

Instructions

What does renewal mean in your community? How does it look? How could it look?

- Read the following sentence aloud and try to complete it together. If possible, see if you can come to agreement on one sentence:

“If we are going to experience renewal in our community, we need to....”

- Read the following sentence aloud and try to complete it together. If possible, see if you can come to agreement on one sentence:

“If we are going to experience renewal in our community, we need to stop...”

- Bonus question:

How can the church participate in the healing of the world? How do you see this happening in your community?

- If you have time, you can invite each group to share their responses with the wider community to generate further conversation.

Please collect all of the responses from your community, scan, and email to: missionreview@dioceseny.org

Responses

Table 1

What does renewal mean, how does it look:

Renewal: define the meaning: refreshed, aspirational

What does it look like:

inclusive parishioners, esp youth, 30-40's; families, #'s inc.

Sunday School

more social than religious

educating—the Episcopal church accepts all people

how do you seek community

If we are going to experience renewal we need to:

[strengthen] women of Grace, Men of Grace, youth group nursery—sing a song (idea for working with Preschool having them come once a month to sing a simple song)

movies-youth

social justice, environment

shady knoll (summer family event)

speaker series

Table 2

What does renewal mean, how does it look:

building community, community activities, fundraisers, ideas, discussion
new energy to support the church/community activities
also rejuvenation for the next generation/wave
starting something fresh & new

If we are going to experience renewal we need to:

create opportunities for the parish to come together and build
examples: potluck, volunteering, study, social events, movies, parish sport/games,
small group night
more connecting!

If we are going to experience renewal we need to stop:

thinking church is just the service and the minimum is enough (complacency)

How can the church participate in the healing of the world:

leading by example and intentional small actions to help others & be kind

Table 3

What does renewal mean, how does it look:

Getting your energy back, both physical & spiritual

people who do a lot sometimes need renewal
people helping people so they don't burn out
letting go of things that need to be gone/trying something new

If we are going to experience renewal we need to:

know how people feel
what do you need to feel renewed?
communicate with others in our community to determine interests & needs and
possible ways to work together
get leadership—vestries & others together for discussion

If we are going to experience renewal we need to stop:

assuming we know what people need & want

How can the church participate in the healing of the world?

write letters to our world leaders
and have some of our leaders of both parties come here to visit our community
continue our current outreach & encourage the larger church to continue its outreach in
energy programs etc.

Table 4

What does renewal mean, how does it look:

renewal looks like participation in a live community, with a group of real people in the church pews.

If we are going to experience renewal we need to:

talk to people in person & find opportunities to interact

If we are going to experience renewal we need to stop:

making excuses

How can the church participate in the healing of the world?

spread the good news! (Mission)

other notes: renewal: sense of feeling of love, like spring or Easter

all young and alive

a return or rebirth

renewal looks like more people in the church in person & not online
[with] energy & vitality you can concentrate more

it looks like people engaged in activities with each other
no community without real people and real conversations

Table 5

What does renewal mean, how does it look:

A) invigoration

B) weaving of new & old people that ...allows for natural [something] of effort, with ...
new ideas & general energy & excellence & belonging!

If we are going to experience renewal we need to:

Spark- communication/follow up/welcoming/awareness of needs & resources &
people's experience

If we are going to experience renewal we need to stop:

lack of awareness may allow people to slip away

stop burnout

stop notion of having to make things like we used to

How can the church participate in the healing of the world?

it is no small thing, the [something] service

Table 6

What does renewal mean, how does it look:

next generations

Sunday school in Spanish

inviting

interesting educational programs, concerts

If we are going to experience renewal we need to:

engage with the community

make it clear how to connect

series on spirituality

If we are going to experience renewal we need to stop:

silos & embrace difference

How can the church participate in the healing of the world?

reach out to AA members who have had bad experience of institutional religion,

provide an experience of God not defined already

Table 7

What does renewal mean, how does it look:

a) Every Sunday coming to church is a renewal

b) meeting people we have not seen, renewal of friendship

c) hope

If we are going to experience renewal we need to:

“invite” people and be “welcoming”

If we are going to experience renewal we need to stop:

doing the same thing

not being able to accept criticism

How can the church participate in the healing of the world?

“outreach”

acceptance & listening,

no politics from the pulpit