



THE MOUNTAINS ARE FULL OF HORSES AND CHARIOTS OF FIRE

Introduction

- ▣ Every congregation represented in this room is facing challenges.
- ▣ As we face those challenges in the diocese we are trying to develop a strong foundation which will support healthy congregations and produce a church planting movement in Florida, Georgia, Alabama and beyond.

Some of Our Challenges

- ▣ Discouragement at how slowly congregations grow and movements start.
- ▣ Isolation.
- ▣ Finding the balance between Anglican tradition and accessibility to unchurched folks.
- ▣ Identifying planters: “Who, me?”
- ▣ Supporting planters and new congregations.
- ▣ Developing a direction for church planting.
- ▣ “Us”ism.

Our Challenges

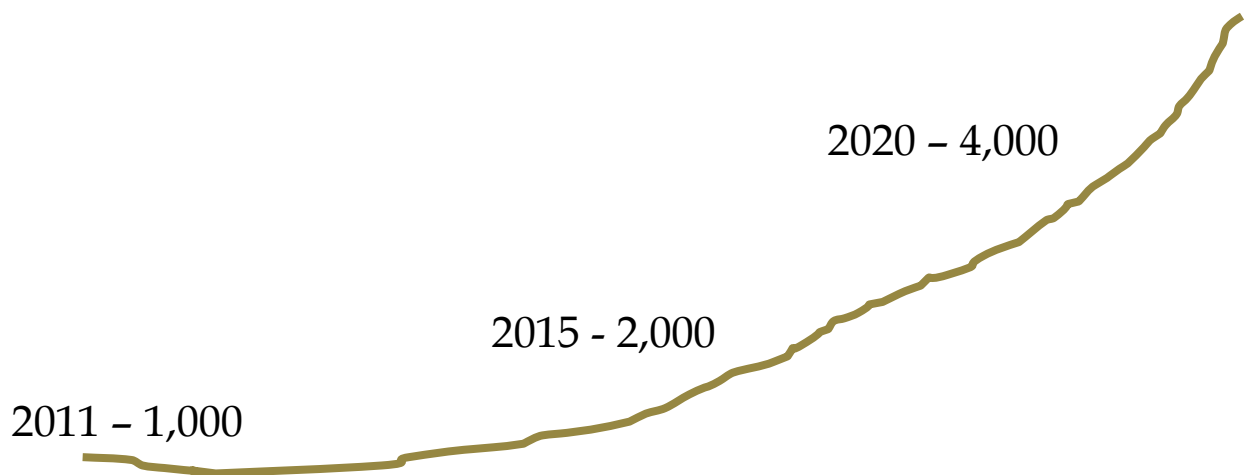
- ▣ “Us”ism
 - Unhealed wounds and unrelinquished anger.
 - Zero-sum thinking; focusing limited resources internally; pushing outreach to the future.
 - Disconnection from unreached people: “I don’t know any non-Christians”.
 - Apathetic attractionalism: paint-the-door-red evangelism.

Overcoming “Us”ism

- ▣ Tangible Kingdom – TK Primer
- ▣ Missional Fellowships
- ▣ Order for supporting church planting
- ▣ Focus at Diocesan Synod

Overcoming Discouragement

- ▣ Realize all movements start slow.
- ▣ Jesus is the model.
- ▣ The goal is multiplication leading to exponential growth.



Overcoming Isolation

- ▣ Developing partnerships within the Diocese.
 - Church Planting Network
 - Anglican Mission congregations
- ▣ Developing partnerships beyond the Diocese.
 - Anglican 1000/ACNA
 - Titus Institute for Church Planting
- ▣ Learning from others.
 - Exponential Conference
 - Missio Intensive
 - CoachNet

Identifying Church Planters

- ▣ Moving from reactive to proactive.
- ▣ Putting church planting assessment throughout the ordination process.
- ▣ Making assessment tools available to lay leaders.

Supporting Plants/Planters

- ▣ 1/3 – 1/3 – 1/3: Everyone has “skin in the game.”
- ▣ Church Planting Network
- ▣ Order for supporting Church Planting
- ▣ Coaching
- ▣ Creative Encouragement

Direction for Planting

- ▣ Four key elements in every plant; any of which can be the starting point.
 - Leadership – planter and core team
 - Relationships – with unchurched people
 - Geography – strategic cities
 - Ethnography/Demographics – culture of people we are trying to reach

Challenge = Opportunity

2 Kings 6:15-17 (English Standard Version)

15When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" **16**He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." **17**Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.