

## Standing Committee

Rt. Rev. Sir and Delegates:

The following is the annual report of the Standing Committee (SC) of the Diocese of West Missouri from September 2, 2009 through September 16, 2010.

Elected members of the SC, serving as of September 16, 2010 (Dates of year elected; term for two years):

Shirley Bolden (2008)	Russell Johnson+ (2009)
*Preston Gilson (2008)	Ronald Keel+ (2008)
Channing Horner (2009)	Mimi Savidge+ (2009)
Gary Leabo (2009)	*Frank Sierra+ (2008)

\* Preston Gilson was appointed by the committee to replace Vicki Hanna who resigned.

\* Frank Sierra+ was appointed by the committee to replace Terry White+ who was elected Bishop of Kentucky.

The following were elected immediately after the adjournment of the 120<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Convention to a one year term:

President: Russell Johnson+	Vice-President: Ron Keel+
Secretary: Channing Horner	

The committee consented to the following elections of diocesan bishops:

The Rev. Scott A. Benhase	Diocese of Georgia
The Rev. Brian N. Prior	Diocese of Minnesota
The Rev. W. Andrew Waldo	Diocese of Upper South Carolina
The Rev. Michael J. Hanley	Diocese of Oregon
The Rev. Diane M. J. Bruce	Suffragan Bishop: Diocese of Los Angeles
The Rev. Mary D. Glasspool	Suffragan Bishop: Diocese of Los Angeles
The Rev. Ian T. Douglas	Diocese of Connecticut
The Rev. David E. Bailey	Diocese of Navajoland
The Rev. James B. Magness	Suffragan Bishop: Federal Ministries
The Rev. John S. Smylie	Diocese of Wyoming
The Rev. Michael L. Vono	Diocese of the Rio Grande
The Rev. Mark A. Lattime	Diocese of Alaska
The Rev. Terry A. White	Diocese of Kentucky
The Rev. Scott B. Hayashi	Diocese of Utah

The committee approved the application for ordination to the transitional diaconate:  
Greg Hoover

The committee approved the application for ordination to the vocational diaconate:  
Nancy Nevins, Helen Whitsitt

The committee approved the candidate status to Holy Orders (priesthood):  
Kathleen Hall, Diane Pike

The committee approved the candidate status to the diaconate:  
Nancy Nevins, Helen Whitsitt, Greg Hoover

The committee approved the volunteer renunciation of Ordained Ministry:  
Frederick McDaniel, Ruth West

The committee approved:

- An addition to St. Philip's church building, Trenton
- Purchase of two lots adjacent to current property for no more than \$50,000 to St. George Church, Camden
- Refinancing of principal loan of \$525,000 to Church of the Redeemer, Kansas City.

Bishop Howe announces retirement and the creation of the Search/Nomination and Transition Committees:

At the September 18, 2009 meeting, The Rt. Rev. Barry R. Howe announced his planned retirement, effective March 5, 2011. He asked the SC to assume its canonical responsibilities leading to the election and consecration of the next diocesan bishop.

The SC chose, from numerous candidates, the Very Rev. Ronald H. Clingenpeel as consultant to the Standing, Search/Nomination and Transition Committees, and appointed the Rev. Carol Sanford to be the chaplain to the same committees during this period of interviewing and selecting candidates, seeking consents from geographical dioceses and jurisdictional bishops, the election of the next bishop, a fare-well event honoring Bishop Barry and Mary Howe, plus the planning and completion of the consecration event, dated March 5, 2011.

The SC appointed Dr. Linda Robertson to chair the Search/Nomination Committee, and the Rev. Dr. Douglas Johnson as chair of the Transition Committee. St. Paul's, Lee's Summit, was host of an all day retreat on November 14, 2009, with members of all committees attending. At this event, members of Standing/Nominating and Transition Committees received their "charge of responsibilities" by the President of the SC.

Here are their reports:

Search/Nomination Report: Dr. Linda Robertson:

Initial advice concerning the search process for the eighth Bishop of the Diocese of West Missouri was provided by The Right Rev. Clayton Matthews of the Office of Pastoral Development. The Standing Committee selected a consultant for the search and transition processes, and the Very Rev. Ronald Clingenpeel was extremely helpful in suggesting recommended procedures and providing background information.

Beginning with organizational meetings and training sessions and proceeding through the

discernment process, the Search and Nomination Committee met from November 2009 through July 2010. With the help of technology, we saved time and money by relying on e-mail for many communications, employed Survey Monkey for the diocesan-wide survey, made lots of telephone calls to references, and used GoToMeeting for some training, some committee meetings, and telephone interviews with candidates. Nevertheless, there were numerous occasions which required face-to-face meetings of the committee. Committee members also met with Listening Sessions throughout the diocese and with Clergy/Spouse Focus Groups. We sent three-person visiting teams (including at least one clergy and one lay person, one woman and one man) to interview a number of candidates and selected references, and to attend a service where the candidate was the celebrant and preacher. In July, we brought candidates and spouses to Kansas City to meet with the entire committee. These candidates also talked with the Chancellor, Richard Wagstaff, and were given a mini-tour of Kansas City.

All members of the Search and Nomination Committee donated untold hours, worked diligently with a great sense of commitment and collegiality, and approached the assigned task with an open mind, a dedication to confidentiality and a focus on prayerful discernment. I'm not going to single out specific members of the committee for their special contributions and expertise, though some were particularly outstanding, because our work was truly that of a team. I was honored to work with The Rev. Todd Bruce, St. Paul's, Kansas City; The Rev. Canon Bill Fasel, Northeast Episcopal Regional Ministry; The Rev. Jonathan Frazier, Christ Church, Springfield; The Rev. Dr. Cindy Howard, St. Anne's, Lee's Summit; The Rev. Tom Punzo, Good Shepherd, Kansas City; Ms Mary Christiano, Christ Church, Springfield; Ms Nina Edwards, Church of the Good Shepherd, Kansas City; Mr. John Hornbeck, Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City; Ms Mary Johnson, St. Michael's, Independence; Mr. Don Kiefer, St. Paul's, Clinton; Ms Carole Pryor, St. Philip's, Joplin; and our excellent chaplain, The Rev. Carol W. Sanford.

Linda Robertson, Chair  
Search and Nomination Committee  
(St. John's, Springfield)

Transition Committee Report: The Very Rev Dr. Douglas Johnson:

The Transition Committee was created by act of the last Diocesan Convention when Bishop Howe announced his intention to retire and called upon the Standing Committee to begin the canonical process to move the diocese toward the search, election, and consecration of the next bishop of our diocese.

In terms of membership on the Transition Committee, a lay person and clergy person were elected from each deanery of the diocese and the remaining spots on the committee were appointed by the Standing Committee. The current membership of the committee is as follows:

The Very Rev. Dr. Douglas P. Johnson – Chair  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church – Harrisonville

The Rev. Marty Byer (Central)

Michelle Fasel (Metro)

Deacon-NERM

GHT Cathedral-KC

The Rev. Ted Estes (Southern)  
All Saints'-Nevada

Jim Gilligan (Central)  
Resurrection-Blue Springs

The Rev. Sam Mason (Central)  
Trinity-Independence

Mary Haight (Youth)  
St. Anne's-Lee's Summit

Marcia Biggs (Southern)  
Christ Church-Springfield

Joyce Morrow (Metro)  
GHT Cathedral-KC

Carl Chinnery (Central)  
St. Paul's-Lee'Summit

Jody Strauch (Northern)  
St. Paul's-Maryville

The roles and responsibilities of the committee were delegated into sub-committees with the following leadership: Walkabouts-Jim Gilligan & Marcia Biggs; Election- Fr Douglas Johnson & Carl Chinnery; Consecration Service & Activities-Fr Sam Mason; Bishop's Retirement Event-Fr. Ted Estes; Support for Bishop & Staff-Deacon Marty Byer; Support for Bishop-Elect & Family-Michelle Fasel; and Communications-Jody Strauch.

Dates to Remember:

Walkabouts	October 15-17,2010
Bishop's Election	November 6, 2010
Bishop Howe's Retirement Event	February 13, 2011
Consecration of New Bishop	March 5, 2011

Faithfully,

Doug+  
The Very Rev Dr Douglas P Johnson  
Chair of the Transition Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Russell W. Johnson, Jr. +  
President