

**Episcopal Diocese El Camino Real  
Minutes of the Standing Committee**

June 17, 2023

Via Zoom

**Attendees:** The Rev. Rob Keim, President, Tricia Ottesen, Vice-President, Shonna Close, The Rev. Amber Sturgess, Jaqueline Pierce, The Rev. Salying Wong, acting Secretary.

**Absent:** Martin Juarez and Matt Cameron.

**Guest:** Katherine Doar, Dean of the West Coast Collaborative and Priest-in-Charge St. Phillips Scotts Valley.

Rob called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

**Lectio**

Offered by Shonna

- Acts 8: 26-39
- The Ethiopian Eunuch
  - Consider the word, phrase, image or metaphor that comes to mind on the first reading.
  - For your second reading, how is the Spirit speaking to you.

**BUSINESS / INFORMATION**

**Minutes -**

Motion for Approval of the May 20, 2023, Standing Committee Minutes as presented.

- Motion: Shonna
- Second: Amber
  - No discussion unanimously passed with one abstention

**Updates -**

Nominations Committee

- Excellent progress and work continues towards a full 2023 election slate.

Deanery Study Group

- A draft survey is under review. The goal is to distribute the survey diocesan-wide by the end of August via multiple communication paths.

**Discussion -**

Standing Committee Norms

- This is the second discussion on this matter, and it is nearing finalization.

## **Information -**

Topic: West Coast Collaborative presented by The Rev. Katherine Doar.

- Take-Aways:
  - Our diocese has a program for forming deacons and it is accessible.
  - The program is online
  - It forms lay people for local leadership in parish
  - Equip the saints
- Context:
  - Want the formation program to be accessible in terms of cost, language, and educational background.
  - This program is diocesan program to form deacons - it is not the School for Deacons.
  - A year and half into this online formation program.
  - Joint effort with the dioceses of Northern California and San Diego.
  - Purpose - for the local formation for lay and prep for ordained.
    - Formed four people in the last iteration—some were licensed; some are mentored
  - Curriculum: Initiative of the Seminary of the SW–SW/Iona Collaborative.
  - Internships: Deacon internships are in the community and not in a parishes.
  - Mentors: The Revs Filemon Diaz and Susan Arnold; plus additional from other dioceses.
  - The West Coast Collaborative is funded by the Bishop's Appeal.
- 2023:
  - Recruit students from the state of California –from rural and big cities. 21 people in the current class, total from all three dioceses.
  - Launched the program for the vocational diaconate—part of the preaching module, plus academic module, spiritual formation module; currently six people are enrolled.
  - Spanish speaking module launched
  - Website will launch at the end of July.

Amber prayed Katherine and the West Coast Collaborative

## **DIOCESAN PRAYER LIFE**

Every Standing Committee meeting includes prayer time. The following four congregations were held in prayer.

- Good Shepherd, Corral de Tierra
- San Pablo Apostol, Seaside

- Holy Family, San Jose
- Saint Matthew's, San Ardo

**Guided Prayer -**

Led by Salying

**HOUSEKEEPING**

**Review Action Items**

- 6/17/23 Meeting: reviewed

**Closing Prayer**

Offered by Shonna

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm

**Next Meeting**

**(No July Meeting)**

- Date: Saturday, August 19
- 9am - 12:30pm
- Via zoom

Respectfully Submitted,  
Salying Wong  
Acting-Secretary