

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Candidacy Committee Report

The Allegheny Synod Candidacy Committee has been active this year, accompanying candidates for ordained ministry through various stages of their formation. We have worked with nine candidates this year, two of whom have wrapped up their journey with us and have moved into public ordained ministry:

- The Rev. Regina Holliday (TEEM) was approved in November 2023 and ordained March 2024. She is serving Horner Lutheran in the Laurel Highlands Conference
- Vicar Allen Stump (TEEM) was approved in March 2024 and is scheduled to be ordained June 2024. He is called to Christ Trinity Parish in the Laurel Highlands Conference.

The other seven candidates are as follows:

- Vicar Jennifer Bobolsky-Sherbine (MDiv) was endorsed in November 2023 and is serving St. John Summerhill and St. Paul's Mundy's Corner in a 2-year, part-time internship.
- Seminarian Lindsie Hammaker-Struth (MDiv) received a positive entrance decision in October 2023. She is in the process of transferring candidacy to SWPA Synod, where she now resides.
- Vicar Christy Harford (TEEM) is serving First Johnstown and Benscreek on internship.
- Vicar Penny Koontz (TEEM) has completed coursework and is preparing for endorsement.
- Vicar Steve Koths (TEEM) is serving Shiloh State College on internship.
- Vicar Claudia Plows (TEEM) is completing classwork and serving Trinity Sidman.
- Vicar Josh Spangler (TEEM) received a positive entrance decision in October 2023 and is completing classwork while serving Laurel Mountain Lutherans.

The Office of the Bishop gives thanks for those who have served this year on Candidacy Committee: Fern Clapper, the Rev. Sharon Erb (Chair), Ken Lyle, the Rev. Amanda McCaffery, Freda Schluter, and the Rev. Evelyn Wald. Janice Hughes serves as recording secretary.

Two new members were recently appointed to the Candidacy Committee, George Fattman and Lyn Horning, and we look forward to their contribution.

The Rev. Becky Resch is our ELCA Region 8 Candidacy Manager. The Rev. Dr. Gil Waldkoenig returned to our committee this year as the United Lutheran Seminary representative. We also greatly value the work of Deacon Chelle Huth in the formation of our candidates.

Please keep our candidates, committee members, and seminary faculty and staff in your prayers for this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Kevin Shock  
Assistant to the Bishop