

## **Report of the Canon for Evangelism & Discipleship Development To the 2022 Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri**

The Rev. Canon Whitney Rice serves as the Canon for Evangelism & Discipleship Development in the Diocese of Missouri. Progress in her work in 2021 is summarized below.

### **Evangelism**

- Led Evangelism With Integrity workshop at many congregations across the diocese
- Met and collaborated with other Evangelism Canons across the national church
- Served on national Episcopal Church Evangelism Council of Advice
- Created wrote, recorded, and released 6-video Evangelism With Integrity YouTube series used in multiple congregations for Lent

### **Discipleship Development**

- Hosted multiple workshops for the diocesan household and on-site at parishes and at Deaconess Anne House, including:
  - Evangelism With Integrity
  - Church Conflict Fire Insurance: Adaptive Leadership in Challenging Times
  - Community Listening
  - Post-Pandemic Evangelism: The Acts Generation and the Reformation Generation
  - Questions of Jesus
  - Reimagining Churchcraft
- Partnered with Ms. Jillian Smith to help host fall Clergy Conference

### **Experimental Ministries/Missional Communities**

- Consulted with and supported Diocesan leaders beginning missional community work
- Supported Faith Church of India and African Diaspora church planting team in applying New Episcopal Ministries Grants of \$30,000 each
- Supported and consulted with various clergy in redevelopment and revitalization work in their congregations

### **Requiem or Renaissance**

- Restructured the program with a Covid-durable pivot in January during the Omicron surge, with an emphasis on Shepherds (coaches) going out to the congregations rather than centralized gatherings
- Moved the program onto Thinkific online course platform to consolidate all program resources (recordings, videos, handouts, notetaking space, zoom links) in one place, accessible asynchronously
- In partnership with Canon Doris Westfall, secured \$26,000 Roanridge Grant to fund the program
- Launched program

- Organized and led 6 Requiem or Renaissance gatherings across the diocese, both as teacher and facilitator
- Created video and document resources for the program

### **Fresh Start**

- Organized and convened Fresh Start
- Recruited speakers for meetings
- Facilitated monthly meetings in collaboration with The Rev. Earl Mahan

### **Ordination Process**

- Met and worked with ordinands throughout the process to drive and facilitate their progress toward ordination: forms, interviews, meetings, processes such as GOEs and seminary financial aid, field placements, mentoring, and pastoral support
- Hosted pre-ordination retreats for ordinands and co-hosted Ordination Townhalls
- Served as Bishop's Staff Liaison to Diocesan Board of Examining Chaplains, Commission on Ministry, and Standing Committee
- Convened and drove monthly meetings of core ordination facilitators: Ms. Jillian Smith, Ms. Lyn Ballard (Diocesan Board of Examining Chaplains Chair), and The Rev. Camie Dewey and The Rev. Ann Dieterle (Commission on Ministry Chairs)
- Helped organize and participated in multiple ordination liturgies across the diocese

### **Ordination Redesign**

- Convened Ordination Redesign Core Team (The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner, Sister Donna-Ruth Reinhard, The Rev. Marshall Crossnoe, Ms. Lyn Ballard, The Rev. Deb Goldfeder, The Rev. Harry Leip)
- Finalized diocesan affiliation with Bishop Kemper School of Ministry
- Released redone diaconate ordination checklist
- In partnership with Ms. Jillian Smith, moved entire ordination process onto Thinkific online course platform

### **Wider Church Involvement and/or Continuing Education**

- Duke Divinity School Seek the Welfare grant recipient
- Led Questions of Jesus retreat for the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Ohio
- Keynote speaker on Evangelism at Diocese of Vermont Convention
- Participant in Leading Women Conference
- Evangelism Faculty for Bishop Kemper School of Ministry

### **Other Duties as Assigned**

- Accompanied Bishop Deon on parish visitations across the diocese approximately twice a month
- Canon visitations twice monthly: Preached and led worship and adult fora across the diocese on alternate weeks from Bishop Visitations

- Served as a consultant and partner for clergy and lay leaders seeking support in their work
- Tended to duties of Bishop Deon Johnson and Canon Doris Westfall in their summer/fall time away from the diocese traveling

Respectfully submitted by  
The Rev. Canon Whitney Rice  
Canon for Evangelism & Discipleship Development  
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