



**Synod of the Diocese of the Central States  
of the Reformed Episcopal Church  
October 21, 2021**

**REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

**ORGANIZATION**

**Purpose of the Standing Committee:** REC Title I, Canon 46

...The Standing Committee and the Bishop shall, together, constitute the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

Diocesan Canon VI, Section 1

The Standing Committee... shall be the Advisory Board to the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Central States and have such powers and perform such duties as are provided by the Constitution and Canons of the Reformed Episcopal Church, the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Central States, and such duties as may be assigned by the Synod of the Diocese of Central States.

**Composition:** In compliance with the REC and Diocesan Canons, the Standing Committee is organized into classes by year, such that each year one clergy and one lay member end a term of service and new members are elected by the Synod. The Committee in 2018-2019 was comprised of:

Clergy Members - The Rev. Dr. Paul Edgerton (2021), The Rev. Josiah Jones (2022), The Rev. Keith Boettner (2023)

Lay Members - Mr. Andy McLean (2021), Dss. Teresa Johnson (2022), Mr. Jon McGill (2023)

*Ex Officio* Members – The Bishop Ordinary, the Archdeacon, the Treasurer

**ACTIONS**

**Postulancy:** The Standing Committee, when asked by the Bishop Ordinary, reviews the applications of prospective postulants to Holy Orders in order to make recommendation for or against their reception by him.

1. On 24 February 2021 the Standing Committee received a postulancy application and materials from Jameson Overton of Christ Our Hope in Westpoint Tennessee. On 1 March 2021, The Standing Committee recommended to the Bishop Ordinary he be accepted as a Postulant.
2. On 13 October 2021, the Standing Committee received a postulancy application for Matthew Hynd, from Christ Our Hope REC in Westpoint, Tennessee. He is currently a seminarian at RES. On 18 October 2021, the Standing Committee recommended to the Bishop Ordinary that he be accepted as a Postulant.

**Holy Orders:** A candidate may be ordered a Deacon or Presbyter only by recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of which he is a member. This recommendation is made to the Bishop Ordinary after a candidate has fulfilled the terms of his postulancy and been examined as per the canons.

1. On 27 October 2020, the Standing Committee sent to the Bishop Ordinary our canonically required consents to the ordination of Mr. Stuart Fitzpatrick to the permanent diaconate, having been given the report of the Board of Examining Chaplains confirming his fitness on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
2. On 22 September 2021, the Standing Committee received the applications for Holy Orders from Postulant Jameson Lowery and from Deacon Duane Veley.

**Reception of Ministers Ordained in Churches not in Communion with this Church:** Prior to being examined by the Board of Examining Chaplains, the applicant shall have received certificates from the Bishop and from the Standing Committee that he is acceptable as a Minister of this Church, subject to the successful completion of said examinations.

1. On 20 July 2021, the Standing Committee received application materials for reception of Fr. Matthew Joyner of the Orthodox Church in America. The Committee approved his reception on 22 July and received the favorable report of the Examining Chaplains on 4 August.
2. On 6 August 2021, the Standing Committee received application materials for reception of Fr. Richard Tarsitano of the Anglican Catholic Church. The Committee approved his reception on 8 August and received the favorable report of the Examining Chaplains on 24 August.
3. On 4 October 2021, the Standing Committee received application materials for the reception of the Rev. Andrew Costa. The Committee approved his reception as a candidate for ordination in our Church on 13 October 2021.

**Calls of Rectors:** According to Title III, Canon I, Section 2, “The advice and consent of the President of the Council and Standing Committee, or the Standing Committee alone if there be no Council President, shall be required before a Call is issued by any Parish.” The Bishop Ordinary receives call documents from Vestries and forwards them to the Standing Committee for their action before Parishes are permitted to issue them a prospective Rector.

1. On 2 September 2021, the Standing Committee received and approved the call of Fr. Matthew Joyner to Trinity Church in Mason, Ohio.

**The Election of a Standing Committee President:** RE Canon 46 requires that Standing Committees in the dioceses elect a President. In our Diocese this President facilitates business at the behest of the Chair of the Standing Committee, who is the Bishop Ordinary.

1. On 23 September 2021, the Standing Committee elected long-standing member The Rev. Josiah Jones to serve as its President.


**Duties as Assigned:**

1. On 26 January 2021, the Standing Committee received and approved the application materials for the Order of Deaconesses of Mrs. Shelley Fleming of Holy Trinity, Fairfax, Virginia.
2. On 14 October 2021, the Standing Committee received a position description and nomination from the Bishop Ordinary for a Diocesan Chancellor. Mr. Dan Bell of Church of Our Saviour, Oatlands was the nominee. On 18 October 2021 the Committee approved the nomination.

I wish to particularly express my thanks to Fr. Paul Edgerton for his preparation of this report, and for his service as President of the Standing Committee over the past few years.

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Respectfully submitted,



Fr. Josiah Jones