

The Venerable Lynn H. Johnson, Co-Chair

The Venerable Peter S. Cornell, Co-Chair

Rev. Paul Chalakani
 Rev. Jorge Martinez
 Rev. Chizoba Nwanko
 Rev. Valerie Redpath+
 Rev. Maria Sanzo+
 Rev. Thomas E. Sweeny
 Rev. Richard Wisniewski
 Ms. JoAnn Dearden
 Ms. Karen Moore
 Mr. Anthony Vitale

2016 Report of the Committee on the Diaconate to the 233rd Diocesan Convention March 4, 2017

The Committee on the Diaconate is responsible for fine-tuning, adapting and adjusting the outline of the discernment process so that those interested in pursuing the journey toward ordination begin with a process that is meaningful, fair, and consistent. The Committee interviews candidates and listens for the call to ministry and/or Holy Orders. The Committee then identifies and recommends applicants to the Bishop for admittance to the School for Deacons.

Once admitted into the School for Deacons, the Committee 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 and intentional.

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. Linda Moeller, Director. The Venerable Lynn H. Johnson, Archdeacon for Discernment, is the liaison between the School for Deacons and the COD.

The Archdeacons have oversight for deacons in the Diocese in four special areas. The Venerable Carmen Viola is Archdeacon for Deployment in the diocese. The Venerable Denise B. Cavaliere is Archdeacon for Pastoral Care. The Venerable Peter S. Cornell is Archdeacon for Diakonia and Co-Chairs the Committee on the Diaconate. The Venerable Lynn H. Johnson is Archdeacon for Discernment and Co-Chairs the Committee on the Diaconate. The Archdeacons report directly to the Bishop.

There were 11 members in the School for Deacons Class of 2015 ordained to the diaconate in May 2015: Magdalena Aders, William "Bill": Balmer, Carolyn Bradley, Paul Chalakani, Eve Chamberlin, Naomi Cressman, Dorothea "Dot" Hospador, Chizoba Nwankwo, Jorge Martinez, Karen Reeman, and Trisha Thorme. The next class of students began their studies in the School for Deacons in January 2016.

The COD is involved in the **Association of Episcopal Deacons**, 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 AED will convene an Archdeacon & Directors conference in the March of 2017. The theme for this year's conference will focus on "Lifelong Discernment: From Call to Coffin".

The Committee on the Diaconate is co-chaired by the Ven. Lynn H. Johnson, Dcn, and the Ven. Peter S. Cornell, Dcn. The following persons serve on the committee; Presbyters: Rev. Valerie Redpath, Rev. Maria Sanzo, Deacons: Rev. Richard Wisniewski, Rev. Tom Sweeny, Rev. Paul Chalakani, Rev. Jorge Martinez, Rev. Chizoba Nwanko, Rev. Thomas E. Sweeny, Rev. Richard Wisniewski, Lay: Ms. JoAnn Dearden, Ms. Karen Moore, Mr. Anthony Vitale

Respectfully submitted,
 The Venerable Lynn H. Johnson, Deacon, Co-chair
 The Venerable Peter S. Cornell, Deacon, Co-Chair