

Candidate in the Lay Order for Election to the Standing Committee



Steven R. Mullins, 26 Fourth Ave., West Haven. Parish: Holy Spirit, West Haven. *Present secular position:* Property Manager; Justice of the Peace, Planning & Zoning Commission; Firefighter. *Parish involvement:* Past vestryman/warden, past youth advisor, current Eucharistic minister. *Diocesan involvement:* Convention alternate. Education history/degrees: B.B.A. Berkeley College.

Personal statement: The Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut is a very diverse diocese, racially, economically and spiritually. It is my feeling that the Standing Committee should reflect the many backgrounds of the people to which it is called to serve.

I am a black Anglo-Catholic Episcopalian. I have served my parish in numerous capacities as a child and now as an adult. As a youth group advisor, our young people participated in West Haven Christian Youth Together, an ecumenical youth organization of West Haven teenagers of all denominations.

In the late 1990s I led youth of the New Haven Deanery to two Night Watch visits to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. I also worked with the Rev. Matthew Lincoln, then Deanery dean, to organize the first deanery-wide confirmations service at Christ and the Epiphany in East Haven.

In 1996 at the age of 21, I was elected to the vestry of Christ Church. After serving three years I was elected Junior Warden and years later Senior Warden, a post I held for four years.

As Senior Warden, I oversaw the painful, yet beneficial sale of our rectory and other property that had belonged to our parish family for many decades. I also with the help of a previous rector, Fr. Halsey Stevens, forged a great working relationship with our sister parish in West Haven, St. John's-by-the-Sea. Two years later, Christ Church and St. John's-by-the-Sea have merged into one parish family, Church of the Holy Spirit, West Haven.

In 1999, 2000 and 2001 I organized the ecumenical Stations of the Cross on Good Friday with the West Haven Clergy Association. The first year we commemorated our Lord's crucifixion at a neighborhood where two murders of local youths had taken place. The following two years the Stations were held on the West Haven Green. This commemoration included clergy and parishioners from Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, United Methodist, and some non-denominational faith communities.

In the secular world, I am a Senior Property Manager with a New Haven-based firm. I have managed residential and commercial developments in the public and private sector for just over ten years. Earlier this year I was re-elected to my third term as Justice of the Peace in West Haven. I've had the pleasure of marrying over 200 couples. I also serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission, member and past Chairman of the West Haven Drug & Alcohol Task Force as well as numerous other boards and commissions in the City of West Haven past and present. Since 2005, I have been an active member of Engine 8, Allingtown Volunteer Fire Association.

In 2002, I married a childhood friend, Jean Randall. Together we have two children, Nora Elizabeth, age 4.75 and Steven Christian, age 20 months and three weeks at Diocesan Convention time.

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR CLERICAL NOMINEE

**Candidate in the Clerical Order for
Election to the Standing Committee**



The Rev. Matthew Hamilton Calkins, 4672 Congress St., Fairfield, Ct. 06824; calkins@sttimschurch.org. Rector, St. Timothy's, Fairfield

Present diocesan involvement: Standing Committee (1 year term); Companions in Mission Committee; Millennium Fund Committee; Mentor, Annand Program for Spiritual Formation, Berkeley Divinity School; Chair of Youth Committee, Bridgeport Deanery.

Community involvement: Core member, Fairfield County Clergy Collective (broad faith based organization affiliated with IAF); member, Fairfield Clergy Association;

Education history/degrees: BA, Middlebury College (cum laude, double major in Philosophy and English Literature); post graduate studies in Taiwan Normal University (Chinese language and philosophy); M.Div, Union Theological Seminary (class of 1998); currently enrolled as candidate for D. Min degree, Hartford Seminary

Personal statement: Last year I ran for Standing Committee but my friend and colleague Harlon Dalton received the most clerical votes and was thus elected to a five-year term. Having received the second most I was elected to serve the last year of Bishop Ahrens' term. I raised my hand last year because a priest's ordination vows include a call to "take your share in the councils of the Church," and, as the Standing Committee serves as an official "council of advice" to the diocesan bishop, this seemed like a good way to fulfill that vow. I have found it so. The matters that come before the Standing Committee demand attention, discretion and sound judgment; I believe we have fulfilled our mandate this past year. Further I believe we are engaged in an ongoing project of making our work as transparent as possible and more fully engaged as a council of advice to the bishop. This past year's experience has prepared me more fully to contribute and so I ask to be elected for a full term.

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR LAY NOMINEE