

## **Transformational Ministry: Rooted in God's Mission**

About the Journey: Rooted in God's Mission is a process designed to unfold over a 12-18 month period of time beginning with an overnight retreat for congregation leaders followed by three Saturday equipping events sprinkled about every four months during the course of the year.



These equipping events revolve around listening to God through prayer and scripture, listening to God with and through each other, and listening to God with and through our neighbors (the world). We use these three “great listenings” to help leaders and congregations:

1. Discover a shared purpose for participating in God's mission locally and beyond
2. Grow a willingness to change for the sake of the Gospel
3. Foster shared leadership between pastor and congregational leaders

This process of renewal seeks to engage and involve the whole congregation. It begins and continues with prayer and in depth engagement with God's word. A team of at least four, including the pastoral leader, is selected by the congregation and pastoral leader to attend the training opportunities in order to be equipped to engage their congregation in a renewal process focusing on:

- Attending to God in prayer and scripture
- Accompanying one another in following Jesus and being the Body of Christ
- Asserting and agreeing on some mission action and implementing it
- Acting on the Great Commandment to love God and neighbor and the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations, using holy mission experiments
- Assessing and learning from setbacks and successes

What might this process look like in your congregation?

- New or renewed Bible study opportunities
- Small group/cottage meetings for prayer and conversation
- All congregation fellowship events to share stories of the past, along with hopes and dreams for the future
- Getting to know the people in your neighborhood
- And anything else your leadership team can dream up

This process is facilitated by our synods' Regional Renewal Tables. Table members are leaders from across the synod who are experienced in congregational renewal work and who have been trained and equipped in our ELCA's Transformation Ministry 2.0 process for congregations, as well as in other congregational renewal approaches.

For more information, including preparing for the journey, please contact Pr. Norma Malfatti, Director for Evangelical Mission, by calling 315.299.4955 or by e-mail at [nmalfatti@upstatenysynod.org](mailto:nmalfatti@upstatenysynod.org)