Conference Vision Implementation Team Report

Since the approval of the Strategic Plan by delegates at the June 2015 Conference Annual Gathering, your Vision Implementation Team has been tasked with keeping the work of this plan in the forefront of the Conference and ensuring ongoing review and implementation. A key part of the strategic plan was the ongoing development of Covenanted Ministry Teams to meet the needs of our ever-changing role as the church.

Several Conference Annual Planning Events were held. These events were a time for each Covenanted Ministry to share with those attending their purpose and intentionally focus on the Five Mission Imperatives of the strategic plan. A guide/reporting form was developed by the Vision Implementation Team to assist each Ministry as they lead their respective groups through their sharing and future visioning. These reports were then shared with the Conference Council to use as they plan and budget for the upcoming year. The need to move from the hub and spoke model to a networking model has become even more necessary as our Conference staff decreases. Each member brings special gifts, talents and experiences. Intentionally utilizing these gifts, talents and experiences that congregations, pastors and lay members have will hopefully nurture covenantal relationships, strengthen our congregations and support authorized ministers in all settings.

During this year’s Conference Annual Gathering each Covenanted Ministry Team will have a workshop with emphasis on the work being done and hopefully gather input from the delegates attending to assist in the planning for the upcoming year.

As the Vision Implementation Team concludes its 3-year commitment, it is our hope that the Conference staff, Conference Council and the Covenanted Ministry Teams will continue to focus on the “Five Mission Imperatives” as they do the work God has called us to do in our churches, clusters, Associations and Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Bathke, Chair
Rev. Kristin Aardema Faigh
Jan Aerie
Rev. Rick Oberle
Rev. Felicia Scott
Sue Simmons