

Committee for Church Planting and Revitalization  
Report for Heartland Presbytery, April 14, 2018

Action Items:

- None

Communication/Information Items:

- Recently received a check for \$29,500 from Trinity Presbyterian Church, a 10% tithe gift from the sale of Calvary Presbyterian Church's building. We hope to use this gift to seed a "planting and resurrection fund" for the future work of growing congregations in Heartland Presbytery.

Planting Update:

- Per PCUSA Church Trends<sup>1</sup>, Heartland Presbytery has lost about 22% of her membership between 2012 - 2016. We continue to be committed to planting new communities for the future of Christ's worship and work in Heartland Presbytery.
- Exploring Missional Leadership event hosted at South Broadland December 8, 2017 with two follow up events for leaders interested in church planting. We're hopeful for a continuing cohort of leaders committed to discerning for new worshipping communities in Heartland Presbytery. If anyone knows of someone a skills and a heart for church planting, please keep sending their names to CPR! (hallie.hottle@villagepres.org)
- The Open Table has been selected as one of seven 1001 New Worshipping Communities Residency Sites and is currently receiving applications for a resident. Their status as a residency site has put Heartland Presbytery on the map for new worshipping communities nationwide.
- CPR continues to be in conversation with Cyclical LA and the Presbytery of Pittsburgh to learn from their models of planting new worshipping and missional congregations.
- Shawn Kang, regional representative from 1001 New Worshipping Communities, visited Heartland Presbytery March 21 - 22, 2018.

Revitalization Update:

- Initial conversations have begun on how to create tools/resources for churches looking to revitalize. More research is ongoing as to the effectiveness of revitalization and our goals for Heartland Churches.
- Continuing to utilize Missioninsite as a helpful tool for congregations to better understand and reach out intentionally to the demographic groups that surround their churches
- Encouraging prayer around the "7 Marks of Vital Congregations" tool from PCUSA. Found on page 6 of "Vital Congregations Immediate Toolkit."  
(<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/vital-congregations-immediate-toolkit/>)

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<sup>1</sup> <https://church-trends.pcusa.org/presbytery/140266/overview/5/>