Congregational Revitalization & Development Committee

Report 2002

Mission Statement: To develop with congregations plans for revitalization by presenting the Gospel, implementing strategies for renewal of faith, and strengthening actions for mission; and to organize and implement plans for the expansion of God's Kingdom in our Diocese through the development of new congregations.

Vision Statement: The Congregational Revitalization & Development Committee is the body through which our diocese actively seeks out opportunities for growth and determines diocesan support.

The committee met on April 17, 2002. Fr. Hyndman presided at the meeting as the new chairman of the committee after Mrs. Jane Schmoetzer resigned from that post. The committee received and discussed two grant requests from parishes. Both grant requests concerned support for hiring part-time youth pastors. Christ the King, Huntington requested a three-year grant in a declining amount to hire a graduate student from Huntington College. They requested $3,000 for the first year with yearly declining amounts of $2,700, and $2,400. St. Andrew's, Valparaiso requested a three year grant to hire a full time youth and family coordinator with Trinity Church (ELCA). Both churches will each be responsible for half of the coordinator's salary with Trinity handling the necessary insurance. The request for the first year was $15,000 with decreasing amounts of $10,000 and $5,000. After discussion the committee voted to approve the grants commending the churches for their vision in the matter. Bishop Little shared with the committee the ideas of the Hispanic Task Force to establish an Hispanic ministry using the Nesting Model: an established church as an host. While still in the planning stage, monies will be needed to implement the project and CR&D may be asked to participate.

Besides these grant requests CR&D provides a small monetary support for our mission church, St. Peter's, Rensselaer; funds to retire the mortgage on the new chapel at Wawasee; and continues its commitment to fund participants of the Clear Vision Conference at Camp Allen in the Diocese of Texas.

The following are the expenditures from CR&D from January 1, 2002 to September 3, 2002:

Grant to Christ the King, Huntington $3,000.00

Grant to St. Andrew's, Valparaiso 15,000.00

Support of St. Peter's, Rensselaer 720.00

Clear Vision Conference expenses 2,653.42

Total expenditures $21,373.42

The committee stands ready to serve the diocese and its congregations. Requests for aid for congregational revitalization are welcome, and the committee eagerly awaits participation with the diocese in establishing new ministries.

Submitted for the Committee,

The Rev. Canon David L. Hyndman, Chair

Committee Membership:

2004

The Rev. Dr. Isaac Thiasota, Grace Church, Fort Wayne

Sheryl Blake, St. James, Goshen

Freeman Gilbert, Cathedral Church of St. James

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Jason Beschiniski, Cathedral Church of St. James

Laurie Fisher, Grace Church. Fort Wayne

The Rev. Samuel Nsengiyumva, Holy Family, Angola

The Rev. Tina Veithuisen, Holy Trinity, South Bend

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The Rev. Canon David Hyndman, Chair, St. Augustine's, Gaiy

Jane Schmoetzer, St. Paul's, Munster

Ex officio

The Rt. Rev. Edward S. Little II

The Rev. Canon David L. Seger