

Vitality Improvement Project

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California in partnership with FaithX

Applications Due March 17, 2023



Strengthening Small to Medium-Size Congregations

This program will equip congregational teams with powerful tools to survive and thrive in an era of church decline. With data collection, church vitality assessments, expert coaching, peer and diocesan support, selected churches will take a deep dive into their ministries and their neighborhoods. Then, they'll get help to develop sustainable strategies and practices to put this learning into action.

A Missional Mindset

Congregations with a sense of hope and possibility will be the best candidates for the program. You'll need a willingness to change and engage in new ways of being church. It also requires a team of 4 -7 energetic lay leaders to engage in a 3-year process of learning, growth, and action.



Which Churches Can Apply?

- Average Sunday attendance (ASA) roughly between 30 and 70
- At least 4-6 engaged laypeople to form a Parish Vitality Improvement Team (6-8 hours/month)
- Congregational support for your team
- Active support of rector/priest-in-charge. (Lay-led and churches in clergy transition may apply)
- Ability to make a financial commitment of \$750/year (for 3 years)
- No recent history of significant conflict in the congregation



Where do I learn more?

The link below will take you to a google drive prepared by FaithX with documents for churches considering the program (including FAQs). Please read before applying. bit.ly/3Yzi3io
Canon to the Ordinary Julie Wakelee is our diocesan team leader, julie@norcalepiscopal.org.



Application Workshop: Thursday, February 9 at 12:00 pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6792703228>



How Do I apply?

Applications are due **March 17th**. It's an online form with 8 short-answer questions, and it can be filled out by clergy or laypeople. Be prepared to list your congregation's team leader and communication liaison. Here is the link: <https://bit.ly/3Y70Blf>