

College for Congregational Development

The College for Congregational Development (CCD) is an intensive two-year program designed for teams of lay and clergy leaders to develop leadership skills for parish growth and health. CCD's goals include helping parishes become more faithful, effective, and healthy. Based in the academic disciplines of congregational and organizational development, CCD is also rooted in the identity, doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church. CCD director, The Rev. Alissa Newton notes: "Episcopal formation and identity is part of what makes a congregation healthy."

CCD originated in the Diocese of Olympia and is recommended by the Office of Congregational Vitality for parishes facing serious challenges and have decided they are ready to do the work to change. Parishes either holding steady or thriving, but still looking for further growth, should also consider signing up for CCD.

Parishes going through a sudden trauma or crisis are not the best candidates for CCD. The Canon for Ministry or one of our Consultants will assist such congregations through the crisis before they consider CCD.

Parishes considering CCD should contact the Canon for Ministry at jthompsonquartey@episcopalatlanta.org to confirm they are ready to make the commitment to move forward towards vitality. The Canon for Ministry will work with the existing parish leadership to find the best candidates to attend the college, which consists of two 7-day intensive sessions over two consecutive summers.

In partnership with congregations of the Diocese, the Bishop's office will pay a portion of the tuition based on the annual budget of the parish. For parish budgets under \$400,000, the Bishop's office will underwrite \$500/person. For parish budgets \$400,000-\$1 million, the Bishop's office will underwrite \$400/person. For parish budgets over \$1 million, the Bishop's office will underwrite \$300/person. The cost to attend CCD is currently around \$950/person for the program, room, and board. Travel costs are extra.