



January 26, 2023

Dear Wardens and Clergy of the Diocese,

The Standing Committee is pleased to release the attached "What We Heard" narrative summary of the 15 Listening Sessions we held. It was both a privilege and a gift to be able to invite conversation and then listen.

We traveled to every district of the Diocese as well as providing zoom sessions online, and we were thrilled by the number, diversity, and breadth of the Episcopal community that participated. We are also filled with gratitude for the warm and enthusiastic hospitality we received and the robust, vibrant conversations that were shared.

To those who participated we hope that when you read this, you will hear your voice and those of people in your Listening Session. For those who could not participate, we hope that this report will give you a window into what others in the Diocese are feeling and thinking, and that you will find your own experiences reflected here as well.

Finally, we entrust the distribution of this report to the clergy and wardens of each congregation, urging you to duplicate it and make it available to your worshipping community. The data shared here is an instrumental first step of the discernment process as we seek a new bishop, part of what the Standing Committee has promised to be inclusive and transparent. Sharing it widely feeds and nurtures openness and trust in that discernment.

Again, many thanks to all of those who assisted, welcomed, and shared with us during the Listening Sessions. We look forward to our next steps together.

The Very Rev. Kenneth R. Pepin

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