

Archdeacon

- Work directly with communities of faith during time of clergy transition:
 - Redeemer, Kansas City, in the call of their new rector
 - Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City, in the call of their new dean
 - Christ Church, St. Joseph, in the call of their new interim rector
 - St. Anne's, Kansas City, as that congregation establishes its search process for its next rector
 - Focus for the coming year will be congregations which are in transition from full-time clergy to other-than-full time clergy.
- Prior to last convention I convened the initial meeting of representatives of several congregations in SW Missouri. Further meetings were held, planning done, and as an ultimate outcome St. Stephen's, Monett; St. John's, Neosho, St. Thomas a Becket, Cassville; St. Philip's, Joplin; and St Mark's, Kimberling City have formed ECHO (Episcopal Churches of the Ozarks) and are actively at work in growth and development, using a very different regional ministry strategy that that of NERM. The leadership has been dedicated and creative – and has shown that there is more than one way to form a mutually supportive regional relationship.
- Serve as convener of Congregational Development, Urban/Suburban – see that report which outlines the work of the Department
- Serve as Transition Minister for the Diocese
 - Connect with Provincial counterparts and with staff of Episcopal Church in all matters related to transition ministry
 - Oversaw phasing out of Clergy Deployment Office profile and the phasing in of the Office for Transition Ministry (OTM) clergy and congregational portfolios
 - Assist clergy in developing their OTM Portfolios. Goal would be that every active cleric in the diocese would have completed his/her OTM Portfolio by time of next year's convention.
- Serve on the Editorial Board of *Spirit* magazine and *eSpirit*
- Manage the Safeguarding programs of the diocese
 - Conduct Safeguarding God's Children Seminars
 - Upcoming seminars:
 - Tuesday, November 15 – Springfield
 - Tuesday, November 29 - Kansas City
- Oversee other safeguarding policies in the diocese including
 - Background check process via Oxford Document
 - Conduct background checks via Choice Point
 - Keep up-to-date with issues via Clergy Law Report which provides clear and concise review of legal cases as those cases relate to issues faced by churches

and judicatories, e.g. hiring and supervision, mandated reporting of abuse; special issues for churches with day schools, etc.

- Review and update Handbook for Misconduct Prevention
- Key goals for this coming year:
 - Implement on-line safeguarding training modules
 - Revise and update Handbook
- Vocations Process – Commission on Ministry
 - Design and coordinate annual Vocations Conference
 - Confer and work with Diocesan Board of Examining Chaplains
 - Coordinate diocesan ordinations, e.g. ordination service planning, development of booklets, all in cooperation with Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
 - Oversee, assist and support persons in the ordination process from the initial entry into the diocesan process as nominees to the time of ordination, God Willing.
 - Handle all manner of questions from persons in the process as to canonical requirements in moving from one step in the process to the next
 - Maintain files on all nominees, postulants, and candidates – there are two nominees this year and nine postulants and candidates for ordination
- Joplin
 - Have privilege of serving as diocesan coordinator for Joplin Relief
 - Field numerous contacts from individuals, congregations, and dioceses throughout the country - provide information and direction as to how same could participate in response to the tornado event
 - Provide updates to diocesan congregations as to plans and efforts regarding Rebuilding Joplin
 - Assisted in coordination of the two “no sale” garage sale
 - Providing assistance regarding the Lafayette House Project
- Various
 - Member of Diocesan Council
 - Member of Diocesan Financial Committee
 - Ex Officio member of Commission on Ministry
 - Convener of Congregational Development/Urban/Suburban
 - Diocesan Registrar
 - Directly involved in the development and production of the diocesan budget
 - Member of Clergy Compensation Committee
 - Member, Convention Planning Committee
 - Member of Diocesan Website Editorial Board
 - Consult with Chancellor on a regular basis on many varied matters

- Provide pastoral support to clergy, laity and congregations on a variety of concerns and issues
- Member of National Conference of Diocesan Executives
- Member, Province VII Transition Ministers Group
- Carry out multitude of duties and responsibilities at the request of, on behalf of and in support of the Bishop in his exercise of episcopal ministry

I am actively involved with vestries and search committee in times of transition of clergy leadership, from the moment of the announcement of a cleric's departure to the call of the new cleric. In this work the Baptismal Covenant is always before us, that goals set for the life of the community, together with the gifts and skills for ministry of the new rector or vicar, will reflect those vows. That same focus would guide our work with congregations in transition to other-than-full-time clergy, particularly in strengthening, supporting, empowering laity in their ministry. The goal is strong communities which continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers, and from that foundation to preserve, proclaim, seek and serve, love, strive for justice.

In our work to insure a safe and secure spiritual home for all persons, especially the children and youth entrusted to our care we are most surely at work to resist the evil of abuse, and to strive for justice and peace, and to respect the dignity of every human being – from babes in arms on up. We begin every seminar by reminding those in attendance at baptism we, the community, promise to do all in our power to support those baptized in their life in faith. Providing a safe and secure church home for those baptized is one important way we keep that vow.

Being able to provide support from the diocesan office to the efforts of the clergy and people of St. Philip's in Joplin, Grace Church, Carthage, and St. John's Church, Neosho and other in the Southern Deanery and Diocese following the EF5 tornado has been a privilege. All our efforts in Joplin are outward and visible signs of the baptismal covenant – we seek and serve, love our neighbors, and proclaim God's love by these deeds of love and care for those affected by the devastating events of May 22nd.

The plan for Lafayette House not only accomplishes the above, but also reflects the call to seek a just society, where the dignity of all is respected.

Finally, in all things the goal for the coming year is as it has been – that the diocesan staff and I will exercise our ministry on behalf of the Bishop in service to the congregations of the Diocese of West Missouri.