

Church Revitalization and Development Ministry-2019 Annual Report  
December 7, 2019  
Chair Jim Dougans, CLP, Maysville-First

Per the Presbytery's Manual of Operations this ministry "exists to work with current churches engaging in revitalization and transformation efforts and to promote and encourage the development of new worshipping communities."

Rev. Jay Mumper led this ministry for the first half of the year. Jay is now honorably retired and living in Florida. Thank you Jay for your service, you are missed.

The committee now consists of three people, myself, Karen Hartsfield and Ryan Bradney. We are looking to recruit others and waiting for the appointment of a vice-chair. If you would like to serve on this ministry please contact me at [jvdougans@gmail.com](mailto:jvdougans@gmail.com).

2019 saw the contracting with the Phila Group to provide consulting services. The Phila Group has worked with key church leaders in existing churches. It has also supported the Nicholasville Vision Team in planning for a new ministry.

The Phila Group continues to meet with three cohorts in the Presbytery: Eastern, Western, and Lexington. Over the summer the Phila Group gave two challenges to the cohorts:

1. Invite someone you don't typically hang out with over for dinner/cookout. Preferably someone who doesn't attend your church. And enjoy an evening of good conversation and good food together.
2. Consider ways to corporately invite your congregation to participate in a summer experiment in hospitality. Perhaps you invite everyone in the congregation to participate in at least one act of hospitality. Or, perhaps there is a corporate experiment of hospitality you'd like to dream up and try this summer.

The Nicholasville Vision Team has also been in action. The Team drafted a mission plan and a position description for the Ministry Leader. The Team interviewed an applicant for the Ministry Leader position in October.

Phila Group consultant Shannon Kiser had this to say about the Vision Team:

“We're making great progress on the Nicholasville mission. The Vision Team has been phenomenal to work with, and we sense that the Spirit is definitely up to something!”

She adds this about work with the cohorts: “We continue to do our best to gather the cohorts for ongoing reflections, brainstorming, and action planning for hospitality initiatives. While no strong coordinated regional efforts have been attempted, several individual churches have tried some new things over the summer. We continue to encourage experimentation in this arena through the fall months and into Advent.”

Here is what is coming in 2020:

- Reconstitute the ministry team.
- Consider ways to help churches gain greater forward momentum, e.g., New Beginnings, Vital Congregational Initiative, Matthew 25.
- Continue support for the work of the Phila Group, including the cohorts and Nicholasville Vision Team.
- Strengthen small churches.
- Make resources available.