

# **Mission Strategy Committee**

## **Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Goals**

### **MISSION**

The Purpose of the Mission Strategy Committee is to support and energize the growth of the Church by developing a comprehensive strategy of evangelism that establishes new congregations and develops existing congregations throughout the Diocese of Colorado.

### **VISION**

We are a part of God's work to transform the lives of people in Colorado, to bring God's kingdom to the state of Colorado. We are a diocese which has an intentional program for church redevelopment, systematically plants new churches in response to mission opportunities, and offers all churches resources and assistance in church health and growth:

### **CORE VALUES**

#### **1. Prayer**

- We strive to discern God's will through prayer.
- We seek the Spirit's leading through a commitment to listen carefully to what other lay people and clergy from around the state are sensing.
- We listen to what the Spirit is saying through the context in which we do ministry and include information gained from demographic trends and studies.

#### **2. Evangelism**

- We are open to both traditional and new approaches to evangelism.
- We are committed to reaching the unchurched in Colorado so that they experience the kingdom of God and become committed disciples of Jesus Christ.
- We understand that we have a great evangelical opportunity with Colorado's population growth.

#### **3. Servanthood**

- We are highly committed to listening in order to understand.
- We provide studied and informed counsel to the Bishop, Standing Committee, and regions.
- We work to encourage, support, and nurture local mission initiatives.
- We are partners in mission with the congregations of the Diocese and seek to provide appropriate resources for mission oriented growth.

#### **4. Courage**

- We strive to advise courageously when difficult choices emerge.
- We communicate in ways that are honest and transparent, working for mutual accountability with the Bishop, Standing Committee, regions, and congregations.
- We recognize and respect the growing cultural and racial diversity of our state.
- We ask for financial resources from congregations and individuals to fund new and redeveloping congregations.

**Goals to be accomplished over the next year:**

- Develop a comprehensive strategy for new starts (how many a year, how to do it, how to fund it, how to provide land, how to respond to different situations).
- Develop support and accountability for those who are leaders in new starts.
- Develop a broad demographic of the state of Colorado; get a large "lay of the land" picture.
- Recommend to Diocesan Convention in 2006 canonical guidelines for congregational status (special, mission, parish, imperiled status).
- Develop guidelines for mission leadership and governance.
- Develop guidelines for the Mission Strategy Fund with the Standing Committee.
- Develop guidelines for doing ministry in various situations: rural, small town, urban, suburban, including partnerships with the ELCA.
- Develop communications with the rest of the diocese about the work of the Mission Strategy Committee (diocesan newsletter, web site, diocesan weekly e-mail updates, and convention).
- Be a working link with each region, to respond to requests, to initiate programs.