

# Episcopal Oversight: How do we decide?

(Outline Version)

1. Prayer Team to support the process
  - a) Each congregation to select one member to be part of a diocesan prayer team
  - b) Chaplain appointed by Standing Committee
  - c) Support the entire process with prayer and lead the diocese in an ongoing prayer campaign during this process
2. Gather Information from Outside Sources
  - a) To be the responsibility of the Standing Committee and the Executive Council
    - Each body appoints one representative. This two person team will select a task force made up of lay people, priests, and deacons to gather this information.
  - b) Experience with each option in other dioceses
  - c) Pros and cons of each option
  - d) Costs associated with each option
    - Financial costs: Salary, Housing, Benefits, Travel Costs, Staff Time, Etc.
    - Non-financial costs: Diocesan Moral, Congregational Moral, Effect on Clergy Recruitment, Value of Leadership to Laity and Clergy, Value of Perceived Leadership to Laity and Clergy, Value of representation in the Larger Church, Etc.
  - e) This work to be completed no later than December 31, 2008.
3. Dissemination of Gathered Information Throughout Diocese
  - a) Convocational meetings
    - Strong attendance from the congregations
  - b) Further meetings of groups of congregations
  - c) Clergy meetings
  - d) Congregational level
    - Diocesan wide "Discernment Sunday"
  - e) Herald
  - f) Internet
  - g) Other
  - h) Dissemination of information begins around January 15, 2009.
4. Extensive, active, honest discussions are held at all levels with feed back sent to the diocesan office
  - a) Congregational level
  - b) Clergy gatherings
  - c) Gatherings of congregations
  - d) Convocation level
  - e) Internet
    - Web based discussion forum
  - f) The feedback is summarized into a detailed report.
  - g) This work takes place between February 1 and April 12 (Easter).
5. The report is sent to the congregations and to the clergy and deputies no later then Convention 2009.

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