

**To the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts
Annual Report of the Standing Committee
November 2021 – November 2022**

Members

The following are the elected members of the Standing Committee for 2021 – 2022:

Clerical Members:

- The Rev. Tanya Wallace, All Saints' Church, South Hadley (2022)
- The Rev. Carolyn Jones, Christ Church, Fitchburg (2023)
- The Rev. Nathaniel Anderson, St. John's Church, Williamstown (2024)
- The Rev. Patrick Perkins, St. Francis' Church, Holden (2025)

Lay Members:

- Ms. Phyllis Larson, Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield (2022)
- Ms. Christina Loy, Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield, (2023)
- Mr. Peter Kite, St. Stephens' Church, Westborough (2024)
- Ms. Wende Wheeler, St. Andrew's Church, Longmeadow (2025)

In October 2022, Ms. Christina Loy submitted her resignation from the Standing Committee, resulting in an additional seat open for election at the Diocesan Convention in November 2022.

General

As the council of advice to the bishop, especially concerning matters of ordination and real estate, the Standing Committee has met seven times by Zoom during the year. We also conducted appropriate votes by email in a manner approved by the chancellor and The Episcopal Church. Our proceedings are recorded by minutes reflecting each Zoom conference. Votes taken by email, which must be unanimous without abstention or absence, are confirmed at the following meeting. Minutes, and certificates of votes are kept on file at Diocesan House.

During the period since the last Diocesan Convention, we met by Zoom on November 18, 2021, January 6, 2022, February 3, 2022, May 5, 2022, June 2, 2022, June 22, 2022, and September 29, 2022.

Much of our work is consultative in nature. We talk things over with the bishop, senior diocesan staff, and representatives of parishes. A summary of our actions follows. On November 18, 2021, being the first meeting after Diocesan Convention, we elected the Rev. Tanya Wallace as president and Ms. Phyllis Larson as secretary for the coming year.

Episcopal Elections

We consented to the following elections:

- The Rev. Joseph ‘Jos’ Tharakan as Bishop of Idaho
- The Rev. Brian Burgess as Bishop of Springfield
- The Rev. Douglas Scharf as Bishop of Southwest Florida
- The Rev. Phyllis Spiegel as Bishop of Utah
- The Rev. Shannon Duckworth as Bishop of Louisiana
- The Rev. E. Mark Stevenson as Bishop of Virginia
- The Rev. Elizabeth Gardner as Bishop of Nevada
- The Rev. W. Michie Klusmeyer as Bishop of West Virginia

We consented to the appointment and transfer of the Rt. Rev. Fraser Lawton, from the Anglican Church of Canada, as the Assisting Bishop of Dallas.

Ordained Ministry in Western Massachusetts

We made the following ordination recommendations to the bishop:

- Ms. Margot Sanger as a candidate for the diaconate
- Mr. Jimmy Pickett as a candidate for the priesthood
- Ms. Misty Kiwak-Jacobs as a candidate for the priesthood

Property Matters in our Diocese

Property Sales:

- We approved a request from Trinity Church, Shrewsbury to sell their rectory at 442 Main Street. As of November 3, 2022, this sale has not yet happened.
- We affirmed the decision of EMWM to approve the sale of the rectory and building previously known as Trinity Church, Chicopee.

Property Encumbrances:

- We approved a request from Christ Trinity, Sheffield, for an encumbrance on their church property for a loan in the amount of \$350,000, in addition to a \$70,000 line of credit.
- We approved a request from St. Andrew’s, Longmeadow, for an encumbrance on their church property for a loan in the amount of \$50,000.

The 120th Annual Meeting of the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

We approved that the Rev. Nancy Baillie Strong, and the Rev. Nancy Webb Stroud, who are canonically but not geographically resident within the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, be seated at 2022 convention with voice and vote.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Tanya R. Wallace
President, Standing Committee