

Commission on Ministry Report 2013

Membership

There are currently fourteen people on the COM

- Four lay persons: David Crosson, John Gruenig, Pamela Clare Magers, CSF, and David Romain
- Four deacons: Brian Barnes, Margaret Deeths, Vicki Gray, and Hailey McKeefry Delmas
- Six priests: Phil Brochard, Alan Gates, Stephen Hassett, Leonard Oakes, Mary Moreno Richardson, and Kenneth Schmidt

The chair of the Commission on Ministry in 2013 is Pamela Clare Magers, CSF.

The terms of V. Gray, J. Gruenig, H. McKeefry Delmas, and D. Romain expire at the end of 2013. J. Gruenig and D. Romain have agreed to reappointment.

We are hoping to increase the COM membership to its maximum allowable number of 20 in 2014 to accommodate increased responsibilities and task force work.

People in the process and ordinations

December 2012 ordinations included one transitional deacon, two vocational deacons, two priests from this diocese, and two priests from other dioceses. One priest was received from another tradition.

June 2013 ordinations included one vocational deacon and one priest.

Following the Vocations Conference in March 2013, eight people were accepted as postulants: five for the vocational diaconate and three for the priesthood.

There are currently twenty-one people in the process towards ordination:

- 13 postulants
- 5 candidates
- 2 seeking reception as priests in the Episcopal Church from other traditions

Forty-nine people participated in Day of Discernment workshops in 2013. Several of them are currently doing the Time of Discernment 12-week self-study.

Task force work

In 2013, the COM established four new task forces to work on important issues:

- Developing resources for local discernment committees
- Clarifying guidelines regarding CPE requirements and distinguishing between formation during the postulancy and during the candidacy phases
- Developing policies regarding reception of persons ordained in other traditions
- Revising and refining the “new” ordination documents (produced in 2010)

A fifth task force on empowering lay ministry will begin its work in 2014.

The Board of Examining Chaplains, a long-established task force of the COM, expanded its work of evaluating GOE results to include reading and evaluating the portfolios candidates are now required to submit prior to ordination.