



The Nehemiah Process

Class of 2006/2007

Nehemiah 2006 focused on five (5) parishes interested in growing in membership from 250 to 500 over a two year period to end on December 31, 2007.

Vision-mission pursuit and work on church surrounding community demographics were explored. A component was added to address clergy personal vision for ministry plans and clergy leadership development.

The participating congregations were five congregations from Broward and South and North Dade Deaneries that had the potential of growing above 500 AWA.

Team meetings were held at St. Benedict's Episcopal Church, Plantation, on Saturdays from 9am-3 pm. The Parish teams consisted of the Rector plus 5-10 Lay Leaders. Four Sessions were scheduled for 2005 and two in 2006. Each team signed a two year Covenant agreeing to participate in the Nehemiah Project. Clergy were encouraged to invite their Lay Leaders to attend the Overnight Retreats with them to assist in the Parish Ministry Plan.

The Nehemiah Clergy School of Leadership was introduced. The Nehemiah 2006 Clergy along with Clergy who participated in previous Nehemiah programs met as a group for 3 hours/month with Archdeacon Hobbs and other members of the Nehemiah Steering Committee. Focus was on leadership development. *NOW -Discover Your Strengths* and *Clergy Personal Ministry Plan* were introduced.

External Factors Impacting Parish Ministry:

- Economic Downturn
- Exodus due to rising cost of housing, property insurances, and low wages as aftermath of hurricanes.

Karen Eddy and Bob Moore joined The Nehemiah Steering Committee along with Archdeacon Bryan Hobbs, Richard Miller, The Rev. Ken Sims, Linda Schlepp-Gray, Bill Swaney and The Rev. Horace Ward.

In 2006 the Nehemiah Project was now referred to as the **Nehemiah Process**.

January 21, 2006

- Introduction to Nehemiah
- Introduction to Vision/Mission
- Two Year Covenant
- Introduction to Percept Reports on National Church Database

February 25, 2006

- Demographics
- Introduction to Nehemiah on-line database (AWA, Plate/Pledge, BreakEven Analysis)
- Parish Symbols
- Preparing for Palm Sunday/Easter
- Re-Start Model

May 6, 2006

- New Member Ministry

May 9-10, 2006 - Clergy Leadership Retreat (Duncan Conference Center)

- Leadership & Organizational Development – Lee Ginsburg
- The Art of Developing a Personal Ministry Plan

September 23, 2006

- New Member Ministry
- Newcomer's Ministry – Annabel Hobbs
- Stewardship Introduction

October 19, 2006 –Wired Churches.com (Church @ The Spring, Ocala, FL)

- First Impressions: Creating Wow Experiences
- Simply Strategic Volunteers
- Communications Workshop
- Purpose-Driven® Church Planting

January 27, 2007

- New Member Ministry and Stewardship feedback
- Intro to Small Groups
- Introduction of "*Visitor's Survey*". Visit other Churches

April 21, 2007

- Easter Key Learnings
- Men's Ministry
- Transformation Parish Event – Talk on Discovery Weekend

May 1-3, 2007 Nehemiah Clergy Retreat (Lake Placid Retreat Center)

- Shaping Your Personal Ministry Plan
- Shaping Your Parish Ministry Plan

September 22, 2007

- Wilson Learning System – Bob Moore

October 14-16, 2007 – Nehemiah Overnight Retreat (Lake Placid Retreat Center)

- “Dreaming and Planning Ahead to Stay Ahead!”
- Where will you focus the next 18 months?
- Worship: The Weekend Experience
- Time Management

December 2007

- Christmas Party – Starfish Presented