



JANUARY 28, 2018

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We ask for special prayers for the members of the **Bishop Search Committee**, who have the task of prayerfully discerning our Bishop candidates. We are grateful for their time, dedication, and service they are providing to help select our next leader of the **Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem**. We look forward to the presentation of the **Slate of Bishop Candidates**, those who can hopefully build with us something we cannot yet imagine and can model a connection, communication, and collaborative ministry.



*As we look forward to our future, we celebrate our past . . .*

**Upcoming Events**

**Mid-February:  
Announcement  
of the Slate**

**April 15-20:  
Walkabouts**

**April 28:  
Electing Convention**

**May 12:  
Bishop Sean  
Farewell Party**



Prior to becoming the VII Bishop, **Mark Dyer (1982-1995)** served in the Navy’s Fleet Airforce in Korea in 1952. It was there that a chaplain said to him, “When you are out of here, you are going into the seminary. His reply to the chaplain was “When *you* are out of here, you are going to the funny farm.” Bishop Dyer first became a Roman Catholic priest prior to transitioning to the Episcopal Church. Bishop Dyer later became the **first bishop with an ordained priest wife**. A proponent for the environment, he also had a passion for mission work, stating it was “in his blood genetically”. He worked with Mother Theresa’s sisters in Calcutta, India. When asked about social action and the needy, he stated, “What does God think of this? How did His Son behave in similar circumstances? . . . **Reach out and find various strategies to serve those in need**, any kind of need.

**Paul V. Marshall (1996-2013)**, as the eighth bishop of the **Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem**, believed that “the church must continue reaching all persons with the love of God”. He encouraged us to approach “diversity with respect, diversity with a sense of connection”. Bishop Marshall supported members of the diocese who performed mission work for AIDS victims in Swaziland, Africa and those in Allentown who ran the **Gilead Community Center**, a place where people with AIDS received help with their complicated medicine regimens. After 9/11, Bishop Marshall reminded us to formally and regularly commit to “**strive for justice and peace among all people**. . . Our concern is not just for the elimination of terrorism, but the elimination of those conditions that produce it”.



**Sean Rowe (2014—Present)** is currently serving as **Provisional Bishop for the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem** and as the **Bishop for the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania**. Bishop Sean has blessed his Dioceses with his talents and gifts from an early age, when he became the youngest member of the House of Bishops at age 32. Building on his talents, he recently completed his doctoral work in **Organizational Learning and Leadership** at Gannon University. Bishop Sean also serves at a church-wide level on several committees. Known for his ability to build relationships, Bishop Sean reminds us that “A light shines in and falls on all of God’s children. Our part is not to throw others into the shade, but to manifest our gratitude”.