



# EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT

PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

## **Question #3:**

*In these changing times and consequent needs of our worshipping communities, what are our expectations of priesthood leadership currently defined in ECCT as missional, provisional, conditional, or part-time?*

## **Description of work done and findings:**

We discovered there is difficulty understanding these roles, and managing expectations and boundaries of priests, vestry, laity and congregations and ECCT staff. pastoral care and relationships between priests, congregations and worshipping communities and the wider community are at the greatest risk. We also learned there is not a lot of transparency and understanding between priests and laity and vestry.

All this stems from confusion about the expectations and role of the priest who is not a full-time rector in the new missional age. What is primary?

There is a need to understand what a parish is in the new missional age as defined by ECCT.

## **Next steps:**

Create a task force to study various models and possibilities of missional ministry within parishes, worshipping communities and the wider community. Consider tasking Region missionaries with teaching their regions about, "What Is a Parish In the New Missional Age?" (and/or create roles for others to do this)

## **Action needed from convention:**

We ask convention to direct Mission Council to appoint a task force to study this Issue.

**Status of action request at the 234th Convention: Approved/adopted**