

Office of Vocation

As usual it has been another busy year as Office of Vocation Minister. I have the privilege of working with members of the Atlantic Candidacy Board who work diligently and faithfully to support applicants and candidates as they enter the Candidacy Pathway. The Board continues to meet and conduct interviews on line using Zoom, which has proven to be a very useful tool.

On average the Board had 6 interviews per month. Currently there are 30 candidates in the 3 Atlantic Regions (9 from Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters, 15 from Region 15, 6 from First Dawn Eastern Edge). There are 2 Diaconal candidates, 8 DLM candidates and 20 in the ordained stream. As well there are currently 5 applicants seeking suitability as candidates.

Recently the members of the Board were saddened at the death of Rev. Yvette Swan, who provided gentle wisdom and leadership to our work. We are truly grateful for her ministry with us. We extend condolences to Yvette's family and congregations.

The members of the Atlantic Candidacy Board are:

Sally Shaw (Chair)

Brenda Andrews (Secretary)

Jane Johnson

Kevin Cox

Simbarashe Mazhara

Elizabeth Stevenson

Ettie Gordon-Murray

Sheila Gallant

Margaret Ann Plant

Annika Sangster

Adekunle Adeniyi

The other half of my work has been around supporting the accreditation of ministry personnel and supporting remedial processes. This includes writing numerous letters of good standing, assisting ministry personnel as they attempt to navigate their way around Church Hub, and ensuring that they have completed their mandatory training and completed their annual declaration as required by General Council. I also taught, along with my British Columbia colleague Brenda Fawkes, an online version of Ministry of Supervision which attracted over 40 highly competent ministers from across the country who are interested in this important ministry.

Since the last AGM, I have supported two clergy as they made their way through the remedial process. I have had opportunity to talk to numerous clergy about the struggles and joys of living out their vocation in this pandemic year. I continue to be impressed by the leadership, ingenuity, creativity and faithfulness of our ministry personnel, who do ministry in the most difficult of times. We are well served in our Regions.

It is my continued privilege to work as your Office of Vocation Minister. Please be in touch if I can assist you in any way.

Rev. Dr. Andrew Richardson

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