

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT  
TO THE 240th ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION**

This report reflects the actions of the Standing Committee for the year 2023 (via Zoom January – December 2023). The Standing Committee of the Diocese of New Jersey held regular meetings during the past year. At the March 4, 2023, meeting, the Rev. Lisa A. Hoffman was elected President and Ms. Sue Espenshade was elected Secretary. the Rev. Joanna Hollis agreed to coordinate the real estate business for the Standing Committee.

The following actions were taken in 2023:

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

- Consented to the Election of The Reverend Matthew Foster Heyd as Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.
- Consented to the Election of Bishop Melissa Skelton as Bishop Provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia,. and her reception as a bishop of the Episcopal Church.
- Consented to the Election of the Reverend Canon Dr. Justin Holcomb as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida.
- Consented to the Election of the Rev. Canon Sally French as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey.
- Consented to the Election of The Rev. David G. Read as Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas.
- Consented to the Election of The Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent as Bishop coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland..
- Consented to the Election of the Rev. Ann Ritonia as Bishop Suffragan of the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries (AFFM).
- Consented to the Election of the Rev. Jeremiah Williamson as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany.
- Consented to the Election of the Rev. John T.W. Harmon as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas.
- Consented to the Election of the Rev. Canon Kristin White as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio.
- Consented to the Election of the Rev. Austin K. Rios as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California.

**Priesthood/Diaconate**

- Recommended Daphne P. Roberts for Candidacy.
- Recommended Matthew McDermott for Candidacy.
- Recommended the Rev. Nicole Kurkowski, Dcn. For Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended the Rev. Ayden Petrone, Dcn. For Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended the Rev. Rachel Tyler, Dcn. For Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended the Rev. Matthew McDermott for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate.
- Recommended Daphne Roberts for Ordination to the Vocational Diaconate.
- Recommended Rocco Sherman for Ordination to the Vocational Diaconate.
- Recommended Jane Carol Wilson for Ordination to the Vocational Diaconate.
- Recommended Kevin Thompson for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate.
- Recommended Jeffrey F. Wenzel for Candidacy.
- Recommended Felipe Huamani Rojas for Reception as an Episcopal Priest.

### Property Matters:

- Gave approval for the Trustees of Church Property and St. John's Church, Elizabeth, to enter into the Pre-development Agreement with Stewardship Realty, contingent upon Chancellor Ambos' approval of the final form of the agreement and under the condition that the Standing Committee must further approve moving from any one phase of the agreement to the next.
- Gave approval for St. Peter's, Freehold, to enter into the 3-year lease with Emergency Housing and Advocacy Program for use of their space in their properties at 41 and 43 Throckmorton St., contingent upon Chancellor Ambos' approval of the final form of the lease.
- Gave approval for Christ Church, New Brunswick, to enter into the 5-year lease with NJ Harm Reduction Coalition for use of a portion of the basement space at their 5 Princeton Ave. property.
- Gave approval to continue to support the Affordable Housing development project at St. Elizabeth's, Elizabeth.
- Approved entering into a contract for the sale of the St. Mary's, Keyport, under the terms noted, contingent upon chancellor Ambos' approval of the contract documents, and the Standing Committees authorization for Chancellor Ambos and Bishop Stokes/Bishop-Elect French to take all necessary steps to close on this property including preparation and execution of required closing documents.
- Gave approval to the Diocese of New Jersey, through the Trustees of Church Property, to co-invest in 20 Baldwin St., Pennington, NJ, with Bishop Sally and Rev. Clarke French funding 76% or more of the cost of the home purchase, including a mortgage on the property not to exceed \$400,000 and the Diocese of New Jersey funding up to 24% of the cost of the home purchase, contingent also upon 1) satisfactory results of a professional home inspection and 2) Chancellor Ambos' approval of all documents prior to closing concurrently authorizing all appropriate parties to execute those documents as approved by Chancellor Ambos necessary to close the transaction.
- Approved Christ Church, Woodbury's Vestry request to market the residential property known as the Jackson House, which had previously been used as sexton/curate housing.
- Gave approval to accept the offer of \$245,000 for the sale of the property known as the Jackson House as marketed by the Vestry of Christ Church, Woodbury.
- Approved the sale of the property known as the Jackson House of Christ Church, Woodbury.
- Approved the request of the Church of the Resurrection, Millville's Vestry to list the rectory for sale.
- Authorized all steps necessary to close the sale of the property of St. Mary's, Keyport, including the stained-glass windows.
- Authorized all necessary steps to be taken to close on the former Episcopal Residence at 215 Renfrew Avenue, Trenton, NJ.
- Authorized all necessary steps to be taken to close on the property of St. Mary's, Keyport.
- Gave approval to proceed with the sale of the rectory of the Church of the Resurrection, Millville, NJ.
- Approved the Trustees of Church Property to sign the amendment to the original sale agreement on behalf of the congregation of St. Mary's, Haddon Heights, for authorization to proceed to closing contingent upon Chancellor Ambos' approval of all closing documents.

### Appointments

- Endorsed Bishop Stokes' re-appointment of Canon Paul Ambos, Esq. as Chancellor for a one-year term.
- Endorsed Bishop Stokes' nomination of Valaida Wynn Guerrero, Talbot Kramer, Jr., Esq., and the Rev. Edmund W. Zelle as Honorary Canons of Trinity Cathedral.
- Appointed the Rev. Canon Richard C. Wrede to serve as a Clergy member on the Disciplinary Board to fill a vacancy of the office that was not filled at Diocesan Convention.

- Welcomed the Members of the Class of 2027: the Rev. Dr. Maria B. Sanzo and Canon Karen O. Moore and provided a New Member Orientation.

**Other Matters**

- Approved the Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund Report for 2022.
- Approved the Report of the Relief of Widows, Widowers and Orphans Fund for 2022.
- Consented to the re-classification of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Lambertville, New Jersey, from Parish to Mission Status in accordance with the Diocese of New Jersey Canon 60, Section 2(b).
- Approved a disbursement from the Aged and Infirm Clergy Fund in the amount of \$15,000 to Mrs. Ross Goss.
- Consented to the release and removal of Arian Hernando Wharff-Garvis as an ordained member of The Episcopal Church.
- Approved a Scholarship Award in the amount of \$8,000 be granted to Jeffrey Wenzel.
- Consented to the reclassification of St. Simeon's, North Wildwood, New Jersey, from Parish to Mission Status in accordance with the Diocese of new Jersey Canon 60, Section 2(b).
- Approved the 2024 Housing Allowance document as presented.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Lisa A. Hoffman, President