



# The Episcopal Diocese of Hawai‘i

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I know that the announcement from Paul regarding the impending Klitzke family move has come as a shock to many in the Episcopal Church of West Oahu (ECWO) and especially to the St. Nick’s ‘ohana. Clergy transitions are never easy. You can be proud that Paul is well prepared for his ministry as Rector of the Church of the Ascension, Dallas (<http://www.ascensiondallas.org>). His ministry has grown because of you. I know he is grateful for you. We – you and I – are grateful that Paul, Sarah, Noah and Emma have graced our lives. We can be heartened that this is a good move for the Klitzke family, and we can bless them on their way with joy and thanksgiving.

As we look to the future, I have met with the ECWO Wardens and staff. The regional ministry will continue with the office at Christ’s Gathering Place and Keane will continue as the ECWO Director of Operations and Congregational Development. Kaleo will continue as the Priest with Oversight of St. John the Baptist and St. Stephen’s. I will be naming him Vicar of those congregations. For worship, I am working to establish steady supply clergy for St. Timothy’s and St. Nicholas on Sunday morning liturgies at Christ’s Gathering Place, and for St. Nicholas, and for the Sunday evening service in Kapolei. Please understand, however, there may be Sundays when one or more of the congregations will have to have Morning Prayer (or Evening Prayer).

Each worshipping community will also need to work with me on reviewing the past five years including average Sunday attendance figures, demographics and projections for ministry. I will need your help in determining regional ministry priorities and needs as I appoint the next clergyperson to the team. I will also take an active part in shaping the worship of the congregations to meet the emerging needs and the target demographic evangelism.

This will be a time of change and evaluation. It is my hope that it will not be long. We will all need to be praying for the insight of God, the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, patience and joy. Please keep me in your prayers and be assured of mine.

I leave you with words from the other Paul (the Apostle):

“Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58)

I am your servant in Jesus Christ,

*+Bob*

The Right Reverend Robert L. Fitzpatrick