

Western Deanery Report to 2013 EDFW Convention

Author: Louis Eichenberger, Dean of the Western Deanery

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#### Western Deanery Council

Dean Louis Eichenberger, All Saints, Weatherford / Episcopal Church  
in Parker County in 2013 and 2014

Sub Dean Open in 2013, Marti Fagley in 2014

Clergy Position currently vacant after mid-year resignation of the Rev. ClayOla Gitane  
(term end date was 2014)

#### Lay Delegates

Judy Cordell, St. Francis, Aledo (term end date – extended to 2016)

Louis Eichenberger, All Saints, Weatherford / Episcopal Church  
in Parker County (term end date – 2015)

Western Deanery meetings prior to 2013 EDFW convention:

- October 21, 2012
- February 3, 2013
- April 7, 2013
- August 4, 2013
- October 6, 2013

October 21, 2012 Western Deanery meeting highlights:

- Cherie Shipp, diocesan finance committee, made a presentation to the deanery on the budget that has been slightly revised from the one sent out and presented to the Executive Council. One of the changes restored the funding for Christ the King, FW, and St. Francis, Aledo / Episcopal Church in Parker County as grants instead of loans to allow the affected churches more time to evaluate the impact of the anticipated elimination of the support used to provide a shared priest to both parishes. The budget has also started to address the increased salary and costs associated with the anticipated transition to having a full time bishop
- George Komechak provided information on the work done by the Constitution and Canons Committee. The 2012 convention will vote for the second time (as required by canon) to elect both delegates to the general convention at the same time two years before the convention. Canonical amendments were also scheduled for convention action that will affect election of a permanent bishop, re-organization of the deanery structure, representation levels per capita for the diocesan conventions and Canon 10 changes to improve the function and efficiency of the executive council.
- Comment from Kathleen Wells: our court pleading includes a requests the recovery of income from the funds that Bishop Iker controls which we consider Episcopal Church property.

The Western Deanery is made up of people from the Episcopal Church in Parker County (which transitioned in 2013 to St. Francis Aledo with members from other parishes attending as desired). To increase attendance and the efficiency of the deanery meetings, the 2013 deanery meetings required by Canon 35 were scheduled to coincide with the ECPC / St. Francis Aledo monthly potluck dinners that occur the first Sunday of each month.

#### February 3, 2013 Western Deanery meeting highlights

- Marti Fagley has taken on new responsibilities on the diocesan Executive Council and resigned lay representative of the Western Deanery to the Executive Committee. Louis Eichenberger was elected as the second lay representative of the Western Deanery to the Executive Council.
- Cynthia Eichenberger was elected lay representative to the diocesan nominations committee.
- Volunteers were requested to assist C. Eichenberger to review a grant being written by All Saints, FW, for a UTO grant.
- L. Eichenberger reported that the Executive Council held its annual retreat Dec. 7-8, 2012, (which he was not able to attend) after the annual convention in Stephenville, Nov. 2-3, 2012.
- A brief update was provided about the diocesan strategic planning and Executive Council meetings on January 25 –26, 2013. The diocesan mission statement was revisited, but no changes were recommended.

#### April 7, 2013 Western Deanery Meeting highlights

Due to the bishop's visit pot luck and Easter baptism reception the preceding two Sundays, the St. Francis / ECPC pot luck for April 7, 2013 was canceled. Louis Eichenberger provided a brief summary of the March Executive Council meeting in Hamilton, and led a discussion about the national convention and diocesan convention delegate nominations that must occur before the diocesan convention.

#### August 4, 2013 Western Deanery Meeting highlights

- Robert Hicks, diocesan treasurer and member of the Finance Committee, summarized proposed budget changes, previously distributed. Significantly, diocesan income has increased \$30,000 from the 2013 budget. After the summary, discussion followed on the elimination of funding for the priest position at Christ the King/ECPC, St. Francis regarding the priorities associated with funding a designated priest at CTK/ECPC versus church planting versus diocesan administrative needs; and what the elimination of the priest position for CTK and ECPC/St. Francis would mean to those parishes
- The dean and Walt Fagley requested the Finance Committee give consideration to finding funds for one more year of grant support for the priest position for CTK and ECPC/St. Francis.

#### October 6, 2013 Western Deanery Meeting highlights

- Bob Schorr, Coordinator for Congregational Development for the Diocese of Texas, will visit St. Francis October 12, 2013, and will spend Sunday with St. Francis and the following two days in the Haslet and Cleburne areas.

- St. Francis/ECPC offered a Blessing of Animals (10/5/13) in the Community Christian Church yard blessed sixteen ranging from a chicken to a horse and other animals by proxy. Thanks to David Hance for advertising and coordinating.
- Jeff Boleware, St. Stephen's, Hurst, a candidate for lay member of the Standing Committee introduced himself to the deanery.
- The following elected positions were filled:
  - Lay representative to the Executive Council three year term ending in 2016: Judy Cordell offered to continue in that position for a second term as allowed by Canon 10.
  - Western Deanery Dean: Louis Eichenberger offered to continue as Dean for 2014. He is also the lay representative to the Executive Council with term ending in 2015 and is on the Structure Committee.
  - Sub-Dean: Position vacant. Marti Fagley offered to take that position for 2014.
  - Clergy position will remain vacant
- A discussion of the EDFW 9/28/13 Executive Council meeting followed:
  - EDFW convention in Wichita Falls on Nov. 8-9, 2013
  - Executive Council workshop, December 7, at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, FW
  - Deanery reorganization, with action expected at the EC workshop meeting
  - Review of the budget to be approved at the convention
  - Request for comments/suggestions to support the canons and constitution update
- St. Francis will host location the January 25, 2014, Executive Council meeting.
- Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori and House of Deputies President Gay Jennings will join us February 7-9, 2014, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the reorganization of the diocese.