

Nominating Committee Conducts First Bishop Candidate Screening Submitted by Hope Stockwell, St. Peter's, Helena

The Nominating Committee gathered in Livingston December 6-8 to conduct its first screening of candidates for the Tenth Bishop of Montana. While confidentiality requirements prevent the committee from disclosing the total number of applicants, the committee is pleased with the number of applications received by the November 15 deadline. Thank you to everyone who provided suggestions, referrals, or nominations!

This was the first time all of the current members of the committee met face-to-face. Members enjoyed getting to know one another better over elk stew on the first night at Mary Cavalier's home. We shared a holy weekend, led by our consultant, the Rev. Ann Hallisey, discussing and praying over each candidate's application. Our chaplain, the Rev. Bill Baumgarten (retired, Kalispell), kept vigil nearby, lifting our work up in prayer.

At day's end, the Nominating Committee selected a group of candidates to interview by video in January. The committee meets again in mid-February to review the interviews and determine whom to invite to the in-person discernment retreat scheduled for the first week of April.

The committee appreciates your continued prayers for our work and the candidates as we continue through the process. More information is available at www.diomontana.com/bishop-search. Please email your comments or questions to bishopsearch@diomontana.com.

Members of the Nominating Committee include:

Laura Catlin, St. James, Bozeman
Mary Cavalier, St. Andrew's, Livingston
The Rev. Stephen Day, Emmanuel, Miles City
The Rev. Steve DeHart, St. James, Dillon
The Rev. Dorcie Dvarishkis, Holy Spirit, Missoula
The Rev. Theresa Kelley, Pintler Cluster, Butte, (Vice Chair)
Keith Kuhn, Holy Spirit, Missoula (Chair)
Nancy McManus, St. Luke's, Billings
Hope Stockwell, St. Peter's, Helena
Gretchen Swift, Incarnation, Great Falls
The Rev. Steven Yurosko, St. Andrew's, Polson