

Congregational Participation

Who Participates?

- All members of the congregation willing to let God help them focus their concerns for the future of the church.

How do I become involved?

- By receiving this packet of information
- By agreeing to spend at least 15 minutes a day for the next two weeks reading Scripture, praying and reflecting on the future of our church

What am I expected to do?

- Read a brief scripture lesson (10 days)
- A different scripture each day
- Each scripture will present a “picture” for the church's life and mission.
- Pray for openness to God’s leading, such as: “Dear God, open my heart and mind so that I might hear your desires for our congregation.”
- Spend time prayerfully reflecting upon the scripture by asking three questions:
 - What does this tell me about God?
 - What does this tell me about God’s desire for our church?
 - What kind of pastoral leadership would be appropriate for our church, if we were to live into this image of the church?
- Write down the key ideas (2 or 3 descriptive words or phrases) that came during this time of prayer and reflection.
- Prepare a summary sheet at the end of the process.
- Come to the meeting designed for the gathering and discussing of key ideas.

What will happen to the key ideas that I have written down?

- They will be added to the key ideas from other members of the congregation. These ideas will be collected by the Mission Study Team and used in writing its report. Once the report is approved by the Session and the presbytery, the PNC will use it as the basis for writing the church’s Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP), which is the resume we publish to interested candidates.