

The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany



The Very Reverend Tom Malionek, *President*
Janet Papa, *Secretary*

STANDING COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 1, 2022

The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese while the office of Bishop is vacant. Visit <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/standing-committee/> for a list of Committee members.

These are highlights only. Some matters and details must by nature remain confidential, and we must withhold comment on deliberations until the Committee has taken action and is prepared to issue a formal statement.

We welcome communication from around the diocese. We must, of course, exercise discretion in setting priorities. Please view us as people of good will, and trust the Holy Spirit to guide us all.

At its meeting on August 1, 2022, the Standing Committee took up, among others, the following matters:

1. Licensed Susan Beach to serve as lay preacher at Christ Church, Gilbertsville, under the supervision of the Rector, Fr. Bill Lytle.
2. Renewed the canonically required annual authority of the Very Rev'd Dr. Leander Harding to serve as Dean of the Cathedral of All Saints and commended him for his service to the Cathedral and the Diocese.
3. As provided by the By-Laws of Episcopal Charities of Albany, appointed Sue Ellen Ruetsch to fill the role of Chair of Episcopal Charities of Albany as representative of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, and authorized her actions and votes in that capacity.
4. Received a report on the wrap-up of the 2022 Diocesan Convention and instructed the Diocesan Life Subcommittee to investigate arrangements for the 2023 Diocesan Convention.
5. Received information regarding required Safe Church training and screening procedures and instructed the Diocesan Life Subcommittee to take steps to provide parishes and deans with the necessary information, training, and support.
6. Received a report on the leadership transition at Christ the King Center.

Clarification: The Task Force on Communion across Difference is charged with *designing a process and framework* for conversations that will be open to wide participation. So that the Task Force can complete its work more quickly, and thus enable those conversations to begin sooner, the Task Force itself is not recruiting members. We are grateful for the generous donations of time and effort by Bishop Smith, Bishop Gallagher, and the other participants, who represent a range of perspectives. We wish to allow them space to complete this stage of the work without the distraction of responding to inquiries.

Please keep in your prayers Bishop Smith, Bishop Gallagher, and all bishops of the Anglican Communion assembled for the Lambeth Conference. We commend to your use the collects "for various occasions," especially numbers 13, 14, and 16 (BCP 255-257); the Prayers and Thanksgivings "for the Church" (BCP 816-819), especially number 14; and the [Lambeth Conference prayer guide](#).

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Disciples Making Disciples

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