

Standing Committee Minutes

August 19, 2023

Meeting in Person and by Zoom

Committee Members Present: Bishop Eric Vawter Menees – President, Dcn. Leslie Arbegast (2023), Mr. David Chambers (2023), Fr. Carlos Raines (2024), Mrs. Karlyne Paul (2024), Mr. Paul Wagner (2025), Dcn. Chuck Kendall (2025), Fr. Luke Childs - Vice President (2026) & Mr. David Katzakian (2026)

Staff and Permanent Guests: Mrs. Hephzibah Hovsepien, Secretary, Canon David Francis, Treasurer

1. Opening Prayer Bp. Menees

2. Agenda Approval Bp. Menees
Motion to approve the Agenda as presented: Mrs. Karlyne Paul
2nd: Fr. Luke Childs
Motion Carried

3. Bible Study Bp. Menees
Matthew 15:21-28 The Faith of a Canaanite Woman
Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.
Like the Canaanite woman, we are not outside the pale of Christ's saving grace.

4. Minutes of June 2023 Meeting Mrs. Hovsepien
Motion to receive June Minutes as presented: Dcn. Leslie Arbegast
2nd: Mr. David Katzakian
Motion Carried

5. Financials Cn. Francis
 - a. Financial Report - July 2023
Canon David Francis presented a detailed financial report.
Motion to receive the Financial Report for audit: Dcn. Chuck Kendall
2nd: Mrs. Karlyne Paul
Motion Carried

 - b. Written Report for publication
The expected monthly budget percentage is 58.1%. The actual income percentage is 57.8% and the actual expenditure percentage is 51.2%. There is a cash balance of income over expenditure of \$30,366.69.
Motion to approve the Financial Report for publication: Fr. Carlos Raines
2nd: Mr. Paul Wagner
Motion Carried

As the Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin, We Will Call and Equip Laity and Clergy to Bring People to and Disciple Them in a Saving Relationship with Jesus Christ

- c. Consider 2024 Budget
Cn. Francis gave a comprehensive explanation of the proposed budget. For the second year in a row a budget of a total amount of \$465,350.00 is being proposed. Motion to approve the proposed 2024 Budget for presentation to Convention: Mr. Paul Wagner
2nd: Mrs. Karlyne Paul
Motion Carried
- d. Mission Grant Request Bp. Menees
A mission grant request for \$1,531.00 has been submitted by Mark Sanders who is an Aspirant in the Holy Orders and a lay leader at Christ Church Anglican in Reno, NV. The Church in Reno is planting a new church in Carson with Mark Sanders as the prime leader. He would like to attend 'Always Forward', the Province church planting seminar and workshop in Atlanta.
The request for a mission grant for \$1,531.00 was approved by the Standing Committee.
- e. Request from St. Martin of Tours Bp. Menees
St. Martin of Tours has been with the Diocese since 1986. Father Sam Vongsanit has recently announced his retirement to the Bishop and requested the transfer of all the funds remaining in their accounts to the Lao Assembly of God Church in Fresno where Fr. Sam and several of St. Martin's parishioners will be attending.
The Standing Committee decided that per Canon 19.01 (b) the funds of a closing church does return to the Diocese; however, the Committee agreed that in order to honor Fr. Vongsanit and the congregation, once the church fund was transferred to the Diocese, a check for \$12,000 will be sent to the Lao Assembly of God Church. The remaining fund will be kept under Church Plant Fund for use of planting churches to come.
6. Convention and Mass of Chrism Bp. Menees
We are moving forward with our plans for Convention on Thursday night and Friday, Oct. 26 & 27. Like the previous year, the Convention will be held in Campus Bible in Fresno with the difference that this year's Convention is combined with the Mass of Chrism which has been a separate event in the past.
Bishop Gaddie Akanjuna from our partner Diocese of Kigezi in Uganda will be the speaker. The theme for this year Convention is 'We are the Church' - Scripture Acts 2:42-47.
At the Convention Bishop Eric would also like to honor the men and women at the Diocese who have chosen to dedicate their lives to Christ and have made vows of celibacy.
7. DOJ Bp. Menees
It is crucial that all who work with Finances, Children, and Vulnerable Adults undergo a Live Scan as well as a Ministry Safe Background Check and Safety Training. A new law (AB 506) that took effect on January 2022 requires youth service organizations including churches, to do a background check including fingerprinting. This has been a great challenge since the Ministry Safe needs to be handled by the individual churches.

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Dcn. Leslie Arbegast and Dcn. Daniel Park haven't been able to be deployed yet as the Diocesan Ombudsman for the Whistleblower policy, since there is no official training for it. Dcn. Leslie has started researching the policies in order to assist the churches through the compliance process.

8. Bishop's Report Bp. Menees
The Bishop presented a written report.

9. Deanery Reports SC Members
Deanery reports were presented in writing and verbally.

Closing Prayer – *Eternal God and Heavenly Father, bless the Diocese of San Joaquin. Inspire us and strengthen our bonds to you and one another. Help us to witness to the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that with Godly love, patience, and zeal we may win many hearts to the Truth once delivered. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Next Meeting – Sept. 16, 2023