



## ASSOCIATION FOR EPISCOPAL DEACONS

ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

### **2017 Archdeacon & Deacon Directors Conference Open Space Report: Continuing Education**

Facilitator – Jan Grinnell

Province I has a joint school of deacons, but hasn't focused on continuing education.

#### 1. How to structure continuing ed

How to make it happen – Have something come from the Bishop.

PA - clergy conference with great speakers but it falls during the work week, so it isn't conducive for working deacons. Now moving to Fresh Start model, similar to LA model. Using some Fresh Start modules. Bishop is going to require it. 10 sessions over 2 years, approximately 3.5 hours.

Western MI – Add x number of hours for two years. Developing electronic modules that can be done online. Also looking into seminary modules. Will talk with Bp to determine what module

LA – Now there's an expectation that all deacons will do Fresh Start for two years after ordination. Hard to schedule. There is no good time, just the least burdensome.

Seven out of twenty seven have some sort of continuing ed.

SW Florida – four years of formation for deacons, with two years before ordination and two after.

Az – has formation for 2 years post ordination, but is interested in looking at the idea of requiring CEUs for all deacons. Using a program from ASU. There is a cost, but the bishop has encouraged parishes to pay for it.

Northern CA – Haven't had continuing ed for deacons. Three sessions – presbyters and deacons work together in teams, and then break into small group. One session is before clergy conference.

#### FUNDED HOW

New Westminster – Anyone who's ordained \$50/month assessed by diocese for continuing ed.

San Diego – paying for 2 day gathering of deacons.

SW Fla – Diocese funds deacon retreat, deanery funds clericus, parish may or may not fund continuing ed.

W Mich – Funded by archdeacon discretionary fund

RE: Online gathering, need to have some online collaboration, for example Zoom.

RI – Looking into topics that haven't been covered, such as LGBTQ, or addiction.

CT – These topics should be open to all.



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Indianapolis – 4 retreats a year, and 8 other full day sessions. Newly ordained expected to attend. Has been topical – Trying to bring more of the ordained deacons back into the training.

How much is the training is content, and how much is practical deacon.

MT – No money. Annual deacon's retreat has been cancelled.

OR – Gather quarterly, no cost, schedule.

NC – Deacon formation 3 years with ordination after year 2, so third year is post-ordination.

W Fla – we do monthly meetings for third year deacons. We need to check with participants to see if topics are useful.

Dallas – Use resources of existing deacons to share their assets, like spirituality, etc.

RI – Monthly meetings to be introduced to various diocesan things.

San Diego – Deacons gathering for lunch or breakfast.

Different churches may offer free resources, meeting space.

Olympia – Use resources outlined in Iona Report.

Georgia – Deacons retreat brought up continuing ed, and the deacons were surprised. Trying to have deacons gathered by convocation. How can we get continuing education in the community to count for church continuing ed?

PA – Include classes and reading list to annual letter

Lexington – No requirements, no formation.



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