

REQUIREMENTS AND CRITERIA FOR 2010 REGIONAL MINISTRY
INVESTMENTS in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts

All congregations are eligible for diocesan investment funding

1. The application for funding must be received on or before the announced deadline - no faxes, please. The congregations shall show compliance with the canons by each attaching a copy of the latest Parochial Report and Audit Certificate.
2. The congregations will designate two people to speak to the application if additional information is needed.
3. The co-investment principle is high; each congregation must allocate local money, resources and effort into the project. 'In-kind' allocations need real dollars attached. The partnership may involve an ecumenical, para-church or other appropriate non-profit entities.
4. The congregations seek a healthy balance in its life of service, worship, education, evangelism, pastoral care and stewardship - living fully and joyously the baptismal covenant.
5. The congregations actively support various ecumenical, deanery and diocesan events. All congregations live in a partnership of Christian mission and ministry with the Bishop and his staff.
6. Clergy are compensated according to the annually released diocesan Guidelines for Compensation.
7. Some expression of peer support (for example, deanery or ecumenical partner, or comments from a similar sized congregation) and affirmation is included with the application.
8. The congregations shall pay in full the *Assessment for Common Ministry* as an expression of our shared mission with the diocese, The Episcopal Church and the worldwide Anglican Communion.
9. The congregation is engaged at least annually in an evaluation of its ministry that leads to planning and goal setting.
10. **NOTE WELL:** Purchase of real estate is not funded and repairs for deferred maintenance are seldom funded; however, improvements to the facility that are for specific mission potential and enhanced program will be considered.