



ASSOCIATION FOR
EPISCOPAL DEACONS
ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

2021 Archdeacon & Deacon Directors Conference

Open Space Report: Theology

Theology.mp4

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pN04R5oaPLfBMRDdL7R2N32McttGVqj6/view>

Committee for Revision of Prayerbook, but there are few deacons. Previous BCP revisions included Ormande Plater.

Resources:

Theology of the Diaconate

Reflections on the Diaconate

Theology of the Diaconate: the State of the Question, by Owen F. Cummings, William T Ditewig, Richard R. Gaillardetz

Troublemaker, by Vicki Gray

LMC: Theology is made in books and seminaries. There's a thread of low-level anti-intellectualism in the diaconate. Of the seven waves, three are extinct, but four linger. We take the hit when the theology is confusing.

Deacon theology should be contextualized, but have some national standards.

JL: Offered to create a venue for deacon theology.

BB: Would like deacons to engage in theological discourse, but it needs to be locally contextualized, rather than top-down. Deacons do theology in a more prophetic way.

JG: There is not likely to be a BCP major revision, because it's very costly, and too fluid. BCP won't get worse but won't get better. We need to give people opportunity to exercise and develop their own theology.

GS: I've been involved in board at a seminary, able to provide diaconal voice in this arena. We also need to get more people to get involved in TEC opportunities.

AW: Such a needed conversation. Deacons can pursue higher ed, and could be academic.

VG: Appreciate the waves of the diaconate. Our theology needs to be fluid, and comes from what the people need.

CCP: We need to be flexible, and not break during change.

LMC: My question isn't about our level of education. My question is if we are asked to do something for the church

JL: Need to publish in ATR as well as in places with 30 second plugs.

RK: We should have coordinated strategy for communicating theology.

LMC: Are we afraid of disagreeing with other deacons about the waves? We should try to run with the big dogs. The people who provide leadership read those papers.

RH: Come up with action plan. Make theological statement. We need to be willing to put that statement out with TEC

JL: Would be willing to host some theology conversations.