



<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/church-planting-redevelopment/>

## Church planting resources from our office:

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### Discerning

What is church planting, and [why is it important?](#) How do we discern viable opportunities in our diocese? What should we look for in a potential church planter or redeveloper? Our staff welcomes the chance to have any of these conversations with you! Schedule a conversation with Katie Nakamura Rengers ([krengers@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:krengers@episcopalchurch.org)) or Tom Brackett ([tbrackett@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:tbrackett@episcopalchurch.org))

We host week-long assessment retreats to help individual leaders discern their gifts, competencies and capacity for church planting work, or congregational redevelopment. Learn more about these retreats and see a schedule [here](#).

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### Coaching

Without a doubt, one of the best indicators of success is whether a ministry developer is receiving coaching. A good coach is outside of the leader's local and diocesan network, and will help keep them encouraged and on track. We keep a [list of trained and trusted coaches](#) on our website and can often help with a recommendation based on the leader's context and needs.

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### Training

Our mission is to grow the courage and capacity of ministry leaders and dioceses to dive into the work of church planting. We are building a structure of online and in-person trainings for both planters and diocesan leaders, as well as posting a variety of resources to accompany you on the journey. So far, these include:

- Regular Third Thursday conversations at 1:00 Eastern with church planters across the country. While not technically a "training," these offer the opportunity to meet other missional leaders, talk about successes and challenges, and tackle a topics that are relevant to new ministry leaders.
- The New Episcopal Communities **Activator** training, held twice a year
- **Koinonia**, co-sponsored by the office of Ethnic Ministries, is an event intended to nurture church planting leaders in minority contexts in the U.S. and in Province IX
- The ["What to Expect Guide"](#) to New Episcopal Communities
- [Guides](#) for Ministry Plans and Benchmarks for New Episcopal Communities

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## Funding

For the last three triennia, General Convention has approved funding for New Episcopal Community grants. If renewed in 2022, grant funding will likely be available in early 2023. Grants prioritize church plants among people who have been historically underrepresented in The Episcopal Church, and they are intended to be a financial partnership with the local diocese. [Sign up for our newsletter](#) (and pay attention to Episcopal press releases) for the latest updates.

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## Sharing



Listen to [The Genesis Podcast](#) for stories from our New Episcopal Communities and reflections on leadership themes that we see emerging.

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## Re-Vision and Renew

The other side of our office is [Congregational Redevelopment](#) - related to, but different from, church planting.

In a century of uncertainty, Re-Vision and Renew invites parishes of all sizes to courageously explore new ways to “be” church in their community. What might it look like to know and learn from your neighbors? What invigorating enterprises might arise? Where might your church be in five years if it practices fresh ways of reimagining, reaching out, and relating to your community?

Re-Vision and Renew walks alongside churches on this journey of unexpected blessings, offering online coaching and support to small cohorts who also join each other in practicing and embracing brave change.