



**Sample Resolution Commissioning a
Joining God in Shaping our Future
Guiding Team**

WHEREAS, we recognize that world has changed over the last sixty years and that declining church membership and regular attendance at worship are a reflection of the declining centrality of organized religion in people's lives; and

WHEREAS, we accept Bishop Beckwith's admonition that business as usual is no longer an option; and

WHEREAS, as faithful witnesses of Christ we believe that God is up to something in our congregations and neighborhoods and it is important to discover how to join God in that work; and

WHEREAS, we believe that this discernment needs to take place in a diverse group of communities with the findings shared widely among congregations so that they may learn from one another;

NOW THEREFORE, the vestry of _____ hereby commissions a Guiding Team to participate in the congregational journey of joining God in our neighborhoods. We will support and encourage this team as it guides us on the journey and as we join God in shaping our future and the future of the Diocese of Newark.