

Evangelism Committee Report

Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania

Mark 16:15

“And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.’”

The Evangelism Committee has met faithfully each month throughout the year to discern and encourage ways to inspire and equip acts of evangelism across our diocese. Our work continues to focus on lifting up ministries that faithfully witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ and exemplify how evangelism is embodied in the daily life of our congregations.

Sharing the Good News: *Good News on the Ground* Podcast

This year, under the creative and faithful leadership of The Rev. Lisa Work, we launched the *Good News on the Ground* podcast — a new diocesan storytelling platform that highlights the diverse ways our congregations are sharing the Gospel in their local contexts.

Recent episodes have featured:

- **Sarah Reid and the West Branch Apiary**, exploring creation care and community witness through beekeeping and environmental ministry;
- **Grace Place Gardens at St. Andrew’s, Shippensburg**, where parishioners are cultivating relationships through gardening, hospitality, and shared service;
- and other stories that reflect the vibrancy and creativity of ministry throughout Central Pennsylvania.

The podcast has quickly become a key tool for connecting and inspiring evangelists across the diocese. Looking ahead, it will continue to serve as a vital platform for the emerging **Diocese of the Susquehanna**, lifting up local ministries and welcoming voices from across The Episcopal Church.

Formation and Lay Evangelist Development

The Committee continues to encourage formation in evangelism through scholarship support and invitations to the **Lay Evangelist Certificate Course** offered by **Bexley Seabury Seminary** and the **Bishop Dean T. Stevenson School for Ministry**.

We are offering scholarships and encouragement for participation in the Lay Evangelist courses scheduled for at Bexley Seabury in **Fall 2025, Spring 2026, and Fall 2026**, as well as for the evangelism courses offered this spring through the Bishop Dean T. Stevenson School for Ministry in **Spring 2026**. These opportunities help to deepen our diocesan culture of evangelism, equipping lay leaders to share the Good News in their own words and contexts.

Looking Ahead

As we prepare for the formation of the Diocese of the Susquehanna, our committee's work will continue to focus on collaboration, storytelling, and the development of evangelists across parishes. We remain grateful for the faithful support of diocesan leadership who continue to encourage a culture of invitation, curiosity, and joy.

Committee Members

- **The Rev. Bradley Mattson**
- **Michele Marini**
- **The Rev. Lisa Work**
- **David Wirick**
- **Sarah McKeag Reid**
- **The Rev. John Harwood**

A Call to Join Us

We believe evangelism is the joyful act of naming and celebrating the presence of Jesus in the lives of all people and inviting others to more. As our diocese continues to grow into the vision of the Diocese of the Susquehanna, we warmly invite clergy and lay leaders who are passionate about sharing the Good News to join us in this ministry.

Come be part of this sacred work —

Respectfully submitted,

The Evangelism Committee

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