

## An Update from the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee appreciates the spirit in which participants at Convocation entered into the table discussions. While the rich discussion is still being processed, we initially respond to the clearly stated need for improved communication. As this group continues to meet, updates such as this will continue to be forthcoming. We thank Canon Paul Shoemaker for his initial report on the comments from the groups at Convocation and his willingness to complete the processing of this valuable information.

On Tuesday, October 23, 2007, the Standing Committee met with Bishop Clay Matthews from the Office of Deployment at The Episcopal Church. The purpose of this meeting was to go over options we might want to consider as we think about our diocesan bishop search process. Bishop Matthews also provided us with a set of “best practices” distilled from many search processes used around the American church over the course of the last ten to fifteen years. Consideration is being given to the time frame and the options that we have in the Diocese for an assisting Bishop. We have heard suggestions from around the diocese ranging from a quick election from candidates within the diocese, to a 2-3 year interim period. We will be considering all these options fully at our November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

To further address open communication, the Standing Committee has invited the four area Deans and the Dean of the Cathedral to join the meetings of the Standing Committee for the discussions of the future direction of the Diocese. The Deans attended the meeting with Bishop Matthews and have agreed to continue meeting with the Standing Committee.

On Saturday, November 3, 2007, Canon Colin Kelly and Fr. Brian Winter will join Bp Steenson to meet with the parishioners from St. Clement’s who choose to stay with the Diocese of the Rio Grande and The Episcopal Church to assure them of our continued support.

The Standing Committee and Deans include the following. Email addresses are included to allow easier communication. Please check the website for the Standing Committee page which we are in the process of updating.

[http://www.dioceserg.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=35&Itemid=0](http://www.dioceserg.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=35&Itemid=0)

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NW Dean – The Rev. Jan Davey, fr\_jan@msn.com

Dean of Cathedral – the Rev. Mark Goodman, deangoodman@stjohnsabq.org