## Our diocesan vision, mission, and characteristics:

Joy in Christ, as a way of life.

Grow and develop congregations: spiritually, numerically and in missional leadership.

Radical Hospitality, Passionate Spirituality & Thoughtful Engagement

## **Annual Congregational Development and Support Grants**

## **Definitions:**

Congregational Development is the work of the Diocese to support the growth of congregations as they seek to discover and embrace their unique ministry. The purpose of these grants is to encourage congregational strength and vitality using the funds allocated for this purpose in the Diocesan budget.

A congregation discovering new opportunities for their growth in ministry and lacking the financial resources to meet their opportunities is invited to apply for a Congregational Development Grant (CDG).

The Congregational Development Partnership Committee (CDPC) is a standing committee of Diocesan Council with membership from the diocese at large.

Congregational development and support grants are given to provide financial support for parishes as they engage in a plan for congregational development; this may include funding for clergy leadership. Such a congregational development plan may serve two primary purposes – to encourage growth and to maintain ministries of vital interest to the diocese.

## Criteria:

Council will be looking for the following criteria as part of a grant request:

- Aligns with the Diocesan Vision, Mission and Characteristics
- Includes a clergy leader who will work to develop and/or implement a plan for congregational development. Financial support for a clergy leader may be requested as part of the grant.
- Offers a plan with clearly stated goals, outcomes and a timeline that shows a
  path for congregational growth and demonstrates commitment by the
  congregation for a continuous, vital ministry in the community
- Demonstrates progress towards self-sufficiency through growth, collaboration, alternative funding, and/or provides a vital ministry of the Diocese
- Commits to participate in an annual accountability process
- Demonstrates financial need
- Demonstrates how this plan directly benefits your congregation and the community you serve.