

A Message from the Chair



Summer 2022

Dear Friends:

Last week, The Church Pension Fund Board of Trustees (CPF Board) met in person at CPG's home office for the first time since 2019. It was wonderful to see my board colleagues and members of the Church Pension Group (CPG) team. Our gathering was also my last meeting as Chair, and as a member of the CPF Board. I look back on the past 13 years of board service with fondness and appreciation for CPG, and for the Church that gives all of our work deep meaning.

The CPF Board has accomplished a lot over the years—from revising The Church Pension Fund Clergy Pension Plan and related plans to broadening our socially responsible investing strategy, improving pension benefits for international clergy, studying pension parity, and working toward greater diversity, equity, and inclusion as a board and for the organization. We also acted quickly to provide financial relief during the COVID-19 pandemic, which continues to affect many. There has never been a shortage of issues to tackle as we continue to understand and address the evolving needs of the people and institutions we serve.

Next month, General Convention will elect 12 individuals to serve on the CPF Board. CPG is a complex organization, so it is essential that the CPF Board include people who have expertise and experience in similar industries or other relevant skills, and who are familiar with the Church. Six of my fellow trustees are standing for re-election,* and I hope you will consider re-electing them among other talented nominees.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Church as a member of the CPF Board these many years. It has been a true blessing and a privilege.

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown
Chair
The Church Pension Fund Board of Trustees

Board Elections

As I've shared previously, Canon Kathryn McCormick has been elected Chair of the CPF Board, effective at the conclusion of General Convention. I'm also pleased to report that we have selected [Canon Rosalie Simmonds Ballentine](#) and Bishop Brian Prior to serve as Vice Chairs of the CPF Board (subject to Brian's re-election to the board), also effective at the close of General Convention.



CPF Board newly appointed Chair and Vice Chairs.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

We received a powerful update on CPG's ongoing efforts to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the organization. Recent hires, promotions, and employee surveys show a true commitment to inclusion, which is a prerequisite for organizational excellence.

Strategic Planning

We received an update on CPG's strategic planning and progress against its organization-wide goals, and we spent time discussing strategic issues that are most important for the CPF Board. Our collaborative relationship with CPG's management team and other employees is outstanding.

Financial Strength

We heard from Chief Financial Officer Ellen Taggart, and received reports from Chief Investment Officer Roger Sayler and his investment team. They reminded us of the critical roles that diversification and long-term orientation play in protecting the financial strength of the benefits, products, and programs that CPG provides. We are comfortable that CPG is in a strong financial position, and the board will continue to monitor the organization's finances because protecting the financial strength of CPG's benefits is our most important work.

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The next meeting of the CPF Board will be from September 21 to September 23, 2022.

*CPF Board members nominated to serve a second term:

1. *Kevin Lindahl, Esq., Executive Director, Fire and Police Pension Association of Colorado*
2. *Sandra Ferguson McPhee, Esq., Attorney, Law Offices of Sandra Ferguson McPhee*
3. *The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior, Assisting Bishop, The Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, and Assisting Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Olympia*
4. *The Rt. Rev. Gregory H. Rickel, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Olympia*
5. *Canon Anne M. Vickers, Canon for Finance and Administration, Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida (retired)*
6. *The Very Rev. Sandye Wilson, Dean, The Cathedral Church of All Saints in St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands*