

Congregational Vitality Workgroup

- The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Bascom, Bishop
- Mr. Jay Currie, Comptroller
- Mr. Brian Geary, Treasurer
- The Rev. Andrew O'Connor, Saint Francis Ministries, SW Convocation
- The Very Rev. Casey Rohleder, St. Luke's, Wamego, At-large
- Mr. Frank Taylor, Chancellor

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Objective Statement

Strengthen congregational vitality in all its forms to respond to the needs of a changing church and world

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Goal #1:

Develop a shared understanding of what congregational vitality is

TACTIC #1

Evaluate church-wide, other diocese & ecumenical partner resources that support congregational vitality

TACTIC #2

Develop a shared understanding (characteristics & practices) that make for vital congregations, considering vitality in different-sized churches and varied contexts in the Diocese.

TACTIC #3

Curate and publish a resource list to assist parish leadership in their work to strengthen vitality in their context

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Goal #2

Recognize & tap all the currencies necessary for robust congregational mission & ministry

TACTIC #1

Diocesan-wide book study/discussion of "Holy Currencies" in 2024-25, announced at the 2024 Annual Convention

TACTIC #2

Invite clergy and parish teams to diocesan-funded workshop(s) with Eric Law (or Kaleidoscope Institute) in late 2025

TACTIC #3

After Cycle of Blessings workshop(s), convene an annual parish stewardship conference in 2025

TACTIC #4

As the diocese reviews apportionment schedule per Canon IV.2, Sec 6, conduct diocesan-wide listening process in 2026, aligning that process with Holy Currencies work

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Goal #3

Establish “new model” Episcopal communities in response to emerging realities in our time and culture.

TACTIC #1

Gather an affinity group of clergy and leaders interested in this work

TACTIC #2

Provide opportunities for diocesan-wide education and training about church planting/new models

TACTIC #3

Establish four new Episcopal communities by 2030, including the new work in Holten as model for a church replant.

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Goal #4

Strengthen existing diocesan structures

TACTIC #1

Create greater clarity about the structures, processes, and expectations among diocesan leadership and ignite deeper ownership of:

- Minsters
- Convocations
- Task Forces
- Diocesan Staff
- Clericus

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