

DIOCESAN MISSION ACTION PLAN REPORT

Vision: Called to Life – Compelled to Love

Mission Statement: Ignited by the irresistible love of Jesus and renewed by the Holy Spirit, we partner with God to deepen faith, share stories and care for God's world.

The diocesan Mission Action Plan and the parish Mission Action Plans are living documents designed to capture the exciting ways we are actively coming alongside God at work in our communities and our parishes to co-create God's new society. These priorities and initiatives reflect an intersection of our spiritual yearnings, strengths, and challenges and it's so affirming to see this work renewing and transforming our ministries.

In the past year, the diocese has been busy with Mission Action Plan activities including:

- the launch of the Parish Mission Action Plan Process for Parishes Guide for Facilitators along with three online orientations for parish members ready to undertake this work;
- an Niagara School for Missional Leadership course offering guidance and support for those called to be parish leaders in the MAP process (to be offered again in the Winter 2023 term);
- a Diocesan Mission & Ministry rebate opportunity for parishes who submit their Mission Action Plan and accompanying data prior to December 1 (expecting 40 submissions)
- ongoing engagement with the diocesan Mission Action Plan as it enlivens and transform us
 - *Create and Implement Opportunities to Ignite and Strengthen Faith*
 - Revive parish programs nourish church leaders while Alpha courses engage seekers and long-time Anglicans in exploring a personal relationship with Jesus.
 - The Bishop's Book for Lent; *Saving Us – A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World*, and *A Spirituality of Fundraising* engaged readers in a deepened faith walk while also weaving in the MAP threads of Reimagining Parish Culture and Prioritizing Social Justice.
 - Our four intentional missional ministries continue to share the Good News through Mission in Acts (Chinese Anglican ministry), the Cathedral Community of Prayer, St. Luke's Common Prayer, and the missional witness in the neighbourhoods around the All Saints Mission.
 - The Niagara School for Missional Leadership has added more courses each term, growing missional leaders in their skills and competencies in many exciting areas.
 - *Reimagining Parish Culture and Adapting our Structures to Enable Ministry*
 - All Saints Anglican Mission, established by Synod Council, and functioning with the support of the All Saints Mission Advisory Board, expects to be in their new space by Advent and have been preparing for occupancy by reimagining how they will function as a new presence in this space.
 - Staffing at the diocesan office has been reimagined to better support mission at the diocesan and parish levels with new roles – Assistant Bishop, Parish Development Missioner, Communications Coordinator, Personnel Coordinator, and Database Administrator filled this year.
 - Synod Council continues to consider new policies and canons designed to enhance our shared ministry in the nimblest manner.
 - *Prioritize Social Justice with an Emphasis on Environmental Justice*
 - Support for the Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters.
 - New territorial land acknowledgements shared with ministries and parishes.

- Anti-Racism Working Group finalizing “made in Niagara” anti-racism curriculum for clergy and parishioners to launch in 2023.
- Climate Change Niagara’s work with the Net Zero Churches Project as well as resourcing World Water Day, Earth Hour, Earth Sunday and the Season of Creation.
- Human Trafficking working group providing resources and education for work against human trafficking.
- The in-person Fiercely Loved: Born This Way liturgy on June 12th celebrating pride, allyship, and diocesan support of the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Migrant Farm Workers mission developing deeper partnerships with Quest Community Health Centre (providing primary healthcare) and Fiesta Wholesale (provide Mexican and Latin American food products) as well as providing bike safety items (helmets, vests, tool kits and safety & repair videos) – all with support from several granting agencies .

Parish MAP advocates will be sharing their stories of walking with God in Adult Faith Formation, Reshaping Parish Culture to Enable Ministry, and Fullness of Life in the Neighbourhood as their initiatives unfold and we will be telling those stories to inspire and ignite everyone! For those who did not engage with the Parish MAP process in 2022, we anticipate another opportunity for a Diocesan Mission & Ministry rebate in 2023.

As we move into our fourth year of living into this iteration of our mission, we look forward to a period of reflection and refreshing of the diocesan MAP. Stay tuned for ways you might be involved!

Respectfully submitted,

Canon Christyn Perkons
Director, Congregational Support and Development