

# **1. MUTUAL MINISTRY REVIEW, PREPARATION**

Ministry is not static. It is a living, breathing, changing process by which we continually discern God's call upon our lives. The church's ministry focus determined a year ago may not now be the ministry focus now, nor necessarily continue to be the focus a year from today. The Mutual Ministry Review (MMR) is an opportunity to consider topics of interest to the church that may have an impact upon the direction of our collaborative ministry here, and at this time. With a new calendar year and new members to the vestry, a MMR is ideally done in Feb/March of each year.

Ministry is a mutual endeavor undertaken by God's people, laity and clergy, as they seek to fulfill Christ's mission in the world through the workings of the church. Please use the following form as a means by which to consider ways in which we work together to meet the ministry needs of this parish and to fulfill its mission obligations.

Conversation that ensues from this exercise will help us identify goals and needs for the upcoming period. As a member of the vestry or bishop's committee for this congregation, please review the following, and make any notations that will help prompt discussion later during the actual MMR session. Please bring this form and your notes to the scheduled Mutual Ministry Review for your ready reference. They will not be collected, so you can mark them up any way that is helpful to you.

You may use the following to mark an area; or you may simply make notes. In either event, this is to help you process your thoughts in each of these areas; it is not intended as, nor will it be used as, a "grading" system.

- 5 Always true**
- 4 Generally true**
- 3 Answer not apparent**
- 2 Not true**
- 1 Does not apply**

## **Deepening in our knowledge and love of God**

*...through inreach, outreach, hospitality*

### **FULFILLING OUR MISSION:**

- We have a clear vision of ministry within the parish.
- We have a clear vision of ministry outside the parish.
- We balance our needs with the needs of those beyond our walls.
- We love each other. We can depend on, and take responsibility for, each other.
- We are a welcoming community of Christians who share the love of God with others.
- We worship God and share the love of Christ.
- We grow in and share the love of Christ through fellowship and service to each other.
- We grow in and share the love of Christ through service to the community.

*How are you personally fulfilling the mission of the church--both within the walls and without?*

NOTES:

**WELCOMING NEWCOMERS:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ We create a climate of acceptance and friendliness at the parish.
- \_\_\_\_\_ We believe the facility looks inviting and is easy to find your way around in it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Rector/Priest and members greet new people and provide follow-up contact.
- \_\_\_\_\_ There is a process that helps newcomers to integrate into the community.

*How are you practicing hospitality to newcomers and sharing your faith with them?*

NOTES:

**Deepening in our knowledge and love of God**

*...through worship and witness*

**WORSHIP SERVICES:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ The liturgical style of the service is relevant and fosters a connection to God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The laity is widely involved in the service in roles such as Lectors and Lay Eucharistic Ministers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The children and youth are actively involved in worship.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People understand how laity is involved in worshiped, and feel welcome to become involved.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Musical elements of the service help us worship and focus on God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sermons are personal and applicable to daily life.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children are included in worship.

*How are you personally growing in your worship of and offering to God, both corporately and privately?*

NOTES:

**SPIRITUAL VITALITY**

- \_\_\_\_\_ People enjoy gathering in community to discern God's actions in their lives.
- \_\_\_\_\_ There is palpable energy when speaking of God's activity in our lives.

- \_\_\_\_\_ There is recognizable evidence of reflective thought and prayer in decision making.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People articulate the need for reflective work when planning, discerning new directions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clergy, lay leaders, congregants seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in the work of mission.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Worship is impacted by knowledge of God's activity and presence in congregational life.

NOTES:

## Deepening in our knowledge and love of God

*...through service*

### SERVANT LEADERSHIP:

- \_\_\_\_\_ As a general rule, people volunteer for committees and positions to enable ongoing mission.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People follow through on their commitments.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers work well together, understand the whole job, coordinate their individual roles, and communicate with project leaders.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People care about their work, anticipate problems, and find solutions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ We work as a team and support those in leadership positions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People feel welcome to join in ministries.

*How are you exercising servant leadership in our community?*

NOTES:

## Deepening in our knowledge and love of God

*...through study and prayer*

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Programs are well balanced, relevant, and involving; they stimulate personal, emotional and spiritual development.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Programming and staffing are appropriate: teachers are effective, there are sufficient teachers, and classes are the right size.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parents support the religious education program by bringing their children regularly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Parish supports the religious education program for children and young people by volunteering services and donating materials.

*How are you contributing to the spiritual development of our young people?*

NOTES:

**ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Programs are well-balanced, relevant, and involving; they stimulate personal and spiritual growth.

\_\_\_\_\_ We support adult religious education with feedback, suggestions, and attendance.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Adult education is relevant and stimulates personal and spiritual growth.

*How, in study and education, are you growing to be more like Christ?*

NOTES:

**Deepening in our knowledge and love of God**

*...through sharing our lives, loving one another, speaking the truth in love*

**FELLOWSHIP:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Parishioners & Rector keep in touch with each other and are involved with each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ We participate in social functions to nurture relationship and design these functions to provide opportunities for this to occur.

\_\_\_\_\_ Small groups enhance the process of fellowship.

\_\_\_\_\_ We support the parish's fellowship ministry with our attendance at events.

\_\_\_\_\_ We pay attention to individuals' needs and create a sense of community, caring, and mutual concern within the congregation.

*How are you connecting with God's family in your worship community?*

NOTES:

**COMMUNITY:**

\_\_\_\_\_ We respect differences and appreciate the diversity of our membership.

\_\_\_\_\_ We work together with goodwill when we differ and believe in our essential unity.

\_\_\_\_\_ We maintain a sense of humor.

\_\_\_\_\_ We encourage enthusiasm.

\_\_\_\_\_ We respect the goodness in everyone and believe our essential interests are harmonious.

\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership encourages parishioners to move forward in faith.

\_\_\_\_\_ When problems arise, we try to support one another by giving friendship, sharing our sources of spiritual strength, and listening to each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ We believe in ourselves, in the value of the work of this parish and the future of this parish.

\_\_\_\_\_ The characteristics of love, acceptance, and forgiveness are experienced in our life together.

*How do you manage the tension between a multiplicity of thought/opinion within the parish and the call as leader to follow and support the path that's been decided by leadership?*

NOTES:

## Deepening in our knowledge and love of God

*...through active care-taking and responsible communication*

### TAKING CARE OF OUR FACILITIES:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Buildings and grounds are maintained properly, meeting aesthetic and safety criteria.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The interior of the church is accessible, comfortable, beautiful, and inviting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The nursery and children's ministry areas are welcoming.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The kitchen is functional.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Education and office areas are well-maintained and accessible.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The rectory's maintenance needs are attended to promptly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Restrooms are clean and accessible.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All other areas, inside and out, are accessible, clean and well maintained.

*How are you helping care for the buildings and grounds of your worship community?*

NOTES:

### COMMUNICATION:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Information is readily available through newsletter, bulletins, calling committee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Rector and Congregation are able to communicate honestly and openly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Vestry maintains open communication with the Congregation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ In meetings we do business efficiently, yet still pay attention and listen to those who want to speak.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People generally understand where to go to get specific needs addressed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ We emphasize the positive. We offer constructive feedback and give credit and

encouragement for individual effort and offering of time and talent.

*How are you assisting the need for responsible and accurate communication, while avoiding the pitfall of participating in second-hand information, or triangling?*

NOTES:

## Deepening in our knowledge and love of God

*...through responsible stewardship and financial planning*

### STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Parishioners & Rector communicate well regarding matters of finance and Stewardship.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stewardship is seen as part of the on-going life of the community, not exclusively a yearly event of ingathering.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stewardship is engaged as a theological point of formation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ We educate new members and our youth regarding the role of stewardship in living into our mission.
- \_\_\_\_\_ We recognize that while related, stewardship and financial responsibility are distinct.

*How do you personally contribute to securing a healthy understanding of Stewardship in your worship community?*

NOTES:

## 2. Mutual Ministry Review

(group meeting facilitated by Senior Warden)

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*Include Parish Mission Statement here for consideration*

### STRENGTHS AND DEVELOPMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES (QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION)

1. What is already right in our parish?
2. What would be ideally right?
3. What is not yet quite right?
4. What resources do we need to make it right? Who will provide those?
5. What new directions are we being called to answer?

