

Job Description
Canon for Lifelong Christian Formation
Episcopal Diocese of Texas

*So we are ambassadors for Christ...
2 Corinthians 5:20*

The Diocese of Texas seeks a Canon for Lifelong Christian Formation, officing at the Diocesan Center, and working throughout the congregations and institutions of the diocese. This is a newly created position, living into the vision articulated by the people of the Diocese of Texas.

Gifts for Ministry:

Ambassador for Christ: Must have a strong theological foundation, and be quite able to make a case for Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, in his or her own life. Must have a love for Christ's people of all ages and all walks of life. Must be conversant in a wide variety of theological worldviews.

Ambassador for the Episcopal Church and our Anglican roots: Must be able to help shape the teaching, forming, and discipling communities of the diocese as uniquely Episcopal parishes, missions, and institutions. While open to a variety of liturgies, must be rooted in the Book of Common Prayer.

Ambassador for the Diocese of Texas: Must be able to build teams and networks, make use of vast and diverse people resources, access information technology, and lead others within the mission field of the Diocese of Texas and our diocesan culture. Must embrace the missionary vision of the diocese and have a passion for evangelism.

Ambassador for the Bishop of Texas: Must embrace his/her role of second chair leadership, while collaborating with the Bishop in the visioning for lifelong Christian formation. Will exercise positive and creative influence throughout the diocese.

Ambassador for all of God's people: Must enjoy and be able to converse with all ages of people from all walks of life, and must love and serve them. We are a multicultural community.

Education:

BA/BS required, Master's preferred. (M.Div., M.T.S., M.A.C.E., M.Ed. or related field)

Employment Experience:

Parish or diocesan work (lay or ordained) that demonstrates strong leadership within the Christian community. Proven excellence in teambuilding across multiple organizations, geographies, cultures, and generations.

Expectations:

The Canon will be expected to create a team, hiring and developing his/her staff within budgetary parameters.

The Canon will travel extensively, within the diocese and nationally.

The Canon will receive a competitive compensation package.

Interested Individuals:

Resumes will be received from July 1, 2010 through September 15, 2010, with a target hiring date of January 1, 2011.

Email your resume with references, and your answers to the following essay questions to:

canonsearch@epicenter.org

Essay questions:

1. Describe your theology of ministry. Include how it informs your work and how you understand it to fit within the Anglican/Episcopal tradition.
2. Describe a specific project or period of time in your ministry in which you were able to engage and invite multiple and divergent groups into problem-solving and common mission for, in the words of St. Paul, "Building up the church."

The Charter for Lifelong Christian Formation

I have called you friends... John 15:14-16

Through The Episcopal Church, *God INVITES* all people:

~To enter into a prayerful life of worship, continuous learning, intentional outreach, advocacy and service.

~To hear the Word of God through scripture, to honor church teachings, and continually to embrace the joy of Baptism and Eucharist, spreading the Good News of the risen Christ and ministering to all.

~To respond to the needs of our constantly changing communities as Jesus calls us, in ways that reflect our diversity and cultures as we seek, wonder, and discover together.

~To hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people, placing ourselves in the stories of our faith, thereby empowering us to proclaim the Gospel message.

...You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit... John 15:14-16

Through The Episcopal Church, *God* **INSPIRES** all people:

~To explore Anglican liturgy, which draws us closer to God, helps us discern God's will, and encourages us to share our faith journeys.

~To study scripture, mindful of the context of our societies and cultures, calling us to seek truth anew while remaining fully present in the community of faith.

~To develop new learning experiences, equipping disciples for life in a world of secular challenges, and carefully listening for the words of modern sages who embody the teachings of Christ.

~To prepare for a sustainable future by calling the community to become guardians of God's creation.

*I am giving you these commands that you may love one another.
John 15:17*

Through the Episcopal Church, *God* **TRANSFORMS** all people:

~By doing the work Jesus Christ calls us to do, living into the reality that we are all created in the image of God, and carrying out God's work of reconciliation, love, forgiveness, healing, justice, and peace.

~By striving to be a loving and witnessing community, which faithfully confronts the tensions in the church and the world as we struggle to live God's will.

~By seeking out diverse and expansive ways to empower prophetic action, evangelism, advocacy, and collaboration in our contemporary global context.

~By holding all accountable to lift every voice in order to reconcile oppressed and oppressor to the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

CHRISTIAN FAITH FORMATION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS A
LIFELONG JOURNEY:
WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST, AND TO CHRIST.

Developed by the Standing Commission on Lifelong Christian Formation and Education, in conjunction with the Proclaiming Education for ALL Taskforce, Christian educators throughout the Episcopal Church, and the Office of Adult Faith Formation for the Episcopal Church.