



# Elizabeth Dyer Convocation

*be companions one to another as we answer God's call to mission and ministry*

- I. **Purpose:** The Elizabeth Dyer Convocation exists to promote fellowship, ministry cooperation, and clergy care amongst the parishes and people within the convocation. In particular, the convocation is tasked with creating and executing a regional ministry strategy that reflects the Diocese of Missouri's mission priorities.
- II. **Establishment:** In the Spring of 2021, the Standing Committee approved a redefined and renewed configuration and purpose for the Diocese's convocations. This renewed configuration included a reduction of convocations from six to four, with an eye towards ministry collaboration and shared mission goals.
- III. **Parishes included within the Convocation:** The following parishes make up the Elizabeth Dyer Convocation.

All Saints' Farmington  
Christ Church Cape Girardeau  
Holy Cross Poplar Bluff  
St. John and St. James Sullivan  
St. Paul's Ironton  
St. Paul's Sikeston  
St. Vincent's in the Vineyard Ste. Genevieve  
Trinity DeSoto  
Trinity St. James

- IV. **Convocation Roles and Responsibilities:** The convocation is tasked with the following roles and responsibilities.
  - A. Convocation elects a Dean (clergy) and Warden (lay) which meet regularly with the Bishop
  - B. Develop a regional mission strategy in conjunction with the Diocesan Offices
  - C. Elect members to serve on the Diocesan Council
  - D. Hold a yearly celebration of the patron of the convocation (Elizabeth Dyer)
  - E. Each convocation nominates two people, one clergy and one laity to serve on the Diocesan Mission & Ministry Council
  - F. Regularly communicate with the Congregations which make up the convocation
  - G. In consultation with the Director of Communications, develop and maintain a presence on the Diocesan Website
  - H. Meet in convocation at least four times a year
  - I. Submit resolutions for Diocesan Convention
  - J. Provide fellowship and discernment opportunities for the laity



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- K. Provide care, support, professional development, and fellowship opportunities for the clergy within the convocation
  
- V. **Convocation Leadership:** The convocation leadership consists of a Dean (clergy) and Warden (lay person) and the Leadership team (Dean, Warden, other members as deemed necessary). The Dean and Warden co-chair the Leadership Team and meet regularly with the Diocesan Bishop and the Deans and Wardens of all the convocations in the Diocese. The task of the leadership team is: (1) ensure the convocation meets the roles and expectations listed above; and (2) organize the activities, ministries, and meetings of the convocation. The Dean and Warden are also charged with providing care and support for the clergy within the convocation.
  - A. Per Diocesan Canons: No person may serve simultaneously in more than one of the following positions: voting member of the Diocesan Council, voting member of the Standing Committee, or President or Chair of a Convocation.
  
- VI. **Election of and qualifications for Dean, Warden, and Leadership Team:**
  - A. **Dean and Warden:** Any cleric in good standing and canonically resident within the Diocese of Missouri currently serving within the Dyer Convocation may run for Dean. Any baptized and confirmed lay person in good standing worshipping within the convocation may run for Warden. Deans and Wardens are elected by a simple majority vote at the Convocation's Annual Meeting for two-year (staggered) terms. Elections to fill vacancies may happen during a special electing convocation called by the leadership team. At least two weeks' notice of the special electing convocation date and time must be given to convocation delegates. All convention delegates duly elected at the most recent parish annual meeting are invited to the Convocation Annual Meeting and serve as the electors for Dean and Warden.
    - 1. Elections in 2022, one time only for the following
      - a) 1 Lay Person elected in 2022 for a one-year term
      - b) 1 Clergy elected in 2022 for a two-year term
    - 2. Elections for Clergy and Lay will be on alternate years, two-year rotation
      - a) 1 Lay Person elected in 2023 for a two-year term
      - b) 1 Clergy elected in 2024 for a two-year term
    - 3. Deans and Wardens may only serve one term but may run for re-election after a one-year hiatus.
  - B. **Diocesan Council Members:** Diocesan Council members elected from Convocations will serve a three (3) year term.
    - 1. Each Convocation elects one (1) clergy person and two (2) laypersons to serve on Diocesan Council
    - 2. Elections in 2022, one time only for the following



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- a) 1 Lay Person elected in 2022 for a one-year term
- b) 1 Lay Person elected in 2022 for a two-year term
- c) 1 Clergy elected in 2022 for a three-year term
3. Elections for Clergy and Lay will be on alternate years, three-year rotation
  - a) 1 Lay Person elected in 2023 for a three-year term
  - b) 1 Lay Person elected in 2024 for a three-year term
  - c) 1 Clergy elected in 2025 for a three-year term
4. Members may serve two consecutive terms and may be re-elected after a one (1) year hiatus

## **C. Diocesan Mission & Ministry Council**

Mission & Ministry Council is comprised of members of the Convocations, Diocesan Council (2), Standing Committee (1), the Canon for Evangelism & Discipleship Development, the Canon to the Ordinary and the Bishop. Mission & Ministry Council reviews the Strategic Vision of the Diocese with recommendations on implementation along with reporting on successes & challenges

1. One clergy and one lay person from within the convocation elected by a simple majority vote by convocation delegates, Term to be two years
2. Elections in 2022, one time only for the following
  - a) 1 Lay Person elected in 2022 for a two-year term
  - b) 1 Clergy elected in 2022 for a one-year term
3. Elections for Clergy and Lay will be on alternate years, two-year rotation
  - a) 1 Clergy elected in 2023 for a two-year term
  - b) 1 Lay Person elected in 2024 for a two-year term

**VII. Officers within the Leadership Team:** The Convocation leadership will appoint the following leadership team members as needed. These members will serve for the appointed term, no less than one year. Besides the positions below, the leadership team may create additional positions as needed.

- A. Treasurer: Tasked with tracking all convocation expenditures and income (if applicable)
- B. Clerk: Tasked with taking and archiving minutes at official meetings of convocation.
- C. Communications / Webmaster: Tasked with timely and relevant communications to the parishes within the convocation and working with the Diocesan Communications officer to provide a convocation web presence on the diocesan website.

**VIII. Annual Convocation Meeting:** The convocation will gather each year for an annual meeting no sooner than February the 1st and no later than February the 15th. Diocesan



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convention delegates elected at the most recent parish annual meeting are invited to the annual convocation meeting and serve as electors. The primary purpose of the annual meeting is to hold elections. The meeting should include reports, fellowship, presentations, strategy sessions, and more as deemed necessary by the Leadership Team. The Dean, Warden, and Leadership Team members are responsible for organizing the annual meeting.

- IX. **Approval:** This charter was approved by the Bishop Diocesan and by the convocation delegates at the initial annual meeting on February the 12th, 2022.
  
- X. **Charter Amendments:** Amendments may be made to this charter at any annual convocation meetings. Amendments must be approved by the Convocation Leadership Team and Bishop Diocesan before going before the convocation for approval. Amendments are approved by a simple majority vote by delegates at the annual convocation meeting