

The Very Reverend Tom Malioneck, President
Janet Papa, Secretary

December 10, 2024

Among its canonically prescribed responsibilities, the Standing Committee serves as the Bishop's Council of Advice. Our status and duties are set forth in Article IV of the Constitution of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church, Canon 1.12 of the Canons of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church, Article VII of the Constitution of the Diocese of Albany, and elsewhere throughout the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese.

The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church may be accessed at <https://generalconvention.org/constitution-and-canons/>.

The Constitution of the Diocese of Albany may be accessed at <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Constitution-of-the-Episcopal-Diocese-of-Albany-Rev-2011.docx.pdf>.

The Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany can be accessed at <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/The-Canons-of-the-Diocese-of-Albany-2022-version.pdf>.

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.

This edition of the highlights of the actions of the Standing Committee combines reports from two meetings. Please forgive the lateness of this report.

At its meetings on **October 15 and November 19, 2024**, the Standing Committee took up, among others, the following matters:

- 1. Welcomed** David Malsan, who was elected to the Standing Committee by the Convention of the Diocese in May 2024, but was prevented from taking his seat on the Standing Committee until his resignation from the Diocesan Disciplinary Board.
- 2. Elected** the Very Rev. Scott Garno to fill temporarily the clergy vacancy on the Standing Committee left by the departure of the Rev. Elizabeth Papazoglakis, who has departed to accept a call in another diocese, as has Father Tom Papazoglakis. Father Garno will serve until the next regular annual Diocesan Convention elects a clergy member to that seat on the Standing Committee.
- 3. Expressed** thanks to Mother Elizabeth for her long and dedicated service to the diocese, not least on the Standing Committee, and to Father Tom Papazoglakis as well for the many ways he has contributed to the health and vitality of Saint George's, Clifton Park, and the diocese as a whole. We pray that God will continue to prosper their ministry and grant them fulfillment.
- 4. Listened with attention and appreciation** to Bishop Williamson's discussion of activities, plans, and ideas, including staffing changes, appointments, and vacancies in various congregations and diocesan bodies.

Disciples Making Disciples

5. Received a report from Ms. Terry Mumby, Treasurer of the Diocese, on the state of Diocesan finances, parish assessments, and anticipated changes to the Episcopal Church's annual Parochial Report format in 2025.

6. Consented to the election of the Rev. Angela Maria Cortiñas as Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of West Texas, and to the election of the Very Rev. Amy Dafler Meaux as Bishop of the Diocese of West Missouri.

7. Approved the listing for sale on the open market of a parcel of land belonging of Saint Paul's Church, Kinderhook. Fr. Tom Malioneck and David Malsan recused themselves for this action.

8. Consented to the deconsecration of Christ Church, Morristown, in anticipation of the sale of the building. The policy and procedures for the sale of parish property is to be posted on the diocesan web site.

9. Consented to the calling of the regular annual Convention of the Diocese at a time and in a location proposed by the Bishop.

10. Received correspondence from a member of the Diocesan Council. Fr. Malioneck will respond.

11. Recognized the utility and benefit of publishing, on the Diocesan web site, descriptions of the scope of responsibility of the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council. The Committee also noted the great potential benefit of developing a published clergy manual for the diocese.

12. Learned of the impending retirement of the Very Rev. Tom Malioneck as rector of Saint Paul's, Kinderhook, beginning January 1, 2025. Father Malioneck is not leaving the priesthood or the diocese, but is merely stepping back from parochial ministry. He will complete the remainder of his term on the Standing Committee, residing at long last under only one roof with Mother Judith.

13. Adjourned until December 17, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

Please keep us, along with the Bishop and diocesan staff, in your prayers, especially as we move into a time of year when the work of the Church as an institution must continue — and even intensifies — despite the additional time and effort also required of parishes and clergy in Advent — to say nothing of the many opportunities to enjoy additional fellowship with families, friends, and neighbors.

Grace be with you all.
