

Resources

For Continuing the **Doing What Matters** Conversation in Your Congregation

The following is a list of options for continuing the Doing What Matters conversation you started today! Consider choosing ONE to start! You could simply begin with intentional conversations in the “world café” style or ask committees, teams and your council to use the “devotional track” materials at their regular meetings. If you are ready to jump in, pick up The Future Starts Now from ARE at the book table along with The Renewable Organizations Workbook for Faith-Based Organizations. Make sure you ask for the New England Synod resource “The Future Starts Now Study and Sermon Series.” We are also hoping to train some of our coaches to walk with congregations, conferences and clusters of congregations using the workbook to apply “doing what matters” process to their own contexts. If you are interested in exploring the idea, contact Pr. Lisa Stoen Hazelwood (lisastoenhazelwood@gmail.com) or Andrew Simon (mysaltshaker@gmail.com).

The World Café Track: Using the World Café model a large group of people can engage in meaningful conversations in a series of small groups. Each person has the chance to discuss powerful questions created to get at what matters to you and your congregation. Links are forged, common themes identified, and contributions are recorded and shared. A handout on the world café model and how to do it—plus sample questions for a café—are available at the book table.

The Devotional Track: A devotional resource will be available for use at meetings by councils, committees, teams and groups. It will share insights on some of the key “doing what matters” themes by diving into the bible. We will experiment with reading scripture and noting how those in the texts are encouraged to “be who they are, see what they have, and do what matters to God.” Insights from these studies could be the basis for going deeper and using the study/action track. Sign up at the book table to receive this resource.

The Study/Action Track: Two congregations in New England are already using The Future Starts Now and the ARE Renewable Organizations Workbook for Faith-Based Organizations as a basis for a congregation-wide process intended to have a broad impact on the life and ministry (see the blog at nesynod.org/Doing What Matters). Their insights have been incorporated into a guide for a) using the workbook as a study tool and b) preaching on some of the doing what matters themes. Two alternative tracks for a sermon series are presently offered: one for lent and one for the Easter season. Indicate your interest in exploring these next steps or in possible coaching support on the sign-up sheet at the book table.