

*Rooted in  
Christ Jesus*

# Trustees of the Diocese



Rick Harra  
Vice-president





# Matthew 25:14, 15, 16, 20, 21

14. For the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.
15. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightaway took his journey.
16. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.
20. And so he that had received five talents came and brought five other talents saying, Lord thou delivered unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.
21. His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord







**PAY  
NO  
Attention  
to that  
MAN  
behind the  
CURTAIN**







# Trustees of the Diocese, 2024

7 members, 6 elected (clergy or lay) for six-year term

Who Are We?

- **The Rt. Rev. Kevin S. Brown**, President
- **Dr. Bruce Vrana**, Secretary (2024)  
St. James' Millcreek Hundred, Wilmington
- **The Honorable Lydia York**, Investment Committee (2025)  
St. Barnabas, Wilmington
- **The Rev. Patty Downing** (2026)  
Trinity Parish, Wilmington
- **Richard W. Harra**, Vice-President (2027)  
St. David's, Brandywine Hundred, Wilmington
- **Mark Parsells**, Treasurer and Investment Committee (2028)  
Christ Church Christiana Hundred, Wilmington
- **The Rev. Jeff Ross** (2029)  
St. Peter's, Lewes



# What do the Trustees do?

Diocese = 2 separate corporations

*Constitution Article VIII: The purpose of the Corporation, as set forth in its Certificate of Incorporation, shall be to advance the religious and educational work of The Episcopal Church by serving as the **custodian and trustee of the property and funds** of and as the **fiscal agent** of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Delaware...*

- Oversight of Master Fund A (MFA), the common investment fund containing restricted and unrestricted trust funds in use by congregations and the diocese
- Oversight of the annual distribution of the income from MFA
- Oversight of the receipt and sale of real property gifts to the diocese or a parish
- Provide advice, when requested about financial matters and investments to parishes and other organizations of the church
- Aid, support, and maintenance of the bishop
- Aid, support, and maintenance of other necessary ministers and missionaries of the diocese
- Respond to duties authorized by the convention of the diocese
- Respond to requests from the bishop and council to support programs and mission of the church



# Trustees in 2024

Met nine times

- Financial support for the Camp Arrowhead Carmine Environmental Center
- Participation by Rev. Downing in the ad hoc committee formed to study and evaluate the MMR
- Hired Jim Evitts, member of Immanuel, New Castle, as property manager to handle oversight and maintenance of five diocesan properties and abandoned church cemeteries
- For the second year, under the leadership of Revs. Ross and Downing offered Wellness Grants to clergy for their spiritual, physical, mental well-being
- Participation by Bruce Vrana in the newly formed committee to evaluate the efficacy of the current governance bodies
- Support of the Church of the Nativity property after the congregation disbanded
- Held and extended meeting in October to determine the scope and direction of current and future use of trustee held properties
- Welcomed Dr. Teri Quinn Gray and Breakwater Accounting to partner with the trustees on fiscal issues
- Continuing and strengthening communication and collaboration between Dr. Gray, Col. Frank Daniels, Treasurer of Council, and Mark Parsells, Treasurer of Trustees
- Approved Council request for funding
- Approved MFA distribution of \$2.12 for 2025, 11% increase over 2024



# Thank You

for your confidence in us as we  
dispatch our duties and responsibilities.

Please keep the trustees in your prayers.

Questions/conversation: [rick@mccreryandharra.com](mailto:rick@mccreryandharra.com)

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