

# The Rev. Dr. Brandt Montgomery

The Rev. Dr. Brandt Montgomery serves as the chaplain of Saint James School in Hagerstown, Maryland, having arrived there in August 2019, and as the vicar of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Boonsboro, Maryland since May 2023. Born and raised up in the Methodist tradition, Brandt has lived his Christian life within the Episcopal Church for two-plus decades. He has offered ministry to God's people as both a parish priest and Church school chaplain for thirteen years.

Brandt's Saint James School ministry has included being the co-chair of the Faculty Diversity Committee, on which he helped compose the school's first-ever diversity statement, started an upper-level African American History elective course, and, in overseeing the service-learning program, formed new partnerships between the school with several local service organizations. At Saint Mark's, in addition to instituting the parish's Outreach and Hospitality Committees, Brandt is a co-chair of the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Campaign Committee. The committee's evangelistic and missional approach to fundraising has helped increase the parish's visibility as an active Christian community in southern Washington County, Maryland, in turn helping establish new relationships with neighbors throughout the community and increasing average Sunday attendance and membership.

In the Diocese of Maryland, Brandt serves as secretary of the Standing Committee, as well as its liaison to the Commission on Ministry, and on the Board of Examining Chaplains. He was a member of the XV Bishop of Maryland Transition Committee in 2023 and was the diocese's first alternate clergy deputy to the 81<sup>st</sup> General Convention. While serving in the Diocese of Western Louisiana, he led Christian League of Episcopal Youth retreats and helped institute in the diocese the canonically required anti-racism program. In Alabama, Brandt served on the Diocesan Council, Spirituality Commission, Board of Examining Chaplains, and Department of Ministry for Higher Education. His wider church involvement includes past service on the Province VII Multi-Cultural Relations Network and current service on the governing boards of the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal Schools Association and the National Association of Episcopal Schools.

In 2003, Brandt graduated from the University of Montevallo with a Bachelor of Arts in Music. He received the Master of Divinity degree from General Theological Seminary in 2012, writing his thesis in Church history on the civil rights philosophy of Charles Colcock Jones Carpenter, the Sixth Bishop of Alabama from 1938 to 1968. Brandt graduated from the School of Theology of the University of the South with the Doctor of Ministry degree in 2021. His doctoral thesis analyzed Saint James School's historic Oxford Movement foundation, pinpointing how the movement's "reserve" in the teaching of Christian theology at times in the school's past stalled its development toward becoming a fully diverse, equitable, and inclusive community. Brandt has had articles published in *Anglican & Episcopal History*, the scholarly journal of the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church.

When he has spare time, Brandt enjoys hanging out with his dog Roscoe, listening to big band jazz music, reading biographies and history books, and supporting the University of Alabama Crimson Tide.