

## Proposed Amendments to Canon 8: The Commission on Ministry

### Amend Section 1.

Section 1. The Commission on Ministry shall be appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority of this diocese and shall consist of a chairperson, at least five lay persons, and at least five clergy. The Commission on Ministry shall perform the duties and responsibilities provided for it by the Constitution and Canons for the Government of the Episcopal Church.

#### Rationale:

The current canons limit the membership of the Commission on Ministry (COM) to ten members plus a chair. We believe that giving the Bishop some latitude to expand that number would better enable us to accomplish our work.

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### Amend Section 2.

Section 2. The chairperson of the Commission on Ministry shall be appointed annually by the Ecclesiastical Authority of this diocese. The remaining ~~ten~~ members of the Commission on Ministry shall be appointed for four-year terms, with at least one lay member and at least one clergy member being appointed each year; ~~provided however, that two lay members and two clergy members shall be appointed every fourth year.~~

#### Rationale:

These changes bring Section 2 into conformity with the proposed amendments to Section 1.

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### Delete Section 5.

~~Section 5. The Commission on Ministry, in conjunction with the Standing Committee, shall publish and distribute a current handbook on holy orders. The Ecclesiastical Authority must approve each edition of such handbook.~~

#### Rationale:

The requirement to publish a holy orders handbook is essentially obsolete and does not provide for flexibility or the ability to respond to technological innovations. We are currently publishing materials on the Diocesan web site and we publish brochures and booklets outlining the holy orders process, but not a “handbook.”

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Section 6 will be renumbered as Section 5.

The only fiscal impact on the operating budget of The Office of the Bishop resulting from these revisions to Canon 8. is a potential small increase in travel reimbursement costs for meetings.

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## **Proposers**

The Commission on Ministry:-

Mrs. Becky Beall-Moore  
The Rev. Marionette Bennett  
Ms. Beckie Brazell  
The Rev. Susan Dyer  
The Rev. James Harlan, chair  
The Rev. Ronald Griffin  
The Rev. Craig MacColl  
The Rev. Abigail Marsh  
The Rev. Dr. Rod Moore  
The Rev. Catherine Tran  
Mr. Ken Shrum  
The Rev. Dr. Harold Warren  
Mrs. Joanne Womack