

The Rev. Holly Rankin Zaher

Ideation ♦ Input ♦ Futuristic ♦ Connecteness ♦ Strategic
Evansville, IN

To instigate connection between people and ideas, expanding worlds, building respect across difference, and learning to live well together in God's world.

MINISTRY

Rector · *St. Paul's Episcopal Church · Evansville, IN 2017 – Present*

- ▶ Lead a downtown historic parish of 200+ members: overseeing worship, pastoral care, staff development, and a \$700K annual budget in Indiana's third largest city.
- ▶ Reimagined an organization structure that would serve the church in today's climate.
- ▶ Facilitated staff development using Clifton Strengths.
- ▶ Led the congregation through COVID, launching hybrid worship and then renewing in-person community.
- ▶ Made the implicit intergenerational ministry happening explicit through the support of the diocese.
- ▶ Strengthened financial health through transparent stewardship campaigns and clear budget processes.
- ▶ Received five grants, four of them matching grants, to increase the mission of the church: Covid technology, architectural drawings for an accessibility entrance, an accessibility entrance, an outdoor hospitality space, and the replacement of our slate roof.
- ▶ Completed the Church Buildings for Collaborative Partners program which educated churches on how to be good stewards of their buildings. From this we now have several tenants including a summer camp and a theater group.
- ▶ Fed our community through hosting Sister Joanna's Table, our feeding ministries - our 40+ year collaboration with 6 other local religious groups, as well as through our bi-weekly food pantry.
- ▶ Hosted the Rainbow Jacket Project, a clothes closet started by high schoolers for LGBTQ+ people. This organization grew into it's own 501(c)3 and recently joined with another local agency.

Assistant to the Rector · *Episcopal Church of the Advent · Nashville, TN 2016 – 2017*

- ▶ Preaching, pastoral care, and youth ministry leadership in a growing suburban parish.

Church Planting Team Member · *Three Nails · Pittsburgh, PA 2002 – 2005*

- ▶ Core team of a pioneering church plant; a published case study in emerging models of community formation.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Assistant Director for Professional Training · *Rock the World · Ambridge, PA 2001 – 2003*

- ▶ Equipped and trained youth workers nationally through Rock the World's professional development programs.

Various Parish Youth Ministry Roles · *Multiple Congregations 1994 – 2010*

- ▶ 16 years serving youth in parish settings — from volunteer beginnings through professional leadership, spanning multiple denominations and contexts.

TEACHING, FORMATION & CONSULTING

Trainer / Speaker / Consultant · *Self-Employed · National & Regional 2005 – Present*

- ▶ Gallup-certified CliftonStrengths coach — leadership formation for nonprofits, dioceses, schools, and camps.
- ▶ Facilitates values-based discernment with churches and organizations navigating transition and renewal.
- ▶ Consulting clients: Diocese of Indianapolis, YouthFirst, Joshua Academy, Waycross Camp, Leadership Everyone.

IB Theory of Knowledge & Math Teacher · *Hillsboro High School · Nashville, TN 2010 – 2016*

- ▶ Six years shaping adolescent epistemology through IB curriculum — how we know what we know.

Adjunct / Visiting Faculty · *Trinity School for Ministry · Ambridge, PA 2001 – 2015*

- ▶ 14-year relationship: courses in youth ministry and missional leadership; also ran the seminary's distance-learning programs as Online Education Coordinator (2003–05).

CHURCH GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

- ◆ President, Standing Committee — Diocese of Indianapolis (2024–Present)
- ◆ Delegate, General Convention (2022, 2024); Elected Delegate, (2027)
- ◆ Executive Council — Diocese of Indianapolis (2018–2021)
- ◆ emergent coordinating group (2002–2009)
- ◆ Board Member — Congregations Acting for Justice & Empowerment (2021–Present)
- ◆ Board Member — Leadership Everyone (2020–2024)
- ◆ Diocesan Team, Presiding Bishop's Visit (2022)

SPEAKING, WORKSHOPS & PUBLIC THEOLOGY

- ◆ Youth Tent Curator *Wild Goose Festival, Hot Springs, NC* 2013, 2014, 2015
- ◆ Evangelism Round Table with N.T. Wright *Wheaton, IL* April 2010
- ◆ Ancient Wisdom — Anglican Futures *Ambridge, PA* June 2009
- ◆ Women Inspiring Imagination about Leadership *Mainline Emergent/s* January 2007
- ◆ Worship in the Emerging Church *PA State Pastors Conference* November 2006
- ◆ Youth Ministry and Culture: Toward a Theology of Culture *Diocese of Texas Youth Conference* April 2006
- ◆ Re:mix Youth Mission Conference — Host *Rock the World* November 2005
- ◆ emergent convention — Host / Co-Emcee *National* 2003, 2005
- ◆ Women and Men in the Changing Culture *Soularize, Minneapolis, MN* October 2002

EDUCATION

- ◆ Master of Divinity — *Trinity School for Ministry, 2004*
- ◆ B.S. Mathematics — *Augusta State University, 1994*
- ◆ M.A., Mission & Evangelism (Youth Ministry) — *Trinity School for Ministry, 1997 (surrendered for MDiv)*

CONTINUING FORMATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- ◆ College for Congregational Development (2025)
- ◆ Dare to Lead Trained (2023)
- ◆ Sacred Ground (2023)
- ◆ Gallup CliftonStrengths Certified Coach (2020)
- ◆ Systems Innovation Leadership Certificate, DSIL (2020)
- ◆ Missional Leadership Cohort, Luther Seminary (2017–18)
- ◆ Compression Planning Training (2005, 2021)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ Contributor — *The Way Bible* (Tyndale, 2012)
- ◆ "Liquidating Your Life" — *Relevant Magazine* (2007)
- ◆ "Lessons from Liturgy" — *Relevant Leader* (2007)
- ◆ Chapter contributor — *The Relevant Church* (2004)
- ◆ Contributor — *The Post-Evangelical*, Zondervan (2003)
- ◆ "Do we need youth ministry anymore?" — *Youthworker* (2003)