



October 10, 2017

Dear Ones,

With thanksgiving to God and deep gratitude for having been called to serve among you as Dean of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, I write to tell you that I am making plans to retire from active ministry in 2018. My decision was reached after my meeting earlier in the summer with a small group of faithful Cathedral members convened by Mark Galus, Senior Warden, to discern a way forward in mutual ministry.

This process of discernment has been grace-filled. It has been part of the personal and professional reassessment I have been making since life changed radically after I had an ischemic stroke October 12, 2016.

The Vestry and I have come to a mutually beneficial agreement. I will retire on my sixty-fifth birthday, July 21, 2018. I will conclude active ministry among you on the Third Sunday of Easter, April 15, 2018. As is customary, I will then absent myself from all Cathedral activities except to attend concerts, funerals and diocesan functions.

From now until the end of 2017, I will serve fully in the Dean's role. I will continue to work closely with the Reverend Canon Evelyn Hornaday, whom I called to the position of Subdean. This is in preparation for Evelyn to take over the duties assigned to the Dean after the first of the year.

Until April 15 I will remain active with preaching and presiding on Sundays and weekdays, leading Adult Formation and The Way, supervising our young Adult Coordinator, working with planned giving development, promoting use of the Saint John's Bible, and sharing in pastoral care and visitation. Following my departure, the Wardens and Vestry will work with the Bishop to begin a search process for my successor.

The past year has shown us that our lives are transitory and ever-changing. Radical change defines us. It empowers us. At the center of our call as Christians is to acknowledge that in the brokenness of the cross, death is destroyed. Life is restored, renewed and transformed in the resurrection.

I am thankful for having been called to serve as your Dean. It is an honor to serve God in this lively and strong congregation in the heart of Kansas City. I pray that in these transitory times God will move among us in powerful and mysterious ways to shape and transform each of us. I look forward to conversations with each of you in the coming months.

Grace and peace,

The Very Reverend Peter J. DeVeau  
Dean