



CHARTER FOR THE COMMITTEE ON MISSION CONGREGATIONS

Supplementary to Canon 3, Section 7, which defines the constitution and purpose of the Committee on Mission Congregations, and pursuant to the execution of the duties declared therein, the Bishop in Charge and the Council of Advice provides this Charter as support and direction to the Committee. By posing three questions and outlining the answers, they wish to emphasise the strong mutual relationship between the Convocation and its Mission Congregations, highlighting important bilateral expectations, and to express their commitment to the formation of new Mission Congregations.

What should the Convocation expect from its existing missions?

- All missions need to be in the business of making disciples. They must be concerned beyond themselves, so they can reach out to spread the Word and help the needy.
- Members should be involved in Sunday worship and prayer, fellowship and community-building. There should be a sense of ownership and discernment.
- Have a plan to move forward, if possible toward becoming a parish and at least toward self-sufficiency.
- Offer time, talent and treasure to the life of the Convocation.
- Seek to serve as a cross-cultural bridge, while remaining true to Episcopal tradition.

What should the Convocation do for its existing missions?

- Provide counsel, support and resources to help mission leadership envision a path forward and to avoid isolation.
- Evaluate grant requests and help missions obtain financial autonomy and avoid unhealthy dependence.

- Help missions appreciate that they are members of a larger community.
- Support existing leadership, and assist in raising new leadership.
- When necessary, help discern long-term viability.
- Provide clergy and trained expertise when needed.

How does the Convocation establish new missions?

- Establishment of new missions is under the direct supervision of the Bishop in Charge, working with the Council of Advice and the Committee on Mission Congregations.
- Establish strategy to set up new missions in areas considered fertile.
- Encourage congregations to consider establishing new missions.
- Develop expertise to help establish and grow new missions.
- Identify and train clergy and lay leadership when needed.
- Seek collaborative arrangements with ecumenical and Anglican partners if possible.

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