

You have something to offer...

Consider serving on a diocesan committee

Nominating Committee is seeking individuals with a heart for diocesan ministry

It is that time of the year ago when we reach out far and wide to all parishes in search of those who feel called to serve God through involvement within our diocese. Regardless of your interests, there are roles on a variety of diocesan committees for you to consider. You can choose to nominate yourself, or approach others you may feel are suitable to nominate. If you choose to nominate someone other than yourself, we ask you to gain permission to nominate that person. Nominees and former committee members from previous years who are still interested in serving should also consider being nominated again. All nominees will be presented to our diocese via publication in the Eastern Shore Episcopalian and then during the Diocesan Convention. Think, pray and listen for the call to serve! Ask your priest and others, including our committee, about any role you have an interest in. This year we are seeking nominees for the following committees.

Diocesan Council

Elect one clergy, one lay, to serve as at-large representatives for three years; terms expire in 2013

The Council is similar to a parish vestry or bishop's committee, functioning in the place of Convention when Convention is in recess. Its responsibilities include administration of the budget and management of business and secular affairs. Council is also charged with activities that promote unification, development, and prosecution of missionary work, church extension, and Christian education. There are fifteen members, nine of them elected by the three convocations to represent those three constituencies, and six elected at-large to represent all the congregations. Council meets on the third Tuesday evening of the month, usually ten times a year, in Easton. It may also conduct other meetings as diocesan business requires, including a retreat, usually in the spring. Members need to be able to commit to regular attendance, and have a genuine interest in the ministry of the entire diocese. No member may also be a member of the Standing Committee. Some vestry and parish experience is desirable.

Standing Committee

Elect one clergy, one lay, to serve for three years; terms expire in 2013

The Standing Committee's principal ministry is to be a council of advice for the bishop. There are six members, all elected at-large at the annual Convention. In the event there is no bishop, the Standing Committee becomes the ecclesiastical authority. Among its other ministries is to assure a candidate for holy orders has fully met all the canonical requirements, to give or withhold approval for transfer of real property by congregations, and to consent or not to the elections of bishops in all other dioceses of The Episcopal Church. It usually meets on the third Monday afternoon of the month, or at the request of the bishop, in Easton. Some vestry and diocesan experience is valuable.

Board of Managers

Elect two lay to serve for three years, terms expire in 2013

The Board of Managers consists only of lay persons, except the bishop, who is chair ex-officio. Although not required by the diocesan Constitution, they traditionally are persons with strong backgrounds in investment practices. The Board's mission is to manage the invested funds of the diocese and of parishes whose portfolios are entrusted to the Board. It meets quarterly in Easton.

Ecclesiastical Court

Elect one lay to serve for five years; term expires in 2015

The Ecclesiastical Court meets rarely. It goes into session only if there are serious charges against a priest or deacon and the accused refuses to accept the bishop's finding of guilt and his or her proposed punishment. The Court's members then convene to hear evidence and decide whether the clergy person is guilty or not guilty. There are five members, three clergy and two lay, with one elected each year in a rotation. In the event of a trial, knowledge of Title IV of the Episcopal Church's canons would be essential.

Send nominations to:

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or any member of the Nominating Committee:
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Thanks in advance to all of you willing to serve.
We will look forward to hearing from you soon!

Respectfully,

Rodney Dean and your
diocesan Nominating Committee