

Congregational Development helps NCNY churches in variety of ways

The Congregational Development Ministry Area of the North Central New York Conference seeks to encourage renew and revitalize ministry in our local churches and start new faith communities to reach the world for Jesus Christ.

There are several parts to this area, including:

- **Equitable Salaries** which administers temporary conference funding support for full time clergy serving where minimum salary requirements cannot currently be met.
- **Mission Priorities** which supports conference churches in special ministry and mission to strategic populations.
- **New Church Starts** which identifies strategic locations for new church starts, identifies individuals with gifts for new church ministry and oversees new church development.
- **Revitalizing Congregations** which resources local churches with the tools to revitalize their ministry.
- **Small Membership Church** which shares information about the needs and opportunities for ministry of the small membership church in rural, sub-urban, and urban settings.
- The **Urban Academy** which provides training for ministry development in the urban setting.

As Conference Director of Congregational Development, the Rev. Lauren Swanson works with the teams in this area as well as with individual congregations throughout the conference to help them develop to their potential. If your congregation could benefit from Lauren's assistance, contact him at the conference office..

Through your gifts to the United Methodist Church, you are a part of these and many other efforts. When your church sends in its shared giving dollars you are helping to fund these important revitalizing ministry initiatives. You can take pride in being part of our efforts to support effectiveness in our churches and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The People of the United Methodist Church*

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