

## **Report of the Committee on Constitution and Canons to the 2013 Convention**

George Komechak, Chairman

October 9, 2013

The Diocesan Convention of 2012 passed a resolution authorizing the Committee on Constitution and Canons (C&C Committee) to begin a multi-year project to study, amend, and restate these governing documents. In January of this year, the committee launched this effort and established a sub-committee which is headed by our diocesan chancellor Kathleen Wells, who also serves on the national church's Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons. The sub-committee, or task force, when fully staffed, will be comprised of volunteers from the Constitution and Canons Committee, representatives from the Standing Committee, Corporation Board, Finance Committee, Structure Work Group of the Executive Council and other interested people in the diocese who are willing to participate in this effort.

With regard to the actions taken on the rewrite project, the following is presented for your information.

Early this year, the task force issued an announcement on the diocesan website indicating the goals and schedule for the study. Also, a survey has been developed and is currently on the website, whereby input is requested from everyone across the diocese to submit suggested changes to the existing constitution and canons. Presently, the entire membership of the C&C Committee is reviewing and reporting on the constitution and canons of all the other dioceses in the Church, with a December 31 deadline for submitting these reports. In 2014 the task force will host a series of public hearings on these issues and solicit ongoing input from diocesan leaders and Episcopalians in the diocese. We anticipate that the intensive work to redraft these governing documents will take two or more years, with a proposed amended and restated constitution and canons to be presented for approval at a future meeting of the diocesan convention.

To participate in the survey mentioned above, first go to the diocesan website at <http://episcopaldiocesefortworth.org>. On the home page, click on "Resources" and then click on Constitution and Canons in the drop-down menu. This will lead to several links, among which is a link to "Survey to help Task Force."