

PRESBYTERY OF GENESEE VALLEY
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Models for Writing a Mission and Ministry Statement

Because each church is unique, each church approaches the writing of a statement in its own way. Included here are some models and samples that may be helpful. These are not intended to be formulas but merely suggestions and stimulators for your own ideas. Any of these may work well for a first draft and then be developed.

* **BASIC MODEL** *Begin writing phrases, sentences, and words which respond to the following:*

Who have we been? Who are we now? How are we unique as a community of faith?
How does our setting affect who we are?
What are we doing now? How do we do what we do?
Where do we want to go from here? What is God calling us to?
What are our hopes for congregational life and outreach into the community and world?
How are we going to get there? What processes will we employ? Who will be involved?
Develop paragraphs. What themes seem to emerge that might shape the statement?

* **MODEL #2** *Respond to these questions. Some questions may require more than one sentence to answer. Arrange answers in paragraphs.*

Who are we as a unique community of faith?
How has God shown special care for us as a community of faith?
What kind of community of faith do we feel God is calling us to be?
What do we hope to do in order to fulfill our calling?

* **MODEL #3** *Complete each sentence with several words, phrases, or sentences.*

We, the members of _____ are a people who:
As a unique expression of Christian community, we intend to:

* **MODEL #4**

One congregation after completing the segment about IDENTITY, chose to articulate DIRECTION by writing a sentence beneath each area of congregational life. Design your own.

“WE ARE CALLED TO...
Member Care therefore WE INTEND TO ...
Worship and Celebration therefore WE INTEND TO ...
Education therefore WE INTEND TO ...
Outreach therefore WE INTEND TO ...
Evangelism therefore WE INTEND TO ...
Stewardship therefore WE INTEND TO ...
Leadership therefore WE INTEND TO ...

* **MODEL #5** *Another congregation structured the statement by titling sections:*

Who We Are
Who We Are To Be
What We Are To Do
How We Are To Do It
Why We Are To Do It

* **MODEL #6 : YOUR MODEL!**

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