

Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta Annual Report 2024

What is the Standing Committee?

The Standing Committee is one of the governing bodies of the Diocese of Atlanta. A permanent committee, it provides ongoing leadership and governance to support the work of the Diocese. The Episcopal Church requires that the convention of every diocese elect a Standing Committee, which is given specific authority under the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church. The Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Atlanta elaborate on this authority.

Members of the Standing Committee

Julie Groce, St. Stephen's, Milledgeville	President
The Rev. Rhett Solomon, Holy Trinity, Decatur	Secretary
The Rev. Jane Weston, St. Simon's, Conyers	
The Rev. George Maxwell, The Cathedral of St Philip	
Robert Townes, St Bede's, Atlanta	
Angelica Gadoy de Banos, The Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta	

During 2024, the Standing Committee has met every month and has had several called meetings as well.

We reviewed and evaluated ten financial and property transactions and responded to all of these within an average of less than 30 days. All of these approval requests have been resolved to the satisfaction of the applicant, except one. It is a bit more complicated and required the committee to coordinate negotiations between multiple parties and a bank in an effort to restructure a complicated lease, financing, and guaranty arrangement. We are still working on it.

During our work this past 12 months, we have performed our canonical responsibilities for consent of 3 individuals elected to the Episcopacy and for consent of 13 individuals to enter or complete the process of ordination as permanent deacons and priests.

Over the course of our meetings, we have consulted with Bishop Robert Wright; The Rev. Canon Lang Lowrey; The Rev. Canon Alicia Schuster Weltner; Canon Sally Ulrey; and Canon Barbara Schroeder. In addition, we have advised Bishop Wright at his request on numerous occasions.

One of our goals this year is to clarify and emphasize the responsibility under the Canons of parishes, ministries, and other entities of the diocese to bring any proposed encumbrance, sale, or removal of any real property forward to the Standing Committee in a timely manner so that appropriate consultations and approvals can be obtained.

Submitted,

Julie Groce, President