**The connectors**

**THE CONNECTORS FOUR:**

**Missional Learning Community**

**SOME DETAILS**

**Who:** Up to 10 participants**\*** (lay and clergy) + a facilitator

**When:** Runs for 1 year. Starts early 2022. Ends early December 2022.

**How:** Monthly gatherings (except July, August) over two days. Some will be hosted on Zoom and others will be in person at a local hotel/retreat centre.

**Location:** To be determined, depending on the participants.

**What:** Involves reflection, prayer, discussion, study (reading, audio, video sources), goal-setting, experimenting with missional initiatives, guest speakers and mutual peer support. The Connectors’ priority is focused on being a mission-shaped congregation and Fresh Expressions of Church (new communities of faith).

**Costs:** Travel, lodging, meals and educational materials are covered by the Diocese.

**Expectations:**

* Participants commit to attend *all* of learning community sessions and an estimated average of three hours per month of study, reflection and discernment/visioning for themselves and their faith community. Additional time may be required for the missional initiative.
* Parish Council is apprised of their leader’s involvement, the time and work requirements. They covenant to fully support this initiative, recognizing that it will greatly benefit the life and missional ministry of the community. (Alternate emergency pastoral coverage is arranged should their rector attend the sessions.)

***\*****Candidates are selected based on various factors that include learning goals, group chemistry and parish context. The decision about membership in the learning community is made by the MLC Advisory Group in* ***December 2021.***



**“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists,**

**some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry,**

**for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith**

**and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity,**

**to the measure of the full stature of Christ.** *- Ephesians 4:11-13*

FIVE MARKS OF MISSION



**Five Marks of Mission** (Anglican Communion)

**# 1 – To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom (TELL)**

**# 2 – To teach, baptise and nurture new believers (TEACH)**

**# 3 – To respond to human need by loving service (TEND)**

**# 4 – To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every**

**kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation (TRANSFORM)**

**# 5 – To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the**

**earth (TREASURE)**

In 1984 the Anglican Consultative Council began to develop a "mission statement" for the worldwide Anglican Communion, and the bishops of the Lambeth Conference adopted these "Five Marks of Mission" in 1988. These have been widely adopted by dioceses across the whole Anglican Communion as a working definition of mission to help churches consider their own mission priorities. They can help us to reflect on our own mission, challenging and encouraging us to consider whether there are areas of mission with which we have yet to fully engage. The five marks provide clarity for congregations as we explore our identity and aspirations as the Church that God is calling us to be in this particular time and place. We consider this most critical of questions: **What is the purpose of God’s church?**

MORE ABOUT THE FIVE MARKS

Although the five marks are distinct and numbered, they can overlap in scope. Mission concerns revealing the Kingdom of God in the world and offering God’s invitation into it. In order to do that effectively, the Church needs to be active in all five of these aspects of mission. Neither do the five marks limit God’s mission to the world. Mission is set in an infinite number of contexts and situations – there are not simply five ways to do mission! Finally, it is God’s mission, not ours: "Mission goes out from God. Mission is God's way of loving and saving the world... So mission is never our invention or choice."

*(Lambeth Conference 1998, Section II p 121)*

**THE CONNECTORS**

**Missional Learning Community APPLICATION**

(DEADLINE is midnight Dec. 12, 2021; Earlier submission is welcome.)

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Full Name of Parish: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What do you think are some (future) key learning areas for you?**

**How do you believe this program will help you with those?**

**What do you feel you might uniquely contribute to this learning community?**

**What else would you like to tell us about yourself?**

**How do you expect your involvement in this missional learning community be received by your parish?** (Opposition will not necessarily disqualify you from participating in this program.)

**Are you willing to commit to attend *all* learning community gatherings and follow-through on the requirements named in the description, including prayer, study, reflection, goal-setting and mutual peer support? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Will you make *concrete plans* to cover family, work, church and other commitments back home while you attend these gatherings? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Briefly describe this.**

**What are your preferences for these 2-day residential gatherings?**

Mon.-Tues. \_\_\_\_ Tues-Wed. \_\_\_\_ Wed.-Thurs. \_\_\_\_ Thurs-Fri. \_\_\_\_\_ Fri.-Sat. \_\_\_\_\_

**We are wondering… have you been involved in any of these?:** (Check all that apply)

Teens Encounter Christ/Encounter \_\_\_\_

Diocesan Youth Conference \_\_\_\_

CLAY \_\_\_\_

The Alpha Course \_\_\_\_

Cursillo \_\_\_\_

MORE Mission School module #1 \_\_\_\_

MORE Mission School module #2 \_\_\_\_

MORE Mission School module #3 \_\_\_\_

MORE Mission School module #4 \_\_\_\_

Diocesan Synod gatherings \_\_\_\_

Reimagining Church series \_\_\_\_

Messy Church \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2014 \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2015 \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2016 \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2017 \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2018 \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2019 \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2020 \_\_\_\_

Vital Church Maritimes 2021 \_\_\_\_

Education for Ministry (EFM) \_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_