

Special Commission Continues to Explore Diocesan Investments by Audrey Klein-Leach and Matt Dunlap

The Special Commission to Study Diocesan Investments (SCSDI) met at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Augusta on July 24, 2024. The meeting opened with prayer. Discussion then centered on Bishop Brown's question to the Commission at the end of meeting three: "Why are we called to do this work?"

Recurrent themes were:

- 1) Need for better communication between Trustees' and parishes.
- 2) The Commission expressed a desire to build something that will survive over time/have continued positive impact on how the Trustees do their work going forward.
- 3) Importance of transparency in our work and in the work of the Trustees.

The Commission then had robust discussion on diocesan investments and the decision-making process and communication with parishes.

The Commission agreed there are important positive steps the Trustees are currently undertaking to have greater transparency and better communications. With all that in mind, the Commission is in the process of developing additional recommendations, which will be included in the report presented to the Diocesan Convention.

The next meeting of the SCSDI will be on September 11 at Loring House in Portland.