

January presbytery meeting will explore ministry impact

So how is your congregation doing, you're asked?

You pause for a moment, and then you say, *Well, we lost a few more members last year, and we're having a hard time balancing the budget again. We're older, to be sure. But we're good people, and we're trying hard.*

That is who you are, after all. But is it all you are? And all you want to be? What if there were a better way to describe your church and ministry in ways different than just membership and budgets? What if you could identify different indicators of vitality?

Nurturing thoughtful expressions of God's mission in the world: how we broaden the indicators of success and impact, is the theme of the January meeting of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, to be held Saturday, January 26, at First Presbyterian Church in South Saint Paul. Joining us will be the Rev. Dr. Danielle Ayana James, a United Church of Canada pastor, coach, and consultant who has explored deeply the question of ministry impact and how we can tell a better story about ourselves. She will interact with us during the Presbytery meeting, and then hold a workshop following the meeting that will take you more deeply into strategic and specific strategies for your congregation.

Are you interested in exploring more deeply the engagement in and impact of your church's ministry, and how to "move the needle" in a positive direction? Look for more detailed information—and a short preview from Danielle herself—early in the new year! Mark January 26 on your calendar now, and begin to think about who might attend both the morning Presbytery meeting and the afternoon workshop from your congregation.

In broadening the indicators of our success and impact, we can deepen the unique ministry we are called to do.