

Welcome: Mission Priority 1

Over the last year we have worked together to determine where God is next calling us. To that end, let us look at this proposed Mission Priority.

Prayer for this time of Discernment

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless all our clergy and people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Mission Priority

In this time, we have discerned that God's Holy Spirit is leading us to:

- **support each of our worshiping communities to identify and equip lay and clergy leadership who will engage them in more fully living into the promises of our Baptismal Covenant**

Remembering that the below possible implementations steps are NOT all inclusive, nor are they necessarily required to support this first mission priority; so, focusing mostly on the mission priority statement, please consider:

-In what ways does this mission priority capture your imagination?

-What questions or concerns are raised for you regarding this mission priority?

-What suggestions do you have for how this mission priority could be better stated?

We will do this in a variety of ways, perhaps including but not limited to ...

- ❖ structured diocesan process to ensure clergy support for smaller congregations
- ❖ training for lay worship leaders
- ❖ support for bi-vocational priestly ministry
- ❖ continuing options for lay and clergy leadership development
- ❖ build robust School for Ministry
- ❖ diocesan wide stewardship initiatives,
 - understanding stewardship in the broadest way
- ❖ support for congregations to engage new populations
- ❖ initiatives to support congregational vitality and growth
- ❖ strengthen Deanery relationships to help congregations avoid isolation

Video Two – First Mission Priority

Conclusion

Thank you for taking time to help in this discernment process. Please send all feedback to: missionpriorities@diocese-eastcarolina.org