

# **DIOCESE OF WESTERN MICHIGAN**

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION 2010**



The Standing Committee consists of eight elected members, four clerical and four lay. The Standing Committee serves as the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese in the absence of a bishop. It serves as the bishop's council of advice. The Standing Committee is requested to give consent for all bishops elected in the Episcopal Church. It recommends persons for ordination. It gives the bishop advice and consent on the purchase, sale, or encumbrance of any property held by a congregation or the diocese. It gives the bishop advice and consent as to any judicial sentence given to a clergy person or concurs in allowing a clergy person to cease functioning as a member of the clergy. It investigates and reports to the bishop on the charge that a deacon or priest has abandoned the Episcopal Church.

The Standing Committee meets monthly in Grand Rapids and undertakes business as is presented. Time is set aside each meeting for study and prayer to ensure our work is gospel centered.

These are some of the highlights of the work, information and issues addressed this past year:

- Received requests for postulants and candidates. Interviews and recommendations provided to the Bishop.
- Clergy depositions and inhibitions from throughout the National Church along with the request for consents to election for Bishops.
- Property issues from one Diocesan parish.
- Worked with two parishes to assist them in the area of being designated a distressed parish via prescriptions for health.
- Diocesan wide program undertaken to complete an accurate and comprehensive inventory of the deeds of all properties held by each parish in the Diocese - to date we have received responses from 32 churches.
- Begun the task of revisiting the Canons as pertains to the Standing Committee.
- Worked as the Bishop's council of advice and available to assist with issues as requested.

Sincere thanks to all members of the Standing Committee, below, for their dedication and time taken for the important work of the Diocese.

2010 Knute Jacobson (Vice President), Sarah Loomis (Secretary)

2011 Jay Lawlor, Anne Davidson (Consents), Netty Cove (President)

2012 Stephen Holmgren, (Executive Council Liaison) Judy Fleener (COM Liaison), Cindy Nawrocki (Property)

Also.....to David Meyers (Property) and Charleen Crean (COM Liaison) who served partial terms.

Respectfully submitted,

A stylized signature in a cursive font, appearing to read "a xaaç VÉax".

President 2010