

Joining God in Shaping Our Future

FRAMING THE JOURNEY

The journey to join God in shaping our future points towards a core question:

How do we go on a journey together to discern what God is up to in our neighborhoods, and join God there?

OUR FIVE PRACTICES ON THE JOURNEY

At the heart of our journey together are five core practices. Through engaging in these practices, we create space and time for listening, discerning, and testing out what we believe God is up to. As we move through and repeat these practices we develop new habits, attitudes and values. These practices point us back to God and the core question.



LISTENING

- Listen to God and one another through *Dwelling in the Word*.
- Listen and share one another's stories of God's life in the congregation.
- Listen to the neighborhood through simple exercises in "walking about."

DISCERNING

- Continue listening to God and one another through *Dwelling in the Word*.
- Bring the listening together to ask the question: "What experiments might the Spirit be inviting us to engage with in our neighborhoods?"

EXPERIMENTING

- Continue listening to God and one another through *Dwelling in the Word*.
- Carry out the experiments, reflect on process, adjust, and repeat. Teams reflect with a Companion on what they are doing.
- Teams prepare a report on their experiments, what they have learned, what they have sensed God doing, etc. to inform the congregation.

EVALUATING

- Continue listening to God and one another through *Dwelling in the Word*.
- Teams complete experiments and report to their congregations telling the stories of what they have experienced.

DECIDING: LIVING INTO A NEW FUTURE

- Continue listening to God and one another through *Dwelling in the Word*.
- Plan next round of experiments.
- Participate in gathering with clergy and Diocesan Leadership Team to explore living into a new future.