

## **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 and one (1) Lay At-Large Nominee for a four-year term.

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

**Nominee:** Elizabeth (Libby) Berman  
**Church:** Holy Nativity, Honolulu, O'ahu  
**Occupation:** Episcopal Priest

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

1. Rector, Church of the Holy Nativity in Honolulu
2. Rector on the School Board, Holy Nativity School
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**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)?** For the last 20 years, I served 4 parishes in the Diocese of MA and spent 7 years on the Diocesan staff as Canon for Congregations. I was a member of Council and helped develop the current Mission Strategy. I would be honored to serve.

**What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai'i in the next five years?** Our greatest opportunity is to equip ourselves, practically and spiritually, to "re-imagine" church. In Isaiah, God says, "Do not consider the things of old; I am about to do a new thing!" We need to free ourselves from the past and engage people around us--discerning their needs to see what we can offer.

**What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now?** I wonder how well our people, who come from so many different backgrounds, know each other. There are examples of this deep, relational engagement across this Diocese, but I believe there can and should be more, in order for us truly to flourish in Christian community here as God means for us to.

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

**Nominee:** David Jackson  
**Church:** All Saints', Kapa'a, Kaua'i  
**Occupation:** Clergy and Head of School

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

1. Standing Committee, Diocese of Hawai'i, 2010-14
2. Instructor, Waiolaihui'ia Clergy Formation Program, Diocese of Hawai'i

3. Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop, 2012-15

**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 addition to having served as an incumbent priest in parishes, I have a wide range of ordained church experience, including that of school chaplain and Dean and President of Bloy House (the local seminary for non-residential students within the Diocese of Los Angeles).

**What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai‘i in the next five years?** In this era when the United States is re-evaluating its welcome (or lack thereof) of people of color, I would like to see the Diocese of Hawai‘i embrace more fully the Indigenous Hawaiian language, culture, and values within the liturgy and business life of our Diocese.

**What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai‘i right now?** Similar to the above, that we affirm our host culture’s values within the official liturgy and life of our Diocese, which I think will also be a draw for young people as we embrace the spirituality and multi-generational life of Indigenous Hawaiians.

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

**Nominee:** Marcelo Acopan  
**Church:** St. Paul’s, Honolulu. O‘ahu  
**Occupation:** Tire Shop Lead

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

1. Bishop’s Committee Member
2. Laymen’s of St. Paul’s Church President
3. Altar Server, Reader

**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 grew up in a family of active church members which helped shape my faith and aspirations in serving the church and the Lord. I have been actively serving in every possible way I can. As I am nearing my retirement, I plan to continue devoting possibly more time in serving.

**What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai‘i in the next five years?** Helping the youth through encouragement and involvement in every possible opportunity. The Diocese can look into possible approaches which are more relevant to the youth’s current preferences and aspirations to help them seek possibilities in church and to remain and be of service.

**What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now?**  
Most of our members and officers are aging and are faced with geriatric issues and a lot have passed on. This has affected the functioning of our church due to their diminishing attendance and absence. Once they pass on, some of their families also stop coming to church.

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

**Nominee:** Frances Kramer  
**Church:** St. Luke's, Honolulu. O'ahu  
**Occupation:** Educator and college teacher currently teaching at Hawaii Tokai International College in Kapolei, Hawai'i

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

1. Diocese of Hawai'i: Spiritual Growth Design Team Member
2. Congregation: Secretary, Bishops Committee, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Honolulu, HI
3. Educator at the college level teaching Literature of Peace, Critical Thinking, Philosophy, Global Citizenship, and other values-based courses.

**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 always been a change agent in a cross-cultural setting in many jobs that included being a Catholic lay missionary to Japan, military officer, IT consultant, international program developer, life coach, and college teacher. I try to bring radical Christian transformational values to my work.

**What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai'i in the next five years?** To see the COVID-19 event and potential drop in Church revenues and attendance as an opportunity to develop pastoral care, outreach, and spiritual growth initiatives that emphasize transformational Christianity rather than the believing/belonging approach of the past.

**What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now?**  
That the Church will continue to do things the way they have always been done, expecting different results. It just doesn't work. In this pandemic we are called to a quiet time of quarantine and hibernation: it is time for vision, spiritual courage, and the development of new initiatives.

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

**Nominee:** Ruth Smith  
**Church:** St. James', Waimea, Big Island  
**Occupation:** Retired DOE Educator, teacher, administrator

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

1. Senior warden, St. James', Waimea, Big Island

2. Church school teacher, coordinator, St. James'
3. Live Streaming Technician for Sunday services, St. James'

**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)?** To help the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i to spread the Good News to as many as will hear it in a loving, inclusive, inviting, welcoming, supportive manner, that their lives may be fully abundant and filled with God's grace.

**What is the single greatest opportunity for mission that you see open to the Diocese of Hawai'i in the next five years?** Improving communications and making connections in a Covid environment, giving many opportunities for spiritual development, worship, and service in our altered universe.

**What is your single greatest concern for the health of the Diocese of Hawai'i right now?** That we reorganize and rethink what we're doing, why we're doing it, and why we're doing it "this way." Business as usual is long gone. How can we systemically find the silver lining and make our spiritual communities more vibrant and inclusive? What are the new opportunities?

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