

Name: Jeff Diehl

Order: Lay

Congregation: St. Barnabas, Arroyo Grande **Nominated to serve on:** Secretary of Convention

Please tell us why you feel called to serve and what you can contribute to this particular body.

It has been my honor to serve as your Secretary to Convention for the past four years. I believe I have the combination of skills and aptitudes that would make me a good choice to continue in this position. I am detail-oriented, organized, and patient. I have excellent communication skills and mastery of digital communication tools. I know how to plan projects, work with teams, and meet deadlines. I have a deep understanding of how the various bodies of the diocese and the wider church work together, have lived and worshiped in all three deaneries of the diocese, and am honored to call many of you my friends.

Please give some brief background on your church activities.

Secretary to Convention (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)

General Convention Deputy (2012, 2015, 2018, 2022, 2024)

Member, Special Legislative Committee on Marriage (2015)

Vice-chair, Legislative Committee on Environmental Stewardship & Care of Creation (2018)

Member, Legislative Committee on Congregational and Diocesan Vitality (2022)

Chaplain to the Bishop Transition Process (2018 – 2020)

Diocesan Resolutions Committee (2018 – 2020)

Commission on Ministry (2016 – 2021, chair 2019-2020)

Diocesan Nominating Committee (chair 2009 – 2010)

Diocesan Search Consultant (2008 – 2016)

Standing Committee (2007 – 2011)

Co-chair of the Bishop Search Committee (2006 – 2007)

What is the most pressing issue facing the diocese in the next 5 years and how would you work to address it if elected?

I believe that there is an abundance of opportunity and deep grace during these times of great challenge. Our most pressing issue is to be open to the Spirit in this moment, to nurture discipleship, to engage our wider communities in the work of the Gospel, and to break down the barriers that prevent us from becoming our most authentic selves through God's love.