

**Report of the Standing Committee
to the 138th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado—October 8-10, 2026**

A summary of the business of the Standing Committee from
September 2025 through August 2026

Mission Statement: The Standing Committee is to be the board of directors for the non-profit corporation The Bishop and Diocese of Colorado, serve as the Bishop's council of advice and exercise canonical responsibilities related to episcopal elections, property matters, and providing consent for certain episcopal actions both within the Episcopal Church in Colorado and across The Episcopal Church.

Executive Summary:

The Standing Committee works with the Bishop, Treasurer, Canons and parishes on financial, encumbrance and other property matters in the diocese, and under the Canons to consent to the ordination of new clergy and the election of bishops within The Episcopal Church. In the past twelve month the committee has consented to the election of twelve bishops and the ordination to the priesthood of four transitional deacons. A summary of actions taken is included in this report.

Membership and Meetings:

Region/Title	Clergy Representative	Lay Representative
Front Range	Rev. Melissa Adzima	Donna Colville
High Plains	Rev. Chris Ditzenberger, Vice President	Kate Dykstra
Northwest	Rev. Matthew Frey	Karla Schapansky, Secretary
Sangre de Cristo	Rev. Linda Brown	Chuck Theobald, President
Southwest	Rev. Wren Blessing	Chip Page
Bishop	Rt. Rev. Kym Lucas	
Treasurer	Nancy Jones	
Chaplin	Rev. Michelle Danson	
Chancellor	Larry Hitt, Esq	

Hybrid meetings were held monthly via Zoom. Due to the Bishop's sabbatical, no retreats were scheduled this year. Minutes of all meetings are posted at <https://episcopalcolorado.org/diocesan-resources/governance/standing-committee/> .

Episcopal Consents

The Standing Committee consented to the following Episcopal elections:

- The Rev. Gregory William Mitamura Kimura as Bishop of San Joaquin
- The Rev. Shay Craig as Bishop of North Dakota
- The Rev. Sarah Kathleen Fisher as Bishop of East Carolina
- The Rev. Miguelina Howell as Bishop of Western Massachusetts
- The Rev. Antonio Gallardo as Bishop of Los Angeles
- The Rev. Richard Lawson as Bishop of Alabama
- The Rev. Karin MacPhail as Bishop of Southwestern Virginia
- The Rev. Adam J. Shoemaker as Bishop of Long Island
- The Rev. Elizabeth Berman as Bishop of Hawaii
- The Rev. Keith Chen-Cheng Lee as Bishop of Taiwan
- The Rev. Jenifer Chatfield as Bishop of Northwestern Pennsylvania
- The Rev. David Sibley as Bishop of Lexington

Ordination Consents

The Standing Committee reviewed documents submitted by the Commission on Ministry and consented to the ordination of:

- The Rev. Angela Hummel to the priesthood
- The Rev. Cate Colburn-Smith to the priesthood
- The Rev. John Thexton to the priesthood
- The Rev. Kevin Criley to the priesthood

Property Actions

Much of the Standing Committee's work this year was focused on understanding how properties that are no longer active parishes can still be utilized to support the communities in which they are located. The Standing Committee authorized a committee to analyze potential alternative property uses and with the help of an anonymous contribution supported hiring Bal Patterson to investigate and stabilize such properties. The Missional Property Committee worked with community representatives and a redevelopment specialist to identify potential uses for the property at 2222 W. 32nd Avenue, formerly Our Merciful Savior in the Riverside neighborhood of Denver. Additional actions include

- Relocating the columbarium from St. Benedict's in La Veta.
- Approved hiring a realtor to market the property on Yates Street, Denver, formerly All Saints parish.
- Strongly support the work of St. Michael's in Colorado Springs to redevelop the property in Manitou Springs as the St. Andrew's Community Center, in order to honor and continue to support the long-time outreach in Manitou by the members of that parish.

Other Actions

Taking advantage of the time available during the Bishop's sabbatical, the Standing Committee undertook a regular schedule of learning and exploring ministries and topics of programs, institutions and ministries within the diocese that may not commonly interact with the Committee. These included

- St. Francis Center
- Colorado Episcopal Foundation
- Colorado Indigenous Allies
- Safe Church processes
- St. Andrew's Community Center (STACC)
- Youth and Families, including Quest and YES activities
- Diocesan trusts and endowment grant processes
- The function and work of the Diaconal Council

We were also excited by the opportunities afforded to Bishop Kym through her sabbatical, especially in the connections she developed in the global Anglican Communion, and how the Episcopal Church in Colorado can support the wider Church. Additional actions of the committee include

- Approved the return to parish status of Good Samaritan - Gunnison and All Saints in the Mountains - Crested Butte.
- Approved new board members of the St. Francis Center according to their bylaws.
- Approved a grant for repairs at St. Paul's – Central City.
- Approved long-term leases at St. Bartholomew's – Estes Park and St. Aidan's- Boulder.
- Received information on a non-encumbering loan for Good Shepherd – Centennial.
- Approved the return to missional status and bylaws updates for St. Stephen's – Monte Vista.
- Approved a policy for the use of proceeds from the sale of property as proposed by the Bishop.
- Approved new board members and bylaws for Brigit's Village in Frederick.
- Approved the report of the committee to review the Bishop's salary.
- Approved the creation of a tax-exempt entity for St. Andrew's Community Center.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to focus on understanding activities and ministries throughout the diocese, and the impacts of standing committee processes and procedures impact to congregational needs, and to expanding our collaboration with regional missionaries and executive committees.

If there is a project or ministry in your parish that you would like to share with the Standing Committee, please contact the president to be added to the calendar.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Theobald, President
Standing Committee of the Episcopal Church in Colorado