

## **Opening Prayer**

**Ever-present God, you call us on a journey. We have not reached our destination.**

**Be among us, we pray. Calm our fears and save us from discouragement and help us stay on course. Open our hearts to your guidance so that our journey to this unknown place continues as a journey of trust. Amen.**

## **Agenda**

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

- **What are we looking to accomplish?**
  - **Questions to Keep in Mind throughout Our Discernment:**
    - **What is God calling us to do next?**
    - **Are we focused on and faithful to our reason for being?**
    - **Are we sustainable in mission and ministry?**
    - **Are we connected to and expressive of our ecclesial tradition, ethos, and character?**
    - **Are we self-renewing and responsive to challenges and opportunities before us?**  
**Are we sustainable or working toward sustainability in terms of fit between vision of ministry, leadership, culture, size, property, finances, etc.?**
  
- **How do we accomplish this?**
- **(LET'S DO THIS)**
  - Identify areas needing improvement
    - increase younger population for parish – explore new ways of worshiping & research proven outreach to younger population through Diocesan & National Church experience
    - assess opportunities for increased parish discipleship
    - strengthen congregant response to needs of the church/decrease overreliance on priest
  
  - Learn from experiences in our church's history
  - Examine list of parishioners on record to reach out to those who could return and/or identify those who might need parish outreach
  
  - Look to the future & assess new possibilities
    - new outreach ministries that strengthen awareness of who we are in the community
    - focus on climate initiatives to draw attention of younger population
    - explore opportunities for younger population through Mission Farm & Rockpoint
    - explore a unique plan for Good Shepherd through reformatting our worship & using Deacons, Lay Ministers, etc. more until we are ready for full-time clergy (5 to 8 year

plan)

- QUESTIONs FOR DISCUSSION CHAPTER 3
  - Mission Statement
  - Resources for Shared Ministry
  - Demographics of Church & Community
  - Physical Plant
  - People Resources/Finances
- 
- Questions for Diocese
  - What are they doing to draw younger people to the church?
- 
- What is happening in Maine and New Hampshire to attract younger population?
  - What happens if we merge or establish constellation and it doesn't work?

Closing Prayer