

January 14, 2016

A letter from the Standing Committee to the Diocese of Pennsylvania

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

A new year is upon us and with it comes a time of hope-filled transition for our Diocese! Over the upcoming weeks and months, the Standing Committee will continue in our wide-ranging work together with Bp. Daniel and the various committees of governance and leadership in the Diocese, receive and share the names of the candidates to be our next Bishop Diocesan (January 26 and 28), meet the candidates during the time of discernment in February (February 15-20), participate in the Call (Electing) Convention on March 12, join with the Diocese in honoring the remarkable ministry of Bp. Clifton Daniel, 3rd at a special Evensong on April 30, ensure the successful transition of the new Bishop Diocesan, and convene the evaluation of our Diocesan organizational structures as approved by the Diocesan Convention in November. We pray that in all of this work, the love and grace of Jesus Christ will be manifested in abundance.

We are grateful for the good work of the Search/Nominating Committee that will bring the names of 3-5 candidates for Bishop to the Standing Committee on January 26, 2016. The Standing Committee will prayerfully discern together and, with God's guidance, receive the names of these candidates for the election of the next Bishop Diocesan. The names of the candidates, along with their biographies and other introductory materials, will be reported to the Diocese on January 28, 2016. At the same time, the details of the Petition Process will be made available. Following the announcement of the candidates, the Call (Electing)/Transition Committee will facilitate the processes of discernment, call (election), transition, and consecration of the Bishop Diocesan. This Committee has undertaken months of preparation so that these critical activities will proceed smoothly and transparently. The Standing Committee will work with Bp. Dan and the Bishop-Elect to support a smooth transition of leadership and governance.

In addition to our responsibilities in regard to the call of a new Bishop Diocesan, the members of the Standing Committee undertake various responsibilities on committees and commissions, as well as other leadership roles in the Diocese. This year, the Standing Committee members have organized their work as follows:

President: The Rev. Kathryn Andonian

Vice President: Mr. Mac McCausland

Secretary: The Rev. Hillary Raining

Committee and Commission Representation and Leadership

Commission on Ministry: Debora Brown, Hillary Raining

Committee on Canons: Mac McCausland, Deirdre Whitfield

Diocesan Council Liaison: George Vosburgh

Bishop Search/Nominating Committee: Mac McCausland

Bishop Call (Electing)/Transition Committee: Pat Smith, George Vosburgh, Liz Colton

Episcopal Elections: Jane Cosby

Finance Committee: Pat Smith, Deirdre Whitfield

Special Committees for 2016:

Incorporation Review Committee: Pat Smith, Mac McCausland, Kathy Andonian

Transition of Work Between the Search/Nominating Committee and the Call (Electing)/Transition Committee: Debora Brown, Jane Cosby, Pat Smith, Liz Colton

Petition Process: Hillary Raining, Sean Mullen

General Convention Resolutions: Jane Cosby

The Standing Committee is awed and honored to undertake this work in the Diocese of Pennsylvania in partnership with so many dedicated volunteers and staff. There is a richness of creativity and dedication amongst the churches and ministries of the Diocese and a strong commitment to serving our neighbors near and far in Christ's name. Thanks be to you and thanks be to God.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

The Rev. Kathryn Andonian
President of the Standing Committee
on behalf of the Standing Committee:

Ms. Debora Brown
Ms. Jane Cosby
Mr. Mac McCausland
Ms. Pat Smith
Mr. George Vosburgh

The Rev. Elizabeth Colton
The Rev. Sean Mullen
The Rev. Hillary Raining
The Rev. Deirdre Whitfield