



The Rev. Randy Kyle Callender was born in the City of Philadelphia to a tight-knit family from the Island of Barbados. As a child, he would often call himself a “church nerd,” because he loved everything about the Episcopal Church. He experienced the wider church beyond his parish, by participating in Diocesan events and was influenced by many organizations, especially the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE). He served on multiple Youth & Young Adults leadership opportunities within the UBE organization. Father Callender attended Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina and later transferred to Cheyney University, where he received a Bachelor’s degree in Communications in 2007. He then attended The Episcopal Divinity School (EDS) in Cambridge, MA, where he received his Masters of Divinity in 2010. On June 5, 2010, He was ordained as a transitional deacon and then on January 22, 2011, he was the first African American male priest to be ordained in the Diocese of Pennsylvania in twenty-five years.

He was called to be the Rector at St. Philip’s Episcopal Church in Annapolis, MD on July 1, 2012. In the Diocese of Maryland, he served on multiple committees for youth and racial reconciliation as well as a former member of the Commission on Ministry, Member of the Standing Committee, Co-Chair for the Bishop Search Committee (2021-22) and Deputy for 2021 & 2024 General Conventions. In the greater church he served on the Design Team for the 2014 & 2017 Episcopal Youth Event (EYE), one of the Adult Leaders for the 2012, 2015 & 2018 General Convention Official Youth Presence (GCOYP) & The National Church Youth Liaison Committee.

Father Callender also participated in a training with One America Movement (<https://oneamericamovement.org/>) working with divided groups and now he serves as a consultant for One America Movement’s Faith Over Division to address the effects of America’s divisions in their congregations and communities. Father Callender sees himself as a bridge builder and has stated that his ministry, through teaching and preaching, is to build relationships and to create a space where all feel welcomed in God’s Beloved Community.

Fr. Callender is married to the lovely Katya with two amazing children Jaivyn and Soraya.