

Church Development and Revitalization Ministry (CDRM)

Report to the Presbytery of Transylvania

May 11, 2020

The CDRM continues “*to work with current churches engaging in revitalization and transformation efforts and to promote and encourage the development of new worshipping communities.*” Here are the highlights.

- The CDRM now comprises seven people: Ryan Bradney, Lisa Culpepper, Michael Denney, Jim Dougans (Chair), Karen Hartsfield (Vice-Chair), Linda Kurtz and Philip Lotspeich.
- The CDRM met three times via Zoom: March 2, 31 and May 4.
- We are reading *Divergent Church* by Shapiro and Faris. The authors present a year long analysis of twelve worshipping communities in the U.S. and conclude that new churches will retain time-honored practices while adding new elements to what it means to be church.
- Surveyed ministers, elders and other leaders in the Presbytery using Survey Monkey, asking the question “How can the CDR Ministry best assist you?” We received over 20 responses, with the number one request being for “a list of church revitalization resources.”
- The CDRM continues to monitor and support the work of the Nicholasville Steering Committee.
- Discussed how to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are conversing around these questions:
 - How does a church leverage what they are learning?
 - Help churches think through, “what is worship?”
 - Get to a healthy space of knowing what we can and cannot do?
 - What type of conversation might the CDRM facilitate?
- The next zoom meeting is June 1 at 1:30 p.m.