

A CONTINUOUS CULTURE OF INNOVATION

Innovation Petal group is tasked with the job of encouraging and equipping parishes and their leaders to undertake creative ventures in ministry and evangelism. Since 2009 a number of encouraging signs have been visible in our diocese.

- Three additional “Messy Church” services have begun across the diocese.
- A number of Contemplative Fire sessions and workshops were held.
- Two additional “Pub Churches” were launched.
- Various churches have looked at innovative ways of using their worship space to better reach their communities.
- The “Wall of Innovation” on the Diocesan website has grown to highlight numerous examples of parish innovation.

Recent discussions within the group have led us to some valuable insights:

- “Innovation” broadly falls into two categories:
 - “Intra-Innovation”: Innovation within existing church buildings and structures to better reach the community. (e.g. redesigned worship spaces)
 - “Extra-Innovation”: Innovation that occurs by taking the gospel outside existing church structures and incarnating the gospel in the local culture (e.g. Missional Church, Fresh Expressions of Church)
- Creating a “Continuous Culture of Innovation” will require this two pronged approach to innovation, one that emphasizes both “Intra” and “Extra” aspects of ministry (A Mixed Economy Church).

Recent changes within the Petal Group:

- The departure of Stephen Murray in as group leader temporarily interrupted regular group meetings in 2010-2011.

Group Members:

The Reverend Robert Hurkmans (Team Leader)

Mrs. Sue Kalbfleisch

Mrs. Andy Kalbfleisch

Mrs. Ruth Anne Martin

The Reverend Sheila Van Zandwyk