

Standing Committee

Serves as the Bishop's Council of Advice. Performs duties as specified by the General and Diocesan Convention, and the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Hawai'i. Serves as the Ecclesiastical authority when there is no Bishop. **Vote for:** one (1) Clergy At-Large Nominee for a four-year term, one (1) Clergy At-Large Nominee for a three-year term, and one (1) Lay At-Large Nominee for a four-year term.

Standing Committee – Clergy At-Large Nominee (4-year term)

Nominee: Raymond Woo
Church: St. Luke's, Honolulu, O'ahu
Occupation: Clergy

Church, Community and/or personal ministries, activities and/or positions:

1. Vicar at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Honolulu
2. Served on Commission on Ministry
3. Served as a teacher and mentor at Waiolaihui'ia Local Formation Program

What are the dreams, experiences and/or skills in your life that lead you to be open to the call to serve in this ministry (the position in the Diocese of Hawai'i for which you have been nominated)? By God's grace, I am a committed Christian and a humble priest in our Diocese. I firmly believe in the Way of Love in and through Jesus. My goal in ministry is to share the love and the values of Jesus Christ with people God puts in our lives, in the Church, in the Diocese, and in our local communities.

What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai'i in the next five years? To practice and grow in the Way of Love of Jesus Christ in everything we do in our Diocese, with God's help and with close collaboration of all lay and clergy in our Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i 'Ohana. To proclaim the love and reconciliation of Jesus Christ through worship, through word and action.

What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now? We are a Diocese with many blessings from Ke Akua and from one another. Let's encourage each other to grow together spiritually for our ministry to serve Ke Akua and all God's people.

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Standing Committee – Clergy At-Large Nominee (3-year term)

Nominee: Phyllis Mahilani Beimes
Church: St. Matthew's, Waimanalo, O'ahu
Occupation: Priest

Church, Community and/or personal ministries, activities and/or positions:

1. Vicar, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
2. Current Clergy Member, Standing Committee
3. Current Member, 'Ohana Design Team

What are the dreams, experiences and/or skills in your life that lead you to be open to the call to serve in this ministry (the position in the Diocese of Hawai'i for which you have been nominated)? I have answered calls to ministry most of my adult life. I served on the Commission on Ministry before joining the first Waiolaihui'ia local formation class in January 2013. I was ordained to the priesthood in June 2016 and have since served as the Vicar of St. Matthew's Church in Waimanalo.

What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai'i in the next five years? In March, The Episcopal Church in Hawai'i will have the opportunity to highlight and share the unabashed enthusiasm, presence, and preaching style of our current Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael Curry, which is refreshingly atypical of our traditionally more proper and reserved Anglican and Episcopal style.

What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now? Ours is an aging and dying membership. My main concern is "Will our faith have children?" I think we have so much more to offer discriminating Christians than other mainstream churches, but we lack strength in numbers and the continuity and commitment of a youthful and enduring presence.

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Standing Committee – Lay At-Large Nominee (4-year term)

Nominee: John Decker
Church: Good Shepherd, Wailuku, Maui
Occupation: Guitarmaker

Church, Community and/or personal ministries, activities and/or positions:

1. Diocesan Standing Committee 2012-2017
2. Diocesan Council 2006-2012
3. General Convention Deputy 2018, 2015, 2012, 2006

What are the dreams, experiences and/or skills in your life that lead you to be open to the call to serve in this ministry (the position in the Diocese of Hawai'i for which you have been nominated)? I am trained in strategic planning for non-profit organizations, serve on the boards of many such, and have many years of experience in church governance. I would like to offer this experience and skill to the service of the Diocese.

What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai'i in the next five years? Continuing to welcome new and different persons and ministries.

What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now? Falling back into the comfortable ways we have always done things.

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Standing Committee – Lay At-Large Nominee (4-year term)

Nominee: Sylvia DeGooyer
Church: Trinity By-the-Sea, Kihei, Maui
Occupation: Retired

Church, Community and/or personal ministries, activities and/or positions:

1. Society of the Companion of the Holy Cross (SCHC), member of the Near and Far Chapter; disseminate prayer requests to chapter members
2. Spiritual Growth Design Team member
3. Have lived in 4 dioceses; currently a licensed Eucharistic Minister; volunteer with A Cup of Cold Water ministry; past delegate to Diocesan Convention; as a lay clergy spouse volunteer behind the scenes with activities. Previously served as a Eucharistic Visitor and Vestry member in another diocese; completed a 2 year Formation for Healing Ministry program, then participated as a prayer team member.

What are the dreams, experiences and/or skills in your life that lead you to be open to the call to serve in this ministry (the position in the Diocese of Hawai‘i for which you have been nominated)? Involvement with the: Formation of Healing Ministry prog.; SCHC (above); Eucharistic Ministry & Visiting; and former Vestry member leads me to be open to serve. I hope the Diocese continues to support the spiritual journey of clergy and laity, as well as empower and affirm laity in their calling.

What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai‘i in the next five years? How to continue to support our call as followers of Christ in our rich Hawaiian and multi-cultural environment, and to help people live into the ministries to which we are each called, individuality and in community, to be in God. A couple examples of focus: homelessness; and feeding the hungry.

What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai‘i right now? Our declining and aging population, as well as the cost and maintenance of aging church buildings and grounds.

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Standing Committee – Lay At-Large Nominee (4-year term)

Nominee: Vernon Sheldon-Witter
Church: Holy Apostles, Hilo, Big Island
Occupation: Retired RN

Church, Community and/or personal ministries, activities and/or positions:

4. Vestry at Holy Apostles
5. Lay Eucharistic Minister at Holy Apostles
6. Lector at Holy Apostles

What are the dreams, experiences and/or skills in your life that lead you to be open to the call to serve in this ministry (the position in the Diocese of Hawai‘i for which you have been

nominated)? In consideration of being put forth as a nominee for this position, I have given this much prayerful thought and study of the word and have discussed this. I have looked intensively inward at my soul in the discernment of whether or not I am ready to take a leadership role in the Diocese.

What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai'i in the next five years? Outreach to the indigenous Hawaiian Community, particularly young persons, for without them there would be no Hawaiian Culture as I have come to love it.

What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now? That the Diocesan parishes continue to grow in members and that we as a part of the Jesus Movement continuously be a witness to all of the people of Hawai'i through a witness of Christ in our lives through action, evangelization and the way we live a godly life.

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