

MISSION APPLICATION CHURCH PLANTING PROCESS



BISHOP SELECTION

The church planting process begins with the Bishop Diocesan who selects both locations for new congregations and the leaders that will start them.



LEADERS

Church planters can be ordained leaders and lay people confirmed in the Episcopal Church.



LOCATIONS

With the assistance of staff and committee members, the Bishops select 3-5 locations annually to focus planting in.

CRITERIA

Location selection is based on low-income populations, high growth areas, proximity to other Episcopal institutions and availability of prospective leaders.

CRITERIA

Leaders are selected through a process in which candidates are assessed, submit a proposal and are then deployed.



DEPLOYMENT

Once a leader is deployed, they begin to meet and gather people for service, community-building and worship.



CHURCH PLANT

We call these new communities “church plants” because a new congregation is taking root.



FELLOWSHIP

When a community begins to meet weekly for worship, the Bishop names the congregation and they are celebrated at Council.



MISSION

As membership and financial giving increase, a fellowship may petition for mission status. This is granted by the bishop and ratified by council. An annual assessment begins to be paid.



PARISH

Later on, a mission may become a parish when they petition for parish status after the congregation can demonstrate financial self-sustainability for two or more years.