

## Standing Committee Summary #17

January 12, 2009

The meeting was held at All Saints' Episcopal Church, El Paso, following a retreat held on Friday and Saturday, January 9-10, 2009. The committee members and the Deans attended Sunday services at the Episcopal churches in the area: All Saints', St. Alban's, St. Christopher's, Holy Spirit, and St. Luke's in La Union. On Sunday afternoon, the Standing Committee met with approximately 15 parishioners from St. Francis on the Hill Episcopal Church. Also attending were parishioners from the former St. Clement's Pro Cathedral. The group was very enthusiastic about the continuation of St. Francis.

The Very Rev. Kathy McNellis was appointed vicar of St. Francis on the Hill Episcopal Church and the Rev. Tom Tackett as deacon. The following individuals have been appointed to the Bishop's Committee: Kathy Landis, A.C. Sanders, Jeff Ekery, and Eva Deemer. They have scheduled Sunday, January 25, 2009 as their next service.

The Dean of the Cathedral indicated that the Rev. Tom Arrowsmith-Lowe, Vicar of Church of the Ascension in Cloudcroft, has been named as a Priest Associate at the Cathedral and will celebrate once a month at the Cathedral as one of the priests of the Cathedral celebrates at Cloudcroft. This exchange provides support for the ministry at Ascension, Cloudcroft, through collegial ministry with the Vicar and a wider context for the parishioners at Ascension. Once the Bishop's Committee is formed there, the association with the Cathedral will provide for cooperation between the Cathedral Vestry and the Bishop's Committee, giving strength to the ongoing work in Cloudcroft. Father Tom reported that there were 16 in attendance for Christmas Eve service, and that the members there had done a great job of decorating for the celebration. Information about Ascension, Cloudcroft will be included in the Cathedral newsletter and will be submitted to Together. Parishioners at Ascension will receive the Cathedral newsletter and be invited to Cathedral events, such as the Annual Dinner in January.

Bishop Mark McDonald has appointed The Very Rev. Dean Mark Goodman as Priest in Charge of St. Mary's-in-the-Moonlight church in Oljato, Utah, which is in the Episcopal Church of Navajoland. He will celebrate Eucharist once a month, on the last Thursday and will normally visit parishioners for several days prior to that service. The Dean reported that the Cathedral is part of a consortium of approximately 8 congregations nationally that do ministry in the summer at St. Mary's in Utah. There are many opportunities for mission and outreach in Navajoland. Congregations that are interested should contact Dean Goodman at the Cathedral.

Karen Johnston was appointed to the Commission on Ministry to fill the remainder of Marjorie Lemon's term which expires with convocation in October, 2009. Marjorie has accepted an appointment to fill the unexpired term of Paul Shoemaker on the Standing Committee. Paul had to resign due to his current work responsibilities.

The tentative date for ordinations has been set for Saturday, September 19, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in The Cathedral Church of St. John's, Albuquerque.

The Communications Committee is working on the design of the diocesan web site. They will be meeting with 2 designers on February and will consider design proposals. Work on the transition to a newspaper format for Together is in progress.

The Search Team continues its work toward the development of the profile. They are currently working on the identification of the categories of questions for a survey to be distributed to members throughout the Diocese.

The Transition Team will be meeting on January 23 and continue to work on designing an approach to the Walk About to meet the candidates that will be more effective than in the past. They will be seeking feedback from the Standing Committee on their work and their vision of the Transition Team's work.

The New Life Team reported that the following Retreats have been confirmed: January 30-31 in Albuquerque and March 20 – 21 in Abiquiu. A retreat in Big Bend is still pending as is a retreat for youth. The report on the first phase of New Life will be ready at the end of March. A design for the next phase of the New Life process is in progress.

The next meeting of the Standing Committee and Deans will be held in Albuquerque on Tuesday, February 10 at Diocesan House.