Committee Descriptions & Vacancies
FOR NOMINATION

236th Convention of the Diocese of Maryland – May 15-16, 2020

Dear Friends,

This Diocese, like any other, is run on the faith, talent, good will, and the prayers of its people. Except for the employees of the Diocese, all of the offices and ministry positions are staffed by volunteers. When you offer your talents for one of the elected positions or nominate an individual, you are contributing to the work of God in Maryland. Please give your prayerful consideration to running or to nominating someone for one of our offices. Fill out the form and submit it NO LATER THAN March 9, 2020.

Blessings,

The Nominations Committee

SECRETARY OF CONVENTION

Elect one person until 2021

The secretary of Convention is an ex-officio member of the Convention Planning Team, a member of the Resolutions Committee, and is responsible for recording the minutes of the convention and other responsibilities assigned by Canon 1-210.

GENERAL CONVENTION

Elect four lay persons and four clerics, and alternates, until 2024

The elected deputation from each diocese in the Episcopal Church meets every three years for our General Convention. The House of Deputies is composed of half laity and half clergy from each diocese. This convention is June 30-July 9, 2021, in Baltimore, MD. Elected delegates are expected to be available to serve on a legislative committee. Delegates may also be asked to speak in the diocese before or after convention to hear from or report to people in the diocese concerning the mission and ministry of our denomination.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN TRIENNIAL

Elect two delegates and one alternate until 2024

The triennial meeting of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is held during the General Convention in the same location. Each diocese elects delegates to serve. The triennial is devoted to women's activities and concerns.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Elect one lay person and one cleric until 2023

The committee provides advice and counsel on staffing, personnel policies, compensation and benefits, and budget requirements for that portion of the diocesan structure that supports the bishops. The committee will provide recommendations to the Diocesan Council with respect to benefit plans and

policies as applicable to all parochial clergy and lay staff. The committee further provides recommendations to the annual convention relating to compensation standards for congregational staff.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Elect two lay persons and one cleric until 2023

The Diocesan Council serves as Convention in recess to plan, budget, review, and provide oversight of all aspects of the life of the diocese not specifically reserved by canon or the bishop for some other agency or person and fulfills the canons of the diocese regarding duties of the council. Council is the central point in the diocese for communication among the episcopal, staff, geographic, and program interests. The council has charge of all receipts and disbursements of the diocese provided for under its budget or by resolution or authority of Convention.

Terms for council members are three years. Council meets a minimum of five times a year including five Saturdays (10:00 AM–3:00 PM) at a different location for each meeting, requiring travel to various parts of the diocese, and one midweek evening in December (5:00–8:00 PM) at the Diocesan Center. Orientation is provided for new members. Council members have seat and voice at convention. Each member is asked to serve on a committee that reports to council.

DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Elect one lay person and two clerics until 2023

The Disciplinary Board was established by denominational canon law to oversee "jurisdiction and venue for proceedings" for "a Member of the Clergy…for the alleged commission of an Offense…" The Board is convened whenever an offense has been reported to an appointed Intake Officer who determines that there is sufficient reason for referral to the board.

Those elected to the office may never be called to session, but in the event of a report must be available for a brief but intense period of time. No special legal expertise is required. An orientation meeting is held shortly after convention, with the election of a president.

STANDING COMMITTEE

Elect one lay person and one cleric until 2024

The Standing Committee is comprised of eight members, elected by convention to perform certain canonical duties and also serve as the bishops' council of advice. It is so named because it is prescribed by Article IV of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church. If the diocese should be without a diocesan bishop, the Standing Committee becomes the chief ecclesiastical authority. Some specific duties of the Standing Committee are:

A) Involvement in the ordination process
B) Denominational duties such as consents for episcopal elections
C) Ruling on the encumbrance of diocesan property

The Standing Committee meets on the last Thursday of each month from 3:00-6:00 PM at the Diocesan Center.