

- › Recent alums and alums-to-be on the record
- › A look back to the Rochester era
- › Reimagining lifetime learning

# Bexley ✦ Seabury

SUMMER 2019 › VOL. 7: ISSUE N° 1

THE FUTURE CHURCH BEGINS HERE





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› **On the cover:** Recently and soon-to-be incorporated members of Christ's eternal priesthood, welcomed with the help of students and alums featured in this issue. See pages 4-5 and 8-9.

› **On this page:** A glimpse of our May 17, 2019 Commencement Eucharist at St. Paul and the Redeemer Episcopal Church, Chicago. See pages 10-11 for more information.





Dear Friends,

A few years ago, I was standing in the back of the chapel talking with some students at the end of the academic year. One of them said to me, “It’s strange to think that in only a few months there will be a bunch of new students here, and we don’t even know who they are, yet.” I said, “Right, but what’s really strange is to think that NEXT fall, there will be a bunch more students here, and they don’t even know who they are, yet.” It’s a truth that can be hard to get one’s head around: God knows more about what will happen, and has set in motion more of the future, than is entirely comfortable.

I’ve been reflecting on that idea a lot lately, and not only as we bid farewell to our most recent alums and prepare to welcome our incoming students. Sure, they’re about to take their first calls; or return to their current ministries with new ideas and training; or set out on theological formation for the first time. It’s cliché to say they are the future of the church, but it is true. Even more, though, I’ve been thinking of those of our alums who have recently been elected to serve as bishops. In the year that I’ve been president, I’ve attended three of their consecrations, and have two more scheduled already. Clearly, God saw all this coming, even if nobody else could.

We don’t know, and can’t know, who will be the next rector of any given parish, or the next bishop of any given diocese. But we trust that God is already placing those people on their paths and equipping them for what is in store for them. That’s the future we serve at Bexley Seabury—the unknowable future that exists only in God’s dreams. The future rector of your parish, the future bishop of your diocese, is in seminary right now. Maybe even here, at Bexley Seabury.

We have accepted the call to form the women and men in our charge for the church that is coming, whatever that may look like. Within these pages you will read stories of this church that is coming into being, and the work that our community—students, alums, faculty, staff, board, and friends—are doing to bring it about, and how we are preparing ourselves and others to serve as its leaders. I invite you be a part of this mission, however your gifts and callings lead you.

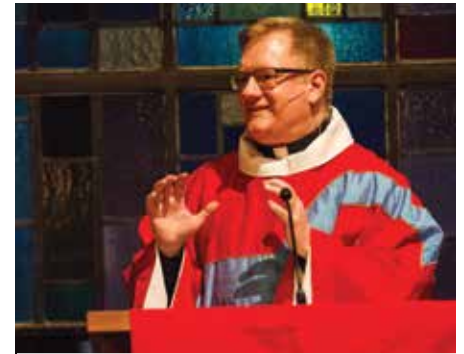
The future church begins here.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Micah T.J. Jackson".

Micah T.J. Jackson (Seabury-Western '04)  
*President*

# New beginnings

President Jackson’s  
Installation Eucharist,  
October 18, 2018



# “I believe I am so called.”

## Forming new ministers for a new church

In fall 2016, Bexley Seabury introduced a newly revamped non-residential curriculum for its Master of Divinity (MDiv) and Diploma in Anglican Studies (DAS) programs. We asked two recent graduates and one current student to share their experiences with the seminary’s pioneering approach to preparing for ministry.



*Patrick Burke (at right) blesses baby Ezra during communion at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church in Brownsburg, Ind. Ezra was baptized shortly after this photo was taken.*

The Rev. Patrick Burke (MDiv Bexley Seabury '19) was a youth director in suburban Indianapolis and working in insurance when he saw the opportunity to answer his call to ministry. “When Bexley Seabury reformed the Master of Divinity program, it was the program I could really do while continuing to work full time and have a family,” Burke said.

### ROOM TO FIND A NEW WAY

“Bexley Seabury was very instrumental in opening the door to both study and experience with new ways of doing ministry. ... It was a much different way of doing ministry with a big permission slip to think outside the box and think what we might be as a church in the future,” Burke explained.

### IRREPLACEABLE LESSONS

Burke counts as lasting assets the examples set by faculty, including what he called an incredible illustration of flexibility, sensitivity, and humility. “Almost the whole weekend was taken up by us challenging one of the texts that one professor presented to us. The ability to stop, listen to us, and really dig into a text that we found problematic in a way that he hadn’t, to be humble and open to that discussion and learn alongside of us—someone with a PhD—it was brilliant. ... Literally everyone I’ve encountered at Bexley Seabury has been that way. Just incredible.”

### BEXLEY SEABURY LED ME

Ordained to the priesthood last December at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church in Brownsburg, Ind., Burke is now parish missionary at St. Paul’s On The Way, a “third space” ministry of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Indianapolis. The community is

an incubator for new ministries, particularly for persons whose voices have been marginalized within the church or who, for whatever reason, do not feel comfortable in a traditional church.

“We’re experimenting with forming new types of Christian community in a particular neighborhood in Indianapolis. It was Bexley Seabury that led me to that ministry versus the other way around,” Burke said.

### HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING

“I don’t know,” Burke said, “if I would be hitting the ground running if I had chosen a traditional seminary. The seminary and the professors were all flexible enough to let me explore this type of ministry in my coursework, and encourage me, and give good feedback and coaching. So it’s a different type of formation process, but one that is going to be instrumental in how we see the church in the 21st century. It’s an incredible program from that perspective.”



*Teresa Cantrell pictured in her church’s garden in northeastern Arkansas where she lives with her husband and children. Cantrell teaches full time at an elementary school 12 miles from her home.*

Leading youth ministry was pivotal for Bexley Seabury Master of Divinity student Teresa Cantrell in discerning her call. “I saw our youth ministry as a small congregation, and pastored it as a congregation. As part my continuing education, I did youth and family ministry training and really felt beckoned toward sacramental ministry,” Cantrell said.

### FLEXIBILITY AND RIGOR

Cantrell is the first aspirant to the priesthood in her diocese to choose Bexley Seabury’s non-residential program for seminary. “It was important that we not uproot the kids. Plus, there’s the practical consideration of needing to keep my day job because



we depend on having my salary, too. I had other options but I wanted an accredited seminary,” Cantrell said.

The Bexley Seabury curriculum appealed to Cantrell, too. “I especially liked having more field ed time—five semesters instead of two—plus practical classes, like nonprofit management and the ‘Learning from London’ course,” Cantrell said. “I like the idea of seeing how people are growing the church in other areas.”

### EYE-OPENING INTERNSHIP

Two semesters in, Cantrell rates her internship experience at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Marianna, Ark., as top-notch. In order to keep a beloved rector who relocated to Arizona, the congregation invested in equipment to host CloudPriest, a platform of the rector’s own creation for real-time streaming liturgies and services that is based in the Zoom platform. The priest is on-site at the church twice each month and conducts services from her home twice each month through CloudPriest.

“It’s not like piping in a service. When you sign on, the first thing you see is a conversation and a private message from the priest. It’s been amazing to experience church this way. ... The congregation now has remote members who have never walked through the door. Remarkable,” Cantrell said.

### UNCOMPROMISED COMMUNITY

For Cantrell, who completed four years of Education for Ministry (EFM) online, the seminary’s reliance on hybrid and fully online coursework was familiar. “I was absolutely stunned with EFM that not only that you could build community online, but also have ongoing relationships. It’s the same at Bexley Seabury,” she said.

“In a typical classroom two percent of the people do 98 percent of the talking,” but not so at Bexley Seabury Cantrell finds. “I’m hearing and learning so much more in my MDiv classes because everybody is responding, everybody is posting. So there’s an opportunity to glean insights from everyone’s contributions.”



*Cody Maynus (at left) leading prayer at the Minneapolis March for Our Lives demonstration, one of more than 880 actions organized by students in response to the killing of 17 students in Parkland, Florida.*

The Rev. Cody Maynus (DAS Bexley Seabury ’19), ordained by the Episcopal Church in Minnesota to the diaconate on June 25th, has a lot of transition going on.

Maynus has just graduated from Bexley Seabury, following three years at St. John’s School of Theology, a residential Benedictine seminary in Collegeville, Minn. He is wrapping up

five years at the diocesan cathedral, St. Mark’s, one-half of the team leading a shift from transactional to relational outreach ministry. He is saying farewell to a group of Visitation Sisters that he ministered with in racially segregated North Minneapolis, offering radical solidarity and witness to people living in poverty. He is separating from a monastic community in Omaha, Neb., and moving to Los Angeles to live alongside another monastic community while considering vocational next steps.

He says his experience at Bexley Seabury has equipped him to move forward with confidence.

### A GROWING WEB OF SUPPORT

Maynus said one lesson he learned at Bexley Seabury is the wisdom of honoring where you’ve been and where you’re going. Because students stay anchored in their home communities while participating in the seminary community, they are encouraged and fed by both.

“You’ve got access to the people who have recognized your gifts of leadership, the people who have called you to be among them as deacon and priest. You stay in that context without giving up the formal, academically rigorous training that seminary provides,” Maynus said.

### CREATIVE PEOPLE FOR SPIRIT-FILLED TIMES

“The people who are attracted to a place like Bexley Seabury are creative and imaginative, and are actively engaged in thinking about what the church will look like in the future,” Maynus said. “I know that the church as we once knew it is in decline but the church itself isn’t. ... The invitation is to be both faithful to the church as it’s been inherited and faithful to the Holy Spirit who’s calling for ever-new and responsive change, so it feels like a dance often.”

### GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Maynus sees the Bexley Seabury curriculum as a good foundation for the relationship-based ministry he wants to pursue.

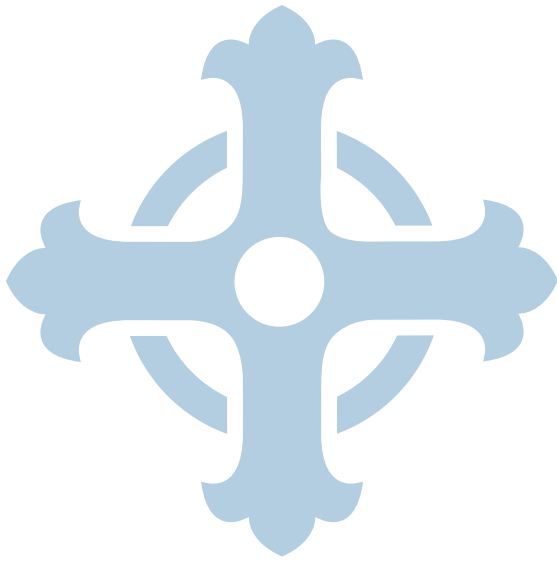
“The curriculum does a really great job of blowing up the idea of the Episcopal Church as the Republican or the Democratic Party at prayer, instead emphasizing more global Anglican perspectives. In every class we work on thinking of ourselves as people with a multiplicity of identities that intersect with one another. That’s been a real strength,” Maynus said.

### DEEP ROOTS, NEW GROWTH

A self-described history nerd, Maynus sees the vision of Henry Benjamin Whipple, one of Bexley Seabury’s founders\* and first bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, at work today.

“Bishop Whipple was real clear that Seabury Divinity School would be a school for the prophets. The Bexley Seabury I experienced is just that: a training a school for prophets, for folks who can be in relationship with God and call the world—call one another—to greater fidelity, to remind the world of God’s expectation for justice, for peace, for reconciliation. That’s been an abiding part of my Bexley Seabury experience.” ✨

\* Philander Chase, first Episcopal bishop of Ohio, founded Bexley Hall.



# Always learning

## New skills for new challenges

A Bexley Seabury Doctor of Ministry degree, in Congregational Development or in Preaching, is a significant professional credential for seasoned leaders of the church, both lay and ordained. We asked three current students, one an alumna, and a Class of 2019 graduate to tell us how their doctoral studies are helping them respond to God's call.



*Parishioners of St. Stephen's with DMin in Congregational Development student Brendan Barnicle (foreground at right) shown celebrating the LGBTQI community at the 2018 Portland Pride Parade.*

The Rev. Brendan Barnicle, outgoing rector at St. Stephen's Episcopal Parish in Portland, Ore., and incoming rector at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church in nearby Wilsonville, considers his doctoral studies at Bexley Seabury to be a roadmap to growth. Average Sunday attendance doubled in Barnicle's two years at St. Stephen's, likely one of the accomplishments that contributed to Barnicle's new call.

"That's what drew me to the DMin program in Congregational Development at Bexley Seabury: the church is challenged to grow and I need skills to make that happen," Barnicle said.

### LEARNING AND ACTING

So far, so good. "I've just finished my first year at Bexley Seabury and every time I come back I find new things to weave into the work we do," Barnicle said. As an example, Barnicle pointed to a program he developed on the theology of money, an interest since his days in investment banking, and the topic he plans to research for his thesis.

"What if we thought about money in a Trinitarian way?" Barnicle asked. "If we pray 'In the name of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,' what if we ask ourselves, Are our money practices creative? Are they redemptive? Are they sustaining?"

Using that framework, Barnicle created a curriculum that considers how one thinks about and uses money alongside lectionary readings for Sundays outside of stewardship season.

### LESSONS IN CREATING COMMUNITY

Barnicle has been surprised at "how much community gets formed in a relatively short period of time" at Bexley Seabury, a valuable lesson in itself.

"Many people in ministry end up isolated—particularly if they end up serving solo or as a part-time priest. So finding ways to maintain community with your colleagues ... is really important," Barnicle said.

### EMPOWERING CLERGY IN NEW WAYS

His advice for creating an environment that encourages new leadership? Barnicle suggests clergy look in the mirror. He came to this view while reading "Back from the Dead: The Book of Congregational Growth" by Gerald W. Keucher, an Episcopal priest.

"We try to say it's all about lay leadership, but I think it's about the clergy learning how to be leaders, beyond what we learn as MDiv students. That's what I think is happening at Bexley Seabury ... They are offering the kind of leadership training that clergy need, particularly now," Barnicle said.



*DMin in Preaching student Drew Foisie recently completed the second of three summer residencies. His thesis will focus on the sermon as an ongoing conversation that draws pastor and people together around the Gospel.*

The Rev. Drew Foisie is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry in Preaching degree at Bexley Seabury as a way to help his congregation embrace new possibilities. Foisie is vicar of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church on Camano Island, Wash., 60 miles north of Seattle. Long a haven for retired persons, the area is beginning to draw younger residents as housing prices soar in metro Seattle.

"We are very open and affirming and welcoming, and that's wonderful ... But I think the sermon can help us really hear the Gospel ... and lead us to expand our vision around how we see ourselves, who we welcome, and who we serve," Foisie said.

### POWERFUL CONVERSATION

For Foisie, preaching is a "uniquely powerful" conversation that connects preacher and people with God, with one another, and the people of God at large.

"Because we [Episcopalians are] deeply sacramental ... we can sometimes let the liturgy do the all heavy lifting and carry the spiritual freight. ... With his unique gifts for preaching, I think Presiding Bishop Curry is essentially saying, 'There's this dynamic piece here that we can elevate' ... I feel this in my ministry especially now ... The ministry of welcoming a more diverse community and using the sermon event as a pastoral moment, as well as a prophetic moment, keep pointing me in the direction of doing deeper work with it," Foisie said.

### ECUMENICAL ENVIRONMENT

Foisie said what he finds most challenging and most beneficial about his studies is the ecumenical approach. The program is offered collaboratively, by six of the seminaries\* that constitute the Association of Chicago Theological Schools. Faculty and students represent six faith traditions, as do the liturgies that are part of the worship life during summer residencies.

"I looked at a couple of other programs, but none made as much sense to me. ... Seeing the way the preaching in this program reflects a tradition's gifts, values, and theology is empowering ... is informative. ... You hear the Gospel proclaimed in different kinds of vibrancies, which is pretty amazing. You end up feeling like you're receiving a real gift listening to a variety of colleagues across the spectrum of Christian expression," Foisie said.

\* Bexley Seabury, Chicago Theological Seminary, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, McCormick Theological Seminary, and North Park Theological Seminary



*Class of 2019 DMin in Congregational Development graduate Kate Gillooly is director of congregational development for Heights Christian Church, a Disciples of Christ congregation in Shaker Heights, Ohio.*

The decision Dr. Kate Gillooly (Bexley Seabury '19) made in 2015 to enter Bexley Seabury's DMin program was a fork in the road.

### LEAP OF FAITH

With a master of arts in ministry degree and decades of experience directing Christian formation, Gillooly was well prepared, but wary as to how she might be received as a lay person.

"It took a lot to walk in the door for that first course, a preaching elective," Gillooly recalled. "Twelve priests fairly far along in their careers and me. But I was welcomed immediately. ... I was in the right place at the right time."

A few months later, while trading ideas with a nearby Disciples of Christ pastor, he threw a curve ball: would Gillooly offer a proposal for how she could help his congregation discover new ways of being church? Textbooks for her next course, "Reimagining Congregations in Mission," had just arrived. Gillooly combed their pages and her experience to craft a proposal for what she would do as director of congregational development. She landed the job with a three-year contract that has since been renewed. "It was just perfect timing, a kairos moment," Gillooly said.

### HELPING OTHERS DISCERN

Gillooly pursued an artistic project for her doctoral thesis. From interviews with lay professional colleagues in her network she developed a 20-minute dramatic sermon, "Our Hope and Call," that encourages lay people to approach their calls to ministry as clergy do. "It's meant to be preached as part of a primary liturgy, and I tell about a dozen stories ... shaped around the prayer for the baptized," Gillooly said.

Professor Emeritus John Dally, Gillooly's thesis director, described the work as having a missional purpose and appeal, and reported that Church Publishing and the Lilly Endowment have expressed interest in a DVD and study guide that Gillooly is producing. Gillooly has presented "Our Hope and Call" in several parishes and plans to take it on the road.

### MORE KAIROS MOMENTS

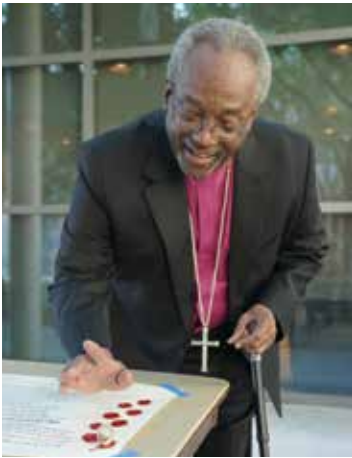
"Just in the last of couple of weeks, I've gotten an invitation to team teach a course at Ursuline College ... and some other possibilities are cropping up for adjunct faculty projects," she reported. Well done, Dr. Gillooly.

*continued on page 9*



# More alums in the U.S. House of Bishops

Three alums ordained and consecrated, two more elected



Clockwise: Presiding Bishop Michael Curry adds his episcopal seal to those affixed by other bishops participating in the ordination and consecration of Megan Traquair; Bishop Cathleen Chittenden Bascom; Bishop Megan M. Traquair; and Bishop Michael Buerkel Hunn.

The seminary's 2018-2019 academic year was distinguished by an uptick in the number of graduates in the U.S. House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church. As of July 1, 2019, a total of 22 alums are members of the House of Bishops, including 15 current diocesan bishops.

"In a way, this shouldn't be surprising," said Bexley Seabury President Micah Jackson, "because we have always emphasized church leadership and congregational development as essential parts of our curriculum. I'm pleased to see that the wider church continues to recognize and value that. I look forward to seeing how our alums will contribute to God's mission on this larger stage."

Three Seabury-Western alums are among the newest members of the House of Bishops, all heading their respective dioceses:

› **Bishop of Kansas Cathleen Chittenden Bascom**

› **Bishop of the Rio Grande Michael Buerkel Hunn**

› **Bishop of Northern California Megan M. Traquair**

Two additional dioceses, Vermont and Michigan, will be led by Seabury-Western alums.

*"I have a passion for awakening communities of faith to the power of our baptismal covenant and how it is a genuine bond that connects us to Jesus and each other, drawing us to prayer, worship, and the celebration of God's creation."*



› **Shannon MacVean-Brown**, (Seabury-Western '05), bishop-elect, Episcopal Church in Vermont, is pictured above at right. She will be ordained and consecrated Sept. 28, 2019.

*"Our call is not to grow churches or to close churches, our call is to live out the Gospel in a way that positively changes the lives of those who come in contact with the church."*



› **Bonnie A. Perry**, (Seabury-Western '98 and adjunct faculty member) bishop-elect, Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, assisted by Bexley Seabury Director and Bishop of Chicago Jeff Lee. Her ordination and consecration is set for Feb. 8, 2020.

In addition, one alumna and one current student were elected by other churches in the Anglican Communion:

› **Joshua Sunday Oyinlola**, bishop of Irele Eseodo, Church of Nigeria

› **Samuel Peni**, bishop of Yambio and Archbishop of Western Equatoria, Church of South Sudan ✠



Continued from page 7

## U.S. House of Bishops Alums as of July 1, 2019

	DIOCESE
<i>Cathleen Chittenden Bascom</i> (Seabury-Western '90)	Kansas
Patrick W. Bell* (Seabury-Western '99)	Spokane
<i>Mark Bourlakas</i> (Seabury-Western '97)	Southwestern Virginia
Diane Jardine Bruce (Seabury-Western '10)	Los Angeles
<i>Andrew M.L. Dietsche</i> (Seabury-Western '87)	New York
C.C. Epting* (Seabury-Western '72)	Chicago
<i>Robert L. Fitzpatrick</i> (Seabury-Western '99)	Hawaii
<i>Wendell N. Gibbs Jr.</i> (Seabury-Western '87)	Michigan
<i>Michael J. Hanley</i> (Seabury-Western '81, '05)	Oregon
<i>Michael Buerkel Hunn</i> (Seabury-Western '97)	Rio Grande
Don E. Johnson* (Seabury-Western '76)	West Tennessee
Shannon S. Johnston* (Seabury-Western '88)	Virginia
Chilton Knudsen (Seabury-Western '80, '99)	Washington, D.C.
<i>Edward J. Konieczny</i> (Seabury-Western '01)	Oklahoma
Stephen T. Lane* (Bexley Hall Rochester '78)	Maine
<i>Mark A. Lattime</i> (Bexley Hall Rochester '97)	Alaska
<i>Robert Stuart Skirving</i> (Seabury-Western '03)	East Carolina
<i>Dabney Smith</i> (Seabury-Western '99)	Southwest Florida
<i>Michael G. Smith</i> (Seabury-Western '91)	North Dakota
<i>Douglas E. Sparks</i> (Seabury-Western '89, '93)	Northern Indiana
<i>Megan M. Traquair</i> (Seabury-Western '91)	Northern California
<i>Terry A. White</i> (Seabury-Western '85)	Kentucky

## Anglican Communion Bishop Alums

	CHURCH
<i>Joshua Sunday Oyinlola</i> (Seabury-Western '82)	Nigeria
<i>Samuel Peni</i> (Bexley Seabury DMin Student)	South Sudan
John E. Privett* (Seabury-Western '05)	Canada

*Italics indicates current diocesan bishop*

\* Retired



Alumna and DMin student Elizabeth Duff Popplewell with a candidate for baptism who “knew” what needed to happen because her younger brother had been baptized a few weeks before.

Doctor of Ministry student Elizabeth Duff Popplewell (MDiv Seabury-Western '07), rector at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa, described her return to seminary as a time to stretch and explore.

“The program offers room for imagination and creativity. Because you're taking these classes while you're engaged in ministry, you have a place where you can practice and implement new ideas. ... It's a place to go with permission to try things, and receive instant feedback,” Popplewell said.

### CONNECTING AND CONSULTING

Popplewell highlighted the rewards of being in ongoing dialogue with an informed and inspiring group of peers.

“To have somebody to share stories with—somebody who's not a parishioner who might feel that they have to defend something, but another colleague—who can give you a fresh perspective on things, has been so valuable,” Popplewell explained.

### CHURCH BEYOND WALLS

Most of all, Popplewell said she is grateful for how relevant her DMin studies have been to her ministry, in particular her last class, the “Learning from London” travel course.

“We visited various faith communities, some in very traditional and some in very new settings. Someone might say, ‘Well that's not church: they're meeting in a restaurant.’ And I'd say, ‘Yeah, that's very much church.’ It helped me to solidify my idea of discipleship in this day and in this context—that church can happen beyond the walls when people know that's what they're doing,” Popplewell said.

### GATHERING PEOPLE AND SENDING THEM OUT

She said her thesis is “about creating a culture of discipleship ... through worship, through study, through fellowship, through service,” which Popplewell sees as directly tied to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry calling the Church to evangelism. Her thesis connects with her work as part of the team leading a three-year revival ministry throughout the Diocese of Iowa.

“The work that I have done at Bexley Seabury has helped me to imagine being church in an evolving way, not just in a new way,” Popplewell said. “I think this has made me a better priest and a better rector.” ✨

# On campus and beyond



Nine of the 13 members of the Class of 2019 participated in the Commencement Eucharist at St. Paul and the Redeemer, Chicago on May 17. BACK ROW (from left): **Nathaniel Warne (DAS)**, Emlyn Ott (DMin Director), Terry DeLisio (Academic Dean), Milner Seifert (Lecturer in Liturgy & Music), Julie Lytle (Director of Distributive & Lifelong Learning Initiatives), Jason Fout (Associate Professor of Anglican Theology), **Patrick T. Burke (MDiv)**. MIDDLE ROW (from left): **Nathanael Saint-Pierre (DMin Preaching)**, **Cody Maynus (DAS)**, KJ Oh (Director of Formation & Contextual Learning), Micah T.J. Jackson (President), Eileen Shanley-Roberts (Assistant Director of Formation & Contextual Learning), **Anna Sutterisch (MDiv)**, **Stephen Ashby (MDiv)**. FRONT ROW (from left): **Katherine Gillooly (DMin Cong Dev)**, **Simon C. Justice (DMin Cong Dev)**, **Debra Kay Bullock (DMin Cong Dev)**.



## TRANSITIONS

## Degree Presentations

## ANGLICAN STUDIES

Bexley Seabury awarded a Diploma in Anglican Studies to: **Cody Maynus**; **Kevin Powell** (in absentia); **Michael Spitalli** (in absentia); and **Nathaniel Warne**.

## MASTER OF DIVINITY

Bexley Seabury presented a Master of Divinity degree to **Stephen Ashby**; **Patrick T. Burke**; **Alexandra Heeter** (in absentia); and **Anna Sutterisch**.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Bexley Seabury presented a Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Development degree to: **Debra Kay Bullock** (Seabury-Western '06), rector of St. Mark's Church, Evanston, Ill.; **Katherine Gillooly**, director of congregational development, Heights Christian Church, Cleveland; and **Simon C. Justice**, rector of Church of the Good Samaritan, Corvallis, Ore.

Bexley Seabury presented Doctor of Ministry in Preaching degrees to **Nathanael Saint-Pierre**, rector of St. Augustine of Hippo Episcopal Church, New York City; and (in absentia) to **Richard R. Swanson** (Seabury-Western '00), rector of St. John's in the Mountains Episcopal Church, Stowe, Vt.

## Ordinations

**Stephen N. Ashby** (Bexley Seabury '19) and **Anna Sutterisch** (Bexley Seabury '19) were ordained to the diaconate on June 1, 2019 by Bexley Seabury Director Bishop Mark Hollingsworth, Episcopal Diocese of Ohio.

**Stephen Benitz** (Bexley Seabury '18) was ordained to the priesthood in Iowa on July 17, 2018 at St. John's Episcopal Church in Mason City, Iowa.

**Patrick Burke** (Bexley Seabury '19) was ordained priest on Dec. 1, 2018 by Bishop Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, who has since been named a Bexley Seabury director.

**Andrew "Drew" Christiansen**

(Bexley Seabury '17) was ordained to the priesthood at St. Mark's Cathedral in Shreveport, La. on Thursday, Sept. 13, 2018.

**Padraic Michael Collins-Bohrer**

(Bexley Seabury '17) was ordained to the priesthood on Dec. 8, 2018 by Bishop Prince Singh, of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester. Collins-Bohrer is a hospice chaplain in the area.

**Copeland Johnston** (Seabury-Western '06) was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Scott Hayashi on Oct. 20, 2018, and to the priesthood on April 27, 2019 by Bishop Hayashi at the Cathedral Church of St. Mark, Salt Lake City.

**Stephen Lane** (Bexley Seabury '17) was ordained to the priesthood July 28, 2018 in the Diocese of Western New York by Bishop William Franklin.

**Cody Maynus** (Bexley Seabury '19) was ordained to the diaconate on June 25, 2019 by Bexley Seabury Director Bishop Brian N. Prior, Episcopal Church in Minnesota.

**Scott Lybrand Zaucha** (Bexley Seabury '18) was ordained by Bexley Seabury Director Bishop Jeff Lee to the sacred order of priests on June 16, 2018 at St. James Cathedral in Chicago.



TOP DOWN: Alums Cathleen Bascom, Michael Hunn, and Megan Traquair were consecrated bishop in the Episcopal Church in the last nine months. See pages 8-9.

## Consecrations

(ALSO SEE PAGES 8-9.)

**Cathleen Chittenden Bascom** (Seabury-Western '90) was consecrated March 2, 2019 as tenth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas at Grace Cathedral, Topeka. The first woman bishop in the diocese's history, Bishop Bascom is the first diocesan bishop elected from a slate constituted solely by female candidates.

**Michael Buerkel Hunn** (Seabury-Western '97) was ordained and consecrated bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande on Nov. 3, 2018 in Albuquerque, N.M.

**Joshua Sunday Oyinlola** (Seabury-Western '82) was consecrated bishop of Irele Eseodo Diocese, Church of Nigeria on March 29, 2019 at Saint David's Cathedral, in Akure, and was enthroned on April 9 at Saint Andrew's Cathedral in Irele, both cathedrals in Ondo State.

**Samuel Peni**, a Bexley Seabury DMin in Preaching student, was elected bishop of Yambio and archbishop of the Church of South Sudan's internal province of Western Equatoria. He was installed in both new roles on March 10, 2019 to succeed Archbishop Peter Munde Yacob, who died last October after a short illness.

**Megan M. Traquair** (Seabury-Western '91), former canon to the ordinary in the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona, was ordained and consecrated the eighth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California on June 29, 2019.

## Episcopal Elections

(ALSO SEE PAGES 8-9.)

**Shannon MacVean-Brown** (Seabury-Western '05), interim rector at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Franklin, Ind., was elected as eleventh bishop diocesan by the Episcopal Church in Vermont on May 18, 2019.

**Bonnie A. Perry** (Seabury-Western '98), rector of All Saints' Episcopal Church, Chicago, and an adjunct member of the Bexley Seabury faculty, was elected the eleventh bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan on June 1, 2019.

## STAFF &amp; FACULTY

(ALSO SEE FACULTY NEWS,  
PAGES 18-19)

**Lynn Bowers**, accountant, human resources officer, and event coordinator, traveled to Texas with Church Pension Group to learn and connect with her counterparts from across the country. She continues to volunteer with Ravenswood Community Services; PAWS, an animal welfare group; The Chicago Saints, a volunteer theater organization; and serves as a lay chaplain.

**Jaime Briceño**, director of admissions and recruitment and digital missionary, was appointed to the Task Force to Coordinate Ecumenical & Interreligious Work for a six-year term until the 81st General Convention in 2024. In June he participated in Episcopal Migration Ministries' "Love God, Love Neighbor: Advocacy in Action," a two-day interactive training on messaging, congressional advocacy, and networking.

**Bob Doak**, director of finance 2012-2019, retired in February. President Micah Jackson thanked Doak for "stewarding the seminary through some of its most challenging times ... always making sure that the numbers never overshadowed the personal relationships that make this a special place."

**Ronald Fox**, assistant to President Jackson, received word on May 13 that he has completed all requirements for the degree of Master of Theology from Providence Theological School. The director of studies noted, "You have graduated with assigned honors, Summa Cum Laude, which is exceptional."

**Lelia Fry** joined the staff in January 2019 as assistant to the academic dean and assessment coordinator. She is developing tools to help students track curriculum progress. She continues her search for a Chicago congregation and ways to become more involved in the community.

**Lisa A. Gee**, chief financial officer, joined the staff in February. She quickly completed two audits and drafted a budget for 2019-2020. Her portfolio includes managing finances and strengthening the seminary's administrative structure.

**Suzann Van Sickle Holding**, former director of doctoral programs, returned to parish ministry in July 2018. She is interim rector at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Wilmette, Ill.

**Micah Jackson** was installed as Bexley Seabury president Oct. 18, 2018 at a Eucharist at St. Paul and the Redeemer Episcopal Church, Chicago.

**Susan Quigley**, registration administrator and annual fund coordinator, visited Columbus, Ohio and Vero Beach, Fla., with family.

**Ellen K. Wondra**, professor emerita, represented the World Council of Churches Commission on Faith and Order March 23-25 at a high-level global consultation at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Ind. In June, Wondra and commission colleagues met in Nanjing, China to advance ongoing work.

## ALUMNAE &amp; ALUMNI



*Patrick Burke (wearing red stole), washing feet on Maundy Thursday 2019.*

**Patrick Burke** (Bexley Seabury '19) has accepted a new position, as parish missionary at St. Paul's on the Way. See page 4.

**Paul Castelli** (Bexley Seabury '16) reflected on the death of President George H.W. Bush in an article published in *The Living Church* in Dec. 2018. Castelli is priest-in-charge at St. George's Episcopal Church, Milford, Mich., and is a professed brother in the Anamchara Fellowship.

Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon **Michael Hanley** (Seabury-Western '81, '05) announced his intention to retire effective January 2021. Before being elected bishop of Oregon, Hanley served parishes in Oklahoma and Missouri, and, in Minnesota for 19 years.

**Jim Harrison** (Seabury-Western '10) joined St. John's Episcopal Church in Midland, Mich., in December 2018. His wife, Missy, is director of children and youth ministries at the same church.



*Alexandra Heeter has joined the team at Cleveland's Trinity Cathedral.*

**Alexandra Heeter** (Bexley Seabury '19) joined the staff of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Cleveland in June 2019 as curate for children's, youth, and family ministries. A native of Cleveland Heights, Heeter did her field education internship at Christ Church in Hudson, Ohio.

**Erin Hougland** (Bexley Seabury '18) began serving as associate rector for community engagement and vitality at Trinity Episcopal Church in Indianapolis in May 2019.

Two alums were among program faculty members for the Episcopal Preaching Foundation 2019 Preaching Excellence Program: **George "Tripp" Hudgins** (Seabury-Western '04, '08), Bogard teaching fellow at CDSP and instructor in homiletics and liturgy, and **Angela F. Shepherd** (Seabury-Western '96), rector at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Atlanta.



*Copeland Johnston with acolytes on his first Sunday as rector in Wausau, Wis.*

**Copeland Johnston** (Seabury-Western '06) is now rector of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Wausau, Wis. He had been an academic at the University of Utah and served St. Mary's in Provo, Utah.



**Mark Juchter** (Seabury-Western '03) is wing chaplain at Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City, Fla., effective August 1.

**Stephen Lane** (Bexley Seabury '17), priest-in-charge at St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Buffalo, N.Y., was featured in an article in *The Buffalo News* in March 2019.

**Elizabeth Molitors** (Seabury-Western '09) was welcomed as the 19th rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara, Calif. in May 2019. **Diane Jardine Bruce** (Seabury-Western '10, Bexley Seabury '13), bishop suffragan of Los Angeles, presided, and **Kristin U. White** (Seabury-Western '09), canon to the ordinary, Diocese of Indianapolis, preached.

**Douglas Sparks** (Seabury-Western '93), eighth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana, was one of three leaders for the *UTO Pilgrims on the Camino* in October 2019.



*Patricia Stansfield has accepted a call to serve as rector in Corona, Calif.*

Congratulations to **Patricia Stansfield** (Bexley Seabury '14) on her new ministry. Patricia began serving as rector of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Corona, Calif., in July 2018. She had been rector of Church of the Transfiguration in St. Catharine's, Ontario, Canada.

**Heather VanDeventer** (Seabury-Western '98) began serving as Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Spokane, Wash., in August 2018. Her prior position was as associate rector at historic Christ Church in Alexandria, Va. VanDeventer's husband, **David T. Gortner** (Seabury-Western '97), is rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; he was a lecturer in practical theology and Christian ministries at Seabury-Western 2000–2004.

## DEATHS

### In Memoriam

We received word of the death of **Richard J. Bormes** (Seabury-Western '89) on July 1, 2017.

**Anthony George Dahl** (Bexley Seabury '18) died Jan. 26, 2019 from injuries sustained in a motorbike accident. Anthony began his MDiv studies at EDS and completed his degree at Bexley Seabury.

**James H. Dunkerley** (Seabury-Western '69, '70), a much beloved priest of the Diocese of Chicago, died Aug. 16, 2018 at his home. He served as rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church 1970–2007 and was active in retirement at Church of the Atonement, Church of the Ascension, and at St. James Cathedral, all in Chicago.

**Nathaline Ferlo**, mother of Bexley Seabury President Emeritus Roger Ferlo, died in Albany, N.Y. on Oct. 22, 2018.

Funeral services were held Nov. 24, 2018 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Pickering, Ohio for **Glenn M. Fout**, father of Professor Jason A. Fout (Seabury-Western '01).

**Daniel B. Hanna** (Seabury-Western '60) died May 22, 2019 in New Orleans, La. Canonically resident in the Diocese of Chicago, Hanna completed master's degrees at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and at Loyola University Chicago.

**Donald M. Hulstrand** (Bexley Hall '53, '72) died Dec. 21, 2018 at age 91. Hulstrand became the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Springfield in 1982. He also served congregations in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, and in the Episcopal Dioceses of Colorado, Ohio, West Missouri, and South Carolina.

**William F. Johnson** (Seabury-Western '64) died on Sept. 19, 2018 at his home in Chicago after a long illness. He served at Church of the Atonement, Chicago 1964–2004.

**Patricia Lytle** died in April 2019. Mrs. Lytle was mother of Julie Lytle, director of distributive and lifelong learning initiatives.

**Pamela Mulac** (Seabury-Western '74) died in Arizona on Sept. 23, 2018.

**Diane Porter**, longtime Bexley Hall trustee and Bexley Seabury Seminary Federation director, died March 21, 2019 in New York. Bishop W. Michie Klusmeyer recognized Porter as, "a wise counselor, and a joy to be with." President Jackson represented the seminary at her memorial service on May 25 at her home parish, Grace Episcopal Church, Brooklyn Heights, N.Y.

We learned of the death in Arlington Heights, Ill., of **Jan Skogen**, who was secretary in the academic affairs office of Seabury-Western under Deans Mark Sisk and James Lemler.

We received word in February of the death of **Han van den Blink**, a much loved and respected professor of pastoral care at Colgate Rochester Divinity School and Bexley Hall in Rochester, N.Y., and at Bexley Hall in Columbus. A survivor of Japanese concentration camps in WWII, van den Blink became a Presbyterian minister and later, after working as a psychologist, an Episcopal priest. He served at Grace Episcopal Church in Elmira, N.Y. His last call was at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Troy, Pa.

We learned of the death of **Claudia L. Windal** (Seabury-Western '81) on June 15, 2018. In Minnesota, she ran the nonprofit Oyate Tawicohan burial service, which often serves the native population. ✝

### Honor those you treasure with a tribute gift to the Annual Fund

We invite you to give thanks for the people you treasure most by making a gift in their names to the Bexley Seabury 2019–2020 Annual Fund.

Each gift to the annual fund, no matter the size, supports quality theological education & formation for those who are called to serve the Gospel, and helps keep student costs down.

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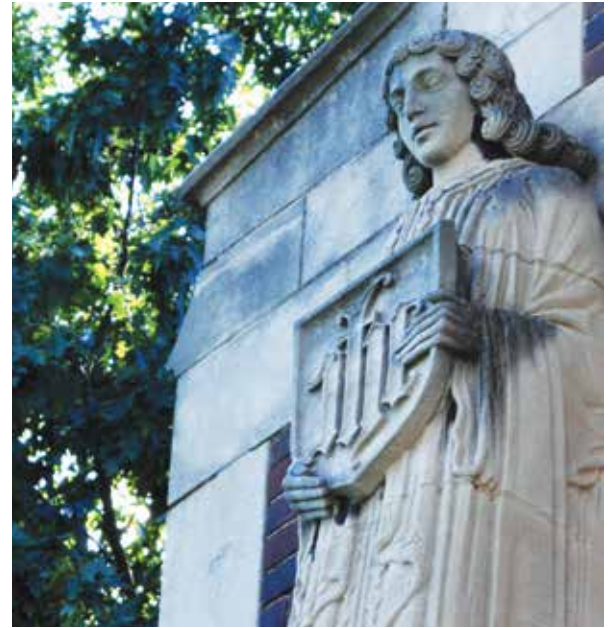
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# Bexley Hall at Colgate Rochester, 1968–2008

Bexley Seabury's roots in ecumenical seminary education



*The Bexley Hall partnership established in 1968 with Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, N.Y., began a period of ecumenical seminary education that continues today.*

Situated in Gambier, Ohio, for nearly all of its first 144 years, Bexley Hall left its home at Kenyon College in 1968 for Rochester, N.Y. There, Bexley Hall began what would be a 40-year partnership with Colgate Rochester Divinity School, now known as Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.



*Ellen Wondra has taught at Bexley Seabury schools for 30+ years: Colgate Rochester Bexley from 1989, Seabury-Western from 2004, and Bexley Seabury from 2016.*

Professor Emerita Ellen K. Wondra was there for 15 of those 40 years, 1989–2004, hired on a tenure track to teach feminist, systematic, and Anglican theology.

Broadly, Wondra understands Bexley Hall's move to Rochester as part of the cultural realignment that began to percolate as the post-WWII baby boom took hold. Change was

everywhere. The civil rights and civil disobedience movements, robust journalism, environmentalism, feminism, and love-not-war student activism all contributed to a socio-political upheaval.

## **“THE ENACTING OF A DREAM”**

By the early 1960s, Wondra said, U.S. colleges and universities that were originally founded (at least in part) to provide a steady flow of students for their divinity programs had begun to secularize. Theology departments and schools of various denominations were cut loose.

Encouraged by the emerging ecumenical movement, many of these nomad schools banded together. At Colgate Rochester Bexley (this writer's shorthand for Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall 1968–1969, soon to be Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall/Crozer Theological Seminary





1970–2008), students experienced a bold mash-up of theological traditions held and worship traditions practiced by American Baptists, multiple wings of the Black Church, Roman Catholics, and Episcopalians. Wondra said she now appreciates what an ambitious move it was: “widespread and intentional ... an ecumenical spring ... the enacting of a dream that many people shared.”

Sustaining that dream was not always easy. “Rochester was a very diverse place. We were putting all these traditions together, trying to do common teaching and learning as much as possible, while also recognizing denominational identity as being an important component of being the ecumenical church. It required a lot of balancing,” Wondra said.



Michael Burke (Colgate Rochester Bexley '95) with parishioner Matilda Grafe, explaining baptism to her doll, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Anchorage, Alaska.

## LEARNING FROM AND WITH OTHER DENOMINATIONS

Alumnus the Rev.

Michael Burke, rector at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Anchorage, Alaska, arrived on campus in 1992. He chose Colgate Rochester Bexley for his master of divinity studies precisely because ecumenism was woven through its DNA.

Course by course,

Rochester students had the opportunity to choose a primary community of discourse and practice that formed the framework within which a subject was taught. You might take church history, as Burke did, from a Black Church perspective, while your roommate studied it from an Asian or a Euro-American perspective. Or, you might study theology through an Artistic Studies lens, or within a Feminist and Womanist Studies framework.

Burke valued the intersectional rubric so highly that he stayed for another year after earning his MDiv in 1995.

“I’ve been in ministry for the last 20 years in a diocese that’s half native. We have multiple distinct native cultural groups that do not necessarily share a common history or the same perspectives, although all of them are non-western. I can move between those different worlds with a self-awareness that comes directly out of my four years in Rochester,” Burke said, and his bishop agrees.



“My bishop here in Alaska, Mark Lattime, was a year behind me, and he and I have commented numerous times that the education we got at Colgate Rochester Bexley could not have been better preparation for the kind of ministry that we are each engaged in and the context in which we do that ministry,” Burke said.



Seminarian Michael Burke pictured with members of his field education congregation.

Burke’s ecumenical approach has become his default. “I see my ecumenical colleagues in this community daily, I work with them daily; I see my Episcopal colleagues once every couple of months. St. Mary’s biggest partners are a large United Methodist church, an ELCA congregation, a First Church Disciples of Christ, a Unitarian Universalist community, and Congregation Beth Shalom—even though there’s three other Episcopal churches in town,” Burke said.

## LITURGICAL FLUENCY

Students shared one chapel, and worship services rotated by tradition. These were authentic liturgies as practiced by each denomination, not ecumenical “melting-pot” services.

“I graduated as familiar with *The United Methodist Book of Worship* and how to do worship in that context and what made it different, as I was with *The Book of Common Prayer*. ... That’s different than, say, taking a field trip in your senior year to visit another church,” Burke said.

## SKILLS TO BUILD SOMETHING NEW

It was the recruiting team, Burke said, that convinced him of the importance of an ecumenical seminary education. “When I visited, it was explained to me that the world was moving out

*continued*

*Continued from page 15*

of Christendom and we needed people ... who had the skills and multiple perspectives to build something new.”

His experience at St. Mary’s in Anchorage bears out that prediction. “We’re a vibrant, actively growing church—we added 67 new members last year. ... We have more people that grew up Buddhist than grew up Episcopalian in our newcomers’ classes. ... I get questions like, ‘I love this place. What’s the bread and wine thing all about?’”

## CHANGING LANES

Greg Jacobs was 37 years old and making his mark in a prestigious corporate law firm in Cleveland, Ohio, when he surprised himself and those who knew him best by announcing he was called to ordained ministry.

“Some members of my family found it so out of character for me. In their eyes I was Steady Freddy, going to be a lawyer for life, not even thinking about coloring outside the lines,” Jacobs recalled, and said he had to agree.

“I’m amazed when I look back on it now ... There is no other way that this could have happened or can be explained other than the fact that the Holy Spirit was large and in charge. I just hung on for dear life,” Jacobs said.

As one piece of evidence, Jacobs reported that every hurdle he needed to clear for seminary just evaporated. His law firm accepted his proposal to work two days a week through his MDiv studies. His diocese came up with a scholarship. Just as he was about to enter Colgate Rochester Bexley, a new schedule designed to better accommodate commuting students was announced, a perfect match for Jacobs’ new rota at his law firm.

## THEN AND NOW: WHY NOT?

Now, 27 years later, the Rev. Canon Gregory A. Jacobs is canon to the ordinary in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. Asked what has helped him most in his ministry supporting first Bishop Mark Beckwith and now Bishop Carlye Hughes, Jacobs cited his ability to tap skills and experiences from both his careers, in the law and in the church.

“Practicing law, I learned the value of cultivating relationships, finding allies, and being able to make a cogent argument for a particular course of action. My discernment process and time in seminary taught me to rely on the Holy Spirit. I learned to be faithful and look for points at which I can become an instrument of [God’s grace]. ... I’ve continually discovered the question is not ‘why?’—it’s ‘why not?’”

## RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME

Jacobs counts being in the same Rochester MDiv cohort as Michael Burke as another Holy Spirit moment. He said he’s grateful that they could be of service for the next phase of Bexley Hall’s evolution.

Jacobs and Burke were both involved in board of trustee discussions, Jacobs as a student representative to the board and Burke as president of the Bexley Society, when the board began to explore expanding the seminary’s footprint or changing it altogether. Professor Emerita Wondra recalled the board considering a range of possibilities, including establishing a satellite campus elsewhere with an additional ecumenical partner, as a way to build on the seminary’s experience



*Greg Jacobs (Colgate Rochester Bexley '95) being celebrated by Grace Church Van Vorst, Jersey City, N.J., pictured with the congregation's rector, the Rev. Laurie Jean Wurm.*

in Rochester.

While these conversations were getting off the ground, the Lutheran-Episcopal Dialogue was developing new momentum. Soon, Trinity Lutheran Seminary near Columbus, Ohio, was high on the list of potential partners. “It seemed a relationship with Trinity might be what God really wanted us to be up to in addition to our relationship with Colgate Rochester,” Wondra said. Meanwhile, some members of the House of Bishops

were questioning the merits of ecumenical seminaries. Perhaps because the Lutheran-Episcopal Dialogue was going so well, these voices were amplified. “I know bishops in the Episcopal Church could not understand. They wanted it to go back to the old foundationalism they were all raised in,” Burke recalled.

In hindsight, Wondra believes a “re-denominational-izing of theological education” had begun. “Still, there was a great commitment at Bexley to ecumenism and that really, at that particular time, had the most impetus in relationship to the Lutherans.”



*Canon Greg Jacobs with Bishop Barbara Harris at Church of the Redeemer, Morristown, N.J.*

Jacobs, who remained on the Bexley Hall board after graduation, said it was easy to make a compelling argument for some type of partnership with Trinity. And moving back to Ohio had its own appeal, since relationships with both bishops were strong and so many Bexley Hall alumni were in ministry in Ohio, many now rectors.

“To me, it was a unique opportunity for us to be out front and be able to say, here’s a model of what we’ve been talking about, and making real our relationship with the Lutheran Church,” Jacobs said. Once the Episcopal Church ratified the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America proposal of full communion in 1999, he said the path to the fortuitously named Bexley, Ohio, became almost irresistible.



“The constant theme throughout all of this is being faithful to God’s vision. ... Sometimes our seminaries are the slowest to catch on when the church is in transition. But Bexley Hall has been a model of being responsive to the needs of the church and what it can uniquely offer for people who aspire to ministry. ... I see that continuing in what’s going on now, in its latest iteration in the federation,” Jacobs said.

#### AN ENRICHING LEGACY

The Rochester years have left a lasting imprint. Wondra said the requirement today that all Bexley Seabury courses include a robust exploration of the topic or discipline at hand in relationship to race, ethnicity, and gender came as a result of how valuable those interrogations were at Colgate Rochester Bexley. The Rochester experience also helped shape Bexley Seabury’s flexible approach to scheduling classes to accommodate students who live more than a few hours from the Chicago campus.



“I am enormously grateful for having been able to teach in a liberal ecumenical setting, and to work with students who came from all different kinds of ecclesial and social backgrounds,” Wondra said. “I learned so much from working with these folks who were not from the same background as I was. I also learned a huge amount, as did our students, about what it means to be Anglican in an ecumenical and global church. And all of that is invaluable.” ✨



## CAN YOU HELP?



Contributions to the **ANNUAL FUND** help bridge the gap between the actual cost of high-quality, accredited degree, diploma, and lifelong learning programs and what the seminary takes in from tuition and fees.



- With your help, we will uphold the Bexley Seabury tradition of **EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION**. We will maintain the quality of our faculty, their pedagogy, and our curricula in theological education and formation.
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# Faculty news

Recent accomplishments and service to the church



*The Bexley Seabury faculty team, photographed preceding the May 17, 2019 Commencement Eucharist. L-R Row 1: Emlyn Ott, KJ Oh, Micah Jackson, Eileen Shanley-Roberts. Row 2: Therese DeLisio, Milner Seifert, Julie Lytle, Jason Fout.*

**Therese DeLisio**, academic dean and associate professor of theology and liturgy, took time to hone her online teaching skills through courses at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. In her ongoing work to make Bexley Seabury programs more affordable, accessible, and technologically enriched, the dean secured authorization from the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) to expand the seminary’s distance learning opportunities nationwide, and to provide students with more variety in course formats. DeLisio attended a January gathering of Episcopal seminary presidents and deans at Virginia Theological Seminary and three consecutive ATS conferences in April, one of which featured a workshop that she and Eileen Shanley-Roberts led to share insights from the successful launch of distance education programming in the areas of ministerial formation

and field education, with grant support from ATS. The dean’s most recent book review was published in the Spring issue of *Anglican Theological Review*, “Christian Theologies of the Sacraments: A Comparative Introduction,” edited by Justin S. Holcomb and David A. Johnson.

**Jason A. Fout** (Seabury-Western ’01), associate professor of Anglican theology, has been awarded a Conant Grant to pursue further education in Geographical Information Systems (GIS), a tool for collating, understanding, and presenting data on communities—valuable tools for anyone charged with leading a congregation or other group. Fout will take this class during a sabbatical in fall 2019 and January 2020, which period will include a pilgrimage to Israel. Alongside teaching a new class in systematic theology for Bexley Seabury in the spring term, he is also teaching

a course on the pastoral offices for the Episcopal Church in Minnesota. Fout continues to serve as co-editor in chief of *Anglican Theological Review*, which will be featuring a thematic issue on Latinx theology. He is presently working on an essay on Jesus and his enemies.

**Julie Lytle**, director of distributive and lifelong learning initiatives and associate professor of educational leadership, has continued to network and engage in exploratory conversations to determine how Bexley Seabury might respond to the needs of lay and ordained lifelong learners in the church. This has included conversations with participants at the 2019 Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes in Boston and the Association of Episcopal Deacon Formation Directors in Albuquerque, N.M., as well as Ministry Developers at the Living Stones Partnership gathering in Phoenix. She also taught “Story-Keeping,



Story-Sharing, and Story-Making: Faith Formation and Congregational Development for the 21st Century,” her first wholly online course at Bexley Seabury.

**KyungJa (KJ) Oh** (Seabury-Western '00, Bexley Seabury '18), director of formation and contextual learning and assistant professor of practical theology, received a Conant Grant, which will help support development of a new travel course to the Holy Land that will examine how faith and hope are sustained in the midst of daily danger and violence. Oh will begin a sabbatical, beginning June 2020, much of which will be devoted to completing work on the Holy Land course so it may be offered in January 2021. She gave the keynote address for the annual meeting of Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Chicago, on May 11, 2019. The address posited ways that the meeting theme, “Reaching the World With God’s Love,” might be enhanced through understanding the context in which ministry is shared.

**Emlyn Ott**, director of doctor of ministry programs and associate professor of pastoral theology and leadership, introduced the Tree of Life Liturgy, composed by Marty Haugen, during January intensive classes. She taught two sections of Organizational Systems and one of Pastoral Theology during January and spring terms as well as independent studies, and guided doctoral students in preparation for their thesis proposals. Ott presented a program on family process for the Episcopal Service Corps and on clergy self-care for the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health program of Franklin, Ohio. She developed a podcast on clergy leadership in difficult times for the spring conference of the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family. She preached and celebrated with the congregations of 2019 DMin graduates the Rev. Dr. Debra Bullock and Dr. Kate Gillooly. Ott is chair of the Pastoral Care Advisory Committee of the Wexner/Ohio State University Medical Center.

**Milner Seifert**, lecturer in liturgy and music, recently returned from Dallas

where he attended the annual conference of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada.

**Eileen Shanley-Roberts**, assistant director of formation and contextual learning and lecturer in practical theology, made student field site visits to places as varied as Camp Lejune, N.C. and Des Moines, Iowa. Shanley-Roberts said in Lent she was honored to be among the first ordained women to preside, preach, and present a program at Church of the Ascension in Chicago. In April she completed a certificate in digital course design for theological educators offered through UW-Madison and Virginia Theological Seminary. She has developed a new course on the theology of money and church financial administration that will be offered in fall 2019. Shanley-Roberts continues her environmental work with Clean Power Lake County and has offered several presentations on the importance of local engagement in the environmental justice movement. ✝



## Meet Emlyn Ott

Approaching one year on staff and on the faculty

Extending and expanding her partnership with Bexley Seabury, Emlyn A. Ott joined the seminary last August as director of doctor of ministry programs and associate professor of pastoral theology and leadership. Ott first became associated with Bexley Seabury during her 12 years at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Bexley, Ohio, much of which overlapped with the partnership between the two seminaries.

In 2014, Ott joined the Bexley Seabury faculty as an adjunct member teaching organizational systems at the doctoral level. Now, in addition to overseeing doctoral programs at Bexley Seabury, Ott teaches both doctoral and master’s level courses in pastoral theology, organizational systems, and in other topics pertaining to congregational leadership and development. In addition to her experience as a seminary dean and professor, Ott brings experience as a practical theologian, parish pastor, campus pastor, pastoral counselor, and a non-profit CEO. She has been a clinical fellow of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors since 1994 and now serves as a member of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education. She has served as CEO and executive director of Healthy Congregations since 2006, an interfaith non-profit coaching and consultation resource in Delaware, Ohio that challenges leaders to sustain and increase vitality in community life. Ott was ordained in 1986, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Phillips Theological Seminary, Tulsa, Okla.; a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago; and a BA in Religion and Sociology from The College of Wooster, Ohio. A native of Rochester, N.Y., Ott lives in Columbus with her spouse, Dr. Robert Ward, director of choral studies at The Ohio State University.









# Food for the journey

## Creating a new menu of satisfying options for lifelong learning

In February, Bexley Seabury hosted a smorgasbord for lifelong learners. It was the first step in exploring a new curriculum for those with an appetite for information and inspiration relevant to how they understand and live out their faith.

### A Few of Our Faculty of Scholar-Practitioners

 <p><b>◀ Micah Jackson</b> Main Course: Preaching Spices: Spirituality, Leadership, Language Signature Dish: Conversational Preaching</p>	 <p><b>Emlyn Ott ▶</b> Main Course: Pastoral Theology Spices: Congregational Vitality Signature Dish: Organizational Systems</p>
 <p><b>KJ Oh ▶</b> Main Course: Formation and Contextual Learning Spices: Parish Innovation Signature Dish: Anglican Formation</p>	 <p><b>◀ M. Milner Seifert</b> Main Course: Liturgy and Music Spices: Creative Worship Signature Dish: Theology and Practice of Liturgy and Music</p>

### Bexley Seabury

*Table cards at the the Lunch and Learn session during the February 2019 Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes conference helped spark discussion and new course concepts..*

### Are You Hungry? How Can We Serve You?

Bexley Seabury has a new lifelong learning kitchen, chef de cuisine, and an expandable distributive learning table to share. Please contribute your special ingredients and wisdom-seasoned recipes to help us create a tasty new menu for the church.

- 
1. How is your lifelong learning diet?
  2. Are you hungry for theological education options—topics/issues/themes—that don't appear on any lifelong learning menu you have found?
  3. What new dishes would satisfy your personal enrichment and ministry needs?

**Bexley Seabury**

Gathering around a table for spiritual nourishment is central to the Episcopal faith experience. And who doesn't enjoy a good meal with friends? These are two reasons Julie Lytle, director of distributive and lifelong learning initiatives, said people are so comfortable offering feedback on study options served up using a dining metaphor.

"Using metaphors, with children and with adults, leads to a sense of playfulness and a willingness to dream together," Lytle explained. "That was exactly the kind of conversation I want to have about what lifelong learning at Bexley Seabury might be."

### SOUL FOOD

So it was that Lytle hosted an "open kitchen" Lunch and Learn session for participants at the February 2019 Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes conference. Prompted by table cards and menus that invited doodling, lunch guests had an opportunity to sample "fixed menu" and "create-your-own-meal" options for lifelong and distributive learning. Guests were also introduced to the faculty by way of their main courses, favorite spices, and signature dishes.



## SPARKING INSPIRATION

First and foremost, Lytle hoped the February Lunch and Learn dialogue would gauge the appeal of possible new course offerings developed in collaboration with staff and faculty members. In addition, Lytle was seeking feedback about what drives leaders in endowed parishes to seek out learning opportunities.

"I'm interested in what would best satisfy their craving for a deeper understanding of the faith journey," Lytle said. Part of that is discovering how to best frame an invitation to learning, including what language sparks interest.

"'Lifelong learning' along with its predecessor 'continuing education,' has the burden of feeling like school or like something I need to do to keep my credentials updated—not something that brings joy to my life or inspires me in some way," Lytle posited.

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

One goal is more choice. In addition to the freedom to take nearly any course that is offered as part of the seminary's degree/diploma curricula, Lytle said the lifelong learning offering could encompass a whole range of experiential learning opportunities. These might include workshops offered by scholars in residence, dialogue-based options like a book club, or one-to-one mentoring with a category expert.

"I imagine a community of like-minded people exploring innovation and offering one another support and encouragement. ... I want to think about lifelong learning in a very big, expansive way," Lytle said.

## ALL ARE WELCOME

Lifelong learning courses at Bexley Seabury are open to anyone

with an interest in faith matters. Potential students (who may not consider themselves students per se) represent persons with a wide range of interests. This might include seekers who want to better understand the Christian faith journey ... or long-time Episcopalians who want to be more conversant in Anglican theology or church history ... or ministry teams interested in honing their leadership skills before launching a new program.

## A MOVEABLE FEAST

Just as Bexley Seabury offers its academic programs as a "seminary beyond walls," Lytle said the lifelong learning program will follow suit. "In all of the conversations we are having we emphasize our interest in accommodating the needs of church ministers across the spectrum: active lay leaders, deacons, priests, and bishops. We plan to convene courses on campus, or online, or some combination of the two. We're also eager to take the classroom to our students," Lytle explained.

## DISCERNING GOD'S CALL

Whatever shape the lifelong learning program takes going forward, Lytle believes focus must be on how the seminary can best help people know and understand their faith, and give them tools to live their lives as God intends.

"We want people to be able to have the resources to live into what they understand God is inviting them to be part of, and for me that's all about discernment—a term that in the Episcopal Church we have confined too much to the clergy. I see lifelong learning as the path we can all walk to discern who we are with God and in relationship to the world so that we can live into the fullness of what that is," Lytle said. ✝



# Meet Julie Lytle

Soon to complete her first year on staff and on the faculty

Julie Lytle joined the faculty last September as associate professor of educational leadership and director of distributive and lifelong learning initiatives. In addition to furthering Bexley Seabury's mission to be a "seminary beyond walls," she will be teaching courses in congregational development, digital evangelism, educational leadership, and faith formation.

She is the author of "Faith Formation 4.0: Introducing an Ecology of Faith in a Digital Age" (Church Publishing, 2013), which explores how each of the four eras of human communication (oral, written, mass-mediated, and interactive) have influenced the ways Christians proclaim the Gospel and form followers.

Lytle brings extensive experience integrating ministry and media in parish, diocesan, church-wide, academic, and health care contexts. She was on faculty at the Episcopal Divinity School and developed their distributive learning model for master's degrees, and was a founding member of the Association of Theological School's Technology in Theological Education Group. Lytle continues to serve as executive director of Province I of the Episcopal Church where she is responsible for ministry development for the seven dioceses of New England. As CEO of M3 ("Message, Method, *then* Media"), she consults with theological educators who are developing online programs and resources. Lytle holds a PhD in religion and education from Boston College, a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Notre Dame, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and Advertising from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She lives in Hyannis on Cape Cod with her spouse, the Rev. Carol Bolstad.



# Discerning the path forward

## Grateful for the gift of wise counsel

Three directors completed their service to the board at the May 2019 meeting. We give thanks for their leadership and insight:



*Retiring directors (L-R): Susan Daughtry, Alan Scarfe, and Cate Waynick*

- > The Rev. Susan Daughtry, missionary for formation, the Episcopal Church in Minnesota
- > The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa
- > The Rt. Rev. Cate Waynick, provisional bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan

### OUR APPRECIATION TO THE CLASS OF 2022

The board elected nine individuals to a three-year term as Class of 2022 Directors (at right). The group includes six returning directors, whose continued generosity we deeply appreciate.

- > The Rev. Mary Carson
- > The Very Rev. M.E. Eccles
- > The Rev. W. Richard Hamlin, PhD
- > The Rev. Gary B. Manning
- > The Rev. C. Davies Reed
- > Daniel W. Shannon, PhD

We extend an especially warm welcome to our three new Class of 2022 directors, two of them alums:



*New directors elected for a three-year term (L-R): Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Douglas Sparks, and Anna Sutterisch.*

- > The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis
- > The Rt. Rev. Douglas Sparks (Seabury-Western '93), bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana
- > The Rev. Anna Sutterisch (Bexley Seabury '19)

### CONGRATULATIONS, OFFICERS

Congratulations to Board Chair the Rev. Dr. John Denson who succeeds the Rt. Rev. W. Michie Klusmeyer, who led the board so ably through the seminary's revitalization, 2013-2019. Congratulations also go to the Rev. Mary Carson, elected vice chair; to the Rev. Charlotte Reed re-elected secretary; and to the Rev. C. Davies Reed, elected treasurer.

Bexley Seabury board officers form the core of the board's executive committee, which also includes the seminary president and one at-large member. Class of 2020 Director Sandra Ferguson McPhee joins the executive committee in place of retiring at-large member the Rt. Rev. Cate Waynick.



*John Denson, newly elected board chair*



*Mike Klusmeyer, board chair 2013-2019*

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Ms. Sandra Ferguson McPhee  
The Rev. Charlotte Reed\*  
The Rev. Bruce Smith

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Mr. J. Robert Lind Jr.  
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The Rt. Rev. Brian N. Prior  
The Rev. Dr. Micah T.J. Jackson\*

\*Alumnus/Alumna



# Where is God leading us?

## Our board on scholarship with Wise Stewards program



*Last October, Lynnette Brown-Sow (at left) introduced the Bexley Seabury board of directors to the seminary's customized learning plan for the Wise Stewards program.*

Last year, Bexley Seabury was selected by the In Trust Center for Theological Schools to participate in its Wise Stewards Initiative. The three-year program encourages boards of theological schools to “take a bold step beyond the usual approaches to governance” and explore what it means to govern as change agents.

Thanks to the In Trust Center and support from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, there is no cost, apart from the time board members devote to participating. The curriculum, travel costs, food, and lodging as well as resources for training current and future seminary directors are paid in full.

### TEAM- AND SKILL-BUILDING IN FOUR AREAS

The Wise Stewards curriculum was designed specifically for theological school leadership teams. The benefits of participation include increased board cohesion and collaboration; new insights and practical tools; and strategies for inspiring and educating current and future board members.

Key areas of learning are:

- › Embracing innovation, leading change, and maximizing potential.
- › Reimagining governance as a force for change.
- › Forming an effective president-board partnership.
- › Clarifying board roles and responsibilities.

### THREE COHORTS, SHARED LEARNING

The Bexley Seabury board of directors is one of 10 from independent theological schools that comprise the first of three Wise Steward cohort groups. Two additional cohorts will be formed: one of Roman Catholic and denominationally owned schools, and one of embedded seminaries.

While the formal program is limited to 30 institutions, all theological schools are potential beneficiaries. Wise Stewards resources as well as published articles, webinars, and workshops will all be accessible through the In Trust Center.

### A YEAR-LONG PROJECT COMPLETED

To begin, each Bexley Seabury board member completed an in-depth governance assessment survey last spring. President Jackson, then Board Chair Bishop Klusmeyer, and the Wise Stewards coach assigned to the seminary, Lynnette Brown-Sow, used survey results to map out a customized learning plan for our directors.

At its October 2018 meeting, the board undertook the first learning module: a one-day, on campus coaching session led by Brown-Sow. “It’s clear that our Board works well together, and is ready to build on the excellent foundation it has set for itself,” President Jackson said following the first module. “Bexley Seabury and its predecessor schools have weathered many changes, and now it’s time for another season of growth.”

In March 2019, the board dispatched four representatives to join teams from other Wise Steward institutions at a two-day seminar in Vancouver, Wash. President Jackson, Sandra McPhee, Bishop Klusmeyer, and Dan Shannon reported back to the board at its May meeting, sharing their experiences and seminar resources.

This summer, the board will continue to work with Brown-Sow. These conversations will prepare the board to identify a series of strategic next steps and benchmarks that are intended to contribute to a more sustainable future. ✦



### IN MEMORIAM: CANON DIANE MARIE PORTER

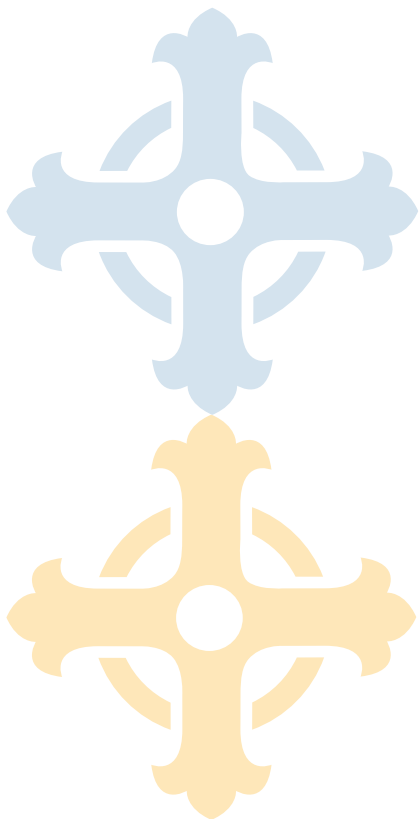
We note with sadness the death on March 21 of longtime Bexley Hall trustee and

Bexley Seabury director Canon Diane Marie Porter. See page 13 for more information.

# Thank you

## for all the ways you support our mission

With prayers, guidance and generous giving from supporters, Bexley Seabury has stood on the frontier of theological education for more than 150 years. **OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION** for all the ways you have made it possible for the seminary to offer accessible, affordable, and academically rich theological education on campus, online, and in local contexts.



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## Generations of Generosity at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, LaGrange, Ill.



On Feb. 10, 2019, Emmanuel Episcopal Church Co-Rectors Ellen Ekevag and David Jackson presented President Micah Jackson (center) with a check for \$52,863.63 to support seminary education.

Sixty-six years ago, Russel and Margaret Rainey, members at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, LaGrange, Ill., wanted to encourage other parishioners to consider vocations to the priesthood. With a gift of 30 shares of General Electric stock, the Raineys established the Swetnam Memorial Scholarship Fund at Emmanuel. Over the years, the fund supported three seminarians from the parish while continuing to grow.

Last year, the parish entered a period of discernment which led to a decision to donate the entirety of the fund to support seminary education at Bexley Seabury. On Feb. 10, 2019, Emmanuel Co-Rectors Ellen Ekevag and David Jackson (Bexley Seabury '17) presented President Jackson with a check for \$52,863.63.

"We're deeply grateful to the Rainey family and all the people of Emmanuel Episcopal Church for all the ways they have modeled Christian community and supported those who are called to serve the Church," said President Jackson. "We are honored to carry forward your generosity and love in Christ."

## Comments? Suggestions?

### thank you

Our community is stronger and  
 our courses are more relevant  
 because of feedback that  
 alums, students, and  
 supporters have offered.

Please help us continue to improve  
 by offering your comments  
 and questions.

[bexleyseabury@bexleyseabury.edu](mailto:bexleyseabury@bexleyseabury.edu)  
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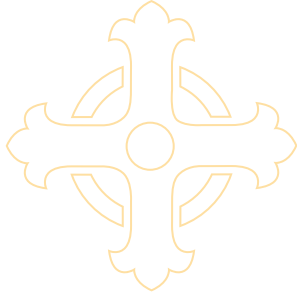
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