The Standing Committee of The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

Executive Summary
Minutes of the Meeting of January 17, 2018

Present: Eric Biddy, Maria Giraldo, Kathy Leson, Jeffrey Lee, Barbara Seward, Kristin White
Guest: Andrea Mysen, Director of Ministries

Focused Discussion
Andrea Mysen joined the group to talk about inclusive transitions and cultural competency and the process at work in our diocese to build awareness of bias with both search committees and vestries and provide information and training to help change behavior and create a shift in search processes.

Bishop’s Report
Bishop Lee is serving as a member of the search committee for the new Executive Director of ECCS and shared a position description that will soon be posted.

Bishop Lee shared some of the research and data from a recent CPG report “Changing Demographics.” There is an increasing number of congregations searching for part-time rather than full-time clergy to fill positions.

The 2019 budget projections predict a shortfall on the revenue side.

Business meeting
Minutes and Executive Summary of December 14, 2017 were approved.

A revised housing allowance for 2018 was approved for Victor Conrado.

Barbara Seward will serve as the Standing Committee listener for the September 14-15 postulancy overnight.

The goals of the annual retreat/visit were discussed. This extended time together allows Standing Committee members to form closer bonds, provides for an in-depth visit to a congregation, deanery or agency to better understand our diocese, and makes Standing Committee more visible to the wider diocese and is an opportunity to engage with clergy and lay leaders.

Next Meeting
Wednesday, February 7 at 6:00pm at St. James Commons.