

## **Standing Committee Report to the 2019 Diocesan Convention**

This report reflects the actions of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Olympia from November 2018 through October 2019. The Standing Committee held regular monthly meetings throughout the year. At the Nov. 2018 meeting, Karen Casey was elected President and The Rev. Arienne Davison was elected Secretary. Due to illness, The Rev. Davison assumed the role of President and Charla Conner has served as interim Secretary. The Revs. Helen McPeak and Alfredo Feregrino agreed to serve as Committee Chaplains; The Rev. Steve Danzey and Roberta Newell agreed to continue serving as our representatives to the Commission on Ministry, a position they fulfill as full voting members of the Commission; Jim Beckwith continued to serve as our representative to the Joint Finance Panel.

### **The following actions were taken by the Standing Committee from November 2018 through October 2019:**

#### **Episcopal Elections, Ordinations and/or Consecrations of Bishops, and Diocesan Consents**

- Consented to the Election of Kimberly D. Lucas as Bishop of the Diocese of Colorado;
- Consented to the Election of Jennifer Anne Redall as Bishop of the Diocese of Arizona;
- Consented to the Election of Cathleen Chittenden Basco as Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas;
- Consented to the Election of Mark D.W. Edington as Bishop of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe;
- Consented to the Election of Cristobal Olmeda Leon Lozana as Bishop of the Diocese of Ecuador Litoral;
- Consented to the Election of Pheobe Roaf as Bishop of the Diocese of West Tennessee;
- Consented to the Election of Megan Traquair as Bishop of the Diocese of Northern California;
- Consented to the Election of Susan Brown Snook as Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego;
- Consented to Election of Thomas James Brown as Bishop of the Diocese of Maine;
- Consented to Election of Katheryn McRosen Ryan as Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Texas;
- Consented to Election of Shannon MacVean-Brown as Bishop of the Diocese of Vermont;
- Consented to Election of Jonathan H. Folts as Bishop of the Diocese of South Dakota;
- Consented to Election of Bonnie A. Perry as Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan;
- Consented to Election of Lucinda Ashby as Bishop of the Diocese of El Camino Real;
- Consented to Election of Martha Stebbins as Bishop of the Diocese of Montana;
- Consented to Election of Lennon Yuan-Rung Chang as Bishop of the Diocese of Taiwan.

#### **Diaconate and Priesthood, Diocese of Olympia**

- Certificate of Attestations were signed for Arlen Farley, Jonathan Hanneman, and Christopher McPeak, Priesthood, May 2019;
- Certificate of Attestation was signed for Linda Potter, Diaconate, Oct 2019.

### **Congregational Property Matters**

- Approved a request by Holy Family of Jesus Cambodian Episcopal Church to sell a vacant parcel of land on church property;
- Approved a request by Emmanuel Church, Mercer Island to obtain a bank construction loan, and then permanent loan, for the purpose of constructing a Rectory Home on Emmanuel Church property;
- Approved a proposal request by Trinity, Seattle for the sale of air rights above the historical church building with the option to sell additional feet to the property developer. This with a no-build easement and covenant to be approved by the Diocesan Chancellor;
- Approved a request by St. Stephen's, Seattle, to sell a house on St. Stephen's Church property. The proceeds will be placed in a Capital Fund to facilitate needed repairs;
- Working closely with the Board of Directors we saw completion and web-site publication of a new Guide To Congregational Transactions, clarifying the sometimes complicated process of contacting the Diocese for assistance and approval for Church loan and building proposals. And we seek your input as we all work with this new material.

### **Mutual Ministry Review & Year of Listening**

Our 2017 Mutual Ministry Review of the Bishop's shared ministry with the Diocese began a 2-year process of discernment between Bishop Rickel and the Diocese of Olympia. Beginning shortly after the 2018 Convention of the Diocese of Olympia, your Standing Committee worked with staff and the Bishop to equip members of the Diocese to discern how we will live into our Vision together: Locally Centered, Networked Communities who are Forming Leaders through Sacrament for Service.

As Bishop Rickel went on Sabbatical we released the results of those listening sessions and surveys. We also shared some resources for personal and communal spiritual and vocational discernment. If you haven't checked them out, please do!

### **Leadership Development**

As we onboarded folks to the Standing Committee, we set mutual expectations for our life and work. This included norms for meetings, attendance, and how we would talk to each other. Each meeting begins with silence and prayer and ends with prayers for our work and People in the Ordination Process.

As a group we chose to focus our personal development for the past two years on our Intercultural Competency. Each year, we assessed our competency and set a learning goal for our work. In our first year, we focused on *identifying intercultural aspects of issues before us*. This included cultural dimensions of property transactions (who owns what and who has control), the ordination process (what cultural values we consciously or unconsciously project onto People in Process), and Episcopal Consents (paying attention to the cultural dynamics of the Diocese and not assuming others who do things differently are "doing it wrong"). In the second year of this work, with a greater level of trust, we worked to *process our feelings about noticing differences and improve our emotional self-regulation*. In 2020 we will decide whether to continue with Intercultural Development or shift to another area of growth.