

CONSENT AGENDA

This year, we are using a Consent agenda. This will allow for one vote to be taken for a group of non-controversial items that require action by convention. The use of the Consent agenda will expedite the proceedings.

The items on the Consent agenda are:

- Disciplinary Board members election
- Commission on Ministry members appointments
- Report of the Related Organizations Committee
- CR-1 David Charlton
- R-2 Best Virtual Practices for Executive Board, Standing Committee and Regional Councils
- R-3 Best Congregational Virtual Practices
- R-5 Preparation for Special Needs Participation in Proceedings
- R-8 Deacons Compensation
- R-11 Creation of an Additional Assistant Bishop
- R-12 Expanded Daily Readings
- C-1 Amend Article I of the Constitution
- C-2 Amendment to Canon 13, Section 2
- C-3s Open Meeting Canon
- C-6a Resolution to Amend Rules of Convention

Disciplinary Board Election.

According to Canon 27.2(c), the Standing Committee nominates members of the Disciplinary Board to be elected by Convention. The Disciplinary Board consists of 11 persons, 6 clergy and 5 lay persons, and is the canonical body of record for dealing with matters pertaining to Ecclesiastical Discipline. At this regular meeting of Convention, the Convention shall elect four members to the Disciplinary Board, for a three-year term ending at Convention in November, 2024. The Standing Committee nominates:

- The Rev. Herbert Jones, St. Thomas, Richmond
- The Rev. Dina Widlake, St. John's, Mclean
- Mr. David Meeker, Abingdon, White Marsh
- Ms. Marleen McCabe, Pohick, Lorton

to serve on the Disciplinary Board for a three-year term ending at the 230th Annual Convention in 2024.

In addition, The Rev. Daniel Johnston is nominated to serve on the Disciplinary Board for a two-year term ending at the 229th Annual Convention in 2023, serving the remaining years of the unexpired term of The Rev. Elizabeth Gardner.

In addition, The Rev. Crystal Harden, St. George's, Arlington is nominated to serve on the Disciplinary Board for a one-year term ending at the 228th Annual Convention in 2022.

Commission on Ministry Appointments

Per diocesan Canon 22, Section 1 (b), the Bishop may annually appoint not more than 10 members for one-year terms, subject to confirmation by Convention.

One Year Appointments:

- The Rev. Randy Alexander; Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, Alexandria
- The Rev. Megan Limburg; Trinity, Lancaster & St. Mary's, Whitechapel
- The Rev. Dr. Craig Phillips; St. Peter's, Arlington
- Ms. Elizabeth Ward; Christ Church, Alexandria

In addition, the following are nominated to serve three-year terms ending at the 230th (2024) Annual Convention:

- The Rev. Deacon Theresa Lewallen, St. Alban's, Annandale
- Mr. Tom Hahn, Christ Church, Alexandria
- The Rev. Bambi Willis; Trinity Church, Fredericksburg

Report of the Committee on Related Organizations

Related Organizations are those whose charters or statements of purpose have been reviewed and approved by the Executive Board and whose status as a Related Organization has been approved by the Convention of the Diocese.

Each Related Organization elects its own board and officers, but the Committee on Related Organizations reviews the nominations and then presents them to the Annual Convention for its concurrence.

The Committee on Related Organizations met and reviewed the nominations submitted to the 227th Annual Convention. The Committee believes that the nominees possess the necessary skills and background to serve on the respective boards and formally places them before the Convention for later consideration and election by those boards.

Faithfully submitted,
The Committee on Related Organizations

The Rev. Kathleen Murray, Chair
Mr. Ryn Kennedy
The Rev. Bambi Willis

Diocesan Missionary Society

For the **Diocesan Missionary Society**, one nomination has been presented to the Committee for review, **The Rev. B. Cass Bailey**. The Rev. Bailey is experienced as a Rector, Dean of the Charlottesville Region, and has other not-for-profit experience and brings a background and passion for stewardship.

Trustees of the Funds

Six people have expressed an interest in serving on the TOTF Board. They are **Bob Cady** from Christ Church, Alexandria; **Keith Callahan** from Church of the Holy Cross, Dunn Loring; **Alan Jackson Foster, Sr.** from St. Philip's, Richmond; **James R. Harding** from Wicomico Parish Church, Wicomico Church; **William Randolph Taylor** from St. Paul's Memorial Church at the University of Virginia; and **Carter "Kerry" Kelly Wade** from Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, Alexandria.

Mr. Cady has studied strategic decision-making and risk management through his association with Stanford University. Mr. Callahan has a background in a parish investment committee and has worked to establish various gift, credit card, expense reimbursement, and investment policies. Mr. Foster has a strong accounting, financial, and managerial background and is a retired Vice President and Manager at Sun Trust Bank. Mr. Harding has prior experience as a member of the Trustees of the Fund and

experience as a trustee of a large pension fund and medical benefits fund. Mr. Taylor manages endowments as a financial advisor and has experience as a church treasurer. Mr. Wade has professional experience in regulatory management that requires reading and understanding complex legal statutes and regulations.

Virginia Diocesan Homes

The Committee received five nominations. **J.P. Causey, Jr.** is a member of St. John's, West Point; **Janet S. Hansen** is from St. Michael's, Arlington; **Laura Dillard Lafayette** of Christ Church, Glen Allen; **Katherine G. Panfil**, Saint George's, Arlington; and **Kathleen S. Turner**, Church of the Resurrection, Alexandria.

Mr. Causey has been involved with Virginia Diocesan Homes since its inception and believes in the need for this critical ministry to thrive and grow. Ms. Hansen believes that appropriate housing, health care, and social services for seniors are becoming increasingly urgent needs as the population ages. Ms. Lafayette knows both the private housing market and the work required to produce affordable housing units. Ms. Panfil seeks to address the need for affordable senior housing and is a board member of the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing. Ms. Turner has experience leading discernment processes and is experienced as a liaison to construction companies for office buildings and affordable housing.

Courtesy Resolutions

One Courtesy Resolutions was submitted this year. The courtesy resolutions is below.

CR-1 Dr. David Charlton, President of Church Schools

CR-1 Courtesy Resolution for David Holland Charlton

Whereas Dr. David Holland Charlton has served as President of Church Schools in the Diocese of Virginia from 1988-1998 and again since 2000; and

Whereas Dr. Charlton plans to retire as President during 2022 before the next Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia; and

Whereas Dr. Charlton previously served as Headmaster of Christchurch School from 1995-2000; and

Whereas Dr. Charlton previously served as Vice-President of Finance and Administration at Virginia Theological Seminary from 1984-1988; and

Whereas Dr. Charlton has served in numerous staff and volunteer positions in the Diocese of Virginia including Treasurer, Secretary of the Diocese, the Shrine Mont Corporation Board of Directors, Roslyn Managers Corporation, Memorial Trustees of the Virginia Diocesan Center/Roslyn Memorial Trustees, and Trustees of the Funds, and

Whereas Dr. Charlton has served as Board President of the National Association of Episcopal Schools and is currently Chair of the Board of Virginia Theological Seminary; and

Whereas Dr. Charlton holds a Bachelor of Arts, a Master of Education, and a Doctor of Education from the College of William & Mary; and

Whereas Dr. Charlton has been honored in recent years for his long and distinguished career in education with the degree Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of the South in 2013 and with the John Verdery Award by the National Association of Episcopal Schools in 2016; and

Whereas Dr. Charlton has lived into his baptismal covenant both within and beyond the Episcopal Church, and

Whereas Dr. Charlton has demonstrated remarkable gifts of insight into effective responses to challenges and crises, dedication in recruiting and supporting committed volunteer leaders, forbearance in guiding the leaders of each of the Church Schools, wisdom in understanding the needs of students and educators, and foresight in assuring the long-term vitality of institutions; and

Whereas all associated with Church Schools in the Diocese of Virginia will miss his wise counsel while remaining grateful for his irreplaceable impact on the well-being of individuals and schools, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia honors and thanks Dr. David Holland Charlton for his long, varied, and distinguished career and ministry in the Diocese of Virginia, in education, and as President of Church Schools in the Diocese of Virginia as he prepares to retire; and

Be it further resolved, that additional gratitude be conveyed to his spouse, Wendy, and their family for their support of Dr. Charlton's vocation; and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Charlton and that it be recorded in the minutes of the 227th Annual Convention.

Submitted by the Reverend Edward O. Miller, Jr., Chair of the Trustees of Church Schools in the Diocese of Virginia on behalf of the Officers and Trustees of Church Schools which includes Christchurch School, St. Catherine's School, St. Christopher's School, St. Margaret's School, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, and Stuart Hall School.

Resolution R-2 Best Practices for Virtual and Hybrid Proceedings by Regional Councils, Executive Board, and the Standing Committee

Whereas, Resolution R-1 of the 226th Annual Convention established the Virtual Governance Task Force to address virtual governance and related issues of accountability, transparency, diversity and inclusion in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges such proceedings posed for our collective governance; and

Whereas, the Virtual Governance Task Force consulted widely about best practices for the fair, successful, and transparent conduct of virtual proceedings, consultations including interviews with current and former members of Executive Board, the Standing Committee, and Regional Councils, the Ecclesiastical Authority, key Diocesan staff, the Chancellor, as well as the conduct of surveys and interviews of lay and clergy leaders in this Diocese,

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia, that:

1. We gratefully acknowledge and celebrate the hard work, resourcefulness, ingenuity, and resilience of diocesan staff, our Bishops, and members of the Standing Committee, Executive Board, and Regional Councils since February 2020 in successfully conducting virtual meetings of the Standing Committee, Executive Board, and Regional Councils, during a deadly pandemic, while observing appropriate safety measures; and
2. We adopt the attached best practice recommendations of the Virtual Governance Task Force to guide future virtual, hybrid, and in-person Standing Committee, Executive Board, and Regional Council proceedings while reliably assuring accountability and transparency in these future proceedings, promoting wider inclusion and greater diversity in these future proceedings, and taking steps to improve participation in future Diocesan Conventions.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell V. Randle

Lay Delegate, Christ Church, Alexandria

Chair, Virtual Governance Task Force

On behalf of the Virtual Governance Task Force

Best Practice Recommendations for Regional Councils, the Executive Board, and the Standing Committee

I. Regional Council and Executive Board Recommendations.

Regional Councils and the Executive Board meetings are to be open to members of congregations in the Diocese. To encourage transparency, accountability, and to improve understanding of their decisions across this Diocese, we recommend that

- Executive Board and Regional Council meeting dates, times, and physical and/or virtual meeting locations be posted on the Diocesan website at least two weeks before such meetings;
- Where feasible, these meetings be live-streamed by appropriate means (e.g. Facebook) readily available to people in the Diocese, with appropriate links posted
- Summaries of the decisions made at these meetings be posted on the Diocesan website within two days of the meeting, with minutes posted after their approval
- Where meetings have to be closed to discuss legal matters, personnel matters, or commercial negotiations, that these matters be conducted at the end of the meeting, with the livestream turned off, with an explanation posted that the discussion is closed for one of those reasons.
- Budget discussions are NOT to be closed.

II. Standing Committee Recommendations

Because of the nature of Standing Committee deliberations – interviews of candidates for ordination, Council of Advice for the Bishop, disciplinary matters, approval of indebtedness by congregations – its meetings are limited to those invited to attend. To further transparency and accountability, we recommend that the Standing Committee promptly post the results of final decisions that will become publicly known such as:

- Actions to consent to elections of Bishops and other canonical matters that are public under the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church
- Actions under Canons 14 and 15 of the Diocese to authorize congregations to encumber or sell real property

III. Recommendations for Virtual Proceedings.

Noting that these practices are already widely followed, we recommend that the Standing Committee, the Executive Board, and Regional Councils adopt the following best practices for their virtual or hybrid (part in-person) meetings:

- Each person's camera is on,
- Each person is muted unless speaking
- Each person informs the group when a member is leaving (e.g. via chat box) or is unable to attend

- Each voting member can be seen and heard clearly if some are present in person and some are attending by virtual means

IV. Recommendations to Improve Participation at Diocesan Convention

We note that some smaller congregations are encountering difficulties in sending representatives to Diocesan Convention, and noting further that many delegates receive little encouragement and support and find the Convention proceedings to be a mystery. In order to improve participation and compliance with canonical requirements, we recommend that:

1. Regional deans and councils contact clergy and lay delegates at least four weeks before Convention in order to
 - Encourage them to attend Diocesan Convention, explaining the canonical requirement for such attendance unless excused by the Ecclesiastical Authority
 - Find mentors for newer delegates who can help guide them at Convention and explain proceedings as they unfold
 - Help find virtual resources, transportation and accommodations where delegates face challenges in attending for such reasons

2. The Office of the Bishop, in advance of Diocesan Convention hearings, and again in the week before Convention, take steps to provide several virtual training sessions for lay and clergy delegates to Diocesan Convention. We recommend that these training sessions occur on weekends or in the evening. We recommend that these address:
 - Logistics of attendance (whether virtual or in person)
 - Overview of the hearings and how to participate
 - Where to find (virtually) the most up-to-date text of the budget, canonical amendments, and resolutions
 - Where to find the list of nominees for election to Diocesan offices (e.g. Standing Committee, General Convention Deputy)
 - Overview of topics for decision
 - How to participate in debate at Convention
 - Voting procedures for elections
 - Voting on contested issues of budget, canonical amendments and resolutions.

Respectfully submitted,
Virtual Governance Task Force – September 2021

Resolution R-3 Best Practices for Virtual and Hybrid Proceedings by Vestries and Congregations

Whereas, Resolution R-1 of the 226th Annual Convention established the Virtual Governance Task Force to address virtual governance and related issues of accountability, transparency, diversity and inclusion in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges such proceedings posed for our collective governance; and

Whereas, the Virtual Governance Task Force consulted widely about best practices for the fair, successful, and transparent conduct of virtual proceedings, consultations including interviews with the Ecclesiastical Authority, key Diocesan staff, the Chancellor, the Office of the General Convention of The Episcopal Church, and the conduct of surveys and interviews of lay and clergy leaders in this Diocese,

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia, that:

1. We gratefully acknowledge and celebrate the hard work, resourcefulness, ingenuity, and resilience of our clergy and lay leaders since February 2020 in successfully conducting virtual vestry meetings, vestry elections, congregational meetings, and in some cases, congregational votes on property matters, in the context of a deadly pandemic, while observing appropriate safety measures; and
2. We adopt the attached best practice recommendations of the Virtual Governance Task Force to guide future virtual, hybrid, and in-person congregational and vestry proceedings while reliably assuring accountability and transparency in these future proceedings and promoting wider inclusion and greater diversity in these future proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell V. Randle
Lay Delegate, Christ Church, Alexandria
Chair, Virtual Governance Task Force
On behalf of the Virtual Governance Task Force

**Best Practices for Digital and Hybrid Vestry and Congregational Meetings
Recommended by Virtual Governance Task Force
for Virginia Episcopal Congregations
September 2021**

The R-1 Task Force recommends that the practices below guide congregations and vestries in arranging, publicizing, conducting and reporting the results of their meetings. These are guidelines; they must not be interpreted to override any contrary requirements that are found in the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Virginia or any written congregational by-law. (In general, for historic legal reasons, congregations in Virginia are unincorporated associations. They may adopt by-laws, but are not obliged to do so.)

I. Prior to Meetings

a. Notice

Prior advance notice of the meeting is required under the Canons, preferably several weeks. For special meetings, *at least* three days advance notice is required of the time, place, and object of the meeting. Canon 11, Section 13.

For congregational meetings, best practice is to give advance notice to all members, which may be by e-mail and orally, as well as in regular congregational publications.

The congregation should also be informed in advance of both regular and special vestry meetings, including virtual and hybrid meetings, with provision made for the members to be able to watch or listen to the proceedings. The presumption is that vestry meetings are open for members of the congregation to attend.

b. Technology

Choose a technology that allows people to attend electronically, for example Zoom, Skype, or a conference call system.

Transmit an electronic link to join the meeting one week prior to meeting by e-mail or other social media platform, with due regard to security against outside disruption.

Include information on how the participants can access the meeting electronically and provide a contact for troubleshooting technical difficulties.

Share notice of the meetings on social media platforms of choice (web site, parish calendar, Facebook, email, text message). Appropriate security steps should be taken to prevent outside parties from interfering or disrupting proceedings (e.g. ZOOM bombing).

Send out electronic/US-Mail/e-mail copy of all documents required for the meeting at least one week prior to regularly scheduled meetings.

Send out any changes or additional information at least three days prior to the meeting

Request recipients to sign in fifteen minutes prior to meeting to ensure connectivity.

C. Rehearse.

Best practice is to conduct a dry run in advance of the meeting to assure that the technology works, that people can be heard, documents shared, and votes can be taken by whatever means has been chosen in advance.

d. Captioning and Interpretation.

At least ten days before the meeting, survey the attendees to assess those who are differently abled or for whom English is not the dominant language. Include questions to ascertain whether individuals with impairments have their own technology, i.e., text to speech, speech to text and other accommodation software. We note that ZOOM does have a captioning feature for these who are hard of hearing and that it can accommodate interpretation into different languages.

II. Quorum

All Vestry meetings, whether in person, hybrid, or virtual, require a quorum comprised a majority of the vestry. Canon 11, Section 10. A pending canonical change will clarify that virtual attendance is to be counted in establishing a quorum, provide the virtual participant can hear and be heard, and can see the text of any resolutions or other written action being debated or to be voted upon.

All congregational meetings, whether in person, hybrid, or virtual, require a quorum comprised of at least ten percent of the confirmed adult communicants. Canon 11, Sections 5, 13.

III. Start of Meeting

Assign an experienced administrator(s) to monitor chat/participation features. This person should not be the minute taker.

Assign a well-qualified person to take the minutes of the meeting and arrange for the distribution and posting of the minutes after the meeting, subject to the rules for approving such minutes.

If possible, mute participants, or ask them to mute their microphones unless invited to speak. To take questions, make sure the chat feature is enabled.

Advise participants that meeting is being recorded (if applicable). If the meeting is recorded, determine in advance whether and how the recording is to be retained as part of congregational records.

Confirm that members can hear each other and any exterior participants

Have participants post their names if participating virtually

Encourage virtual participants to keep their cameras on so people can see each other

Note where materials for meeting are available to ensure participants have access. Provide hard copies of materials for those attending in person.

Where members of the congregation are in attendance, introduce vestry members, staff members, and members of the congregation who may be making presentations.

State that meeting will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and canonical requirements.

Cover "ground rules" for participation, such as:

Speakers must state their name before each presentation, comment, or question.

Time limits for statements (if applicable)

All participants must be recognized by the Chair before speaking.

Start with a prayer

IV. Technical Difficulties

If serious technical difficulties arise, such that it would be unfair to debate or vote upon measures, the meeting should be temporarily suspended (i.e. recess) until issues are resolved.

If technical difficulties cannot be speedily resolved so that the meeting cannot be held in compliance with Rules of Order and Canonical requirements, postpone meeting to a date, time, and place when technical issues are resolved.

Keep accurate minutes noting any disconnections and reconnections of members.

V. Conclusion and After the Meeting

Close in prayer

End hybrid or virtual meeting when the public body formally adjourns.

Post the minutes.

Resolution R-5 Best Practices Preparation for Persons with Special Needs to Participate in Virtual and Hybrid Governance Meetings

Whereas, Resolution R-1 of the 226th Annual Convention established the Virtual Governance Task Force to address virtual governance and related issues of accountability, transparency, diversity, and inclusion in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges such proceedings posed for our collective governance; and

Whereas, the Virtual Governance Task Force consulted widely about best practices for the fair, successful, and transparent conduct of virtual proceedings, consultations including interviews with the Ecclesiastical Authority, key Diocesan staff, the Chancellor, the Office of the General Convention of The Episcopal Church, and the conduct of surveys and interviews of lay and clergy leaders in this Diocese,

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia, that:

1. We gratefully acknowledge and celebrate the hard work, resourcefulness, ingenuity, and resilience of our clergy and lay leaders since February 2020 in successfully conducting virtual Diocesan Convention, Executive Board, vestry meetings, vestry elections, congregational meetings, and in some cases, congregational votes on property matters, in the context of a deadly pandemic, while observing appropriate safety measures; and
2. We adopt the attached best practice recommendations for Meeting Preparation to Include People with Special Needs to help guide future virtual, hybrid, and in-person meetings of Diocesan Convention, Executive Board, Regional Council, congregational, and vestry proceedings while reliably promoting wider inclusion and greater diversity in these future proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell V. Randle
Lay Delegate, Christ Church, Alexandria
Chair, Virtual Governance Task Force
On behalf of the Virtual Governance Task Force

MEETING PREPARATION TO INCLUDE PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

I. PRIOR TO MEETING

Survey the attendees to assess those who are differently abled or for whom English is not the dominant language. Include questions to ascertain whether individuals with impairments have their own technology, i.e., text to speech, speech to text and other accommodation software.

II. HEARING IMPAIRED

- In the meeting invitation, inform the attendees the steps being taken for accessibility provisions and provide an email address they can use to request additional accommodations.
- Assign an “accessibility advocate”, if required, before the meeting to make provisions, inform participants of the protocols and details, monitor live transcriptions, captioning, or other services.
Capitalize on Captions if you plan on showing videos during the meeting, make sure the videos are captioned.
- Ensure that these accommodations fulfill the needs of the participants to provide equal access. In addition to captioning, accommodations that can be provided include an in-person American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter, remote ASL interpreter, remote speech-to-text services, large print materials, and presentation slides as handouts with presenter notes.
- If you are using remote interpreters or service providers in a virtual meeting, book them with sufficient time to ensure availability. Provide them with access to your conferencing platform and test prior to the event. Provide interpreters meeting handouts and/or presentations in advance.

III. VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Issue all invitations, documents, etc. in large, non-serif fonts, 16 point is recommended for ADA compliance, use bold or semi-bold not light fonts. Avoid blocks of capital letters, underlined, italicized text. Check the platform you intend to use for accommodation features.

IV. BILINGUAL MEMBERS

If you are using remote interpreters or service providers in a virtual meeting, book them with sufficient time to ensure availability. Provide them with access to your conferencing platform and test prior to the event. Provide interpreters meeting handouts and/or presentations in advance.

- Capitalize on Captions if you plan on showing videos during the meeting. If

Vestry members are not proficient English-speakers, make the necessary provisions for language Captions if needed.

R-8 Deacon Compensation

Resolved, by the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia, that beginning January 1, 2022, parishes with deacons assigned to said parishes shall pay deacons at the rate of \$25 a month and pay the applicable assessment to Church Pension Group (CPG) and

Be it further resolved, that deacons may decline the monthly compensation.

Submitted by The Ven. David Curtis

Endorsed by: the Rev. Deacon Barbara Ambrose, the Rev. Deacon Logan Augustine, the Rev. Deacon Emmetri Beane, the Rev. Steve Busch, the Rev. Deacon Frank Castellon, the Rev. Deacon Christine Garcia, the Rev. Deacon Karla Westfall Hunt, the Rev. Deacon Karulynn Koelliker, the Rev. Deacon Joseph Klenzmann, the Rev. Deacon Theresa Lewallen, and the Rev. Deacon Kathryn Thomas.

Background:

Those called to the diaconate serve in congregations without compensation. Typically, deacons contribute time and talent of about 10-12 hours a week in ministry, in worship, and other activities. It is intended that deacons will serve without compensation from parishes.

However, the lack of compensation prevents deacons from access to benefits through the Church Pension Group (CPG), benefits such as Credo conferences that address spiritual, physical, and financial well-being, life insurance, and resettlement compensation.

The total amount paid per month per deacon per parish will be approximately \$30 a month, or \$360 a year (compensation plus pension amount).

The Dioceses of Vermont, New York, and Connecticut passed similar resolutions in 2019, 2020, and 2021 respectively. Similar resolutions will be debated at 2021 Annual Conventions in the Dioceses of Long Island, Rhode Island, and Western Massachusetts. Additionally, the Association for Episcopal Deacons and the Church Pension Group have worked together to make enrollment into CPG possible.

Compensation will be provided to any deacon serving, unless declined by the deacon. Deacons may decline the compensation for a variety of reasons (e.g. a theological understanding that deacons serve without compensation or possible impact on other retirement benefits being received). However, per CPG rules, retirement contributions cannot be made for any clergy age 72 or older.

An example from CPG:

Outlined below are some of the benefits provided to eligible Active and Retired clergy. The example shown is based on a cleric having Total Assessable Compensation (TAC) of \$300 per year, or \$25 per month, with 10 years of earned Credited Service (CS) at the time of retirement.

The assumed Highest Average Compensation (HAC) is \$300. Total assessments paid over the cleric's career is \$540.

- While Active, life insurance benefit (6 x TAC): \$1,800
- When Retired, life insurance benefit (6 x HAC): \$1,800
- Annual pension benefit (2.75% x HAC x CS): \$82.50
- Annual Christmas benefit (\$25 x CS): \$250
- Resettlement benefit (one-time payment at the time of retirement equal to 12 times the monthly retirement benefit with a minimum of \$2,000): \$2,000
- Invitation to CREDO and Planning for Wellness Conferences

R-11 Approval of Creation of Additional Assistant Bishop

Resolved, that the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia, receiving the opinion of its Bishop that additional episcopal services are required for The Diocese, with the consent of the Standing Committee, approve the creation of the position of an additional Assistant Bishop, and authorize the Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, to appoint a bishop for the position under such conditions as the Bishop may determine.

Submitted by:
The Standing Committee

Background

Under the authority of General Convention Canon III.12.5, the Standing Committee of the Diocese recommends approval of Resolution R-11, which provides authorization to the Bishop and Ecclesiastical Authority, with the consent of the Standing Committee, to appoint an additional Assistant Bishop for a short-term period.

Bishop Porter Taylor will end his service with the Diocese in June 2022, and his departure will necessarily leave a leadership and resource gap. Passing this Resolution would provide the Bishop with the needed flexibility to bring on an additional full-time person, whose tenure would end effective with the consecration of the new Bishop Diocesan in December 2022.

R-12 Trial use of the “Expanded Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings”

Resolved, by the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia, that the following resolution be presented to the 80th General Convention:

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 80th General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to study the “Expanded Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings,” which has been prepared by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), and to make recommendations to the 81st General Convention about trial use.

Submitted by the Rev. Dr. Robert W. Prichard, priest associate of Christ Church, Saluda and Secretary of the Consultation on Common Texts; Ms. Cynthia Bartol, Christ Church, Alexandria; The Rev. Shearon Williams, St. George’s, Arlington and the Rev. Stuart Wood, Christ Church, Saluda.

Background

This resolution asks General Convention to instruct the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to consider trial use of the “Expanded Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings.” Trial use is a first step that may or may not lead to later adoption for permanent use.

The Consultation on Common Texts (CCT) is an ecumenical body in which the Episcopal Church participates. It prepared the *Revised Common Lectionary* for Sundays and Holy Days (1992), which the General Convention approved for trial use (1994-2006) and for inclusion in the Book of Common Prayer (2006). In 2005 the CCT also approved the *Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings* and commended it for trial use. The Evangelical Lutheran Church’s *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006) and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s *Book of Common Worship* (2018) include that daily lectionary, and the Anglican Church of Canada is now considering possible adoption. The 2018 General Convention asked the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music (SCLM) to consider trial use for the Episcopal Church, but it declined to recommend it to the 2022 convention, out of a concern that it might distract the convention from its report on the revision of the calendar for lesser feasts and fasts. This resolution would send an expanded version of the daily readings back to the SCLM for consideration after the 2022 General Convention acts on the revision of the saints’ calendar.

The expanded version of *Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings*, which the CCT adopted for trial use in 2021, differs from the 2005 edition in that it includes four daily lessons (OT, Psalm, New Testament, and Gospel), making possible use for a daily Eucharist. It follows the earlier 2005 version in that it: (a) relates weekday and Saturday lessons to the Revised Common Lectionary’s Sunday and major holy day lessons, (b) follows the three-year cycle of the Revised Common Lectionary, and (c) includes a broader representation of Biblical women than that in *Weekday Eucharistic Propers* (adopted in seasonal portions by General Conventions from 1973 to 1997).

Augsburg Fortress Press is working on a print version. In the meantime, a listing of lessons can be found at <https://vts.edu/faculty-research-project-expanded-revised-common-lectionary-daily-readings/>.

Constitutional Amendments

C-1 is a Constitutional Amendment to change the official name of the Diocese of Virginia to be consistent with other dioceses and The Episcopal Church. It must be present at two consecutive conventions. This is its second reading at convention.

C-1 Amend Article I of the Constitution as follows:

ARTICLE I Order, Government and Discipline.

The order, government and discipline of the Diocese of Virginia, formerly and otherwise known as the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, shall be vested in the Bishop, and in the Convention of the Diocese, constituted as provided in Article III hereof, which shall have power to adopt Canons, and take any other action for the conduct of its affairs not in conflict with this Constitution.

Submitted by:

J.P. Causey Jr., Chancellor

Rationale: This amendment effectively conforms the name of the Diocese of Virginia to the name of The Episcopal Church and the terminology of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. Debate at General Convention about expunging the word "Protestant" from the name of The Episcopal Church had persisted for 90 years before the 1967 General Convention amended the preamble to the Constitution to say that the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America is "... otherwise known as The Episcopal Church (which name is hereby recognized as also designating the Church)..." (White & Dykman's Annotated Constitution and Canons notes that this issue "had a longer life in [General] Convention discussions than any other in the history of the Church.") Similar changes were also made in the 1979 Book of Prayer and the Declaration of Conformity.

This amendment also conforms Article I to the Preamble of the Constitution which refers to the Diocese of Virginia. The supplemental reference in the proposed amendment to the "Protestant Episcopal Church" is retained to reference the continuity of the organization.

C-2 is a canonical amendment to Canon 13 Section 2. It updates the reference to sections of the Code of Virginia as to the investment of funds.

C-2 Amend Section 2 of Canon 13 as follows:

CANON 13. Business Methods in Church Affairs.

Section 2. All trust, endowment and other permanent funds and all securities of whatsoever kind for which a Treasurer is responsible represented by physical evidence of ownership or indebtedness shall be deposited or invested with due regard for the social responsibility of the church and the social implications of the Christian faith. These funds shall be (i) deposited in one or more accounts properly earmarked, with one or more national or state banks or trust companies, or one or more savings and loan associations, the accounts of which are insured by an instrumentality of the United States, or with a Diocesan Corporation; or (ii) invested in such a manner as is permitted by Title ~~26~~ 64.2, Subtitle III, Chapter ~~3~~ 7, (Sections ~~26-45.3~~ 64.2-780 through ~~26-45.14~~ 64.2-791) of the Code of Virginia (1950) as it may be amended from time to time; or (iii) invested in such manner as approved by the Finance Committee of the Diocese. Such accounts shall be approved in writing by the Vestry or its governing body. This section shall not be deemed to prohibit investments in securities issued in book entry form or other manner that dispenses with delivery of a certificate evidencing the ownership of the securities or the indebtedness of the issuer

Submitted by:

J.P. Causey Jr., Chancellor

Rationale: This amendment updates the reference to sections of the Code of Virginia as to the investment of funds. Although the canon provides that the Code section applies "as it may be amended from time to time," the Code was amended by rescinding the Title 26 sections and adopting the Uniform Prudent Investor Act, with the new relevant provisions moved to a different title and sections of the Code.

C-3 A proposed new Canon to address open meetings.

The Committee proposes a substitute resolution in place of the proposed Canonical amendment, as follows:

C-3s

RESOLVED by the 227th Annual Convention of The Diocese of Virginia that:

1. The Convention endorses the presumption that meetings of vestries, vestry committees, congregations, regional councils, the Executive Board and the Convention should be accessible for their respective constituencies to observe, but not participate in without the consent of the body, their meetings, and, further resolved that
2. The meetings of Diocesan Convention shall be observable by the public and the press either in person at the Convention venue or by livestream, or both. The methods and details of such access are in at the discretion of the presiding officer, and further resolved that
3. Each of such bodies shall undertake to conduct its meetings in ways which minimize closed, or executive, sessions when their non-member constituencies are excluded from observing the meeting.

C-6 A resolution to amend the Rules of Order of Conventions (effective January 1, 2022).

The Committee recommends amendments to C-6 as follows:

C-6a

RESOLUTION to Amend Rules of Convention (Effective January 1, 2022)

Resolved by the 227th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia that the Rules of Order for Conventions occurring after January 1, 2022 shall contain the following provisions, to be added at the appropriate places when rules for such conventions are posted:

1. **Open Meetings.** The meetings of Convention and the hearings by Committees of Convention shall be observable by the public and the press, either in person at the Convention venue or by livestream, at the discretion of the presiding officer. ~~for members of the diocese, for the public, and for the press.~~
2. **Committee on Constitution and Canons and ~~Amendments to Constitution and Canons.~~** The Committee on Constitution and Canons shall conduct an open hearing not less than fourteen (14) days before the day votes are scheduled at Convention and shall make its report, including any text amending the Constitution or Canons, not less than seven (7) days before the day votes are scheduled at Convention. Notice of the open hearing shall be announced at least six weeks prior to the scheduled opening day of Convention.

Any delegate proposing a first-degree amendment to the Committee's proposed canonical or constitutional language changes must submit the proposed amendment in writing in a form suitable for electronic posting (as specified by the Secretary of the Diocese) no later than 48 hours before proposed votes on the Committee's recommended canonical or constitutional changes. The Secretary shall promptly post such amendments for downloading and review by delegates. If more than one first-degree amendment is received, the Presiding Officer shall give the earliest submitted amendment priority in the order by which Convention debates such amendments.

No amendment first proposed less than 48 hours before proposed votes shall be in order unless the subject matter of the amendment is germane to a timely filed first-degree amendment.

3. **Committee on Resolutions ~~Committee~~ and ~~Amendment to Them.~~ **The** Committee on Resolutions shall conduct an open hearing at or not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the day votes are scheduled at Convention and shall make its report not less than seven (7) days before the day votes are**

scheduled at Convention. Notice of the open hearing shall be announced at least six weeks prior to the scheduled opening day of Convention.

Any delegate proposing a first-degree amendment to the Committee's proposed resolution language must submit the proposed amendment in writing in a form suitable for electronic posting (as specified by the Secretary of the Diocese) no later than 48 hours before proposed votes on the Committee's recommended resolution. The Secretary shall promptly post such amendments for downloading and review by delegates. If more than one first-degree amendment is received, the Presiding Officer shall give the earliest submitted amendment priority in the order by which Convention debates such proposed amendments.

No amendment first proposed less than 48 hours before proposed votes shall be in order unless the subject matter of the amendment is germane to a timely filed first-degree amendment to a timely filed resolution.

4. **Committee on Budget ~~Committee and Budget Amendments~~.** The Committee on Budget shall conduct a hearing not less than fourteen days prior to the day votes are scheduled at Convention. Notice of the open hearing shall be announced at least six weeks days prior to the Convention. Committee revisions to the proposed budget shall be posted seven days before the day votes are scheduled at Convention.
5. **Diocesan Journal Posting Date.** The Journal of Convention shall be posted electronically by September 30 in the year following Convention, or 60 days after Diocesan receipt of the audits of Diocesan accounts, whichever date is earlier.
6. **Posting of Election Results.** When Convention holds a contested election for office, the numerical results of each ballot shall be announced and posted for Convention before voting begins on the next ballot and shall be part of the public record of Convention.

The Committee recommends **adoption** of C-6a and requests that C-6a be placed on the consent agenda.