

Title VI. Transitional Canons

Canon 1: Canon 1: Timeframe These Transitional Canons will have immediate effect upon adoption and remain in effect until the 2026 Annual Convention.

Canon 2. Canon 2: Leadership, Body, and Membership

Sec 1. Standing Committee. The four (4) members of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania's existing Standing Committees whose terms expire at the 2025 Convention shall rotate off of the Standing Committees at the 2025 Convention. The eight (8) members of the Diocese of Bethlehem's existing Standing Committee and the remaining eight (8) members of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania's existing Standing Committee shall combine to create a sixteen (16) member Standing Committee of the Diocese of the Susquehanna. Terms of members from the legacy Diocese of Central Pennsylvania shall be those set at their election. Terms of members from the legacy Diocese of Bethlehem shall be determined by that Standing Committee, four (4) members having a one-year term and four (4) members having a two-year term. At their first meeting, the Standing Committee of the Diocese of the Susquehanna will elect from among their membership, a President and Vice President, each from a different legacy diocese. The 2026 Diocesan Convention shall elect four (4) individuals from the Diocese of the Susquehanna to compose, after the conclusion of the 2026 Convention, a twelve (12) person Standing Committee.

Sec. 2 Diocesan Council. At the 2025 Joint Convention, each legacy diocese shall elect three (3) clergy and three (3) lay members and ensure clarity of their terms. Those elected by each legacy diocese will combine to form the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of the Susquehanna. The Bishop Diocesan, Assistant Bishop and the Treasurer of the Diocese shall also be members. Officers of Council shall include a President who shall be the Diocesan Bishop or their designee and a Secretary who shall be elected by the Council from among its members.

The Chief Financial Officer and the Diocesan Chancellor shall be ex officio members of Council. The Chief Financial Officer shall be responsible for organizing the call of the meetings and assembling the agenda in consultation with the Diocesan Bishop and the Assistant Bishop.

Sec 3. Commission on Ministry. The Bishops Diocesan of the legacy diocese shall appoint to the Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of the Susquehanna for terms all starting on January 1, 2026, one (1) clergy and one (1) lay member to a three-year term, one (1) clergy and one (1) lay member to a two-year term, and one (1) clergy and one (1) lay member to a one-year term. There must always be at least one deacon on the Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of the Susquehanna.

The Diocesan and Assistant Bishops shall serve ex officio with the Diocesan Bishop as President. The Diocesan and Assistant Bishops may appoint members of the Bishop's Staff as ex

officio members of the Commission who have the authority to speak and act under the authority of the bishop. The Diocesan Bishop shall appoint two Co-Chairs, one from the clerical order and one from the lay order and each from a different legacy diocese.

Sixty (60) days prior to the 2026 Annual Convention, the Commission on Ministry shall report to the Bishop Diocesan suggesting the continued membership of the Commission on Ministry.

Sec. 4. Disciplinary Board. The members of the respective Disciplinary Boards for the Dioceses of Bethlehem and Central Pennsylvania shall constitute the Disciplinary Board for the Episcopal Diocese of the Susquehanna until the 2026 Diocesan Convention. The Disciplinary Board for the Episcopal Diocese of the Susquehanna shall be served by the intake officers previously appointed by the Bishops of their predecessor dioceses. The Disciplinary Board shall elect a President and appoint one or more church attorneys at their first meeting.

Sixty days prior to the 2026 Annual Convention the Bishop shall nominate to the Standing Committee for election to the Disciplinary Board in accordance with Title IV Canon III of the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of the Susquehanna. Elected members of the Disciplinary Board shall be made known to Diocesan Convention 2026 in both publications and announcements.

Those provisions of Title IV of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, which are applicable or may become applicable to the Diocese, are hereby incorporated as part of this Canon. If and to the extent that any of the provisions of this Canon are in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of Title IV, the provisions of Title IV shall govern.

Sec. 5. General Convention Delegates: At the 2025 Joint Convention, the Diocese of Bethlehem and the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania shall each elect four (4) clergy and four (4) lay members to serve as deputies and alternate deputies to the General Convention from the Diocese of the Susquehanna. If a delegate is unable to continue in service, they will be replaced with a delegate from the same predecessor diocese. The designation as deputy or alternate and the required ordering within the deputation shall be based on the percentage of total votes received by each of those elected but the deputation shall result in two members from each predecessor diocese. A Chair and a Vice Chair of the deputation, each from a different legacy diocese, shall be chosen by and from among those elected.

Canon 5: Apportionment/Assessment: The 2026 parish Assessment amounts shall be approved by each legacy diocese through a resolution presented to the 2025 Convention.

Canon 6: Any provisions of the Constitution and Canons of the predecessor dioceses in conflict with these Transitional Canons shall be void.