

Standing Committee Meeting Summary

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

The Standing Committee met at the Diocesan House in Albuquerque. The **Election Convention** which will be held on April 24, 2010 at St. John's Cathedral in Albuquerque was a major agenda item. A letter will be sent to all clergy and congregations explain the policy and process for certifying lay delegates as well as clergy delegates. The importance of meeting the March 1 deadline for the annual parochial reports was stressed. . The area deans will assist the Standing Committee to assure that this is stressed with the churches in each deanery.

The Very Rev. Canon F. Michael Perko was appointed as the secretary of the Electing Convention. The Credential Committee will be appointed after the annual meetings of the churches have been held. There will be 2 clergy and 3 lay delegates appointed.

Convention, October 21-22, 2010 - It was determined that the focus of this convention will be on the consecration of our new Bishop which will be held on Friday, October 22, 2010. Convention business will be conducted on Thursday and end Friday by noon. The details of the schedule are currently being worked on especially as it relates to the attendance of the Presiding Bishop. The draft of the schedule is due to the PB's office at least one month before the convention. The question of holding workshops is still being considered however they will be held at the Cathedral, if at all.

Ecclesiastic Authority Appointments - There was one additional appointment to the Camp Stoney Board: Harvey McCloskey has been appointed to a two year term to replace Don Pattison. The Coordinator of Women's Ministry will be appointed in January.

Birthday Greetings – A letter was approved to be sent to the Reverend Al Tarbel as he celebrates the 100th anniversary of his birth on 12/27/09.

Actions Concerning Clergy – The Rev. Rhonda McIntire who has taken early retirement was approved to serve as Vicar of San Gabriel. The Rev. Gaye Brown has been approved to serve in the Diocese of North Carolina.

Navajo Urban Ministry – An initial organizational meeting was held on December 5, 2009 in Albuquerque with the Rt. Rev. Mark McDonald and numerous others from Navajo communities attending. Clergy attending from the Diocese of the Rio Grande included Dean Goodman, as host, the Rev. Raymond Raney, the Rev. Lew Powell, the Rev. Jim Lehan, and the Rev. Richard Valantosis. The Rev. Dorothy Saucedo, a Navajo Deacon from Phoenix, also attended. The group plans to hold four major events annually. They are organizing as a fellowship as opposed to a church as this matches culturally who they are. The intended focus is pastoral ministry to Navajo people, and by extension other Native communities, in the Albuquerque area. The hope is to build bridges through existing agencies for example for a family in Fort Defiance who has a family member in the hospital in Albuquerque. The next gathering will be in January or February, 2010, with a major event during Eastertide.