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The Episcopal Church has a special process of **electing**, not appointing, a new bishop. This places an important responsibility on the members of our diocese to thoroughly learn about our bishop candidates. Our clergy and vestry will then gather our input to elect our next bishop for the **Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem** at the **Electing Convention**. Once the Candidate Slate is announced in February, you can learn more about the individual bishop candidates through our weekly newsletters and our website: [www.bishopsearchdiobeth.org](http://www.bishopsearchdiobeth.org).



*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 IV Bishop, **Frank W. Sterrett (1927-1953)** studied Law at the University of Buffalo and was rector at **St. Stephen's Church** in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Those who worked closely with Bishop Sterrett described him as having a "**wise and generous** spiritual leadership . . . who used his opportunities to serve his church and serve his people in an utterly unselfish way. Back when **entire church sermons were printed in the local newspaper**, Bishop Sterrett's words from 1932 still hold true today: ". . . What we need most is an increase in neighborly cooperation and to bring into our lives more love for our fellowman . . . What can we expect to get out of this ethical chaos if we don't get in and cooperate for the good of each other".

**Frederick J. Warnecke (1953-1971)**, as the fifth bishop of the **Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem**, was known for his strong interest in Episcopal Theological Education. He served as **Chairman of the Board for Theological Education of the National Episcopal Church**. Bishop Warnecke was also a Trustee of the Moravian Theological Seminary, who brought "a rich background in addition to his own personal contribution as a churchman of wide experience of true Christian depth". Also known for his dedication to those around him, Bishop Warnecke was described as a "**man of the people**, who had a total involvement in community life".



**Lloyd E. Gressle (1971-1982)** served as the Sixth Bishop of the diocese, as well as on the **Executive Council of the Episcopal Church**. He was a warm and caring man who was known for being an activist for the poor and those who were marginalized. "He always accepted people for who and where they were in life, and he always challenged people to grow beyond". He strived for "basic justice in our society, to transform the moral fiber of this country to see in its own culture, a better way of life for all people". At the **100th Anniversary celebration** at **Trinity Episcopal, Bethlehem**, Bishop Gressle challenged the congregation, "We have a choice—we can hide and play it safe or accept the challenge and go into the world".