

Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota Mission, Goals, and Strategy

Adopted at Diocesan Convention
October 6, 1990
Grand Forks, North Dakota

Revised September 1993 and October 1998



God gives the growth. I Corinthians 3:7

MISSION STATEMENT

We seek to be empowered together through the Holy Spirit for every member ministry in our changing world.

GOALS

Goal 1: Through Bible study, prayer and sharing, we will strive to discern God's will for us and come to a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Jesus.

"He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me'"

(Mark 8:34)

Diocesan Strategies

- Provide education about the importance and formation of cell groups.
- Share information about resources for Bible study and other Christian education programs: videos, books, other types of resources.
- Provide resources such as workshops on prayer (particularly spontaneous/public prayer).
- Publicize CORE workshops and TEAMS and Native TEAMS sessions.

Goal 2: Recognizing that we are all called by our gifts to various ministries, each congregation will discern and deploy ministry support teams based on congregational gifts and current needs, according to diocesan guidelines.

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift."

(Ephesians 4:4-7)

"We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith, ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness."

(Romans 12:6-8)

Diocesan Strategies

- Provide resources (both people and information) to do gifts discernment in congregations-workshops, etc.
- Provide training for those identified for ministry teams.
- Provide information and education for congregations/regions to expand the vision of what a ministry team can be in each unique congregation.

Goal 3: Recognizing that we are to make disciples of all nations and welcome the stranger, we will become more intentional in our efforts to share the good news of Christ and our own faith with others.

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"

(Matthew 28:18-20)

Diocesan Strategies

- Identify resources for helping people to become more comfortable sharing their faith.
- Identify barriers which keep us from sharing our faith.
- Provide resources for empowering people as witnesses to the Good News.
- Identify ways to assess our capacity as congregations to welcome new people.

Goal 4: Recognizing that we are called to be ministers and servants of Christ in the world, each congregation will identify human needs in the larger community and be involved in outreach ministries.