



Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014
Workshop

Exploring the 21st Century American Religious Frontier: the Church's New Territory, If We Want It
The Rev. Dr. Katie Hays, Planter, Galileo Christian Church

Mary MacGregor, Canon for Evangelism and Congregational Development, Diocese of Texas

Dramatic changes in American culture and the response of youth and young adults to the institutional church require new approaches to reach them for the imperatives of the Gospel of Jesus. This workshop will explore this challenge from the perspectives of a research and development project on the outer edges of "next church" and from the established institutional church seeking fresh ways to address these changes.

M. MacGregor Questions to Consider

Look Inside

Why does your church exist? What is its mission?

What does it value?

Where is it going? What is its vision for the future?

What is it doing to support the formation of children, teens, young adults who associate with your congregation? (if you have any 😊)

How does it communicate to the world about its existence?

How does it invite, welcome and connect persons into the life and ministry of the congregation?

Look Outside

In what ways is your congregation connecting with:

- its neighbors within a mile or two of its current location?

- people who are not participants in your congregation, particularly teens and/or young adults?

-other congregations, particularly Episcopal congregations, in order to serve others in formation or human needs?

Words that Describe the 21st Century Church

*Fearless, faithful, thankful, generous believers who are first disciples then apostles

*Focused on why

*Counter-cultural

*In the world in extra-ordinary ways

*Aware and relevant, not dismissive of need for change

*Active and missional

*Inviting, Supporting, Loving, Listening

*Relational

*Intentional

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