**The Vitality Advisory Team**

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The Vitality Advisory Team will partner with the Bishop Diocesan and Canon for Congregational Vitality to increase the vitality of worshipping communities in the Diocese of Atlanta. Through analyzing trends in stories and data from parochial reports, 5th page, and other sources, we will:

* Shine a light on what God is doing through worshipping communities across the Diocese of Atlanta and celebrate the vitality that exists among us
* Acknowledge challenges to vitality faced by worshipping communities and present these challenges, without shame or guilt, to fellow members of the diocese
* Recommend, in constructive ways, possible adaptive responses

The Vitality Advisory Team will operate in a spirit of discernment and prayer and may adapt this document as information emerges.

Begun in May, 2018, our initial work has been a review of Parochial reports, 5th page stories, and interviews with rectors and other parish leaders. We are also sponsoring a booth at Diocesan Council to capture audio stories of vitality in the diocese. As we learn more, we will report to the diocese about our findings. Our initial reviews have taken note of the importance of leadership (ordained and lay), and the critical experience of rector transitions for a parish. Stay tuned for more, and please help us as we reach out to better listen for what God is doing in your parish.