

Nomination for General Convention Clergy Deputy



Biography:

Laurel comes to The Episcopal Church from a Roman Catholic background. She was most attracted to TEC for their openness to questioning, personal and group discernment on many levels, and for the opportunity for all the membership to exercise voice and vote in the governance of the church. Her previous careers include 15 years in the theatre and film as a set designer, art director, artisan, and special effects design/execution. She spent 3 years as an Emergency Medical Technician, working in and around the Boston area, particularly in municipalities with high violent crime rates. Immediately following a traditional 3-year seminary education, she stayed on at Seabury-Western one additional year to earn a Master of Theological Studies in Congregational Development. Working with leadership models in business and military, as well as church structures, she is currently developing a comprehensive development model for St. Andrew's in Big Rapids, and implementing leadership growth techniques to the Grand Valley Deanery, which she currently Chairs.

Laurel is highly creative and curious, and believes these are key gifts that God has given her. For fun, Laurel enjoys adventure races, backpacking, cooking, gardening, and various visual arts. She is looking forward to celebrating her 40th birthday in Paris.