

**DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM AND CONGREGATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

To the 180th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Kentucky:

MEMBERS:

The Rev. Dr. Joe Smith, chair

The Rev. Pat Connell

The Rev. Mark Linder

The Rev. Libby Wade

Suzanne Warner

Bob Nesmith

Andy Crouch

The department has taken on a lot this year. We have talked strategy about where exactly most of our energies should be placed. Number one on the list is the commitment to birth a new mission in LaGrange, Kentucky. We were also asked by Canon Jay Magness to be a resource for any congregation that needed assistance in advancing evangelism in its parish or to assist in any kind of development need. To publicize our willingness to assist, we conducted one of the workshops at the 2007 Diocesan Convention. To better prepare ourselves for service, some of our members attended various seminars for continuing education. Libby Wade attended the "Start Up, Start Over" conference in Orlando, Florida.

Our department has done onsite service when called upon. An example of this was when Joe Smith went to St. Andrew's, Glasgow, in the fall to be an encourager and helper as St. Andrew's contemplates purchasing a new church.

Since Mark Linder's retirement he has been in a better place to offer assistance and expertise to those who call upon us for help. All of our members are committed to advancing the church and are willing to respond when called upon. We hope that more congregations will call upon us in 2008. We would love to assist you.

The Bishop has asked our department to oversee the visitation of the Presiding Bishop in 2008. Libby Wade has graciously accepted the chair of this endeavor.

This report cannot be ended without saying that we are sad to have to say goodbye to The Rev. Canon Jay Magness. Jay was truly a driving force and support to our work. He certainly was an inspiration to us all. He will be sorely missed. We look forward to working with the new Canon, The Rev. Joan Smith, in 2008 and have planned a retreat in January to explore the vision of our group and how we need to intentionally evolve. We look forward to serving you in the new year.

Respectfully submitted,
(The Rev. Dr.) Stanley Joe Smith, chair