

EPISCOPAL COMMUNICATORS



Board Nominees

Board Members:

Two nominees will be elected to three-year terms; one will be elected to complete one-year of a full term (and eligible for re-election in 2020).



Heidi Pitts

Heidi Pitts is currently filling a one-year board vacancy and can be elected to a full three-year term.

When Heidi was a wee 21 years old, she spent a few weeks volunteering with the Sisters of Charity in Kolkata, India. This was the era when the internet was just opening to the world, and she spent hours each week in a dial-up internet café uploading pictures from her new three megapixel digital camera and writing a blog of her experiences. When Heidi returned home,

people were eager to talk about the stories she had shared; through her posts, they felt the grief of entrenched poverty, the mercy of a compassionate touch, and the confusion of navigating an unknown language and culture. Now, more than ever, Heidi values the power of our stories to create connection and community. Her ministry as Director of Communications for the Diocese of Oregon is to encourage and train the people and parishes of the diocese to share their words, images, and sounds, using the many communications tools available today (which, in small coastal Oregon towns, may still include dial-up internet...).



Alan Bentrup

Alan Bentrup serves as Canon for Evangelism and Mission in the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina, overseeing all diocesan communications efforts. Previously he served as Associate Rector at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas, where his responsibilities included parish communications. Prior to seminary, Alan opened and managed the Houston office of Androvett Legal Media and Marketing, one of the largest boutique PR and marketing firms in Texas. He handled all aspects of communications, from public relations to crisis response, for businesses and

individuals across the country. Alan also is co-founder and curator of Missional Voices, and is a contributing writer to the Episcopal Church Foundation's Vital Practices blog. He earned a Master in Divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary, and Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from the University of Texas at Arlington.



Ashley Cameron

Ashley Cameron serves as the Director of Communications and Parish Life at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia. Since the fall of 2016, her role at St. Mary's has included overseeing and expanding communication efforts from social media management, developing stewardship campaigns, designing all print and electronic publications, and creating and editing all photography and video content. In addition, she works with St. Mary's Outreach Committee and outreach partners to grow and improve St. Mary's mission and outreach relationships and opportunities. Before joining the staff at St. Mary's, she was Communications Associate for

the Diocese of Virginia and served for a year as a missionary in the Philippines for the Episcopal Church's Young Adult Service Corps. A University of Mary Washington alumna, Ashley currently serves on the Diocese of Virginia's Standing Committee, and has been a member of the Episcopal Communicators for three years and currently serves on the Polly Bond Awards Committee.



Josh Hornbeck

Josh Hornbeck has been the Communications Director for the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia since August of 2016, where he shares stories from across the diocese and provides communications resources, strategy, and support for over 100 churches. Last year, his communications team won the Polly Bond award for Best Long Form Video. Previously, Josh worked for the Seattle International Film Festival's Digital Marketing Department, aiding in the development of a new digital and social media marketing strategy. He was the writer and director of Seattle Pacific University's

touring theatre troupe and has been a freelance playwright and director for a number of organizations across the Puget Sound. He has a BA in Theatre and an MFA in Arts Leadership from Seattle University. He enjoys spending time at home with his wife and their two cats, is an avid reader and film lover, and is passionate about the intersection of faith, art, and social justice.



Natalee Hill

Natalee Hill is the Associate for Communications and Administration at the Episcopal Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in Philadelphia. Over the past seven+ years she has done all of the things you'd expect from a solo communicator at a mid-to-large-sized parish. Recently she has been improving her skills with audio editing for podcasts and sermons, and video creation

to help tell the story of the parish. Little sparks Natalee's energy more than the opportunity to meet people, share ideas, collaborate on a project, and share resources or connections with and among people. Natalee is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Swarthmore where she sings and leads the children's ministry. She previously worked as a part-time youth director at a United Methodist church and as communications manager at the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. She holds a BA in Theatre from Muhlenberg College and a certificate in Church Management from Villanova School of Business.

Allison Huggins



Alli Huggins serves as the Digital Storyteller for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. She has worked in diocesan communications and been a member of the Episcopal Communicators since 2016. Professionally, she is interested in all things digital, social media, community development, and storytelling. She creates content for and manages the social media accounts for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, blog for the new [episcopalct.blog](#), and co-hosts and produces the Coffee Hour at The Commons podcast. Personally, she loves to hike, run, make pottery, and go thrifting. She has lived in two National Parks –

Bryce Canyon and Mt. Rainier – and has hiked over 1,400 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Alli holds degrees from the University of Pittsburgh and Yale University, and would be honored to serve on the Episcopal Communicators board.

Board President:

One nominee will be elected to a four-year term. The newly elected Board President will serve the first year as a President-elect (sitting on the Board with voice, but no vote) and the following three years as acting Board President.

Jason Merritt



Jason Merritt has been a member of Episcopal Communicators since 2011, and served on the Board of Directors from 2014-2017. He currently serves as Deputy Director and Marketing Director at Forward Movement, based in Cincinnati, Ohio. He previously served as Director of Marketing and Communications for Kanuga Conference and Retreat Center in Hendersonville, NC, as well as working in grassroots advocacy and communications with AARP Florida. Jason lives in Cincinnati with his wife, Kristen, and their two dogs, Riley and Whiskey. He is an avid fly fisherman and soccer fan, and enjoys being outside more than inside.