

The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany



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

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

November 22, 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 are sensitive, personal, or not ready to report. We do not comment on deliberations.

We welcome communication from around the diocese. Please view us as people of good will, and trust the Holy Spirit to guide us all.

At its meeting on **Monday, November 21, 2022**, the Standing Committee took up, among others, the following matters:

- 1. Christmas bonuses for employees of the diocese.** The Standing Committee recognizes not only the many long hours of hard work that diocesan employees put in, but their devotion to our shared ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ in our place and time. Their cheerfulness in serving and their generosity of spirit bears witness to the grace of God at work among us. We thank them for their contribution to our life and vocation together in the Diocese of Albany.
- 2. In view of the prospect of a second diocesan Convention in 2023 to elect the Tenth Bishop of Albany, voted to hold the regular annual Convention as a business meeting on the morning of Saturday, June 10, 2023.** The format of the meeting will be on-line, but regional “satellite” centers will be designated so that clergy and parish Deputies from each parish will have the option of gathering at a location with adequate broadband internet service within reasonable travel range from their homes. The Committee noted with appreciation the hard work done by Mtr. Meaghan Keegan and others to apply for a [Roanridge Trust](#) grant from the Episcopal Church. These grants are awarded to support leadership development in small towns and rural communities.
- 3. Received news from the Profile & Search Committee that the diocese is close to signing an agreement with an Election Consultant** to help guide us properly through the remainder of the bishop election process. The agreement has been reviewed by the Chancellor and awaits conclusion within the next few days.
- 4. Heard from the Diocesan Life Committee that the Safe Church screening and training process forms have been completed.** The system will undergo a limited test over the next month and will be rolled out to parishes in early 2023.
- 5. Learned from the Transition Minister of the Diocese on clergy deployment matters and on prospects for licensed and supply clergy** in the near future.

Disciples Making Disciples

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6. Were informed by the President of the Standing Committee about **developments in certain Child Victims Act lawsuits against the Diocese.**

7. Were briefed by Bishop Smith about the success of the opening retreat of the **Task Force on Communion Across Difference.**

Please pray for travelling mercies for all who will journey to be with family and friends over Thanksgiving: for their safe, timely, and uneventful travel and return; for the health, safety, and protection of all who work in transportation industries and their families; for snow and road repair crews; for first responders, health care workers, utility workers, and all who labor or wait on call, often in obscurity and without appreciation, while others celebrate or rest, whose service enables us to celebrate in comfort, security, and peace.

May God grant you grace, peace, and a heart full of gratitude to the Giver of all good gifts.
