



**ASSOCIATION FOR
EPISCOPAL DEACONS**
ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

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Former Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori joins AED's Board

The Association for Episcopal Deacons has announced that the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori has joined the Board of Directors, filling the bishop seat vacated in the fall of 2022 by the Rt. Rev. Rafael Morales. “Bishop Morales reluctantly decided to resign his seat last year due to increased responsibilities and needs in his diocese,” said the Rev. Carter Hawley, Executive Director of AED. The board and leadership considered bishops who might fill the vacant seat and help the association continue its mission of providing resources to recruit and select, form, deploy, supervise and support deacons across The Episcopal Church.

This spring, the Ven. Carole Maddux, President of the AED Board, contacted Bishop Jefferts Schori to discuss her willingness to be appointed to the board's Bishop-member seat. “As a long-standing supporter of Episcopal Deacons and the diaconate, she graciously said yes and her appointment was approved by the AED board,” said Archdeacon Maddux. Bishop Jefferts Schori will complete the remaining two years of the three year term of service ending in fall of 2025. In addition to four staff officers, the AED Board of Directors is made up of seven deacons, three presbyters, one bishop, two laypersons, and liaisons representing deacons in the Anglican Church of Canada and The Fund for the Diaconate.

“I do look forward to joining the Board for AED,” said Bishop Jefferts Schori, “and to learning more about the grass roots change agents in and around The Episcopal Church – otherwise known as deacons!” Archdeacon Maddux also expressed her excitement about the appointment: “We look forward to welcoming Bishop Katharine as a member of the board and to the great work we can do together to support and advance the diaconate in The Episcopal Church. Our goals of promoting the missional need for the diaconate in The Episcopal Church, having a strong organization to aid success, and increasing AED membership will be greatly enhanced by Bishop Katharine's guidance and support. I am thrilled that she accepted our invitation!”

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Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori served as Presiding Bishop from 2006-2015. Over the course of her 9-year term, she is responsible for initiating and developing policy for the Episcopal Church and speaks on behalf of the church regarding the policies, strategies, and programs authorized by General Convention. She has been vocal about the Episcopal Church's mission priorities, including the United Nation Millennium Development Goals, issues of domestic poverty, climate change and care for the earth, as well as the ongoing need to contextualize the gospel. The Presiding Bishop is charged to speak God's word to the church and to the world.

Read more at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/who-we-are/history-episcopal-church/katharine-jefferts-schori/>

Become a member of AED and help promote and support the diaconate.

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