

**Diocese of Wyoming**  
**Oversight Committee Charge to the Search Committee**  
**February 2009**

Working within the context of prayer and discernment, the task of the Search Committee is to discover the requirements, hopes and dreams of the people of the Diocese of Wyoming as we move into this new phase of our collective life. We believe the Search Committee should use both traditional and creative methods to create interest, involvement and excitement in the profile that will reflect the needs of the entire Diocese.

All of the constituencies of our diverse community need to be taken into account: regional ministries, all congregations, commissions and institutions; people with a range of viewpoints; children, youth and seniors; and so on. The process of listening will be an integral part of our lives during this process.

The completed profile will then be sent out to the church at large, including the Clergy Deployment Office and interested applicants, and will be published on our website. The Search Committee's primary responsibility then becomes the selection of appropriate nominees for the next Bishop of Wyoming. The Search Committee's function is to nominate, not elect. The Search Committee should present no fewer than four and no more than six nominees to the Special Convention of the Diocese for the Election, which will then elect one individual.

The Search Committee needs to ensure that all nominees meet the constitutional and canonical requirements set forth by the General Convention of The Episcopal Church of the United States of America:

- 1) Individual must be at least 30 years of age. The compulsory retirement age for bishops is 72 years of age.
- 2) Suffragan Bishops are eligible nominees; those currently serving as Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor of a Diocese must have served that Diocese for at least five years to be eligible.

The announcement of nominees will comply with Diocesan and General Canons. The Search Committee should only be concerned with the requirements spelled out in the Constitutions and Canons; the Committee need not consider any reports or opinions from any commission or authority that have not been accepted by General Convention. The Oversight Committee will advise the Search Committee of any changes in this policy.

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***Diocese of Wyoming Oversight Committee Charge to Search Committee cont'd***

A great deal of confidential information will be gathered by the Search Committee about individual applicants and nominees; all personal information must be kept in strict confidence. All information regarding Committee process is to be released by action of the whole committee as is appropriate. The process itself should be transparent; personal information must remain confidential.

Communications is an important piece of this process. The Search Committee will appoint a yet-to-be-determined number of members to work on the Oversight Committee's Joint Communications Committee which will be responsible for issuing all news & information releases with the Diocese, the National Church and the print & broadcast media. The Joint Communications Committee also is responsible for all web-based communications.

During the entire process, the Search Committee will take the opportunity to educate others about the role and responsibilities of Bishops, and will foster unity of purpose among the people of the Diocese of Wyoming.

**Diocese of Wyoming**  
**Oversight Committee Charge to the Transition Committee**  
**February 2009**

***It shall be said, “Build up, build up, prepare the way remove every obstruction from my people’s way.” Isaiah 57:14***

The primary role of the Transition Committee is to oversee a smooth transition between Bishop Caldwell and the new bishop. This responsibility extends to support for both bishops and their families; support for the diocesan staff; communication during the entire process; organization of walkabouts in the Diocese, and oversight and administration of the Consecration.

For Bishop Caldwell and his family, the Committee will assist with any administrative matters related to the bishop’s retirement. The Committee should consult with Bishop Caldwell regarding any further celebration he desires for his retirement and will take his lead in this matter.

The Transition Committee will work with the Search and Oversight committees in the orchestration of the walkabouts in the Diocese.

Communications is an important piece of this process. The Transition Committee will appoint a yet-to-be-determined number of members to work on the Oversight Committee’s Joint Communications Committee which will be responsible for issuing all news & information releases with the Diocese, the National Church and the print & broadcast media. The Joint Communications Committee also is responsible for all web-based communications.

The Transition Committee will be responsible for all aspects of the Special Convention for the Election, which will be held on a date and at a location to be determined. The Transition Committee will be responsible for all aspects of the Consecration scheduled for May 15, 2010, at the Casper Events Center. The Committee shall prepare a comprehensive guest list and send out the invitations.

Following the consecration, the work of the Transition Committee will continue through the first year of the new bishop’s tenure, assisting as needed with transitional issues for Bishop Caldwell and his family, the new bishop and family, diocesan staff, and on-going communication.