

Implementation Team
Meeting at Bishophurst, Sault Ste. Marie
May 29 and 30, 2014

Overview : The purpose and format of the meeting is to review the status of each strategy within the 7 Strategic Objectives of the Strategic Plan and recommend further action as required.

Review of Strategic Objective 1 : Healthy Congregational Development

- Given the amount of information collected and the detailed nature of the congregational reports being prepared by Jay, the rationalization process may be somewhat lengthened.
- Some congregations have begun the rationalization process, but overall, congregations are at various stages.
- Deanery officials will be further schooled in the process at the June Executive meeting.

Review of Strategic Objective 2: Authentic Evangelism

- Muskoka Deanery exploring future initiative with John Bowen, Director of Wycliffe Institute of Evangelism.
- Alpha, Cursillo and Come to Church Sunday happening locally without central organization.

Review of Strategic Objective 3 : Involved Children and Youth

- Child and Youth Ministry Facilitators and Deanery Youth Coordinators in place with one exception, Deanery Youth Coordinator for Temiskaming Deanery.
- Resources for parishes re. effective strategies for child and youth ministry were initially developed, but it seems were not disseminated effectively. Team will pursue current validity of resources and methods for effective use by parishes.

Review of Strategic Objective 4 : Dynamic Communication

- Team requesting that Communications Committee, chaired by Rev. Kelly Baetz, recommend a structure and terms of reference for a standing committee to assist with emerging communications issues such as use of social media and management of websites. This committee would report to Executive.
- Approximately 20plus people joined in to 3 recent webinars by Bishop Stephen. Participants responded enthusiastically to the benefits of these sessions, which speaks to the potential use of webinars within our Diocese. We need to solicit presenters and consider what we need to be teaching and sharing in our Diocese through this medium. Communications Committee is asked to develop protocols and policies for use of this technology in the Diocese of Algoma. We are grateful to Kelly Baetz and Linda Langdon for enabling this process to move forward.

Review of Strategic Objective 5 : Empowering Clergy and Lay Development

- New two year clergy evaluation process well under way, including a component requiring input from parish leadership personnel.
- Many people in Diocese exploring careers in Ministry. Mentorship dependent upon local resources.
- Education and support for clergy families will receive further discussion at Bishop's Council.

Review of Strategic Objective 6 : Effective Social Action through Mission

- Strategy 6.3, refers to creation of discernment and training workshops. Social Justice and Mission Committee, under leadership of Beth Hewson, is developing a training program re. Social Justice. Implementation Team interprets this strategy as referring to discernment of outreach, social justice and environmental issues. Further definitions and resources will be valuable.
- The Committee has developed an Environmental Policy for churches in Algoma. Implementation Team suggested minor revisions. Policy will be presented to Executive in June.

Review of Strategic Objective 7 : Inspiring Anglican Worship

- Diocesan Excellence in Worship Committee functioned briefly, but resource work now continuing through Jay Koyle's office.
- Some worship resources available on and through the Diocesan web site.
- Re. Strategy 7.3, Bishop and Implementation Team agreed that a Mystery Worshiper Program would not be pursued. Reported to Executive.
- In some instances, worship issues have emerged through parish assessment processes and also discussed at Clergy and Lay conferences.

*Next meeting of Implementation Team scheduled September 2, 3 in Sudbury.