

York-Credit Valley Area ~ January 2018 Town Hall Summary Report

Dot-mocracy Results

Areas to Continue Focus (in ranking order)

- Nurturing Prayer & Worship 63**
- Evangelism (Sharing God's Good News) 59**
- Serving Others 36**
- Collegiality/Fellowship 33
- Social Justice/Advocacy 26
- Nurturing Diversity 24
- Interfaith/Ecumenical Activities 15
- Community Development 11
- Area-Wide Events 6

Areas to Increase Focus (in ranking order)

- Children's Ministry 47**
- Youth Ministry 45**
- Cultivating New "Non Sunday" Worship/Ministry Forms 36**
- Lay Leadership Training 36**
- Collaboration/Team Ministry 29
- Community Engagement 27
- Addressing Aging Infrastructure/Deferred Maintenance 23
- Lay Evangelism Training 21
- Resources/Support for Struggling Parishes 18

Table Reports

With the top priorities from each dot exercise identified (see page 1), attendees were asked to brainstorm responses to these within their table groups (see YCV January 2018 Town Hall Table Discussion Notes). Tables were then asked to name **one concrete step** that could move each priority forward and to identify what **resources** (human, financial, other) would be needed to do so. Ideas for the three “Continue Focus” areas and the four “Increase Focus” areas are listed below:

Ideas for “Continue Focus” Areas

Nurturing Prayer & Worship

- Cell groups/home-based faith sharing
Need: Area prayer cycle; create a program
- Prayer groups for scripture/sermon reflection
Need: training of group leaders
- Keeping buildings open for prayer during week with various prayer options
Need: time; training in various prayer types
- Small groups
Need: Serendipity Bible; other study resources
- Teaching common prayer
Need: instructed liturgy; online liturgy resources
- Use variety of resources for worship

Evangelism (Sharing God's Good News)

- Actions are also testimony; practice evangelism with fellow parishioners
- Evangelism goes with service
Need: teach re: priesthood of all believers; increase ordained diaconate
- Need more knowledge; training
- Community visibility; nurture development of evangelists
Need: nurture storytelling; encourage variety of ongoing homileticals
- Expand definition of evangelism
Need: identify what is happening now
- Outreach: first in the congregation, then extend to friends and neighbours
Need: make evangelical opportunities in congregation visible
- Educate laity

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Serving Others

- Community needs assessment/missional listening/get to know your neighborhood
Need: time for relationship building; inventory of existing programs
- Mentorship
- Increase diaconate
- Learn about local programs partner with them at parish, deanery, or area level
- Encourage/nurture service in parish
- Inventory of current activities (e.g., community meals, etc.)
Need: create database

Ideas for “Increase Focus” Areas

Youth Ministry

- Hold events to support youth ministers
Need: mandate new coordinator to meet with and listen to use
- Cultivate parents of young families
Need: education resources
- Increase connection of areas youth groups
Need: online resources
- Cluster parishes to share a youth minister
- Identify needs of young families
Need: to share successes/challenges; listen to those families
- Deanery-wide youth events

Children's Ministry

- New models that include families inventory what we have
Need: workshops (“sticky faith”)
- Gather stories of success from around the Area
- Find ways to overcome cost of resources
Need: resource sharing; create library of free programming
- Children's Vestry seeking their input
- Equip lady for this ministry
- Tour of Sunday school facilities/programming
- Engage parents/grandparents
Need: build community beyond Sundays

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Lay Leadership Training

- Encourage participation; provide pastoral care
- Mentorship: finding ways to appreciate lay leaders
- Focus on specific topics (e.g., youth, evangelism, etc.)
- Curate resources; communicate the many options available
- Involve laity in offering training

Cultivating New Non-Sunday Worship/Ministry

- Recognize non-Sunday services are not just feeder programs for Sunday
Need: to change Diocesan stats reporting, resource allocation, priorities
- Consider Saturday evening worship
- Need a mental shift for laity to see Church be on Sunday
- Take worship out of church (e.g., to seniors residences)

General Recommendation

- That each deanery clericus devote one meeting to each of the “increase focus” areas
- That the Area have at least one area-wide event devoted to each “increase focus” areas