

Diocesan Visioning Conference: Discerning God's Call
Summary for Diocesan Board and Council
April 26, 2008

*Focus on the Mission,
Stay Together
and
Keep Moving Forward in the Name of Christ*

There was clarity and a sense of shared vision around these three essential core purposes:

1. Common Prayer - Worship in the Episcopal tradition: We encounter and experience God together through liturgy. The prayer is common but the language and styles are varied.
2. Outreach - Serving Christ in others: We are the hands, feet and heart of Jesus to a needy and broken world.
3. Making disciples - Spiritual formation and education: Each person experiences on-going transformation through prayer, worship, study and service.

Together we identified three shared mission priorities that will serve as areas of focus for programs and budget:

1. Community Connection through Collaboration and Communication
2. Evangelism and Congregational Development
3. Vibrant Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Here are the next steps in this process:

1. Ask ourselves: "What did we hear?" and "How will that impact our ministry?"
2. Board/Council members will form working groups (some will be current groups) to develop these goals and objectives and to identify people and resources required in order to meet them prior to the budgeting needs in mid-summer.
3. Each member of the Diocesan Board and Council along with the program chairs/staff will review the CD of photos with detailed information from the Visioning Conference. They will look for specific, practical ideas from which they will develop goals and objectives.
4. How will these mission areas and goals be communicated to the entire diocese? This is to be rolled out at Diocesan Convention. How will that happen?
5. What implications does this have for diocesan staffing? Who will be responsible for implementing action plans for the goals?