



# Introducing *the Vergers Guild* of the Episcopal Church

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The Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church is an active and vibrant service organization in the Episcopal Church with over 1,200 members that supports the ministry of the verger through education, service and fellowship.

A verger is a member of the laity who serves the church in a ministry of welcome and works under the direction of the rector to assist with the organization and operation of worship services in the church.

Vergers make a difference in all sizes of parishes, freeing the clergy from the routine, organizational and mundane duties so that priests and deacons may focus on pastoral or sacramental responsibilities.

With a membership approaching 1,200 active members in our short twenty-four years, the VGEC has evolved from a small group of several dozen vergers seeking support for their individual ministries to a notable presence in the national church today.

Anyone can become a member of the Guild. The only requirement for membership is that you are interested in the ministry of the Verger. There is nothing else that is required!

### Membership Rates

Regular \$40/year • Outside the U.S. \$50/year • Student/Retired \$20/year • Parish \$200/year • Lifetime \$500

### Training Course

Among the many resources available to all vergers in the VGEC, we offer a comprehensive self-study Training Course entitled "A Course of Training for the Verger" that is designed to supplement the training of the verger.

### Annual Conference

Since its founding in 1988 the Guild has held its annual conference in many different and exciting locations. The gathering includes the annual business meeting, workshops on liturgy, worship, touring local churches and sightseeing. These times together are invaluable in building strong bonds of friendship and support. The Guild also fosters the formation of local chapters which are quite popular as well.

### The Vergers Guild Shop

The Vergers Guild Shop is an online store focused on providing the verger with many items that might be used as part of their verger ministry. The Guild Shop recently announced the availability of "The Basic Virge" and "The Verger's Chimere" to the membership in the "Processional Gear" department.

The Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church stands ready to continue the support of this ministry to more parishes within the whole church. As dedicated trained lay persons, we are making significant contributions to the growth of our parishes. This is our part in helping to make the Episcopal Church a welcoming presence for Christ in the world.

#### BENEFITS OF VGEC MEMBERSHIP

- A VGEC membership certificate suitable for framing
- A printed copy of the annual VGEC Membership Directory
- Annual Conferences hosted by member cathedrals and parishes
- The Guild Shop online store for verger-related merchandise
- Participation in the V-List online discussion group
- Access to the Vergers' Document Library for liturgical planning
- Service on VGEC leadership committees
- Ability to vote on VGEC leadership and business matters
- Authorization to wear the VGEC seal on your vestments

### Contact Us!

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