

MEET THE ECCG 2026 LEADERS

PLENARY SPEAKERS	
	Bishop Cathleen Bascom, Episcopal Eco-Region Network Consultant As a Consultant to the Presiding Bishop and his Mission-Creation Care staff, Cathleen has helped shape twelve emerging Eco-Region Networks across the Episcopal Church. These Networks link people of faith involved in nature preservation and restoration and regenerative agriculture and just food systems toward carbon-neutrality and climate mitigation. Cathleen served as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Kansas from 2019 to 2026 In 2020, Cathleen published an ecological theological novel <i>Of Green Stuff Woven</i> and is currently working on a sequel with the working title <i>Bishop of Bluestem</i>. She served for six years on TEC Interim bodies dedicated to Creation Care and ending environmental racism. She served as Co-chair of the Legislative Committee on Environmental Stewardship and Creation Care for the 2024 General Convention, overseeing Resolution B002 that formally brought Eco-Region Networks into existence. In the Diocese of Kansas, she worked with leaders to establish the Bethany House and Garden at the Diocesan Center in Topeka. This innovative ministry serves the local community, providing green space in one of the state's most impoverished neighborhoods and access to healthy food and education in grassland restoration and sustainable gardening practices. Creation Care has long been central to Cathleen's ministry. She sponsored creation scholars at Kansas State University; oversaw the installation of a downtown prairie green space as cathedral dean in Des Moines, Iowa; and has helped local parishes plant postage stamp prairies and organize around environmental concerns across Iowa and Kansas. Cathleen was ordained priest in 1990 and has served urban, suburban, small-town, and academic communities between the Great Lakes and the Rockies.

Cathleen's academic background includes B.A.(English Honors) University of Kansas; M.A. (English Literature), Exeter University (U.K.); M.Div., Seabury-Western; D.Min. (Homiletics), Iliff School of Theology; and M.F.A. (Creative Writing and the Environment), Iowa State University.

n Cathleen is married to author and professor Tim Bascom, and they have two grown sons, Conrad and Luke.



The Rev. Canon Cornelia Eaton, raised in Upper Fruitland, New Mexico, is a member of the Diné Navajo Tribe. Born to Alice Mason and the late Deacon Yazzie Mason, her maternal clan is Ashijí, Salt Clan; her paternal clan is Hasht'ishnii, Mud Clan; her paternal grandfather's clan is Nakai Dine'é, Mexican Clan; and her maternal grandfather's clan is Tlááshchí'i, Red Bottom Clan.

With strong ties to St. Michael's Church and her family's farm and sheep camp, Cornelia was raised in Diné culture and the Episcopal tradition. Her faith and practice are rooted in Diné ancestral perspectives and Anglican Communion theology. Cornelia was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church in Navajoland (ECN) in 2013 and a priest in 2015. Over the decades, she served on many committees and councils of The Episcopal Church and received her Master of Divinity degree at Virginia Theological Seminary. Her leadership roles have taken her around the country and overseas, from New York to New Zealand, Philadelphia to the Philippines, and Washington D.C. to Jerusalem.

Presently, Cornelia serves as the Canon to the Ordinary in Navajoland and is the program director for the Hozhó Beauty Way Center in ECN. Dedicated to serving the people of Navajoland, Cornelia shares God's love, hope, healing and reconciliation through the teachings of the Good News and Diné spirituality on Hozhó. Cornelia has published articles, stories, prayers, and poetry on the Beauty Way, particularly *íina biké hozhó*—encouraging others to live in balance and relationship with divine creation. She enjoys mountain biking, hiking, fly-fishing, raising sheep, listening to music, reading, and spending time with her beloved granddaughter, Allison. Cornelia is a proud mother to Nicole and a sister, aunt, and relative to many throughout the world.

WORKSHOP LEADERS



Tyler Harris first joined St. Christopher as a Barrier Island naturalist in August 2022. Since then, he has continued as a naturalist for two seasons, and even served as the Summer Outdoor Encounters Coordinator. He is currently the Associate Director of the Barrier Island Environmental Education Program! His favorite part of working at St. Christopher is helping youth connect to nature and in turn, connect to God.

The spring before joining St. Christopher, Tyler graduated from Virginia Tech with degrees in multimedia journalism and environmental conservation. Growing up around nature in southwest Virginia, he has interests in ecology, forest environments, and how humans interact with the world around them. Beyond that, Tyler loves to hike, kayak, and hit the fields for ultimate Frisbee.



Chad Brinkman is the Director, Faith Fundraising for Episcopal Relief & Development, overseeing fundraising for The Episcopal Church, faith entities and faith influencers with shared values, and supporting the organization's global programs, improving the lives of people around the world.

Previously, he served the organization as Director, Campaign for Episcopal Relief & Development, overseeing ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE, our grassroots Church-wide campaign dedicated to expanding the organization's global programs and improving the lives of children worldwide. As well as Program Officer, Engagement, where he worked to "engage", educate, and mobilize local communities, affinity groups, and the larger Episcopal Church through the work of Episcopal Relief & Development, and he served through the NetsforLife® Inspiration Fund, working to raise awareness and support for Episcopal Relief & Development's award-winning malaria prevention program partnership.

Chad has worked on five continents in numerous countries. He regularly contributes pictures and stories to the organization's website. He is the father of a regal black cat named Sir Alfred, a precocious boy named Calloway, husband to a beautiful and talented human named Amanda, and an avid cook - skilled in the clandestine art of vegetable butchery. He is also active in the theater, having directed, designed, produced, or acted in more than two hundred productions worldwide. Chad has been on staff at Episcopal Relief & Development since 2010.



Jan Strait has co-founded and led St. Andrew's Episcopal Grand Rapids Living Conservation Ministry (Creation Care) for the past five years. She has been a representative of the Great Lakes Diocesan Creation Care Commission for five years; she participates in the West Michigan ARocha Organization and has been the co-leader of the Citizens Climate Lobby Chapter, Grand Rapids, MI, for nine years; she is a member of the Citizens Climate Lobby National Episcopal Action Group, and a member and representative of the Grand Rapids Climate Coalition for local advocacy. Lobbied for climate and environmental justice policy change with Michigan Legislators and National Legislators in Washington, D.C., for 10 years. Involved in multiple collaborative events with intergenerational, BIPOC, and Interfaith Communities, in Community and beyond. She is passionate about what we do now for our climate crisis, which is a spiritual and moral crisis for all of God's Creation.



The Rev. Melanie Mullen served in senior leadership at The Episcopal Church, where she built and led the denomination's Creation Care and Reconciliation portfolios and represented the church at United Nations climate negotiations. She brings over 15 years of experience in faith-based environmental justice, community organizing, and program development across national and international platforms. Rev. Mullen is a D.Min. candidate at Virginia Theological Seminary and currently serves as Director of Project Feasibility for the Episcopal Diocese of Washington. She is a co-founder of the Hope Justice Climate Collaborative.

Dr. Delia Heck earned her PhD in Economic Geography from the University of Washington. She is a Professor of Environmental Science at Ferrum College, where she teaches courses in Eco-Social Justice, Natural Resource Policy and Economics, and Sustainability. Dr. Heck served as a member of The Episcopal Church's Task Force for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism from 2018 to 2024 and was a delegate to COP28 as part of the Episcopal Church's delegation. She currently serves as a member of Episcopal Relief and Development's Climate Resilience Community of Practice.



Dr. Delia Heck earned her PhD in Economic Geography from the University of Washington. She is a Professor of Environmental Science at Ferrum College, where she teaches courses in Eco-Social Justice, Natural Resource Policy and Economics, and Sustainability. Her research focuses on mapping issues related to climate justice and environmental racism. Dr. Heck served on The Episcopal Church's Task Force for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism from 2018 to 2024. In 2023, she was a delegate to COP28 as part of the Episcopal Church's delegation to the meetings in Dubai. Dr. Heck currently serves as a member of Episcopal Relief and Development's Climate Resilience Community of Practice.

Rev. Melanie Mullen is a senior faith-based executive with a demonstrated record of leading complex, multi-million-dollar justice and reconciliation initiatives across national and international platforms. She has a track record of scaling programs from local pilots to national initiatives serving 8,000+ constituents; building and leading teams of 10+ staff and consultants across multiple portfolios; transforming culture through strategic change management and conflict resolution; and integrating mission-driven programs with measurable community impact. Rev. Mullen currently works in the Diocese of Washington as the Director of Project Feasibility, East of the River.



Ben Gouffon is a Lay Chaplain and administrator for the Episcopal Lutheran campus ministry at the University of Tennessee, Tyson House. He is a university graduate with two degrees in Sociology (with a concentration in environmental issues) and Religious Studies. Ben is currently discerning in this Diocese, and he describes his call as “strongly shaped by my introduction to the history and philosophy of the Native peoples of the Americas.” As a senior, he worked at the Native American interpretive garden, stewarding a space that was home to an indigenous mound of the Woodland period. In addition he worked as a coordinator for alternative energy and transportation in the office of sustainability at UT, and gave presentations concerning the history of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the region's relationship with, and underdeveloped societal perspective concerning, indigenous people. Ben is a cradle Episcopalian, baptized and confirmed at St. John's Cathedral, and says that the church has been “formative and transformative of my mind and spirit.”



Katherine Bomboy is a tenacious, creative professional observer with 25 years experience in film, television, and music still photography content creation for major streaming and network companies and a who's who of talent including Dolly Parton, Dwayne Johnson, Miley Cyrus, Willie Nelson, Lainey Wilson, Post Malone, Kelly Clarkson, and Jimmy Fallon. When she is not on set, Katherine seeks opportunities to live out her faith by forming novel coalitions with collaborative partners in the global transition toward a more just and sustainable world.

Katherine has an affinity for conflict zones. Through her documentary work, often as a short-term missionary, Katherine explores the reasons why humans are in conflict with themselves, with others, and the world around them. Her projects include working with Navajo Uranium Miners and persecuted populations in Iraq, Northern Ireland, Bulgaria, Moldova, and along the Amazon River in Brazil.

Katherine sees the greatest and most damaging conflict humans engage in is our combative and exploitative relationship with Creation. Seeking awe and wonder is her path to her personal reconciliation with nature.

Katherine is a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and has called St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church her home parish since 2007. She has stewarded parish Creation Care initiatives on

the 12-acre campus since 2017, including stormwater management, invasive species removals, pollinator prairies, and wildlife habitat restoration.



Garine Adams is one of the directors of Cultivate VTS (a student-led, ecologically minded group at Virginia Theological Seminary) that cares for all that grows on campus. She and a dedicated team lead campus initiatives like gardening, beekeeping, our box bank, bringing in outside ecological speakers, recycling programs, outdoor liturgies, native planting, hiking, kayaking, and our free farmer's markets during the summer. These programs can only happen with a consistent flow of people passionate about them.



Brian Sellers-Petersen lives in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains in Roslyn, Washington. For 30-plus years, he worked for international relief & development organizations, including 18 years with Episcopal Relief & Development. His coaching and consulting practice, Faithful Agrarian, focuses on agrarian ministry, churchland stewardship, and care for creation. He co-founded and served as a consultant for Good News Gardens, a program run out of the Office of the Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop. He wrote *Harvesting Abundance: Local Initiatives of Food and Faith*. As part of his agrarian storytelling ministry, he co-hosts SpadeSpoonSoul Podcast with Jerusalem Greer and Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows. In 2025, he started Roslyn Forest Therapy, after being certified by the Forest Therapy School.



Phoebe Chatfield (she/her) lives in Somerville, MA, on the land of the Massachusetts, Wampanoag, and Pawtucket peoples, between the Charles River and the Mystic River. For six years she worked for the Episcopal Church at the denomination level, as program associate and then staff officer for Creation Care and Environmental Justice. A longtime organizer and network-weaver, Phoebe is passionate about the role that people of faith and young people can play in climate and environmental justice. Phoebe has a dual degree from Yale College in Environmental Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration, and currently works as Development Organizer for the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery.



Sarah Alphin hails from the great state of Maryland. She studied psychology at Neumann University (B.S.) and then theology and conflict transformation at Boston University's School of Theology. She earned a Master of Divinity in 2016, then participated in the Episcopal Service Corps immediately after seminary through the "Life Together" program in Boston. Most recently, Sarah has been working at Procter Camp & Conference Center as both the Farm Manager and the Commonage Program Coordinator. In her day-to-day life, Sarah loves making (and eating) pickles of all kinds - especially dill pickles! She also enjoys baking, hiking, and communal art nights.



Sister Marcella is a novice at the Community of Saint Mary (CSM) in Sewanee, TN. She grew up in Richmond, Virginia and graduated from James Madison University as Valedictorian in 2024 with a degree in English literature and religious studies. After graduating, she completed the Organic Prayer Program internship at CSM, where she sensed a call to religious life. Sister Marcella was admitted as a postulant to the community in August 2025 and became a novice in February 2026. As part of her monastic formation, she is a part-time student at Sewanee's School of Theology, where she is working toward a Master of Arts degree.



The Reverend Stephanie Johnson worked for the Episcopal bishops of New England, providing support in reducing congregational energy use and environmental ministries. Reverend Johnson offers workshops, clergy training and retreats on eco-theology, preaching on climate change, and, congregational greening, and grief in the face of the climate emergency. She has offered courses at Bexley Seabury and Church Next. For 8 years, she was the chair of the Episcopal Church's Task Force on the Care of Creation and Environmental Racism. Reverend Johnson is on the Leadership Council of Blessed Tomorrow and the Advisory Board of the Center for Earth Ethics at Union Seminary. She is the author of "How Can I Care for Creation" and co-author of a curriculum titled "A Life of Grace for the Whole World", both published by Church Publishing. She earned her M.Div. and STM from Yale Divinity School. Her S.T.M was focused on eco-ministry in a congregational setting. Reverend Johnson is the Rector at St. Paul's in Riverside, CT.



Lanni Lantto was born and raised in the wilds of the Anishinaabe Akiing Upper Peninsula of Mishigamaa (Michigan). She co-founded, U.P. Wild which has 8 branches (and growing). It is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan and the Northern Great Lakes Synod that attends to the spiritual needs of those coming out of adverse religious experiences. She brings extensive entrepreneurial experience in sustainability as an upcycling fashion artist and a trained story-sharing circle facilitator. Lanni is most proud when watching her two children welcome home the migrating sandhill cranes on their 30 acres between Lake Superior and the Huron Mountains.



Carrie Allport, MTS, MA-SD, is a beloved child of G-d, covenant partner, mother of 2, lifelong student, novice gardener, sometimes runner, and spiritual companion to those seeking to connect or deepen their relationship with the Holy One. Steeped in the Anglican tradition, but raised in the Bible Belt, she identifies as a part of a lost generation in the Church. She shares spiritual direction with individuals & groups, and has a tender spot for offering spiritual companionship to couples. She is also passionate about spiritual care for clergy households. As a member of a clergy household, she and her family are trying, just for today, to answer the call of the priesthood of all believers.

Kirstin Swanson, MPA, MDiv, is a priest, mother, and wife living and raising her now-teenaged children in New York City. A lifelong New Yorker and Episcopalian, she serves as a Missioner for the Episcopal Diocese of New York, working with congregations on Staten Island as they navigate change, make their way through transitions, and experiment with new ways to be church together and reach new people in the community. Before becoming a priest, Kirstin was an active lay leader and a fundraiser for non-profit organizations in education, the arts, and social service. Her passion for local engagement and belief in the importance of artistic expression continues in her service on the board of Illuminart Productions, an organization that empowers students to use theater and artistic expression to illuminate critical social issues, creating conversations for positive change.



Dr. Kendra Jernigan has advanced academic training in agricultural and environmental sciences and is an Associate Professor of Environmental Science at Abilene Christian University (ACU). Dr. Jernigan teaches a range of courses, including plant science, plant and animal genetics, environmental thought, and creation care. She is also a part-time student in the ACU Graduate School of Theology, pursuing graduate education in theology and church history. Her research interests include sustainable agricultural development, underutilized crops in West Texas, and Christian ecological theology and virtue ethics. She is an active parishioner at the Episcopal Church of the Heavenly Rest, serving on the livestream team and the altar guild as well as a lay minister and Eucharistic minister. She lives in Abilene, TX with her husband, Daniel, and their cat and dog.



Kyle Lambelet is Associate Professor of Ethics and Director the Saint Nicholas Center for Faith and Justice, jointly appointed at Virginia Theological Seminary and the General Theological Seminary. His teaching and research center on the intersections of moral, political, and ascetical theology. Lambelet's first book, ¡Presente! Nonviolent Politics and the Resurrection of the Dead (Georgetown, 2019), follows a transnational nonviolent social movement to propose modes of political action that are both effective and faithful. His current research thinks theologically about the climate crisis, drawing especially on the apocalyptic traditions of political theology to suggest practices for living through the ending of worlds. Lambelet is also a trained spiritual director and writes and teaches about the place of struggle in the spiritual life.



Kristen Daley Mosier is a writer, licensed lay preacher, and theologian rooted in the Pacific Northwest. She earned a PhD in Theology and Ethics from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and an MDiv from Fuller Seminary Northwest. She has written on baptismal ethics, the Flint Water Crisis, and ways to faithfully connect with the more-than-human world. Her work is published in *Liturgy*, *Religions*, and *Sundays & Seasons*, and she has contributed to online publications such as *Christ & Cascadia* and *Religica*. As a preacher and facilitator, Kristen encourages parishioners and students to make meaningful connections between faith and local watershed ecosystems.



Hampton Randall serves as the Eco-Region Network Facilitator for the Episcopal Church, a joint partnership between the Presiding Bishop's office and Sewanee School of Theology's Center for Religion and Environment. Hampton graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from Wofford College, where my studies centered around environmental policy, grassroots community engagement, and the intersection of religion and the environment. He recently graduated with honors from Vanderbilt Divinity School with my Master of Divinity. Hampton is passionate about the church and the world, and am driven to build strong communities of care. When not working, he spends his time running, hiking, fly fishing, or cooking with his wife and their dog.



The Rev. Jerry Cappel is a retired Episcopal priest in the Diocese of Kentucky. He serves as the Environmental Network Coordinator for Province IV of The Episcopal Church and Director of the Center for Deep Green Faith.

Rev. Cappel has a Ph.D. in religious education and over twenty years of experience in corporate training and development. He is a graduate of Harding Graduate School of Religion (M.Div.) in Memphis, TN, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY (Ph.D.). He has worked as an author and editor of youth and adult education materials for Smyth & Helwys Publishing in Macon, GA and Church Publishing in New York.

Publications include: Cappel, Jerry and Robin Gottfried, *Living in an Icon: A Program for Growing Closer to Creation and to God (Facilitator Guide)*. Church Publishing, 2019. Cappel, Jerry and Stephanie M. Johnson. *A Life of Grace for the Whole World: A Study Course on the House of Bishops' Pastoral Teaching on the Environment*. New York: Church Publishing, 2017. Cappel, Jerry. "Environmental Advocacy and the Absence of the Church" in *Ecotheology and Nonhuman Ethics in Society*. Edited by Melissa J. Brotton, pages 145-158. New York: Lexington Books, 2017. Cappel, Jerry. "Deeper Green Churches" *Sewanee Theological Review*, 58 (Christmas 2014). 139 – 161.



Jerusalem Jackson Greer is Co-Executive Director and Agrarian Minister for the Procter Center, an Episcopal Farm, Camp, and Retreat center in the Diocese of Southern Ohio. As former Manager of Evangelism and Discipleship for The Episcopal Church under Presiding Bishop Curry, she co-founded the Good News Garden movement and oversaw Way of Love and Evangelism initiatives for the wider church. She is also the author of two books, *At Home in this Life: Finding Peace at the Crossroads of Unraveled Dreams and Beautiful Surprises* and *A Homemade Year: The Blessings of Cooking, Crafting and Coming Together*, both published by Paraclete Press, as well as multiple Episcopal curricula including the Abundant Life Garden Project for Episcopal Relief & Development. Jerusalem recently completed her MA from Wartburg Theological Seminary with an emphasis on Rural Ministry. Jerusalem is an associate of the Community of Saint Mary, Southern Province, co-host of the Spade, Spoon, Soul podcast, a speaker, preacher, and contributor on the topics of outdoor and agrarian ministry, discipleship, evangelism, leadership, and the ministry of belonging in an era of loneliness.



The Rev. Heather Barta has served as the Coordinator of Province V since May 2017. Previously, she served as Interim Episcopal Chaplain at Northwestern University, and at a variety of parishes as Rector, Interim, or Transition Minister. She's a trained and certified coach as part of Province V's Leadership Coaching Project. She lives in Allegan, Michigan with her husband, 2 dogs, 3 barn cats, and 3 chickens. For fun, she restores the family farm, reads, walks her dogs, travels, and plays tabletop games.



Jeanette Ettin Jeanette Ettin brings warmth, curiosity, and dedication to her role as Convenor of the Province V Creation Care Network. As a member of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes, she serves on its Creation Care and Becoming Beloved Community commissions, as well as serving as Chairperson for her Diocesan Mission Region. She graduated from the Copping-Gordon School of Theology, formerly an Eastern Michigan Diocesan seminary, she also earned a certificate in the Gospel Roots of Creation Care from Seminary of the Southwest and is a fellow in the Leadership Renewed program offered by Kanuga and Trinity Church NYC. Jeanette enjoys finding creative ways to care for creation, building community through initiatives such as Good News Gardens, and helping others recognize bias and the harm caused by "isms." Jeanette also spends her summers cultivating and caring for the Good News Garden at Camp Chickagami, where she has formerly served as the Day Camp Director and most recently as Baby Camp Director. She lives in Port Huron, Michigan, where she is raising two grandchildren. She loves gardening, spending time outdoors, stargazing, and cheering at soccer games with family and friends. Most of all, she treasures being "Onee" to her grandchildren.



Timothy L. Van Meter is the Associate Professor in the Alford Chair of Christian Education and Youth Ministry Coordinator of Ecological Initiatives at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Van Meter holds the following degrees: Ph.D., Emory University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Division of Religion, 2003; M.Div., Emory University, Candler School of Theology, 1996

B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 1985

Research interests include the intersections of ecological practices within faith communities, young adult activism, food sovereignty, regenerative farms/soils, and understanding the sacred in relationship to land and vocation. He is currently exploring wisdom, healthy aging, and paths toward becoming a generative elder.

Teaching portfolio includes the spiritual and vocational aspirations of youth and young adults; spiritual practices, ecological theology, justice and peace movements, communal movements, alternative forms of church and educational theory. **Selected published works include:** *Created in Delight: Youth Ministry and the Mending of the World*, Wipf and Stock, 2013. "Do Something in the World: Youth Ministry and Ecology," *Circuit Rider*, November/December/January 2015-16. And "Living in the Delight of Creation: Youth Ministry and Practices of Ecological Theology," *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 8, No. 2.



The Reverend Robert Jemonde Taylor is a priest, environmentalist, community organizer, and griot focused on the intersection of race, Christianity, Blackness, and culture. Since 2012, Father Taylor has served as the eleventh rector of Saint Ambrose Episcopal Church, Raleigh, NC, founded in 1868.

Father Taylor is nurturing a season of liturgical renewal at Saint Ambrose, emphasizing African American and African culture through Ethiopian Orthodox icons as Stations of the Cross, icons and prayer kneelers of African American Episcopal saints, Episcopal service music based on African American Spirituals, and a Jazz Mass.

Taylor's environmental justice focus includes an ecologically focused capital campaign at Saint Ambrose, the Wading Deep environmental podcast, the installation of an Ethiopian-inspired labyrinth, and a therapeutic horticultural ministry called the Healing Garden to address the surrounding community's mental and emotional health needs. He is a contributing author to The Episcopal Church's creation care curriculum, "Love God; Love God's World." Until 2025, he chaired Raleigh's Stormwater Management Advisory Commission (SMAC), managing its \$13MM budget.

In addition to leading the congregation, Father Taylor is active in the community. He received the 2025 City of Raleigh's Environmental Stewardship Award. In 2022, the University of the South, Sewanee, awarded him the School of Theology Award for Service for his work in social justice and environmentalism. The Lilly Endowment awarded him the Clergy Renewal Sabbatical Grant, and in 2023 he and his family in 2023 traveled to Ethiopia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica to retrace the movement of Ethiopian Christianity from East to West. In 2020, he was a founding member of ONE Wake, a countywide community power group of nearly 50 nonprofits and an aggregate membership of 50,000 throughout Wake County. Taylor is a trustee for the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, TX. He is a member of a five-person team that received a \$400,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation to convene the Art of Soul Kollektive, a nationwide gathering of artists, theologians, and clergy commissioned to produce original artwork related to gentrification, race, and Christian practice.

Taylor's recent seminars and lectures include: Baptized in Dirty Water; Divine Revelation as Endarkenment; Wrapped in Whiteousness: Worship, Liturgy, and Race; The Darkness Sings: The Church's Unfinished Symphony with Race; and The Theology of Hip-Hop. He is a lecturer in the D.Min. program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Taylor studies the

spirituality and history of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, including leading pilgrimages to Ethiopia.

Father Taylor holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from NC State University and an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in robotics and vehicle design from Stanford University. Taylor worked for Michelin Tire Company, Greenville, SC, before entering seminary and earning his M.Div. from the General Theological Seminary in NYC. He is married to Kierson Taylor, and they have two children. Learn more at his website, jemonde.com.