



Abide in Me: Congregations Growing Together Workshops

– see the agenda for the workshop
times

A1 - Vision-Driven Stewardship

Effective stewardship rests on vision, not technique. Explore why a widely-shared congregational vision is crucial to growth in stewardship and why stewardship works best when it is done within a context that “connects the dots” with everything from mission, evangelism, and programs that acknowledge generational differences, to purposeful care of buildings and grounds.

Presenter: The Rev. Canon Keith Brown, Church Pension Group

A2 - Evange-WOW!

Church planters “Jayvangelist” George, and his wife and ministry partner of 15 years, “Jamievangelina,” will share the secrets of their amazing Evange-WOW! program.

Presenters: The Rev. Jay and Jamie George, Camp Bullis church plant

A3 - Benedictine Spirituality

Deep listening, seeing the holy in the ordinary, and regular prayer throughout the day are some of the components of Benedictine Spirituality. Participants will also practice lectio divina (holy reading).

Presenter: The Rev. Mary Earle, St. Mark’s, San Antonio

A4 - Youth Ministry Roundtable

For churches who have youth ministers (paid or volunteer), who are looking for youth ministers, or who hope to be looking for youth ministers, this roundtable will discuss how you go about finding youth ministers and supporting youth programs plus what events, programs, and resources are already available through the diocese.

Presenters: Elizabeth Allen, St. Luke’s, San Antonio; Spencer Stocker, St. Thomas’, San Antonio; Chris Mitchell, TMI chaplain

A5 - Engaging the Latino Population in our Diocese

How and why do we need to reach out to the rapidly growing Latino population in our area?

Church of the Redeemer, Eagle Pass, has learned to work with the changing culture in which they find themselves. The interim rector and the bishop’s warden will discuss how they do it.

Presenters: The Rev. Mariaelena Daniel Cristerna and Cornelia Muzquiz, Church of the Redeemer, Eagle Pass.

A6 - Going from Print to Electronic

Should you ditch your printed newsletter and move to an e-news? What are the cost savings? What does the congregation want? We'll hear from congregations that use electronic communications only and some that mix print and electronics.

Presenters: Tracey Runas, St. George, San Antonio; Laura Shaver, Christ Church, San Antonio.

A7 - Planning and Financing a Clergy Sabbatical

Time for your rector to take a sabbatical? St. Matthew's, Universal City, and Church of Reconciliation, San Antonio, have just been through the process and they have all the details.

Presenters: Barbara Duffield and The Rev. Tim Vellom, St. Matthew's, Universal City; the Rev. Matt Wise, Priscilla Coppock, Church of Reconciliation, San Antonio

A8 - The School/Church Partnership

Healthy church/school partnerships involve everyone on the church staff and the school staff, but it all starts with the relationship between the rector and the head of school. At St. George, San Antonio, the rector and head of school spend time together in prayer, focusing on God's vision for the entire community. The result is that "church families" and "school families" are all part of one St. George Community.

Presenters: The Rev. Ram Lopez, Robert Devlin, the Rev. Matthew Frey, Jennifer Wickham, St. George, San Antonio

A9 - Traditional and Contemporary Worship

Come see and hear a panel of successful church worship leaders discuss traditional and contemporary worship in small and large church settings, and learn more about successfully planning and performing blended worship music.

Presenters: Dr. Gene Dowdy, Holy Spirit, San Antonio; Dr. Owen Duggen, Christ Church, San Antonio; the Rev. Dr. Patrick Ormos, St. Francis', San Antonio.

A10 – World Mission Fair (See page 5.)

B1 - What Kind of Invitation Are You Sending?

What do visitors see and experience when they visit your church (or your website?) Canon Keith Brown will explore the link between successful mission and the appearance of building and grounds. Many photos, often humorous, will be used to illustrate the "good" and the "bad and ugly."

Presenter: The Rev. Canon Keith Brown, Church Pension Group

B2 - Any Given Sunday

On any given Sunday, someone may arrive at your church's front door not at all sure of what to expect.

Are you ready to receive these strangers on Sunday morning? That question has propelled St. Stephen's, Wimberley, to take definitive and systematic action to welcome these newcomers and incorporate them into the life and body of the Church.

Presenters: The Rev. Patrick Gahan and Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, St. Stephen's, Wimberley

B3 - Exploring the Spiritual Landscape of your Church

What does the care and feeding of souls look like in your church? How do spiritual practices work together for the common goal? Is your church family doing enough? Or too much? Led by a displaced parish priest, this workshop begins and ends with the belief that God has given your church everything it needs to grow together in the spirit.

Presenter: Bishop David Reed

B4 - Practicing our Faith

Spiritual practices provide us with an intentional way of living out our faith. This interactive session will provide a background of the ancient practices of Christianity which express our core values, and a way to incorporate them into a Rule of Life.

Presenter: Diane Thrush, St. Luke's, San Antonio

B5 - The Arts and Christian Formation

The arts have long been an integral part of how we express our faith and pass it on to the next generation. This session will also introduce the newly-forming diocesan Episcopal Council on Visual Arts (ECVA).

Presenter: The Rev. Andrew Thayer, St. Bartholomew's, Corpus Christi

B6 - Websites to Love

Still struggling with your website? Three congregations will show you what they use and walk you through how to do it. With a special section on websites for small churches.

Presenters: The Rev. Chuck Sharrow, St. Paul's, Brownsville; Emmett Faulk, St. Mark's, San Antonio; Krysta McDaniel, St. Helena's, Boerne; Kelly Harris, diocesan staff.

B7- Nuts and Bolts of Operating a Church Office

Clergy, parish administrators, and other church staff: This is your opportunity to meet with your colleagues from around the diocese as well as some of the diocesan staff to learn more effective ways to operate your church office. Topics covered will include parochial reports, independent contractor vs. paid employees, audits by committee, how to handle discretionary funds and more.

Presenters: Susan Hardaway, Barbara Baugh, Kirk Mason of the diocesan staff

B8 - Recruiting and Inspiring Sunday School Teachers

Encouraging people in the ministry of Christian formation is much more than finding warm bodies to commit to as little time as possible. Halleta Heinrich serves as the Children's Minister at Christ Church, San Antonio, where she has over 20 years of experience. Participants will leave the workshop with renewed enthusiasm and expertise for calling and supporting teachers and those who work as leaders in Christian formation.

Presenter: Halleta Heinrich, Christ Church, San Antonio

B9 - The Music of Joy

"Those who sing pray twice" is a truth that Fran McKendree lives in his ministry of music. Fran will share his many years of experience leading congregations in music of all kinds. Drawing from a wide range of music and liturgical styles, he will demonstrate ways in which music leads to deeper spirituality.

Participants will learn new ways to involve everyone in worship through music.

Presenter: Fran McKendree

B10 – World Mission Fair (See page 5 for details. This session is a repeat of A10.)

C1 - Of Apples and Cabbages – Are you afraid of not having enough?

Have stewardship and the annual budget become your biggest headache? Find out how the people of St. John's, New Braunfels, stepped out in faith instead of fear to produce one of the largest average pledges in the diocese. Learn about the West Texas Stewardship Plan.

Presenter: Bishop James Folts, retired bishop

C2 - Small Groups, Big Benefits

Small groups that meet in church members' homes keep people connected in a deeply personal way. They're also a good way to invite new members in.

Presenter: The Rev. Ripp Hardaway, St. John's, New Braunfels

C3 - Faith in the Workplace

The Revs. John Lewis and Jane Patterson have spent years working with small groups to form communities that exist outside of Sunday morning. This will be an interactive, experiential workshop that will equip participants to "be the church" every day of the week.

Presenters: The Revs. John Lewis and Jane Patterson, St. Mark's, San Antonio.

C4 - Nothing but the Truth: Our Anglican Heritage and the Bible

How have Episcopalians historically received and interpreted the Bible? How is it a living word? How can we determine what is true? This workshop seeks to give you tools to lay an Anglican foundation for the study of Scripture in your church.

Presenter: The Rev. Chuck Collins, Christ Church, San Antonio

C5 - Confirmation that Really Means It

Church of the Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi, has a Confirmation "Program," not just a class. For seven months, each confirmand develops a strong relationship with his or her sponsor through a community service project; with their fellow confirmands through a curriculum based on the Catechism; and with the entire congregation. The program finishes with each confirmand making a "mature public affirmation of faith."

Presenters: Martha Kiel, Larken Sutherland, John Perabo, Gregg Robertson, all from Church of the Good Shepherd

C6 - Hosting a Recovery Sunday

One of the best ways to raise awareness about all kinds of addictions is to host a "Recovery Sunday" – a standard Sunday Eucharist that focuses on addictions. This workshop will cover the preparation and execution of a Recovery Sunday and give participants lots of practical tips.

Presenters: J. C. Stromberger, the Rev. Chip Prehn, St. Luke's, San Antonio

C7 - Listening Hearts: Leadership by Discernment

A parish discernment committee can work to identify those among us who may be called to parish leadership, including vestry, commissions, and other areas of ministry.

Presenter: Discernment committee of All Saints', Corpus Christi

C8 - Welcoming God's Youngest Children into the Household

The nursery is often the first experience infants and young children have of church. Is your nursery offering them the very best in nurture, care and Christian formation? This workshop will share the nuts and bolts of nurseries.

Presenter: Ann Allen, St. Luke's, San Antonio

C9 - Small-Church Music Solutions

Anyone involved in leading or assisting small church worship music will want to hear this panel of successful small-church music leaders sharing repertoire, resources, and organizational skills for improving small-church worship.

Presenters: The Rev. Rick Dunham, St. Christopher's, Bandera; James Garcia, Holy Spirit, San Antonio; Debbie Gillan, Grace, Llano; the Rev. Omar Pitman, San Antonio Partnership: Grace Tracy, St. Stephen's, Wimberley.

C10 - World Mission Fair (See page 5. Session is a repeat of A10.)

C 11 - Education for Ministry

EFM is a way for lay people to deeply study Scripture, church history and theology in small groups and to spend time in theological reflection. This session will model an EFM session and give information about the program.

Presenter: Ada Sutherland, Trinity Church, Victoria

