

CLERGY **2026** CONFERENCE

Food Ministries—

If You Love Me...Feed My Sheep

JOHN 21:15-17

PLENARY, SEMINAR PRESENTERS, AND SPECIAL GUESTS



Margaret Aymer
Educator, Scholar, Author
**Author of: James:
In Introduction and Study
Guide: Diaspora Rhetoric of
a Friend of God**
Will present a plenary.



Khalia Williams
Educator, Liturgical Artist, Mentor
**Will present a seminar and a
workshop.**



Brian Greene
*President & CEO,
Houston Food Bank*
Will present a plenary.



Brian R. Seage
Assisting Bishop
Homilist



Edward Blanchard
*Chief Disaster Officer,
American Red Cross*
**Will present a seminar and
a workshop.**



Marcus D. Wiley
Comedian, Author
**Bishop's Special Guest for
Conversation with...**



Celia Cole
CEO, Feeding Texas
Will present a seminar.



Jeremy K. Everett
*Founder, Baylor University
Collaborative on Hunger & Poverty*
Will present a workshop.

Austin Gay Men's Chorus
Special performance
during worship.

Register online [here!](#)

★ The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

The topics noted below are working themes only and may not necessarily represent the full scope of the presentation.

The Rev. Hannah Atkins Romero

Rector, Trinity Midtown

Willie Bennett

Sr. Congregational Engagement Officer, Episcopal Health Foundation

Edward Blanchard

Chief Disaster Officer, American Red Cross

The Rev. Eric Bumgardner

Associate Rector, Trinity, Fort Worth

Commission on Hispanic Ministry

Kathy Dunn

Executive Assistant to the Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher

Gimme a Break!: Taking a Sabbatical

Dr. Jeremy K. Everett

Founder, Baylor University Collaborative on Hunger & Poverty

The Rt. Rev. Jeff W. Fisher

Bishop Suffragan, Diocese of Texas

Gimme a Break!: Taking a Sabbatical

The Rev. Tori Gilliland

Curate, Episcopal High School, Houston

Ethical Use of AI in Ministry Taskforce, Faith in the Future

The Rev. Patrick Hall

Ethical Use of AI in Ministry Taskforce, Faith in the Future

Eric Moen

Director of Community Engagement, Episcopal Health Foundation

The Rev. Will Parker

Curate, St. Mark's, Houston

Brian Sasser

Chief Communication Officer, Episcopal Health Foundation

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS (continued)

The Rev. Andrew Terry

Missioner for Small Churches, Diocese of Texas

Melodee Toles

Congregational Engagement Officer, Episcopal Health Foundation

Zee Turnbull

Director of Human Resources, Diocese of Texas

The Rev. Khalia J. Williams

Associate Dean of Worship & Spiritual Formation, Emory University

Who Should Attend

All ordained clergy **canonically resident** in the Diocese of Texas **and actively serving** at a church or institution are expected to attend the full conference in 2026.

Although all licensed clergy are welcome to attend, retired clergy are encouraged to attend the Conference for Retired Clergy & Spouses on October 5-7, instead of Clergy Conference.

While Camp Allen is a family friendly facility, Clergy Conference is strictly for clergy, Iona School students serving as Pastoral Leaders, and diocesan staff.

Covid-19 Policy

Face masks are not required during this year's conference; however masks are always encouraged for all who wish to wear one. We encourage all clergy to be vaccinated and boosted for Covid-19 per the CDC's current guidelines. The Covid policies are subject to change, as needed, in order for us to gather safely.

Registration and Accommodations

Online registration for the Clergy Conference opens on September 10th via campallen.org, click on 'Register for Events Online'. Hotel reservations and signups for ancillary meetings are made at the same time. There is no cost to attending clergy.

ROOMING NOTE: Because the attending clergy outnumbers the rooms available at Camp Allen, it is policy that attendees double up accommodations. This means that requests for single rooms are not likely to be granted. Single rooms are limited to persons of significant disability or handicap and requests for single rooms are assessed on a case-by-case basis. Your cooperation and understanding are greatly appreciated.

Check-In

For those attending any of the Ancillary Meetings, check-in will open at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. General participant check-in will open at 8:00 a.m. Monday.

Additional Presentations That Will Be Available Include:

Discovering the Harvest

Come to learn about the objectives of the EDOT Impact Report, the types of information we are looking for, and to discuss the process up to date. All churches have been asked to contribute to this study. This is your chance to ask questions and hear the details from the team collecting the information. Bring lunch with you.

Considering a Curate?

Rectors who would like to explore the benefits and requirements of having a curate on the church staff are invited to visit with the Rev. Canon Christine Faulstich at an informational meeting. All rectors interested in receiving a curate are expected to attend. To reserve your place, sign up at the conference check-in table. Bring breakfast with you.

Understanding Your Retirement Options

Active clergy approaching retirement age are invited to attend. This session will provide an overview of information or changes that may affect you at pre-65 and post-65. Bring lunch with you.

Activities and Extras

Be sure to take advantage of all the complimentary activities offered during Clergy Conference. Choose from fishing, canoeing, tennis, archery, skeet shooting, trail rides, giant swing, the high ropes/zipline, frisbee golf, and of course shopping. In addition, the hike and bike trail is awaiting all takers. The activities requiring a minimum number of participants will have sign-up sheets at the conference check-in station.

Fly Fishing

Mark Marmon will be back to offer his fly-fishing expertise for beginners and veterans. Here's your chance to wrangle one the giant perch residing in Camp Allen's lakes.

Massage Therapy

Massage therapists will be on hand this year. Complimentary chair massages will be offered throughout the conference. Table massages will be available by appointment only and the cost is paid by you. Sign-up sheets for both will be available at the activities sign up table.

Pickleball Tournament

Bring your paddle if you have one, but even if you don't meet at the pavilion on Tuesday. An intro class will be first for beginners and then the competition begins. Who will win the trophy this year? Prepare for fun!

Pre-Conference Meetings and Presentations

Several meetings have been scheduled for the Sunday and Monday prior to the conference beginning. If you are to attend one of these meetings, you will be contacted by the convener in advance.

Meeting

Iona Priest Clericus
Deacon Clericus
New Clergy Orientation

Contact

The Rev. Paul Skeith, 512-766-7925 (c)
The Rev. Bob Gray, 903-539-6131 (c)
Kathryn Herman, 713-353-2121 (w)

Immunizations

Tdap shots influenza and Covid-19 immunizations will be available at the conference early Tuesday morning. The specific time will be in the conference program. If you would like to take advantage of any of the vaccinations you need to do the following two things:

1. Complete the **attached** Consent and Release form prior to receiving any vaccination.
2. Bring **all** of your insurance cards with you to Camp Allen. (Our providers recommend that you bring all of your insurance cards as some vaccines are covered under medical and some under RX coverage.)

Most insurance plans and all Medicare plans will cover flu and Covid vaccinations. **You will be financially responsible for any vaccines not covered by your insurance.**

Questions & Information

Any questions you have regarding the Clergy Conference can be directed to Julie Paré, 713-353-2128, jpare@epicenter.org. More information will be posted as it becomes available.