

PROJECT CREED REACHING OUT TO NEIGHBORS RESOLUTION

Whereas the individuals of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh are actively engaged in carrying out the work of God in Southwestern Pennsylvania, and

Whereas we encourage our members, as the hands and feet of God in Southwestern Pennsylvania, to continue broadening and deepening their engagement in our communities, and

Whereas meaningful, relationship-based community engagement creates opportunity for the spiritual renewal of our people, parishes, and communities, and

Whereas doing God's work effectively in our communities requires us to know our neighbors, therefore be it

Be It Resolved that:

1. A diocesan parish ministry resource directory be compiled to encourage sharing information for those seeking to start new or join existing ministries and expand on the asset management tool for parish ministries so individuals can find and be more involved in community outreach
2. Each parish or congregation develop a parish neighborhood "Be in the Community Day" to collectively leave church property to be as one with our neighbors including working to meet our neighbors seeking out those of different faiths or no faith, for conversation.
3. Each parish or congregation (a) designate a point person to provide and update information for the parish ministry resource directory, working with a designated Diocesan coordinator, and (b) identify an individual or team to oversee the "Be in the Community Day" and to report what happened and what participants learned.

Explanation: Parishes should look beyond serving those that attend on Sunday morning. To help individuals interested in starting new ministries, the goal is to have a resource guide of individuals willing to lend their experience for how they started similar ministries. The asset management tool is to serve as a resource for people looking to help with a ministry or individuals that could benefit from the ministry. Finally, to truly know your neighbor, we believe that you must go into the neighborhood to meet them.