

- Bishop spiritual leadership pastor for clergy—this requirement makes part time bishop, part time rector model questionable.
- Revisit and expand mutual ministry.
- Do not break up diocese, but collaborate with adjoining dioceses for appropriate functions.
- Continue with part time bishop
- Ordain part time bishop from within diocese. Part time rector/part time bishop
- Return to mutual ministry team model
- Don't forget mission in the process.
- Multiple bishop/rectors—Celtic model
- Continue to talk with Lutherans
- In conversations with the Presbyterians, please be aware that those American Presbyterian congregations in the Presbyteries may represent radically different theologies and social stances than EDEO. There is such a situation in The Dalles.
- Church should never be rich.
- How could we function if we could not hire a full time bishop? Provisional bishop paid by national and local churches? Avoid questions of “ownership” (We paid more!) maybe a specifically designated provisional bishop for churches in trouble. (General convention idea/proposal regarding funding for Provisional Bishop)
- Pastoral care not just in time of crisis. Canons, bishop, convocation heads devote time (2 hrs/wk) to contact clergy/Senior wardens regularly.
- Shared services—with other denominations (secretarial, web design, etc.)
- Continue dialog with other dioceses—merger, services, consulting, state border churches
- Explore Episcopal partnerships with ELCA synods—identify issues and funding
- Re-educate mutual ministry.
- Bishop-rector model. Needed: strong total ministry within said parish and diocesan congregations,
- Role of Ascension School (re/ bishop's residence, diocesan spiritual direction center,
- Revisit with General Convention 2011 funding of missionary dioceses.
- Pursue ecumenical relationships. Become more efficient in operations. The more denominations that are involved, the smaller the problem of time/space becomes. Share diocesan leadership (bishops—Lutheran, Episcopal—administrative personnel, etc.). Share congregation leadership (clerical and lay). Empower lay persons to leadership/ministerial positions. Be inclusive; include other members of the body of Christ (issues surrounding denominational communion need to be resolved...yes?)
- You folks are doing good work! I thank God for your dedication and effort.

- Expand research to include social services, medical, etc. all dealing with similar challenges.
 - Identify and share our individual gifts
 - Should we be limiting our possibilities for partnering? How do we change image our God? Looking beyond cultures, denominations, etc.
 - Could something like DMP in region (community) shared (pooled) resources
 - A people of God
 - DMP
 - A common table church
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- Explore bishop-rector model
 - Conversations with other denominations to combine services in the same community, i.e. Sunday services, bible school, etc.
 - Utilizing bishops (like Bishop of Spokane) for certain occasions.
 - Promoting convocation model activities
 - Encourage the circuit rider program
 - Combining congregations too far apart prohibitive.
 - Encourage endowments to support the diocese
 - Renew mutual ministry program
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- Cross functional (parish) teams a must—find out what works.
 - What are we trying to preserve? And protect?
 - Where is the communication between parishes?
 - Is it understood by leaders by lacks understanding by all members?
 - Shared ministries? (combined) joint newsletters to share programs and upcoming events to support each other and communities.
 - Be selective in what we outsource—paper and pencil tuff may be okay clergy and staff support “people stuff” probably won’t work.
 - Combine convocations for mid-year or yearly meetings or “special conventions” to cut down on travel and housing expenses.
 - Don’t be afraid to be the canary—they usually survive or fly away when the ‘air’ becomes toxic.
 - Prioritize, and don’t change too many things at once or you won’t know what did and didn’t work. #1 must be how the Bishop will look and work. We much have clearly defined leadership.
 - Strongly encourage re-emphasizing and reestablishment of the Mutual Ministry process, as a way to encourage and help small congregations explore and implement ministry teams. (I was in diocesan COM in the 90s and saw many examples which worked locally in several congregations)
 - On all levels, Lay and other faith denominations, partner whenever possible! Share office space and personnel.
 - Part time bishop (maybe a rector?)
 - We need our own bishop and we need a bishop (part time would work, if a good one)
 - Sharing bishop with Lutherans? We learn to do more with less.
 - Bishop visitations to convocations, not individual parishes.
 - “the struggle continues”.

- Open door—approach to future
 - Change—a strategy for change
 - Economy of scale—financial benefits by combining services
 - Issues of combining denominations—beliefs, openness, etc.
 - Overall resistance to change function
 - Mission—what do we keep and what do we let go?
 - Co-location of diocese-church
 - “I need a Bishop”.
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- Oregon is **not** California/Eastern Oregon is **not** Western Oregon
 - The church should **never** be rich (money)
 - Building ecumenical relationships with a community—explore relationships with the Methodist church or all the churches—Lutheran, Presbyterian, Baptist, Catholic.
 - Within whatever context of model that we use—what is the “commitment to the liberation of the laity”?
 - Use of missional priests—economically advantageous group of experts that move around within a reasonable geographic area.
 - Community evolves—but breaks comfort level of parish members and is a threat to full time clergy! (relationship with “their” priest)
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- Question of increased lay ministry roles needs to be examined.
 - Like to know what conversations(s) have been with the Cascades Presbytery—actual conversations? Actual questions?
 - How about yoked parishes?
 - EDEO has been robbing Peter to pay Paul for years! Peter is running out of money!
 - We are busy now expanding our ministries and outreach I think we are successful. We have plans for more of this in the near future due in part to ideas obtained here in Hood River.
 - Is receiving DMP money again in the near future a possibility?
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- Investigate sharing a bishop with another diocese (not necessarily a neighboring diocese)
 - (+/or /Bishop duties like confirmations, annual visitations, ordinations, representation)
 - Involve youth in diocese in common cause Cove as hub? Benefit others not just a ‘take home’
 - Investigate reduction of diocesan assessment (long the lines of the National church)
 - Share youth ministries; coordinate events; common projects
 - More visibility—signage, community projects, events
 - Collaboration! Common needs vs. differences. Expand the participants of the conversation.
 - Common vision
 - Collaborative learning
 - Open doors = open facilities
 - Need dialog with other churches to continue collaborations.
 - Prayer!!!!!!
 - Can we look at our money and resources in even more creative WAYS?!?
 - Does Jesus lead us?

Futures Workshop Notes EDEO Convention – October 2, 2010

Here's what the delegates of Eastern Oregon had to say as we discussed the future of the Diocese during the Task Force on Diocesan Futures workshop. The participants were presented with what the task force has researched to date (a PDF copy of that presentation is posted on the diocesan website). They were then asked to discuss what they'd heard at their tables and to write their thoughts on large pieces of paper. The following is what they wrote.

- It's not real unless we're being challenged
 - outsiders
 - non-traditional
 - Gretzky—Go where the puck **will be**. Meeting the non-churched on their turf
 - Passion/fun/excitement vs. duty
 - Form follows function.
 - Clarify/emulate essential functions/ministries of bishop, canons admin, etc.
 - SWEEPA returns as the common language. Shared core function framework.
 - Mutual ministry ESSENTIAL component
 - Enhance convocation and community service org/ecumenical relationships. Shared ministry, shared costs
 - New birth from existing form
 - Canon-free R and D zones for trying new ministries.
 - Relationship is Job-1
 - Make real the life and teaching of Jesus
 - Effective not the same as perfect or ideal
 - Address cultural realities/context of ministry field
 - Chaos/volatile
 - Anxiety/fear
 - Hope?
 - Clinging to past comfort zone—what is worth clinging to and what can we let go?
 - How much is enough?
 - Mutual expansion and learning
 - Unique opportunity
 - Explore DMP for funding of EDEO—take to General Convention
 - Don't be afraid to make mistakes or to have a failure...we will learn from these, too!
 - Patty Lindsay—What do you want in a church? What would it take to get your young people to go to church? What should church be?
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- Are there situations in other towns that are similar to Sisters—re mainline churches not represented (no buildings) so come together in one church with two worship styles, but all other events are for all people?
 - Investigate the possibility of offering alternative worship services (compline taize, silent, more music for example)at various times of the week/
 - Explore the needs of the community.
 - Part time priest issues and opportunities and expectations (congregational training?)
 - What do we do with buildings if congregations merge? Who owns what?