



Joining God in Shaping Our Future

Forming a Guiding Team

- Each congregation will form a Team of 3-5 people (suggested) to guide their congregation's participation in the process. This team should be made up of interested leaders and participants from within the congregation who have a desire to engage in this process. Clergy are not members of the team.
- Teams *meet monthly* to reflect on where they are with the process and plan steps for the next month.
- Team/team leader makes regular contact with their Companion.
- Teams in each congregation participating in the process are the conduit through which the congregation is invited to participate.
- If possible, team consists primarily of lay leaders not currently serving on Vestry. Vestries have their own important work to do and may not have as much time to focus on the Team's work.

Suggested Characteristics/Skills for People Serving on a Congregational Team:

- Ability to work collaboratively on a Team in cooperation with others
- Commitment to enter the process as a learner without an agenda other than to follow God's leading for the congregation.
- Combination of Team members reflect the diversity of a congregation in terms of age, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, etc.
- Willingness to experiment with new activities and behaviors which the process will invite.
- Ability and willingness to personally invite others in the congregation to participate at different points in the process.
- Commitment to participate in all local Team meetings and to engage in assigned work between meetings.
- Commitment to respond timely to communication related to the process (i.e., email, phone calls).
- Willingness to personally practice some of the spiritual habits integral to the process (e.g., Dwelling in the Word, Listening to the Congregation and Neighborhoods).

Anticipated Commitment of Each Guiding Team Member:

- Attend the periodic (every 3-4 months) Congregational Gatherings with other Teams engaged in the process. These gatherings provide opportunity for Guiding Teams to learn from and support each other.
- Attend monthly meetings with members of your congregation's Team. These meetings will be the space for planning your congregation's participation in each step of journey.