Resolution #5: Consideration Of Revisions to the Diocesan Canons

Submitted: The Committee on Faith and Order
Bishop Laura Ahrens     Mr. Norman Holland    Mr. Bates Lyons
Rev. William Loring     Ms. Shirley Wick    Rev. Molly James
Mr. William Hart        Rev. Matthew Calkins  Rev. Kris Lewis
Mr. Bradford S. Babbitt Ms. Danielle Gaherty

Resolved, that the 230th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut adopts the revisions to the Canons set forth in the Appendix to this resolution, to be effective upon the adjournment of the 230th Convention.

Explanation:
The clergy disciplinary process contained in Canon XII involves a nine-member Disciplinary Board. Members of the Board participate in substantial training to prepare to perform their role in our process. Over the first 2 years under this revised disciplinary process, most of the members of the Disciplinary Board have not served in any matters, because very few matters have moved beyond the initial stage. The members of the Disciplinary Board and Robin Hammeal-Urban, Canon for Mission Integrity and Training, have suggested that expanding the terms for which Board Members may choose to seek election by Convention would make better use of their training by increasing the potential for active involvement in a matter. The proposed revision to Canon XII.2.A.vi, which would allow members of the Disciplinary Board to seek election for three consecutive terms, rather than two consecutive terms, is intended to meet that goal.

Additionally, since the 229th Convention adopted amended and restated Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut in 2013, several typographical errors have been found in the Canons. Those errors are corrected in the revisions proposed by this resolution.

How does this resolution further God’s ministry of restoration and reconciliation with all creation:
The Canons of the Diocese provide the basic structure for our common life together. Through and out of the framework provided by the Canons, we pursue God’s mission in Connecticut and the world.

Requirements To Implement:
The proposed change is not anticipated to impose any incremental cost on the Diocese. The Canons of the Diocese may be changed upon a majority vote of Convention.