

VII. ACTION STEPS

The Committee on the Status of Women hopes that you will find the information in this survey helpful as you seek ways to support and enhance the current ministries and ministers of your congregation, your diocese or any other group. Below are some suggestions as to how you might use the findings.

1. Use the summary of significant findings as the basis for an adult forum series or as informational pieces for your newsletter. See the workshop format in Appendix C.
2. Use the typology presented in Appendix A with your vestry and outreach committee as a context for understanding and better organizing outreach/advocacy efforts in your congregation.
3. Have a panel of women and men of different generation groups share their views on the role of women in leadership both inside and outside the church.
4. Prepare a timeline for your congregation to show the participation of women in leadership has changed or remained the same over the past 50 years in church and in secular life.
5. Review the diocesan reports in an adult forum and generate a response plan for your congregation or diocese.
6. Use *Enriching Our Worship* and the *Revised Common Lectionary* to experiment with language and imagery in your congregational liturgies.
7. Examine Church School curricula, the liturgies, music and sermons for their use of inclusive or exclusive language about people and God.
8. If you do not have a clergy woman on your staff, invite one periodically to preach and/or celebrate (pulpit exchange). Also consider lay women as potential preachers.
9. Set deployment standards that require serious consideration of women for all positions, including large parishes and diocesan staffs.
10. Use *Enriching Our Worship* for diocesan meetings, conventions and other gatherings
11. Examine the membership of appointed and elected positions in congregation and diocese.
12. Ensure that women are participants in all liturgical events.

13. Encourage the diocese and/or congregation to use the survey itself (which can be found online at: www.episcopalchurch.org/women/survey.htm)
14. Assess your own diocesan and/or congregational attitudes around women's participation.
15. Encourage training and placement of women as interims as a way of introducing women clergy to the congregation.