

Bishop announces two appointments and gives thanks and celebrates those who have previously served in these positions

I am excited to work with Tim and Kay in their new leadership roles. As you see from their bios (below), they are each incredibly talented and professionally accomplished — what a blessing that these servants of Jesus Christ are sharing their gifts with and through the church. I look forward to our good work to come.

And yet as we celebrate the calling to ministry of a new chancellor and convention secretary, we also rejoice in the accomplishments and commitment of Anne Foster and D-L Casson, the faithful servants who are stepping down from these roles this year. Their transitions from callings where they have excelled into other ministries to come is a powerful testimony to the quality of their work and the health of the offices they leave behind.

Anne Foster has served this diocese as chancellor or vice chancellor for nearly a quarter century, and her counsel and wisdom have been an indispensable and invaluable part of my first years as a bishop. It is hard to overstate the importance of a trusted chancellor, and I know that Bishop Wright respected and relied upon Anne's good counsel as much as I have. Anne has left her mark on a thousand decisions, large and small. There is no doubt — inside the church and across the state — that she is an accomplished and respected attorney. But I also know her as a compassionate, faithful, creative, and dedicated servant of Christ. Anne will serve the remainder of 2021 as our Chancellor Emeritus to assist Tim in his transition.

As the secretary of our annual convention, D-L Casson has helped spark and oversee the continuing evolution of our convention. Building on the strong foundation of past conventions, D-L led the development of an expanded platform of nominations for elected office and created a deliberative open forum during convention to consider resolutions. These kinds of developments (and many others) mark her insistence on creating an open, inviting, and highly participatory convention. She also shepherded the shift in convention dates from January to November in the midst of pandemic, which meant D-L and her team moved the convention entirely online (including the introduction of electronic voting) with two fewer months than usual to plan. I will miss D-L's skill and leadership, for sure, but most of all, I'll miss her sense of humor.

To Anne and to D-L: thank you. Our church is stronger because of your work, which means we are that much better able to share the good news of Jesus Christ. That is something to celebrate, indeed.