

STANDING COMMITTEE  
STATE OF THE CHURCH

**Statement of Purpose**

The mission and purpose of the Standing Committee is to interview candidates for the priesthood and diaconate, consider all consents required in relation to Episcopal elections, oversee real estate matters, and act as a Council of Advice to the Bishop diocesan. In recent years, the standing committee seriously examined the impact of white supremacy on real estate matters and the ordination process. This standing committee spent significant time in prayer, Christian spiritual formation, and relationship building during regularly and specially scheduled meetings.

**What work has your committee, commission or board done on behalf of the Diocese during the past 15 months?**

The Standing Committee met regularly, the third Monday of each month via Zoom.

PERSONS IN THE ORDINATION PROCESS

**Consent of Candidacy (Vocational Diaconate)**

November 16, 2020

Joe Dzugan  
Kristen Edrington  
Maureen Flack  
Pamela Hanes

July 19, 2021

Valerie Colbert

**Consent of Candidacy (Transitional Diaconate)**

March 15, 2021

Sadie Koppelberger (pending CPE completion)

April 19, 2021

Angela Compton-Nelson  
Mawethu Ncaca  
Alice Grant  
Sarah Diener-Schlitt

EPISCOPAL CONSENTS (INCLUDING NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2020)

October 29, 2020

Consented to the election of the Rev. Paul-Gordan Chander, Bishop, Diocese of Wyoming

February 10, 2021

Consented to the election of the Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop, Diocese of Chicago

August 17, 2021

Consented to the election of the Rev. Ketien Solak, Bishop, Diocese of Pittsburgh

September 21, 2021

Consented to the election of the Rev. Betsy Monnt, Bishop, Diocese of Iowa

October 18, 2021

Denied consent (dissented) to the election of the Very Rev. Daniel Richards, Bishop, Diocese of Upper South Carolina

#### CONSENTS TO REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (INCLUDING NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2020)

November 16, 2020

##### **Grace Church, Lexington - sale of house and lot to Habitat for Humanity**

RESOLVED, upon resolution of the Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church Lexington, North Carolina, a parish in union with the Convention of the Diocese of North Carolina, which authorized the sale of a single story residential structure with an unfinished interior, located at 17 East 5th Avenue, Lexington, North Carolina, for a price of \$100,000.00, the Standing Committee does hereby give its consent and advises the Bishop Diocesan, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, to give his written consent for the Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church Lexington, North Carolina to sell the land consisting a single story residential structure with an unfinished interior, located at 17 East 5th Avenue, Lexington, North Carolina for a price of \$100,000.00, to be conveyed via Special Warranty Deed, executed as provided in Canon 23, Section 2.

November 16, 2020

##### **St. Stephens, Oxford - Sale of portion of the property, survey in process**

RESOLVED, upon resolution of the Vestry of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Oxford, a parish in union with the Convention of the Diocese of North Carolina, which authorized the sale of land consisting of 20 feet on the back of the lot on which their rectory sits, generally located at 302 College Street, Oxford, North Carolina, for a price of \$10,000.00, the Standing Committee does hereby give its consent and advises the Bishop Diocesan, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, to give his written consent for the Vestry of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Oxford to sell the land consisting of 20 feet on the back of the loton which the rectory sits, generally located at 302 College Street, Oxford, North Carolina for a price of \$10,000.00, to be conveyed via Special Warranty Deed, executed as provided in Canon 23, Section 2.

January 25, 2021

##### **St. Paul's, Cary - Mortgage Refinance**

RESOLVED, that the Parish of St. Paul's of Cary, Diocese of North Carolina (the "Parish"), acting through its duly elected vestry, does hereby determine that it is in its best interests to borrow the sum of \$1,700,000 (the "Loan") from BB&T now Truist [name of lending institution]

(the “Lender”) at an interest rate of 3.1% per annum, such Loan to be repaid in 120 monthly installments (it is anticipated that as the final capital campaign pledges are received, this loan will be significantly paid down and that the monthly payments will then be adjusted) with the final such installment due and payable in January, 2031 [insert maturity date]. 11 The Loan shall be secured by a [deed of trust] to BB&T now Truist, as trustee, in favor of the Lender on the Real Property known and described as: tax parcel ID 0090528 and ID 0075684 (real property located at 221 Union Street, Cary, NC 27511) [insert description of property] (the “Property”).

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proceeds of the Loan shall be used to [insert proposed uses such as “make necessary repairs to the Parish house,” etc.]: refinance existing mortgage and complete additions and renovations to the Education Building and Parish Hall, as underwritten by the church’s Welcoming Christ Capital Campaign.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the schedule and source of repayment of the Loan are as follows [describe schedule and source of repayment, including any pledges received thus far or capital campaign undertaken or to be undertaken]: pending capital campaign pledge payments, annual pledge payments and excess operating cash.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to seek the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese by submitting a certified copy of these resolutions and the additional materials required by the Standing Committee of the Diocese for its advice and consent, all as provided by the Canons of the Diocese.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that after receiving the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them hereby is, authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver all such documents and instruments as they may deem necessary or appropriate to effect the foregoing transactions.

June 21, 2021

**St Michael and All Angels, Charlotte Construction Loan**

The Standing Committee supports the Memorandum of Understanding between the Trustees of the Diocese and St. Michael and All Angels Church, Charlotte

July 13, 2021

**St. Mark’s, Raleigh - Lease of space to school**

Parish: RESOLVED, that the Parish of St. Mark’s Raleigh, Diocese of North Carolina (the “Parish”), acting through its duly elected vestry, does hereby determine that it is in its best interests to lease the Real Property known and described as the Community Life Center, for a consideration of \$1,200 per month and a term of 1 year, to The Unity School, and, in connection with such determination, does find that the property is not used by the Parish during the week and is not needed for the Parish’s contemplated operations in the future.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the vestry believes that the rent and other provisions of the lease are fair and adequate on the basis of preparation and review of the lease by members of the parish who are attorneys.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to seek the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese by submitting a certified copy of these resolutions and the additional materials required by the Standing Committee of the Diocese for its advice and consent, all as provided by the Canons of the Diocese.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that after receiving the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them hereby is, authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver all such documents and instruments as they may deem necessary or appropriate to effect the foregoing transactions.

July 27, 2021

**St. Paul's, Smithfield-Sale of rectory**

RESOLVED, that the Parish of St. Paul's, Smithfield, Diocese of North Carolina (the "Parish"), acting through its duly elected vestry, does hereby determine that it is in its best interests to sell and convey the Real Property known and described as the Rectory, located at 719 South First Street in Smithfield, also described as Lots 49-51 Grantham Acres, for a consideration of \$180,000, less usual costs of sale, and, in connection with such determination, does find that the property is not used by the Parish and is not needed for the Parish's contemplated operations in the future.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the net proceeds from the sale of the property shall be used to establish the St. Paul's Legacy Fund Endowment.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to seek the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese by submitting a certified copy of these resolutions and the additional materials required by the Standing Committee of the Diocese for its advice and consent, all as provided by the Canons of the Diocese.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that after receiving the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them is hereby, is authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver all such documents and instruments as they may deem necessary or appropriate to effect the foregoing transactions. Approved by the Vestry of St. Paul's on the twenty-fifth day of May, 2021. Certified by the Clerk of the Vestry on the twenty-fifth day of May, 2021.

August 11, 2021

**All Saints' Concord - Lease of space to Lockhart Child Development Center**

August 11, 2021

**St. Martin's, Charlotte - Construction loan (line of credit) between St. Martin's and South State Bank for \$750,000**

September 20, 2021

**St Patrick's, Mooresville - Sewer easement**

RESOLVED, that the Parish of St. Patrick's, Mooresville, Diocese of North Carolina(the "Parish"), acting through its duly elected vestry, does hereby determine that it is in its best interests to grant to Nest Communities, LLC(the "Grantee") a 30' wide Sewer Easement in perpetuity encumbering the Real Property known and described as the land parcel located at 164 Fairview Rd, Mooresville, NC (the "Property"), in consideration of permanent access to the Sewer Easement, and a 50' Deeded Road Access (approximately 0.32 acres) in perpetuity. Further, the Parish agrees to provide the Grantee a Deeded Tree Save/Open Space of equal size to the Road Access (approximately 0.32 acres) containing a blanket sewer easement for the Parish across the Tree Save/Open Space. In connection with such determination, the Parish does find that the aforementioned arrangement will enhance the Property. The Grantee does not have the power of eminent domain.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to seek the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese by submitting a certified copy of these resolutions and the additional materials required by the Standing Committee of the Diocese for its advice and consent, all as provided by the Canons of the Diocese.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that after receiving the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden be, and each of them hereby is, authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver all such documents and instruments as they may deem necessary or appropriate to effect the foregoing transactions.

September 20, 2021

**Christ Church, Milton, NC - Right of first refusal for sale**

RESOLVED, the Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, acting on behalf of the Diocese, pursuant to a Release of Right of First Refusal intend to release the right of first refusal to purchase the property generally located at 11928 Academy Street, Milton, North Carolina 27305 (the "Property") as more fully described in that certain Deed dated as of February 2, 1977, and recorded in Book 185, Page 434, Caswell County Registry, the Standing Committee does hereby give its consent and advises the Bishop Diocesan, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, to give his written consent for the Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina to release the right of first refusal to purchase the Property, pursuant to a Release of Right of First Refusal, executed as provided in Canon 10, Section 2.

September 20, 2021

**All Saints', Warrenton - Lease of rectory**

RESOLVED, that Diocesan Council of the Diocese of North Carolina ("Council") does hereby determine that it is in the best interests of the Diocese to lease the Real Property known and described as All Saints Episcopal Church Rectory, 203 West Franklin Street, Warrenton, North Carolina in Warren County, North Carolina (the "Leased Premises") for a consideration of \$7,200.00 per annum and a term of twelve (12) months, to The Living and Learning Youth Center a nonprofit and, in connection with such determination, does find that the property is not

in use by the Diocese or any entity thereof and is not needed for the Diocese's contemplated operations in the future.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the net proceeds from the lease of the property shall be used for maintenance, repairs, and insurance of the Leased Premises, with any net proceeds in excess of such purposes to be allocated to the Bishop Delany Fund of the Diocese or such other fund for outreach ministry for the benefit of Historically Black Congregations, Council may determine;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Council believes that the rent and other provisions of the lease are fair and adequate on the basis that the Chief Financial Officer of the Diocese finds the rent to be commensurate with comparable transactions as adjusted for the particulars of the Leased Premises;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Council hereby requests the Standing Committee of the Diocese to advise and consent to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese as to this proposed transaction; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Diocese be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to seek, as provided by the Canons of the Diocese: (i) the consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese by submitting a certified copy of these resolutions and the additional materials required by the Standing Committee of the Diocese for its advice and consent, and (ii) the concurrence of the Trustees of the Diocese.

The Standing Committee's approval of advice and consent to the Bishop Diocesan to form a special mission of the historic All Saints Church, in Warrenton, NC, for the next three years, until May 1, 2024 to allow the All Saints Committee to develop plans for the use and historic preservation of this property, as well as to apply for funding within and beyond the Diocese of North Carolina.

## BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY/ANTI-WHITE SUPREMACY

The Standing Committee has committed to address systemic racism within the committee and the diocese during 2021. The work focused on applying the ground work and training the standing committee received in 2019 and 2020 to extricating white supremacy in real estate transactions and the ordination process. The committee continued the anti-white supremacy work in opening the access to power structures, unequal distribution of funds, and worship.

March 15, 2021

### **Anti-White Supremacy Impact on Worship-The Rev. Jemonde Taylor**

Worship and liturgy can do more to reinscribe racism than disrupt racism. Worship disrupters are ways to more fully live into the beloved community.

### Scripture

Recognize that the racialized history of how the dualistic nature of scripture continues to serve as a vehicle for racism. Light imagery in scripture means something is positive/good which equates

to white or European. Dark imagery in scripture means something is negative/bad which equates to black or African.

1. Lift up positive examples of blackness or darkness in scripture.
2. Mandate that Exodus 20 (The Ten Commandments) be read in its entirety the two times it occurs in the lectionary cycle, emphasizing Exodus 20:21 when Moses withdrew to the thick darkness where God was.
3. Give negative examples of light or whiteness in scripture such as “white as snow” as being associated with leprosy or the blinding light of St. Paul on the Damascus Road.
4. Make resources available for study (book list, article list, etc.)

### Communion

Bleached white host is the Communion standard in churches

1. Our bishops can send each congregation a sleeve of whole wheat wafers with an explanation encouraging them to shift to this or to use darker bread.
2. Encourage congregations to make their own Communion bread noting that most recipes do not call for bleached flour.

### Christian Formation

1. Encourage congregations to investigate the diversity of images on the Christian formation materials.
2. Encourage congregations to assess the diversity of images throughout the church (stained glass windows, icons, pamphlets, literature, nurseries, etc.)
3. What reading material and resources are listed or posted in the church?

### Music

1. Examine the lyrics and imagery used in music. Are all the images of light positive and the images of dark negative?
  - a. I want to walk as a child of the light-“In Him there is no darkness at all.”
2. Include more music with positive images of darkness and God
  - a. Hymnal 1982 #702- Lord, thou hast searched me and dost know
3. Diversify service music
  - a. The Cochran Mass based on African American spirituals and composed by a priest from the Diocese of NC
4. Consider having a banned hymn list

### Diocesan Worship Services

1. Encourage our bishops to implement this plan in Bishop’s Commission on Liturgy
2. Have a checklist that highlights blind spots in diocesan worship services (convention, clergy retreat, clergy day, renewal of vows)

## OTHER ACTIONS

### May 17, 2021

#### Adoption of the Standing Committee Collect

Gracious God, just ruler of all. We come to you seeking wisdom and guidance as we prayerfully discern that which we are called to do as members of the Standing Committee. We ask that you grant us open minds and hearts as we strive to be good stewards of the faith bestowed upon us. Through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### July 19, 2021

The Standing Committee passed a resolution that anti-racism training be required for all persons serving on the COM-P and COM-D ( or to complete the training as soon as possible after election).

The Standing Committee recommends that nominees to positions elected by diocesan convention be encouraged to list any training or qualifications associated with becoming beloved community in their nomination form.

### September 20, 2021

The Standing Committee passed a resolution that Constitutions and Canons amend Canon 20 to include non-traditional missional communities.

### October 18, 2021

The Standing Committee voted to fill the vacancy in the Class of 2022 with the Rev. Javier Almendarez Bautista.

The Standing Committee mourned the loss of the Rev. Habacuc Ramon Huerta from his unexpected death. The Committee made a monetary contribution to El Buen Pastor, Durham in memory of the Rev. Huerta.