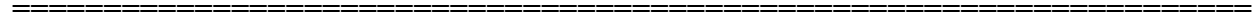


The 144th Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan

Subject of the Resolution: Parish Vitality and Viability Assessment Originator

Submitted By: The Parish Vitality Task Force

Be it resolved, that this 144th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan accepts the Task Force’s report “Mutuality, Vitality and Viability: Characteristics of Congregations Growing In Mission,” and approves and supports the use of the EDWM Parish Vitality and Viability Assessment Tool in congregations facilitated by members of the Task Force and the Canon Missioners.



Rationale: The Task Force presented its preliminary report at the Bishop’s Regional Workshops in February and March 2018 and has since developed the Assessment Tool, piloted the tool or had helpful conversations about it with several vestries, and received valuable feedback. We are now ready to implement the assessment tool with the help of the Canon Missioners. The tool will enable congregational leaders to observe and reflect on congregational life to determine what strengths exist and what opportunities are present in order to assist parishes as they develop a clear missional focus so that both members and the larger community will experience the abundant life to which Jesus call us. It is the understanding of the Task Force that participating parishes and facilitators will provide additional comment, and that the Assessment Tool will undergo continued development and refinement.