

Title Election of Deanery Deans

Proposer Constitution & Canons Committee

- 1. Whereas, Canon VIII of the Constitution & Canons of the Diocese of West Missouri
- 2. allows the Convention to “adopt rules, regulations, or provisions concerning
- 3. Deaneries, their organization, and functions.”; and
- 4.
- 5. Whereas, the Convention has adopted an appendix to the Constitution & Canons
- 6. which contains such rules and regulations; and
- 7.
- 8. Whereas, there has been some confusion as to how a Dean of a Deanery is to be
- 9. elected.
- 10.
- 11. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Appendix containing the rules and regulations
- 12. of the Deaneries of the Diocese of West Missouri be amended as follows:

**APPENDIX
DEANERIES OF THE DIOCESE OF WEST MISSOURI**

17. Section I. Roster of Deaneries

- 18.
- 19. 1. The Diocese of West Missouri shall be divided into three (3) geographical
- 20. Deaneries as follows:
- 21. 1.1. The Metro-Northwest Deanery shall encompass the following parishes
- 22. and congregations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23. 24. Excelsior Springs, St. Luke's 25. Kansas City, Good Shepherd 26. Kansas City, Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral 27. Kansas City, Redeemer 28. Kansas City, St. Andrew's 29. Kansas City, St. Augustine's 30. Kansas City, St. Peter & All Saints' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kansas City, St. Mary's Kansas City, St. Paul's Kansas City, St. Peter & All Saints' Liberty, Grace Saint Joseph, Christ Savannah, St. Mary's Skidmore, St. Oswald's
---	--

- 31.
- 32. 1.2. The Central Deanery shall consist of the following parishes and
- 33. congregations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34. 35. Belton, St. Mary Magdalene 36. Blue Springs, Resurrection 37. Boonville, Christ 38. Chillicothe, Grace 39. Clinton, St. Paul's 40. Excelsior Springs, St. Luke's 41. Fayette, St. Mary's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independence, Trinity Lee's Summit, St. Anne's Lee's Summit, St. Paul's Lexington, Christ Raytown, St. Matthew's Sedalia, Calvary Trenton, St. Philip's
--	---

42. Harrisonville, St. Peter's
43. Independence, St. Michael's
44.

Warrensburg, Christ

* * * * *

46. Section II. Deanery Councils

47.
48. * * * * *

49. 5. Officers

50.
51. 5.1. Officers of the Deanery Council shall be:

52.
53. 5.1.1. ~~a Dean, who shall be in the priest order, /Deanery Council Chair~~
54. ~~(see paragraph (iii) of this sub-section)~~

55.
56. 5.1.2. a Vice-Chair, who shall be in the lay order,

57.
58. 5.1.3. a Secretary, who shall be of any order, and

59.
60. 5.1.4. and any other officers deemed necessary by the Deanery
61. Council and elected as the Council shall devise.

62.
63. * * * * *

64.
65. 5.4. All officers of the Deanery Council, ~~except the Dean,~~ shall be elected
66. by the full Deanery Council, lay and clergy, in such manner as may be
67. established in the By-Laws of the Deanery.

68.
69. Section III. Deans

70.
71. 1. Election and Term of Office

72.
73. 1.1. Deans shall ~~be elected from among the presbyters of the Deanery and~~
74. ~~serve terms of two (2) years.~~

75.
76. * * * * *

Explanation

This proposed amendment makes two substantive changes. First, pursuant to Section I.2 of the Appendix, The Church of St. Luke the Beloved Physician in Excelsior Springs (“St. Luke’s”) petitioned Diocesan Council to move from the Central Deanery to the Northwest-Metro Deanery. Diocesan Council approved the transfer on December 9, 2023.

Second, the amendment clarifies how a Dean of a Deanery is to be elected. Section III.1.1 of the Appendix requires a Dean to “be elected from among the presbyters of the Deanery.” While the Deaneries all agreed that the Dean had to be a priest, there was confusion as to whether only priests, as opposed to the entire Deanery Council, could vote to elect a Dean. This amendment makes clear that the entire Deanery Council elects a Dean, not just priests, and therefore gives proper meaning to the call of Section II.4.1 that “All representatives, whether lay or clergy, shall have equal voice and vote on Deanery Councils.”
