

IMAGINE THE DIOCESE OF OREGON...

Imagine a Diocese in which every congregation is valued as a welcoming place where God's love shines in community and lives are nurtured and transformed in Christ...

Imagine a Diocese in which every ministry, chaplaincy, and outreach to those who are hungry, sick, poor, down trodden, in prison, or victims of crime, is valued in the community as an expression of Christ's love, incarnate in the people of God...

Imagine a Diocese in which every parishioner is valued as part of one glorious, prophetic voice of Christ's peace, justice, and hope for the world...

Come, let us remember who we are, and whose we are, and imagine what we can become as the Diocese of Oregon...



Clergy Leadership Institute

ENABLING INNOVATION AT THE *SPEED OF LIFE*

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Appreciative Interview Guide For The Diocese of Oregon

Instructions: In pairs, take time to interview one another using the following questions.

Be a generous listener. Take turns to actually conduct an interview rather than discuss the questions. If you need more information or clarification ask additional follow-up questions. Use this sheet to record the results of your interview. When your interviews are completed you will present the results to a larger group.

1a. Best Experience of Your Church: Reflect on your entire experience of your current parish. Describe your most memorable experience of being fed in mind, body, and soul to engage in the mission of Jesus Christ. Tell me about this memorable experience that you have had with your church as it cares for you and the wider community. Describe the event in detail. What made it exciting and memorable? Who was involved? Describe how you felt? Describe what you did as a result of the experience?

1b. Best Experience of Our Diocese: Reflect on your entire experience of our diocese. Recall a time when you felt connected, engaged, and supported by our diocesan community? Tell me about this memorable experience of collaborating with people from other churches within our diocese? Describe the event in detail. Who else was involved? Describe how you felt and what you accomplished?

2. Values: What are the things that are really important and that you value deeply?

(i) **Your Church:** What is it about your church that you value? What is the single most important thing that your church has contributed to your life?

(ii) **Our Diocese:** What is it about our diocese that you value? How does being a member of our diocese help you and your church engage in the mission of Jesus Christ?

(iii) **Being Episcopalian:** What is it about the Episcopal church that you deeply value. What is life-giving to you about being an Episcopalian?

(iv) **Oregon:** What is it about living in Oregon that you deeply value?

As you think of what you value about living in Oregon, how does our geography and culture influence your understanding of God and living as a follower of Christ?

3. Three wishes: If God gave you three wishes for your church and our diocese what would they be?

4. Imagining the Future: What do you imagine our diocese would become, if together we got to do more of the kinds of things that you shared in your stories and together we fulfilled your wishes?

Appreciative Interview Summary Sheet

Instructions: In groups gather with the person you interviewed and take turns to introduce them to the group using the information from their stories. Share all of the person's responses to the questions before moving to the next person. Pay particular attention to any common themes and stories that catch your imagination and make you go "wow." Use this sheet to keep some brief notes of these themes and exemplar stories.

1a. Best Experience of Your Church:

1b. Best Experience of Our Diocese:

2. (i) **Your Church:** What is it about your church that you value?

(i) **Our Diocese:** What is it about our diocese that you value?

(iii) **Being Episcopalian:** What is it about the Episcopal church that you deeply value?

(iv) **Oregon:** What is it about living in Oregon that you deeply value?

How does living in Oregon influence your understanding of God and living as a follower of Christ?

3. **Three wishes:** If God gave you three wishes for your church and our diocese what would they be?

4. **Imagining the Future:** What do you imagine our diocese would become?

Appreciative Interview Synthesis Sheet

Instructions: Use this sheet to synthesize the stories, themes, values, and dreams.

1. Core Essence of Our Congregations, Ministries and Diocese. What does your group think is the core essence of our diocese that is revealed when we are at our best manifesting our values in the world.

2. Stories: What is an exemplar story of our diocese at our best?

3. Values:

What does your group value about our diocese?

What does your group value about the Episcopal church?

What does your group value about living in Oregon?

4. Wishes and Dreams for the Future: What wishes does your group have for our diocese?

5. Metaphors and Images: What is a metaphor or image for our diocese when we are at our best?
On the sheet of newsprint create an image of the core essence of our diocese.
